

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

On Wed, Apr 14, 2021 at 11:23 PM
Denise Gavin wrote:



Hello dear Julia and Baslow Darlings.

We had our delayed April meeting yesterday and I think you had your Zoom meeting last night, actually you have probably just finished with UK time!

8 of us there at Gladys' home in the countryside. Four of our 14 have birthdays this month, so that depleted the "Birthday Bag" slightly!



A few entries in the ANZAC biscuit bake-off! Even Val's Dad put in an entry!! The rest of the biscuits and bags of others were taken to our local Foodbank yesterday.

We are collecting photos and news clippings for your Elizabeth Bell Challenge entry and will forward them to you after ANZAC Day.

After our 9am service at our Hamua Hall, we walk around the corner to the Memorial Gates. Every second year I guess, a few of us go and clean the gates of lichen/moss etc. This year I asked one of our locals if he could clean up the weeds and maybe put some 'wet and forget' on the gates to get rid of the dirt. I just

rang Dick and he has asked Veteran's Affairs if they can help. They will pay for a professional to come in and spray the gates so that they stay white. Fantastic – I wish I had asked Dick earlier!!

it is a small world when we read of Nancy's son coming to Rotorua for work experience on a NZ dairy farm. Nancy sounds like so many of our members. They have all reared calves, milked calves, done the paperwork for herd testing results etc., kept children and husbands in line and then maybe some time for themselves!

WI in New Zealand is 100 years old this year and over Valentine's Day weekend, they had a celebratory time in Napier. A statue of our founder Miss Ann Elizabeth Jerome Spencer was unveiled and a native Kowhai tree with a plaque was planted at the small cemetery where she was buried, not far from where the first WI meeting was held. Elaine travelled to Napier for the weekend and thoroughly enjoyed it. She also catches with 3 of her sisters up there, so that adds to the enjoyment too!

You will all be enjoying your partial freedom from lockdown, we hope and pray that it goes well for you all. Having had the jabs is a great boost for you all. Trans-Tasman bubble starts on Monday with many people flying both ways to reunite with family and friends. One family in our district has a daughter returning home after 8 years in Sydney and 3 in London before that. Caroline is flying back on the 29th April and had booked 2 weeks in Quarantine in Auckland. Now she doesn't have to do that. Her Mum especially can't wait!

Autumn has arrived with cooler mornings and nights drawing in. I have a fire going this morning. Will leave this now and head outside to water and pick tomatoes from my hot-house and pick some figs. Will give those sneaky birds a run for their money!!

Keep well and safe,

Love to you all,
Denise and the Hukanui-Hamua Darlings x x x x

From: Julia Warne
Date: Sun, Apr 18, 2021 at 9:27 AM
Subject: Re: April meeting
To: Denise Gavin

Dear Denise and all Hukanui-Hamua WI Darlings,

So lovely to hear from you and hear of some of your activities related to ANZAC Day, particularly with the photo of all the biscuits presented. It seems an Anzac biscuit has many interpretations. Thank you for contributing to our competition entry covering commemoration of this special day.

As promised, Jane's report for April is attached. She has done so well to keep this going through the past year with very little material. Now as the restrictions start to be relaxed, there should be a greater variety of activities on which to report. Already small groups of up to 6 can meet outdoors for walks, coffee etc. We can also visit restaurants with outdoor seating, group size limited to 6 at present. From end of June it is expected that the Village Hall will be fully open to resume normal activities, including use of the kitchen. At present small groups can meet in the Hall with windows and doors open. Who ever thought such small steps would be so exciting! Just hope large groups of people starting to gather will not put a stop to all these plans.

We are still experiencing overnight frost but have had lovely bright sunny days, although usually with a chilly wind, so still need to wrap up warm.

Lots of love to you all,
from Julia and all the Baslow WI Darlings xx