

N. Z. Red Hat Newsletter

North Island



August 2010

Red Hatting New Zealand Style

I have gone green – on the assumption that spring is here.

Well, each morning the sun shines, in varying degrees of strength, a light balmy breeze blows, and I feel all cheerful. Come the afternoon – winter comes back. But Spring must be winning...

As always, there are great stories of fun, frivolity and Red Hatting with attitude in the monthly roundup... Enjoy!

Deco City Divas - Napier

The Deco City Divas met at Café Anatolias Turkish restaurant in August for a quiz night. Vice Queen Sheila hosted the group for us. This is one of our favourite hang-outs, because the food is delicious, quickly served and potentially healthy! Vice Queen Sheila has been very busy with us, as she and her regal sister Marchioness Maureen hosted us in July, too, with dinner and a darts game at the Puketapu Pub! We were wildly successful at darts, putting the few gentlemen pool player to such shame that they quickly ended their game, downed their pints and went fleeing into the night! (They were badly outnumbered.) We are weathering winter here in the Bay and looking forward to sunshine sometime very soon!

Queen Carol

WHANGA RED HEDZ

The Whanga Red Hedz had their 5th Birthday on the last Saturday in July.

This was the Theme of a Five Year Olds Birthday Party, Fancy Dress. Everyone went to great efforts with their costumes. We had Pippy Longstocking, Bob the Builder, Pirates, Witches, Fairies, Mary Mary Quite Contrary, Little Miss Muffet, Super Hero (with white Y fronts over the top of red tights, wonderful) Little Girls, Wee Willie Winkie, Cowboys, Snow White, Minnie Mouse, Kung Fu Panda and many many more. The costumes were judged by the Vice President of the Whangamata Club, won by Pippy Longstocking. The Fare was Fairy Bread, Cup Cakes, Cherrios, Sausage Rolls, Pizzas, Chocolate Crackles, Jelly and Ice Cream. One of the gracious ladies from the Scarlet Sea Sisters made the most wonderful Dolly Varden cake for us, with a little birthday cake beside her. She had the most wonderful outfit on, including a lovely little red handbag. Thank you so very much Pamela Gurnell. We played Pass the Parcel, Pinata (Boy are those things hard to break) Simon Says. The day was attended by 30 fun women, five from the Scarlet Sensations in Thames, ten from the Scarlet Sea Sisters and two from the Waitakere Ferns. The Whangamata Club very kindly gave us six bottles of wine to have with our lunch. Apparently they always love to have the Red Hatters!!!!

Happy Hatting

Queen Crowning Around Joobs

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TARADALE TARTÉS

June, July and August over! Summer is just around the corner, the blossoms are blooming, and we are ready to play in the sun. The winter has been fun though, with Mid Winter Xmas celebrations, riding the buses and lunching in some new and interesting places. Thank s to all our members, for their continued support and their sharing of the planning of events throughout the year. It is the wonderful comaraderie and caring that makes Hatting such fun and so successful for we women who love to dress up and play. Long may it continue.

SCARLET SENSATIONS

Waitete Restaurant at Waihi had the pleasure of our company this month. We were joined by the Scarlett Sea Sisters and the Red Hedz from Whangamata. Also the Waihi Pussies came to meet us.

We had an amazing display of Red Hat potato gals, which were judged by our lovely waitress. It was no mean task either, some of the fashions and get ups were to die for.

Mary Connors and Elizabeth Covorko-Clark were welcomed to their first outing with us.

After a good meal, and friendly chat we ventured back into the heavy showers outside.

Queen Sewalot

Thames

Thames Ruby Redz

have had a great month, Princess Prose turned 80 and we showered her for her birthday at the local garden centre, our merry bunch sang her her own birthday song and the tears and laughter flowed. Pictures can be seen on our website.

<http://thamesrubyredz.yolasite.com/dawns-80th-birthday.php>

Last Saturday 11 of our members visited Whangamata for the Scarlet Sea Sisters 1st birthday. Here is the report and the pictures can be seen at

<http://thamesrubyredz.yolasite.com/whangas-1st-birthday.php>

What a wonderful happy day we had, dressed in all our finery to share the Scarlett Sea Sisters 1st birthday at Whangamata. We were the noisest group there I think. Lots of mirth and fun. Del Lady Du Hummmmm alot composed a song for their theme tune and Ngaire Queen of Vice wrote a poem that they could use to open their meetings with. These were presented to them in scroll form. A nice lunch was served and the cake was cut so we could have desert. A beautifully iced chocolate cake served with lashings of whipped cream and ice cream. No wonder we have trouble with our waist lines. After everyone was sated we moved on into the room where the dance floor was, for the competition for the best hat, best outfit, and the best legs. We had to dance around to music parading our selves. Amid lots of laughing and cheering Shirley Madommasioel Fi Fi set the ball rolling by rolling up her trouser legs and displaying her legs with everyone following suit. Oh boy some pretty glamorous legs began to show themselves in all sorts of poses. A real hoot!! None of us won a prize but Del was lucky enough to win a raffle. It was getting late in the afternoon when we decided to wend our way home still laughing and chuckling about the fabulous day.

