

# Friends of Horowhenua Libraries Newsletter May 2022



Whether it's tea or coffee you prefer you are invited to join us for a cup in the morning of **Wednesday June 1st in the Open Meeting room in Te Takeretanga o Kura Hau Po** for morning tea and a friendly chat with other library lovers.



Our guest speaker will be **Chris Clarke**



Chris is an elected member of the **Manawatu Branch of the Automobile Association**. He takes a particular interest in motoring issues as they affect the Horowhenua and the wider area. Chris will be able to give insight into the many services that the AA provides.

## **A librarian's nightmare - Flooding in the library**

As you probably have heard, the heavy rainfall during the last week has caused flooding around parts of our region. Unfortunately one of the properties affected was our beloved Shannon Library.

Flooded roads meant that water flowed into the building necessitating the removal of all of the book stock to save it from damage. The books are currently being stored in the Memorial hall but the library in Shannon is currently closed until further notice.

We are grateful that the books being on raised shelves were above the water level.



The damage will be subject to an insurance claim. We hope that the situation can be remedied quickly and that the library will reopen again as soon as possible. In the meantime Te Takere and Tem Awahou would welcome Shannon library users who wish to visit.

## **Art in the library**

Did you manage to catch the exhibition of Gordon Norfolks work in April? What beautiful images! We are blessed with many talented artists in our community and the next exhibition planned is no exception

**‘Diversity with Artitude’**, an exhibition by local art group Artitude

Artitude is a group of likeminded artists from Foxton, Foxton Beach and the wider Horowhenua community. They meet each week at Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, and encourage, critique and help each other with their practices. They are a very diverse group of artists, working across a wide range of mediums and genres, hence their name



## Tea and Tales

The next **T & T meeting in Te Takere will be on Thursday June 2nd**. It was lovely to see all of you back in April and we look forward to meetings continuing and tales to be shared

As a special treat there will be a **Tea and Tales meeting in Foxton on May 26th**



We'd love to see you there at **Te Awahou, 10 30am Thursday May 26th**. The gathering is a place to share and enjoy stories you have loved, tales to tell and interesting people to meet. Light refreshments provided.

## Library book sale

Currently there is a sales table of surplus donated books in Te Takere. It's worth taking the time for a look. This is just a taste of things to come as we are planning the mid winter book sale.



**A Bumper mid winter sale will run from Monday 11th July to Friday 15th.**

A little bird has whispered that there will be huge numbers of books available as over the last couple of years it has not been possible for the library staff to weed the collection as they have needed to. So mark in your diaries the dates to visit and pick up some bargains. What a great opportunity to pick up some reading material for the kids in the first week of the school holidays!

## What to read next?

While it is raining outside it's a great time to read indoors.

Here are a couple of suggestions in case you are looking for inspiration.

### **The Language of food by Annabel Abbs.** Pub. Simon and Schuster 2022

The book tells the story of Eliza Acton, a would-be poetess in 19th century England. Eliza is insulted when the publisher she approaches tells her to go away and write a cookery book since poetry is the preserve of men. She refused to do so. But when she and her father in reduced circumstances relocate from London to Tonbridge in Kent and Eliza begins to cook she discovers a new love of food and decides to re-write the confusing and imprecise cooking instructions that were available at that point in English culinary history. Engaging the services of a local girl she sets to record her efforts in the kitchen.

The story is based on the life of England's first domestic goddess, a precursor to Mrs Beeton. With a clever mix of fact and fiction, Abbs tells an intriguing story of a woman ahead of her time who chooses a career ahead of the security of marriage.

Definitely worth reading for an easy introduction into the life of a fascinating woman.



I love a good historical novel. And when the novel is set in a city as romantic and historic as Florence it is hard to resist. Even harder when the plot involves treachery and murder and set in a convent where strict rules govern the lives of all who live there.

**The Darkest Sin by D. V. Bishop** is such a novel.

Florence 1537 is a city where power is decided between the Medici family and the Church. Two rules of law apply, Church and State, so that when a crime is committed there is tension about which set of laws will take precedence. In the Darkest Sin we again encounter Cesare Aldo, the police officer who we first met in City of Vengeance. Intruders are reported entering the convent. During Aldo's visit to investigate the veracity of the claim things escalate rapidly when a man's body is found stabbed more than two dozen times inside the convent.

Through the many plot twists and turns we see a picture of Florence as a hotbed of intrigue. Bribery and corruption are the order of the day. The seamy underbelly of a beautiful city is easy to imagine. Aldo is a flawed hero who has demons of his own which must be managed to enable him to do his job.

All of this makes for an engaging read. I look forward to reading more of Aldo's exploits in future novels.

Pub. Macmillan 2022/



## **Coming Events:**

Partial Stocktake late June - dates to be advised.

We may be asking for assistance with this - its not too onerous and doesn't take long so keep your eyes peeled for a call to help

A revamp of the Te Ao Maori collection area - the library have plans to make this important part of the collection more appealing and inviting

Plans are afoot for Matariki celebrations - watch out for more information about this.  
If you are a facebook user it helps to follow the Te Takere page of fb for up to date information

***Happy reading everyone***