



President:	Pam Hayes
President Elect:	Margaret Beswick
Secretary:	Lesley Stanley
Treasurer:	Sandra Bonney
Past President:	Denise Bean
Directors:	Pauline Gillies Jean Scoullar
Attendance:	Alison Cranston / Ann Fulcher
Sunshine Lady:	Doreen Bendall
Editor AlNewza:	Julie Bradley
Committee Chairs:	
<u>Literacy/Membership:</u>	Pauline Gillie Ann Fulcher (support)
<u>Service/Fundraising:</u>	Julie Bradley Jean Scoullar (support)
Archives:	Margaret Beswick



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

It is hard to believe that Christmas is upon us once again! This Christmas will be so different, I imagine, for most of us.

It is a time to reflect and put our hands up for those in need of support. We know our Christmas Crackers have been gratefully received, our Sand Art Jars are in hot demand, with the gross profit from them going to a very deserving St Johns Ambulance Tauranga. Soon we will be making our Christmas Shortbread to be donated to another deserving community organisation. Thanks to all of you who give of your time to ensure those projects are completed. Time is one of the most precious commodities we have and although some of our lives have slowed up a bit, our time is still precious.

This time of year, will also be tough for some of our members, so don't forget to reach out and support them. Look around and ask yourselves "who do I know could do with a helping hand." Sometimes it is simply being present. My thoughts are with many members who have had health struggles this year.

Particularly I mention Lesley, our Club Secretary. She, who has given so much to others has health challenges ahead and I know we all wish her well. I also hope Jean, Isobel and Alison are progressing well with the challenges they have had this year.

It is exciting to welcome two new members to our Club. Christine Moles is being sponsored by Lesley Stanley; and Jeanie Costello whose sponsor is Leigh Manson, will be initiated at our Christmas Function. We extend a warm welcome to you both and look forward to you joining us in December as members and continuing your service.

Nine members travelled to Rotorua for the annual Area One IFF Day. This included Jeanie and Catherine. I know they enjoyed the day and were able to learn more about the International Organisation they have joined. For those of you who have attended before, I hope like me you were inspired by hearing all the wonderful work being done by Altrusans in their communities.

During the Chaos of Christmas, I have promised myself to breathe and ensure I spend time with those who bring me joy. I hope you all do the same and I wish you the best for the Christmas Festive Season.

Kindest Regards

Pam

DATES TO REMEMBER

28 November	IFF Day
2 December	Board meeting / dinner
5 December	Saturday morning coffee
8 December	Christmas celebration - with husbands/partners

2021

2 January	Saturday morning coffee
26 January	Fish 'n chip night
9 February	Business Meeting
23 February	Programme night
9 March	Business meeting
23 March	Programme night
30 April to 2 May	District Fifteen Conference, Timaru

Editor's Note

This is the last newsletter for 2020. There have been five newsletters this year, with seven mini newsletters during lockdown. I hope you all enjoyed the updates.

I look forward to 2021 and to a bright new year with some interesting literacy, service and fundraising ideas coming forward for us all to participate in.

Wishing everyone and safe and happy Christmas with their friends and family. Whether you are like me and my family which will be celebrating via electronic contact with our new television portal the UK family have sent us for Christmas, or lucky enough to get together for fun and festivities.

Best wishes for the holidays and the new year.

Julie

FUNDRAISING AND SERVICE

Service projects - In August and October members provided delicious baking for the Bellyful group in Tauranga. These contributions have been very well received by the recipients.

Due to the uncertainty of the Covid levels it was agreed to postpone the High Tea for carers, until early in 2021. Altrusa Tauranga however donated \$200 towards the Tauranga Alzheimer's Society, which had a much smaller annual collection in September, and this was gratefully received.

Library bags - Two of our industrious members, Jane and Denise, made about 100 bags which were donated to the Tauranga Library. A number of these bags were made during lockdown. The Library were delighted to receive these colourful assortments of bags for their customers to take for free.



Jane and Denise with Library staff

Christmas crackers - At the October programme meeting held at Jane Bloch's home, members put together 98 Christmas crackers for the Tauranga Hospital Children's Ward and the Te Tuinga Trust in Greerton. This was a busy night and in some cases challenging!! We had lots of laughs.



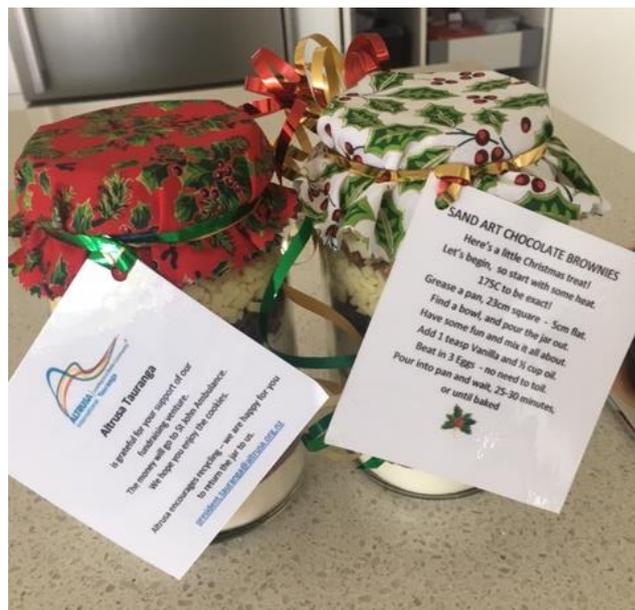
Julie and Denise have delivered 49 of the crackers to the Hospital. The Hospital will use them at their Christmas party, as well as on Christmas day for the children who unfortunately are hospitalised on that day.



