

May 2023

Home & Country

Tōkū Kāinga me Tōkū Whenua



- Juniors all abuzz about WI
- National Office makes a move
- Special double anniversary celebrations

THE NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION OF
**WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES**
for home & country

A Junior's view of WI

After the innovative new venture was put in place by the Otawhao-Takapau WI, Central Hawkes Bay Federation, nine-year-old Madison Tidswell has in recent months become an enthusiastic Junior Circle member.

Here we get Madison's take on how she's embracing all things WI and the fun, friendships and learnings that come with it.

We started Juniors this term and it's been heaps of fun. We have five Juniors. So far, we've made bracelets to sell at a crafts market, had a mini day camp putting up a tent and cooking s'mores over a candle. Mum and Chris ran a day camp for my class, it was so much fun. We all got new T-Shirts.

I went up to Northern and Hawkes Bay WI AGM where Mrs Vaughan gave me a Kingfisher embroidery to take back to our WI. It had been given to NEC from Otawhao a long time ago, it's very pretty.

We've been watching over the community garden, and we're going for a day trip to find the Wopwops in Norsewood soon.

During winter we have more crafts and speakers coming to visit.

I've made lots of friends.

By Madison Tidswell



Life Begins at 80

By Trevor Rowe

The young ones think life begins at 40
But they are wrong - I have found out
this just lately,
A good time can be found if you just
stick around
For life really begins when you're 80.

At 80 I'm used to my arthritis
And to my dentures I'm finally resigned,
All the sins of my past are forgotten
at last
But dear God what's going on in my
mind.

I spend hours trying to find my
bifocals
On the bed, on my head, on the floor,
If I don't feel too good, I don't chop
the wood
And I don't cut the mustard any more.

I don't have to explain now I'm 80
If I'm sort of silly, forgetful, or late,
Folk say - "There, there old chap" and
they give you a slap
You are way past your use by date.

When I go to the fridge, I have
problems
There's always that worry and doubt,
Am I here to put some food away
Or there to take some out.

I sit on my bed when it's night time
With my night cap on top of my head,
And it takes me some time to
remember
Am I getting in, or getting out of my
bed.

I've got lead in my feet, and gold in
my teeth
I feel rich with the silver in my hair,
My kidneys have stones, my tummy
moans and groans
I think there's a gas field in there.

My hereafter is a worry to my preacher
His lecture left me busting with
laughter,
I said, "Beg pardon" but every day in
my garden
I think, "What the hell am I here after".

I thought I would send you a copy of
this Phill
But at the mail box my face went all red,
For instead of posting this letter to you
I opened it up instead.

But I'm certain that life starts at 80
You might one day share this theory of
mine,
At 80 years you are wise, and find to
your surprise
You've forgotten that first 79.

*Sent in by Margaret Muggeridge,
Maata WI – niece of Trevor Rowe
who writes, "The poem on page 27 of
the May issue (last year) of Home &
Country sounded very much like one
of my Uncle Trevor's. He wrote many
books and was on Radio 2ZB Talkback
reading one of his poems each week".*

New Zealand Women's Institutes



Founder: Miss A. E. Jerome Spencer OBE,
Homemaking, Co-operation and Citizenship



Patron: Her Excellency The Rt Hon. Dame Cindy Kiro, GNZM, QSO,
Governor General of New Zealand

Jude Vaughan: President,
Chair - Mealing Estate Trust, Chair - Barbara Wood Memorial Trust

Website: www.wi.org.nz **Charities Services registration number:** CC 23683

Theme: Vision for All

Project: Looking for Opportunity in Your Community

Judy Cathcart – Vice President / Chair,
Lead Membership Committee Trustee,
Barbara Wood Memorial Trust

Adrienne Allen – Co-Lead Promotions &
Operations Committee
Finance Committee

Toni Brumby – Vice President
Co-Lead Promotions & Operations Committee
Trustee, Barbara Wood Memorial Trust

Jessie Hopkinson – Lead Social Issues Committee
Trustee, Mealing Estate Trust

Mary Reet – Honorary Finance Officer
Trustee, Barbara Wood Memorial Trust

National Office:

Colleen Dryden, Executive Officer
PO Box 137, Wellington 6140
Mobile: +64 27 766 1584
Email: exec@wi.org.nz

Home and Country:

Jane Hunt, Editor
Email: exec@wi.org.nz

Home & Country designed and printed by
Valley Print 2020 Limited

The views expressed in Women's Institute Home & Country magazine are not necessarily endorsed by the magazine or the NZFWI. Neither does the printing of an advertisement in the magazine mean the product or service has been endorsed by the magazine or the NZFWI.

HOME & COUNTRY ADVERTISING CHARGES

For a WI member:

Full page B&W	\$190
½ page	\$100
¼ page	\$55
Inside front/back cover (colour)	\$260

For non-members:

The addition of 15 percent to these prices.

Contents

FEATURES

Juniors add their take on WI
..... inside front cover

The power of Circles (part four) 12

Double 60th wedding celebrations... 14

Literature (third place)..... 16

The equal pay question in 1938 30

A visit with a difference
..... inside back cover

WI NEWS

President's column 3

National Office News..... 7

Moving house 8

Birthdays 10

Welcome..... 26

WI activities
..... 9, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 23, 27, 28, 29

Obituaries 35

We Shall remember Them 36

Highlights 37

Columns

Recipes..... 21

Up the Garden Path 22

Social issues..... 24

Book review 33

Front Cover:

This is just a snippet of the beautiful one-acre garden in Paraparaumu that the Waimea WI garden group visited recently. Photo: Sheila Mengham

*Jude Vaughan's photo opposite:
Toni Williams, Ashburton Courier*



Follow us on Facebook

From the President



Kia ora koutou. Hello, WI members.
Kei te pēhea koutou? How are you?

We all know that the last months have brought challenging circumstances to all of us. The devastation brought about by Cyclone Gabrielle found us all catching our breath. Communities throughout Auckland, Northern and Hawkes Bay, Poverty Bay, Tairāwhiti Gisborne and Northland found themselves gathering the strength to tackle the clean-up from silt and water damage; providing help with food and supplies to isolated settlements.

The outpouring of goods and donations throughout the nation brought home to us that we are pretty resilient when push comes to shove. It hit home to us all as an organisation, when Rissington, 'Omatua' homestead was in the news. The bridge, that was bathed in sunshine during our Centenary weekend of celebrations in February 2021, was gone. The oak tree shaded cemetery, where the Ode

was sung and a small tender Kowhai dug into the soil, was swamped with swirling water and debris. I haven't heard about the 75th Memorial Gates - let us hope that they stood firm and remain hinged.

I was invited to attend the Northern and Hawkes Bay AGM at the end of March. While in the area, I took the opportunity to see first hand the damage to horticulture and properties in the Napier area. The car journey was sombre, with stops along the route to take photographs that show visually, the destruction and devastation.

The mental health of those hit hardest will have to be a priority for those in the Rural Support sector and medical centres. The loss of years of hard work in the food production industry will be felt by all consumers here in New Zealand or overseas. The sight of red apples dappled in amongst the dirt

encrusted trees will remain with me for a long time. It is not only the rural sector communities that are suffering; our own members have their stories to share. Most recounting how quickly circumstances can change. So much so, I urge everyone to revisit their own emergency kit and supplies.

“The most difficult thing is the decision to act; the rest is merely tenacity”. Amelia Earhart

The NEC have had to make an important decision to move our national office location. The lease at Lower Hutt was at an end and finding an affordable, suitable headquarters was vital. Scenarios of “What ifs”. “Can we afford?” “Where? What and how can we make this happen?”- have been a major factor on our agenda over the last 12 months. Our choices were limited by cost and practicalities as well as being super aware of what the organisation will need in the future





Change is going to happen. There is no question about that!

Consequently, after successful networking and talking honestly with Suzanne Manning (President) we are sharing a space with our 'big sister' the National Council of Women, New Zealand in Wellington Central. We have supported each other over the decades and this close working proximity will only increase potential opportunities.

The logistics of moving to a smaller office certainly brings 'quart into a pint pot' situation. Judy Cathcart and myself spent two and half days, working alongside Colleen, packing items. Boxes of paperwork taped up. Pictures and large photographs were protectively wrapped. We have rented a storage area where AGM articles, financial reports (need to be retained for seven years) and non-essential

items can be left safely, without being kept in the office. Decisions were made to re-gift items to the original donors. We were so mindful, that we had to act respectfully and show consideration to our members, who have supported and donated various items in the past. But, we have no need of these items and nor do we have the space to look after them properly.

We look forward to seeing at least one delegate from every federation and WIs at the 102nd AGM in Timaru. Having the opportunity to listen and vote on the remits is part of how the NZFWI functions. It is an intrinsic part of our rules, that all members can participate through discussion and casting their vote. If we are going to be successful in raising membership figures then all of us have to start being proactive by looking towards how we can change and grow.

