

2023– 2024 Board of Directors

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Sandra Bonney

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Julie Bradley
Archives: Margaret Beswick

NOTICE BOARD

Coffee Morning	02 December
Christmas Dinner	12 December
Year Starter	23 January
Coffee Morning	03 February
Board Meeting	8 th February
Business Meeting	13 th February



PRESIDENT'S PATER

So much has happened in the last few months and suddenly Christmas is around the corner! It is a very busy time for our club as our activities to support our community call us to action. We are once again doing that fine balance between work, family, and Altrusa. By all accounts we are doing it very well and I appreciate that some of our newer members have stepped up and taken the lead on some projects.

IFF Day seems such a long time ago, however the value of the day cannot be understated. It certainly impacted the fourteen members of the club that took the opportunity to see the wider view of being an Altrusan.

As I type this, I am celebrating that the club was successful in securing a Grant from International Foundation. That is such good news, so thanks to Sandra and her committee for putting in the hard work to get this result for the Togs and Towels For Safety Project at Gate Pa School. I am so proud of the work members have put into the school at so many different levels. This project will add tremendous value to the school and their pupils with every step adding to the learning experience for young minds.

You will truly have earned a rest once we complete our traditional, annual projects. Christmas is the time for families getting together to take part in the traditions established over the years. I know it can be a lonely time for some, so don't forget to reach out to others who are not so fortunate to have family around. I hope you all enjoy your summer break, and we will see you in 2024!

Merry Christmas – President Pam



SERVICE & LITERACY COMMITTEE

August and September were busy.

International Literacy Day saw members reading to the junior school at Gate Pa School. Much fun was had by all, in fact I hear that the readers didn't want to stop. In addition the senior school participated in a Sell-a-Book competition which saw all entrants receiving a book, and we donated two books to the Bilingual class. In total we donated approximately 80 books on this day.



In September the club donated 11 hygiene kits to Tauranga Living Without Violence to give to participants in their Rangitahi programme. This donation brought one staff member to tears as she said how grateful their clients would be. She told us that sanitary products are always the first things to go from Good Neighbour donations and shared the story of a homeless client who has to keep her sanitary products in the cupboard at TLWV so that they don't get stolen.

We are always looking for new service and literacy projects and encourage all members to keep an eye out or ear to the ground for opportunities. Ideas for one off project would be particularly welcome.

Sandra reported that Tauranga Living Without Violence are delighted to receive the Sanitary Products donated by members at the November Business Meeting. They appreciated that the club has approved funds to purchase more.

Inaction breeds doubt and fear. Action breeds confidence and courage. If you want to conquer fear, do not sit at home and think about it. Go out and get busy. – Dale Carnegie



Sandra, Julie and Janet having far too much fun!

The September Programme activity was the Great Bake Off to facilitate **random acts of kindness** around the community, especially to first responders. Small groups of members, and some individuals, used leftover 2022 Sandjar ingredients to whip up some tasty treats and deliver them to deserving workers in the community. We treated the Police, firefighters, teachers at Pillan Point and Gate Pa Schools, the Cancer Centre and Te Whatu Ora. Well done everyone!!

The Club applied for a Foundation Grant to fund our Togs & Towels for Safety project for Gate Pa School and are thrilled to learn that our application was successful. Also, we continue to encourage members to keep an eye out for good quality used towels, swimsuits, rash tops, and rash suits. Spread the word amongst family, friends, neighbours, and other networks so that we can boost the supply. Any donations can be given to Sandra.



Gate Pa School Pasifika Group at Pasifika in the Bay in the last weekend in October was very successful. Thanks to the sewing efforts of Julie, Sandra, Pam and Sue who put their heads down and produced 17 of these dresses for the students.

MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

October and November has proven to be a very busy time for this committee. Both the Sileni Wine Fundraiser and the Sandjar Fundraisers are on track for completion by December. There is a new initiative to have a stall at the Matua Christmas Night Market on the Thursday 30th November, with a number of homemade items for sale along with our Sandjars and Reuseable Christmas Cracker Raffle for sale.

At the October Business Meeting it was our pleasure to initiate new member Sue Amon. Sue had been visiting the club frequently and participating in several of our service projects and program activities.



