

Levin Link

March 2024



The Altrusa key - March Accent read by Cherry

A_{MITY}

Community members in various fields of endeavour need friends whose interests differ from those which keep them busy throughout the working day. Altrusa offers AMITY.

L_{OYALTY}

To such members, self-realisation means, first of all, loyalty to one's own ideals. Next, it means loyalty to one's friends, to their communities, to one's work and to one's country. Altrusa stimulates LOYALTY.

T_{ALENT}

Talent needs recognition. No matter how great a person's ability may be, it never reaches its most effective level unless it is understood, encouraged and developed. Altrusa encourages the expression of TALENT.

R_{ECIPROCITY}

Each person needs not only contact which will aid her/him, but a chance to give corresponding benefit to others. Altrusa gives impetus to RECIPROCITY.

U_{NITY}

When individuals form a unit which is so big in its aim that self is forgotten in the common purpose of the group, the next step in the evolution of humanity is accomplished. Altrusa develops UNITY.

S_{ERVICE}

Because of amity, loyalty, talent, reciprocity and unity, Altrusa develops SERVICE.

A_{CHIEVEMENT}

Through such a plan of living and mutual stimulation, Altrusa brings ACHIEVEMENT.



Altrusans continue with service in our community.

Ruth B, Helen, Alison, Jan W, Ruth R, Suzanne & Cushla (behind the camera), with the three full bags of rubbish removed this month from a corner of our neighbourhood.

President's Report from Deirdre

Hi Members,

Hard to believe we had a frost this morning!! It's really just an announcement that the next season is nearly upon us...

Our Garage Sale was not only a great success, but our members had fun manning it, enjoyed the camaraderie, and had a lot of laughter, while selling plenty! Big thanks to Diane for hosting.



Wow, what a movie Ruth booked for us! "The Great Escaper" had my sister-in-law and I in tears, laughing, laughing through tears... Also, gave us an inkling of how tough war really was, and the after-effects on all those who went to war. - I have told my daughters they need to see it. By the way we would like an elevator in our Rest home kids!

Was talking with Cushla today, and she advised that the Service Committee's Back Lane cleanup went well, with three big bags of rubbish collected. Many thanks to everyone that was able to assist in helping keep our local community tidy!

Regarding International President Linda Smith's theme for her biennium, I've been thinking lately about how I can show kindness! It's funny how often the little things are important – giving a smile when it's needed, assisting someone when you have the chance. These warm fuzzies make tough times that bit easier. Also, as my theme this year is community, I would like us to think about embracing diversity, and about not making judgements or assumptions – it was brought home to me recently.

***"Always put yourself in the other's shoes,
if it hurts you, it probably hurts the other too."***

**If you know any past Altrusa Levin member who has not
received an invite by email to our 50th Anniversary Luncheon
on Saturday 16th April, please contact Denys.**

**We welcome all past members to come along and renew friendships.
Your RSVP by 31 March.**

It was with much regret that the club accepted Heather's resignation from the club due to health problems. She joined in 1989, has held many club positions, and a fountain of helpful accountancy knowledge.

A good friend to us all.

Recent good news – the eradication of three Privet trees has given some immediate respiratory relief.

In Heather's own recent words "With hope and positiveness and help from family and friends, I will continue with my bloody mindedness".



Membership Minute from Dot
We All Have a Story. (Michelle Harverson)

**We all have a story a tale to be told
Of the joys we've experienced and the
hardships we've known**

**Sometimes we wear them on our
sleeve for all to see
But often they're hidden as deep as
they can be**

**So, let us be kind for we never truly
know**

**The struggles and the battles that
others undergo**

**May empathy and compassion be the
guiding lights we share**

**And may we always remember that
each story deserves care**

**For in our human journey we all need
love and grace**

**So lets be kind to one another and
create a better place**

INTERNATIONAL From Jan J, as District Fifteen Communications DSB Editor

Watch out for the next International Altrusa Compass – maybe our club practices will get a mention. I received a request (see below), via Jenny Bevin, our District Fifteen Communications Chair, for ideas on how we manage the issue of communicating within our club e.g. group emails, buddy system, social gatherings as well as service, TEAM committee approach, and lots more! Thanks Jackie & Tui for your help.