To WI members who have been unwell, I wish them a speedy recovery and extend my deepest condolences to those members' families who have lost loved ones.

Heoi anō tāku mō nāiane.

Jude Vaughan
National President

Bank account numbers:

The New Zealand Federation of Women's Institutes:
03-0518-0013797-00

Barbara Wood Memorial Trust:
03-0518-0303997-00

Mealing Estate Trust:
03-0510-0876029-00

From the Editor

With the move of the National Office to new premises and the 102nd AGM looming, it would seem the winds of change are circulating. By all accounts, the new premises in central Wellington perfectly suits how the NZFWI will set the foundations for the years ahead. The AGM also offers the opportunity for all to contribute to the successful legacy of the WI and

its ability to continue to hold a strong presence in our wider community.

National President Jude Vaughan has seen first-hand the devastation caused by Cyclone Gabrielle which has resulted in chaos and change on a completely different level. Her column makes for sobering reading and our thoughts remain with those who have had their lives turned upside down.

Jane Hunt

Editor's Notes

Home and Country Magazine:

After the review of the future of our organisation's publication and the decision to cut back from 6 to 4 publications annually, Home & Country remains an important piece of our communication strategy.

We are aware that the opportunity for all WI members to share celebrations and events on a national scale in the official magazine is very important to everyone. Communication is vital to ensure that WI information and notices are passed along to all members.

Therefore, it is our intention to produce extended digital newsletters during the year to encompass the interim. This arrangement will enable members to contribute articles about their events held and further notices from the NEC.

Points to remember:

- Ensure photos are of a high quality and are sent separately and not embedded in the copy.
- Please do not photograph copy/ words as it cannot be edited when in this format.
- Please be mindful of deadlines and the timing/relevance when submitting items.
- The recipe has been tested.
- The content is more about federation and WI activities.
- Highlights should be looking ahead at what's coming up as opposed to the previous model of looking back at past events.
- Any member profile includes aspects of their life outside WI as well.

August 2023 issue (deadline, Monday, July 3)

Rotorua

Waikato

North Taranaki

North Otago

Tararua

Waikato East

Eastern Bay of Plenty

National Office News

Kia ora koutou

I write this news from the office on Level 4, 26 Brandon Street in Wellington city. Our move went well with Coolmoves on a very windy and slightly wet March day. Chattels which were donated had been returned via post or courier (or in person) earlier in the week and some furniture not required was taken for auction. Large items like the electronic whiteboard and photocopier (which we have had for over 20 years) were picked up by an e-waste company and smaller items not required were donated to the local hospice shop in Lower Hutt.

There were, however, items left – not needed and not taken for sale. These, plus many boxes of mainly financial papers, were taken to a local storage facility as a stop on the way to the new premises. One drawback at the new place was that the glass top of the board table could not be carried up the four flights of stairs - it was an issue of safety for the moving men, so it was taken back to the storage facility.

While we are sharing an office, NCW NZ do not have any staff. A volunteer comes in on a Wednesday and it is nice to have her company as a change from the previous situation where I was on my own.

Throughout the pack up and moving, affiliations, preparation of the financial report and audit matters were ongoing. The national office does require a membership list from each WI – the auditors base their estimate

of income on these lists. Sending numbers only is half the requirement. Just as sending a registration form for the AGM – again, auditors estimate income for the AGM on the registration forms received. Until we are fully automated, and everyone can register and pay online, you are required to fill in and send to the national office so we can show these paper forms to the auditors.

There were still too many errors in the online reporting. Once the data has been entered online by you, we cannot change it and I have been required to contact those entering the data to ask about errors. Many are very simple ones such as not using a minus sign for a deficit and entering bank accounts and term investments in the incorrect columns. The accountants have prepared the report which is now with the auditors.

Thank you to those Federations and WIs which were selected for further auditing – it may seem onerous, but all of you have managed to provide information in a timely manner. Great work!

Organisation for the 102nd Annual General Meeting is well underway with the Waimate AGM Committee working to ensure attendees are welcomed and have a good time in their region. We are looking forward to positive discussions as well as having fun. See you there.

Until next time – ka kite ano.

Colleen Dryden, Executive Officer

THE NATIONAL OFFICE HAS MOVED FROM MONDAY 3 APRIL 2023

THE POSTAL ADDRESS WILL BE:

PO Box 137, Wellington 6140

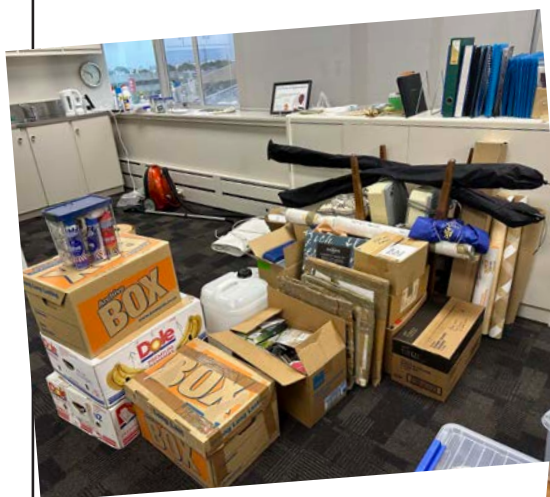
THE PHYSICAL ADDRESS WILL BE:

Level 4, 26 Brandon Street, Wellington Central, Wellington 6011

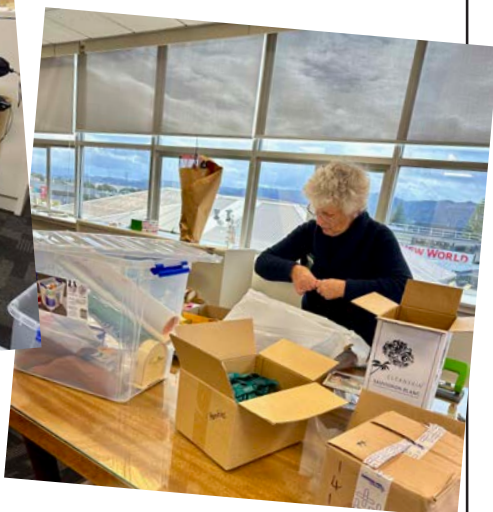
THE TELEPHONE NUMBER WILL BE:

027 766 1584

- All NZ Post mail to be sent to the PO Box 137, Wellington 6140 address (we have only a 2-month re-direction in place)
- All couriered articles to be sent to NZ Federation of Women's Institutes, Level 4, 26 Brandon Street, Wellington 6011
- All phone calls to the NZFWI mobile number 027 766 1584
- The email and website addresses remain the same



Packing up and moving office.



WI Activities

Founders Day in Canterbury

Our Founders Day was hosted by Canterbury District Federation with members from North Canterbury Federation and Canterbury East Federation at the newly rebuilt St Lukes Church, in Opawa, Christchurch which was almost destroyed by the Christchurch earthquake.

A lovely chapel was included in the rebuild and the Federation and WI Presidents opened the service with a procession of their Banners. After the service we adjourned to the hall for lunch followed by a quiz. Our thoughts and prayers were offered for members devastated by the cyclone.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In the February issue of Home & Country, you had an interesting article on Peggy squares as well as a photo of one I knitted.

One comment was the time taken to sew together. I knit mine in strips of 45 stitches, 90-100cm long, sewing four strips together. Not so much sewing but easy to manage the weight of knitting.

Yours in Institute.

Best wishes to all.

Chris Finlayson

Birthday Congratulations

90-year birthdays

*Tui Franklin,
Taradale WI, Northern & Hawkes Bay*

*Noeline Kerrisk,
Carlyle WI, South Taranaki
(now residing in Whangarei)*

*Elaine Symonds,
Abbotsford WI, Mid Otago*

*Pat Thompson,
Waimea WI, Southern Wellington*

90th Birthday Celebrations

Members of Waimea WI, Southern Wellington Federation, made a special visit to Pat Thompson to help celebrate her 90th birthday.



Birthday girl, Pat Thompson.

WI Activities

Rewarding start to the year for Riverlea WI

Riverlea WI members, South Taranaki Federation, started the year off with some fundraising.



Margie Bishop, Helen Cameron and Lynette Gargan served morning tea and lunch for the judges and stewards at the Welsh Pony Club day held at the Stratford A&P Showgrounds. Members contributed baking and sandwiches.

A great way to make our presence in the community seen and felt, the money made helping towards donations for worthy causes throughout the year.

President's report with a difference

Tamatea WI, Northern & Hawkes Bay Federation, President Annette Elkins delivered a fun speech for their 49th AGM held earlier this year, to be read to the beat / rhythm of the tune 'There was an old lady who swallowed a fly'.

