

## In this Issue

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Read all about it

### Next meetings:

Business: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June  
Paula's home at 332 Wallace  
Terrace

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

Let Brenda know if you are  
bringing a guest

## President's Message

Kia ora koutou

So here is the final newsletter for the Altrusa year. Please take note of the different meeting date (due to Kings Birthday weekend) and location. We will be installing Christine and her new board at this meeting. All of the reports for the AGM are in the newsletter too – amazing how much we have achieved in the past year. A big thank you to my Board and to all members who have rolled their sleeves up to make a difference in Te Awamutu.

Regards

*Lyn*

## Editors Musings

Kia ora koutou

So yesterday I attended a funeral for a friend and colleague and wahine toa who died unexpectedly the week before. Her sudden passing reminded us all at the Industry Skills Board how precious life is and that we should make the time to reach out to those important people in our lives and tell them how much they matter to us. So I will pass that challenge onto you my friends and ask you to reach out to your family and close friends and connect – it will make a difference in your lives and theirs.

*Leanne*

## Next Meeting Date and Venue Change

Please note that we will be meeting on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

We will be meeting at

Paula's home at 332 Wallace Terrace.

# 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

**Robyn M & Beth**

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 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

**5.30**

**Paula's home**

**332 Wallace Terrace**

## Things to consider

1. AGM at Paula's 2 June - meal arrangements: members will pay the usual \$28. Hostesses Paula, Lynley, Leanne, Lyn, Robyn M & Beth will organise several platters of finger food for the evening.
2. Please read the reports for the AGM included in this newsletter and also a copy of the budget to be approved. It sure has been a busy year.
3. Don't forget to invite your friends to Friends, Frocks and Frivolity on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June (see poster in the newsletter for details) – the more the Merrier!
4. The list of who is on what committee for the coming year is the last article in this newsletter – make a note of which one you are on!!

## **Committee Reports – AGM**

### **Presidents report for the AGM June 2026**

I want to start this report with a big thank you to our board who have had my back; and helped in so many ways towards the smooth running of the club over the past year. In particular; Jill who has been such an amazing support and provided gentle timely reminders to keep me on track with all the paperwork!

As a club we have achieved many significant moments with perhaps the highlights being: our 2025 garden ramble, and our sponsored bus trip to Raglan for grandparents raising their grandchildren.

There are those of you who have been amazing gap fillers -filling in as hostesses and as volunteers in all our projects- books; baking, morning teas; garage sales delivering items and picking up goods to mention a few.

What I found inspiring was the way we all worked to find ways to make things happen and accepted member's contributions be they large or small-on that note when asked to do a club report I calculated that we have donated over \$15000 to the local community and done a cumulative total of 1300 volunteer hours this year on community service projects, fundraisers and meetings. Quite something for 25 members!

It has been entertaining, challenging and fulfilling to do this role; and I wish Christine all the best for the coming year.

Kia Kaha

Lyn Coutts

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### **ANNUAL LITERACY REPORT FOR 2025/2026**

The Committee started the year off with a meeting at Lynley's. We sorted books for the Bright Boxes and Books for Babes, putting an Altrusa sticker in each book.

These projects are very well received and are very popular with parents and they will be ongoing. The aim is to get these books into homes that sometimes don't have access to them and encourage parents to read to the children and children to read to themselves.

To date this year we have distributed 356 books to Bright Boxes and 420 to Books for Babes.

A lot of these books are purchased from Book Fairs which are held by Rotary and other organisations.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> August we hosted a movie afternoon for Grandparents who look after grandchildren. This is a luxury on a tight budget for these wonderful people and it was amazing how many children had never been to the movies. It was a great success and enjoyed just as much by grandparents and children alike, and the only expense for them was food. The shop did extremely well that day. There were also six lucky seats which had a \$20 book voucher under them.

On February 21st we held a project called BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK, at Story Teller Eatery and Bar. This involved getting good second hand books donated, wrapping them in such a way that there was a pocket to slip in a \$2.50 voucher towards a cup of coffee at the café and bar where we held it. Also there was a \$40 lucky spot prize for one lucky reader. Although we advertised it and spoke to plenty of people, we had a few books left over which we will keep and use if we hold the function again. We had very positive

feedback and participants were looking forward to the next one. I found that there are actually adults out there who do not read.

