

Levin Link

President's Report

Good afternoon everyone,

Last Thursday, I presented the Levin Altrusa award at the Waiopahu College Prizegiving. It was an honour, which I thoroughly enjoyed. I had forgotten how impressive their Prizegiving's are. The culture; passion; singing, dancing and speeches; the enthusiastic support from whanau, teachers, friends, and other students made for a spectacular evening. It has an amazing dynamic that you can only appreciate by attending. Go if you get the opportunity!



The variety and calibre of students reminded me that innovation and knowledge are steadily developing and expanding. That with youth, fresh ideas are a constant, and change is continual. That we need a mix of experience, and boldness on our journey.

I'm looking forward to more injections of passion and achievement at the He Whare Manaaki Tangata and Horowhenua College Prizegiving's in the next few weeks.



SANTA PREPPING FOR
THE BIG DAY

Our last committee meeting's for 2023 are starting to happen – A huge thanks to each of you for your contribution this year!

It feels like the crazy pace of the festive season has already started.

Embrace it and enjoy...
From Deirdre

Altrusa International biennium theme
Altrusans R.O.C.K.
Realize Opportunity,
Create Kindness

Unity is strength – when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.

November Accent

These words read to us from a “newer” Altrusan can reopen all our eyes to the wonderful supportive organisation we share – thank you Lyn

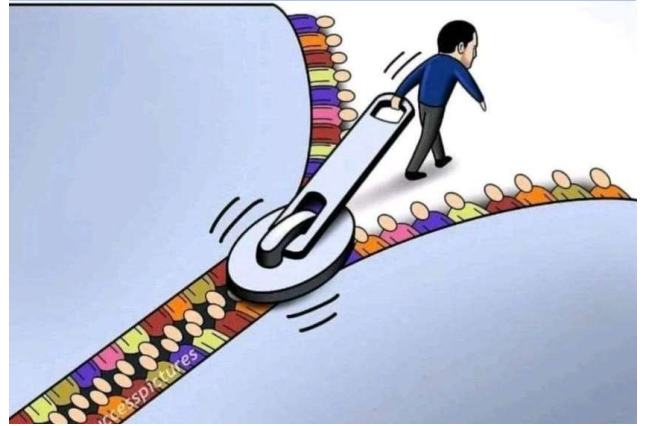
I was passed on this book to help me with this Accent. I still have heaps to learn myself but the knowledge that Altrusa started in 1917 and is still going is a credit to the original founders. Our communication within our cub is tops and the opportunities to come together for friendship and caring is very valuable. We certainly have service minded people. I read through what other clubs had done.

- A recent Gumboot Friday for Fathers' Day. I noted several good points;:
To those who had lost their fathers;
To those trying to be fathers;
For fathers who have lost children;
And sending love to fathers who have difficult relationships with their children.
- Another group making bunnies with flannels and scraps of soap for Women's Refuge.

Together we find our greatest strength having faith in each other to accomplish something very worthwhile, which could be the brightening of the garden at Star 4.

I have read our “Grace” and “Benediction” for meetings. And a prayer I will read out

A TRUE LEADER BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER



**Heavenly Father,
Surrounded by our blessings;
May we learn to bless;
Reaping the fruits of caring
(Patrotism);
May we love our country more;
Members of a worldwide
community;
May we cherish our neighbours
everywhere;
Grateful to Thee – may we show
our gratitude by efficiency and
service.**

From Editor Jan

*“Even if you're on
the right track, you
will get run over if
you just sit there.”*

WILL ROGERS

A special thrill when you hear
your club L.L. production has gone
right to the other side of the world

*“Thanks Jan, great reading with
a coffee at Dubai airport.”
From Denys*

November Programme Dinner – Hosts Membership Committee

Members were given a slip of paper with a name on it and had to find their partner and were seated at tables where they had to find the theme that suited their names.

President Deidre had 3 options put forward for the end of January get together and it was decided that each committee would hold a vote on what they preferred and bring results to next business meeting. Boards were passed around for volunteers for Vintage Machinery catering and attendance on the days it is running beginning of February.

Dot read an inspiring item about why geese fly in v form.

Following grace, dinner and desert was served. The raffle was then drawn, Shirley the winner received a lovely pot from the New World coupon promotion.

Our guest speaker , Heather Malone, from Pukekohe,
was introduced by Sandra.

