



NORTH TARANAKI DISTRICT FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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

October 2026

WI AWARENESS MONTH

THEME: Reconnect and Rediscover

PROJECT: Involvement in your Community

Greetings Members,

We are now into daylight saving so believe it or not summer is on the way!!! I wonder what that will bring!! It has been great to see members supporting the Functions Federation has been putting on in the past month.

It was great to have fourteen members join South Taranaki's 90th Birthday Celebration earlier in the month, it was also an added bonus for them to meet with the National Executive and Colleen the Executive Officer.

Also, the good turnout of both members and friends to the Soup, bun and savoury Day with guest speaker Grant Carter the General Manager of the Taranaki Health Foundation, which operates in support of the facilities at Taranaki Base Hospital.

Then we had our hands on Craft Day, Diane and Doreen were great and busy demonstrators for the Day there was a good enthusiastic group of ladies, a nice array of materials for the flossy baskets and it was heads down concentration, while half were doing this the other half were making waterfall cards and cards and some were doing their colouring in for the 60th Creative craft day being held in February. That is an amazing length of time to have a craft show going, we do hope members are well onto having their entries under way. After lunch we then swapped and carried on with the crafts we didn't do in the morning. This was a most enjoyable, friendly day.

In an earlier newsletter Federation sent out a question as to, if you would like to celebrate our 95th year the response if any was not that keen by the majority of WI's so we will not be going ahead with it.

This month is WI's Awareness month, so let's get out and promote ourselves. Over the last few months, I know of two WI's that have new members, and how did these new members come to hear about WI? They both read about it in the library on a notice board. How great is that? So, what say each WI makes new Posters and we start putting them back up in the library's, Doctors Surgery's, hospitals and anywhere that has a waiting room with a notice board. Also, as we at Federation were talking about this also if you have flowers and are popping into town make up some small bouquets and put a note with contacts on and leave them on a park bench or a seat in town or even in a waiting room. Some probably have Home and Country's stored away, we have put these in waiting rooms before COVID so how about we get out there and start putting ourselves out there again!!! If you don't want to put your contact number on them, I'm happy for you to put my cell phone on for the contact, then I will send them to the WI that will suit them. About 3 years ago I sat with a girlfriends, friend at her birthday luncheon we got talking and I told her about WI at the time she was not ready to come due to personal tragedy, I gave her my name and phone number. About a month and a half ago I got a phone call, she had kept that piece of paper and she was ready to come to a meeting well we had just had our meeting so I invited her to our next craft day, by the time our next meeting she had already attended four of our functions and during the month and on the first one paid her affiliation fee. So, ladies keep on talking to people because I believe there are a lot of women out there that need the friendship our WI's can give. And as yet have not even heard about us.

The next event we have coming up is International Day, Japan. We have nearly put an event together so this is what we are planning some things may change but this is what we have so far!!! It will take place at Rotary House in Inglewood, this is a good safe venue for our more fragile members!!! More in the newsletter.

Ladies if you would like to be part of the bowls team in February, please let me know. Also, I have only had interest from one member re the National AGM in Gisborne, If, we don't book soon we maybe running out of accommodation options just a show of interest it's not a commitment would be good.

To those that are not well, or still trying to ward off the winter lurgies, my thoughts are with you, those that have lost loved ones I'm so sorry for your loss and wish you brighter days ahead packed with happy memories.

Kind Regards and Yours in WI Friendship

Hazel

News from the WI's

Norfolk WI

The highlight of Norfolk's winter calendar was our group's attendance at an evening performance of "The 100-Year Performance" by the Operatic Soc.

The standard of the production was as expected, outstanding and so heartwarming to see many of our young people joining in with heart and vigour on stage.

Many of our ladies well remembered long ago shows and caught themselves singing along with the music.

Our very grateful thanks go out to the two members of Durham Road W.I., Val Young who helped with transport and Janice Woodhead who assisted with some of our members.

Thank you, ladies,

Tikorangi WI

Tikorangi celebrated their meeting in the new season with a Spring-Fling Floral Table on which four categories were judged by three visitors from Tarata WI. After our meeting, we sat in a cozy round group and shared a good selection of home baking and healthy conversation. Our purchased copy of the Centennial Book "Women Home and Country" began a circulation read to Rosemary first.

Once again, we had a prospective member join our meeting, who lives in the district on Otaraoa Road, and whom we hope will return. It was satisfying to learn that she heard about our meetings from our flyer in the Waitara Library.

Wendy and Tracy then repaid Tarata for coming to judge their Spring fling and went and Judged Taratas Spring Show.

New Plymouth Central WI:

NPCWI supported the Soup, bun and savoury day put on by Federation. Several of our members took the opportunity to go down to Kapuni to celebrate with South Taranaki Federation's 90th Birthday and also had the opportunity to meet up with the National President Suzanne and the Executive also Executive officer Colleen. This was a really nice day.

Then in the evening it was our meeting and our guest speaker was Pukekura Parks first woman Curator from when it first started in 1875. Sheryl worked at Purdie's Nursery's while at school and Duncan and Davies. She was the first woman to get an apprenticeship with the Council and then later the curator's position, Pukekura had 8 men curators prior to 1875, it was first developed with Shovels, wheelbarrows, buckets and covered in gorse. Before she got the job as curator Sheryl worked at the prison for 14 years as a prison officer and as the prison horticulturist, training prisoners and growing plants for sale.

We celebrated our 14th Birthday with an outing firstly we went to see Richard Landers glass studio and spent an informative time with him then off to Butlers Reef for lunch and a visit to Oakura Crafty Fox.

We also had three craft days and some of our members attended the Federation Craft Day in Inglewood. Our members also ran a successful BBQ at Mitre 10 in New Plymouth on Saturday and the weather Gods were on our side!!!

Richard Landers Glass Studio





New Plymouth Central's 14th Birthday Lunch at Butlers Reef.

International Day: Japan, Rotary House Inglewood Monday 23rd November

The hall will open at 9.30 am for you to set up the display tables. Anybody can set up a display table it is not judged just a display, if you have something you would like to share please bring it along and we will display it and you can give us its history if you would like. Morning tea will be at 10am. The morning will be talking about items on the display tables, and origami folding. We plan on bringing lunch in at this time we think the charge will be about \$20.pp for lunch. Then after lunch around 12.45 we will have guest speakers. This will all be finalised on the November newsletter but this is what we are hoping, so please support this day it takes a lot of work to put together so your attendance is important to us. Can you please have names and numbers into Federation for catering purposes ASAP. Many thanks the Federation Team.

Craft Day 21st September



DATES TO REMEMBER
OCTOBER AWARENESS MONTH

- 20th October Federation Meeting - Rotary House Inglewood
- November International Day- Japan
- 16th October – applications for good Service and long service badges
- 60th Creative Arts Day Friday 26th February 2027
- Federation AGM 12th March 2027

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