Pauline, Claire and Glenda delivered the Te Tuinga Trust's crackers to them on the 28th November.

Sand Art Jars – On our November Programme night 13 members got together at the Toi Ohomai polytech kitchen to put together the 120 Sand Art Jars. This year the ingredients were the makings of a lovely chocolate brownie recipe and funds will go to St Johns Tauranga.

All the ingredients had been weighed and bagged previously, and with many hands we made light work of the task which was completed in record time. The group then enjoyed a casual dinner and a chat together at the local pub.





LITERACY AND MEMBERSHIP

Guest speakers – we have had a couple of interesting speakers at recent Business meetings.

Dulcie Artis, author of the book “You must be mad”. Dulcie gave a lively talk on her travel exploits with her husband, mother-in-law and three pre-schoolers in the 1960’s. They travelled from New Zealand to England overland - to Asia by boat and landed in India and up through part of the middle east and Europe to the UK.

Fern Nielsen gave the group an interesting and amusing insight into her time at Altrusa Mount Maunganui Club and her present role as a celebrant. Fern talked about some of the major projects the club worked on including Magic Mums, the Peace Garden at Mount Drury and in particular the monument to remember Monica Cantwell, the young UK visitor who was murdered on the Mount. This was a moving story.

Soup night - On Tuesday 29th September Doreen hosted the annual Soup Night. Doreen lives at Bethlehem Shores Retirement Village and provided four different soups, nibbles, buns, juice, as well as tea and coffee and an after dinner sweet. We all enjoyed her beautiful home and cooking and had a very enjoyable few hours socialising.

Ten Year Pin



At the November Programme meeting, President Pam presented Jean Scoullar with her 10 year pin. Congratulations Jean



Saturday Morning coffee

The first Saturday of the month coffee meetups have been continuing and well attended by members.





IFF Day -

Members enjoyed the IFF day hosted by Rotorua and it was interesting and enlightening to hear what projects other District Fifteen Clubs had been working on over the year, as well as other International Clubs.



Leigh and Jeannie helping with the book bags project.

2020/2021 Committee Members

Membership/Literacy:

Pauline Gillies	Ann Fulcher
Doreen Bendall	Erenor Scott
Jill Cooney	Jill Irvin
Margaret Beswick	Sandra Bonney
Claire Speirs	Jane Bloch
Lesley Stanley	

Service/Fundraising:

Julie Bradley	Jean Scoullar
Alison Cranston	Shona Sterritt
Deirdre Burrows	Denise Bean
Glenda Lowe	Isabel Cameron
Leigh Manson	Margaret McDonald



RECIPES

I had a request for a couple of recipes. I am sure members have plenty of special recipes that they could share in other newsletters next year – so don't be shy!!

Orange and Date Muffins (for Pauline)

This recipe is all done in a Kitchen Whizz/food processor or whatever you like to call them!!

1 Orange – cut into pieces (doesn't have to be small) including skin and whizz it up

Add 100 ml orange juice with half teaspoon of baking soda dissolved in (if no extra orange juice, use water or milk) and whizz again.

Add to whizz:

- 1 cup of sugar, 1 teaspoon of vanilla, and 1 cup of dates – pulse to mix but not chopping dates too much
- 1 egg, half cup of milk and 90 grams of butter – mix again

Lastly add: - 2 cups of flour (OR 1 cup of flour and 1 cup of almond meal.) with 1½ teaspoons of baking powder. Mix again. Optional – add walnuts and mix gently so as not to break walnuts up too much.

This is a runny mixture. It fills a 12 muffin tray. Bake at 180°C for 20-25 minutes.

I have made this as gluten free by using one cup of almond meal and one cup of GF baking mix.

Roast Pork, with fennel, onions and apples (for Jean)

I use any cut of pork roast

1 tsp fennel seeds

2 red onions peeled and cut into wedges

2 apples peeled and sliced

1 head of fennel sliced thinly

4-5 bay leaves

2 cups of white wine

Pat pork dry, rub ground fennel seeds into flesh.

Place apples, onions, and fennel into large roasting dish and top with bay leaves.

I rub salt into the skin which should be scored. Place the pork on top and pour wine round meat keeping skin dry.

Roast at 240°C for 25 minutes until pork starts to crackle. Reduce heat to 160°C and cook for approximately 1½-2 hours depending on size and cut of roast. Check during cooking and add a little water if starting to dry out.

Juices and cooked apples, onions and fennel can be spooned on to top of meat for serving. I often make them into a gravy if it has become a little dry. If crackling does not look crackled enough, pop under grill briefly.



Links for your information:

[Altrusa District Fifteen webpage](https://districtfifteen.altrusa.org/) - <https://districtfifteen.altrusa.org/>

[District Fifteen Facebook page](#)

[Altrusa International of Tauranga Facebook page](#)
