

WAIMATE FEDERATION OF WOMENS INSTITUTES

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2026

Happy New Year to all members. I trust you've had an enjoyable and relaxing break and are ready for this year's activities!

So now some news and views from our recent meeting...

REPORTS

1) Strawberry Faire. A marvellous array of baking and goods arrived for this event. Everything sold, except a few plants which sold at the Makikhi Craft shop on our behalf, so the total was \$718.50. Thank you everyone for your contributions, well done.

2) Mid Canterbury Federation Xmas lunch attended by Pauline and Suzanne. The theme was Malta so they learned more about this country and as usual they enjoyed the friendship and another scrumptious meal!

3) EDWARDIAN LUNCHEON. We were invited to this 20yr celebration and acknowledgement of the late Sandra Coles' involvement. Sandra was a founding member of this group, plus was President for many years. Past President Judy and I attended and we both really enjoyed the comradeship and of course the T&C meal. We also learnt a lot about this group and their past activities!

4) BUDDY DOLLS... I've enquired whether more are needed, but as the Children's Ward hasn't been busy (a good thing!), no more are required for now. We are asking our local Medical Centres whether they would like some, so we'll let you know about this. Nola, from Glenavy has been toiling away making these for us. Thank you Nola, a great job

5) WORKSHOP, SASHIKO STITCHING.... A good number of members plus 3 other ladies arrived to learn this form of stitching. Alice from Blue Cliffs, was an awesome tutor, with lots of samples she had made for us to choose from, plus some materials and thread to use. Most of us went home with a sample made on the day. Nola and Lyn also showed examples of decorated candles, just to give members a couple of simple ideas about this craft. Thank you very much Alice for spending time to research the history, and to make samples for this day. As usual a friendly, relaxed morning had by all.

6) RSA KNITTING.. There's an appreciation letter for the scarves we donated on display at Community Link.

FOUNDERS DAY.... FEBRUARY 21st. KNOTTINGLY PARK. MEET AT THE CARPARK 1pm

- Bring discs if you have them, a small plate per WI plus a cup/mug, plus your sense of humour, we'll provide the cuppa. If any of you play this sport please let me know asap

AGM MARCH 2nd SENIOR CITIZENS ROOMS SHEARMAN STR WAIMATE 9.30am MT---10am MEETING

HOST— BLUE CLIFFS. STEWARDS—- MAK/MOR, HUNTER, 2 from each please
3 plates from each WI, a plain, savoury, sweet, not TOO large plus \$3.00 entry fee
There will be raffles as usual and the sales table

VOLUNTEER DONATION FORMS.

- Pauline collated all the information you sent in, here are the results. Donations \$4082.00. Hours...3082. Goods...1007 items. Well done everyone, thank you and thank you Pauline.
- QUIZ NIGHT. WEDNESDAY MARCH 25th THE BARN, QUEEN STR WAIMATE 7pm—9pmish EVERYONE WELCOME
- TEAMS...4-6 people, \$10.00 pp, at least 1 team per WI if possible, include husbands,cousins, sons , daughters, aunts, uncles, etc!

RAFFLES We would like 5 small prizes from each WI eg, chocolate, plants, soap, baking, eggs, pickle, jam etc \$2.00 per ticket. \$100.00 winning team

HELPERS.....we need 1 person per WI

The raffles and the helpers need to be at the venue by 6.30pm

We will advertise in the Trader, with posters, word of mouth! So spread the word. Funds raised will go into the disaster relief fund and Federation expenses

I hope that's all but.....

Two Senior Citizens were in the local Post Office commiserating about rising costs. Said one "What with high interest rates, high Doctors bills, pensions cut back, I don't think I'll ever be able to taste anything expensive again". Said the other "You could always lick a postage stamp"!

Looking forward to seeing you all soon

Cheers

Lyn Newsletter Secretary