Ngaire, Vice Queen of Vices Thames Ruby Redz.

Thames Ruby Redz would like to invite other groups to their 5th Birthday Celebrations and Christmas Party 27th November and weekend in January.

**SATURDAY
27TH NOVEMBER
NGATEA PUB
11.30am**

Thames Ruby Redz invite you to their 5th birthday celebration combined with their Christmas Function.

Cost: Meal \$20 (drinks extra) (\$10 non refundable deposit)

Raffle tickets 3 for \$5 (10 draws.)

Queens Challenge for January issued.

RSVP by 30th October 2010 to either P O Box 229 Thames or email

thamesrubyredz@xtra.co.nz

Or phone 07 8682642

**SATURDAY
7TH JANUARY 2011**

8.30am Grahamstown Community Hall G\$ market. Free morning Tea.

12midday Treasure Hunt & Lunch Kuranui Bay Thames Cost \$10 (Alternative venue if not fine.)

5pm Dinner Cost \$25 Venue to be confirmed.

6.30pm Fashion Parade. Categories incl Op Shop, Goodies 4 Red Hatters, Queens Challenge, a retail store and others. BYO drinks Supper Provided. Cost \$10 Incl Raffle

SUNDAY 8TH JANUARY 2011

Invitation from Thames Trotting Club to attend day meeting.

RSVP by 15th December 2010 to either P O Box 229 Thames or email

thamesrubyredz@xtra.co.nz

Or phone 07 8682642

Online at <http://thamesrubyredz.yolasite.com/diary-dates-2010.php>

Our outing to the movies in August saw us up a bit earlier than usual to catch the 10am sessions at Westgate. A few films to choose from, but the main two "KILLERS" (Ashton Kutcher & Katherine Heigl plus Tom Selleck), or "KNIGHT & DAY" (Tom Cruise & Cameron Diaz) had our interest. They say that you lose your hearing as you get older, but not so with our Chapterettes who found the sound in the film quite ear-shattering! Despite this "noise", the movies were enjoyable and had plenty of action, some intrigue, some romance, some humour, great scenery, and definitely some delightful "eye candy!" After the films, we had lunch next door – Chinese food, all you could eat and very tasty. .

Waitakere Ferns

Three of us attended Ladybirds West 5th birthday at the Massey Tavern, and that was most enjoyable. We each took home a balloon creation from their member who (yes, really) is a Clown! And just for those of you who don't know, Ladybirds West was the second chapter to start in Waitakere after Waitakere Ferns had just too many bright and eager women wanting to dress up in purple and red and join the Red Hats movement. Thanks to Queen Honey Bee Myra and her ladybirds for a great birthday party.

Cheers – Red wine of course

Lady Ginger Joan, Royal News Reporter.

Meeting on the 5th August at Western Lights Tavern was a great success it was our 5th Birthday and 40 people attended. Waitakere Ferns had 3 members attend and Merlot Maidens had 7 come, Ravishing Rubies had 3 attend. As well as our menfolk (knights) who had to wear a red tie. We had balloons and whistles and chocolate Ladybirds. With "Takamau" his guitar and song in the background. A good time was had by all. Dame Gadabout. Barb.

Some of the Ladybirds with visitors, and a few knights.

Ladybirds Cake



Queen Honey Bee Myra (right) and Dame Gadabout with Ladybirds singing mascot Matilda doing "Girls just gotta have fun"

Vintage Violets



Coffee morning 4th Friday of month
Westfield Takapuna Foodcourt 11.30am

Hi All. Well it has been rather busy with attending other chapter events which has been really good. We had a spa/pamper day, we were at a home and soaked in the spa, had an optional sauna. (which I had to have). After this we buddied up and neck, shoulder, leg, feet massages were the order of the day. Have you had a homemade facial with edible ingredients as recommended by your grandmother? It was great. Yes there was a few wines/punch and cocktail nibbles which all added to a fantastic afternoon. Thoroughly recommend the thought. As will others we are now into rehearsal time ready for the Talent Quest, makes us all sound like professionals!!! What fun. Look forward to catching up with you all there.

