



BPW HUNTLY & DISTRICTS

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 7

NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2017

PRESIDENT'S PEN

On Saturday 16th September I attended a concert at the Gallagher Performing Arts Centre featuring the Waikato Rivertones of which my sister Christine is a member. What a wonderful group of singers and performers they are, and they were showcasing their upcoming performance that they are taking to the Las Vegas Convention that they are competing in from the 9th to 24th October. One of the Rivertones' items was a celebration of New Zealand, starting with a haka, mentioning the suffragette movement and in particular, of the feats of Jean Batten, on which one of their songs was based. There were other musicians and dancers (many secondary school aged) performing at the concert as well and we clearly have a wealth of talent in the Waikato region.

I'm sure I can say that our club members who attended the "That Bloody Woman" show which told the story of Kate Sheppard, thoroughly enjoyed it and the sharing of a meal beforehand. Gayle has written up her thoughts about the Show in an article later in this bulletin.

Our club donated \$200 to the Huntly Ladies Allsorts group who will pool this with their own fundraising and donations to go to the Waikato Breast Cancer organisation. They are holding their annual Pink Walk and selling pink ribbons in October.

Following her and Evelyn's stint in town on BPW Day, Wendy wrote an informative article about our club and BPW objectives, which was published in the last Chatter. Thank you to Wendy and Evelyn for giving up their Saturday morning for spreading the work about our Club and BPW, and for collecting extra funds for our breast cancer donation to Huntly Ladies Allsorts.

I look forward to having your company and that of BPWNZ President Hellen Swales at our next dinner meeting and AGM on Tuesday 10th October. Don't forget to exercise your right to vote if you haven't already.

Kia Kaha
Trish Foy – President

COMING UP

OCTOBER AGM & DINNER MEETING

Tuesday 10th October
From 5pm at Huntly RSA
Meeting 5.30pm sharp

Guest Speaker

Hellen Swales BPWNZ
President to present
KTA awards

\$25.00 per head

HOSTESSES

Carole, Pamela

Please let Gayle Scott if you
are unable to attend

826 3383 or 0212636840
scottptgy@xtra.co.nz

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Gayle, Karen

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Monday 30th October
5.15 pm at
Cowley Stanich offices

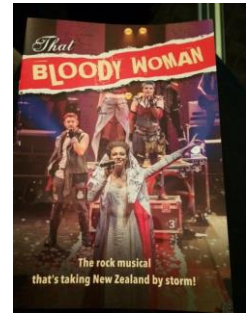
FUTURE DATES

Dinner Meeting -
Monday 6th November

Committee Meeting –
Monday 27th November

THAT "BLOODY WOMAN"

A group of our Huntly BPW members enjoyed the touring rock musical 'That Bloody Woman' at Clarence St theatre.



Gayle writes:

While we are busy deciding who we are going to vote for in the upcoming elections, take a moment to think of how life was in the 1800's for women did not have this choice. They weren't included in political discussion; that was a 'men's only' domain! Who would have dreamed that a woman would have anything to contribute about anything? These women were left to discuss the running of the household, their children & their education. Many of us have read novels of this era, which have given us an insight into the lives of women at this time. It is staggering to us now that women were so controlled and they thought so little of themselves. What can a woman say or do that has any influence at all.....

Kate Sheppard was one of many who stood up for her beliefs. If you have read the info in the last Bulletin, you can see what an inspiration she was for the women of her time. She was a leader but she still needed followers, those who were unsure, those who needed another woman to say ...'its ok to speak up'. The battle is not over just because we have a vote. The battle has just begun! Hopefully our grand- daughters will reap the benefits of these decades of making a woman's voice heard.

"That Bloody Woman"

It was a musical...yes, really! A history lesson told in song. Fish net stockings, a very short skirt (piece of cloth), bare midriff, skin tight torn jeans, punk looking straps, boots and buckles. Not the sort of costumes you would expect for a story set in 1893. But it worked. A group of 6 actors/ singers/ dancers brought this show to life with original songs, incredible voices, upbeat tunes and very minimum staging or costume changes. Large travel trunks, handwritten signs, audience participation (Claire & Gaye being banner waving Dick (& he was) Seddon supporters - never sit in the front row!). They even had the audience (yes, us) singing a song using that unspeakable F... word. Hilarious. Bubbles were blown, que cards held up, actors jumping off & on to the stage. The humour was great, comments to the audience, mainly about men -their narrow minded thinking and actions of that era.

