



**NORTH TARANAKI DISTRICT FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

**VISION:** *To encourage and inspire women within their communities.*

**February 2026**

**THEME:** Softening the Hard Times

**PROJECT:** Nourish the Nation

**Greetings Members,**

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you all had a nice Christmas and a refreshing and restful break from all the pace of last year, and sadly the passing of members and friends and ready for a year of friendship, caring, sharing. Several WI's will be down in members so let's look at asking other women to join your groups there are some lonely people out there and some that have moved from lifetime homes to our areas and would probably be very appreciative of new friends. A good starting invitation would be to our Founders Day and the Creative Arts Day to get an idea of what we get up to. Even if you know of people in different areas that other WI's can contact, please put our organisation out there. We have a busy few months ahead of us starting with our AGM's, the bowls, we have a team going to Ashburton we wish Hazel, Leah and Diane well at the bowls.

Founders Day this date is on a Saturday so we have brought it forward to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of February, Federation executive member Faye Simons has arranged this day, more in notices.

You will all be planning your AGM's all the very best and success with all positions filled for the coming year. If that is not for you then you need to support all that do take on the positions, the main thing is to have plenty of fun and laughter. If you have any queries about WI, please get in contact with any Federation member, if we don't know we will certainly find out for you.

Please also think about coming on Federation, you will be given support, we have a good team and would welcome other members.

Affiliation fees are due at your February meeting these are \$50.00pp, = \$35 to national and \$7.50 each to federation and WI. Please pay these on time and to your WI and WI treasurers please pay Federation as soon as your meeting has been along with a copy of your updated data base forms, can you please send two of these to Federation one for the treasurer and one for me as the ones I have are 3-4 years old now!!!!

Then on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> of February is Creative Arts Day at Rotary House in Inglewood so plenty of parking and good access, I hope you have been busy getting your entries complete. Convenor Diane has all the info in the notices.

Kind Regards and Yours in WI Friendship  
Hazel





### **Founders Day: 'Stanleigh Gardens' Dudley Road Inglewood, starting at 11am**

Donna's garden has been in the Garden festival for many years she will open it for us for Founders Day, but you will need to **take your own lunch** and she will supply tea and coffee. After the initial greeting you may peruse the garden then there will be lunch and Donna will be there to speak and answer questions. Donna is opening her garden for us at **no cost**. For further information and numbers please Contact **Faye Simons 0273866808**

Don't forget to get your numbers in. This is a flat garden with plenty of seating.

**94<sup>th</sup> FEDERATION AGM FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – Did you Know?** Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> occurs in March during any common year that begins on a Thursday part of a 28year cycle that also includes February and November.

We are having the AGM at the Inglewood club on Moa St, Inglewood you can start staging the competitions from 9.15am morning tea will be served from 9.45am and the meeting will start at 10.15am.

The cost is \$20. pp as last year and morning tea and a finger lunch will be provided with tea and coffee.

So please really try to come and support us we are now a very small Federation and your attendance is important to us. We will have a guest speaker from Hearing dogs open our meeting. The roll call will be items for hearing dogs, I have spoken with The Hearing dog staff and I have a list of ideas first off they said no dog food as they give the dogs a special diet and they have a sponsor for the food BUT!!! If you would like to give SCHMACKO strip which they use for treats that would be good. And if you are downsizing and getting rid of handtowels and bath towels, they use this for bedding, and also polo fleece knee blankets or around that size in polo fleece. They also like toys but they are to have no glass eyes or plastic noses also no squeakers in them also stuffed with stuffing not polystyrene balls. So, there are a few requirements but it would be most appreciated or a donation to hearing dogs would also be gratefully received given to Federation and a combined donation could be given acknowledging your contribution.

**PLEASE: RETURN ALL CUPS AND TROPHIES FOR THE AGM, NATIONAL AND CREATIVE ARTS DAY NOW!!!**

**Make sure they are all shining and sparkling for the next recipients, that could also be you again!!!**

**COMPETITION reminder for the AGM: 3 Muffins, card for a mother, a decorated letter.**

Last year there were very few entries please make an effort this year maybe have a craft day for your members to make the card and decorated a letter!!!

