

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Until 24 December	Christmas Gift wrapping		Organised by Porirua Rotary
11 December	IW Children's Christmas Party	4.30pm	Mana Cruising Club
12 December	Yvonne Groom's Christmas Deco's	1pm	30 Raukawa Rd, Peka Peka
19 December	Christmas Themed Dinner Meeting	6pm	Plimmerton Boating Club

UPCOMING REGULAR EVENTS

12 December	Dog Walking Group	11am	Each Tuesday at Plimmerton Dog Park
13 December	Mahjong	7pm	Every Wednesday, St Mary's, Whitby
14 December	Craft Group	10am	Janet Reidy's house, with a shared lunch
15 January	Book Group	2pm	Diane McGavin's house (note the date change)

MORE ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER DINNER MEETING

There will be no speaker this month. We will have a Christmas themed meeting. We did our pantry item last month for Porirua Women & Family centre because our meeting is quite late in December for distribution to the charities.

Come dressed in all your Christmas finery, sparkle, or bling - or all three if you like! Please also bring a small gift for the Secret Santa sack. (Value \$10)

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Monday 11th December at 4.30 Mana Cruising Club, 5 Pascoe Ave, Paremata. Remember to bring a gift for the children you have invited, up to the value of \$25 and discreetly place it in the Santa sack on entry, with their name on the gift. Huge thanks to Dianne Roberts for organising this event.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AT YVONNE GROOM'S

We have a group of eight of us going at this stage. If you would like to attend and were not at our November meeting, you are more than welcome to join us. Please ring Joy (027 679 4333) or email joy.creet@gmail.com her ASAP. If your name is on the list, you will hear from Joy soon to check you all have a ride.

INVITATION FROM KAPITI CLUB - HIGH TEA

The Inner Wheel Club of Kapiti would like to invite you and your members to a High Tea to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Inner Wheel.

This will be held on **Wednesday 10 January 2024** at the Paraparaumu Beach Bowling Club, Toru Road, Paraparaumu at 5.00pm at a cost of \$15 per person, which includes a glass of bubbly and finger food. Other drinks will be available at the bar at your cost. We look forward to sharing this occasion with you and would appreciate having your RSVP by the 3 January 2024.

RACK ATTACK FUNDRAISER - 21ST MARCH 2024

We have booked a venue for March 21st, 2024 for our next major fundraiser which will be a second-hand clothing sale, so please hold on to any clothes/shoes/handbags etc when you have a clear out. Please also ask your friends to do the same. The recipient for the funds raised will be Virtuoso Strings and they will be performing in the evening at this event.

Does anyone have the capacity to store these items at home, or maybe in an office space? We are also looking to borrow clothes racks and coat hangers. Do you know anyone that could loan us some racks and hangers for the event?

VIRTUOSO STRINGS ORCHESTRA

Virtuoso Strings Orchestra is 10 years old this month. I was privileged to be invited to a semi-formal dinner to celebrate this wonderful achievement. I clearly remember the first time they came to our club with bare feet or jandals and wrap around skirts. They have achieved so much success over the past few years winning many awards. Watching the older students encouraging the very young just makes my heart break with love for them. Such a wonderful local group for our IW to support.

Carolyn



EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT - NAPIER IW CENTENNIAL LUNCH CELEBRATION

Mark your diary for **Saturday 13th January**. Napier Inner Wheel have invited us to join them in celebrating 87 years of service. Perhaps a group of ladies from Plimmerton can get together and have a nice girl's weekend away in Napier.



LAST MONTH'S HAPPENINGS

NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

Megan Henderson from Porirua Women and Family Centre gave a fantastic presentation about the Centre and what they provide for women and families in the area. Megan has just completed her second year in Counselling and Addiction studies at Te Pukenga. As part of that she undertook a six-month placement at the Porirua Women and Family Centre, which offers free counselling.

Megan now works there as a volunteer alongside her study. After giving us the history of how the Centre was established, Megan explained that the centre is now in the old ACC building in Lydney Place. The centre has many offerings, with the main one still being a safe space for wahine and whanau to nurture their wellbeing in a supportive environment.

Among the many things offered there are free counselling services, Women of Worth workshops, Real Talk workshops



(for youth to gain support), Brainwave Trust Workshops, meetups including grandparents raising grandchildren, book club, Mums and Bubs coffee group, crochet, breastfeeding drop-in clinic, Women's Refuge Awareness Training, Mental Health workshops, diabetes education workshops and a Grief counselling group. They also ran a High Tea fundraiser for Pink Ribbon.