Another report – I saw it as a sigh and a shuffle and a roll of the eyes,

So, I thought – why not give them a surprise,

I know what I'll do – I'll do it in song, I'll invite the Hoppin' Frogs along – but they were busy,

So I thought - what could be worse – I know what I'll do – I'll do it in Verse!

Then a Fly came by, and I had an idea, so here goes, no time to rehearse.

I know an old President who wrote a report

With the greatest thought – she wrote a report – and do you know why?

She wrote a Report to thank you all, the tall, the short, the big, and the

small – To thank you all

For everyone in your own special way, has given something to make the day – of someone else.

You've become radio stars, and famed on Facebook

You've knitted and stitched and cooked and cooked

All for the love of WI – and do you know why?

It's the joy of doing, of caring, of sharing and having a laugh at a ditty or two,

It's the bond that is formed by working together, no matter the weather, the sun will shine through.

We work as a team, the committee and I - and do you know why?

We work as a team to get the job done and after that we have more fun – my team and I

I know an old President who feels no remorse - she loves you of course.

Annette Elkins, President 2022.

A Circle within Circles (part 4)

By Chris King

The sound of a car toot-tooting outside alerted Jess, and grabbing her bag and the little package to contribute to the raffle, she rushed out to meet Chris who'd pulled up by the gate.

"Hi, morning! Are we ready?" Chris laughed and continued as Jess climbed into the car. "What do you reckon this meeting will be like? I believe that Lucy Mannering has done her stint as the President and as the leader of the Crafty Circles. She's done it for a few years now, so I guess she'll be pleased to step down. Wonder who'll take over? If they decide to split the jobs, I wouldn't mind taking over the Circles group. I do enjoy that group and reckon I could manage. What do you think?"

Jess was surprised that Chris was thinking along those lines but didn't like to say, as she presumed ladies who'd been involved for a lot longer than Chris, would want to do it.

"I haven't given it any thought really" she said smiling at Chris's eager face. "If it doesn't appear that there is someone waiting in the wings, would you like me to nominate you."

"That would be super, but let's wait and see. There is no way I want to step on anyone's toes. Actually though, I've been thinking about it and really of the other ladies, they either seem to have other commitments or they are getting quite old and probably wouldn't want the responsibility. Oh, I don't know. Let's just see what happens."

When Chris and Jess arrived, they were quite surprised to see ladies who were obviously from other WI's or from the Federation. Jess quietly guessed they'd all turned up because it was an AGM, there was a splendid lunch and some fun competitions that members had entered for. She herself, had put a family group of her little dolls. She and Chris sat at the back ready to observe the proceedings.

"Welcome ladies," Lucy Mannering called the meeting to order. "I'm changing the order of the meeting slightly. We'll have the main business, then break for morning tea then resume for the election of officers. That gives you all time to consider the roles up for grabs, so start thinking ladies".

Smiling benignly around the room, she commenced with the formalities of the meeting. Jess was half listening, her mind flitting from one thing to another. The conference they were talking about sounded a lot of fun; should she suggest Chris as leader of the Circles; who were some of these other ladies; wonder if I'll get any warm fuzzies for my doll family. Suddenly, it was morning tea time.

Clutching her mug of coffee and nibbling on a delicious date scone, she was aware of Lucy beside her. Lucy touched her arm and gently moved her to one side.

"We'd be so thrilled if you would agree to take over from me," Lucy said in a low voice. "You are exactly what this

group needs. I need to step down but would be always here if you needed advice or help. Please think about it. Also, a little bird has whispered that Chris would like to take on the Circles. The two of you obviously get on well together. It really would be the answer to my prayers to see this institute carry on in good hands."

Stunned to silence Jess stared at Lucy. Across the room Chris grinned and did a little thumbs up. "Traitor" thought Jess. "She's in on this, traitor! I'll get even with her."

Somewhere deep in the pit of her stomach, Jess felt a ripple of amusement, excitement and genuine pleasure. These ladies obviously wanted her participation and conference did sound a heap of fun.

and anyway Jess could always suggest that most committee meetings were held by zoom rather than flogging out to yet another meeting.

"Oh, what the heck, why not, why not indeed" she said hugging Lucy. "Okay, okay. Ratbags all of you!"

And so it was that a few months later President Jess, Vice President Chris and three other ladies made a fantastic group to attend the National Conference.

For someone who was hesitant about joining any group and most certainly not WI and under no circumstances take any committee work, I haven't done so bad, now have I, Jess thought. She smiled contentedly and thanked forever for the day she saw that funny advert in the local rag.

WI Activities

A & P success for Uruwhenua WI

Uruwhenua WI, Nelson Federation, entered a bay at the A & P Show earlier this year. It was the 125th show in Golden Bay and this year there was a theme of "Life in WW2."

Six bays were entered and our WI placed third. We entered craft items, cooking, home produce and vegies as well. The crafts and some of the baking had to show back to the early days of showing, such as, old type tea cosies, pot mitts, aprons etc.

All in all, it was a great day and the institute did well.



The war time bay at the A & P show which was judged with sewing, knitting, cooking and a letter to a soldier, then the overall effect.

Double 60th wedding anniversary celebrations

Tamatea WI, Northern and Hawkes Bay Federation, has recently had the pleasure of celebrating the 60th wedding anniversaries of two members, Frances McLay and Inez Rudd.

Frances and John McLay

John worked for the ANZ Bank and was home on holiday from Invercargill. Frances needed a partner for a firm dance so a work mate, later to become her sister-in-law, said John liked ballroom dancing and would partner her.

As the saying goes, the rest is history. The pair was married on 23rd February 1963 at the Linwood Congregational Church in Christchurch, which sadly, was a victim of the devastating earthquakes. They had to change the date of the wedding because the Queen was having a public rally in nearby Lancaster Park, the roads were to be closed off so there was no option really.

They moved around the South Island to different branches of the bank, which was a great way to see the area.

They finally moved to Napier in 1978 and have been there since, with Frances refusing to move again until the three children had finished high school. However, John's health took a turn for the worse so he retired early. They have lived in Taradale since 1978. Frances says she is not sure there is a secret about long marriage, just being best friends with love, tolerance and patience also playing a big part.

Inez and Bryan Rudd

Inez and Bryan first met at Napier Intermediate School after being in the same class. At the manual training classes, Inez for cooking and Bryan for woodwork (which he never enjoyed) it was common practice to meet after class and sample the day's cooking.

After two years at Intermediate, they each moved on to Napier Girls High and Napier Boys High respectively, not catching up with one another again until they were both working and had joined the Napier Lodge of Manchester Unity Friendly Society.

Bryan first invited Inez out to partner him to a friend's 21st. They both enjoyed dancing and social outings which saw them most weekends attend the local dance held at a variety



Inez and Bryan Rudd on their wedding day.

of venues - Majestic Ball Room, Napier War Memorial and The Top Hat to name a few. Together they also attended balls and dances in Hastings, Tikokino, Waipukurau, Waipawa and Wairoa.

Inez's father was a member of one of the Napier Masonic Lodges and in 1957, Inez was presented at The Masonic Annual Debutante Ball and Bryan was invited to partner Inez for that evening and it was from this event that their romance blossomed.

Outings were plenty, varied, and they enjoyed one another's company to the fullest. They announced their engagement at Inez's 21st on 9th September 1961 with their wedding taking place on 26th January 1963

before family and friends at St Paul's Presbyterian Church in Napier, the service being conducted by the late Rev Ron Hay.

Life has been full-on ever since and they have been blessed with a very loving and caring family - Sharon and Grant, David and Astrid, Leanne and partner Nigel, grandchildren Renee and Carl, Darren and Amy, Hayden and Charlotte. They also have one great granddaughter Lucy, who turns one in May. She is full of beans and brings much joy to them all.

Outside family, they both continue with their interests and involvement in Women's Institute, Lodge and church while supporting each other in all that they do.

WI Activities

Multiple badge celebrations for Purua WI

In a significant achievement, five of Purua WIs (Whangarei Federation) nine members, received noteworthy badges in April.

Although Jocelyn Ross couldn't be with us on the day, she and Lenare Hawkins received 60-year badges, presented by Janice Harrison Treasurer of Whangarei Federation, Beth Moscrip was awarded her Good Service Badge and Helen Kinsella and Jackie Broughton their 40-year badges.

A great effort for a small WI.



Pictured, from left, Lenare Hawkins, Janice Harrison, Beth Moscrip, Helen Kinsella, Jackie Broughton.

