



BPW HUNTLY & DISTRICTS

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4

NEWSLETTER – MAY 2017

PRESIDENT'S PEN

It's been a busy month for BPW Huntly since my last President's Pen. As you will have heard at our May Club Dinner meeting, the seven members who went to the BPWNZ Conference in the Hawkes Bay, thoroughly enjoyed it. I hope you all had a chance to view the video of the conference that I sent out earlier this month as that gives some insight as to the activities that went on while there.

A recap of Conference from our Club's point of view:

- We won the Community Service Award for our Kimihia Home High Tea project
- Carole Rodgers-Carroll received the BPWNZ Distinguished Service Award which was very well deserved
- Janet Gibb was nominated and elected as VP Issues and First Vice President. She gave a wonderfully inspiring speech which is reproduced later in this bulletin – make sure you read it!
- Our three delegates voted on the resolutions and took part in the discussions for voting
- I spoke as seconder for BPW Franklin's resolution about increasing financial literacy in schools
- We turned out well for the Saturday night's dinner in our 60's outfits (Wendy's in particular was brilliant) and made an admirable job of our singing item
- We made some firm arrangements for the hosting of the Northern Regional Conference
- We all made some new friends and practiced our networking skills (as well as yakking a lot!)
- 10 Years Plus Certificates for Pauline Dunn and Helen McAlpine were collected and presented at our May dinner meeting.

Northern Regional Conference this Sunday 21st May

Thank you to everyone involved in this – I am very grateful for the wonderful support members have shown. Janet and other members of the Executive have a good program lined up for the day and I am sure our eleven members attending will learn something and be inspired. Thanks also to those who are taking billets and I know our guests will enjoy the hospitality offered by Huntly & District BPW. The Huntly Bowling Club executive has been very accommodating with making the facilities available to us both on Saturday afternoon for setting up and early on Sunday morning in time for an 8.30am start. It really has reinforced to me the benefits of being in such a wonderful community – it is the helpful, accommodating, caring people that make it so great – thanks Bill Walker, Maurice Gerrand and Graham Gunn of the Huntly Bowling Club.

Candle lighting Dinner Tuesday 13th June

Arrangements are well underway for this with invitations issued and some replies back already. Please reply as to whether you are attending or not so that we can confirm numbers early and don't forget to extend the invitation to women outside our membership so we can spread the word about our work for women in our community.

Yours in BPW

Trish Foy - President

COMING UP

JUNE MEETING CANDLELIGHTING

TUESDAY 13th JUNE

6pm at Huntly RSA

GUESTS WELCOME

\$35.00 per head

HOSTESSES

All Club Members

SPEAKER

Judi Davidson

Author of

*'Arms Wide Open
A Mother's Story'*

Please RSVP to Trish

with numbers

attending

021 840022

trish@cscs.co.nz

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Trish, Janet,

Shelley & Claire

COMMITTEE

MEETING

Monday 29th May

5.15 pm at

Cowley Stanich offices

FUTURE DATES

Monday 26th June

Monday 31st July

2017 BPWNZ CONFERENCE



CONFERENCE REMITS - (contributed by Carole)

For those not at the meeting here is a summary of remits discussed at Conference.

EXTERNAL POLICY RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED AT THE CONFERENCE

E1: Breaches of Police Safety Orders: This was subject to a friendly amendment before it was brought up for discussion. The amendment removed "and to extend the holding period for the perpetrator from 24 hours to five days."

The amended resolution reads as follows - "That the New Zealand Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW NZ) Inc. the urges the Government to make any breach of a Police Safety Order a Criminal offence.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

E2: Breaches of Protection Orders: "That the NZ Federation of BPW NZ Inc urges the Minister of Police to make it mandatory, that when a Protection Order is breached, an arrest be made and the perpetrator be held in custody for a minimum of 24 hours."

PASSED

E3: Learning to Budget and Manage your Weekly Income -(Financial Literacy)

Proposed by BPW Franklin, Seconded by BPW Huntly

"That the NZ Federation of BPW NZ Inc urges Parliament and the Ministry of Education to implement a financial literacy programme into the school curriculum as a mandatory subject for all students from year seven[7] to year thirteen[13]."

PASSED – But not unanimous. Discussion against held the view that this should be a parental responsibility and not teachers and was it MOE feasible.

