

NEWSLETTER – Sep 2014

And now it is September!

As one version of the saying goes – ‘Spring has sprung, the grass is riz, I wonder where the birdies (or flowers) is?’ According to Mr Google, the origin of the poem is lost but it has been attributed to Ogden Nash who tended to pen this sort of witty doggerel verse so effortlessly.

Can someone please tell this ode to my tulips which are not playing ball!

So, what’s been happening in BPW this past month?

Kelly Davy gave a really heart-moving story of her family’s struggle to cope with the impacts of Huntington’s Disease as it ravages the quality of life especially for her mum and of course, how her whanau have cared for mum as long as they were able to at home before needing other care. I was really impressed at her ongoing efforts to access research on this degenerative genetic disease for present and future generations of her family. Interestingly at Regional Meeting last month, I spoke with a lady whose daughter is a nurse specializing in the care of HD patients and she was just so passionate.

Anita and I attended Regional meeting on a nice sunny day in Otaki and I have to say, it was a great meeting – well run by the Mana ladies and the agenda was very interesting. Key take out for me was the workshop on Womens’ Empowerment Principles and how we can apply them in our club. Really practical ideas and once you see past the high flung corporate version, we are actually practicing WEPs – our challenge is now to expand further for the betterment of all women.

My apologies for the late delivery of our Dinner meeting invite – gremlins have attacked our Gmail contact lists and poor Margie sent out the invite to a very select few – until we noticed that the most of us were off the list!

We are supporting the local Cinema this month with the refurbishment of their seating (in case you don’t know, Meredith serves on the Trust) so we are aiming to purchase a couple of chairs for BPW – no special benefits of free seats but a good community project to support and add to our Club of the Year entry for next year’s conference.

And just a reminder re October meeting – I have not been overwhelmed by eager beavers wanting to oust me off my perch so please remember, it’s that time of year when you can fulfill that pressing desire to be involved in the running of our BPW so if you have been thinking “I’d like to be President or a committee member”, feel free to put you name in the hat. Always great to see new faces on the executive so rather than thinking about it, just do it!! At this stage, I know we need a secretary.

Hope you have had a chance to look in your wardrobes and decided on your much needed new summer dress – love to see you in it soon!

Holon

Next Dinner Meetings

15th September 2014
6pm Tairoa Lodge for
6.30 pm Dinner

*Partners and friends night
and we are off to see the
Wizard!*

20th October 2014
6pm Tairoa Lodge for
6.30 pm Dinner

Our AGM – please do come

Contact Details

BPW Hawera
P.O. Box 96, Hawera

info@bpwhawera.org.nz
www.bpwhawera.org.nz



Helen Cook
President

Feel free to contact me on
021 145 0570 or
helenjcook@xtra.co.nz



Meredith MacKenzie
Treasurer

Contact me on
027 276 3424 or
meredith.mac@xtra.co.nz

National news

Message from Vicky Mee –

Over the last month I have been mulling over how best to explain succinctly what BPW is all about. AND ensuring that whatever that short answer is that it is a great way to get a conversation going! For if BPW NZ is to grow and be effective we need to tell other women about what a great organisation this is and invite them to an event to find out for themselves. It all starts with conversations.

There's no right answer here but for me the words that resonate are **“unlocking talent”**.

I know that BPW does a great job building the skills of members and unlocking talent and mentoring others to achieve their potential (as BPW Huntly and Districts does with local schools). Our scholarships and support of community events (like BPW Gisborne supporting the Science Fair) all help unlock talent and encourage further education. Plus our advocacy focuses on clearing barriers for women that prevent them from using their talents.

Using the phrase “unlocking talent” strikes chords with women trying to enter the pipeline for promotion in big corporations, with women considering study to make changes in their lives, with women with big ideas and low confidence and with young girls considering their future.

Try it and see if it's a conversation starter for you! One that leads naturally to an invitation to a BPW meeting! And if you find a great answer to the question “What is BPW all about?” please let me know!

As I write I've been to the Regional meetings in Rotorua, Taipa and Otaki. I'm struck by the enthusiasm and energy put into so many great projects and community events. It is great to hear what you are doing and very inspiring to be involved with so many energetic and strong women.

I encourage all of you to come to our Leadership Forum to learn new skills and then together we can extend our influence by using our voice more effectively.

Let's focus on unlocking talent our own and others'. Then, we can make an impact under the triennial theme for BPW International “Making a Difference through Leadership and Action”.

**Vicky Mee
President**



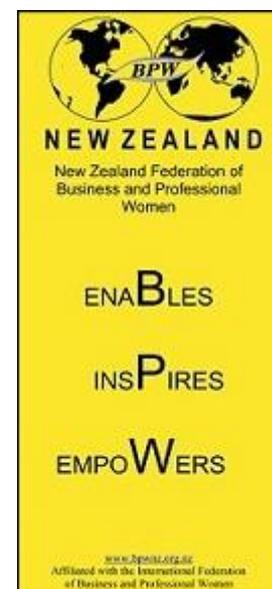
Vicky Mee
President BPW NZ

BPW NZ National Events

- ✓ 18th - 19th October
BPW NZ Leadership
Forum Pukekohe
Saturday 9am-4pm
Sunday 9am-3pm
- ✓ 1-3 May 2015
BPW NZ Conference
Christchurch

BPW NZ

www.bpwnz.org.nz



International news

Meet Our President

President Message to the International Board -

“First of all I would like to thank the XXVIII International Assembly for your participation on the democratic process that elected me as your President and elected remarkable Executive members. I am honoured and excited at the prospect of leading our membership of Business and Professional Women through a new era in our organization. This is a crucial time in the lives of women around the world. We have brought up societal awareness of our position and our goals. We will now work in claiming our well deserved space in society, in the business world, and in the professions. BPW International is an element of change and improvement. We are an established global network of leaders in our own right.

