

WANGANUI BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB

The Federation of New Zealand Business and Professional Women's Club was formed in April 1939 and for the first seven years was part of the YWCA, to which it is still affiliated. The Federation aims to encourage business and professional women to realise their responsibilities in civic, national and international affairs and to assist them towards taking a more active role in the public life of the community. It also aims to work for and support equality between men and women in social, political and economical fields.

The Wanganui Club, initiated in July 1945 was open to all business and professional women of Wanganui and their purpose was outlined thus:

"To maintain the ethics of christian women and to promote interesting and impartial study of the affairs of today.

To strengthen, unite and develop the business and professional women of Wanganui that they may take a more adequate part in influencing the life of the community and in promoting christian standards of national and international fellowship."

In its hey day, the club had a membership of nearly 100, which had dwindled to only 25 by 1981. Part of the constitution stated that at least 75% of members should be 'gainfully employed' and it was this rule, along with the small membership that led to the decision to wind up the club in 1981.

SCOPE

These papers cover the activities of the Wanganui Business and Professional Women's Club for the period 1945-1982. They include minutes, correspondence, financial records, newspaper clippings and related publications.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

SERIES ONE Minutes
 Thirty-seven folders

This series covers minutes of the club's general and committee meetings for the period 1945-1982. An annual general meeting was held in November of each year and the minutes for these, as well as the annual reports and financial statements are included. Some years also have nomination forms. They are arranged chronologically by date of meeting.

SERIES TWO Correspondence
 One folder

The club has only retained correspondence for the years 1975, 1980, 1981 and 1982, which are contained in this series. Inwards correspondence and copies of outward correspondence are interfiled and the series is arranged by date of letter.

SERIES THREE Financial
 One folder and two ledgers

Most of the financial records for the club are contained in the two ledgers in this series. They cover the period 1945 to 1955 and 1956 to 1981 and record all transactions eg subscriptions, levies, payments and donations. Along with the annual financial statements, pasted in to the ledgers, most years also have lists of current financial members. (Loose lists of this type can be found in series four.)

This series also includes bank statements, used cheque books, petty cash books and a number of receipts/bills c1981.

SERIES FOUR Membership records
 One folder

This series contains lists of members for the years 1960/61, 1972, 1974, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981/82. It also contains lists of past presidents, secretaries, treasurers and foundation members of the club. (Other membership records may be found in the ledgers in series three.)

SERIES FIVE Newspaper clippings and stamp
One folder

The few clippings in this series cover activities of the Wanganui Club and some important issues about which they were concerned. The rubber stamp of the club is also included in this series.

SERIES SIX Publications
One folder

This series has New Zealand Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club newsletters for April 1971, July/August 1976 and the silver jubilee issue, summer 1964. It also contains the following publications:

The First twenty-five years 1939-1964: Historical handbook of the New Zealand Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club.

In Pride and with promise / Phyllis A Deakin

A Day at Ramallah women's training centre.