

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

**From:** Denise Gavin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:52 AM  
**To:** Julia Warne  
**Subject:** H-H Darlings



Hello dear Julia and the Baslow Darlings. Sorry for my lateness with this email, but Julia's stint in hospital put me on the back foot for starters!

Anyway, we had our July meeting at our National Bird Recovery Centre, Pukaha (Poo car ha) at Mt. Bruce, which is about 17 mins south of here. 11 members were there, plus Colleen's daughter Katie who is nursing at Hastings Hospital. Katie had just returned from a holiday in India and was heading back up to work from Colleen's home. Katie had applied to the WI for a grant from the Barbara Wood foundation for help with her nursing fees (Barbara Wood was killed in the Erebus plane disaster in the Antarctic in the 70s). Anyway. Katie was successful twice which was fantastic to hear. Lovely when we know the recipient.

We ordered morning tea then we were joined by Elaine's daughter Kerri who organises the volunteer roster at Pukaha. They have WOOFERS there for 6 weeks at a time in live in accommodation, mostly internationals but NZers are welcome too. Other volunteers walk pest trap lines and also monitor kiwis that are nesting with radio-controlled antennas etc. Others mingle with visitors, giving them an insight into some of the birds there and others are there for crowd control – keeping nousey parkers away from nesting and flighty birds. Some of their volunteers are in their 70s, great for fitness and giving back warm fuzzies too.

Your stand-in speaker for your previous meeting sounded great. We are envious of all your places for walks/lunches/bus stops etc and the availability of interesting speakers.

Tararua Federation (was Southern Hawkes Bay) to which we belong has a Craft Show late October. They have a card table section and this year it is Kiwiana. Elaine and Pat are combining to make a wall hanging with both having bits & pieces of NZ fabric (I also found some fabric with NZ wine bottle labels at the Op Shop), so it should look good. Then it is going to wing your way for Christmas! The card table has 5 sections of which 4 have to be done. Cooking/floral/sewing/craft/knitting. It all seems to come together at the end.

There is also a street raffle for the Craft Show and we will be selling raffles in Pahiatua on 5th October. Thought we had all that behind us with our calf fundraising, but the other Pahiatua WI doesn't have our resources, so will be sharing the day with them.

Half way through your centenary year already and I bet you have been enjoying some lovely days with your glorious summer weather.

We won't mention the cricket.....well, just that it should have been a tie!!! Am sure women would have had it worked out!

So, tis all from me. We hope this finds you all well and enjoying your summer. We are very wet here at present.

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

**From:** Julia Warne  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 25, 2019 3:10 AM  
**To:** Denise Gavin  
**Subject:** Re: H-H Darlings

Hello Denise and all you Hukanui-Hamua Darlings

Thank you for your email with so much interesting news. The National Bird Recovery Centre sounds fascinating and great that work is being done to educate the public about kiwis and other protected birds.

You will see that Jane's report is attached, as usual. She seems to have forgotten about alliteration this month, presumably overwhelmed by the noise of the flower pounding which sounded fun and some beautiful pieces of work have now been completed. I have missed the activities this month but am meeting Ann Mc for lunch tomorrow for a catch up. We don't have a meeting in August, so Jane has a month off from writing her report.

We are experiencing some very hot and humid days this week. My dehumidifier in the hall is running non-stop.

I am also late this month, partly because of my hospitalisation but also due to all the exciting sport that has been going on. Health wise I am feeling fine, apart from having low energy levels which is frustrating. On 2nd August I am scheduled to have an operation in Sheffield to remove a tumour from my upper abdomen, hopefully, with keyhole surgery, in which case I should only be in hospital for 3-5 days.

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

**From:** Denise Gavin  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 25, 2019 9:39 PM  
**To:** Julia Warne  
**Subject:** Re: H-H Darlings

Morning Julia. Glad to hear that you are feeling good – heat won't be helping your energy levels either! Humidity saps the life out of everything that isn't used to it. When I was young and in Adelaide, my Dad used to tell everyone to have Guinness Stout when they were lacking energy and he was usually a tee-totaller!!

They are getting on to your Op quickly, thank goodness. Sheffield is your nearest large hospital? Or maybe your specialist is based there?

Heard on the news this morning that Paris is having its hottest day on record at 42 deg. One of the girls from church Debbie, is in the UK at present, doing a quilting and gardens tour. She will be finding it hot! Also, other friends joined a river cruise a week ago. They are having to change ships as there is not enough water in the river. Have a 3-hour bus trip today and will meet another ship that is coming down from Amsterdam. Then passengers will swap ships to go north/south. Poor cleaners will have their skates on! Glenys said it is vvvvy hot and not pleasant at all! I guess they aren't used to the heat and so don't have plans in place to cope. Glenys and Athol are used to the heat here as they live in Masterton which certainly heats up in summer. Debbie is also from Masterton.

I googled Flower Pounding! Some very pretty results – especially with pansies – what will they think of next???

Sun is shining this morning. Lovely to have some winter sunshine after the wet weeks. We are hoping for a fine day or two next week to finish the pre-lamb shearing.

The heat is probably affecting Jane's alliteration as well! Getting all tongue-tied!

OK. Time to start the day. Have had Ayla a lot this week and am ready for a more quiet day! It is "Nisey - dance?" Nisey - Play? then my turn. Ayla - nappy change - NO!!! We feed the birds every morning with bread cubes along our fence, so the dogs can't reach it! We are getting quite a following!

Have a good weekend and keep cool dear Julia and Darlings

Love to you all

Denise x x