Resolutions on Internal Policy that will directly affect our Club have led to the following:

- If our Constitution permits and we bestow a life membership on a member then the Club is responsible for the payment of Federation dues.
- If we present a remit on legislation to Conference then we accept the responsibility for any follow-up under the direction of the Vice President Issues if requested to do so by the Executive.
- If we present a resolution to Conference then we must follow up by preparing any draft letters for Ministers which must be edited and authorized by the President's Office.
- We keep the Executive Secretary and IT Admin informed by sending in our annual programme and keep updating it.
- We must send our newsletters to IT Admin.

JANET GIBB: MY 2017 VISION AS VP BPW NZ

On International Women’s Day this year, Sandra Coney said something that really struck home to me. She said: **“You measure women’s progress not by how women are doing at the top but how they are doing at the bottom. Women on boards, and women as CEOs and so on, are important, but it is much more important to put effort into improving the position of the women who are doing worst.”**

I recently responded to a survey sent to Waikato Women and the questions were around what barriers did I face in the workplace, in being able to have the confidence to speak out, in gaining employment, education, access to transport, a living wage etc. Did I have a disability or access need or mental health issue? After I answered all these questions I thought – “I’m not the target audience”. I realised I had no barriers stopping me personally in life. However, many women do have barriers. They cannot get employment or education to be employable – they do not have access to money which enables independence and the ability to walk away from situations.

This is why I see BPW NZ as such an important organisation – we advocate for women on many issues and in most cases, we stand up for the women who cannot stand up for themselves. Alone we don’t have the power to make change for good, but together at club level and at national level we do have the momentum and strength in numbers to make a difference.

My vision in this role is to encourage, mentor, liaise with and motivate all members of BPW NZ to see what a difference we can make together. Let’s identify champions of action in each club and among individual members. We can build on the success to date. The Executive committee and the Issues Task Force need support to do this.

Just put your hand up to do what you can do – a bit at a time. Here I am with my hand up for VP Issues. Come with me on this journey to contribute locally and nationally toward our goals to create a better space for women and girls in New Zealand and around the world.

Let us continue to stand up for equality for all and for those who can’t do it for themselves. Let us continue to raise awareness at grass roots level and not rely on past success. Let us do what Sandra Coney says - “Do the hard yards, progress through the formal routes, keep agendas on the table year after year. And when you look at issues like pay equity, it is very much year after year, decade after decade”.

My vision is to build a greater awareness that we can and do make a difference at grass roots and it is very real for many of our communities. It is in our own back yard. Once every member understands this we will have many more advocates and many more successes.

Thank you.



Janet was presented with flowers at the Huntly and Districts May meeting in recognition of being elected Vice President Issues and First Vice President at the BPWNZ conference.

MAY DINNER MEETING

HUNTLY COLLEGE STUDENT LEADERS 2017

Speakers' report by Helen McAlpine



Rosemary Curle introduced the speaker panel of Emily Ussher (Head Girl for 2017), Phoebe Comins and Erika Parish who are three of the five female Student Leaders at Huntly College. Both Erika and Emily's education started at Ohinewai Primary School while Phoebe attended Huntly Primary. Emily is unsure what she plans to do in the future, although it will involve sport; Erika aims to study medicine and help in her community; Phoebe plans to study architecture.

Commenting on their roles and the impact on their lives, Emily noted the big time commitment with managing meetings, running events and being connected to students. Phoebe likes to be a voice for students, especially with teachers and gets very busy, particularly with events at the school. She feels a huge responsibility, especially showing the image to the community of the majority of the students who work hard and commented that the huge time commitment was worth it.

When speaking of their responsibilities, working together as a team and using each others strengths was the main focus. They particularly help the female students and address their challenges. Phoebe is involved with Student Champions, standing against domestic violence in supporting fellow students. Her Student Champion Group have been acknowledged by the government in starting this initiative, with a representative from Wellington coming to help with training. Erika is involved with SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) and supports other students having difficulties, ensuring the right help is given. Emily is heavily involved with her sporting endeavours both for her school and at club and representative level.

During their time in leadership, the girls found their communication skills have grown, their understanding of others and how to relate information have improved. They know this will help them in the future.

As well as their roles as school leaders, Emily is a member of the College Waka Ama team and in a Waikato Development netball squad. Emily's goal is to work towards being selected for the Waikato Bay of Plenty Magic Netball Team in the future; Phoebe is also a member of the College Waka Ama team, works part-time after school for a local building firm and also volunteers with a Youth Group for troubled girls providing them with creative outlets. She is now on the Huntly Youth Board and has found being a Youth Advisor for two groups interesting in finding out how organisations are run; Erika plays hockey for the college and a club as well as working part time. All three girls find they have to balance their activities, both school and extramural.

