# SPOKE & FELLOE

### INNER WHEEL NEW ZEALAND DISTRICT NZ297 NOVEMBER 2021



IIW President 2021 –22 Ebi Panitteri Martines IWNZ President 2021 –22 Michelle Atkinson IW District NZ297 Chairman Barbara Chapman





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International Inner Wheel Theme: 2021-22

## Message from District NZ297 Chairman Barbara Chapman

Dear Inner Wheel friends

What a relief and pleasure it was to be able to hold our District Meeting as planned. It was certainly touch and go. The attendance was really good, given the distances to be travelled by most. Some made it the opportunity for a little break.

We were very sorry that our National President, Michelle Atkinson, was unable to come, but with the help of Val Morgan's husband Terry, Dot Anderson Lee, Diane Ladd and Michelle herself, Michelle was able to be 'present' for most of the meeting. Her excellent address will be available to members to read.

Myra's (ISO) efforts in preparing the bead project for 'Caninspire' gave members the fun and satisfaction of a practical session.

A real thrill was getting nominations for Vice Chairman and Secretary for 2022 –2023, and an offer for Treasurer. Many thanks to those people. An oversight on my part was not including Editor in the vacancy positions. Given the high quality of Club newsletters, there will be someone out there who will take on this role. Cecile would, I'm sure, talk with you about what it involves.

Meanwhile, we are moving towards pre-Christmas meetings, and plans for the early part of 2022. My best wishes to you all, and congratulations on all you do to support each other and a wide range of charities and causes. As our speaker at the District Meeting discovered when she first went to the Blenheim (at the time) Club, it is an immediate friendship group. Let's keep it up.

Yours in friendship

Barbara

Words of wisdom from a strong world leader:

A good compromise is one where everybody makes a contribution.

Angela Merkel

#### **MOTUEKA**

Over the past months the club has been collecting a wide variety of good quality household goods for the Nelson Red Cross Refugee program which has sponsored families from Columbia and Myanmar.

At a recent club meeting, Annette Sirak spoke about her experience as a volunteer for the Refugee resettlement program. Annette and her group, organise a rental, set up the house and meet the family at the airport. The family has three weeks orientation and help with English lessons, setting up bank account, registering with Work & Income and the local health centre as well as enrolling children at the local school. The families are also encouraged to have community involvement with families already settled. The local newspaper recently did a feature on a couple from Bhutan who arrived in Nelson ten years ago unable to speak any English and now run a successful fish and chip shop.



Photo of Annette with the hostess Sue Snell

Snap shot of the items.



#### **AVONHEAD**

The I W Club of Avonhead commenced the year with a speaker from PIPS (Pregnancy, Infancy, Parenting, Support) formerly Pregnancy Help Canterbury Canty. The August and September meetings were cancelled due to the Covid. In October we had the pleasure of District Chairman Barbara join us and we held our AGM. It was also decided at this meeting that our Club would disband at the end of this IW year, however, we will continue meeting socially once a month and still be keeping in touch with IW happenings until the end of June.

In July Jillian Crossen put out a request for second hand uniform/winter clothing and knitted

beanies for students at Burnside Primary School. The response was wonderful and certainly most appreciated by the school.

Val Morgan continues to knit Teddy Bears for the Christchurch Hospital and with contributions from other members we have donated a total of 900 Teddy Bears since we commenced this project nine years ago.

Our International Month lunch was rescheduled for October with an enjoyable lunch at Francesca's Italian Restaurant with our husbands and guests.

It was a pleasure to have our Imm. Past IWNZ President Dot Anderson-Lee join us for this occasion



This is Avonhead's final Committee

where she presented out Club member Nola Moffett with a Margarette Golding Award. Two of Nola's family were there for lunch and the presentation. This prestigious international award took Nola by surprise and in her usual humble way she stated that she was 'just an ordinary person', but in fact as a volunteer she had devoted a huge amount of time and energy to local community projects over decades. It was a well-deserved honour for Nola.

#### **ASHBURTON**



We have had another messy time again with COVID and all our social activities on hold for a couple of months. No walking, Ukulele group, Craft Group or social outings. We did however manage to hold a meeting in September with social distancing and a quickly arranged 'Show and Tell' evening was held. We were treated to some interesting treasures found in our cupboards during lock down and it proved to be a very entertaining evening.