The committee had a discussion and have decided to bring back the Altrusa Book Awards. We have sent out letters to the four schools in the Te Awamutu area that we have chosen to take part, outlining the criteria and inquiring whether or not they are interested in participating. In the past they were very well received. We have allowed in our budget to receive \$1000 from the Garden Ramble proceeds for this project and \$500 for books for Bright Boxes and Books for Babes, plus any other small expenses we may have.

Thank you to the committee for all their help and enthusiasm and we look forward to welcoming in Tania as our new chairperson.

Shona Hollinshead on behalf of the Literacy Committee.

## **Annual Community Report**

Altrusa Te Awamutu: Community Committee Board Report 2025-2026

There are 8 members in the Community Committee.

We have worked on four projects this year.

1. We baked muffins for mothers whose babies are in the neonatal ward at Waikato Hospital. We were lucky to receive a large quantity of ingredients which was a real bonus. Altogether I think we made around 60 dozen muffins.

2. Our second event was the Grandparents Day Out, (for grandparents who care for their grandchildren fulltime.) Approximately 25 grandparents attended this day out. We travelled by bus to Raglan where they cruised the harbour and then had lunch at the Raglan Hotel. The grandparents had a wonderful time and were very grateful and moved that Altrusa had organised this initiative. This event was made possible by funding from Altrusa International.

3. In February/March we provided morning teas for the I am Me, Violence Free Waipa programme. This programme was for women who had recently come out of domestic violent homes and were rebuilding their lives. The programme ran for 8 weeks, and the morning teas were very well received.

4. Our next venture is a clothing event where we have curated a large selection of quality second hand clothing. Tickets will provide drinks/canapes and a chance to socialise and shop with friends. The funds raised are intended for Operation Christmas Hamper.

Overall, a successful and enjoyable year for the Community Committee.

Paula Walsh Community Committee Chair

## Annual Garden Ramble Report

The Te Awamutu Altrusa Club marked a major milestone on 2 November, hosting its 30 th annual Home and Garden Ramble under perfect Waipā sunshine. This year's event was a resounding success, raising approximately \$15,000 to support local initiatives.

### Main beneficiaries include:

- Life Education Trust
- Te Awamutu Health Shuttle
- Te Awamutu Food Forest

This also helps to fund our literacy and community programmes, the leadership and conference fund and general running and disbursements of our Club.

With 433 tickets sold, the highest in many years, the Ramble drew more visitors than ever before, thanks in part to extended advertising and stronger interest from out-of-town guests. Attendees enjoyed exploring beautiful homes and gardens, while contributing through raffle ticket sales, plant and flower stalls, and the sale of handmade children's clothing crafted by talented local maker and Altrusa member Di Muggeridge.

Feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, with many already looking forward to next year's event. "It was a beautiful day and a wonderful way to celebrate our community" said one rambler.

The Altrusa Club expresses gratitude to all who supported the event, noting that the funds raised will make a meaningful difference for local services and projects.

### Garden Ramble Committee: Recommendations/Suggestions

- Website – Clear off previous years notes around July and start setup with 'Save the date' followed by Sponsor information and then House/Garden info etc.
- Sponsors – Approach some larger organisations
  - Utilise an Altrusa Club Email "Letter" to Send or drop off to Companies/Businesses – e.g. Lawyers, Wrightsons, Mitre 10. Pop'n'Good etc
- Raffle – prizes to be suitable for Male/Female/Families (Tickets approx. 800)
- Advertising – Magazines, Garden Clubs etc (List on Project Plan)
  - Facebook Event
- Ticket Price – \$40 this year re \$10 to cover Tree Church entry
- Tickets /Bands – Order required Number
  - To Homeowners with choice to receive/use in the same year or following year.
  - To large sponsors?
- Handout Procedure – 3 Days – Thursday/Friday/Saturday Morning at CAB?  
Sunday Morning – at Morning Tea venues?
- Map – One is needed – Hand drawn
- Homeowner Gifts – Wine (donated), Chocolates, nuts, Chutney etc.
- Morning Teas/lunches – 9:30 – 1:00 ish. Two Venues
  - More savouries and sandwiches needed
  - Can sell off any surplus food e.g. Cakes, loaves etc.
- Thank You Cards – To Homeowners and larger Sponsors
  - Outlining amount raised and Groups/Organisations receiving \$ etc
- Feather Flags – \$79.35 Would these be worthwhile?

