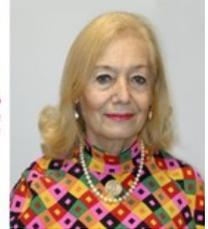


SPOKE & FELLOE

INNER WHEEL NEW ZEALAND DISTRICT NZ297
JUNE 2022



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



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Message from District NZ297 Chairman Barbara Chapman

Dear Inner Wheel friends

At this time in the Inner Wheel year, we are all able to reflect on the past tricky twelve months and look towards the next twelve months realistically. We were able, at our District Meeting on Saturday to acknowledge those who are stepping down from Club and District roles, as well as those continuing, and those coming in. That amounted to an impressive number of our members.

On a personal note, I again thank members of our District Executive and Clubs for the **support** I have received over the past year. It has been a privilege to serve as Chairman of NZ297. I also acknowledge the support we receive from the national elected and appointed women who work hard to encourage and support us.

Our District will be well served by the 2022-2023 Executive team. My best wishes to you all as you plan for future activities that encompass our Inner Wheel objects of friendship, personal service and international understanding.

Yours in friendship

Barbara

District NZ297 Chairman 2021-22



40th Anniversary

The **12th June 2022** marks the 40th anniversary since the formation of **IW District NZ297** in 1982. With a total of 36 IW Clubs in District 298, which covered the whole of the South Island, it was no longer feasible to continue as one entity and the decision was made to divide, with the blessing of International Inner Wheel..

186 members attended the District Meeting held at the Avon Motor Lodge in Christchurch. Brya Truscott from the IW Club of Christchurch was elected the first District Chairman, and our boundaries followed those of Rotary who had divided their Districts the year before.

There were now 16 Clubs in District 297 and 20 in District 298.



International Inner Wheel
Theme: 2021-22

AVONHEAD

Our Club members have continued to meet each month for a social occasion together.

In December we had a lovely Christmas lunch with husbands at the Redwood Hotel. In February the weather was kind to us and we enjoyed a picnic lunch at the Groynes. March we visited the Ravenscar House and Gallery and this was followed by afternoon tea at the Museum Café. April we gave our get together a miss due to Covid. In May we met at Riccarton House for lunch.

We have distributed the remainder of our Charity funds to the following: Fiji and Tonga Appeals, Pips, NZ Spinal Trust, Champion Centre, Sweet Louise and Brydie Lauder Trust.



As our Club will officially disband at the end of June, we wish to thank everyone for their friendship and support that has been extended to us over the past 38 years.

Wonderful memories of fun, friendship and service to the community and beyond.

MOTUEKA

The Great Scone Bake Off competition

Our visit to Helen's for the Scone Bake Off was off to good start with the sunny weather making a tour of her garden one of the highlights of the day.

Of course the main focus of the meeting was our varied efforts to deliver either a savoury, sweet or novelty Scone which would be judged Master Chef style.

Before our offerings were assessed, Helen demonstrated the correct way to make a good scone. She then assisted Anthea in the adjudication. They were most professional and were not afraid to point out under-baked, over-baked and 'dense' scones.



Eventually, after much deliberation Cynthia came first in the sweet category and Marjorie the savoury. However, a number of confessions revealed a certain amount of cheating. Marjorie's granddaughter had made hers and Erin had purchased her cheese scone from New World (it had come second) but had added her own decorations!! Much laughter followed these revelations. A most successful and enjoyable event.

Thanks to our hostesses Pam and Helen

CLUB SERVICE RECORDS

At the end of each Inner Wheel year, Club Secretaries are requested to fill in Service Sheets as a record of the what Clubs have achieved in terms of service, fundraising, donations etc during the past year. This is a requirement of the Inner Wheel Charitable Trust conditions so that we may retain that status. The results are very impressive as may be seen in the collation of these reports made by NZ297 District Secretary Helen Faulkner for the 2021-22 year..

The diverse charity donations and volunteer hours is enormous for the 9 Clubs in our District as can be seen below.. There are of course, charity double-ups which I have only counted once. The various categories are: Rights of Children (17 different charities) Status of Women (9): Ageing;(10): Family (31)

Total dollar value donated \$32,280: Volunteer hours (conservative estimate): 5,184

Your amazing contribution is recognised with a wholehearted 'thankyou'

ASHBURTON

An event Ashburton Club has enjoyed participating in was "Relay for Life" .

Although this was first postponed, then cancelled, our Club continued with its fund raising efforts. A very successful Wine & Nibbles evening was held at the end of last year, and on 19 February 2022 a small group of 'Clare's Inner Wheel Wonders' met at a local park to Celebrate, Remember and Fight back.