2022 Literature Trophy

Third place

By Judy Condon, Dargaville WI, Whangarei Federation

Eventual freedom

Memoir to a mother, grandmother, and great grandmother

Pain lay deep and lonely in Fanny's breast. She looked upon her children lying in their ragged bedclothes, huddling together, the horrid cold chilling their bones. She, a widow, overjoyed with the return of her husband before the sadness and loneliness filled her body when he passed after contracting the Spanish flu.

It was 1920. He had volunteered, not knowing she was pregnant with their third child. His homecoming was blurred with love for his family and his regret at not being able to support them as he became sicker and sicker.

Shaking her mind free, she knew she must take her tired and worn-out body on the street to beg for any type of work; her precious children needed nourishment. She had taken cleaning and ironing tasks many times at the risk of being treated as a servant. Each time leaving her feeling inferior. Looking down at her tattered clothes, the holes in her cardigan, her greasy mousy brown hair hidden under a rag scarf.

How she wished she could make a better life for her and her children.

Smiling inward and strangely feeling more confident this day, she shut the door quietly. Bag, filled with a cleaning

brush and chemical bottle, she began her walk down the broken cobbled street. She walked past the ramshackle homes of people who were unable to find work and the war widows, each unfortunate enough to have little or no sense of income.

Tin washbasins sat at the side of the shambled dwellings, children staring, blurry eyed into space, ragged clothes hanging from their thin bodies. Reminding her of how her children could end up. "Remain focused," she reminded herself and stealthily walked on.

The corner of Queen Street appears, she takes a breath, sucking the coldness of the winter air. Her shoes iced up, hands frozen, she slid rather than walked. Just another obstacle in her sad existence.

"Continue, you are strong," Fanny reminds herself.

Fanny walks past three houses she had visited before. She was too proud to experience more prejudice. Reaching number 9, the flowers wither in the cold, yet they seemed to be happy to bask in the coldness of winter.

Her resolute aim, to gain some substance for her family, nothing was going to take this away from her.

Fanny takes another deep breath, her feet and hands now ice blocks. She pulls the doorbell chain; the hollow

sound takes control of her thoughts. A moment passed; the door opened. A woman stood covered in flour, her apron with its pretty crocheted images looked like a white mud pie.

Restraining a giggle, Fanny looked up. The woman bellows "Are you coming to the meeting? Did you read about it on the flyer down the street?" Fanny begins to talk, the woman had grabbed her by the arm, dragging her down a passageway and into one of the biggest kitchens Fanny had ever seen.

At the large table were four women, each greeted her. The woman of the house pushed her into a chair. "Introduce yourself to everyone, I will bring hot scones and tea."

Stunned, but happy to be warm, Fanny sat down opposite this middle-aged woman who extended her hand, "Welcome to our WI group meeting, I hope you can find yourself comfortable enough to talk with us." Fanny, lost for words, just nodded. "My name is Fanny and I live on Spencer Road with my three children. My husband passed away after contracting the Spanish flu after the war. Now, I travel the streets each day looking to support our meagre existence."

Each of the women seemed to take in her plight whilst introducing themselves. She, for the first time in a long time felt an equal; her clothes ragged and her hair greasy releasing itself from the rag tie.

One of the ladies looked at her, speaking softly, "We are a group of ladies searching for a mission to gain

pride and help each other grow personally, whilst supporting others in the community. We are looking forward to expanding our mission. Jerome Spencer is the driver of this mission. I, Amy, and the other women here are keen to help. Do you think you would like to join us?

Jerome, sitting across from Fanny asked, "What do you think you are best at?"

"I really like to knit and crochet, my mother was a hard task master, we were sufficiently skilled to support the household." replies Fanny.

"I think we have a goldmine here," stated another lady.

"Tea and scones are ready people," shouts the hostess. "Let's eat and share our ideas. Fanny, thank you so much for choosing my door to knock on this morning. We are going to be great friends."

Fanny smiled: a great burden had been lifted off her shoulders. Her new friend Jane showed her to the door, giving her a bag and a tin full of scones to take home.

The weather, still dark and unwelcoming, didn't bother Fanny on the way home, her mind was thinking of the future and how her new friends welcomed her into the group. They had given her some wool and crochet cotton along with needles and hooks for her to use.

At home, she opened the bag, finding clothes and footwear that would help her children stay dry and warm. They may not fit nicely, yet they were just overwhelmed at the generosity of the group of ladies.

That night she began crocheting a table set. Time flew and she was able to take her work to the group later that

week. A visitor to the house saw it and bought it, leaving Fanny feeling like a woman of worth.

Her newfound trade, welcomed by people of Napier and WI ensured her children were well cared for and their future as bright as the shiny buttons she put on her doilies.

WI Activities

Poverty Bay Wairoa honours long-serving members

Poverty Bay Wairoa WI Federation held its AGM in March at the bowling club where guest speaker Andrea Seymour informed those present about the new Healthy Aging Tairawhiti concept, based at Gisborne Hospital.

Its focus is on combined mass care to support the elderly in their homes and hospital, and when they go home, making sure they have everything they require to keep them safe.

Andrea was presented with a gift of thanks.

Alison Crawford welcomed members, the aspirations were read and Alison also presented a surprised Christine Parkin with a long service badge. Delys Hollamby and Liz Clark received their 30-year bar.

Due to the road conditions, there were no visitors. Frasertown members were able to attend.

There was an edible auction, multi draw raffle, then lunch was served, which included a mixture of sandwiches, sausage rolls and a beautiful sponge with jam and cream.



Alison Crawford, left, with Christine Parkin.

WI Activities

Special plaque to celebrate Nelson's Kowhai

Nelson Federation members enjoyed a picnic in late January to celebrate the unveiling of a plaque to go alongside their Kowhai tree which was planted last year in the Gardens of the World, in Hope, near Nelson.

The tree is doing well and a picnic seemed the perfect way to unveil the plaque which was especially made for the occasion.

The photos show some of the members having fun blowing bubbles and enjoying other games and one of Nelson President Ngaire Sharp unveiling the plaque.



Recipes

Meatballs

500gm minced steak	1/2 cup fresh breadcrumbs	1 tbsp chopped parsley
250gm sausage meat	1 onion, finely chopped	Salt and pepper
1/2 cup tomato sauce	3 tsp Worcestershire sauce	1 egg
1 tsp curry powder	2 tbsp vinegar	1/2 cup water
2tbsp fruit chutney sauce	1/4 cup brown sugar	

Combine meats, egg, breadcrumbs, onion, curry powder, parsley, salt and pepper. Mix well. Form tablespoons of the mixture into balls, place in a baking dish and bake in a moderate oven for 30 minutes, shaking the pan occasionally. Pour off any excess fat.

Pour the sauce over the meatballs, return them to the oven and bake a further 15 to 20 minutes, basting occasionally with the sauce.

Supplied by: Anne Goble, Waimea WI, Southern Wellington Federation

Bath Buns

An old recipe – comfort food at its best, eat fresh and warm.

2 ½ cups flour	1 or 2 eggs	¾ cup of sugar
1 tsp baking soda	1 cup cream (sour or fresh, leftover whipped cream)	
2 tsp baking powder	handful of sultanas, peel	

Put dry ingredients in a bowl. Beat egg, add sour cream and mix into bowl. Add milk if too stiff.

Put in tsp lots on tray. Sprinkle with sugar. Cook in hot oven.

Recipe can be halved for smaller quantity.

Supplied by: Lynne Maguire, Waihi WI

Nibbles

1½ cups flour	1 packet chicken soup	1 tsp baking powder
100g butter	1/2 cup cream	

Mix first 3 ingredients, add butter, and mix until like breadcrumbs.

Add cream to make a soft dough.

Roll out to about 3mm. Cut into shapes, or mini scones.

Place on ungreased baking tray.

Bake at 180°C for 10-12 minutes.

Supplied by: Marilyn Corbishley, Whararangi CWI, Taradale, Napier

Cheese Log

250g cream cheese ½ cup tasty grated cheese chopped gherkins
enough Worcestershire sauce to mix chopped walnuts

Mix all wet ingredients together, then on baking paper roll in chopped walnuts.
Wrap in cling film and keep in the fridge.
Cut in slices to serve.

Supplied by: Noni Roberts, Gate Pa-Kaimai WI, Tauranga Federation

Wholemeal Ginger Crunch

150gm butter 2 tbsp golden syrup ¾ cup brown sugar
¾ cup long-thread coconut 1 ½ cups rolled oats ¾ cup wholemeal flour
2 tsp baking powder 3 tsp ginger
1 cup chopped crystallised ginger

Topping

100gm butter 6 tbsp syrup 2 ½ cups icing sugar
3 tsp ground ginger

Preheat oven to 180°C and line 20 x 30 slice tin with non-stick baking paper.
To make the base, melt the butter, syrup and sugar together in a large saucepan.
Mix in the other ingredients and press into the prepared tin.
Bake for 20 minutes until lightly golden, then remove from the oven.
Meantime, make the topping. Melt the butter and syrup together, then beat in the icing sugar and ginger. Spread topping on to the warm slice.
Chill, then cut into pieces. To serve melt 50g chocolate and drizzle over the top {can be omitted}.