In July we held a 'Soup and Rolls' Luncheon where members were asked to bring along baking of muffins, loaves, biscuits etc to be delivered to the Rural Women's Food Drive which was providing food to farming families badly affected by the flooding our district. This was gratefully received.

When lockdown happened we were busy organising a team and fund raising for the local Relay for Life event which was to be happening this month, but unfortunately it has been postponed until next year.

We did however, organise a very successful fund raising 'Wine and Nibbles' evening held at Wendy's home, and with other donations over \$2,400 has been raised so far.

We have also delivered 30 beautiful silky cushions to the Cancer Society, thanks to Fenn.





#### **RANGIORA**

Fortunately, just 12 hours prior to lockdown in August, Rangiora Inner Wheel had our August luncheon at the Plough, and by all the chatter and laughter everyone had a good time. It is on occasions such as our luncheon, that one of the aims of Inner Wheel 'Friendship' really is so evident. We always seem to have a great time when we get together.

One of our main charities is the Cholmondeley Centre at Governors Bay. Two of our members had made toilet bags, pencil cases and swimming bags and in June we got together and filled these bags with toiletries and pencils etc.

Often children who go to Cholmondeley don't own these personal items so they are given their very own bag to keep.

In October Robyn Wallace, manager of the Chomondeley Centre came and spoke to us and told us about the work at the centre, so it was nice to be able to give her a good supply of bags for the children.





#### **CHRISTCHURCH WEST**



Christchurch West IW enjoyed a Changeover lunch at the Birdwood in June and now have a Shared Presidency with Kathy Rankin until January when Joy Coster takes over for the rest of the year, Sue Soper is Vice President.

A lunch and movie in July and in August a lovely evening at the Zaffron Restaurant where we were joined by a couple of Rotary wives and friends. Kathy flew to Auckland the next day but made a hasty return when the Prime Minister announced we had 48 hours to get home, due to another Lockdown!

President Joy rallied the members to meet for a walk at the Halswell Quarry on IIW Day, where we walked to the Japanese and Korean gardens enjoying the first blossoms. Everyone was so excited to meet with

friends again for coffee at the Vicarage afterwards.

The Welcome to Spring luncheon at the Old Stone House was well attended by DC Barbara Chapman, and representatives from IW Clubs from

Christchurch and Ashburton. Elizabeth Peacock entertained us with her history and involvement with the Horticulture Society, especially the installation of the Floral Carpet at the Christchurch Cathedral before the earthquakes. A beautiful lunch and great company was shared. The funds raised from this event went to the 'Look Good Feel Better' charity.

Think PINK FIRST - our Pink Ribbon morning tea to raise money for Breast Cancer was held at a members home in October. We enjoyed morning tea in the pink decorated room. Members wore pink and the table laden with delicious pink treats. Rotary wives and friends were invited to join us. We may get some new members who enjoyed our friendship and shared fellowship—a fun way to raise funds for a very worthy cause.

Members have kept busy sewing Heart pillows, knitting beautiful garments for babies, keeping in touch with phone calls. November is the Cashmere Rotary Bookarama, a busy weekend spent feeding the workers. We have also supported the Champion Centre, the Special Needs Library, the Fiji Covid Appeal, Hohepa Home, Muscular Dystrophy NZ, Breast Cancer NZ and our local schools.





#### RICCARTON

While the start to the IW year held a few disappointments, for example, a delay for our 50th Anniversary, now re-scheduled for the actual Charter date in February, Riccarton Inner Wheel continues to flourish.

Daytime meetings over the winter proved to be a success with one noteworthy speaker coming from the Christchurch City Coucil, Waste Minimization Department, advising us about what to put in our Red, Yellow and Green rubbish bins. Our understanding of where to put what was turned on its head, and actually the explanations made a lot of sense.

Our activities are as usual, many and varied. We are proud to support Barbara Chapman who is our District Chairman, contribute to our chosen charities, and value our older past members with monthly visits and newsletters from the Club. Even after 50 years, the Club still has a lot of energy, and



enjoys extending the hand of friendship in happy, inclusive fellowship and service!

#### STOKE-TAHUNANUI

During October Stoke-Tahunanui members car pooled and drove around 25ks out to Tasman Countryside to visit an Alpaca Farm.