My name is Nanci Schwartz and I'm a member of Altrusa International of Lake County, Florida. I'm also on the Altrusa International Communications Committee. I've been tasked with writing an article for the upcoming edition of the Compass. The topic is "How do you Reach your Membership?" I thought the best approach would be to get input from Altrusans around the globe.

COMING

You are invited to celebrate the
50th Anniversary
of the formation of the
Altrusa International Club of Levin

When: Saturday 13th April 2024

Where: Levin Cosmopolitan Club
47-57 Oxford St, Levin
(Carpark Entry off Ward St)

Time: 11am to 2pm
Luncheon will be served at 12.30pm

Cost: \$50.00 per person
which includes entry into 3 raffle draws

Please make payment via Direct Credit to

Levin Altrusa 01-0666-0048713-00
please include your name and 50th Lunch as references

RSVP with numbers attending (partners welcome)
and payment by **31st March 2024** to
levinaltrusa50th@gmail.com

Any queries please email above or contact Denys on 022 4604275

*Special invite to all past
and present Altrusa
Levin members*

*From
Denys*



**Saturday 6 April – DFG
Workshop in the West Wing,
at the George, Speldhurst from
9.30am**

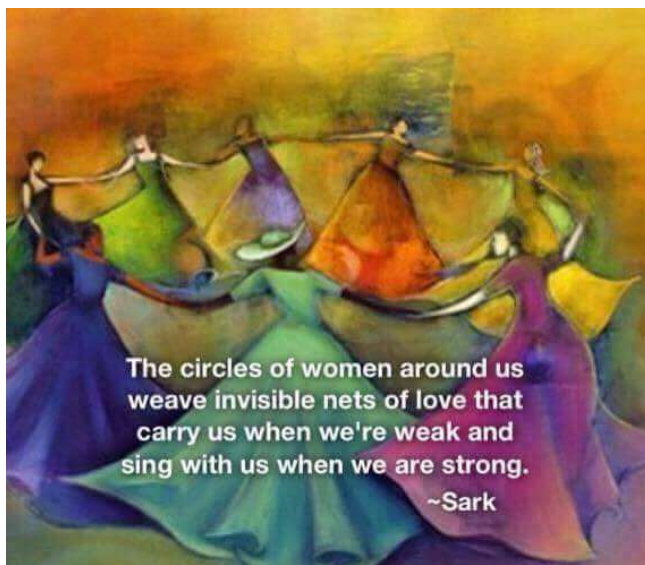
Non sewers needed too. 2000
donated Face cloths to be folded!!!!

Bring: A machine if you wish
An overlocker if you can
A quick'unpick & scissors
Iron/ironing board if you
want this important chore
Some Lunch or M/tea to share

Any queries
to Helen.

You are all encouraged to attend this important function ,
renew friendships with past members and enjoy what we hope
to be a memorable occasion. For our current members, it will
be opportunity to see what Altrusa Levin has been recognised
for in our community over these fifty years of service.

Photo Montage – this is being put together and will be a roll
around display of selected photos from formation to current
time – set up in decades to show continuously on a screen.



COMMITTEE CORNER

GARAGE CRAFT SALE



Held 3 March. A very positive day with an amazing total raised to boost club Admin funds. Organised by **Communications Committee** but the considerable support by other members, and donations, much appreciated.



Service Committee

A very successful cinema fundraiser evening was held. An “over sell” of tickets for Cinema 2 resulted in the need for an additional showing in Cinema.3. It worked well with the two sessions. I was in the Cinema 2 and I looked around and saw everyone seated and had smiles on their faces. Positive feedback has been received and the movie guests enjoyed the gathering with friends and family, and our Levin Altrusans. Many said they were eager to support another one.

It was a great choice of Movie, which hugely contributed to the success of the evening.



Literacy Committee

A record of the number of books distributed every month will be tallied to contribute statistics to the Altrusa International Literacy Challenge –

“One million books this biennium”.

It is believed that already 200+ books have been distributed by the committee related to the following projects:

- Waiopahu College Teen Parent Unit
- Columbian Refugee Families
- Books for Babies
- Hospice magazine subscription

A local council grant awarded to our club is also about to be actioned. The key principle of that project was to encourage young children to embrace books, to stimulate an interest in self-reading, and to promote reading as a family activity. Four areas for distribution of reading material are being considered.

