

## In this Issue

Presidents Report

Editor's Note

Club Reminders

Committee Reports

Read all about it

### President's Message

Kia ora koutou

At our board meeting we commented on how visible we are becoming in our community. I wonder if our foray into technology may be playing a part in this or is it something bigger? We have had a flurry of applications for help from different parts of the community-this is a good thing; but it does mean we will need to look at how we can support our community best; and work out our priorities when offering our support in this coming year.

Get your thinking caps on ladies!

See you Tuesday night!

*Lyn*

### Editors Musings

Kia ora koutou

Hoping that you all have a wonderful Easter break with your families. Don't forget that our normal Monday meeting is on the Tuesday (due to Easter Monday being a holiday). While I won't see you there (I will be in Welly) I will see some of you at Conference in Wellington in May. Remember it is not too late to register (registrations close on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April).

*Leanne*

**REMINDER:** It is important that when giving your apologies to Brenda for the meeting or booking in guests that you text her. This is how she keeps track of who has put in their apologies. Not email, post, carrier pigeon, semaphore or morse code – TEXT's please.

#### Next meetings:

Business: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April  
2026

Te Awamutu Club, Alexandra  
Street

Apologies by text to Brenda  
McIvor by 6pm Friday night  
before meeting.

Let Brenda know if you are  
bringing a guest

## Club Reminders

### FOOD BANK



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

Please bring along to the business meeting a can/jar/packet of foodstuffs for food bank.

They are always struggling to fill parcels, and the need is increasing weekly.

Sanitary items are also in great demand.

### SALE TABLE

From time-to-time club members bring in the bounty from their gardens and kitchens. This is available to Club Members for a donation. All funds raised unless otherwise stated are for the Conference fund to help fund the cost of delegates, alternates and other club members attending Conference and Convention.

So next time you see some wonderful fruit, veggies, jam or preserves on our donation table please help yourself but leave a donation. Thank you

### Meeting Hostess

**Christine & Robyn A**

Please note if you are unable to perform your duties, please arrange your own replacement.

- Note duties include.
- Door – meal & raffle money
- Table set up - place names etc.
- Accent, Grace
- Raffle
- Speaker thank you gift (check with Beth)



**SAVE  
the  
DATE**

**Next Business Meeting:**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

**5.30**

**Te Awamutu Club**

**Alexandra Street,**

**Te Awamutu**

## Things to consider

1. Friends, Frocks and Frivolities: Looking for a date that is available in late May, to be held at the Women's Hub – more info at meeting.
2. Any updates to your yearbook details please let Leanne know (including sending through an up to date photo if you would like to change your current one).
3. If you have potential members that might be interested in attending an Altrusa Information evening please let Christine or Leanne know.
4. We will be selling tickets for the District Foundation raffle at our next meeting. Please consider contributing (and bring cash to the meeting).
5. AGM will be at Paula Walsh's place on 2<sup>nd</sup> June (including installation of our new Board).

## Welcome Mirren

At our last meeting we inducted Mirren Williams as a member. Here is a little info about Mirren so you can get to know her a bit better. Mirren was born in Waiuku but lived on a farm at Awhitu ( Manukau Peninsula) and attended Matakauwau Primary School until 10 years of age when her family shifted to a new farm at Te Kauwhata. Mirren attended New Plymouth Girls High school and later did her teacher training at Waikato University. She taught at Arohena Primary , then shifted to Rangitoto ( Te Kuiti) where she and her husband Hugh farmed sheep and beef for approximately 23 years. They sold in 2000 and moved onto a lifestyle block just north of Te Kuiti where Hugh sold Rural Real Estate and Mirren continued to teach. When they both retired they decided to make their new home in Te Awamutu and built a house on Taylors Hill. They have 2 children, Sarah the eldest has made her home in London where she presently works for The Economist and Thomas farms in Te Kuiti with his wife and 3 children. In her spare time Mirren enjoys walks, aquafit, pilates, grandchildren, wine tasting club, book club/reading, gardening & garden appreciation, and travelling. Her contact details are below:



## Love Grace Handbag Appeal

Thanks to members for your generous donations and for putting the handbags together.