President Pam presents new member Sue Amon with her Membership Certificate alongside her Sponsor, Sandra Bonney

NEW MEMBER PROFILE

Janet Pugh

Q. What was it that inspired you join Altrusa?

A. I wanted to be able to help in the community and make new friends.

Q. What is your favourite book of all time and what are you reading at the moment?

A. I read a lot of different authors, Ken Follett and Jeffry Archer. Currently I am reading a James Patterson novel.



Janet poses in front of her Birthday Car!

Q. If you were on a desert island what three things would you want to have with you?

A. Music, wine and good food.

Q. What movie or TV Series have you watched over and over?

A. Top Gun and Phantom of the Opera.

Q. What is your favourite holiday spot?

A. Italy, I love the people and the food.

Q. Who makes up your family?

A. My wonderful husband Jim, my son Jamie and Grandchildren Danielle and Brandon.

Q. If you had the opportunity to have dinner with a famous person, (can be deceased) who would that be?

A. Freddy Mercury.

Q. What else should members know about you?

A. I am able to see the funny side of most things, so I try not to let things get me down and love a good laugh.

I can confirm that Janet has a wonderful sense of humour as I spent with her when we collected for NZ Assistance Dogs Trust - Editor



LET'S TALK ABOUT MONEY!

As you all know we are quite busy with a number of fundraising initiatives at the moment, so this is where the money has been spent over the last few months.

\$200 - Days for Girls New Zealand Donation

\$200 - Tauranga Living Without Violence for sanitary products.

\$200 - Gate Pa Primary School Literacy Awards

\$370 - Greerton Police Station for Distraction Packs

\$100 - Purchase Books from Lions Club Monster Book Sale.

\$187 - Kidz Need Dadz - 20 Distraction Packs

One of our major fundraising activities is the production and sale of Sandjars. This is an all of club activity set up by the Fundraising Committee, Special thanks for your hard work on this one Deirdre.



Members Sue, Julie, Deirdre, Marg B, Ann, Maggie and Catherine concentrate on the assembly process.



Left is the finished product, 120 jars completed so the sales game is on. Some members have pre-sales orders, and the net proceeds will be presented

to Tauranga Volunteer Coastguard who are fundraising for a new boat.

Other Fundraising Activities

- Wine Sale with the **Booster Wine Group**
- **Matua Night Market Stall** - featuring reusable



Christmas Wrapping, gift bags, Dude Dolls and knitted mice, eco-friendly dish cloths and soap sacks. Fudge, baking and Chutneys, and Sandjars



- Raffle for Waste-free Celebrations Christmas Re-Crackers with net proceeds going to Altrusa International Foundation.



Putting the final touches on the jars are Glenda, Denise, Brenda, Judy and Christine.

COMMUNICATIONS & PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The October Business Meeting was the perfect opportunity to present President Pam with her 20 Year Service Pin. Sandra had given her the instruction to wear something green and without knowing why Pam complied with this request. The purpose was to link 20 years with Emerald which is the colour associated with such an anniversary. Strangely enough most of the other members were wearing green and the dinner table was decorated with green!



Immediate Past President Sandra Bonney presents President Pam with her 20 year Badge



Jim Smith was the Guest Speaker at the November Business meeting. He explained that the organisation is about strengthening father-child relationships through support, education, and fun.

The organization had its beginnings' 20 years ago and was called the Union of Fathers. Angry Dads fighting what they believed to be inequity with the court system.



With a name change in 2012 they registered as a Charitable Trust with branches in Auckland, Wellington, Rotorua, Christchurch and Tauranga.

Jim said, "Guys are broken when they walk through our door, they have a place to vent and we can show them how to get through, we encourage them to keep a high level of conduct. We advise them not to act against protection orders, in short, behave."

As far as funding is concerned the organisation is well down the priority list. They get some funding for their supervised contact service and are constantly applying to the usual funding revenues to keep their head above water.

The club voted to donate 20 Distraction Packs to this organisation
- Editor.

Program Committee Annual Christmas Cracker Making Goes off with a Bang!



Debbie, a Play Specialist at the Children's Ward in Tauranga Hospital accepts the Christmas Crackers from Glenda and Margie.



Scotty, a Registered Social Worker at Te Tuinga Whanu Trust happily accepts the donation of Christmas Crackers made by club members at the home of Margie Robertson in October.