At the centre women can make themselves a tea or coffee and help themselves to baking that has been donated by the charity called *Good Bitches Baking*. The centre is run by a team of paid and student professionals. They meet daily with other agencies such as Police, Oranga Tamariki, Whare Manaaki to ensure the right organisations are supporting the right family at the right time.

I cannot cover all that Megan presented but I sent you all the slides with the meeting summary. She was a wonderful presenter, very interesting and engaging. Thank you to those who donated books and food for the centre, Megan was most grateful.



CLUB ROLES - SITUATIONS VACANT

Some ladies have been on the committee for many years and will be leaving next June. We are keen to have some new people on the committee. I have asked exiting committee to give a summary of their roles. Christine Harrison, Margaret Nation, and Karen Warner gave a description of their roles as Secretary, Treasurer and Editor respectively. The other vacant roles will be addressed next year.

I also mentioned that my role as president ends next June with the May 2024 meeting being the last one that I organise. I am happy to work with a couple of people who may like to share the role if they think it is too much to take on. I am expecting a new grandchild at that time next year so will remain on the committee but cannot undertake another year as president. It is a role that I did not think I could do, but I am growing into it, and with the support of the committee and long-time IW members I am learning so much. **Joy**

BOOK GROUP CHRISTMAS OUTING

It is has become routine for book group to have an end of year outing, somewhere different each time. This year Yvonne kindly offered to organise a trip to Martinborough where there is a large book shop.

We had lunch at Medici then wandered slowly through the various home décor and dress shops, hunting and gathering. My new treasure was from the gorgeous kitchenware shop. I had not been to Martinborough for many years and could see the changes. It is looking smart and ready for visitors.



Thankyou Yvonne for making the day happen. Also, thanks to Lyndsay for running the book group so well. We generally RSVP now, though not necessary, but it helps the host know whether to cater for 6 or 16. **Sheryl**



WELLfed SUCCESS STORY

Velma subscribes to the NZ Gardener magazine and says she was delighted that Porirua's WELLfed programme has won the "Ryman Healthcare Gardeners of the Year 2023" from competitors throughout the country.

The prizes from Gardena, Daltons, Lynn River, Matthews Nursery and Topflite include fruit trees, a Vegepod, and Resene paint etc.

WELLfed manager Jess Barnes says "apart from the prizes, the great thing about the competition is that you get to hear about all the community groups around the country that are doing such great ecological work. This type of gardening is happening all over the country and it's very exciting when we're looking at what climate change means to us in urban centres. It shows there's some really amazing people who are active on the ground and that some really fantastic tangible things are happening."

GETTING TO KNOW - DIANNE ROBERTS

Dianne Roberts nee McMinn - born in Pahiatua, shifted to Kaiangaroa, near the top of the North Island, started school briefly there and then returned to Pahiatua to our family home and continued schooling there, including Tararua College. After leaving school, I worked for a legal firm in Palmerston North and trained to be a Legal Executive, which I did for 10 years.

I met my husband, Alan on a blind date arranged by a fellow Miss Manawatu contestant and we married in 1974. We lived in Palmerston North, and these were very happy years having our two children, and being involved with Kindy, School etc. We purchased our first set of flats six months before we were married, and I am still a landlord today.

Alan had his own business in Palmerston North which allowed us many trips between Fiji, NZ and also Japan. He was head hunted in 1989 which resulted in a relocation to Wellington. Alan ended up having an Asia Pacific role which involved a lot of travel, so we all got to travel heaps including two round the world expeditions. Our children are well travelled, and we had many happy fun times.

When the children went to college, I started working again, as a Rep. I gave this up when we decided to do our OE to the UK in 2000 for 6.5 years. These years were filled with travel. We both worked but managed to fit heaps of travel in. Firstly, I was a Drs Receptionist, and then I worked for Blackheath Brain injury, which has the worst affected patients in the whole of Europe. This was a huge learning curve for me, and I learnt a lot about myself in the position.

We returned home in 2007. Our daughter who had lived in Dubai for 7 years returned in 2009 and our son remained in the UK, where he is still today, married and living in Liverpool. Alan passed away in 2011 so I was grateful to have my daughter close by. She still lives very close, with my greatest joy, my granddaughter.

In friendship **Dianne**

JOY'S JOTTINGS

So close to Christmas and so much to do!! That's how I am rolling right now. How about you?