We walked, talked and enjoyed a lovely lunch together, even managing to appear in the local newspaper and on Face Book. We raised a total of \$3,181 for the local Cancer Society. A wonderful effort by our Club.

RANGIORA

Rangiora IW members enjoyed a wonderful evening on Tuesday 16th November 2021, when we celebrated our 16th birthday with a scrumptious meal prepared by member Ally Fussell. 29 members and guests assembled at Annette & Greg Wright's home at 6pm for pre-dinner drinks and fellowship. Annette, Greg and Ally had the tables looking magnificent. At 6.30pm the first course of Pumpkin and Shrimp soup and bread rolls was served. The main course was hot ham, beef, whitebait patties and chicken, new potatoes, asparagus, and salads. There was a great sense of enjoyment and conviviality in the air.



Before the sweets course, Father Christmas arrived complete with gifts for everyone. Our Father Christmas (Greg) was in a delightful jovial mood and we were all delighted he took the time out of his busy schedule to visit us at Fulham Castle.

After Father Christmas's departure, I proposed a toast in honor of our IW Club, acknowledging 16 years of friendship and service to our community and internationally. National President Michelle Atkinson sent us a card wishing us happy birthday celebrations and also acknowledging our 16 years of service.



Charter members: Annette Wright, Edith Sim, Merle Wilcox, Jean Osborne

President of Rotary, Marilyn Ayers replied to my toast and offered congratulations on behalf of Rotary. Our mayor, Dan Gordon also spoke and thanked members for all their outstanding community service in the name of Inner Wheel. Delicious desserts were then served—fresh fruit salad, Baileys Cheesecake, Mille Feuilles as well as Crackers and cheese. It was truly a wonderful evening of delicious food, friendship and good fun. Thankyou to everyone who supported this even and made it happen—we raised about \$575.00

SPOKE & FELLOE What's in a name?

Spoke & Felloe was the name given to this magazine in 2013 by the current District Editor Shelley Neutze from the Otautahi Club. **Spoke** of course we know as part of a wheel and **Felloe** means the circumference of a wheel. Add all the spokes and it's all wrapped up nicely, fellowship and our wider circle, being **Clubs, District, National and International.**

STOKE-TAHUNANUI

Celebrating IW Day January 2022

One of the highlights of 2022 so far was travelling to Pelorou in the Marlborough district to celebrate this occasion

Members from the Blenheim Club joined us at the Pelorou Café at noon. Each club had travelled approximately an hour to meet up and enjoy a lunch together.



It was a beautiful day beside the picturesque Pelorou River and native bush. Sandflies can be a nuisance in this area, but they decided to leave us alone this day. We all thoroughly enjoyed the companionship, the chatting and the laughter trying to organise the ladies for some photos.

It really was a pleasant day and a great opportunity to meet up with one of the other clubs in the Top of the South.

MARLBOROUGH

The Cancer Society were invited to join us for a demonstration in the making of the heart shape pillows. This all went so well with questions and answers, along with two of our members sharing their experience with Breast Cancer and how certain procedures have changed.

Afternoon Tea was kindly donated by the Cancer team by way of thanks for all the time and effort our Club have done throughout the years.



OTAUTAHU

As well as our continued contributions of hand made Cuddle Hearts, Knitted Knockers and KidsCan wine tops, one of our recent activities was creating Scrapbooks for Dementia patients. Having been inspired by the idea from another club, we had a lovely social make-n-chat session creating the picture-prompt books with themes such as the Royals, Remembering Christchurch, Gardening, Motor Sports and many others.



And our fundraising activities were very successful, including the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle and our Christmas raffle. We were able to offer fabulous prizes such as Bunnings vouchers, Latitude magazine subscriptions, Glass Workshop voucher and a fantastic hamper of goodies as first prize. The process of this raffle was donated to Look Good Feel Better.

Photo: Helen Dover. A friend of member Yvonne Ekdhal with her first prize.



RICCARTON

International Night was actually held in October 2021 and attended by a good number who were keen to meet and greet and socialize again.

Our speaker was the delightful Emma Rissel from Malawi, who, with Barbara an interviewer, told us of her life as a child in Malawi, the family moving to Canada, her University years in Edinburgh where she met her husband from Germany, and emigrating to New Zealand with her own young family. Such a fascinating story of one who has moved through many cultures and embraced the them all.