## **Home and Garden 'Rules' Add**

- No Children

Robyn Atherton on behalf of  
Garden Ramble Committee

## **Annual Membership Report**

It has been a busy year for the membership committee with most members also serving on other committees but it was great to be a team of more than two this year. During the year we have undertaken to do some "tidying" with an update to the membership brochure, a facelift for our club year book and sorting out the meeting box that holds all of our treasures for the club meeting. We worked on an FAQ guide for new members that could be included in their membership information (forms, yearbook, etc). All of the membership committee resources are held on the club's google drive.

We have also held two fundraisers to top up the funds in our Conference fund to support club leadership development through attendance at IFF Days and District Conference. First we catered the August meeting and second held a very successful garage sale in February (a big thank you to Robyn A for hosting this!).

We have continued to co-ordinate social activities including the Brunch bunch gatherings and the occasional movie night or afternoon to help members keep connected. We also held a social BBQ towards the end of January, with a big thank you to Vicky Apps for hosting this.

We updated our club display board which was utilised at the Home and Garden Ramble and developed a poster that would hold our club brochures at the Womens Hub. However, the primary source of new members for our club always remains making personal contact - even with people you don't know, and inviting them along to fundraisers and club meetings.

We welcome Mirren Williams to the fold this year. It is great to have her on board. And we also celebrated service milestones for Brenda McIvor and Robyn Atherton (25 years), Miriam Wallace (20 years), Robyn Moore and Tania Sanders (15 years) and Margaret Stead (10 years).

All in all a busy year. A big thank you to the committee for all your mahi.

Leanne Milligan  
Membership Committee Chair

# Budget 2026/2027

Below is the budget for 2026/2027 for your perusal and approval at the next club meeting.

## Budget Statement For Period June 2026 to May 2027

			No	\$\$	
<b>Income</b>					
Dinner Receipts	Club	\$ 5,600.00	20	\$ 28.00	10 10 = 20 members x \$28 x 10 meetings
Membership Fees 2020/21	Club	\$ 3,770.25			
Interest (Net)	Club	\$ 5.00			
Alteaser (Conference)	Conference	\$ 150.00	10	\$ 15.00	
Raffle (Conference)	Conference	\$ 360.00	18	\$ 2.00	10
Conference Fundraiser (Net)	Conference	\$ 400.00	1	\$ 400.00	Self Catering Meeting x1 (June)
Additional Conference Fundraiser	Conference	\$ 500.00			Garage Sale & /or social event
Conference (% net proceeds) 5%	Conference	\$ 675.00	\$ 13,500.00		Net Fundraising to Est Club Portions
Fundraisers (% net proceeds) 15%	Club	\$ 2,025.00			
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$ 13,485.25</b>			

<b>Expenses</b>					
Dinner Costs	Club	\$ 5,600.00			
Int Membership Dues	Club	\$ 2,915.25	Note 1		
NZ Dues	Club	\$ 855.00	Note 1		
Meeting Costs	Club	\$ 480.00	10	\$ 48.00	Speakers gifts - \$20 x 10 meetings, meal
Club Operating Costs	Club	\$ 150.00			Charities Fee \$51.11, bank fees etc
Photocopying & Stationery	Club	\$ 100.00			
Member Supplies	Club	\$ 200.00			Small Gift, pins
Yearbook	Club	\$ 200.00			
Sunshine Fund	Club	\$ 100.00			
Conference Registrations	Conference	\$ 2,200.00	Note 2		
IFF - Area Day Training	Conference	\$ 300.00	10	\$ 30.00	\$30x10 members Accommodation 1 night \$150.00 + meal
President Elect Training	Club	\$ 200.00			
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 13,300.25</b>			
<b>Club Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		<b>\$ 600.00</b>			
<b>Conference Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		<b>-\$ 415.00</b>			
<b>Total Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		<b>\$ 185.00</b>			