Unfortunately, not too many ladies were able to come that day, but everyone that did ago enjoyed meeting the lovely animals. The proud owner brought many of them close to us. They all had names and one little cheeky male baby who was with the females was being constantly put in his place by the

others. A particularly pretty alpaca type was called a Teddy Bear Alpaca and she certainly had that teddy bear face.

Some of the alpacas are sold as pets and of course the fleece makes beautiful delicate garments some of which were for sale in their shop. The very elderly mother of the owner did most of the knitting.

We finished the pleasant afternoon off with afternoon tea at nearby Mapua. A lovely day out.



#### **MARLBOROUGH**

Our Inner Wheel Club is pleased to have our name change application accepted so that we can now represent the whole of Marlborough region rather than just Blenheim. We hope to encourage membership from Picton, Seddon, and the Rai Valley, as well as looking after our Blenheim base.

Under our new name we joined the recent IW District NZ297 Meeting in Kaikoura with a team of seven members and were privileged to be awarded the 'Migration Trophy'. As usual, it was a great meeting up with old Inner Wheel friends to catch up and share Inner Wheel, as well as making new contacts.

Along with everyone else Covid 19 restrictions have limited our activities, but we maintain contact and support in new ways so that no one is left out on their own. The Combined Club of Beavertown Friendship Club are pleased to be able to meet again and enjoy our morning tea catering, which is a small fundraiser for our IW Club that allows us to support Cancer Society Marlborough. We look forward to more normal times in the New Year.



#### **OTAUTAHI**

As it has been with most of our Clubs especially in the North Island, the most recent Covid restriction has seen the list of our cancelled activities grow longer than our attended events.

We were grateful to still be able to meet in person and via zoom though, and these have been such a lot of fun. Inspirational and informative speakers were a highlight at our in-person meetings.

These included Susi Hermijanto from the charitable organisation YCAB, Pat Rotheram from Parry Field Lawyers, and Herb deVries from the University of Canterbury.

Our small club continues to grow its membership, with the induction of new and returning members Norelly Jarvis and Raelyn Johnson.

And our generous and crafty-clever members continue to create wonderful items such as knitted Knockers and infant clothing, which are donated and gratefully received.







#### ISO DISTRICT PROJECT

ISO Convenor Myra Brown had organised a 'hands on' activity as part of the District meeting held in October. The 'Caninspire' organisation became the focus of the exercise, where vintage beads, necklaces and other jewellery had been collected by each Club and were disassembled by the folk attending the meeting.

Every client of a workshop is given a pack to take home. It contains their own choice of beads including some instruction and all the equipment—clippers, clasps, thread etc, to make something for themselves at home. All absolutely free from generous donations.

The collection of beads has been delivered to Kirsteen Griffiths of Caninspire. Several large containers filled with well sorted beads of all colours were stored into her garage.

Special thanks to Stoke-Tahunanui who produced the knitted dish cloths and generously donated the proceeds to the Caninspire charity.



#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Judy Kingsbury, Imm. Past District Chairman and now Membership Chairman, reports that she has finally negotiated a good price, and produced the new pull-up District Banners, as recommended at the District Meeting in June, and these have been presented to each Club, except Avonhead who have sadly decided to close at the end of this IW year. We hope that members from this Club will be welcomed into other Christchurch Clubs and not be lost to the IW family.

Several Clubs have reported that new members are in the process of being inducted, but in some cases these potential members are replacing retiring members.

Judy says that she is there to help any Club who is in need of assistance, so please don't hesitate to get in touch with her if you have questions..



#### PRESENTATION OF MARGARETTE GOLDING AWARD.

In February 2021, the IW Club of Avonhead submitted a nomination for their member Nola Moffett to receive a Margarette Golding Award and was thrilled to have this granted to a well-deserved and worthy recipient. Nola was a member of the IW Club of Hornby for 39 years until the club disbanded in 2013. Nola then transferred her membership to Avonhead.

Nola has had a longstanding involvement in the Hornby Community from the age of 14 years old when she assisted with the organisation of a local Barn Dance of the Paparua Plunket in 1954.

Since that time, Nola has been involved in countless community projects, events and groups, such as Hei Hei Kindergarten, Branston Intermediate School. Hornby High School and their

Parent Teacher Association, Islington Methodist Church and Age Concern Canterbury.

