

## Emails from our Link WI, Hukanui-Hamua in New Zealand

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 03, 2016 3:46 AM

**To:** [Julia Warne](#)

**Subject:** August already!

Hello Julia & girls,

We had our August meeting today at Sue Philpott's home. 9 out of our 11 members attended which is great. A coffee/tea morning which was very enjoyable and we had our new Southern Hawkes Bay Federation president Bettina McCullough there to meet those she hadn't already met.

So wet at present, lots of puddles and mud about. Getting colder by the minute and snow is predicted throughout the country. Will see if it reaches here too!

I read your latest letter and Jane's newsletter. I have always pronounced Baslow as Barslow – Pat's brother corrected her when she was over there – BASLOW he said. So will try to remember in future! I asked for a translation on BROUGH too – Bruff from Sue. Our English language has so many ways of pronouncing words, it is incredible and must be daunting for foreigners – but so are other languages too I think.

Next month we are venturing about 1+1/4 hours north to Takapau to visit a daffodil farm there. Well, it is a sheep farm and about 5 acres are planted in daffodils. About 120 varieties now. The public can pick them and give the proceeds to the Cancer Society. Weather is usually better up there, so here's hoping. October we are going to visit the Arohanui Hospice in Palmerston North and take a roll call from their 'wish list'. So many people have friends/family who have been in the hospice and they do a wonderful, compassionate job.

Will contact the Pahiatua Museum to get the Hamua minute books and find out when we became linked.

Southern Hawkes Bay Federation have an annual Handcraft Show. It is their 66th this year. Last year 4 of us Bush girls judged it. Took a few hours, as there were over 450 entries – glad we don't have to do that again. We can enter it this year!

We are to raise another calf this year. Not for another month or two though. We are fortunate in that Elaine's daughter and husband raise the calf with their others to weaning stage, so we don't have to handfeed it!

Enjoy the rest of your summer and we hope that August has lots of lovely, warm weather for you – yes, Pat said it was wet and picked up after they had left!

Take care and love to you all, Denise x

**From:** [Denise Gavin](#)  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 25, 2016 4:05 AM  
**To:** [Julia Warne](#)  
**Subject:** September!

Hello Julia and girls. Hope this finds you all well and enjoying the autumnal sights around Derbyshire.

Have just been into the Pahiatua Museum to look up the Hamua minutes in search of Baslow.....and I found it! 13th August 1947 was the first minuted mention of Baslow. In June they had written to NZ Federation asking for a link. So next year we will have been corresponding for 70 years!

We had a quiet meeting in September as just five of went to visit the Taniwha (pronounced Tanifa) Daffodils at Takapau. It was beautiful. There are around 120,000 bulbs now. The owner has been planting 1000 bulbs for 20 years and they have multiplied. Proceeds from the sales – 30 for \$5 go to the local Plunket Group (mothers & babies).



Photo on left shows: Barbara, Elaine (shadows on face unfortunately), Margaret & Pat.

Photo on right shows: Barbara, Denise, Margaret & Pat.

October will see us visiting our local hospice (Arohanui) in Palmerston North to take them some necessities.

This Saturday Elaine, myself and another 15 girls are going to Wellington to see the World of Wearable Arts. We have been going for a few years now. Google it. Such an amazing show.

A busy time of year for farmers now with cows calving and ewes lambing. Weather hasn't been wonderful. Not much sun, but not too much rain, so that is good. Mud is starting to dry out!

OK. Tis all from me. Keep well, warm and happy, Love to you all, Denise x

**From:** [Denise Gavin](#)

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2016 10:15 PM

**To:** [Julia Warne](#)

**Subject:** Re: September!

Hello Julia. It was more trouble making the time to get to the museum when it was open than find the entry! I thought it would be after the war, so started looking at the December minutes from 1951 backwards and found it easily. Also saw where institutes had roll calls to bring tins of fat that were to be sent over to the UK! Relief parcels were mentioned as well. Didn't go any further once I had found the entry, but should go in and get the books to have a look through and see what they say. Yes, we will have to have a synchronised 70th celebration next year!

Soups and Sweets sounds like a great idea for a lunch. Must remember that one.

Your London Riverside History course sounded fantastic. I saw a series on rivers and was amazed to see the Tidal Gates (presume that is the barrier) on the Thames and how they worked. So very clever.

You are right about daffodils and spring, they do lift spirits.

On Saturday Elaine and I and 15 other girls are heading to Wellington from various parts of NZ to see the World of Wearable Arts. So looking forward to it. Google the site and have a look.

Adelaide/South Australia where I am from is experiencing a huge weather system at present and the whole state has been without power from yesterday afternoon. Absolutely incredible. They have solar and wind power, but the main power comes from a coal station and the transformers on an electricity substation up north were knocked out by lightning and thunder yesterday. Hospitals on generators for the seriously ill. Nurses working under torch light. Think the systems will be overhauled after this. They reckon it is 50 years since a storm like that, but I was living there then and can't remember anything like it at all.

OK. All for now, morning tea beckons.

Love to you all, Denise x