This will keep for 4-5 days in an airtight container. The base can be frozen.

Supplied by: Eastern Otago Federation

Simple Kumara Bake

500gm of Kumara (of your choosing) 300mls cream
1 pkt Maggi onion soup-mix.

Dice and boil kumara until almost cooked. Drain and spread into baking dish. Mix cream and onion soup-mix together and pour over kumara. Bake in hot oven 10-15 minutes. Serve hot. (Potatoes may be used instead of kumara).

Supplied by: Auckland West Federation

Up the Garden Path

With Autumn here, my mind immediately jumps to preparing for spring.

Bulbs are available everywhere and a little preparation means beautiful displays in a few months.

Block colour themes or a jumble of cheerful riotous colours, all bring a smile in Spring.

I like to put the bulbs in and then have a layer above of some instant colour punnets on top or around them to be enjoyed now. As these are finishing, the bulbs come through and there is a continuity of colour that extends the season of your garden. Close planting also discourages weeds.

Wonderful flowers to plant now are pansies, poppies, snapdragons, calendula (great around the vegetables). Hollyhocks, foxgloves and delphiniums make a beautiful showing too.

The more practical side of me is thinking winter vegetables. Time to pull out the finished summer crops and either compost or dig them back in for nutrients.

Remember to add fertiliser to help boost the plants for the colder weather. With a cloche or similar protection strong enough to cope with wind and driving rain, you can have vegetables growing throughout the season, including beetroot, broccoli and cabbage or any and all brassicas, also spring onions, silver beet and lettuce.

I have a wonderful stand of huge sunflowers that are finished. I'm drying the heads as much as possible on the plants. Now I will get them in and have the abundant seeds safe and ready to plant for next season.

Crop rotation is very important to keeping the soil healthier. Grow your leafy greens in where you had your tomatoes. It reduces any pests and



Place any bird feeding stations in a safe area where it is awkward for any cats to harm your customers, hopefully, near where you can observe and enjoy the birds' antics and enjoyment.

Social Issues

Last year, the 'Oversight of Oranga Tamariki System and Children and Young People's Commission Bill' was passed. In this new bill, the Children's Commissioner is being disestablished and replaced with independent monitors.

The responsibility for complaints and investigations regarding Oranga Tamariki now being taken over by the Ombudsman and the Office of the Children's Commissioner converted into a Board-led Commission (i.e. no Commissioner) with less power to make changes. This board will be made up of up to six people including the 'chief children's commissioner'.

There has been widespread concern over the government's decision to pass the bill, many believing it was 'bulldozed' through and they should have waited for the findings from the Royal Commission of inquiry report.

Advocates believe the government has not listened to those who have lived experiences while in care, and this new bill will further weaken the voices of the young people it is meant to serve. Whānau Ora have expressed their concerns for the safety of children, particularly tamariki Māori, who are more likely to be placed into care and are more likely to experience abuse.

A report from Aroturuki Tamariki, the independent children's monitor, has found that Oranga Tamariki is not meeting the minimal standards, reporting that social workers need to be able to spend more time with tamariki, caregivers, whānau and communities.

Oranga Tamariki couldn't provide data to determine whether the health and education needs of tamariki and rangatahi in care are being met. Lack of availability and access to mental health services remains a barrier, caregivers need more support and access to important information about tamariki in their care, caregivers and their households are not always fully assessed before tamariki start living in the home.

Not enough collaboration and communication occurs between government agencies, and Oranga Tamariki is not meeting the regulatory requirement to self-monitor compliance with the National Care Standards Regulations. During the time of the report, Oranga Tamariki has had custody of almost 99 percent of 6398 children in care with only 65 percent of children visited by a social worker.

This latest bill and the reports, over the years, about child abuse in state care is heart-breaking. As an organisation, how can we help?

Firstly, by raising awareness to help amplify the voices of those that are being ignored, secondly, collecting items across the country such as clothing and toys for organisations, such as Foster Hope, who collect donations for children who sometimes have nothing when they are placed in care.

Sources: nzherald, stuffnz, abuseincare and VOYCE.

Jess Hopkinson
Social Issues, NEC

Musings for all

Recipe for Happiness

Take equal parts of healthy honest work, rest and recreation – mix very carefully with diligence, contentment and good temper. Soften together with determination until all lumps of idleness, selfishness and despondency have gone. Bring the whole to a cream by adding the milk of human kindness and the spirit of consideration – pour in sympathy and add a light sprinkling of smiles. Colour with laughter and keep it where it can be seen.

A penny for those thoughts

Why do we say something is out of whack? What is a “whack”?

If a pig loses its grunt is it disgruntled?

Why are a wise man and a wise guy opposites?

If it is true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the ‘others’ for?

Isn’t it unnerving when doctors call what they do ‘Practice’?

If love is blind, then why is beautiful lingerie so popular?

Why is the person who gives investment advice called a “broke-r”

If lawyers are ‘disbarred’ and clergymen ‘defrocked’, doesn’t it follow that electricians be ‘delighted’, musicians ‘denoted’, cowboys ‘deranged’, models ‘deposed’, tree surgeons ‘debarked’ and dry cleaners ‘depressed’?

Good Advice- now if only I could follow it!

An hour a day with a spade and hoe

Will keep the weeds down and make the plants grow.

One hour a day with paper and pen

Will keep you alive in the heart of a friend.

One hour a day doing things you detest

Will give you more time for the things you like best

One hour a day lost by careless neglect

Has nought to return but an hour of regret.

One hour a day, yes only one

Is all it takes for a job well done.

Getting it done

Somebody said that it couldn’t be done

But she with a chuckle replied

That maybe it couldn’t but she’d be the one

Who wouldn’t say No till she’d tried

So she buckled right in with a trace of a grin

On her face; if she worried she hid it.

And she started to sing as she tackled the thing

That couldn’t be done, and she did it

Welcome Corner

A big welcome to these new Members

Whangarei Federation

Taumarere-Opua WI - Lyn Wayman

Auckland West Federation

New Lynn WI - Wynifred Wilson

Thames Hauraki Plains Federation

Karaka WI - Carla Anderson

Waihi WI - Denella Germain, Leonie Mason, Eileen Whitwell

Waikato East Federation

Te Aroha West WI - Joy Croskery

North Taranaki Federation

Durham WI - Mary Williams

South Taranaki Federation

Mangatoki WI - Janice Harrad

Waverley WI - Irene Avison

Poverty Bay Wairoa Federation

Frasertown WI - Valerie Grooby, Maureen Kerley

Northern & Hawkes Bay Federation

Tamatea WI - Diane Wilkie

Central Hawkes Bay Federation

Otawhao-Takapau WI - Charlie Menzies, Kahlea Menzies, Kallista-Rose Partridge (all Junior members)

Wakarara WI - Sue Davey

Tararua Federation

Dannevirke North WI - Pauline Court

Woodville WI - Bonna Hopa

Manawatu Federation

Glen Oroua WI - Jane Orwin-Higgs, Jill Thompson

Wairarapa Federation

Owls of Featherston WI - Debbie Fox, Susan Hughes, Wendy Simpson

Kapiti WI - Lorraine Mansfield

Buller Federation

Waimangaroa WI - Janet Cummings, Joanne Duston, Diane Gilchrist, Jeanette Hosking

West Coast Federation

Arorangi WI - Jillene Magee

North Canterbury Federation

Masons Flat-Hawarden WI - Helen Lovell, Lyndsey Millar, Kate Steele

Ohoka WI - Michelle Wilson

Mid Otago Federation

Waiholo-Clarendon WI - Barbara Earl, Sharon McEwen

Eastern Otago Federation

Kia Ora Katoa WI - Tarina Stott

WI Activities

Uruwhenua members enjoy a day with the plants

Uruwhenua WI members, Nelson Federation, enjoyed an outdoor meeting day earlier in the year which included a visit to the Cottage Gardens in Golden Bay.

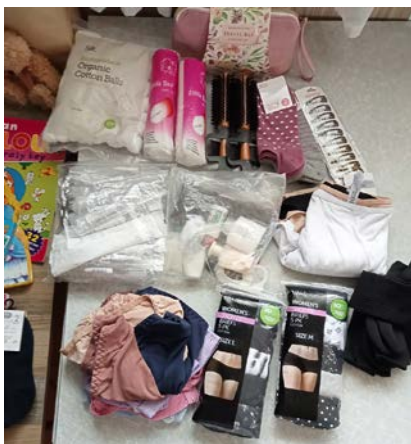
A picnic afternoon tea and a wander in among the plants and in some cases, more to take home and plant, was a great way to spend the day. After night time rain, a beautiful clear, calm and warm day greeted us, making for a wonderful day to wander the gardens, enjoy a cuppa and participating in flower and garden quizzes.