I mentioned at the meeting that I am halfway through the year in this role. What a learning curve it has been and continues to be. Carol, Yvonne, and I are busy trying to organise the Rack Attack and visited the venue this week. I was not at the last Rack Attack, but it sounds like a fun evening. I very much enjoyed hearing Virtuoso Strings at the conference and looking forward to their performance too.

We have a bit on this month, Tasty Tuesday next week, our final committee meeting of the year, the Children's Christmas Party, the trip to Yvonne Groom's, our last dinner meeting, Mix and Mingle, not to mention the Book Group trip, the Craft group final meet up and shared lunch, and the Mah Jong final meeting. Have I missed anything? We are so lucky to have all these events to gather in friendship.

To our ladies who are going through difficult times with the health of a partner I would like to wish you all the very best for the holiday period. We all send you healing thoughts and love.

To our members who are dealing with their own health issues, you are in our thoughts and hearts wishing speedy recoveries.

If I do not see any of you at the December meeting go well over the festive season, travel safely, and hope to see you at Pizza and Plonk in January.

Go well, **Joy**









NEONATES VEST PATTERN

At craft meeting last week I was passing this pattern around and some of the ladies thought it might be a nice idea to put it in our newsletter. It is a pattern from a group in Gisborne who say it's ok to knit as a charity but not to sell the pattern or vest.

This pattern was brought to my attention by my husband's cousin, who is the manager of Gisborne Hospital Neonatal unit, who incidentally only have 6 incubators whereas Wellington neonatal has 40. **Pam**





Many crafty people all over New Zealand make woolly clothing for babies and children in their community. In Gisborne members of Creative Fibre, Eastland, along with family and friends, have been making vests for the neonatal unit at Gisborne hospital from our own pattern. We would like to share this pattern with Creative Fibre magazine readers.

Hospital staff requirements for the vests were that the garments should be made from wool, easy to put on and take off, and could accommodate the medical equipment that the babies are attached to.

Knitter requirements were for a basic pattern which took the least amount of yarn possible and the least amount of time to knit.

The pattern is simple, and can be knitted in two evenings. It requires only about 35g of 4 ply wool, as well as four buttons which can be purchased cheaply at charity shops.

After some trial and error the pattern that evolved meets all these requirements. Best of all it is reversible which means it doesn't matter if the baby has tubes on their left or right side, the nurse can simply turn the vest around.

We have had fun with many stripey and geometric colour combinations – 1950s Fair Isle, embroidered flowers, lacy panels, textured stitches etc – the vest is our canvas! With the basic pattern knitters can just be creative and hopefully some wee baby will be warmed by their effort.

Note: The back and front are knitted in one flat piece. The neck is the same on front and back in order for the singlet to be used with the opening on either the left or right side. A specific size is not specified as this depends on the yarn and needles used, and different sizes can be useful for different sized babies.

Requirements:

- · Approximately 35g of wool of 3 or 4 ply wool yarn
- 3.25mm, 3.5mm or 3.75mm needles to suit the yarn
- Four buttons

Gauge:

There is no fixed gauge for this pattern, simply choose a compatible yarn and needle size. See under Requirements regarding needle size. The resulting different sizes will be suitable for different babies.

Abbreviations:

- st/s stitch/es
- K knit
- P purl
- yon yarn over needle (to make buttonhole)
- pm place marker

Using appropriate needles for the yarn chosen cast on 78(90)sts and work 13 rows of garter stitch.

Row 14: K2, yon, K2tog, K5, pm, P27(33), pm, K10, pm, P27(33), pm, K5.

Row 15: K all sts.

Row 16: K9, P27(33), K10, P27(33), K5.

Repeat the last 2 two rows until you have worked 9(10) garter stitch ridges in the band since the first button hole, then (with the wrong side facing you) knit row 14 row again to make the next buttonhole.

Repeat from * to * once more to make 3 buttonholes in the 9st border.

Work row 15 and 16, then row 15 again.

Cast off 4sts at the top of the 9st border, knit all stitches to the end.

Armhole

Dividing the stitches into front and back sections: K37(43), join in a new ball of yarn, K37(43). This is to knit both pieces at the same time, but they could be done separately.

Work 23 rows of garter stitch on each piece – 12 garter stitch ridges.

Neck and Shoulders

With the right side facing divide each piece into two shoulders and a neck as follows:

K12(14) for one shoulder, cast off 13(15)sts for neck opening, K12(14) for the second shoulder.