Committee Corner Cont.

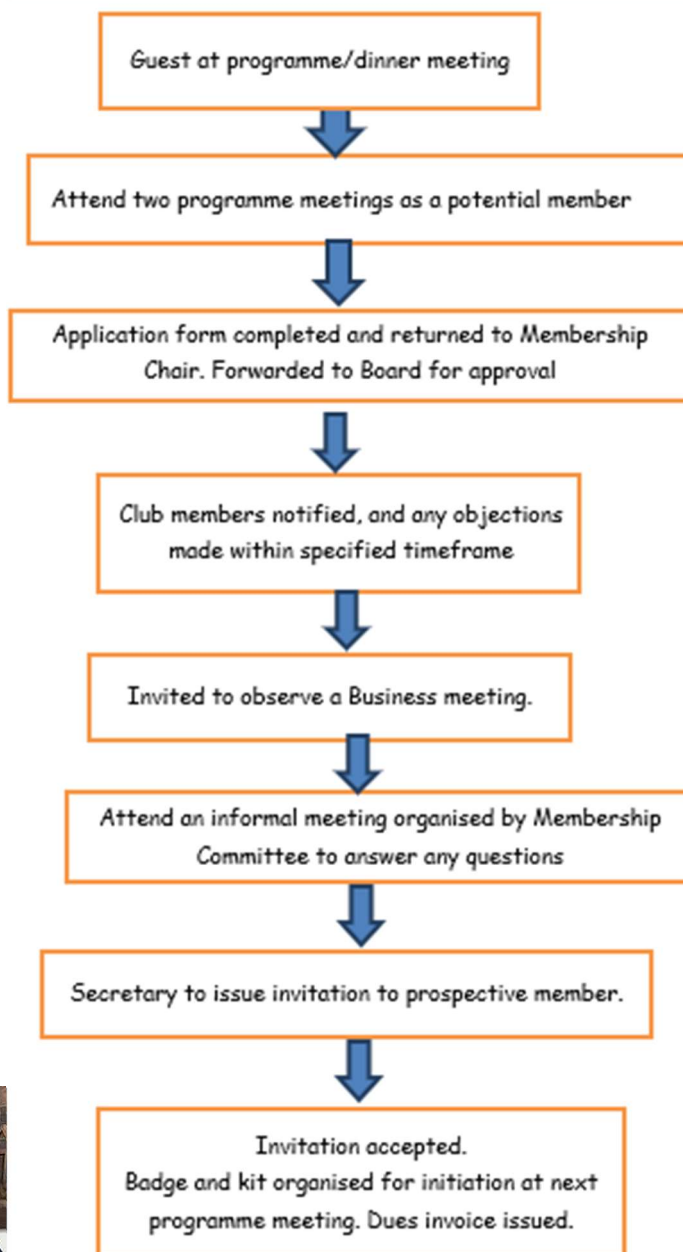
Membership Committee have updated the New Members handbook and looked at the procedure for the transfer of a member into our club, an anticipated forthcoming addition to Altrusa Levin.

Altrusa Club of Levin The Membership Process for New and Returning Members

As an Altrusan, you may at any time, invite a guest to a programme meeting. Whether a potential member or not, please make everyone welcome.

There is a process that needs to be followed if the person is intending to join. All club members will have received recently an email from the Membership Committee giving the full guidelines.

NEW MEMBERSHIP FLOW CHART:



It was with great pride that Sandra, on behalf of the club, presented the funds raised from the Harvest Weekend catering to representatives from the Horowhenua Community Shuttle Service, and Hato Hone St John. Both organisations were very pleased to receive \$900 each.

March Programme/Dinner Meeting – Hosts Literacy Committee



The theme for the evening was “housing”, tables each had china houses on them. Guests and partners were invited, 15 extra attended.

Wayne Bishop, guest speaker, spoke after the main course. He did his building apprenticeship with Crowe builders. After a few years Wayne could see the potential of a housing development in the derelict Kimberley Hospital grounds, he resigned his job, bought the grounds and began the lengthy process of developing Speldhurst into a housing area for people over 60. At that stage he employed 5 staff. After a long process development began. Today Wayne has 150 staff and there are over 500 properties there.