Generous donations from CHB Federation to Women's Refuge

At the Central Hawkes Bay Federation's AGM, we had a roll call for Women's Refuge and collected about 83 items from children's games and activities to adult underwear and essentials.

Unfortunately, the Women's Refuge representative was too busy to come and speak as she was helping cyclone victims but we were able to deliver all items to her a few days later.



WI Activities

90th birthday celebrations for Turuturu WI 1933 - 2023

Turuturu WI, South Taranaki Federation, proudly celebrated their 90th birthday on February 25.

The anticipation was over. The birthday was celebrated with style and now it's time for reflection and gratitude to our founding members who began the Turuturu journey 90 years previously.

Our founding president was Mrs I James (1933 - 1934) and in between there have been 31 presidents with June Hartwell being our president at the time of our 90th celebration.

Our celebration was held at Tairoa Lodge. A perfect setting with an atmosphere to match such an important occasion.

The room was beautifully decorated by our members and the circular tables allowed for easy chatting with those at the tables. Our guests included other institute members, ex-members and, of course, all our Turuturu members.

We were fortunate to have Alan McKay with his keyboard providing background music.

President June Hartwell welcomed all to our celebration, acknowledging our guests and especially having our Federation President,

Bernadette Gopperth with us. Grace was said.

The meal was ready and the visual delight of the food gave promise of delicious enjoyment to be savoured. We weren't disappointed.

South Taranaki Federation president, Bernadette spoke glowingly of the work Turuturu had done within the Federation over the years with awards, doing well in both Federation and National Competitions.

There have been two recipients of the Gold Honours badge with Helen Yaxley and Norah Roberts. In addition, Norah was a valued member of the National Executive.

Below: 60-year badge holders Margaret Ingram and Bev Thomas ready to cut the cake.



It was interesting to note that all our Turuturu members began in other institutes within the Federation.

Bev Hawkes had researched well, giving a very full and interesting account of Turuturu's history.

The birthday cake was made by Bev and beautifully iced by Janice Walsh. Our two 60-year badge holders, Bev Thomas and Margaret Ingram cut the cake.

Tea and coffee were enjoyed with a slice of the lovely cake.

Phyllis Malcolm expressed thanks on behalf of all for the invitation to be present and to share in this time of celebrating.

Once the formalities were over, it was a happy sight just to see people lingering and enjoying each other's company before going home. It was a very special day.



Pauline Powell and June Fraser during national President Jude Vaughan's visit to Hawke's Bay.

Equal pay for equal work

A 'winning essay in the 1938 January issue of *Home & Country*. It has an echo of today's thinking. Written by "Å Voter":

Should women receive equal pay for equal work with men? If the quality and quantity of work is equal, then certainly she should receive equal pay, for many reasons.

The manufacturer or producer allows a certain figure for the work of producing a certain article. What does it matter, if it be well done, whether the work is done by a man or a woman? Surely, if the woman is the weaker vessel, more credit is due to her. Is it to teach her economy for married life that she gets less pay? Or to give her an inferiority complex, so that she will look up to the lords of creation and think how wonderful they are to do the work she did equally well and received half the pay for it?

When a woman is working, she has to eat, and live, just like a man. I never see board advertised at half-price for women. Nor do we get shoes and clothing at half-price. Our teeth need attention, and our eyes need testing, but unfortunately these professional attentions are not offered at half-price.

In these days of independence, the women become very efficient in their work. Man is his own enemy in offering half-pay for their services, because as soon as depression comes men are out of

work and girls and women take their place at half their pay. If it was equal pay for equal work men would get the preference every time.

When war breaks out, and the men go off to protect their wives and children, the women have to step into the breach and do the men's work, whether they have been trained for it or not. Some of us know by experience how efficiently they do it.

In these days of equal franchise, let us go a little further and demand equal rights in other ways – equal pay for equal work.

We have equal franchise, hence we need not ask favours of the men. Let us rise up and get them for ourselves. We were the first country in the world to get universal franchise, and still we sit down and bemoan the fact that we still get half pay for equal work with men.

I heard a member of the Women's Division of the Federated Farmers' Union say in an address that women do not need to go to Parliament to get what they want. With 30,000 WD members, 50,000 WI members, and the members of other women's organisations, our voting power is strong enough to enable us to demand a thing and send the men along to get it for us. What an idea! In that way we can still mind our own business and stay at home and look after the family. Shall we give it a trial?

Weather fails to deter Founders Day celebrations

Despite the devastation caused by Cyclone Gabrielle, the Northern and Hawkes Bay Federation were still able to come together for their Founders Day celebration, held on February 21, just a week after the damaging weather event.



Dirty laundry

A young couple moved into a new house. The next morning while they were eating breakfast, the young woman saw her neighbour hanging the washing outside.

“That laundry is not very clean; she doesn’t know how to wash correctly. Perhaps she needs better soap powder,” she said. Her husband looked on, remaining silent.

Every time her neighbour hung her washing out to dry, the young woman made the same comments.

A month later, the woman was surprised to see a nice clean wash on the line and said to her husband, “Look, she’s finally learned how to wash correctly. I wonder who taught her this?”

The husband replied, “I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows.” And, so it is with life...

What we see when watching others depends on the clarity of the window through which we look. So don’t be too quick to judge others, especially if your perspective of life is clouded by anger, jealousy, negativity or unfulfilled desires. Judging a person does not define who they are. It defines who you are.

Source: Paola Coelho “Dirty Laundry”

A memorable haircut

A man in the US was getting a haircut prior to a trip to Rome. He mentioned the trip to the barber, who responded, "Rome? Why would anyone want to go there? It's crowded and dirty. You're crazy to go to Rome. So, how are you getting there?"

"We're taking American Airlines," was the reply. "We got a great rate."

"American Airlines?" exclaimed the barber. "That's a terrible airline. Their planes are old, their flight attendants are unattractive, and they're always late. So, where are you staying in Rome?"

"We'll be at the downtown International Marriott."

"That dump! That's the worst hotel in the city. The rooms are small, the service is surly and they're overpriced. So, whatcha doing when you get there?"

"We're going to go to see the Vatican and we hope to see the Pope."

"That's rich," laughed the barber. "You and a million other people trying to see him. You'll be at the back of St Peter's Square and from that distance he'll look the size of an ant. Boy, good luck on this lousy trip of yours. You're going to need it."

A month later, the man again came in for his regular haircut. The barber asked him about his trip to Rome.

"It was wonderful," explained the man. "Not only were we on time in one of American Airline's brand-new planes, but it was overbooked and they bumped us up to first class. The food and wine were wonderful, and I had a lovely stewardess who waited on me hand and foot. And the hotel was great! They'd just finished a \$25 million refurbishment, and now it's the finest hotel in the city. They, too, were overbooked, so they apologized and gave us the presidential suite at no extra charge."

"Well," muttered the barber, "I know you didn't get to see the Pope."

"Actually, we were quite lucky, for as we toured the Vatican, a Swiss Guard tapped me on the shoulder and explained that the pope likes to personally meet some of the visitors, and if I'd be so kind as to step into his private room and wait, the Pope would personally greet me. Sure enough, five minutes later the Pope walked through the door and shook my hand. I knelt down as he spoke a few words to me."

"Really?" asked the Barber. "What'd he say?"

He said, "Where'd you get the terrible haircut?"

Violet's Scarf

Colleen Brown

Publication date: 21 April 2023

ISBN: 978- 0-473-67251-5

paperback, 32 pp, 210 mm x 270 mm, rrp: \$25.00;

Cover & illustrations throughout by Emma Lay



- **The extraordinary World War 1 true story of two New Zealand siblings and a scarf.**
- **In 1915 Violet is eight years old, living in Southland, when a Red Cross worker asks her class to contribute something for the soldiers serving overseas.**
- **Violet knits a scarf.**
- **The scarf is wrapped and the parcel has a tag with Violet's name on it.**
- **The parcel joins 250,000 others sent to New Zealand soldiers in France in 1916.**
- **The journey takes more than a year and when the Red Cross parcels are thrown randomly to the soldiers, Violet's scarf is caught by her brother George serving near the frontline.**
- **George kept the scarf safe throughout the rest of the war and brought it and Violet's tag home to New Zealand. The tag is now in Dunedin's Hocken Library.**

Colleen Brown heard about this story when visiting Southland with cousins to see where their family had lived at the turn of the last century. They visited the stunning Te Hikoi Museum in Riverton where she watched a video of early settlers speak about their lives in the 1900s. One of the speakers was a woman called Violet Craig, nee Cloughley. Violet talked about this episode in her life and even though Colleen has told the story many times now, it still gives her goosebumps. She undertook a huge amount of research, including working closely with Violet's and George's descendants to get the book as factually correct as she could.



