

Presidents Report

Happy New Year and welcome back every one. I do hope the Christmas and New Year break has been relaxing, enjoyable and spent with family and friends. Our weather has certainly been up and down with the heat, rain and storms, but on the whole we have had and are still having a great summer.

January 2018 has not been the best start for a few of our members – our love and get well wishes go out to Vreni Russenberger, who broke her arm, and to Louise Rae and family for their son Garion, who had a major operation over in Australia. I have spoken to both parties concerned and I am pleased to report that all is going very well for both.

Our sincere condolences go out to Tania Sanders and family for the loss of her father, Desmond Green. We are thinking of you all at this very sad time.

The January 21st Summer get-together, organised by the Membership committee and held at Vicky Apps home, was a very pleasant evening. The weather was great and enjoyed by all. It was good to see some past members and also some intending members come along and meet us. Thank you team and to those who were able to be there. The food was out- standing, let's do it again!!

Two of our committees have some exciting events happening in March. Membership will be holding an “Antiques & Collectibles Road Show” on the 3rd of March. It has been 4 years since we held the first one...where does the time go! Community will be running their Soiree event/auction on the 18th March. Both committees will be asking for help from the club, so if you can, please be ready to say “YES” in anyway required.

So now it is down to business as usual ladies – friendship, fundraising and fun.

Cheers Rosalie

Recommendations from the Board

MEMBERSHIP Committee

RECOMMENDATION -that the recipient of Antiques & Collectibles Roadshow is Foster Hope

RECOMMENDATION -that the proposal and budget for Antiques and Collectibles Roadshow is accepted.

COMMUNITY Committee

RECOMMENDATION - that the grant from Foundation for Community for the Children's Fun Day out be used to pay the account the Waitomo Caves \$2,360.00.

Question and Answer Slot – International President Leanne Milligan from the editor.

Regarding Altrusa International, can you list some of your achievements to date?

I am not sure that I have a lot of achievements but I do have several teams of volunteers working on things. We have a new service project database on line, we have a new service tool kit on our website and the membership committee have just finished developing a membership tool kit which is in the process of going through approval before being posted, hopefully by the end of the month. I have another team working on a revision of the club annual report which will be complete by the end of January so we will have it up and running for this year (2017-2018) and also another team working on a new website for us (hopefully making things easier to find!).

Were you able to relax during your break from work – without thinking ‘Altrusa’? Nope – managed to find some time to do Altrusa stuff over the holidays – but also found time to read a book – yeah for me!

Are there any male members of Altrusa? Yes there are a number of male members in the US – I heard a rumour that Wellington club was working on recruiting the first male member in NZ.

Good news

The Absolutely Fabulous Soiree is on again – March 18. Tickets will be available at the February meeting. The Community Committee would appreciate donations of wine please. They are hoping every member will donate one bottle each to make up a wine box for a raffle. Bottles can be brought to the meetings on February 5th or March 5th. Specific brands are requested – Peter Yealands or Ned – Pinot Gris, Sav Blanc or Pinot Noir. Thank you in anticipation.



More Good News -The Altrusan Antiques Roadshow is back!

Saturday 3rd March Te Awamutu Collage Hall 10am to 4pm Membership Committee
This is a big day and all members are asked to help with donations of finger food, helping to set up, ‘manning’ the door, marshalling the people, serving the food, feeding the assessors and cleaning up afterwards. The committee would also like donations for a raffle eg small gifts (new) such as toiletries, stationary etc. These can be brought to the Feb meeting or dropped off at the library. Thank you, again, in anticipation.



17 January - Wendy Becker

1 February - Donna Davies

24 February – Robyn Atherton

Days to Remember

5th Feb Business Meeting - hosted by the Garden Ramble Committee

February - Add an Altrusan – bring a guest along.

14th Feb Valentines Day

20th Feb World Day of Justice

This was submitted by Robyn Atherton. A very worthwhile cause. Ed



Robyn, thanks to you and thousands of other contributors, last week we raised nearly \$1.2 million in donations, setting a new record!

Since every \$1 donated to Kiva facilitates \$8 in loans, that means you helped make an additional [\\$9.6 million in loans](#) possible in 2018.

Your generous year-end donation was matched dollar-for-dollar, doubling your impact.

Thank you so much for your continued support of Kiva! May your 2018 be filled with happiness, hope and love.

Best wishes,
The Kiva team



Celebrating Women

Rt Hon Dame Patsy Reddy

Governor-General of NZ

Dame Patsy was born in Matamata to teachers Neil and Kay Reddy. She lived in Te Akau and Minginui before moving to Hamilton at the age of 6. Her schooling was at Hillcrest Primary, Peachgrove Int and Hamilton Girls High School. Patsy graduated from Victoria University in 1979 with a first class honours law degree. She joined the Law Faculty there as a lecturer until 1982.

During her law career Patsy spent 11 years working for Brierley Investments, co-founded a private investment company and has extensive experience in governance and consulting roles. She was also a founding Trustee and advisory board member for NZ Global Women.

In 2014 Patsy became a Dame Companion of the NZ Order of Merit for serves to the arts and business.

Dame Patsy is married to Sir David Gascoigne and is interested in the arts, gardening, cooking and her miniature poodle, Coco.

Another wonderful Waikato woman!!

Save the Date

Antiques Fair – 3rd March 10am – 4pm
Te Awamutu College Hall

Absolutely Fabulous Soiree – 18th March
3pm – 7pm
Same fabulous venue – Livingstone residence
208 Ngaroto Road

February is ‘**Add An Altrusan**’ month – make an effort to ask your friends and neighbours if they would like to come to a meeting or an event to see if they would be interested in becoming an Altrusan.

Member Profile – Maria Thompson

I was born in Hastings and did my schooling there. I left school at 16 and my first job was at NZ Aerial mapping. I developed photos for Government departments, such as forestry, roading and electricity line companies. This career allowed me to work in Melbourne from January to August 1972, when I returned to help care for my mother.

I met Robert in October 1972 and we were married in June 1973.

We moved to Robert's family sheep and beef farm in Wairarapa on the east coast out of Dannevirke, and our three children were born there.

In 1981 we moved to Te Kawa, and set up Robert's dream of an Appaloosa and Quarter Horse stud -La Mesa Park. We moved the stud in 1987 to the edge of Te Awamutu, where our children had the best of both worlds. It was a true family time with my mother joining us on the property.

In 2002 we moved to Morrinsville, however the travel took its toll on both of us, so we settled in Kio Kio four years ago and we love the area .

Most of you know that in 1991 while living in TeAwamutu, I purchased Playmates Boutique and enjoyed the challenges of retail for 26 years. I retired the business and myself at the same time in August 2017.

I now spend my time helping Robert with the general farm jobs, the horses and many hours in the rather large garden.

Our children all live in Japan and we enjoy their visits. Each year in the winter, our six grandchildren come back to NZ to attend school for six weeks.

Altrusa has been a huge part of my life since July 1994. I enjoyed being a part of the original team and I was proud to be the first club president.

It has been rewarding on all levels and I cherish my friendships that have developed from being involved with this club.

Editorial

2018 – a new year for many, but a continuation of the Altrusan year. The next few months is going to be a busy time for our club. Belonging to an Altrusa club means doing service, so everyone is expected to 'do their bit'. There will be many opportunities to help – donating wine and gifts, making a plate of food, helping out at the Antiques Day, and selling Soiree tickets. Being involved has many benefits – “fun and fellowship” as our President Rosalie says. Also think about taking on a role in the club – we need members be brave and 'take a leap' into helping run this wonderful club of ours. Mary