



Newsletter Christmas 2017



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Havelock North Vineyards in Autumn

Hi; We are still at Palmbrook Avenue in Havelock

North. We thought that we would have moved by now to a local retirement village

And although we have been offered six places we have turned them down, for we are still attached to our lovely home here with a beautiful garden.

It does take an effort but we are still reasonable active with our 80th birthdays due shortly on the 7th and 9th of December. Rita does the dead heading and Norris is down on his knees amongst the weeds. Diane and Andrew have been up and helped out covering the bare soil with trailer loads of mulch which has helped enormously.

We still walk; but not as far; and run an enthusiastic geology group with Norris speaking and showing photos and videos and Rita handing out the rocks and fossils. The cinema is still popular and we see lots of English films which usually have Maggie Brown, Judy Dench, Helen Mirren or Jim Broadbent somewhere in the cast (and on TV too).

Norris also has his computing class now helping his friend Tony and Rita is there chatting to members. Norris also does



The garden in November 2017



PowerPoint displays for groups who want his help. So after a dose of Flu which laid Norris up for three weeks (Rita was immune to this variety) we have been reasonably well for the year just rattling sometimes with the tablets we take.

Norris has also been catching up with an old primary school friend online (Harry Hickson) who lives in Sydney. They met through an excellent website called "**Sutton Beauty**" which is written by Stephen Wainwright. This is all about the suburb of St.Helens were we were born and lived. Also there is information on the building company of AJ Kenwright & Son which Norris's grandfather started.

It is quite a magnificent record of Sutton and the people and places there. Harry has been helping Stephen and Norris has submitted articles, information and photos. Have a look at

<http://www.suttonbeauty.org.uk/> and an article by Norris

http://www.suttonbeauty.org.uk/suttonhistory/sutton_memories26/

Rita & I have lots of visits, chats and reminisces with our close friends Joan and Mike Murray who arrived in NZ the same time as us. Joan worked as a chemistry teacher in Norris's Science department and went on to be Headmistress of Iona College in Havelock where Diane was married in their chapel.

David and Karen have put much work into developing their new property and the flowers and trees look beautiful. Karen's alteration service is usually rushed off its feet with weddings; ball gowns and school uniforms as well as more mundane tasks. Their daughter Andrea has only six months of her sports science and commerce degree to complete and Logan has had a successful year in his first year engineering in Auckland. He is working over the holidays for "Johnny Appleseed" orchards in Havelock. Liam has just completed his NCEA level one (Old School Cert) at Havelock H.S. He now has a new puppy called Sam to train. Sam is a Pomeranian/border Collie cross and is a bundle of energy; usually chewing everything he can find especially shoes. Kayley is in year 9 at Primary

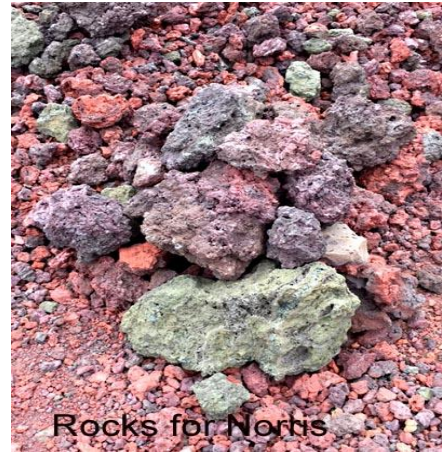
School and is proving to be an excellent gymnast like Andrea. She has just won the overall gold medal at the Gymnastic club in Napier.



Diane and the Aurora Borealis

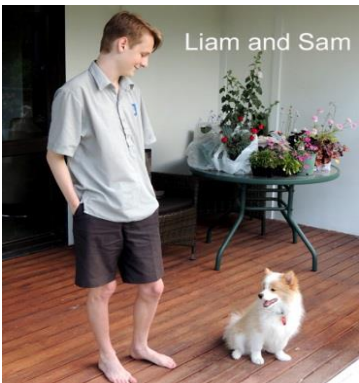


Ella in an Icelandic Crater



Rocks for Norris

Diane as usual, has been travelling the world to conferences and lecturing. With husband Andrew and daughter Ella (who has completed her first year at High school) they have recently returned from what Diane calls a wonder trip. Starting with viewing the total solar eclipse in North America they went to Reykjavik in Iceland and walked a section of the Mid-Atlantic rift; visited the volcanic craters and glaciers and also brought back a selection of rocks back for Norris. Then they headed to Helsinki in Finland where Diane was lecturing and onto Estonia, Stockholm and Copenhagen and finally to Singapore on the way home. Katie has finished her first degree in Physics Geology and Maths at Otago and now has her first year behind her in an MSc in Geophysics where she is setting off explosions to explore the fault lines around Dunedin. Adam has had an exceptional year in second year medicine at Otago and has even found time to continue his debating skills. Over the Summer break Katie is working for Geology and Nuclear Science in Wellington and Adam is also in Wellington doing research for Wellington Hospital. Rita and I still fly our planes but we have moved to a new site near David as the farmer has planted squash on our old site. It has wide open fields in which to fly. Last Christmas we had a brilliant reunion of all the family including Katie's 21st party which took place in a large beach property which Diane rented at Clive. There were lots of outdoor bonfires with drift wood on the beach and in a fireplace in the garden. We will all spend Christmas together this year and plans are to have a large tent on David's lawn.



Liam and Sam



David & Logan



Roaring Fire at Clive



A family gathering at David's with Gill and Mike



Adam and Katie



Sam



BEST WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR
RITA & NORRIS