



# FRIENDS

May 2019



## **Morning Tea Wednesday 5th June**

10.15 for a cup of tea followed by our fascinating guest speaker

Our Speaker for June is David Harris of English Language partners.

Working to help migrants, refugees or residents to improve their language skills this organisation has been doing valuable work for many years.

With Levin possibly set to become home to more immigrant families their work will only increase.

Do come along and hear David's take on what we can do to help and how increased diversity can only make our community richer and more interesting.



**FRIENDS OF HOROWHENUA LIBRARIES**

# Large Print Book Appeal

Thanks to everyone who gave their time to help with this appeal

The Large Print collection is the hardest working section in the library and for those of us who are getting older the large typeface used in these books is a godsend!

Can you imagine not being able to read a book whenever you want to?  
What a disaster that would be!

**The library was very happy with the results and your generosity will result in some beautiful shiny new editions on the Large Print shelves.**



out



During May the 100 year anniversary of the Levin RSA is celebrated with a special exhibition of pictures and memorabilia. Do drop in to have a look.



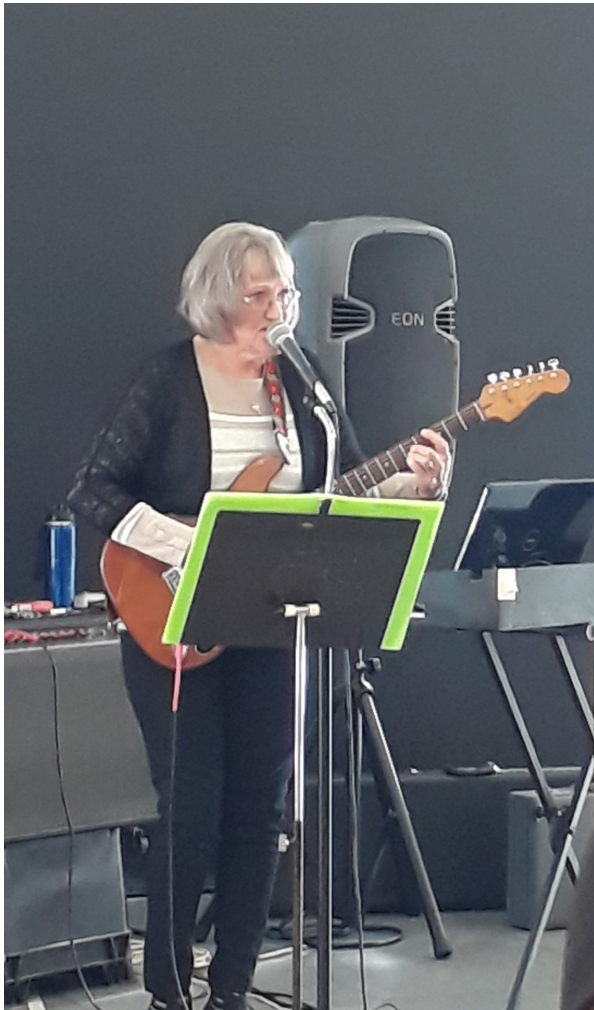
The weekly get together on Wednesday mornings that began with one kind soul offering to teach someone to crochet has grown into a regular drop in spot for many crafty folk. If you are stuck with your own project and would like some help or just want to come along and enjoy some congenial company you would be more than welcome to join in.



We often see queries about where people can access a JP easily - just a note in case anyone asks you—there is always a JP on duty in Te Takeretanga o Kura Hau Po every Tuesday from 11.30am—1.30-pm



Tickets for the very popular trip to WOW this year are in limited supply. There are two buses going from Te Takere on Saturday 5th October. If you want to book your place better be quick—A little bird whispered that half of the tickets have sold already!



May is New Zealand Music month—but every Friday is a musical celebration at

Te Takeretanga o Kura Hau Po

## **Friday lunchtime concerts**

Bring your lunch, make yourself a free coffee and enjoy the amazing range of local talent in our town.

On Friday 17th we were treated to a wonderful dose of nostalgia while we ate our lunch from fabulous Rhondda Clarke.