Wayne is keen to develop housing in Mabel Street, and Hinemoa Street extension, these will be for low-income families who have to meet strict criteria. The first half of the Hinemoa Street extension is completed, and all houses occupied.



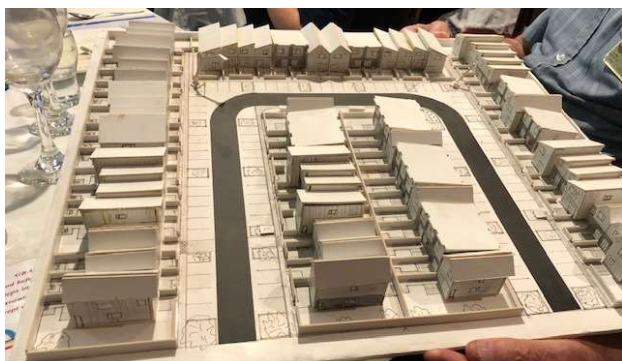
Tatum Park is in process of having the historic homestead upgraded for weddings, conferences, motels built and a retirement housing complex to be undertaken. Due to open later this year.

Plans to purchase land off Okarito Ave are under way, 183 properties to be built. Wayne is keen to make housing for young families more accessible with them buying the building only, section remaining with initial owner. This will assist them to own their house at current interest rates.

Could this be a 2026 Altrusa conference & accommodation venue?

Shirley thanked Wayne for his informative speech and presented him with a homemade chocolate cake. Wayne then had to leave for another engagement. The raffle was drawn, won by Maureen. Prize a voucher for a meal at The George. Dessert was then served.

The friendly atmosphere continued until Benediction closed the meeting.



Shape of future affordable housing!



A big welcome to Sue Robbie

President Deirdre asked Dot, Chair of the Membership Committee, to introduce Sue Robbie who has transferred to our club from the Wellington area. Sue and her husband have shifted to Waikanae, and she wishes to continue her association with our active club. Dot invited Sue to come forward and speak briefly about herself. She was presented with a pink geranium.

From Sue: *I am the oldest of 9 and immigrated from Canada in February 1988. I can claim some Native Canadian blood (I am 1/16th Micmac - a tribe in Nova Scotia)*

I was a Charter member of the Wellington East Club and joined the Wellington Club when Wellington East folded. On another volunteer front, I have been a leader in Scouting and Guiding for 40 years. My favourite pastimes are my grandchildren, reading, travelling, and sailing.

My husband, David, and I have 2 children and 6 grandchildren who range in age from 3 to 24 years old.



4th April
22nd April
26th April

Lyn
Sandra
Heather

Food for Thought –

01. If a bottle of poison reaches its expiration date, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?

02. Which letter is silent in the word "Scent," the S or the C?

03. Every time you clean something, you just make something else dirty.

04. The word "swims" upside-down is still "swims".

05. Commonsense is like deodorant. The people who need it the most never use it.



Checking on Communication
Editor going "fishing". Some chocolate fish rewards.

Who read our District Fifteen March edition of "The Kiwi Altrusan" DSB from front to back!!!!!!

Email the answers to these DSB questions to the Editor Jan email address on the last page of this Levin Link, to be in to qualify for your reward.

1. What club does our DSB Sub-missions editor belong too?
2. How many NZ clubs shared an item about their happenings?
3. What important dates were on Page 6?

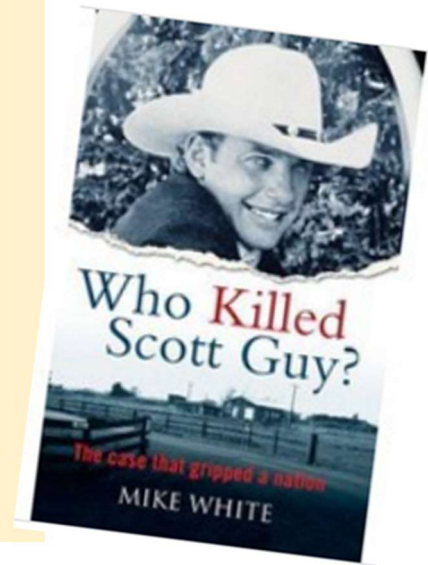
LITERACY FOCUS

Who Killed Scott Guy

I have just finished reading this book, very intriguing, although extremely tragic. I am unsure of who killed Scott, even after reading all the evidence against Ewen Macdonald. There is definitely doubt due to evidence, but he had such a twisted personality, for a farmer to kill calves the way Ewen did, you have to be mentally unstable if nothing else.