Heather spoke at length about Koputaroa, Ihakara and Heatherlea areas. Heather was born in Otaki but resided in Koputaroa until shifting to Hamilton as a young child where she grew up. She decided during the covid lockdowns she would write a history starting from 1949 of the people who lived in the Koputaroa areas. She sourced the names from Electoral rolls at that time. 130 families were contacted and are in the book along with a lot of history, photos and some newspapers of that time. She stressed the importance of naming people in our photos, as many were unknown in the photos she sourced. She had family members in the photos, some she didn't know, and emphasised how important it is to ask our mothers and fathers about who people are and also for us to pass on this information and knowledge to our children and grandchildren.

Heather was first elected woman to be on the Hamilton Council. She said how difficult this job was in a male dominated group, how she was charged with pecuniary attempts, she challenged the Auditor Generals decision to have her removed and was eventually apologised to and she was reinstated. She stood for Mayor of Franklin and was mayor for six years. She said it was a huge learning curve, a vast area to cover, not without some threats and abuse. She got to meet royalty on their visits to NZ.

She got nominated in 2009 for an award for services to the community but has seldom worn the medal.

She encouraged us to have a go at opportunities given to us and stressed the importance of Leadership in whatever we do. Inspiring others to follow our example.

Heather was thanked by Jackie.



Seated at the "Royal" table were Victoria & Albert, Camilla & Charles, and Harry and Meghan



Dee then gave an explanation of some musical instruments she uses to teach others, ranging in age from 7 to 89 at present. Dee plays in the local pipe band, as well as sharing her talents with others.

Committee Corner

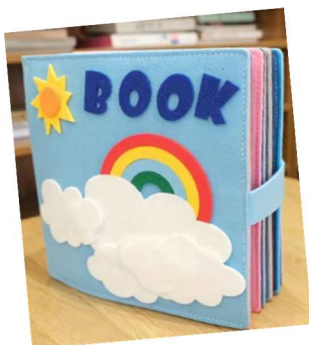


Our **Membership Committee** inducted a new club member .



Altrusa Levin, **Literacy Committee**, acknowledged Make a Difference Day this year, by baking some delicious biscuits and slices to present to our local District Nurse team and our local Health Nurses in appreciation of all the work they carry out so well within our district. They were delighted to be recognised and receive our gifts.

A \$500.00 grant has been received from the Horowhenua District Council for the purchase of books for babies born locally.



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The **Communications Committee**, and President Deirdre, enjoyed a Fish'n'chip supper after their "meeting". Followed by a special dairy free Carrot Cake. – yummy.

On Monday evening 6th November the **Service Committee** and a few extra members, met at Mobil and walked the North end of the service lane, from Tyne St to Queen St, collecting litter. We collected 3 bags of rubbish including a paint tin, broom handle, six pack of bottles, lots of broken glass and ciggy butts. Did you know it takes 10 years for cigarette butts to breakdown and they leach toxic chemicals into the ground in the process.



It was an enjoyable evening in the sun doing a little bit for our community. We plan to walk the central service lane on Monday 12th February 2024. Please feel free to join us.



The new home is rising in Liverpool Street, where the beds we donated last year to our Levin St John Ambulance Centre will be accommodated.

A member (we shall not name) enjoys the occasional op. shop buying spree. Latest purchase were two extremely attractive dresses. Off she goes, dressed in one of her \$5 bargains. Pops into a particular well known Otaki boutique clothing store to be greeted by the personnel serving with "We can see that you have shopped here before Madam" and proceeds to direct her to a rack of very similar models ... All good until our red-faced member sees the price tags of \$287.00 each!!!!

Warning Warning Warning for those attending Christmas functions. We had a giggle when a member was pulled in by the Booze bus on her way to our Altrusa committee meeting!!!! **BUT**

"Was breathalysed again on my way home, they said you have traces of alcohol, pull over, licence, address etc. Good to go.

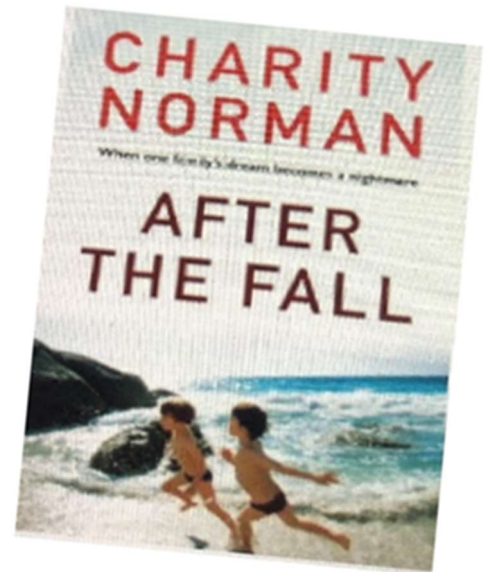
Glad I only had one!"