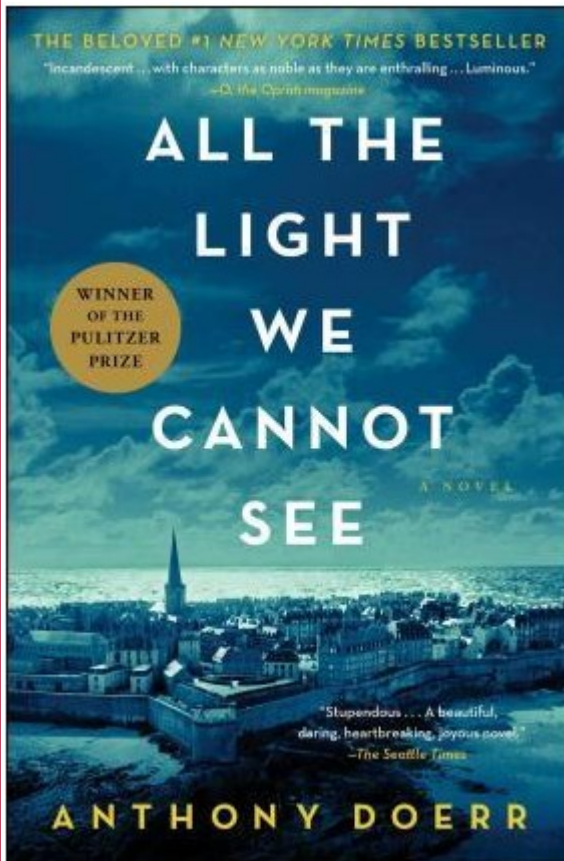
I just love her voice!



Don't forget the **LEGO Club**—meets from 3.30 pm - 4.30pm on the first Thursday every month at Te Takeretanga o Kura Hau Po. All of your potential builders or construction experts are invited to come along to join in. As usual with the great activities offered for the lucky children in our region there is **no charge** to come along.



## Review : All The Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr



The power to create light in darkness is an idea that reverberates through this absorbing novel set before, during and after WWII. “The light we cannot see” of the title takes many forms and these acts as strands that weave together the many ideas of this dense and detailed novel in a most satisfying way.

The two main characters, a small blind motherless French girl and an orphaned German boy with a gift for science, sound like cliches but in Doerr’s hands their stories stand for something bigger. These two illustrate the destructive and all encompassing trauma of WWII Europe, but also the hope, ingenuity and resilience of survival.

The girl’s father is keeper of the locks at the Natural History Museum in Paris, and a maker of fine miniatures houses that depict their neighbourhood. These provide a 3 dimensional roadmap to help his daughter navigate her way to independence (using a light we cannot see).

The arrival of the Germans sees them flee to the walled Breton city of Saint-Malo to the home of an elderly eccentric uncle who is suffering mental trauma from his time in WWI. Doerr uses an acute sensory writing style to illustrate how Marie-Laure’s experiences her adolescence, and the war, using sound, smell and touch to survive in this strange town overtaken by Germans and bombed by British armed forces. She becomes involved with the resistance (another light we cannot see) and this puts her on the trajectory to eventually cross paths with Werner, the German boy.

Werner’s story runs in parallel as he grows into his own adolescence and tries find his own way in the war. His ability to fix any radio brings him to the attention of the German army and he is sent to an elite and brutal army training school. His childhood love of science was about potential, connection and imagination, and showed him a light outside his grinding poverty, but when he becomes a radio technician during the war, he uses science as part of the great killing machine. It’s a conflict that will shape his thoughts and actions, and most crucially his interactions with Marie-Laure.

Their separate but linked stories are told through short, punchy alternating chapters. It’s an effective structure that drives the narrative and gives it pace and drama.

Some of the prose might be a bit florid, and some of the supporting characters a little stereotyped but this book didn’t spend 130 weeks on the New York Times best seller list for nothing. It also won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2015.

Recommended. 4/5

(Held at Te Takere library)

# Regular Happenings

## ***Jazz Jam***

Like to listen to smooth music? —why not drop in on the Jazz Jam on the second Sunday each month in Te Takere? You never know , you might be inspired to join in. They are a friendly encouraging bunch who would make you very welcome.



**Tai Chi** every Monday 10—11.30am suitable for beginners

Come in and watch them—you might be tempted to join in.

## **Contact Us**

Don't forget—this is your Newsletter

If there you have questions about the activities of the Friends of Horowhenua Libraries or would like to become more involved please do not hesitate to contact us by email

[editorfohl@gmail.com](mailto:editorfohl@gmail.com)

or

[thesecretaryfohl@gmail.com](mailto:thesecretaryfohl@gmail.com)

***Happy Reading Everyone!***