

NORTH TARANAKI DISTRICT FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

VISION: *To encourage and inspire women within their communities.*

December 2025

THEME: Softening the Hard Times

PROJECT: Nourish the Nation

Greetings Members,

Well, another year is almost over this will be the final newsletter for the year. No doubt you have your Christmas functions all planned for your WI's. This is also a busy time for office holders as they think about their final tallies for the year ending the 31st of December.

Federation has held two functions this month the first being International Day country of study 'Malta' on the 13th of November at Cobb n Co. This was a very pleasant day starting at 11.15. We were very lucky to have guests Wendy and her husband Roger to come and give us first hand information and their experience of Malta having an interest through a relative of Rogers that was a World War 2, pilot. They gave us a wonderful insight into the island, its history and beauty along with their personal experience. Wendy is a member of the Tikorangi WI.

Then on the 20th we held a craft day that was well attended. Thank you to Diane, Faye and Wendy for sharing with us some of the crafts that are coming up in the competitions in 2026.

Well, members we are now needing to start thinking about next year and calling for nominations for our up-and-coming members for 2026 - All officers both WI and Federation have to be nominated. I'm enclosing the forms for you to fill in as this was pointed out by President Jude that it is important to do this. So please fill in your forms. All members of Federation need to be nominated and if you would like to join the team at Federation, please put your name forward -all our positions are open.

All of us at Federation wish you all a Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Our thoughts go out to Tarata WI with the passing of their member Betty Dombroski, also Norfolk WI with the passing of Betty Wisnewski, to all other members that have had bereavements or are not well and those caring for loved ones our thoughts are with you all.

Kind Regards, Hazel



News from our sister WIs:

Lower Mangorei: Lower Mangorei Women's Institute members, attending this month's Federation events, have appreciated both opportunities to enjoy these get togethers. The Cobb and Co lunch, with Guest Speaker Roger Harland, speaking on Malta, was a happy occasion. Then the organised Craft Day gave members fresh crafts to interest members. Those attending were especially enthusiastic about the friendship and relaxing time that everyone enjoyed. High praise for the committee involved with the day!!

Lower Mangorei gather to play Whist once a fortnight, which is recommended for time to relax and have fun.

Women's Institute fosters friendship and relaxation, and our members are delighted that our Federation encourages these special times to share.

Lower Mangorei members wish each of you a Happy Christmas, with joy and fellowship to continue throughout 2026.

Durham WI: We donated baking for our District Nurses, brainstormed ideas for next year's programme, held closely contested horse races (no male jockeys in sight) and wore fascinators as it is Melbourne Cup week.

Norfolk WI: Our **June** meeting was soup and scones at Nola Koch's home and we also had the winter competition of 'Birds on different articles' this was interesting.

July saw us at President Margaret's home and our guest speaker was Morris West who was accompanied by hearing dog 'Squiggles.' The West household walks Hearing Dogs and Squiggles demonstrated his cleverness.

August was our Birthday month – 94 years with lunch at 'Big Jim's'.

September – 'Sustainability Month' saw us decide to look after our own sections as we had done the other options. At our meeting we had a quiz which was a bit tricky!!!

November - We visited a garden of Alan Inch's at Bell Block and later continued our meeting at the president's home.

New Plymouth Central WI: A Melbourne Cup Fun Cocktail evening was held raising funds from My little pony races and a bottle auction for the Dragon Boat ladies who are travelling to France. They had been guest speakers earlier in the year. They also joined us for our evening and participated. All including men wearing hats, were dressed up, all the ladies were in beautiful attire and all wore fascinators it was such a fun afternoon.

An annual Van trip during the Garden Festival was very popular, visiting many beautiful gardens from 8am till 6pm, with an added bonus of shopping at the Eltham Cheese shop, Yarrows Bakery, a sewing Shop and a visit to a Bee farm where Hive Honey is processed for sale and export. A full-on interesting day.

Biscuits were baked and many batches packaged and donated to Bellyful for needy families who were excited to get "home baking" along with their meals.

Another 21 card holders were made for the children at Ohakune School who wrote to thank us for the first lot and requested some more!

A donation of gifts and food for the SPCA has also been made with keeping in mind the influx of pets over the summer period.

Tikorangi WI: Meeting Melbourne Cup Day at members home had cocktail drinks, the committee made afternoon tea, it was a really nice afternoon.

Dates and Reminders

Secretaries Reminders: Please tally your donations and volunteer hours to help your Treasurer with the WI donation return.

Founders Day : February 21st still to be confirmed more info in your February newsletter.

Nomination Forms: Please fill out your nomination forms both for WI and Federation these are for your AGM's. If you would like to join the Federation Team you will be most welcome, so get a nomination form in as these forms must all, be signed by both nominator and the nominee - it is a requirement of the Incorporated Society and was discussed with us all at the AGM last year by President Jude.



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