To knit the shoulder straps, start with the shoulder on the buttonhole side of the vest. Knit 16 rows garter stitch. On the next row K5(6), yon, K2 tog, K5(6) to make the shoulder buttonhole. K2tog at the beginning and end of the next 4 rows. Cast off the last 4(6)sts.

For the second and third shoulders knit 12 rows of garter stitch and either cast the stitches off then sew a shoulder seam, or graft the shoulder stitches together.

For the fourth shoulder knit 13 rows of garter stitch and cast off.

You are welcome to share this pattern, use it to knit for hospitals, charities or gifts, but please don't sell knitted vests or sell copies of the pattern.



WHITE CHRISTMAS SLICE

Here is a recipe (copied from the internet) I thought it might come in handy for all those "bring a plate" events coming up in December.



7 Ingredients

4 Method Steps

- 450g white chocolate, chopped
- 3 cups rice bubbles
- 80g packet pistachio kernels, toasted
- ① 140g packet berry lollies
- ① 1 cup desiccated coconut
- ① 1 tbsp red mini m&m's
- ① 3 tsp silver cachous
- Select all ingredients

Step 1

Grease a 20cm x 30cm lamington pan. Line base and sides with baking paper, extending paper 5cm above edges of pan on all sides.

Step 2

Place white chocolate in a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on HIGH (100%) for 1 minute 30 seconds or until melted and smooth, stirring with a metal spoon every 30 seconds. Cool 10 minutes.

Step 3

Add rice bubbles, pistachios, berry lollies and coconut. Stir until well combined. Spoon mixture into prepared pan, pressing with the back of a large spoon to compact. Sprinkle with m&m's and cachous. Refrigerate for 4 hours or until set.

Step 4

Remove slice from fridge. Stand 5 minutes. Using a hot knife, cut into bars. Serve.

■ ADD TO SHOPPING LIST

REGULAR EVENT INFORMATION

Tasty Tuesday: 1st Tuesday of the month at 6pm

A group meets on the first Tuesday every month for a meal, chat, and a good laugh. For more information contact Mary Temperton 234 1477 or 027 419 2866.

Mah Jong: Every Wednesday at 7pm

This group, initiated by Marg Pine has been running since 2007. They meet every Wednesday night at St Mary's Church in Whitby from 7-9pm. New members welcome. For more information contact Marg Pine 021 610 906.

Book Group: 2nd Monday of the Month at 2pm

We each give a talk on books we have read in the past month; we don't all have to read the same book. For more information contact Lyndsay Kelly 234 7238.

Craft Group: 2nd Thursday of the month at 10am

Everyone takes along their own project, fun and fellowship is had by all. For more information contact Enid O'Neil 022 529 2232.

Dog Walking Group: Every Tuesday 11am at Plimmerton Domain. For more information contact Judy Tilley 027 446 3430

Mix n Mingle: Once a month at The Supply Room Mana Date and time to be confirmed for 2024

A time to relax and socialise with IW members for a social drink, and maybe a meal afterwards. Partners are very welcome and encouraged to attend. This a great way for our ladies that work during the day to get to know other members in a smaller group, which helps you get to know others, and build friendships.

Table for 8: Saturday evenings

Table for 8 is held four times a year. A shared dinner party with simple delicious food. Each couple contributes a course and a bottle of wine. This is an enjoyable evening out where you will get to know fellow members and their partners better. Singles welcomed too of course.

For more information contact Julie McLagan on 021 425872

YOUR COMMITTEE

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Website	If you, or someone you know, is experiencing
www.innerwheel.org.nz	illness or difficulties, please let me know. I will
www.internationalinnerwheel.org	contact you or your family to identify how we
Absences	can best support you.
If you advise us you are coming to a meeting,	
but do not attend, we still require you to pay for	
your meal as we have committed for catering.	
IW Bank Account: 12 3254 0081449 01	

Inner Wheel New Zealand

Charity No CC52602 IRD NO. 118-406-117 NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY

International Inner Wheel 19th Convention Manchester 2024

PRE-ORDER FORM/INVOICE

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DESCRIPTION	QTY	AMOUNT
Bareroot Rose "In Friendship" (Mattwheel) @ \$50 per plant.		
Plants will despatched in Winter (June-July) 2024.		
WHILE STOCK LASTS		
Order is processed on receipt of payment.		
Inner Wheel thanks you for supporting our charities		
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Thank You

Inner Wheel 2024 Centennial Celebrations