IFF Day – Area 4 was hosted by the Taieri Club on the 31st August. Guest speaker was Raylene Bates, Athletics NZ Lead Coach/High Performance ParaOlympics. The Collage depicts some of the attendees working for Canbeads.
TAIERI CLUB OFFICERS 2019 - 2020
Board of Directors

President ----------------------------- Glennys Espie
Immediate Past President ------- Rosemary Watson
President Elect --------------------- Jill Dodd
First Vice President --------------- Anne McElwain
Second Vice President ----------- Brenda Brook
Secretary -------------------------- Claire Paterson
Treasurer -------------------------- Chris Wither
Directors -------------------------- Pip Pilling
                                        Margaret Munro
                                        Alison Johnston
                                        Kath Burrows

MEETINGS
2nd and 4th Wednesdays
5.45pm for 6pm start

MEETING PLACE
Nellies Function Room
Hotel Taieri, Gordon Road
Mosgiel

POSTAL ADDRESS
C/- 71A Forfar St
Mosgiel 9024

VISITORS AND APOLOGIES
Please telephone or text
Kath Burrows
027 4527 280

INTERNATIONAL BIENNUIM THEME
2019 - 2020
“Embrace the Journey”
International President
Beverley Hardy
District Governor
Maria MacKay
Taieri Club President
Glennys Espie
71A Forfar St
Mosgiel 9024
Phone: 03 489 7784
Cell Phone: 027 435 7 326
allanespie@xtra.co.nz

Newsletter Editor:
Margaret Munro please submit information and articles to
margaret.c.munro@gmail.com

This Newsletter is kindly supported by
Nellies Wine Bar & Restaurant

CONTENTS
CLUB INFORMATION
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE & EDITORIAL
EMERITUS MEMBER
PROJECTS
DISTRICT NEWS
REPORTS
MEMBERS ON TOUR
INTERNATIONAL NEWS
BIRTHDAYS
COMING EVENTS
What a busy few months we have had since my installation as president on June 12th. You will read more in the committee reports than I will write here. The committees have worked very hard and have already accomplished wonderful work in our community. The enthusiasm of members who have supported all our projects and fundraising activities is contagious and very much appreciated. My sincere thanks.

My theme for the year of ‘Getting To Know You’ is at work, with the welcome of three new members, Glenda Bryant and Glenda McGowan on July 10th and Noreen Johnston on October 9th. We are all enjoying getting to know these three women. They are now faced with the challenge of getting to know all about Altrusa, we must remember to keep them informed and enlightened!!

The hosting of IFF day was very successful and informative. It is always a pleasure to meet up with members of other clubs in attendance and to hear about their projects and fundraisers. A club visit was included in the day, when we spent time with the area rep and Governor Elect, Danae McConnel, before she flew home to Christchurch.

Immediate Past President Rosemary was delighted to find that our club was awarded from International, A Distinguished Club Award for 2018-2019. This highlights how vibrant the club is and recognises our hard work in the community. We have added this award to our club banner.

I have found the visits to the schools that were successful in receiving literacy very interesting. The money for literacy and books is very much appreciated by the schools. What stands out to me is how much work the teachers are doing and the confidence of the children when they stood up to read their notes and use a microphone at the assemblies. This was not something that was encouraged in my school days.

It was such a pleasure to meet Nadia Lim again when she came to Mosgiel to promote her new recipe book ‘Vegful’. She shared funny stories of her time on Master Chef NZ and Dancing With the Stars NZ, along with some great cooking hints. We were lucky have the opportunity to work in conjunction with Paper Plus for this club fundraiser.

Feeling proud to belong to the Altrusa Club of Taieri.

Glennys Espie

Thanks, Ladies, for your Reports, Articles and Photos.

It’s great to have such an array of photos and so many events recorded of all the great work our Club does in the Community.

Hope everyone manages a Safe, Fun filled and Relaxing break with Family & Friends over the Festive Season. Merry Christmas to All.