The story was told by Kate as though looking back on herself, what she may have thought. Then bringing the scene together with song or standing back listening while others sang their story. Hers was a loveless marriage with her true love being married to her best friend. They had one son who went back with his father to England (women had no rights or voice in that matter). A mournful song about her boy who she saw married, but died a young man. The dedication of Kate and her band of loyal supports was expertly told. After two failed submissions to parliament, the third was finally presented to the lower house with over 30,000 signatures (1/4 of voting age women) & measuring 274 metres long. The original is at the new He Tohu exhibition in Wellington. I think we all left pretty inspired and impressed with this show's presentation. If you get a chance to see it before it has finished showing -- GO!

Thanks to Janet for organising this dinner & show treat.

SEPTEMBER MEMBER PEN PORTRAITS

Karen Putwain



Karen was the youngest in her family born to farming parents. Her father then became a builder and they moved to Auckland. Karen left school at 15 and her first job was cleaning cars and then delivering new cars. She fell pregnant at 19 years of age, married at 20, and by the age of 24 had three children.

She lived in Australia for four years and during that time Karen and her builder husband built 3 houses. On becoming a solo mother she set up her own business of mobile dog bathing – with her children often helping by finding dogs to bath.

Karen came back to NZ and started up what was the first mobile dog bathing business in NZ. Sometime later Karen went back to live with her first husband in Australia, a decision she regretted. The relationship didn't last and she returned to NZ. During this time, she met up with a long-time old friend, Mike (whom she later married in 1998) and lived in Paeroa for about 5 years, being self employed – this time importing natural pyrethrum for dogs.

Following Paeroa, Mike and Karen shifted to Clark's Beach and Mike went back farming at Patumohe. They then started buying rental houses in Huntly as investments and also bought the well-known "Harvey" house on Great South Road. Karen was also a nanny for four years. After shifting to a farm job at Hampton Downs, Mike started up his own business "Mike's Farm Ag Services", Karen took over the Canteen business at Huntly College and also did relieving work at the Te Kauwhata Early Childhood Centre. At the end of the farm job at Hampton Downs Mike and Karen moved into their "Harvey house" and Karen (ever the entrepreneur) and her son Tony started up their current partnership of Mussel Man food trailer and also importing food trailers from China to sell as part of the Mussel Man Franchise.

Karen very much enjoys her Mussel Man business which sees her meeting a wide range of people both locals and tourists.

Pamela Gibbs



It was wonderful to have Pamela share her life with us at the September meeting by delivering her verbal pen portrait.

Pamela Gibbs (nee Allan) was born in Gisborne and has two brothers and two sisters. She went to school in Gisborne until her father took up a new business venture that saw the family move to Pahiatua, where Pamela spent the rest of her education. She was a prefect at College, played tennis and netball at school level.

When Pamela left school she did not have any idea what she would like to do, but after a nudge from her father she decided on teaching, went for an interview and started her training one week later in Palmerston North. She lived in Christchurch for four years where she taught and then Wellington became home. Pamela has enjoyed badminton, squash and aerobics.

Pamela has 3 children and four grandchildren. She coached netball for school teams where she taught as well as coaching her daughter's teams when they were at primary and secondary schools.

She spent 10 years in England living and working mostly in Essex. She felt very fortunate to get a position in a School Sports Partnership involving 63 schools to promote Health, Fitness and Wellbeing. She was employed as a School Sports Coordinator with a team of others. Pamela visited 9 schools within that programme.

Upon returning to NZ, Pamela moved to Hamilton and is in business with her brother owning and operating a snack food franchise business, quite different to what she has done in the past.

Thank you Pamela and good luck in your latest venture.



BOOK US FOR YOUR
NEXT EVENT.
Phone: 022 643 1570
64225868970

**MUSSEL
MAN**

**MEAN FRITTERS
& GOURMET SEAFOOD**

President:
Trish Foy
828 7590 or 021 840 022

Past President:
Janet Gibb
(07) 824 6737 or 027 4753397

Secretary:
Jan Shand
021 848 043

Treasurer/ Vice President
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.*