

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL  
CLUB OF TE KUITI  
**NEWSLETTER**

"THE WOOLLY WAFFLER": November 2025

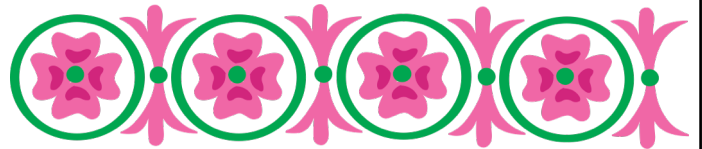


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SUNSHINE LADY:	Raewyn Flexman
SPEAKERS:	Mary Anderson
NEWSLETTER:	Ros Snow

Our October regular meeting was preceded by a Special meeting in which the Constitution was passed.

The meeting was held on Tuesday 4th November, which is also Melbourne Cup Day. Members celebrated this by wearing a Race Day hat.

Prospective member Janey Martin was also welcomed as a guest along with her mother Victoria who was visiting from the USA.

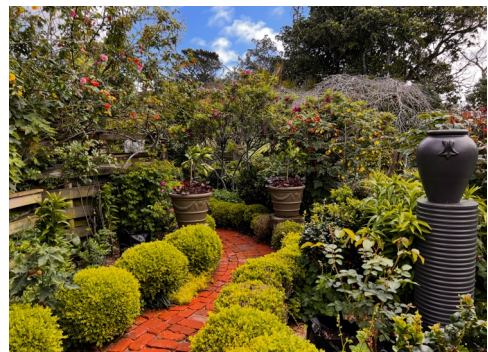


Kia ora Koutau, Hello to all and welcome to the November Woolley Waffler.

The weather is improving, very gradually, more warmth but still plenty of rain. The spring gardens are looking magnificent with lots of flowers and new growth but those pesky little unwanted plants (weeds) are also growing rampantly as well. The little critters that eat our new shoots are also there to test us.

However the days we spend in the garden, whether digging in the soil or just sitting and enjoying, are good for the soul.

"To nurture a garden is to feed not just the body, but the soul." - Alfred Austin



## CHATTER FOR NOV/DEC 2025



“Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn’t thought of before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn’t come from the store. What if Christmas... perhaps... means a little bit more!” (Dr Seuss, How the Grinch stole Christmas)

I couldn’t help thinking this when I saw the Christmas decorations out in late October!

November has gone somewhere – not quite into the ether, but Bruce & I did get quite high up on the tops of the Kawaeka/Kaimanawa ranges recently. We flew in with one of our daughters, her husband, and their two daughters. The hut we helicoptered in to is a private one with fabulous views on a fine day! (A hot shower & flush loo, but bunks!) Despite the wind & clouds, we were able to wander around amongst the tussock, low growing hebes & tiny, silvery lichen barely 2 centimetres above the ground. The mountain daisy was just beginning to flower. It too, is growing very close to the ground, as the environment is harsh. There are plenty of Sika deer about – we could see & hear them - though two less now as several legs and back steaks are in our freezer! Georgie, at 19, shot her first deer & helped carry it back to the hut. Great excitement.

I was delighted on the last day, as the sky cleared to reveal Mount Ruapehu out to the west, still covered in snow, appearing to be on the same level as we were.

It was a special time introducing that mountain environment to our two granddaughters. It’s a different world up there.

Thankyou to the ladies able to help pack the Rocket into Reading packs. I will bring the last bags to the dinner, for TKP, & Rangitoto – Caroline & Elaine? Thanks Lisa, for taking Aria & Piopio. There are no new 5year olds at St. Jo’s, Mary. Marg is going out to Bennydale & I’ll cover Pukenui & Centennial Park. 48 children.

Jude had a bad fall recently & is now pinned together. Healing thoughts whizzing your way, Jude.

A reminder that the Street Stall is on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec. 8am on. Baking, jam, pickles, veges, flowers, etc. Marg has everything in hand – Thankyou for organising it all.

Go well and safely over the festive season and come to the February get together – perhaps the rotunda again? Somewhere else? – with lots of ideas for speakers, and projects we can support. (I’m still collecting glasses for Fred Hollows & bras for Fiji)

“Christmas is a season not only of rejoicing, but of reflection” – Winston Churchill.

Colleen.



Beautiful roses from Colleen’s garden



Our Guest speaker for our October meeting was Claire Mead from Waipa Community Library. She spoke to us of her passion for the "Books and Paws" programme at Cambridge Library which is a reading programme designed to give anxious readers more confidence by reading aloud to dogs. The dogs provided by "Canine Friends" are well socialised and well behaved who make non-judgemental listeners. Claire is a skilled cataloguer but finds this afterschool programme a welcome and rewarding change to her normal day's work.



Claire accepting a gift from Mary.



Mary and Colin watched the Guy Fawkes fireworks on a lovely evening at Brook park.



Mary's view from Mangarino Road



Gaylene's evening view from their Air BnB in Rarotonga, how gorgeous is that?



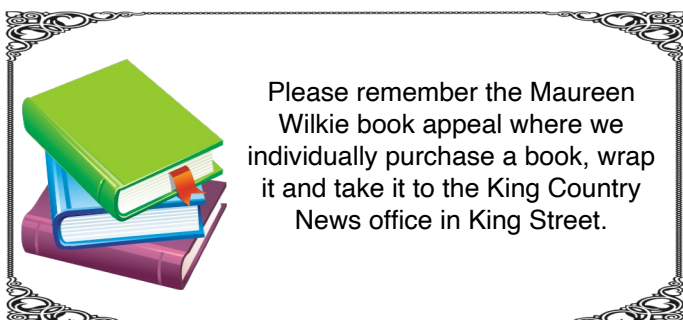
Lisa's granddaughter Chloe on her horse at a Pony Club event.

Lisa and Raymond arriving in Perth to a welcome by a proud grandson, Hudson.

### Coming up:

2nd December: Christmas Dinner at Panorama with Partners

4th December: Street stall, cakes, jams, plants, fruit, veg, flowers etc



Please remember the Maureen Wilkie book appeal where we individually purchase a book, wrap it and take it to the King Country News office in King Street.





The Rocket into Reading packs were put together at Colleen's house last week. Thanks to all members who helped.



The Book Vouchers have been given to the High Schools for the Prize Giving Ceremonies



Ros was at NZ Sculpture Onshore in Auckland last week which was supporting Women's Refuge. There were more than 140 amazing sculptures on show worth many thousands of dollars!

This work called Balancing Act by Blake Harnett was the winner of the People's Choice award. A striking contrast of strength and vulnerability, sparking reflection on the female experience in male-dominated spaces.

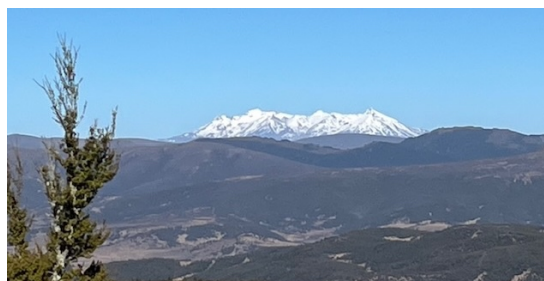


Colleen with her daughter Kate and granddaughters Georgie and Helena



Colleen and Bruce sheltering from the wind.

Colleen and her family had a recent trip to the Kaimanawa Ranges. Bruce is pointing out the hunting spots to Mark and Kate.



### Birthdays in December:

Caroline Davidson  
Dianne Hickman