Marg & Claire P.
On Sunday 15th September a “High Tea” was held to congratulate Margaret Cotton on becoming an Emeritus Member of our club, after 40 years service to Altrusa. Ali welcomed us all to her lovely home, which she had gone to great lengths to decorate in an era that was befitting the time when High Teas were the norm. Her collection of china, silver and crystal would be the envy of any antique shop. Most members “dressed to impress” in keeping with the era. Clare B spoke of Margaret’s time at the Dunedin Altrusa Club before it folded, then Glennys spoke of Margaret becoming a member of Taieri Altrusa. Margaret replied explaining several projects Altrusa has undertaken in her time and regaling stories in her usual comical way.

Jan Muir was contacted by Alsco to say they had an unlimited supply of sheets available for re-purposing. There were 3 different grades of sheets. After some brainstorming Jan contacted Pregnancy Help Dunedin who advised they are always after cot sheets, especially warm ones at this time of year, and “burp” clothes. Jan took some sheeting to Margaret Cotton’s friend Helga who made some beautiful sheets and burp clothes with gingham edging.

A working bee was held at Brenda’s classroom where more sheets and burp clothes were made.

On July 30th, Glennys, Margaret, Pip, Jan and Claire meet with Chris at Pregnancy House in South Dunedin and presented her with the 24 sets of sheets, 60 burp clothes and a number of books.

Daffodil Day Collection

Thanks to Glennys & Pam and all our other Members for making themselves available for the Daffodil Day Collection in Mosgiel. It was a huge success.

Mosgiel Library Children’s Area gets a Face Lift from Altrusa Members

Linda Roxburgh, Library Manager, was delighted to accept the new additions and a little upgrade to the Children’s Corner at the Mosgiel Library. A group of Altrusa Members have given it a facelift.

Wooden chairs and table were beautifully repainted in bright colours by Karon Read, bean bags revamped by Clare Banks, dolls clothes and bedding by Jan Muir, with new wooden toys purchased, plus massage balls and hula hoops for activity groups. The corner will also benefit from new lighting and layout when the major upgrade is completed.

Delivered by Jill, Glennys, Jan, Margaret, Judy with Linda Roxburgh.
**IFF Day**

A successful IFF day was hosted by the Taieri Club on 31st August. Members attended from Invercargill, Oamaru (including Governor Maria McKay), Queenstown as well as a large representation from Taieri. Danae McConnel, (Governor Elect) from Christchurch was also a quest.

Claire did a great job of sourcing the venue, organising a speaker and implementing the proceedings for the day.

After morning tea, the day started with an explanation from Claire, with the help of Maria and Danae, on the different positions within Altrusa at National level and how it related to similar positions within each club. It was a good insight into the responsibilities of each position and how their expertise can be utilised by each club.

Claire then introduced Raylene Bates, Athletics NZ Lead Coach - High Performance Paralympics, who spoke of her life from dreaming to going to the Olympics as a child to making it happen. As with every success story there are challenges as Raylene attested to, but which she said, only made her more determined than ever. Her dedication to the Para Olympic team has been why they have been such high achievers in the past few years.

After lunch Glennys Espie spoke about Can Inspire – A charitable Trust which supports Illness, Trauma and Loss – which includes Can Beads. Members had sourced old jewellery, which everyone participated in undoing and sorting into colours. This resulted in the odd “this is too good to break up” to members crawling around the floor chasing beads! Glennys thanked everyone for their efforts which was a huge basket of beads which she said would have taken volunteers several days to do.

Claire then called on the different clubs to share information about their most recent projects. It is always good to hear what others are doing and get ideas for their own clubs.

The day ended at 3pm with afternoon tea.

