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Hostess	Joan O'Hanlon	626 3652
Assisted by	Joan Keenan	
"	Annie Wezenbeck	
Almoner	Margaret Bovaird	815 4166
Speakers	Fay Packham	816 8160
Outings/Trips	Ann-Maree Powell	620 2097
	Kathryn Clarke	826 1413
Committee	Glenda Hansen	817 7169

TODAY is a very important day, so I hope we have got plenty of "Friends" turning up. It is our AGM when we vote in a new Committee. But we hope to be entertained by a choir which is being arranged.

I AM sorry I couldn't tell you who our Mini Speaker was but I found out later that Fay Packham had been having an operation and was in hospital at the time I tried to contact her. But Dora Smith obliged at short notice to tell us her life story. She was born on the North Shore and trained first in dentistry. She amused us by being given a bar of soap and told to carve a set of teeth! Sadly she was widowed for seven years and had four children to care for. But she married again and became Dora Smith.

OUR main Speaker was Carolyn Harris who had made a business of *Telling Tales*. This was not what it sounded like! She was convinced that people's life stories should be told so that the ones left behind will know something about their ancestry.

My father died in 1952 when I was only 12. He was wounded in the First World War but as he never spoke of his experiences and I am the only one left. I wrote to some office in London and they could not help as most of the records for the First World War were lost in an air raid attack in the Second World War. All I know he was wounded and had a bullet lying on his heart and was initially laid out with the dead until a doctor saw that he was still alive and had him moved to lie with the injured. My mother told me he had been wounded in Belgium and hospitalised in France. The bullet on the heart wall could not be removed as heart surgery came many years later. As I am the last surviving member of my father's family I know nothing further, so I can see exactly what the speaker meant. She said: "The most important thing you can leave people with is your story."

FEES are due and the final date is March. We need "goodies" for the raffle to be held in April. It is due to us having the occasional raffle so that our fees are kept at the low amount of \$20.

HERE are some of the trips we are arranging:

Monday 26 March	Howick Historic Village	Cost \$28
	Bring or buy lunch; hat, water bottle <u>and</u> Gold Card.	
Tuesday 12 June	Naval Base Tour, Walk round Devonport. We buy or bring lunch. Donation to the Navy Museum.	Cost \$15
Monday 20 August	Birthday Lunch, Waipuna Lodge	Cost \$45
	Look round Sylvia Park Centre 10-11.45, lunch 12 noon	
Monday 29 October	Butterfly Creek, Mangere	Cost \$30
	Buy or take lunch. Bring hat and water bottle. Driver free admission. There is a little train that takes a small tour around the grounds, price \$5.	

I HOPE to leave the Committee and this should be my last newsletter. I have enjoyed the role very much but my right hand has Dupitron's Contracture (commonly known as trigger finger) and I am finding it difficult to take notes and increasingly difficult to read them later! I will gladly help anyone who is willing to take up the Newsletter role.

Kind regards,

Christine