As we start this new Triennium, it is our goal to Make a Difference Through Leadership and Action. I strongly believe that what makes BPW so special is its members. If we join our efforts and work as a team and with our partner organizations in the initiatives, programs and projects, that we have and in those that may come before us, not only will we be empowering our own members, but all women in general. It is through our common action that we will see the results of our work.

BPW International with its network of National Federations, Affiliate Clubs and its members in 100 countries around the globe is in the best position to show the world our true empowerment of women through our actions. In this triennium we will build on the work and accomplishments gained during previous trienniums and through our common efforts we will be leaders who take action. Leadership is the best tool to empower women in all phases of our lives, in the workplace, in society and under the law, and we need to prepare ourselves so we can improve our performance at all levels. We need to take action with sustainable programs, working on campaigns, highlighting issues, becoming women in decision-making roles and anywhere that women need the self-confidence to lead. Leadership is not just about being a CEO, a President or Chair, it is about motivating, inspiring, providing support, mentoring, and action. BPW has the tools needed to empower our members.

I call on our BPW leaders, Affiliates and members in general to join in our efforts to reach our objectives and those of our predecessors. BPW was built by strong, hardworking pioneers who led us by example and who, through their efforts, improved the lives of women throughout the world. It is my commitment to work shoulder to shoulder with our members, “keeping our roots, building our future.” **Together, we will be Making A Difference Through Leadership And Action.”**

*Dr. Yasmin Darwich,
President
BPW International 2014-2017*



*Dr. Yasmin Darwich
(Mexico), BPW
International President 2014
-2017*

BPW International

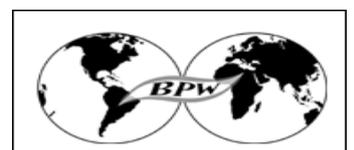
<http://www.bpw-international.org/>

Did you know?

Founding President Dr Lena Madesin Phillips said:

"Each woman, as a citizen, must bring to the national policy of her own country, the contribution of forward-looking and constructive thought followed by determined action.

Each woman must dedicate herself to protect and promote the interests of all other women in business and in the professions."



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And for some local news:

- A great evening at Tairoa Lodge (again) with inspirational speech by Kelly Davy! (Te Aroha and Kelly pictured below)



- Congratulations to Sue Davidson CEO of Stratford District Council who has been appointed the new Chief Financial Officer of New Plymouth District Council – well done, Sue. 2 women at the helm!
- And well done also to Rachel Werder who is making a career progression within TSB – Rachel is presently undertaking training in New Plymouth and Auckland with a view to move into another area of the bank.
- And just in case you are interested, I (Helen Cook) passed my National Certificate of Business Coaching and after completing work related qualifications, I am now aiming towards commencing Diploma qualifications next year (I have the study bug now!).
- Best wishes for a speedy recovery go to Chris Turner who had surgery three weeks ago – she assures me that her family have been seconded to take care of her (her words – pay-back time!).
- And best wishes also to Desiree Phillips – a false alarm in August as new baby thought “hey, why not arrive early”? We now await!
- A big thank you to the following members to help out with the meet and greet.



Helen Cook
President



Rachel Werder
Membership



Meredith Mackenzie
Treasurer



Vivien Yeung
Young BPW



Margie Jones



Anita Scott



Christina Bycroft

| Dinner Meeting Date | Meet & Greet Roster |
|---------------------|--|
| | (If you are unable to complete, please arrange for another member to take your seat at the door) |
| 15 September | Anita Scott-Dekker and Gwen Cater |
| 20 October | Jan Dunlop and Jill Manaia |
| 17 November | Sheryl Wallis and Michelle Karalus |
| 15 December | Christine Corrigan and Lynne Newell |

And from Te Aroha's desk

When Te Aroha asked for the Club's support, she said then that she was motivated by watching her daughters go through different processes that required documents to be certified. One of the challenging issues for them was finding someone accessible to them and someone they were comfortable relating to. Te Aroha had formed a view that they - and indeed their peers - needed someone approachable, accessible and friendly.

"My daughters' friends had often commented on the communicative relationship that Abi, Sarce and I have, it occurred to me that I could be that someone."



On Tuesday 15 July 2014, Te Aroha Hohaia was sworn in as a JP at the Hawera District Courthouse by Judge Allan Roberts. Te Aroha was supported by four generations of her family, whānau and friends as well as past and present members of BPW Hawera attending the ceremony.

Getting to the swearing in ceremony has been a four year process that started with a conversation with a local JP in 2011 and in May 2013, BPW Hawera agreed to support Te Aroha's nomination. After securing a second letter of support from Te Korowai o Ngāruahine Trust, Te Aroha then went through the formal process that required endorsement from her electorate MP, Tariana Turia, relevant checks, interview and assessment, and then training and further assessment.