The sad parts to this book are the lives that Ewen has left shattered. The poor children, the poor wives, the poor parents. I cannot imagine surviving this ordeal, but the parents came out with the heads held high.

An easy read, I would love to know which way you go with Ewen guilty or not. I have spoken to people who have read it, there are certainly some conflicting answers to the question. Review by Marie



Literacy Grouch –

Oh my height of disappointment!

Reading a great book and have just ten pages left. Lay it aside until I have some uninterrupted time to savour the wonder of how all the intrigue is going to culminate.

Just where can a late twist take this tale?

*The time has come. Take out my bookmark, turn the page and **there it ends** – all the mysterious angles tied up in just a few sentences.*



Last nine pages of the book given over to beginning of some new fiction by this author, that I will probably never read.

Do others feel cheated like this????

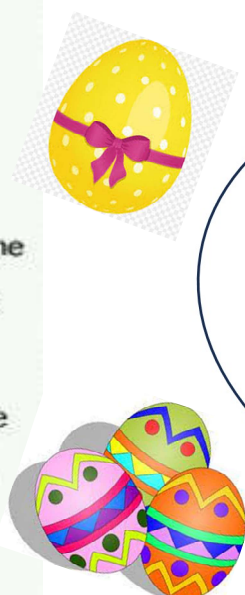
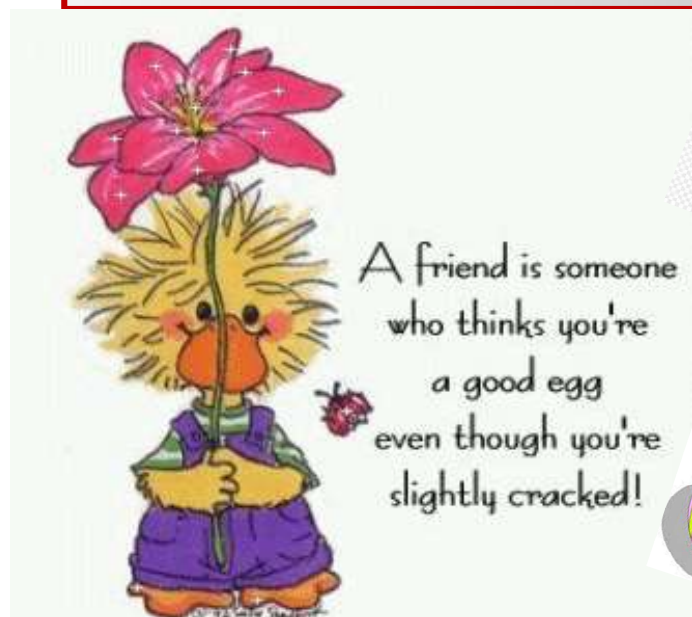
**Reading one book
is like eating one
potato chip.**

IF YOU WANT
YOUR
CHILDREN
TO BE
INTELLIGENT,
READ THEM
FAIRY TALES.

💡
- EINSTEIN



Committee Meetings Literacy 2nd Wednesday each month
Communications - next an email mtg
Service 10 April 5.15pm at Ruth B's
Membership 10 April 4.30pm



"Easter is the only time of year when it is safe to put all your eggs in one basket."

editor@altrusa.org.nz

Dear Easter Bunny,
this year could you please fill
my eggs with
health and happiness
and deliver them
to everyone that
I love.
Thank you.

A yellow Minion character from the Despicable Me franchise is positioned on the right side of the image. It is wearing a pair of large, pink bunny ears on its head and a pair of round, silver-rimmed goggles. The Minion is holding a small, dark, rectangular object in its hands. The background is a solid light blue color.