**SECRETARIES REMINDERS:** Nomination forms for Federation President, and committee please. Also, WI's you need to get your nomination forms in. These positions are up for nomination each year. Come take a position We need you!!! Please also send in your Annual Report **signed and dated** after your AGM along with your programme by February 12<sup>th</sup> for judging before the Federation AGM, and your list of officers. Send it to Hazel, details below.

**TREASURERS REMINDERS:** A copy of your financial statement year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025, also 2 up-to-date copies of your data base form, please check email addresses, addresses and phone numbers are correct as many members have shifted and changed this information. Members, please help your treasurer by supplying this information. Remember that new members must fill in the new Membership form, signed and sent to Federation. Also have this along with the affiliation fees \$42.50pp for the Federation AGM.

**TROPHIES:** If you have any trophies would You please return them to Federation. and ready for the AGM.

**Roll call:** items for hearing Dogs

**COLLECTIONS FOR AGM:** Aluminium tops, Can tabs, plastic tops, stamps, spectacle's and Pak n Sav receipts.

**FORMS:** President, Secretary's and Treasurers remember any forms you need for the above you go to the National site then onto the members page and download them from there. Need help just ask!!!

## Creative Arts Day: Note from the Convenor

Hi everyone

We are a month away from the 2026 Creative Arts Day and we are hosting this in the Rotary House in Inglewood. This venue has plenty of parking, totally accessible to those on walkers etc and will be a wonderful advertisement for institute.

A reminder that short story and poem entries need to be into the creative arts committee secretary by Friday 13th January. All other entries need to be in by 10 am on Friday 27 February so judging can start promptly.

Also, a reminder that the day will be open to the public from 12.30 until 2.30 pm for the public.

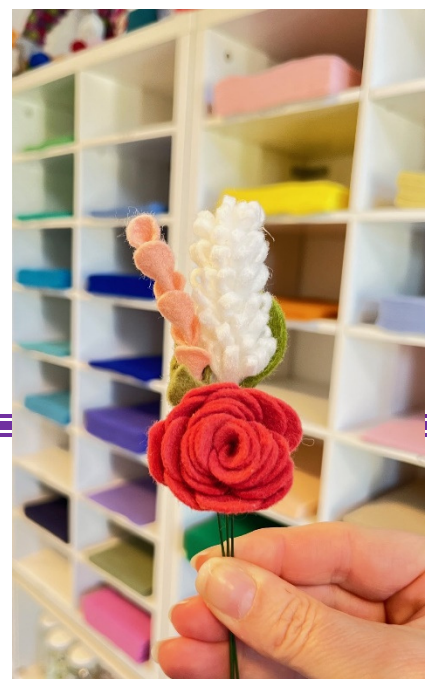
We will also have a guest speaker Rebecca Farquahar from the Felt Factory on her business and journey into running a home-based business. Rebecca will also have a small craft (see picture attached) which members can make on the day. For this reason, I need numbers of those who would like to make the small bouquet of flowers by 18 February. The expected cost is to be about \$15 to \$20. If you have a glue gun this will also assist as Rebecca only has a few for us to use.

The last reminder is that we are hoping to have a wonderful bring and buy table to encourage members of the public. Institutes are welcome to bring any craft items, baking, plants, etc for sale. The proceeds from these can be either donated to federation or back to your institute.

Hoping to see you all on 27 February, my knitting is coming along nicely.

Regards Diane Lithgow

Convenor.



NZFWI 105<sup>TH</sup> National Conference, we are flying to Christchurch on May 25<sup>th</sup> and returning home on Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of May. There are three from North Taranaki going.

Our WI's have some members that need recognising for all they do, so we have made a certificate that you can purchase if you would like to. They are about 8x6 we will be selling them for \$2.50 each please contact Hazel you can have as many as you want, they have no dates and are universal. If you want them for your AGM, contact me ASP so we can get them to you. Hazel 027 8859 505



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