Colleen Brown is well known in South Auckland as a local body politician, and community advocate, serving on Manukau City Council for nine years and for 15 years as a Counties Manukau representative on the DHB. She lives with her family in Hillpark, one of the last remaining urban forests in Auckland City. Her background is as an educationist and disability advocate. She was awarded the MNZM in 2000 for her contributions to the education, and community sectors. She chairs Disability Connect, a regional disability organisation in Auckland, sits on the Board of Neighbourhood Support NZ, and Chairs Counties Manukau Neighbourhood Support. Colleen also writes for The Listener using her networks to make sure that voices from the South Auckland community are heard on important issues such as health, disability and poverty.

Colleen is the author of:

'The Bulford Kiwi. The Kiwi we left behind,' The intriguing story of a 130m tall Kiwi carved into a hillside in Southern England by NZ soldiers waiting to go home at the end of WW1;

Elvie the Sheep – a true story of a sheep that lived in the Pollock's back yard in Kilbirnie Wellington

Violet's Scarf - a true WW1 story

"I've learned that these stories are so important to shaping us as a country – some stories are quirky, some are hair raising – but they are our stories, and we need to tell them proudly."

Ends

Keeping your home warm

There is much written about keeping your home warm in these cooler months. It is hard to decipher which is the best method when usually the information available is from a supplier of a heating device.

There are however some practical things to do to ensure your home is as warm and cosy as possible. Whatever your heating sources, give them some help by closing off rooms you don't need to heat and blocking off draughts from under doors. Also, using a fan to circulate the warm air for a short time is a way to get the warmth moving around the area. Improving your insulation is always a winner – starting with insulating your ceiling.

Windows tend to be the main source of heat loss in any home. Quality curtains and blinds are a way to minimise this. Having a thermal lining to your curtains or blinds and fitting them snugly on both sides of the window and the top of the curtain will minimise heat loss. Having a pelmet above the curtain creates a pocket of air, which also helps to reduce heat loss. Of course, make sure you keep curtains and blinds open during the day to let in the sun, closing them just before sundown to keep the warm in.

Making sure your home is dry is another factor in keeping your home warm. Open north facing windows slightly during the day to get an airflow through the rooms (the south facing windows may give you too much of a cold airflow).

Use a shower dome and/or extractor fan in your bathroom and when cooking open a window or again use an extractor fan (rangehood) to remove the steam from pots and pans. If your windows are all streamed up after a cold night, it is best to get fresh air in, mop up the moisture before using your heat source to warm the room again.

Keeping warm is keeping healthy. Look after yourselves and your families and stay warm this winter.

The value of volunteers

A rare breed they the volunteers
opposite of the profiteers
They give their time, seek no return
of gratitude they little earn
They give their each and talent too
Their gifts are known by very few
They rarely hear the accolade
or ride in front of big parades
Day after day they help mankind
a better lot in life to find
They lead the young, assist the old
and yet their stories rarely told
unlike the greedy of this earth
who count their gold to fix their worth
The volunteers with hearts of gold
can count their worth a million-fold.

From the Lovells Flat WI

Obituary

Barbara Jean Hunt (Taylor) 22 April 1931 – 28 November 2022

Barbara Hunt was born in Te Awamutu and moved to Taranaki as a child. She was schooled in Opunake and Stratford. She started working in Stratford and moved to a job in Midhirst where she met her husband, Ken Hunt. They married in 1950 and their first daughter was born in 1951. In 1952 they purchased a farm at the top of Durham Road where they built a dairy farm and a growing family.

In 1952 Barbara joined Durham CWI which became an important part of her social life. She held many committee positions in the Durham CWI including being secretary for 11 years and president for five years. She was heavily involved in the Norfolk Entertainers as well as being wardrobe mistress for 20 years. A founding member of Durham Gardening Circle she continued being involved and interested until recent events. She was a keen member of the CWI Tramping Club as this became a shared interest with her husband and family.

From 1971 to 1992 Barbara was involved in the North Taranaki Federation as a committee member including treasurer (four years) and president from 1979 to 1982. Barbara was on the CWI Arts Festival committee from 1968 to 2001 and served as Convenor four times. Her interest and skills in this area is shown by her name being recorded many times on the Durham Institute trophies and the North Taranaki Federation trophies.



Barbara was awarded her Gold Honours in 2001 and received her 70 years of service badge in 2022. She is the second member of Durham WI to receive this lengthy service award. As a valued member of the wider Inglewood community, Barbara received a New Plymouth District Council Citizens Award in 1993 and a NP Positive Ageing Trust award in 2014.

Barbara was a dedicated member of our institute and was passionate about sharing her knowledge. She was a kind, gentle and giving person even when her health was failing her in the later years. She epitomised the Gold Honour Award by being very family and community orientated, with nothing too much trouble for her, available to give help but not needing to receive praise or accolades.

We Shall Remember Them



Gold Honours

Nancy Robertson, ex-Waiareka WI, North Otago Federation

Phyllis Ager, GSB, Hope-Ranzau WI, Nelson Federation

Verna Andrew, GSB, ex-Riponui-Whakapara WI, Whangarei Federation

Ruby Berry, GSB, Waimea WI

Joy Brogden, GSB, ex-Manaia WI, South Taranaki Federation

Melda Buckthought, GSB, Manaia WI, South Taranaki Federation

Lois Bullock, ex-Newlands WI

Robyn Coster, GSB, Gate Pa-Kaimai WI, Rotorua Federation

Dorothy Ellis, GSB, Mangamutu WI, Tararua Federation

Marie James, GSB, Otawhao-Takapau WI, Central Hawkes Bay Federation

Emma Jansen, GSB, ex-Waimea WI, Southern Wellington Federation

Daphne Kalinowski GSB, ex-Peninsula Bays WI, Eastern Otago Federation

Lorraine Langtry, GSB, Rewa WI, Oroua Federation

Hester Millar, GSB, Opotiki WI, Eastern Bay of Plenty Federation

Edith O'Carroll, GSB, Masons Flat-Hawarden WI, North Canterbury Federation

Shirley Olsen, GSB, Riponui-Whakapara WI, Whangarei Federation

Dawn Sanders, GSB, Pegasus-Woodend WI, North Canterbury Federation

Dorothy Sparrow, GSB, Puha WI, Poverty Bay Wairoa Federation

Anne Stewart, Whitby WI

Natalie Watson, Okauia WI, Waikato East Federation

Betty Windley, Waimea WI

Margaret Young, GSB, Green Island WI, Mid Otago Federation

GSB: Good Service Badge



Federation and Institute Highlights

Whangarei Federation

We are planning to hold a Judging Day. This is to encourage members to participate in the judging of competitions. Members will be invited to bring an item along to be judged. We are also looking forward to beginning the arrangements for our 90th birthday.

Maunu, Whangarei, Ruakaka: We all plan to do good deeds for Stand, Plunket, Women's Refuge, Salvation Army and Hospital Dolls. Monetary donations will be given to Alzheimer's and Hospice.

All other Whangarei Federation WIs will attend Founder's Day when it has been arranged for 2024.

Northern & Hawkes Bay Federation

Despite 'Cyclone Gabrielle' and its devastating after effects, we all enjoyed meeting Jude Vaughan, our new National President, who was a delightful, down to earth lady who spoke at our Federation AGM. In May, we are planning a 'Coronation Celebration' in an afternoon of fun and entertainment. In June, we have the Ex-Executive luncheon, which is always popular. We are also looking forward to the new 100-year Celebration Seat being placed in Anderson Park. September is our 'Friendship Half Yearly Federation Meeting.'

Hastings Centre: There are only eight of us now, but we enjoy the monthly

meetings and have ladies who are busy knitters. We will continue to donate lots of baby and children's wear and teddies to various charities.

Taradale: We are looking forward to a speaker on Health and Wellbeing to help us with recommendations for menu planning and grocery purchases in this inflationary time. Following on, we are hosting a speaker from Nourished for Nil, a food rescue non-profit organisation that provides food for those in need while reducing food waste.

Tamatea: We are looking forward to celebrating a midwinter Christmas with a pot luck dinner in June. The competitions for the month are Christmas themed. Later in the year we have a demonstrator coming to show us how to use those icing nozzles that we all have tucked away in our cupboards.

Wharerangi: After having our February meeting washed out by Cyclone Gabrielle, we are now looking forward to a speaker from the Cancer Society in May and then in the middle of winter, July, we will be reading our own choice of article from older copies of the Home & Country magazines followed by either bingo or brain-teasing quizzes. Then in October we hope to have a speaker from Grey Power.

