

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

From: Denise Gavin
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2019 10:29 PM
To: Julia Warne; Deborah Bax
Subject: Fwd.: outfit

Hello Julia and Deb and the Baslow Darlings. Here is Elaine's outfit which she had entered in the National Competitions which were held last week in Taupo. It is layered and has movement when she walks.



Elaine didn't place! We were astounded. However, it seems the judges could have 'misinterpreted' the criteria! Or that the entrants could have misinterpreted the criteria. Elaine thought that it read that the outfit had to be upcycled from a garment/ensemble, but there were outfits there that were made from bedspreads! So, I guess the criteria could be interpreted in different ways. There are photos of the winners on the WI FB page and they look pretty good, I must admit!

However, Elaine did well at the National Competitions, winning with her 'creation made of at least 3 CDs'. She made a very cute monkey and then achieved first for her 'twiddle cushion' for Alzheimer's sufferers. Then the President of our now Tararua Federation Felicity Ellison won the supreme prize with her quillow – a quilt that tucks into a pillow case.

Am waiting to get my doll and comments as she wasn't judged. Apparently, the judges thought that either the doll was purchased or her face/head was purchased, but I did indeed make it all.....albeit having made the head/face a few years ago at a face/head making class with my doll tutor. The rest was made from 'scratch' though. I have made dolls for a few years now with the first "Winnie" being made for a WI competition, where she gained second place! One of our members Leonie was at another institute and federation then and she gained first place for her "Olive"! We will have to have a 'reunion'!!

We have had such a lot of rain over the last week – 129mls from Thursday – Thursday. More than February, March & April combined! Oh well, we were getting desperate! We now have a 'duck pond' on a low part of our front paddock and have two Paradise Ducks who think it is wonderful! Ayla has five little plastic ducks for her bath/play and so we both enjoy walking quietly out to a secluded spot and watching and listening to the ducks. They are beautiful, but they do make a mess at times and also spread Salmonella. One of our neighbours has a duck shooting pond and was putting feed out to encourage the ducks, but then found that they had given some of his sheep Salmonella. I guess that is just one part of duck shooting, but a hard lesson to learn with dead livestock. The second year here on the farm we had a friend putting out acorns to feed the ducks. We now know that acorns can kill cows! There are a few under my very large English Oak at present, but I think the birds and sheep get to them before the cows – or that there is always plenty of grass in that paddock and cows aren't interested in acorns.

We had our meeting on Wednesday at Elaine's home where 10 of us gathered and we made Christmas decorations. Elaine had used her paper cutter to make a pattern on silver cardboard and then with her pattern maker imprinted a pattern and then cut out stars. We glued them together and put on some beads. Very effective. Then Elaine had looked carefully at one of the Suffolk Puffs (?) that we had received from Baslow and worked out how to make them. She had kindly cut out the circles, so some were able to make them, or take away a kit to make at home. Pat and Elaine worked out how to cover the polystyrene

balls and make the fabric balls (I received one). Pat is going to make some to send to her sister in the UK for Christmas! A real 're-cycling' effort!!

We will have our next meeting at Pukaha, the National Wildlife Centre, just south of Eketahuna. It has a lovely cafe, so think we will have morning tea there so Colleen and Gwen can join us from Masterton and fit in with Colleen's work schedule. Elaine's daughter Kerri works there and we are hoping that she can talk to us too. It is a huge place – about 900 acres I think and covers a hill in original native bush. The birds are very much at home there – feathered and non-feathered varieties!!

Highlights for this meeting were – Pat's excellence at wallpapering at her daughter's home in Wellington/Christine and Jim are moving to a new share milking job in the district, so we won't lose her/Val is going to house-sit for her brother and sister-in-law when they go away/Denise is to be a grandparent again with Laura due in late November/Elaine enjoyed and had success at the AGM. Otherwise an 'ordinary' month.

Thank you, Jane, for your newsletters – my tongue is gradually getting around your absolutely, always, agonising and active, alliteration!!!

Will love you and leave you with the sun shining on my back – yesterday started that way too. Oh well, it is winter, I guess!

Love to you all
from the Hukanui-Hamua Darlings xx