



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

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

**March 2026**

**THEME: Reconnect and Rediscover**

**PROJECT: Involvement in your Community**

**Greetings Members,**

Well summer is now officially finished and we are into Autumn and into the first quarter of the year.

Leah Shoemark, Diane Lithgow and myself going down to **Ashburton to play bowls**, we were very well looked after by Mavis and her team. We participated played to the best of our ability had fun caught up with old friends and made new ones. We didn't have any major weather events and all flights were on time.

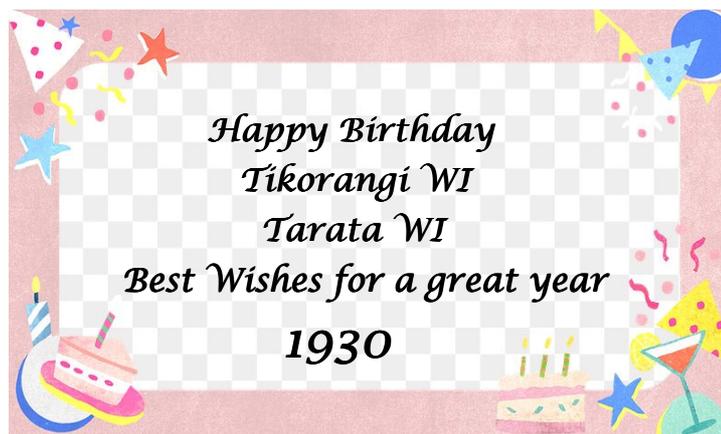
**Founders' Day** which this year was organised by Federation member Faye in my absence. This event also had the weather gods looking after the event. (Faye has a report).

**Creative Craft Day** this was on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> what a great day, this was the first time we have had it in Rotary House which is our base for meetings and it turned out just the right size. Diane Lithgow the Convenor and her team were very happy with the day. (Diane has a report)

I would like to thank the WI lady's that helped behind the scenes with the morning tea and Luncheon and helped their fellow WIs with the morning tea and lunch. With some members unable to attend through several unforeseen circumstances it was great to see those from other WIs pitch in and help. This was true sharing and caring.

Our next big event is the **Federation AGM on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of March** at the **Inglewood Club** next door to The Rotary House so plenty of car parks and morning tea and lunch is provided at \$20 a head, I was speaking with members and they are happy they don't have to bring a shared lunch. But I will need **numbers in for catering please**. Remember you can bring friends and partners and even prospective new members!!! If you know of someone anywhere in North Taranaki that might need company, friendship and fun due to lifestyle changes and would enjoy our homemaker down to earth WI company invite them.

Kind Regards and Yours in WI Friendship  
Hazel



**North Taranaki  
Federation  
2026 Bowling  
Team**



**Hazel Dodunski  
Leah Shoemark  
Diane Lithgow**

**Founders Day:**

Founders' day started out looking like it wasn't going to be nice but turned out sunny but windy. We had a good turnout, Donna had decorated her gazebo up with vases of flowers and we were all given one to take home. The garden was lovely and everyone enjoyed the day finishing around 2pm. Report from Faye



**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 Diane Ferguson 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 the 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.

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

The card is for a mother so that could be your daughter, daughter in law or just a neighbour in recognition of being a good mother.

**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!!!

**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.**



**Creative Arts Convenor  
Diane**





## 59<sup>th</sup> Creative Arts Festival

A very successful day was held on Friday 27 February in the Rotary House, Inglewood. There were over 30 entrants who entered a great number of items. Some categories were very popular (cooking and horticulture) while an increase in the literature sections was pleasing to see.

As the convenor I would like to thank all those that spent time on creating, baking, sewing, knitting, etc over the past months so that they had items to create.

Without you and your work we would not have a wonderful display.

Thanks to all those who helped with the set up and take down of the hall, and who helped with the judging and stewarding during the day.

Our afternoon was spent with The Felt Lady – Rebecca Farquahar, from Inglewood. She had a wonderful craft that 14 people took part in creating a small bouquet of felt flowers. Mine are in a vase beside the television. Rebecca has an excellent shop, open by appointment in Inglewood and sells wonderful kits for felt work.

The champion exhibit was the wonderful Paddington Bear, complete with marmalade sandwich under his hat, made by Mirk Smith, Durham. Our wonderful institutes all supplied a raffle item for the day and the sales table had a great selection of items.

Next year will be the diamond anniversary of the creative arts festival so any ideas for craft, sewing, knitting, etc can be emailed to me. [Dmlithgow7@gmail.com](mailto:Dmlithgow7@gmail.com)

Thanks again for everyone who attended.

Diane

**President:** Hazel Dodunski      06 7538463 / 0278859505

[grahamandhazel@xtra.co.nz](mailto:grahamandhazel@xtra.co.nz)

**Minutes Secretary:** Doreen Smith      027 6299 922

[tdoreen689@gmail.com](mailto:tdoreen689@gmail.com)

**Assistant Secretary:** Diane Lithgow      06 7657430 / 027 6523 237

[dianelithgow@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dianelithgow@xtra.co.nz)

**Treasurer:** Judith Clough      06 7567379 / 022 5300 607

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

**Vice President & Historian:** Faye Simons      027 386 6808

[fpjs46@gmail.com](mailto:fpjs46@gmail.com)

**Hostess:** Wendy Jupp      06 754 5721

[wejbinny@farmside.co.nz](mailto:wejbinny@farmside.co.nz)