



Friends of Horowhenua Libraries

March 2020

April Morning Tea

We have had to cancel our Friends morning teas for the time being because of the COVID19 crisis.

Annual General Meeting

Thank you to those members who attended our AGM last Wednesday. We are pleased to be able to welcome Margaret Williams onto our committee. Margaret is a long-time supporter of the Friends and is always an enthusiastic helper at our book sales. We reluctantly accepted the resignation of Barbara Lucas as she has plans to move away from the area. However, we intend co-opting her onto the committee as newsletter editor for the time being.

The members of the committee are:

Chairperson	Margaret Clarke
Secretary	Diane Welch
Treasurer	Tony Straw
Committee	Diane Brown
	Aileen Kopke
	Christine Moriarty
	Brian Peterson
	Gae Stewart
	Margaret Williams

The Friends are in good heart and we hope that we will be able to resume all our activities in the not too distant future. I have included my annual report to keep you up to date with what we have up to over the last year.

Margaret Clarke

Chairperson's Report for 2019 - 2020

It gives me much pleasure to present my first chairperson's report. The Friends have had a busy and successful year.

Our twice yearly book sales have been particularly successful raising in excess of \$10500. This has been largely due to the hard work and dedication of Rose Boyle who volunteered

last year to manage the book sales for us. Improved advertising, signage and organising of the stock have had a huge impact on the success of the sales. Thank you, Rose.

Our annual bridge tournament was also popular with local bridge players, and added to our funds.

We have been able to put our funds to excellent use over the last year. We have purchased a cabinet for newspapers which we have dedicated to a former committee member, Deborah Burns who died suddenly in 2018. We have also funded Books for Under 5s, a storage cabinet for the local history room at Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, and the new orange shelving in the entrance to Te Takere. Recently we have paid to have the piano in Te Takere tuned. We have several projects in the wings for the coming year.

An important function of the Friends is to support the staff at Te Takere. So it has been a pleasure to help with the Large Print Appeal, the annual stocktake, to hold two shelf tidying working bees, to help with new spine labels for the collection on the mezzanine floor, to help with catering for the Festival of Stories and the re-launch of Kete Horowhenua, and, more recently, to support the new Tea and Tales innovation.

We have continued with our morning teas and have had some excellent speakers over the last year. Our speakers have included Peter Burke, Sir Jon Trimmer and Roger Booth, Deborah McDonald and Kiri Pepene, Dianne Edyvane, Fred Cochrane, Colin Brown, Pam Colman, Gillian Bell, and Rona Cooper. In November we held one of our morning teas at Foxton and were entertained by Kiri Pepene as she shared her considerable knowledge of the history of Foxton. My thanks go to Cath Bennet who has provided excellent raffle prizes every month.

One of my goals for the year was to enhance the relationship between the Friends and the staff of the Libraries Horowhenua. With this in mind I spoke at one of the staff meetings, and I have been impressed with the support and encouragement I have received from all the staff with which I have had dealings.

I would like to thank all the members of the committee for their hard work and support during the year. I accepted the resignation of Lorraine Blenkhorn during the year as she decided that the committee was not for her. In particular I would like to acknowledge the special contribution made by Barbara Lucas both as secretary and newsletter editor. Barbara is not standing for the committee again as she and husband, Chris Lloyd plan to move away from the area. However, it is my intention to recommend to the incoming committee that she be co-opted onto the committee as newsletter editor all the time that she remains in Levin.