## District Fifteen T-Shirts



Orders will be taken at our April meeting if you are unable to attend but would like one please let Lyn know. These are being made and distributed at Conference in Wellington.

Cost \$22 plus \$2 extra for sizes 3xl and larger

Ladies sizes LS LM LL LXL L2XL L3XL (L4XL men only)

Colours: Red Black Helenconia Irish Green Navy Sapphire Violet

## Committee Reports

### Service Committee Report – Paula

This is the last week for the I am Me morning teas. Friends Frocks date will be decided at the Board meeting.



### Membership Committee Report: Leanne



It was great to welcome Mirren at our last meeting. While our new year book is just a couple of months away we will email out her details to members so you can note them down.

Talking about yearbooks - if you want to update your photo or any of your contact details please let me know.

A big thank you to all of our members who helped with the garage sale, and especially to Robyn A for hosting, what a great effort and a nice wee top up for our Conference account. We use funds from this to support our members to attend District Conference and IFF Days. And while we are thinking about Conference - it is not too late to be a part of the Wellington conference in May this year - while Early Bird registrations ended on the 15th of March, the registrations don't close until the 15th of April. And we did score a great movie for our Friday evening event - A night at the Embassy - its Devil wears Prada 2.

One final note - if you have potential members who you think might be interested in joining Altrusa please let me know (or Christine) - we are looking to find a date for a casual evening (wine and cheese) to talk to prospective members about Altrusa and it can be a nice way to introduce them prior to them coming to a full on meeting.

### Literacy Report: Shona

Shona will deliver books for Bright Boxes this week.

### Fund Raising/Garden Ramble Committee:

The hunt is on – 6 gardens sourced so far. If you have any leads please let Robyn A know.



### **GUEST SPEAKER**

**Sue Hanna: Will talk about her work with FLAME.**



Join us for a fantastic District Conference in Wellington on 1 – 3 May 2026.

**It's not too late to register – don't miss out!**

**Registration**

Our conference is being held at the Copthorne Oriental Bay. You can get in quick and register now! We have a discount registration for our “Early Birds” and save \$20. To access the registration form, click on the link below:

[Conference Registration Form](#)

Conference Programme (Outline)

<b>Friday 1 May 2026</b>	
12 – 2pm	Past Governors Lunch
1pm – 4pm	President & Leadership Training
4pm	First Timers Session
5.00pm	Optional Event: Embassy Theatre Movie Night
<b>Saturday 2 May 2026</b>	
7am - 8.30am	Leadership Breakfast (invitation only)
9am	Opening Ceremony, Keynote Speaker Business Session
Noon	Luncheon (Presentation by Wellington City Mission) & Interclub Challenge
	All of Conference Workshop
2pm	Share the Journey workshop
6pm	Governors Banquet & District Awards
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	
8am	Memorial Service

9am	Breakfast
9.45	Guest Speaker
10.30 - 12noon	Final Business Session

### Guest Speakers

We have two fantastic keynote speakers for Conference

#### Bev Lawton ONZM



Professor Bev Lawton ONZM (Ngāti Porou), is the founder/director of Te Tātai Hauora o Hine (the National Centre for Women’s Health Research Aotearoa, Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington) and a pioneering force in women’s health in Aotearoa. Bev was named Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year (2025)

#### Claire Robinson



Claire Robinson is an award-winning designer, a painter, author, playwright, political scientist, political commentator, former professor of Communication Design and Pro Vice-Chancellor of Massey University’s College of Creative Arts. Currently Te Tumu o Toi CEO of Toi Mai, the workforce development council for New Zealand’s creative, cultural, recreation and technology sectors.



#### Friday Optional Event

On Friday night join us for an “A night at the Embassy” for a great movie night. We will be watching the premiere of Devil Wears Prade 2. The Embassy Theatre was originally built in 1924 and is the only custom-built 1920’s cinema still in use in New Zealand. Enjoy some pre-movie nibbles and the catch a bite to eat at one of the many nearby restaurants afterwards.