We felt that Emma was a great example of our International IW 2021-24 Social Project theme 'Strong Women, Stronger World'



50th Birthday Celebration of IW Club of Riccarton

Thank you to everyone, especially members from our sister Clubs in the District who celebrated with us the 50th Anniversary of the IW Club of Riccarton, at the end of May. We were delighted to honour past and present members who have served magnificently over many years, contributing to the rich and diverse projects to bring help to our local community and beyond. Here are some photos of that special day.



2021-2022
Co-Presidents
Hannie de Beer and
Averill Duncan with
District Chairman
Barbara Chapman



Three remaining Charter
Members Cecile Pierce, Betsy
Kennedy and Jocelyn Murray



Three new Honoured Active
members: Bobbyt Murfitt,
Lesley Compton & Hannie



Another Inner Wheel year has vanished, but as this newsletter shows, the legacy left for so many people in our communities here and in our off-shore islands has been memorable. As I finish my term as Editor for the District I would like to thank every club for their very informative newsletters over the past two year. It has been a privilege to record your inspiring activities through Spoke & Felloe.

Cecile Pierce NZ297 Editor 2020-22

CHRISTCHURCH WEST

The IW Club of Christchurch West has had a very productive year despite Covid restrictions and we have been fortunate to continue meeting during this time. Some events were Christmas at the Raspberry Café and donating non-perishable items to Salvation Army. Lunch on IIW Day at Ilex Café followed by a walk in Rose Garden and our first Club Meeting in February at Cedar park Gardens with a delightful outdoor finger food lunch.



Our April AGM was held as a 'Right Royal High Tea' event with members asked to wear their best Royal outfit and committee providing the afternoon tea. A great success.

We have continued throughout the year with other events such as creating Memory Scrapbooks for dementia patients, afternoon tea at Uraidia House and brunch at Natter Café. We will hold our Welcome to Spring event in September. Our Club is in great hear with 5 new members being enrolled this year.

DISTRICT PROJECTS 2021-2022

This year will be known by the events and meetings not held rather than the ones held. Despite clubs having to postpone or cancel meetings most have responded to suggestions that I, as District ISO have made and I am more than grateful for their participation. Clubs continue to maintain contact with Link clubs in NZ or overseas by email more often than snail mail as in the past. I am currently endeavouring to collect a list of all the links our District clubs maintain with either NZ Clubs or overseas.

Our first project of providing sorted beads for Caninspire was well supported and the Christchurch co-ordinator delighted with our contribution.



The second project of creating memory Books for Rest Homes where patients have memory loss, has been embraced by several clubs. The response from staff at Units has been encouraging with the books being well used and have provided stimulation for residents. We had quite a display of completed books at the District Meeting held recently..



Thank you to all who accepted Club ISO roles for 2021-22 I hope you have enjoyed contact with other clubs and your own club has been encouraged to know of other groups here and in our wider organisation.

Myra Brown
NZ297 District ISO
2021-22



MEMBERSHIP

As my term as Past District Chairman and Membership Chairman come to a close, I am reflecting on my 45 years as a member of Inner Wheel. I want to pay tribute to some of the amazing and inspirational ladies I have met over the years (far too many to list here) who have inspired me with their quiet dignity and love and knowledge of Inner Wheel.

When I first became a member of Inner Wheel, to me at the age of 30, almost everyone seemed old, but they took me under their wing and made me feel welcome. At that time, Inner Wheel only had meetings once a month and in those days Ashburton had two Rotary Clubs (and still does.) It was normal for Rotarians to make up for missed meetings at another club, which on some occasions were Ladies nights, so knowing Inner wheel ladies made these meetings easier for me too.

We were a friendship/service club and did such things as catering for the Ashburton Centennial, as a fund raiser and other projects as they came up.

Today Inner Wheel is far more social with various social groups, such as walking groups,

knitting, sewing, movie afternoons, coffee mornings and lunches and probably somewhere, Book clubs. I think this is wonderful, but must admit I lack time to participate often.

Change is always happening and I would like to pay tribute to Avonhead Club which has closed this weekend. I feel very sad about this, as they were a very active club in years gone by and I hope the ladies will merge in with other clubs and keep their membership wherever possible.

In closing there has been very little for me to do this year, except organise the club banners, but I would like to congratulate Barbara, Helen, Val and the District Committee for a job well done, and Michelle and Alyssandra for the lovely brochures promoting Inner Wheel.

I wish the incoming District and National officers all the best for the coming year. Have a great year!

In Inner Wheel friendship

Judy Kingsbury
NZ297 Membership Chairman
2021-22



IWNZ PRESIDENT 2021-22

Michelle Atkinson

The following message is an extract from Michelle's Presidential address given at the IWNZ Changeover held in Queenstown, May 23rd 2022.