The time concluded with a discussion regarding financial literacy which the girls did not know about, but once explained felt this is needed in school. They summed up Huntly College in a word each as OPPORTUNITY ... UNIQUE.....PERCEPTION

It was a pleasure hosting these three young women – it was easy to see why they have been selected as leaders of their school and we are sure we will hear more of their talents and influences in the future.

Presentation of 10 years Plus BPW Certificates to Helen McAlpine and Pauline Dunn



ANZAC FLOWERS PROJECT



Thanks to all those who helped decorate the soldiers graves at the Huntly Cemetery in preparation for ANZAC day.

FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE by Trish Foy

The importance of financial literacy skills (or lack of) in our high school aged students was discussed at the conference and also in our own Club. I'm sure most parents and grandparents want their children to have budgeting and financial skills to help them through life and acknowledge that it is a very important life skill.

It is however, not an easy task to advise children on monetary matters. Some children don't want to take their parent's advice (I think they do eventually come round!), and sometimes parents aren't equipped themselves to advise because their own financial literacy skills are limited. There is help at hand though with very good resources available both on-line and person- to -person with budget advice bureaus in many communities.

I really like the Sorted.org.nz website which is a government initiative from the Commission for Financial Capability. The website was updated in 2016 as "new look Sorted website" and boasts these improvements:

- Simple and powerful to use
- Easy debt calculator
- Budget calculator
- Flexible enough to accommodate different scenarios
- Net Worth Calculator
- Covers the basics for the financially challenged
- Works on a Smartphone



So if you have a visit/request from a young person close to you to help sort their finances (as I did a few nights ago) this website could provide some of the solutions and advice required to assist. It means that they are getting the advice from an alternative source than their parents, and because it is online and available on Smartphone may appeal to the younger generation. They also have some great examples of how to set up different bank accounts so that it's easier to monitor the budget for money spent in various areas. If you haven't explored this website it's well worth a visit.

Feijoa Date and Ginger Loaf – Janine Kerr

Perfect way to use up some feijoas and is delicious with a cup of tea

INGREDIENTS

320g feijoas, peeled and diced
 1 1/3 cup coarsely chopped dates
 ¾ cup boiling water
 1 cup sugar
 65g butter
 2tblsp diced crystallised ginger
 1 egg lightly beaten
 1ts vanilla
 2 level cups flour
 1 tsp Baking Powder
 1 tsp Baking Soda

METHOD

Pre heat oven to 180C. Lightly grease a loaf tin and line with baking paper. Combine feijoas, dates, water, sugar and butter in a saucepan over medium heat and bring to the boil. Reduce the heat and simmer for 5 minutes. Remove from heat and cool.

Add the egg and vanilla and stir to combine. Sift in the flour, baking powder and baking soda and fold together. Working quickly, put the mixture into the prepared loaf tin and into the oven. Bake 50 – 55 minutes or until a skewer inserted in the centre comes out clean. Remove onto rack to cool. Serve warm or cold, with or without butter. Store in a covered container for up to 3 days. Also freezes well.



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(07) 824 6737 or 027 4753397

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Jan Shand
021 848 043

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Wendy Horrox
828 8915 or 027 202 2252

Catering:
Gayle Scott
826 3383 or 021 263 6840

Other Committee:
Karen Putwain, Shelley Lynch

We welcome your ideas, suggestions to improve our club.

THE INTERNATIONAL COLLECT

We ask

That we meet together as women, not allowing beliefs, religion, nationality, ethnicity or language to come between us.

That these meetings enable us to move forward and advance the status of women throughout the world.

That the value of women be recognized in our families, our communities, our workplaces, our country and the world.

That we use our good ideas, our knowledge, and our experience to promote the worth of women.

That we combine our strengths to move forward in peace, in serenity and in love.

That women of all generations will do their part to achieve harmony and equality among all human beings.

AIMS OF BPW

BPW International aims to unite business and professional women in all parts of the world to:

1. Work for women's: • economic independence • equal opportunity and representation in economic, civil and political life.
2. Encourage and support women and girls to: • develop their professional and leadership potential • undertake lifelong education and training • use their abilities for the benefit of others, locally, nationally and internationally.
3. Advocate: • for the elimination of all discrimination against women • for human rights and the use of gender-sensitive perspectives.
4. Undertake: • world-wide networking and co-operation between business and professional women • non-profit projects that help women gain economic independence • to present the views of business and professional women to international organisations and agencies, and to business, governments and civil society.

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

Please email them to ghancocknz@gmail.com by the 15th of the month. Contributions to our bulletin are welcome from all club members.