

## **LATEST EMAILS BETWEEN DENISE IN HUKANUI/HAMUA WI – Our New Zealand Link WI AND JULIA IN BASLOW WI**

**From:** Denise Gavin  
**Date:** 12 March 2021, 23:25  
**Subject:** March news  
**To:** Julia Warne



WI Tete-a-Tete bulbs growing in Ann's garden

Hello dear Julia.

I have ordered tulips for myself and the girls. I gave them a trough and bulbs two years ago, but they haven't done that well. I dug half of mine out of the trough and put them in the fridge for 4 weeks, definitely helped – well I think it did as I didn't mark which trough I put them back in. 😞 Anyway, we will try again this year and put them in the fridge again for 6 weeks. Think Laura tipped hers out and there were only 3 bulbs in there out of 25 from when we potted them up. Fickle things, I haven't had any success when planted straight in the garden. Should get one of those bulb planters/baskets to sink into the garden and see how we go.

Our children go to school the day they turn 5! So different from Australia where there used to be only 1 intake at the beginning of the year. Now I think there may be two intakes. Hard on children who turn 5 at the beginning of the year to have to wait all that time. Here however, teachers have to cope with new 5-year-olds every day/week in the bigger schools. Always a good intake in October after New Year's and Christmas though!!! (That was my eldest sister and myself!!)

Yes, life has changed in the last 3 years. I wouldn't have dreamed it would be like this!

I lit the fire again this morning as Laura has come over to help with Ayla whilst Liv does farm work. Liv has kindly given me the day off today! Am trying to take it quietly as we had our community lunch yesterday and I was on my feet/hip for 6 hours with 5 mins to sit and eat a quick lunch. Am really feeling it this morning. The cooler mornings don't help either. Would like to do a bit of gardening but will have to dig with my left foot as I really notice it the next day if I use my right leg. Bloody joints!

Have a good weekend dear Julia,

Denise x x

**From:** Julia Warne  
**Sent:** 12 March 2021 10:10 PM  
**To:** Denise Gavin  
**Subject:** March news

Good morning Denise and all you Hukanui-Hamua Darlings

Lovely to hear from you as usual and good that you are managing to proceed with WI business. We certainly won't be back in Baslow Village Hall before July. Maybe even a few weeks after that, just have to wait and see how the gradual relaxation of restrictions progresses. However, as you know, the Team continues to manage affairs for us including the monthly Zoom presentation. You will see Jane's report attached reporting on the March presentation this week, including a mention for H-H!

Yes, we have plenty of daffodils making an appearance, as well as crocuses. I even have one tulip blooming in a patio pot and the others are no way near yet. This week there has been so much rain and cold wind. Hopefully, we can get that out of the way and then start to enjoy some warm Spring sunshine.

You are going to have your hands full with those grandchildren. How life has changed for you in just over 3 years. There will be so many happy times to enjoy. Also, it will be great fun as they are all fairly close in age and so will be able to share experiences. What age do they start school?

Lots of love to you all from

Julia and the Baslow WI Darlings xx

**On Thu, Mar 11, 2021 at 8:36 PM Denise Gavin wrote:**

Good morning Julia and the Baslow Darlings. We hope that spring has sprung over there and that you all have daffodils and spring flowers heralding the start of better weather and lifting your spirits.

Our AGM went well with 10/14 there. Our officer positions were rolled over as per usual and we set the programme for the year.

Autumn has arrived and the mornings are much cooler. Days take longer to warm up! We have had some much needed rain though.

Sue brought along a box of cooking apples which were split amongst those who wanted them. I have stewed mine and they will go in an apple & rhubarb crumble for our community lunch at our church hall today.

Today is the Tararua Federation AGM and Elaine is the Treasurer (as well as ours!). Hopefully Lesley will be going along too. Elaine has been busy making entries for the National Competitions which get judged today. I made a knitted knee rug, so we will see how we fare.

Elaine made a Faberge egg – polystyrene shape and then she glued on 1000s of sequins. We are all looking forward to seeing it after it has been in the competition!

I have my knitting needles clicking away. Have finished a little jacket for baby Finley (5 weeks old today) and wool for Ollie as well and NOW, Liv and Jymahl are expecting a little boy in mid-June! Sheesh, I really will be busy!

Have bought our Easter eggs early this year as last year, we missed out with COVID shortages at the supermarkets! It is predicted that Auckland will join the rest of NZ at Level 1 today, so the country will be enjoying the influx of tourists once again. The Trans Tasman bubble is yet to be finalised. There is one way travel available to Melbourne and Sydney and onwards from there, but travellers still have to quarantine in Managed Isolation when returning. Now up to \$5000 per stay.

Immunisation is still a few weeks away for the general public with border workers and medical workers first in line. it will be good to get that underway.

So, not a lot to report from this end. Keep well, safe and warm!

Love to you all,

Denise and the H-H Darlings x x x