



SI Aotearoa NZ Kapiti Coast 42nd Annual President Report 2023

My report this year is starting with our last event. The epitome of Soroptimism... Educate, Empower, Enable and Equal opportunities.

A trip on the train with Leader Jane, Clare, Jennie and me to the National Library in Wellington with some of the girls from Paekakariki Sorop kids club to view the Suffrage petition.13 petitions were submitted to the House of Representatives in 1893 containing signatures of 31,872 women from across the country demanding the right for women to vote.

These young women are our future. They bake and make sweets for stalls, two of them were models in our fashion show, and they raised money for Wellington Children's Hospital. If we nurture them, include them and empower them, I feel sure they will become dynamic full members.

Membership:

Currently SI Kapiti membership stands at 22.

Bev Harniss was inducted in January.

Lyn Stewart transferred from SI Wellington in April.

Betty Wills and Rachel Oliver have been made life members.

Vikki Clayton has moved to Bali to be with family.

Programme of Service:

This year has been about us getting back on track after Covid. We had a blip at the beginning of the year following conference in Rotorua where several of us got Covid on our return and we had to cancel a couple of planned events. But the second half of the year has been better and we have definitely finished on a high note with the market day, movie night, fashion show and our first wine fundraiser being very successful.

Alongside these we had our scheduled events including Kids Fishing Day, ANZAC Day, 16 Days of Activism, National meetings and morning teas.

Our free monthly advertising in the Kapiti News allows us to reach a larger audience about our upcoming events and to raise awareness. We are very grateful.

Jennie's project NaOk, an idea from her Leadership Course, has developed into an advocacy and collaboration project. Sharing information and ideas with several organisations on the Kapiti Coast has opened the door to new opportunities.

We will be assisting with the Kapiti Women's Triathalon in February and meet a whole new group of women.

We have done some publicity for Kapiti GirlGuiding to help with recruiting and in turn GirlGuides have helped us.

Next year we will look to bring new organisations on board and continue with a sustainability model for NaOk.

We have made donations to BLS, Bright Futures, Kaibosh Kapiti, Birthright Kapiti, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Kapiti, Women's Centre Kapiti and our National Project Ovarian Cancer.

I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to each and every one of you. Your passion, dedication and ongoing support has enabled me to enjoy the challenge of being President over the last two years. I have learnt so much about Soroptimism, our Community and myself. I have gained confidence, friendship and an even stronger belief that our collective efforts will continue to create lasting impact.

Next year I look forward to being Past President, furthering Community ties and continuing Soroptimist awareness.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year.

Ngā Mihi Diana Ponsford SI A NZ Kapiti Coast President 2022-2023