**District Fifteen Board Meeting in Mosgiel**

District Fifteen Board met in Mosgiel for the weekend hosted at the homes of Claire & Margaret. It worked well enabling the members to meet all day Saturday and ran into most of Sunday. Many of the Taieri members gathered to enjoy a casual “meet and greet” on an extremely hot Otago evening, over an array of deserts!!
Art supplies for the prison rehab programme

For our Programme meeting in May, the Community Service group arranged for Sheree Lucke and Moana Wahanui of the Otago Corrections Facility to talk about the rehabilitation programmes they offer their menfolk and in particular about their Art Rehab Programme. The men need to be members of White Ribbon, an international group for Men Against Violence Towards Women, and work with a tutor to create art which is then displayed at Dunedin Art Society’s Show in November. They are permitted to sell their artwork as all money raised is then donated to White Ribbon. The comments from local artists focused on the mediocre/poor quality of the materials used in the artworks which limited their potential price-points.

Thanks to Altrusa members agreeing to donate funds and to Paper Plus giving us a great discount, we were able to purchase all the supplies requested for the programme. Ali organised the purchases and met with Sheree to pass them on to her. As a gesture of appreciation several free tickets to the Dunedin Art Show were given to Altrusa members.

The Otago Corrections Facility were keen to thank us with a morning tea to meet the artists and this has been arranged for November 20. A report on this visit will be included in the next newsletter.

Men’s Health Expo

We have been successful in our application to Highland Park Motorsports in Cromwell, so we are starting to get excited about being able to hold the Expo in March/ April 2020. We are still looking for another 1-2 major prize sponsors and working towards having some exciting local personalities come along as well. Plans are underway to contact all interested groups at the end of January.

Xmas for the Elderly

Tristan Kavanagh of Aged Concern was very appreciative of our offer to distribute calendars and cookies to the Elderly of Mosgiel on Wednesday 11 December. Volunteers have offered to make cookies, and these will be bagged ready to go along with the calendars.

Gift bags of toiletries

Toiletries from motels/hotels have been collected, bagged and decorated with a Christmas sticker. Recipients for these are still being decided upon.

Lavender bags to Cancer Society

A group of ladies met with Charlotte Malloy to pass on lavender bags for cancer sufferers. The lavender had been collected, dried and bagged by Pam Yardley and Wendy Harvey. These will be given out with quilts and other items.

Anne McElwain
The literacy committee has been busy in the last 3 months certainly making our presence felt on the Taieri. We started by inviting 8 schools in the Taieri and surrounding areas - Silverstream, Elmgrove, East Taieri, St Marys, Outram, junior school Taieri College, Lee Stream and Big Rock (Brighton) schools to submit a request for a literary grant. They all did over a period of time with various requests.

An application was made by one school for a blind child entering the school who required special reading material with Braille and sighted books so children could read alongside her. Another application requested comprehensive dictionaries with a thesaurus component to them. A couple of schools requested specialised books for children with other special needs.

In total $5497.40 was distributed to the successful schools from money raised from our fabric bazaar. Representatives from the club went to the various school assemblies to present these cheques and we will go back when the books arrive and put an Altrusa label in each to help identify ourselves in their community's.

September is Literacy month so this year it was agreed to give the children’s section an Upgrade. The head Librarian was absolutely thrilled we wanted to do this again for them as it had been a project in 2005 and 2013. The bean bags rejuvenated, the little table n chairs repainted in bright colours. Wooden equipment bought, and the dolls cot new coverings and another doll plus sundry equipment suggested by one of the librarians. All in all a satisfying venture. The costs for this little venture came from a silent bottle auction and donated books and jigsaw sold on for a gold coin.
Our guest speaker in September was Philippa Duffy from the University Book shop which was very inspirational and informative. She spoke of the building which was originally Romersons confectionery factory (the factory shifting to Oamaru in the 1930s which is still operational now as Rainbow confectionery). The Romersons were Jewish merchandisers operating as a similar venture to Cadbury’s. The building today is a category 2, historic building.