Rosemary Queen Violet Rose
Vintage Violets
Queen Violet Rose
Vintage Violets



We have had quite a busy time over the last couple of months. In July The Botany Babes joined us for a tour of the East Tamaki Mail sorting centre. Starting with morning tea we continued with a guided walk through the Centre.. It is amazing the volume of mail they handle a day, and all the efforts they go to trying to find owners of incorrectly addressed mail. Suitably chastened, we promised to put return addresses on all outgoing mail! We then decided to go back to Botany and have lunch at the "Cock and Bull ".

Several of us attended the Rangitoto Reds birthday party. That was great time to catch up with friends we hadn't seen for a while. Two of our Ladies won raffle prizes.

Two weeks ago we had another Trivia and fun morning at the Howick club , it was a great turn out 59 hatters testing their knowledge against each other, with lots of fun and laughter , I'm sure everyone enjoyed their \$6.00 lunch. We promised we would do it again next winter when we will celebrate our birthday.

Nine Precious Pukekos went to see "Grease" which we all thoroughly enjoyed. While waiting to go in three ladies from other chapters came up to say hello. That was great to meet them and have a chat. There were a lot of "Pink Ladies" around but they couldn't compete with the Red Hat Ladies.

On Saturday Cheryl and I joined Queen Eileen and the Cherry Ripes on a bus trip to the Scarlett Sea Sisters of Whangamata for their first birthday. What a great turn out they had to celebrate that. Congratulations to Queen Eileen for winning the best Hat and to Doreen for winning the "Best Dressed". Great day out with a sing-song of sorts on the way home. Fun time was had by all and thank you for inviting us.

Looking forward now to the 17th September for the **Crimson** Crimson crazies Talent show.

Cheers , Christine

Precious Pukekos

Hi, from

Botany Babes

This month saw us joining other chapters for an enjoyable Trivia Day at the Howick Club with the Precious Pukekos. Thankyou Christine.

Last week a group of us gathered at 'Katies' home for a fascinator making day. Amongst the tea/ coffe, eats, and chatter some great headwear came forth. A good productive time was had.

Then in the afternoon it was off to practice an "item" for the Talent Quest. [watch this space.]

Bye All

Rainbow Queen Jill

P&O Cruisers

August was to be my second function as Queen and I was unable to attend. The get together was at Twin Oaks and one of my ladies did the honour. What a surprise I got when she brought around to me later 2 large bags filled to the brim with bra, bra, and more bras. I was told that there are still more to come, so really looking forward to the final result.

I hope that many of the groups have taken up the challenge from the P & O Cruisers and that your collection of bras has started to grow. Look forward to reading how many of you have taken up the challenge.

Our next lunch is on the 22nd September at Twin Oaks, Paerata.



**Queen
Witchy Poo Ann**

Rangitoto Reds

We started this month with our 6th birthday party, with about 55 attendees - thank you to all those who came along and helped us celebrate, to make it such a lovely, fun day for us, and we hope for you too. The rest of the month has actually been very quiet for us, but hey, that's okay - we always know there are more RHS activities around the corner!!

EVERYONE - on Wednesday, 3rd November the Mercy Hospice once again, is having their Strawberry Festival in Queen Elizabeth Square, Downtown, Auckland, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Rangitoto Reds will be there, so anyone who wants to join us, just hop on a train or bus, head for downtown or the Britomart, and you are right on the spot. They sell strawberries and ice cream, and also Xmas decorations and novelties etc, so hope to see lots of you there - you can morning coffee/lunch at many places in the area, so do come along and join us.

Cheers

Queen Volcano Gail.

Rangitoto Reds. Auckland

Drury Dazzlers



The first chapter meeting was held on sat 5th August at the Vintner's Table Cafe private room. A warm welcome and excellent service was received. The ladies caused quite a stir in the cafe resulting in more new members. It was a very exciting meeting with ladies choosing names and putting in ideas.

Rusty brain cells were put into action at Quiz time and a raffle was held and jokes were told.

The outing for the month was by train to Auckland for Yum Char and a bit of retail therapy

Finishing off in Queens Arcade for coffee and a photo shoot of us by some American Tourists. With full tummies tired feet and happy hearts we headed home via train.

The train stopped at Middlemore and Lady Poochies mother was waiting to hand over a tin of her scrummy home baking, which we just had to sample. All in all a pretty good start for Drury Dazzlers.