In recognition of Nola Moffett's service to the community spanning over 50 years, she has received many awards including:

- A Suffrage Award for continuing support of Women's Groups in Hornby and Hei Hei including her teaching of simple cooking at the Christchurch women's prison.
- For outstanding Community service, Nola received a NZ 1990 Commemoration Medal for
- Services to NZ from Queen Elizabeth 11.
- Paul Harris Fellowship Award from Rotary Club of Hornby.
- Two Community Service Awards from the Waipuna/Halswell-Hornby-Riccarton Community Board, the second award being presented in 2020.

Many citizens have benefitted from Nola Moffett's thoughtful and generous nature. Her dedication in supporting others for the betterment of the community is remarkable and truly worthy of recognition with a Margarette Golding Award.

#### IWNZ PRESIDENT MICHELLE ATKINSON

Edited Highlights from the Address to the IW NZ297 DISTRICT MEETING 30th October 2021. Presented via the technology of Zoom.

#### **Introduction:**



Who would have thought I would be sitting here in Auckland on day 74 of Lockdown and unable to be with you all in Kaikoura today. However, I'm pleased that you've had a lovely morning, and I'm impressed to hear about the activity happened in your Clubs in NZ297.

The 2021-22 IW year started on 1st July with much enthusiasm and was full of exciting ideas for the year ahead. In the short time before Lockdown on 17th August, I managed to visit 2 Clubs—Matamata and Oamaru as the celebrated significant birthdays. Both were extraordinary occasions to be

able to celebrate with these Clubs. In addition we managed to hold our National Governing Body meeting the weekend before Lockdown and I was looking forward to travelling to Christchurch for celebrations with Riccarton and Avonhead and starting my visits for all District meetings. All of which I am now going to have to attend virtually.

#### Notes of Special Interest:

Despite these Covid lockdowns and levels, IWNZ has had a lot happening.

The **IWNZ Website** has evolved and developed into a complete resource. It doubles as a public website aimed to attract new members and share our work and a members website and database where a secure login gives you access to many resources.



You are invited to take time to log into the website and checkout the resources created for you to use in the library. Register to attend a monthly Digital Education session (or watch it later by going to the Past Events on the events page), attend a bi-monthly Sunday session, find the resources for clubs and membership tools, or share in the discussion forums—book club, knitters network, gardeners patch and sewing bees. Take time to have a look around and see what is new.

Every Club has had a web page created, so that visitors to the site looking to join us, can see what is available in their area. The new email accounts allow them to link directly with you too.

The data base has been a massive piece of work to install, update and check all registered members. The member's details are kept private from all public users. Limited access is granted to members through the Directory, only accessible when members are logged into the website. For your security, every person is automatically logged out of the website when they leave the site, and complete site protection and security are active.

Members will be sent communications related to:

- IWNZ events
- IWNZ communications—from the National team—e.g. President's Communicator and Inner Link Newsletters.
- Important notifications.

Every member can choose their subscription level and opt out of receiving any communications Two Clubs have had official **name changes** after Application to IIW—Aotea Auckland, now Aotea and Blenheim is now Marlborough.

We are preparing to launch a new membership category—Virtual membership. As virtual members, people will join IW in an area where there is no physical club. They will have access to all the member's tools, take part in monthly online meetings, and be able to attend all IW District and National events and activities in person or online. In addition, we are planning for online 'Discover IWNZ' events to promote and encourage people to join IW.

The first **Membership promotion** in March 2022. I invite all Clubs to start thinking about a way to promote their Club and host some for of public event during March. We are working towards building a National advertising campaign for this.

IWNZ donated over \$11,000 to **JP Bayley Trust in Fiji** in the emergency appeal. This was so gratefully received and will be used to provide essential supplies for many families in their care. Thank you to every member and Club who made donations.

You are invited to register to attend the extraordinary event happing at 8pm on Sunday 21st November. **IIW President Ebe Panitteri Matine**s will be joining us online from Italy to share an hour with IWNZ members. This is your opportunity to meet Ebe, hear what she has to say, for our DC to share what's happening in IWNZ and for some Question time. I hope to see as many members as possible online for this special event.

I hope that you are excited about some of the ways forward and the future for IWNZ. Above all else, I love reading your news, seeing your stories of friendship and service and encouraging you all to continue embracing the opportunities that IW offers you. Keep doing the great things you are doing. Together we will get through. Together we will continue to be the women's service organisation that you love and belong to, as women in action sharing friendship and serve. Thank you for all you do!

In friendship Michelle

Michelle Atkinson IWNZ President 2021-22