"A vision is like a dream—it will disappear unless we do something with it. Do something big or do something small, but stop wandering and go on an adventure" *Simon Sinek*

In 2021 –22 we have all been on an adventure! The ladies in our National and District leadership teams have faced obstacles and challenges, created ideas and followed dreams. Each of them has left their mark on how they have led their own District teams and how they have been part of the National Governing Body. Time is such a precious commodity and the women we are celebrating tonight have all so generously and freely given their time to ensure IWNZ is in safe hands and continues to thrive in the future.

This year there have been many barriers and obstacles placed in our way, but together we have figured out ways to find solutions and create new ways to be resilient and imaginative as we have kept Inner Wheel rolling. Here are some of the things we have achieved as a team this IW year.

IWNZ Database: Rebuilt and updated the IWNZ Website: **Digital Education: Sunday Sessions: Fiji and Tonga** international appeals: **Zoom/online** meetings: **Brew in our Bubble** IWNZ Day: An evening with **IIW President** Ebe Martines: **Tickled Pink** Campaign: **Membership March: Woman Magazine: Radio** Kidnappers interview: **MG Award** Presentations: **Club** Birthday Parties: **Discover NZ** events: **Virtual** Membership: **Empowerment** Days and more.....

We have achieved so much, and we've come a long way. I feel very confident that IWNZ is in a stronger position now than we were 12 months ago. We have managed to stay connected and empowered ourselves. We are excited, we are engaged, and we are moving forward. Thankyou all for believing in me and for helping a vision become a reality.

Michelle Atkinson

EMPOWERMENT DAY



Empowerment Day's were held in Christchurch and Nelson in May this year. In Christchurch we had inspirational talks from Carol Haskett, Yvonne Ekdahl and incoming IWNZ President Alyssandra Skerret—who encouraged us to 'start with a conversation', ask someone if they would like to join our club or to step up for roles. New members mean responsibilities can be spread across the group and we are all supported by our friends within Inner Wheel. I know many of the women who attended really enjoyed the day.

In Nelson 20 women gathered from Motueka, Marlborough and Stoke-Tahunanui. A special thank you to Sharon Martin who arranged the venue. Dot Anderson-Lee spoke about her experiences and roles with Inner Wheel. Barbara was able to connect with the clubs who she had not been able to visit due to various reasons throughout her term. Alyssandra Skerrett drove up from Christchurch with us and presented her talk, reminding all that 'comfortable keeps us quiet, makes us beautiful wallflowers - our message needs to be heard.'

I really enjoyed sharing my story, where I have been and what I do. As I step into my role as NZ297 District chairman what I hope to achieve in my tenure is membership increase and promoting the Inner Wheel name in our communities, letting women know they can meet new friends in Inner wheel and find a purpose.

Diane Ladd

Incoming NZ297 District Chairman



NZ297 DISTRICT MEETING

the day recorded in pictures



District Chairman Barbara Chapman presiding over the Meeting and AGM on Saturday 18th June in Christchurch



Club Presidents presenting their reports. Sharon Martin somehow missed out on the photo opp!



Evelyn Oliver and Colleen Payne. We sadly said our farewells to the Avonhead Club.



Awards presented to:
Otautahi - Newsletter
Marlborough - Migration
Ashburton - Membership





A beautiful lunch with a special dessert to mark our 40th Anniversary, served by the IW Clubs of Otautahi and Riccarton.



Guest speaker Kathleen Burford founder of the Quilting Group for Migrant Women, with goals to give them confidence, social connections, independence, as women refugees settling in a new country, culture and environment.



Barbara thanking outgoing District Executive.

Helen Faulkner is the incoming IWNZ Secretary



IWZNZ President Michelle Atkinson thanking IWZNZ Editor Hannie de Beer.

Outgoing District Executive: Helen Faulkner (Sec) Val Morgan (Treas) Myra Brown (ISO) Cecile Pierce (Editor) Judy Kingsbury (Imm. Past Chair/Membership) was unable to attend..



Barbara presented the Chain of Office to Diane Ladd, incoming District Chairman for 2022-2023



IWZNZ President Michelle Atkinson acknowledging and thanking Barbara as Chairman Dist. NZ297 and as a member of the IWZNZ Governing Body.

NZ297 District Executive for the year 2022-23
L to R: Wendy Grove (Sec) Diane Ladd (Chairman) Viv Acker (Treasurer) Clare Chapman (Vice Chair) Neroli Edwards (ISO) Gaynor Button (Editor)