From The Queen Desk

Ps. P&O Cruisers we accept your challenge.



Twenty one of us visited the Kaitaia Museum where we took a step or two back in time admiring all the relics of yesteryear. Most interesting with wonderful displays of photos and heirlooms. I was more than taken aback when the curator told me he had a photo of me in the archives!!!! Surely I am not that old!!!! Having digested that and still in denial I joined the girls and off we went to the Beachcomber restaurant where they serve delicious food and after a scrumptious lunch and an iced coffee to die for felt quite definitely younger. Two newcomers attended who were warmly welcomed and the usual hilarity and noise prevailed.

A few weeks earlier a small group attended the 'Long Cup of Tea' held throughout N.Z. to support Hospice and last week on Daffodil Day a large contingent of us attended a Daffodil Day Breakfast hosted by the local Bowling club to raise funds for cancer. Husbands and friends joined us and we made the usual colorful display. We were well pleased with our activities this month and creating awareness.

Best Red Hat wishes to you all
Queen SweetPea
Doubtless Dolls



Cherry Ripes

July we had our usual Luncheon Meeting where we celebrated the launch of our calendar to raise funds for Hospice, we celebrated three birthdays including my own, we welcomed three new ladies to our Chapter which has now reached a total of 32 great ladies, we had our usual quiz and a lovely raffle and a great afternoon was had by all. Later in the month 12 of us attended the Pukekohe Ladies Race Day where we had a lovely lunch, wine, met lots of nice people and won some great prizes, and ended up with our photograph displayed in the local paper - a busy but great month.

August again was a busy month for us, we had our Luncheon Meeting, celebrated two birthdays, had a great quiz game, great raffle lots of good food, wine and great chatter. We also attended Precious Pukekos Trivia Friday which we all thoroughly enjoyed and came away with some great prizes.

Then later in the month we had lunch at Petals and Pots and then went on to enjoy a great afternoon of 10 pin bowling at the Pukekohe Cosmopolitan Club, which left us all shattered so we had to stay and have a few recovery drinks in the lounge bar.

On the 28th we hired a coach and travelled down to Whangamata Scarlett Sea Sisters 1st Birthday, which we all thoroughly enjoyed and again came away with prizes for best dressed, best hat, three girls won raffle prizes and we all enjoyed a great sing song on the way home. We were all made feel very welcome by the two Chapters from Whanga.

We are all very busy selling our calendars to raise funds for Hospice. We are all very proud of our calendar and would like to thank those people who have already supported us by purchasing our calendar, thank you.

So as we head towards September we have another busy month ahead of us including our yearly session with our two favourite Mediums - more about this later.

Take care everyone,

Yours in Hattinq

Queen Chenni Pie



Hello Red Hat friends from the
Since I last reported in the last

Merlot Maidens

. It is true, Time really does fly.
newsletter we have been busy,
with an equally as busy September to look forward to, attending other Chapters exciting
events. I love it, and especially exciting is the happening of Glitz 'N' Glamour next month.

Making it even more exciting for me is my sister, who is also a Red Hatter, will be attending, and as she lives in Christchurch I don't see her often. What a bonus this Red Hat lark is!

Our cruising sisters came back from their trip in May with great stories to tell. We have also had a Parlour Games morning, amazing how competitive people are when a chocolate fish is the prize. Pictionary went well too, as we have our Helensville and Parakai artists in our midst. August saw us exploring the Helensville Museum; our local history is certainly very interesting and quite nostalgic as the years go by. We then had a yummy lunch at a local café (as you do) and of course the obligatory stop at an Op shop on the way home. Five of us look forward to catching up with you in October, See you there. Princess Chardonrae
Ahoy there from Queen L'vyne.

Cruise report: MaryAnn arrived on board without her bags. The airline had lost them in transit but fortunately discovered and couriered to the ship just as we were about to set sail.... Seas a little rough for first 2 days then we got our sea legs and away we went. Did we have a good time?? Did we what!!!. Managed to become the proud owners of a Horse in the auction, Decorated and paraded it until the last day when the Grand race was held... Didn't manage to win but believe me it was the most attractive horse in the race. Cocktails at sunset (or near enough to), warm



breezes, fabulous shows, music and non stop food, food, food, entertainment and lovely crew ~The ports were great Isle of Pines my favourite as we snorkelled in clear blue water. 7 days went past too quickly and we staggered off with our Island bargains into the Auckland rain. Would I go again? ABSOLUTELY.

We have some great outings planned for September so until then~ we welcome Spring.