Oroua Federation

We will be holding our AGM next month where some serious decisions will need to be made regarding the

four positions of President, Secretary, Handcraft Officer and Treasurer. We will celebrate South Pacific month at WI level. In July we will have our Group Meeting. We have our Medical Research Soup and Bun lunch and a speaker from Enliven in August followed by our ½ Yearly.

Rewa: At our next monthly meeting we have a member talking on genealogy and how to trace your family. We will be having a Fish and Chip lunch followed by housie and a bottle auction at a member's house. In August we will celebrate our 64th birthday at a local café.

Turakina: Several members attended the Founders Day celebrations with sister institutes of the Oroua Federation, playing mini golf followed by a picnic lunch at Kowhai Park in Feilding. We had a floral art workshop in April, bringing the concept through to the May competition. Plans are in hand to send two members to the AGM in Timaru.

Halcombe: We have had a garden visit and are looking forward to our 92nd birthday celebration.

Kaitoke: Our President will attend the AGM/Conference in Timaru and members will attend Federation AGM and as many events as possible throughout the year. Members of our informal craft group meet for a couple of leisurely afternoons, for knitting, crocheting and setting the world to right. Two members will again hold cooking lessons at Birthright, teaching single parents how to cook cheap, nutritious meals without exceeding their budget. The most popular meeting of the year is probably our

Christmas one, with our auction and quizzes. We have a pot-luck dinner at a member's home which is always well attended and enjoyed by all.

North Canterbury Federation

Kainga: We are having our fun day of housie and lucky dip day in May. Our 66th birthday in August will be celebrated with other WI members with a meal out.

Rangiora: Over the next few months we are going to be having some interesting speakers. Natalie Kirby, from the Rangiora Salvation Army, spoke to us in April with members collecting Easter eggs which were distributed amongst families that the Salvation Army supports in the Rangiora area. In May, Jacquie Wrigley, Chairperson of the Citizens Advice Bureau in Rangiora is going to be talking to members about the various services they offer. In June we will be celebrating our mid-winter Christmas lunch.

Loburn: We are looking forward to having a speaker from the Rangiora Library in May and our Mayor Dan Gordon coming to speak to us in August. Our movie outing is coming up and also our annual Soup, Savouries and Sandwiches lunch at a members' home. In September we will be hosting visitors to our birthday party and in October we will be attending the Operatunity performance, the 'Las Vegas Show', in Christchurch. In November we will be doing something special for our Christmas meeting.

Sefton Kowai: A speaker from Head 2 Toe is talking to us about her passion, Reflexology, at our next meeting. Later in the year we will be celebrating our 91st birthday with a luncheon at a North Canterbury venue. We have our annual trip to the movies and luncheon coming up and a speaker from Recovered Living, in Sefton, will be talking to us later in the year.

Masons-Flat Hawarden: On ANZAC Day we laid a wreath at the Hawarden Cenotaph, with felted woollen flowers made by members last year. We're looking forward to celebrating our 90th birthday in June with other North Canterbury WIs at a lunch outing.

Other meetings will see us enjoy a Games Day, and finding out how to trace our ancestors, but most important of all will be the fun and fellowship we enjoy at each meeting, especially welcoming new members.

Ohoka: Our speakers this year include two of our members sharing their skills. The first is a writer and the other is a whiz on IT handy tips. We hope to encourage new members to join WI. We plan to celebrate our 92nd birthday at a local restaurant. Instead of giving ourselves Christmas gifts, we bring a present for a child and donate it to a local group. Last year it was for Big Brother Big Sister. They were very grateful.

Mid Otago Federation

Mid Otago have several events on the horizon in the coming months. In May we will hold our annual Friendship afternoon that is being hosted by Abbotsford WI. This will be a fun afternoon of playing games with all

members of our Federation, followed by afternoon tea. The annual movie afternoon will be hosted by Concord WI. This year's movie will be "Mrs Caldicot's Cabbage War" and promises to be a light-hearted movie for all to enjoy. Our Spring Competition Day is scheduled to be held at the Fairfield Community Hall in September. Our annual Quiz Night is to be hosted by Janefield WI in October.

Abbotsford: This year we have some great things planned, a high tea for Mother's Day, PJ's for Foster Hope, speakers include a local police representative, Net-safe, plus some fun games as fund-raisers, and lunch out for our birthday in August and November for Christmas. We are looking forward to hosting the Mid Otago Friendship Day for other WIs, and joining them for a movie afternoon and competition day.

Allanton: We celebrated our 71st Birthday in March with a special dinner at Nellie's Restaurant in Mosgiel which all our members enjoyed. Trophies awarded for achievements over the past year were presented. We are looking forward to speakers from the Taieri Historical Society, the Hearing Support Otago field worker, Pregnancy Help and from a local real estate agent. With our Roll Calls we will be collecting goods for SPCA, toilet bags for hospital, Taieri Food Bank and baking for the Dunedin Hospice.

Concord: We are a small institute of six and continue to meet at Mitchells Tavern Caversham in their function room. Our members who are in

residential care enjoy going out to meet and having a meal. Each meeting commences at 11am with lunch afterwards.

Green Island: We are looking forward to learning how to ice simple cupcakes, a speaker who has lived on Thursday Island, and we also now have booked a Field Worker/Educator from Hearing Support Otago. We went out for lunch in April to celebrate our birthday.

Janefield: We meet monthly and support many organisations in our area, i.e. Pregnancy Help, Hawkesbury Trust and Otago Community Hospice. We have a mix of speakers, lunches out, and games afternoons. We will again hold our craft afternoons during the winter months where a group of our members meet fortnightly at members' homes at Brooklands Village for knitting and a chat. It is amazing how much knitting is done.

Waiholā-Clarendon: Our April meeting had an Anzac Day theme with our roll call being Anzac biscuits which were donated to the Milton RSA. Our competition was to make a Poppy and the speaker was Sarah Gillies, who is the Welfare Officer for the Milton RSA.

Southern Southland Federation

Founders Day was celebrated with our wooden spoon games competition, a very enjoyable day and the spoon was won by Waianiwa. We are celebrating 90 years of the Federation this year

and busy with organising that, a lunch, which will be held in July.

Grasmere: We started the year off with our annual potato dig. Members plant a potato in a bucket before Christmas and bring along the harvest to our January meeting. The local FENZ asked if we would knit care bears to have in their appliances to give to children affected by fire or accident. Over 30 have been donated by our members.

Longbush: The ladies of Longbush are looking forward to celebrating our 89th birthday with a day trip to somewhere in Southland.

Riverton: We meet in members' homes and occasionally have lunch out.

Waianiwa: We used our March meeting as a baby shower for our mum to be, Brittany. Hostesses for the evening had the members present use letters of the alphabet to choose boys names for the baby with some very interesting names appearing. Secretary Robyn decided we should identify six Cadbury chocolate favourites which had been squeezed into six nappies, and tested our noses. Chocoholic Brittany won this. Baby Dylan arrived the next week.

Waimumu: In February members went down to Invercargill on Founders Day to contest the Wooden Spoon. We played games like snap and little kids' jigsaws. It was a good day out of fun and fellowship.

Back cover: Straddling the Waiwhakaiho River in New Plymouth, Te Rewa Rewa Bridge is a pedestrian and cycleway crossing. Its spectacular shape and setting make it a popular landmark. Photo: Jude Vaughan.

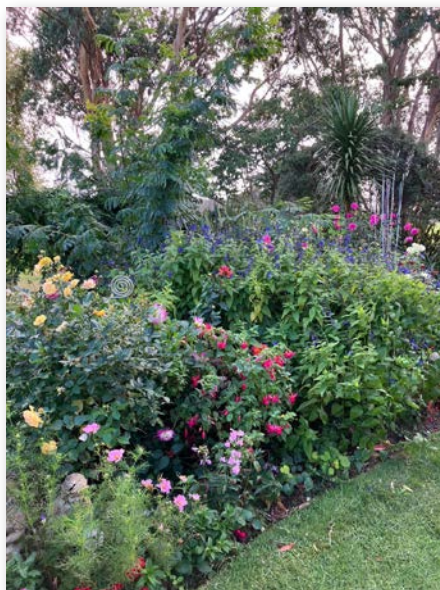
Cheers to a great day out

Waimea WI, Southern Wellington, members recently enjoyed a fun day out at the Tui Brewery in Mangatainoka, just north of Pahiatua.



Best dressed

Waimea WI, Southern Wellington, held a competition at their garden party meeting where Pat Bailey was voted the best dressed.



More of the Paraparaumu garden that featured on the front cover.

*To encourage and support
all women within their communities*

