

## **Presidents Report**

Well, spring looks like it is on it's way. Buds are starting to appear and some are even blooming in the garden. Wow, what an amazing country we live in. Each day the little things are making for a great life. Committees are starting to bloom themselves and I am looking forward to the next few months. Garden Ramble is well underway and we will have an amazing Ramble this year.

A quote I found.... "The benefits of owning less are far greater than just a clean home. They include focus, freedom, peace and more passion for life."

Joanna Gulliver

## **What the International President is doing . . . . .**

I am sitting in Chicago as I write this. We are 2 days into the International Board meeting with just a half day session left to go. The International Board are working hard on getting a number of items through so we can provide better tools for our membership to grow Altrusa. You will see us release a new Policies document in the coming weeks that has completely been restructured so that the policies you need to find are easy to access and we have almost completed a full review of all policies (The International BRR Committee and Simplification Task Force have been really busy). You will see that our new member area of our website is up and running after the old website simply died – so check this out. You will all have received the username and password for this (it is temporary as Katrina had to move so fast to get something up and running). We will be moving to individual passwords based on your Group Tally access as soon as we can. The last two phases of the website (Foundation and ASTRA) should be up and running in another couple of months.

Leanne

Apologies for the Business meeting 6 August – to Di Tatana

## Orientation Evening

This is for new members and their sponsors, and any other members who may want to learn more about the Altrusa Organisation.

Where : Leanne's home Awamutu

When: 5.30pm Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August

What: Pizza plus discussion about Altrusa.

**A spotlight on . . .** the Garden Ramble Committee. With the help from Robyn A, the GR Committee will be presenting 11 (possibly 12) places to visit in November. They will be asking members to help sell some of the tickets.

Campbell Lane and I Site will also be selling tickets.

There will be an article in the Courier about one of the houses and that will help with advertising. It will be a busy time for this Committee for the next 3 months. Thank you all for your efforts.

## August Birthdays

2<sup>nd</sup> Joanna Gulliver

6<sup>th</sup> Louise Livingstone

6<sup>th</sup> Tania Sanders



## Food Bank Donations

Robyn A has been talking to Alan McManus from St Vincent de Paul. He told her that the Combined Churches are reviewing Foodbank and looking to improve the service to those in need. Nothing will change for a while and we will still continue to deliver to Kainga Aroha for now, but change may be in the wind.

Alan gave Robyn a list of items which are particularly appreciated.

The list is:

Cereals, muesli bars, biscuits, peanut butter, tea, jam, coffee, tinned fruit/corn/baked beans/spaghetti, tinned soup, pasta, pasta sauce. Also non - food items – baby wipes, nappies and feminine hygiene products are gratefully received.

Please bring a donation to the meeting on August 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Apologies Reminder

**As Verna is away, please send your apologies to . . .**

**Club Banner** Request from Rosalie. Would every member who went to the Conference in Ashburton please check to see if the banner is at your place? It's not still in Ashburton, so it must be somewhere in Te Awamutu. Please have a search among the things you brought home with you – it will be somewhere!

## **Personal Profile**

**Name** Wendy Becker

### **Early years**

I am the oldest of four girls, and grew up in Otarehua, Central Otago. I trained as an occupational therapist, worked in mental health, neurosurgery, paediatrics, and aged care services, taught at Otago Polytechnic, and worked in management of disability services.

### **Work**

Richard and I moved from Dunedin to Te Awamutu in 2010, when I got the job of CEO of Gracelands, a disability organisation. Now called Enrich+, the organisation has expanded to include specialised autism services and supported living services. We also expanded into the Bay of Plenty last year. We have developed several partnerships with the aim of offering great services to more disabled people, the most recent with the McKenzie Centre, who offer therapy services for families with little ones with disabilities, 0 – 5 years of age.

### **Leisure**

I love travel, and have had many wonderful trips including Spain, Portugal, Morocco, Scandinavia, Russia, China, Europe, Asia, and our big back yard, Australia. We most recently went to Germany for the Xmas markets, and this was a blast!

Gardening is my passion – and we love the Waikato for the amazing things that you can grow. Having citrus in the back yard and growing tomatoes and peppers outdoors is still such a buzz!

I love to read too, especially historical fiction.

We love Central Otago, and visit often.

### **Altrusa**

I only learnt about Altrusa when we came to Te Awamutu. It provided a great way for me to meet other local women in friendship and fellowship, while doing something to support our communities.

**Invites all Altrusans to attend your 2018  
AREA 1 I.F.F. Day  
HOSTED BY THE HAMILTON CLUB  
Saturday 1 September 10.00 until 3.00**

Meet & Greet over morning tea from 9.45  
At  
'Woodside Estate' 132 Woodside Road HAMILTON

**To date I can confirm Leanne Milligan (Our International President) and Christine Melville (District Fifteen Governor) will be joining us and presenting. We also have a fun 'Hands On' service initiative to participate in.**

And ... again making our own warmth for the day  
with lots of Information, Fun & Friendship,  
Inspiration & Interaction.

And ... a chance to talk and share with your fellow Altrusans.

Cost \$25 per person for the day including morning / afternoon tea & lunch  
But only \$15 for First Timers!

Registrations close Friday August 24. I look forward to seeing you there.

Please register and pay through your club.

Maria Mackay Governor Elect - District Fifteen

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"Often people attempt to live their lives backwards; they try to have more things, or more money, in order to do more of what they want so they will be happier.

The way it actually works is the reverse.

You must first **BE** who you really are, then **DO** what you need to do, in order to **HAVE** what you want."

Margaret Young

Quote from the book The Life Plan by Shannah Kennedy Published by Kikki.K Ltd

Ed