



SOUTH OTAGO FEDERATION WI

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Secretary: Mrs Donna Pettitt
Publicity/Facebook: Alison Ward
Treasurer: Mrs Vicki Galbreath
VP: Mrs Bronwyn Alexander
Visitor: Mrs Audrey Hunter

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October/November 2024

Theme: **Softening the Hard Times**
Project: **Nourish the Nation**

Dear South Otago Members,

Hard to believe we are nearly in November. We hope you were not too badly affected by the flooding this month'

Our **deepest sympathy** is extended to any member who has lost a loved one recently, our thoughts are with you all. Last week we sadly lost a former very loyal member **Alma Blaikie**, who was a South Otago President, Federation and Kuriwao member previously before retiring to Mosgiel. Alma's laugh was legendary and we will miss her greatly at our meetings as she often still came to our AGM's and Friendship Days. Our thoughts are with her family and friends. Please remember those WI members who are less agile and unable to attend meetings, maybe members could take turns at visiting these ladies or giving them a phone call about what is happening at WI. It doesn't need to be the responsibility of the "top table". **Audrey is** always available to send cards, or visit or phone any member who needs a cherry chat or kind word. If anyone is unwell we wish you all a speedy recovery.

Please read or copy the NEC and Federation Newsletters: This is the way we are able to keep all our members informed of the happenings in our organization.

Guess who is coming for Morning Tea?: These are continuing to be popular but we will always welcome more ladies. **We guarantee**, great company, great food and a warm home. Thank you to **Verna Gardner with the help of Heather Ryder, Lois Smollett and Dorothy Blair** for your wonderful hospitality this month. **Any questions** please phone Shona or Vicki.

We have two more for 2024, first one on **Friday November 1st** (proceeds will be given to Gumboot Day) and for this one we hope to go tiki touring. **We have wheels so** hopefully we will car pool and head to Lovells Flat, Lawrence and Milton. Our last for 2024 will be on **Tuesday 26th November**. The proceeds from all the morning teas will be donated to purchase gifts on the Christmas Tree at Westpac. **Please RSVP** at least 5 days before the morning tea's to Shona or Vicki.

Webpage: Please send in photos of your activities with names and a brief description so they can be added to your page. Photo's are best taken on your phone then emailed to shonapreddy@outlook.co.nz Keep them coming in, we might enter our Website in the Avis Rishworth Innovation Award in the 2025 competitions.

Knitting: Our local Plunket Nurse and Midwives, very much appreciate the amazing resource of donated knitted baby garments that are so readily available. Ila is always on the lookout for knitters, so if you are able to help please contact her. The nurse who does the 6 week health checks on babies has requested singlets as some babies are coming in without them. This has been agreed to, as the more babies in wool the better. If anyone is able to do any **knitting Ila 418 2681 would love to hear from you**. Maybe you know someone who isn't a member but would like to help with the knitting. Thank you so much ladies.

Affiliations Fees for 2025: The fees will be set at \$50 with \$35 going to the National Office and \$7.50 to Federation and \$7.50 is kept by your WI.

Silence is golden. Duct tape is silver!!!

Jude Vaughan our National President is coming to visit us and Eastern Otago who are celebrating their 90th birthday. Jude will be at the Balclutha WI, St John's Rooms at 2.00pm and at the Romahapa Hall at 7.30pm on **Wednesday 6th November**. We hope to meet with the Kuriwao WI on Thursday morning as we travel to Gore. We really encourage you to attend either or both meeting(s) if you are able. Jude is a very passionate President, who loves a good laugh. She has a big challenge ahead of her keeping WI going strongly, but if anyone can, it is Jude. **Please RSVP** to either Alison or Shona if you are attending either gathering.

Good Service Awards, Diamond Awards & Programmes: Citations and your WI programme (January or February to December) need to be into Donna Pettitt by Sunday 23rd February. We are able to present one Good Service Award.

Diaries: The diaries have arrived and Vicki has one spare, please contact Vicki if you would like it. We also have lanyards and new WI badges available from Shona.

Federation: This is the last year for Shona as President, Bronwyn Alexander and Audrey Hunter as Federation Members so we require some new keen members for the committee. We do not meet now on a monthly basis and have been meeting this year in a weekend to accommodate those that work. Donna Pettitt, Vicki Galbreath and Alison Ward are all happy to continue as members. Thank you, ladies. A special thank you to Ruth Davidson and Barbara Blackler who have continued to help out at our Federation events.

Cancer Food/ Baking South Otago freezer: We have started up again doing baking, soups, savouries etc for the Cancer Society in James St. **November/December:** Romahapa. **February/March:** Balclutha. Please remember to keep a tally of the quantity of goods and hours of work. Please remember goods are taken to James St now. **Please ensure you have a label on them indicating they are kindly donated by _____ WI.**

Please keep Sunday 23rd February 2025 free for a New Zealand wide WI High Tea to raise funds for our NEC who are struggling due to the decrease in membership. Avis Rishworth and I are excited to be part of the committee helping to organize this. It will be a Federation event and all other Federations throughout NZ will be having tea at the same time. We are hoping to get a lot of publicity throughout NZ.

Christmas/Birthday Gift Idea: Vicki is making tickets for the High Tea, so if anyone would like to buy a ticket for \$25 each to attend the High Tea, this would be a great gift for someone special in your life, male or female.

Paddy Greer Wooden Spoon: Romahapa WI have the spoon and are eagerly awaiting a challenge. Please contact Bronwyn with your entries.

I was on a train and this woman opposite looked at me and said," Every time you smile, I feel like inviting you to my place"..... I asked with excitement "Are you single". She replied "No, I'm a dentist"!!!

Have a great month.

From the Federation Team *Shona, Donna, Vicki, Bronwyn, Alison and Audrey.*