

SOUTH OTAGO FEDERATION WI,

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January/February 2023

Theme: Vision for All
Project: Looking for Opportunity in your Community

Dear South Otago Members,

We hope that 2023 has started well for you all and you have had an enjoyable festive season. Our **deepest sympathy** is extended to any member who has lost a loved one recently, our thoughts are with you all. As we start a New Year 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 back** on deck and ready to send cards, or visit or phone any member who needs a cheery chat or kind word.

While most of us have enjoyed a break from organizing WI activities our Federation Treasurer Ruth along with our WI Treasurers have be doing their annual balance sheets. **Thank you to Ruth** for all the extra work you do at this time, you are wonderful. Ruth puts a lot of extra time into making contact with all the Treasurers and helping get our returns in on time. **Please Treasurers** ensure all your donation sheets and a complete December bank statement are with Ruth by January 25th. We **appreciate and thank all the WI Treasurers** for the wonderful work they do in getting all the data ready for Ruth or entering their own. **Thank you** also for getting everything completed on time and in a very accurate way. If any Treasurer has any trouble with doing the balance sheet please contact Ruth asap, she is always so happy to help.

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.

Dates to remember: Could all programmes be into Donna Pettitt by **February 22nd** for judging. Please remember they are for January – December 2022. **No late entries** will be accepted. We would also like nominations for Good Service Badges, Diamond Awards and nominations for Federation members on this date also.

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. Federation are purchasing small labels from the NEC that can be sewn into the seam of a garment. "Made with love and the WI Logo".

2023 National Annual General Meeting in Timaru, 29th -30th May but a motel is booked from the Sunday until the Wednesday morning to allow for travel. It would be good to have a good contingent of us attend. Could you please let Shona know asap if you are intending to come to Timaru. I now have five probable ladies joining us on the road trip. If enough interest we will hire a mini van.

Cards & Hospital Visits: We wish anyone who has been unwell a good recovery. If you know of a member who has been either unwell or is now home from hospital, or had a recent bereavement within close family-please contact **Audrey Hunter**.

Alison Ward is the person to add local South Otago events to the WI Facebook page so please contact her on 418 0803.

Milton Hospice Shop: The Milton Hospice Shop: would really appreciate any good second hand articles to sell. Julie Williams from the Clydevale WI is able to collect anything from Balclutha. She would love a call from you.

Cancer Food/ Baking South Otago freezer for: February/March: Kuriwao April/May: Lovells Flat. We received a Christmas card and thank you for our help with supplying baking and meals for the Cancer patients of South Otago. The key to access the office is held at Ladybird Junction now.

Founders Day: At our Federation Meeting we decided that each WI will organize their own celebration in their own way. You may like to invite another WI to join you.

WI Affiliation Fees for 2023 will be \$49 per year. Please ensure Donna has a copy of your members names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses no later than 22nd February. **Could you also please deposit \$39.20 per member into the Federation account** of which \$29.40 goes to the NEC and \$9.40 is to run the Federation. Please ensure the number of subs you pay matches the number of names you have on your list.

South Otago Federation AGM: Will be held on **Friday 31st March** at a venue in Balclutha to be advised. **The theme is:** Anything is possible.

Competitions: 3 Vegetable Muffins, A recycled article, A sand saucer and a Bloom (any medium).

Roll Call: A monetary donation to the Women's Refuge so vouchers can be purchased.

Please remember to bring along all your National competitions also. More details next month.

Good Luck to our Bowls team of Shona, Vicki and Donna as they head to Wellington for the Challenge Trophy next month. As from next year the competition will be travelling around districts between the North & South Island's. South Otago Federation decided at their meeting on Saturday that they would put in an application for it to come here.

Best wishes for a great 2023 and a great year of WI in your area.

From the Federation Team Shona, Donna, Ruth, Bronwyn, Barbara, Alison and Andrey.

Dates to Remember:

January 25th: All donation sheets and December Bank Statement

February 21st: Founders Day

February 22nd: Donna needs: Programmes for judging, applications for Good Service & Diamond awards, nominations for Federation and a list of your members.

March 31st: Federation AGM