AFTER THE FALL When one family's dream becomes a nightmare. In the quiet of a Hawkes Bay winter night, a rescue helicopter is sent to airlift a five year old boy with severe internal injuries, as he's fallen from the upstairs veranda of an isolated farmhouse.

Tragedy isn't what the McNamara family expected when they moved to New Zealand. For Martha it was an escape, for her artist husband Kit, it was a dream, for their small twin boys it was an adventure and for sixteen year old Sasha it was the start of a nightmare.

A riveting story, of modern day New Zealand, written by a very accomplished author. Chris says "well worth reading".



STRAIGHT UP A unique book that blends sport, humour, and life lessons in a refreshing and relatable way. I really enjoyed this read – Jan J
Some quotes from "Ruby's Training Bag"

- *There's always more than one way of seeing things;*
- *It's not your skin colour, your salary or any of that stuff that makes you great; it's your fight, it's your work ethic;*
- *If you hit a dead end, you can always do a U-turn out of it;*
- *As soon as you take step one, step ten is waiting for you;*
- *Keep adding tools to your tool-belt so you can be a better resource for yourself and the*

CHRISTMAS CASSATTA ICECREAM

Makes a Ringtin full.

Beat 4 egg whites stiff.

Beat in half cup castor sugar

Fold in:

2 cups whipped cream.

half to one cup Fruit mince

2 tsps vanilla

Tablespoon brandy (optional)

Put in ring tin. (line tin with gladwrap - easier to get out)

Cover and freeze for 8 hours.

Before serving place on platter and decorate with chocolate, fruit etc to resemble a Xmas wreath.

Slice to serve.



2 December

16 December

17 December

21 December

27 December

And next year

7 January

8 January

Airini

Diane C

Ruth R

Denys

Jan W

Ruth B

Brenda

**Coming next
year -
50th
anniversary of
the formation
of our club**

Pictured some of our lovely ladies when they were our Club President.



Bev 2011-12
(2nd term)



Bev 1997-98



1985-86 President
Airini presents the
chain of office to in-
coming President.

Jackie 2017
Tui 2018



Dot 2002-06 (2nd term)



Heather 1993-94



Lynette 2013-14



Catherine 1984-85

Sandra 2010-11



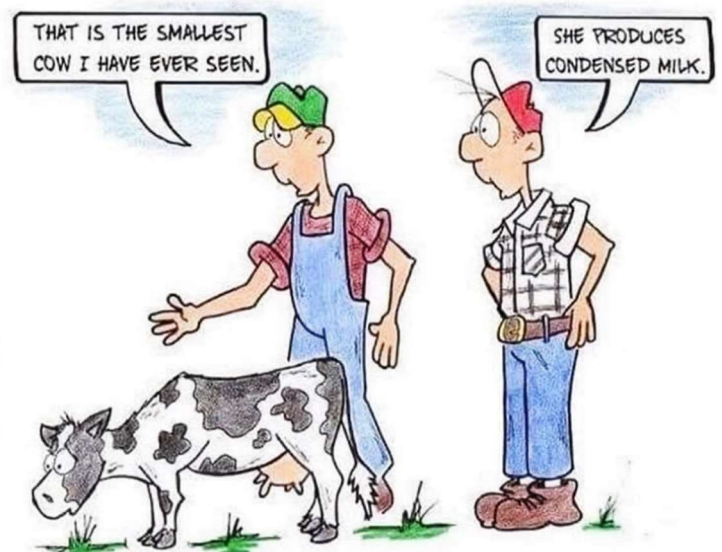
These photos were previously copied from archived albums.

Coming this year

- 24 Nov. Social Morning tea 10.30am
29 Nov. Literacy Committee Lunch at The George 11.30am
29 Nov. Award presentation to He Whare Manaaki Tangata (Teen Parent Unit)
1 Dec. Award Presentation Horowhenua College
6 Dec. Business Meeting Thompson House 5.30pm
13 Dec. Club Christmas Function at RSA 6pm
8/9/10 Dec. Avenue of Trees

And into 2024

- 28 Jan. Club Get Together – *More details to follow.*
3 & 4 Feb Vintage Machinery Catering
12 Feb Service Committee "litter clean up"
16 March Guess Who's Coming to Dinner (Membership)



Navigating the Web...

- Important websites to know!
www.altrusa.org (click Member Login in the upper right)
login.altrusa.org (go directly to the members area)
www.altrusastore.com (purchase Altrusa branded items including pins and banners)
www.altrusaservice.org (browse and share your club's service projects)
- Give us some feedback and share your thoughts on improving Altrusa with the [Suggestion Box](#).
- If you have forgotten your password to the site please send an e-mail to Altrusa@altrusa.org or call the International Office for assistance.

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District Fifteen

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