Waiuku Red Hatters

enjoyed an almost Spring day in August, at the Waiuku Cossie Club, with numbers in the 30's.

Some members were away and we missed them, and especially Lady Ann Ding Dong who was in hospital becoming a bionic woman. She is convalescing in Franklin Memorial Hospital after a secondary trip to Middlemore.

The Scrabble group met on the first Thursday of the month and that was a fun afternoon too. The weeks are ticking by and we will soon be heading for Christchurch and some Glitz and Glamour. Best wishes to all,



Fuchsia Queen Elaine

F is for Fun

F is for Fantasy

***F is for 5 Fantabudabulous Years of Crimson
Crazie Fun!***

And Yes!

It was celebrated with our **First Formal Dinner!**

The Queen of the Dames, and (the Duchess of Delight) rolled out The **Red Carpet** at the Duchess's La de dah residence and greeted 14 Glittering, glamorous Crimson Crazies poncing about in the most fantastic Outfits, one could ever imagine...**WOW!**

The Wine flowed freely, Champagne corks popped & the doors to the Dining room were thrown open to reveal the banquet table dressed in crisp white Damask, silver candleabra, red gold & purple decs with festive serviettes providing a dazzling setting.

Wicked Wendy was seated at one end of the table the Queen at tother, thenour Madame Quicksilver in the middle providin scintillating chat and clever toasts as the gels were served a magnificent repast by the Duchess's Grandie & two Great Grandies. Their Job spec also covered the dish washing as well. The 3 course dinner was totally prepared for this evening by Princess Peeps, (Paulette) (**Brand new Crimson Crazie.**) which meant all our hard working gels got the night orf to enjoy being spoiled.

First course was Prawn Cocktails, complete wif a nice little fly on top...(plastic Of course)...needless to say there was a certain few who didn't notice the Flies which caused a round of that old favourtie, (**I know an old lady that swallowed A fly**) lol....

Toasts preceded each course, Roast Pork wif crispy cracklling, beans, & toasted almonds Honeyed sesame carrots (**had to check our teef before photers**)and super dooper dessert a deep berry cheesecake, and a Baileys Irish Cream Cake, follered by rum balls, apricot log and ginger slice wif Coffee and tea. And yes we had our dinner **decaloriefied** by our Dames special blessing of the food Wif her (**Make us all Skinny wand.**) **Oink Oink!!!! Lol**

Follerin dinner a naming ceremony was performed for Sinful Sandy, Countess of Cats, and Tzarina Zophia, Queen of the Perfumed Garden. They slurped up peach schnapps jelly Shots and will remember forever receiving their red string knot bracelets. (**Well okay....remember sometimes**)

The highlight of the evening was the **presentation of Royal Medals** individually designed For Wicked Wendy, Madame Ski Max, Madame Quicksilver, Madame Butterfly, Right Royal Red Snapper and Saucy Sue for their being our founder members.

Vaudeville Style Entertainment follered, and what fun! There was a harmonica number,cultural Number, magic act Ventriliquism, snake charmer, and dancer,and humor bubbled from one to Tother non stop... it's all I can tell yer now because it was voted unanimously ... lol... to perform again at the

Red Hatters Have Talent Show.

These acts are not to be missed and we invite you to attend The Red Hatters Have Talent Show on September 17th 2010 at the Nathan Homestead Little Theatre in Hill Road, Manurewa. \$5.00 entry, Please remember yer Tenas, and I don't mean the singin kind!

Till Then,

I bid you all Happy Times, spread the Red!

Queen of the Dames

Crimson crazies of South Auckland



YEAH! I KNOW THE BL.....DY WAND DON'T WORK!

And in the interest of my sanity, I have decided that the following quote from Samuel Butler sums up my life just now!

If we attend continually and promptly to the little that we can do, we shall ere long be surprised to find how little remains that we cannot do.

Samuel Butler (1835 - 1902)

I do enjoy reading the amazing, differing, activities Red Hatters get to do!

Signing off til next time

Country bird, aka Barbara

Website links...

www.thelittleredhatshoppe.co.nz

Shopping site

<http://www.crimsonkiwisrhs.co.nz/home.html>

Crimson crazies site

We also offer others to become **Thames Ruby Redz** Supporters, you can join our supporters email list and get regular up dates of what we have organised and also our invitations from other groups. Send email to thamesrubyredz@xtra.co.nz with JOIN in subject line.

Dont forget if you have anyone interested in joining a Red Hat Group get them to have a look at the unofficial website www.rhsnewzealand.yolasite....com/

and if wanting to buy goods go to www.goodies4redhatters.weebly.com