

Abbeyfield Waimakariri Inc.

Newsletter September 2023

Issue 001

Message from the Chair ~ Welcome to the first issue of the Abbeyfield Waimakariri Inc. (AWI) newsletter. In mid-July we held the second Annual General Meeting and it was encouraging to receive significant response from the personal invitations sent to the Waimakariri District Council Mayor and the Hurunui District Council Mayor, other WDC Councillors and staff, the various service clubs in our district, local community groups and individuals. Some attendees were present at the Inaugural AGM held in July 2022 and conveyed their congratulations on the progress which AWI has made since then. A huge thank you to all who attended.

In the past year AWI has affiliated with Abbeyfield NZ Inc. (Nelson), become a member of the NZ Incorporated Societies, registered with the Charitable Commission as a charity – donations may be eligible for a rebate – been actively fundraising to the extent that our coffers are looking more healthy than a year ago.

We have an enthusiastic and committed committee of 9 members who are skilled in a number of areas and willing to assist in whatever way they can. Our catering team lead by Ally is proving a hit and Ally and her team look fantastic wearing their Abbeyfield aprons when on catering duty.



L-R. Ally, Valda, Rosemarie, Donna

The AWI stall at the monthly St John's Church Market Day is well patronised and the variety of produce on offer is seasonal and attractively presented. The input by members and volunteers to help with running the stall is invaluable and greatly appreciated. Donna is the go-to person leading the marketing team and does a fantastic job. Donna is also responsible for sourcing pinecones for sale which are a popular item in the winter months.

Treasurer Mary and Deputy Chair Debra are responsible for ensuring our finances and Business Plan are on track and that we continue to adapt and adopt new initiatives to help progress our aim to establish an Abbeyfield House in the Waimakariri. Secretary Rosemarie, other committee members and members of AWI complete our team. Their ability and willingness to raise awareness of AWI, encourage membership and help keep me on track is appreciated.

I hope you enjoy reading this first issue of the AWI newsletter and I look forward to keeping you informed of our activities and progress.

*Sincerely
Valda*

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Since becoming Abbeyfield Waimakariri Inc. there has been changes to our committee with some members resigning due to health issues, moving to another area, work commitments, etc. Significantly, each has remained as a financial member of AWI. The original group was formed by a number of dedicated people who formed a Steering Group. Each person had a strong desire to be part of a group working towards the building of an Abbeyfield House. They knew this would be a long term project and yet they remained undaunted. Identifying and obtaining a suitable block of land is the foremost and most urgent need as until we have access to land we are unable to seek funding. There is no denying that considerable funding is required however, we are encouraged by the fact that other Abbeyfield Houses have faced similar hurdles and have overcome them. Information about the concept of an Abbeyfield House and where the houses are situated can be found from the website.

<https://abbeyfield.co.nz>

Need has been established for more low cost and varied older persons housing options by the WDC; Abbeyfield Waimakariri Inc. offers that and more. A low cost, fully researched option indicating the needs of vulnerable older people wishing to live well and independently.

This housing option fits with the aims of the Waimakariri District Council which recognizes the need for a variety of housing options to be made available to older persons. We believe that our aim will meet a real need in our community.



Marmalade Jam

Church Street Market Day

Mary, Valda and Mayor Dan

Chair:	Valda Reveley	Email: valda.sam@xtra.co.nz
Deputy Chair:	Debra Wilson	Email: craiganddebra@fastmail.com
Treasurer:	Mary Sparrow	Email: hmsparrow@xtra.co.nz
Secretary:	Rosemarie Shaw	Email: abbeyfieldwaimakariri@gmail.com

Please Note

Should you not wish to receive newsletters from AWI please advise the Secretary who will remove your details from our mailing list.