Philippa is passionate about the importance of reading - pleasure and leisure as well as informative. She uses a power point to punctuate and illustrate her talk. The bookshop itself caters for all ages and stages in books and materials. If they don’t have what you are looking for they will make it their business to try and source it. The shop has special areas i.e. the children’s hub. Being in the campus area they help to cater for the students’ needs. They have further diversified by now housing the post shop which was their neighbour and about to close but in her wisdom Philippa made an area in the UBS to accommodate them and still have the facility in the campus area. A win win for everybody.

An Evening with Nadia Lim

Lastly we had the privilege to host Nadia Lim with the launching of her new book Vegful in November. It was held in our local colleges new auditorium accommodating 220 people. This fund raiser is also earmarked for literacy on the Taieri. This time possibly for preschool literature especially as Nadia has 2 little preschool boys.

For the literacy committee a busy satisfying time and I would like to thank my colleagues for their support and enthusiasm on this journey. Jill on behalf of the literacy committee.

By Jill Dodds.

Nadia with some Club Members & Co-host John from Paper Plus at the conclusion of a busy night.
During the second half of the year, we were fortunate to initiate Glenda Bryant, Glenda McGowan and Noreen Johnson into our Altrusa club. No doubt, they will enjoy the friendship, fun times and commitment to helping with community initiatives on the Taieri and beyond. Welcome aboard ladies!

At the end of August, Beth Sizemore, the activities coordinator from Radius Fulton Rest Home gave a very entertaining and interesting presentation. Members heard about her very busy role within this facility. It was reassuring for us to hear that moving into a rest home can have its advantages; even meeting a new partner for life! Beth told a few amusing stories that made us appreciate even more what goes into caring for the elderly.

The Programme meeting gave us the chance to decorate the room with elderly accoutrements such as walking sticks and include ‘false teeth’ lollies in our drinking glasses; alongside distributing a few raffle prizes to worthy recipients. As it was also Anne McElwain’s birthday, Margaret Munro provided some cupcakes with candles and a quiz to test our mettle. It is always a pleasure to leave an Altrusa meeting with a smile and a take-home gift no matter how small. Early next year, we plan to have a coffee catch-up with several of our new members – to answer any questions and to further integrate our role within Altrusa on a more personal level.

By Brenda Brooke
On 23 October the Finance Committee organized an outing at the University Library.

On a wintry evening we meet up and took a stroll through the University grounds taking in the old buildings, many pieces of artwork and the beautifully manicured gardens.

Chris then took us to the de Beer Gallery, Special Collections on the 1st Floor of the Central Library Building where she introduced us to The Library Historian Donald Kerr.

Donald showed us several pieces of extremely old manuscripts that were hand printed onto vellum, some extremely old printed books that revealed more than expected, and some of the beginning of cheap romance books.

Next Donald took us to the printing room where there are old printing presses that are still in working order. Some older employees, and Donald in particular are trying to pass on their knowledge to as many young students as possible. In todays throw away, time poor perception, this requires a special set of skills.

We did not get time to look at the exhibition of “The Year that was 1869” but this is open to the public from 8.30 – 5pm, 20 Sept 2019 – 31 Jan 2020.

His talk was very informative and had some of us checking for old books etc in their own collection at home.

We them ventured back out into the dismal weather and drove to Ironic Café for an enjoyable meal.
Wendy visited the UK & Ireland

In August Don and I flew via Hong Kong to Ireland to attend our good friend’s daughter Brittany’s Wedding in Southern Ireland to Danny Dowling. We stayed in the heart of the Wicklow Mountains in the longest Glacial Valley. The Glenmalure Lodge was established in 1801 making it one of the country’s oldest coaching Inn’s. Yet it is only an hour’s scenic drive from Dublin. Lots of fabulous walks, cycling, trout fishing as well as all the history of this very lush and pretty Country.

Day 8 of our trip we left Glenmalure and travelled around Southern Ireland. A highlight of our road trip was a stop-over at a seaside town called Schull where my Great Grandfather lived and worked in the Navy and migrated to New Zealand in 1844. We did lots of day trips including Blarney Castle and the Guinness Factory, finishing up with 4 nights in Dublin.