Note 1	Membership Fees								
	27 Members at 6/5/26	\$ 120.00	0.59	\$ 55.00	\$ 28.50	\$ 3,240.00	\$	2,516.95	\$ 769.50
	2 Full Year New Members	\$ 120.00	0.59	\$ 65.00	\$ 28.50	\$ 240.00	\$	220.34	\$ 57.00
	2 New Members 1/2 Year	\$ 60.00	0.59	\$ 37.50	\$ 14.25	\$ 120.00	\$	127.12	\$ 28.50
	1 Convention Fee		0.59	\$ 30.00			\$	50.85	
						<u>\$ 3,600.00</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>2,915.25</u>	<u>\$ 855.00</u>
								\$ 3,286.45	121.720339
								\$ 3,337.30	\$ 3,434.08
								\$	\$ 194.08

Note 2	Conference Dues (Timaru Conference)				
	2 Delegates				
	2 Airfare each wa	\$ 200.00	\$ 800.00		
	Registration	\$ 250.00	\$ 500.00		
	3 Members Reimbursement	\$ 300.00	\$ 900.00		
		<u>\$ 1,300.00</u>	<u>\$ 900.00</u>		

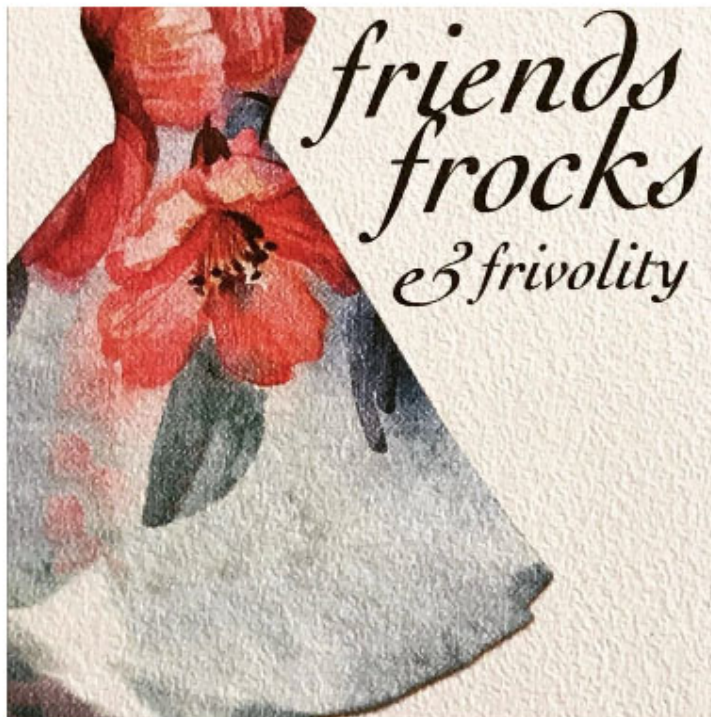
### Recommendation:

That membership fees for 2026/27	
Current Members	\$ 120.00
New Members (Full Year)	\$ 120.00
New Members (Half Year)	\$ 60.00

### Summary:

Opening Club Operating at 1 June 2026	\$ 2,000.00	Estimated
Plus Surplus	\$ 600.00	
Estimated Closing Club Operating 31 May 2027	<u>\$ 2,600.00</u>	

Opening Conference Fund at 1 June 2026	\$ 1,600.00	Estimated
Plus Fundraising	\$ 910.00	
Plus Additional Fundraiser	\$ 500.00	
Plus 5% Net Proceeds	\$ 675.00	
Less Costs	-\$ 2,500.00	
Closing Conference Fund 31 May 2027	<u>\$ 1,185.00</u>	



FASHION EVENT at Waipa Womens Hub, - 321 Bank Street, Te Awamutu

FRIDAY JUNE 5<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm – 10:00pm

TICKETS \$25 Available At:

[WWW.ALTRUSATEAWAMUTU.CO.NZ](http://WWW.ALTRUSATEAWAMUTU.CO.NZ)

Friends Frocks & Frivolity is the place to buy pre-loved, high end quality clothing, shoes & accessories in a beautiful, relaxed environment.

Enjoy an evening with your friends, grab a bargain and feel good about doing your bit for the environment by recycling clothes and donating to charity. Proceeds from this year's event will go to Operation Christmas Hamper.

Your TICKET INCLUDES - a glass of bubbles, canapes on arrival and a hot drink and sweet treat to finish.