Being

HUMBLE

means recognizing
that we are not on earth
to see how

IMPORTANT

we can become,
but to see how much

DIFFERENCE

we can make in the lives
of others.

-Gordon B. Hinckley



DISTRICT FIFTEEN NEWS

🚩 Do you recall our IFF Day activities? President Pam delivered them to Tauranga Women's Refuge and Pomare thought they were magnificent!

- 🚩 Members should have received a Survey Monkey request to vote on a new name for the DSB (District Services Bulletin).
- 🚩 As a result of the Presidents Zoom meeting the District Fifteen Board will be asking International to waive the \$10 joining fee to assist minimising the cost to clubs.
- 🚩 District Fifteen Board have made the decision to retire all Awards, except for the Margaret Inch Leadership Award, leaving only the three International Awards for Clubs to enter.



PUT THIS IN YOUR CALENDAR NOW

- Christmas Dinner at the Vines, remember to bring a donation to Foodbank.
- Nominations Committee – Consider a role on the Board for 2024/2025
- Shortbread baking to Denise / Pam by 14 December
- District Fifteen Conference 3-5 May 2023 Hamilton



Catherine Moles takes a break during the Te Awamutu Club's Garden Ramble fundraiser the first Sunday in November. Pam and Catherine really enjoyed the homes and gardens they visited. Catherine is still getting over Leanne Milligan's Toy Rooms!

Links for your information:

District Fifteen Website
www.districtfifteen.altrusa.org

Altrusa International Website
www.altrusa.org



Jill Irvin	12 January
Judy Thomson	12 January
Maggie Dudfield	13 January
Deirdre Burrows	29 January
Julie Bradley	16 January
Pam Hayes	25 January
Sandra Bonney	7 February
Alison Ware	13 February

2023/2024 Committee Members

Service/Literacy:

Sandra Bonney	Clare Spiers
Catherine Moles	Christine Tempest
Brenda Fitzpatrick	Margie Robertson
Janet Pugh	Sue Amon

Membership / Fundraising:

Deirdre Burrows	Jill Irwin
Jan Maber	Alison Ware
Barbara Reeve	Shona Sterritt
Judy Thompson	

Program / Communications:

Maggie Dudfield	Julie Bradley
Shona Sterritt	Denise Bean
Glenda Lowe	Margaret Beswick
Ann Fulcher	



ALTRUSA ACCENT

With the announcement by the District Fifteen Board of Directors that all awards, except for the Margaret Inch Leadership Award will be retired with immediate effect I thought it would be pertinent to inform members of this prestigious award – *Editor*.

The Margaret Inch District Fifteen Leadership Award

Background to the award

The District Fifteen Board has established the Margaret Inch Leadership Award as a memorial to the late Margaret Inch, Past Governor of District Fifteen (1987-1989) and Altrusa International President (1995-1997). The Award was presented for the first time at the 2009 District Fifteen Conference in Dunedin. Every Altrusa Club in District Fifteen is entitled to nominate one member per year. Previous winners are not eligible for nomination for a further five years.

Objective To recognise an Altrusan who has shown positive leadership in her community and who has demonstrated good leadership qualities within her Club. She will have led by example, and the leadership qualities she has shown will have encouraged fellow members to achieve their own goals, because of her focused and inspirational attitude.

Eligibility Criteria

The nominee must: -

- be a member, in good standing, of a District Fifteen Altrusa Club.
- have been an Altrusan for a minimum of five (5) years.
- have served as a Club Board member or Committee Chair.
- have attended at least one Area Training Day.
- have attended at least one District Conference within the last three years.

[Further details can be found on the District Fifteen website.](#)



As we end our year, I wanted this edition of your newsletter to focus on celebrating the work that you do as members. All of you make a difference every time you say, 'yes, I will do that.' Today as I joined Glenda and Margie delivering the Christmas Crackers for Kids it reminded me of why I became an Altrusan and the privilege that it is in participating in lifting people up. That is what you are doing in all the projects we undertake. – Editor Pam

Closing date for Submissions for March / April Edition 22nd March.

A reminder to members that payment of \$21.00 for Business Meeting covers meal, venue hire and raffle. You can add a donation to the Conference account if you wish.

If you are not having dinner the cost is \$7.00