From there we flew to London and stayed 3 nights at Shepperton at a house on the Thames and visited Windsor Castle. We finished our trip with 6 nights in the centre of London visiting The Tower of London, Royal Albert Hall, Buckingham Palace, St Paul’s Cathedral, London Eye, Kensington Palace where we also visited Lady Diana’s Memorial Fountain and of course a visit to Harrods. We finished our trip with the Tina Turner Show and then homeward bound with lots of amazing memories.
Karon on Wheels, in South Island’s West Coast.

Karon has just returned from Biking the Wilderness Trail on the West Coast from Ross to Greymouth with 11 friends – half of whom used Ebikes. The trail takes in 130kms of formed tracks with many side lines of bush walks and places of interest. Weather was kind with only an hour of rain on the second day and some drizzle on the last day. Many tales were told of characters met along the way from the bar at Ross, Cowboy Paradise, Kumara’s Theatre Royal Hotel and a talented engineer who shares his knowledge of the water ways made in gold mining eras to the formation of power stations whilst making Billy Tea for cyclists in the summer. Stunning scenery as you biked through tracks in forests of all kinds, beside Lakes & Reservoirs, up some steeper inclines with switch backs, long board walks through swampy areas, across swing bridges, and along beach trails. A great adventure for those of moderate fitness and ability, highly recommended.
Welcome Altrusans as we embark on our new biennium of 2019-2021. This biennium will be our 103rd year of our amazing organization. We have evolved into a top tier service organization that we can be extremely proud! I have a tremendous leadership team to support me during this biennium. I truly believe as my theme states TEAM WORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK. No one person can make Altrusa successful without the help of other talented leaders working beside them. Truly, together we thrive as we work together “Leading to a Better Community”.

You have heard me say many times and will continue to hear me say: As members of Altrusa we are volunteers! Altrusa is not a job, it is our service. My motto has always been to stress: Family first; Career second if you’re still working; Service third, which is of course, for many of us are our volunteer hours for Altrusa.

We live in one of the most challenging eras Altrusa has ever faced. A rising tide of technological innovations and entertainment opportunities has radically altered the social landscape of our world, fundamentally changing the way our society interacts. It is in this climate of fierce competition for people’s time that are reaching out to those in our communities and asking them to join us in sharing and caring. We must embrace this tide of change if we are to survive. We are forced to compete with powerful new technologies, like smartphones, tablets and all the modern social media and entertainment opportunities that come with them for our members’ and potential members’ valuable time and energy. We need to embrace this change and realize that it is the key to growth. By embracing the tide of change, we will be able to ride atop it and increase our membership, instead of letting change simply wash over us.

We the members of Altrusa should continue to exhibit passion, enthusiasm and energy for our organization while participating in our fundraisers and projects. We need to emphasize to nonmembers the wonderful philanthropic arm of our International Foundation and all they contribute throughout the world!

By working together and embracing change, we will achieve our monumental goal of growing our membership. We can reverse the trend of a declining membership and fight to retain our members. To be able to continue to benefit from change, we need to always remember that it is change—not chance- that will get us there.

By International President, Beverly Hardy.
Nov  
3rd  
  Alison Johnson
16th  
  Margaret Cotton
17th  
  Glenda Bryant
  Pam Yardley
  Lynne Smith
Dec  
9th  
  Kath Burrows
11th  
  Pip Pilling
13th  
  Jill Dodd
Jan  
9th  
  Sue Johnstone
15th  
  Brenda Brooke

COMING EVENTS

27th November   Xmas Dinner at Harbourside Grill.
11th December   Xmas Finale, Drinks & Cake, 9 Fairmile Drive, 5.30-7pm.
13th December   International day of disabled persons.
End January     New Year Get Together/Orientation.
5th February    Board Meeting
6th February    Waitangi Day
12th February   Business Meeting.

Remember 2020 District 15 Altrusa Conference in Wellington 1st - 3rd May.
Keep a look out for a good "Grab a Seat" deal from Dunedin to Wellington.