New Winton Business Spotlight

Winton Flowers at Country Matters sprung up as a joint collaboration initiated by a customer, a retired commercial flower grower.

‘The initial goal was to provide casual colour coordinated affordable flowers & to make flower buying a more regular purchase as a gift option’. Explains Gillian McFarlane Country Matters owner. It’s proved a good fit with the existing core business which has a strong interiors accent. There has always been a presence of flowers in the store. They complete a room and over the years I’ve bailed out quite a few new dads heading to the birthing unit. Roses and perennials picked for shop display quickly styled enveloped in wrap and secured with a bow.

The biggest surprise has been the number of women buying for themselves with lilies a firm favourite. ‘We aim to have those lily bouquets under $30 and the orchid pots at around $15, they make a lovely thank you or hostess gift’. You may even find a little garden rose tussie mussie for as little as $5 some days. ‘Due to the generous nature of many local gardeners I use local flora and greenery for background wherever possible and make a donation to Hospice for their use. The base of most bouquets are commercial market flowers though’.

Orders soon followed and come in regularly now from local buyers and those further afield in NZ and offshore. They’re using the internet to go direct to the flower seller. I’ve set up a site so they can view the styles and type of flowers we offer. Winton Flowers at Country Matters Facebook page offers them a view of what’s current. A weekly flower report on the main Country Matters page reminds what’s selling currently. The goal is deliver a generous offering and to exceed customer expectation.

This will be the businesses first Mother’s Day and the offer of FREE delivery in Winton in the morning is already proving attractive. That applies for the value orchid pots and $20 simple stem arrangement options right up to the mega deluxe options (they get very large). ‘The whites and pastels are the main ‘go to’ option for most but a big hot colour bouquet in yellows, oranges and reds may suit those mums with more modern interiors. Though the flower selection has been almost finalized we are also working direct with a local flower grower for a surprise offering. That’s still in the works. ‘If Mum enjoys surprises we’ll have something amazing included in some bouquet options this Mother’s Day. Autumn flower supply does shorten so I’d advise people to get their orders in early for their preferred blooms’.

Winton Flowers at Country Matters can be found next to Magnolia Tree on the main street, just look for the turquoise bicycle.

Kokako’s Song Puppet Show comes to Winton

Kokako’s Song is a puppet show especially for children aged 3-8, however everyone enjoys a puppet show! It will be performed around Southland, including a show in Winton at the Memorial Hall on Tuesday, May 15 at 1pm. The play follows Angel, as she tries to find her dog, lost in the forest. She encounters some of the creatures of the forest whilst there. Tickets are $5 and available as door sales. For further information contact Angela Newell at Venture Southland.
DO YOUR CHILDREN LOVE ADVENTURE & THE OUTDOORS?
Scouts might be for them!!!!
Spaces are available at the Winton Scout Group for boys and girls to have fun and experience new skills.

KEAS age 5 to 8 Tuesdays 5pm to 6pm
CUBS age 8 to 10 Tuesdays 5pm to 6.30pm
SCOUTS age 10 to 13 Mondays 6.30pm to 8pm
All held at the Winton Racecourse.
For more information contact Rowena Mackintosh on 236 0583 or 0211457144

Winton School PTA Fundraisers

Treat yourself or buy a gift for someone else with these 2 great items! (Maybe a nice Mother’s Day gift idea?)

The Entertainment Book is packed full of useful discounts for many places around Otago & Southland or maybe a night out at Hypnotist Andrew Norton’s show in Invercargill on the 12th of May.
If this sounds like you then give Jane a call today on 0273478926

Winton Library & Reap
Free Beginners Computer Classes in June
Held at the Winton Library
Tuesdays 10am to 12pm

5th June : Word 1
12th June : Word 2
19th June : Google Docs
26th June : Spreadsheets

For further information or to register for these classes contact the Winton Library on 0800 732 542 or Southern Reap 236 6008

Oreti Plains Smallbore Rifle Club
Recently some past and present members of the Oreti Plains Smallbore Rifle Club had an informal gathering to celebrate Fifty plus years of the shooting at the club. The age of those attending ranged from 15 to over 80 years of age, and a very enjoyable evening was had by all. Over the years the club has had a number of Southland and South Island Representative Shooters, as well as introducing a large number of people, both young and old, to the sport of indoor target shooting. For further info on the club phone Norman McLeish 236 884.

Pink Ribbon Ladies Afternoon tea
Saturday 26th May 2pm - 4pm
$5 pp, Presbyterian Church Hall, Winton
Join in a scrumptious afternoon tea in a relaxed friendly atmosphere with silent auctions and spot prizes.
All proceeds go the Breast cancer Foundation New Zealand
For further information phone 236 9792

“ When one neighbour helps another, we strengthen our community”

Next full edition of the Winton Newsletter will be 1st June 2018.
Closing deadline for articles is 5pm Friday 25th May 2018.
Information can be emailed to winton.nz@outlook.com
APRIL GARDEN UPDATE

The Community Gardens committee would like to take this opportunity to provide an update on the progress of the gardens this season.

We have had many people ask why we are ‘selling’ vegetables. This is a necessity for the committee so that we can generate a small income which then enables us to continue planting throughout the growing season. This income also allows to purchase fuel for both the lawnmower and the rotary hoe. Mitre 10’s initiative of ‘Donating a Punnet’ is also very beneficial for us as many people have taken the opportunity to purchase a punnet of seedlings for us to plant when they were needed, we sincerely thank those of you that did this. Vegetables are also given away whenever possible to those in our community that we believe will benefit from them and occasionally we will also leave some excess veges in the Food Share fridge behind the Salvation Army Family store. Anyone is able to take what they need from this fridge.

Most readers will be aware of the work that takes place at the Mitre 10 Site’s raised beds, however, we also have a large and productive plot happening at our Ravensdown Site on Gap Road West. This is still very much a ‘work in progress’ as the garden beds are continually being improved and work is now being undertaken to build both a tunnel house and a glass house. The efforts of the lawnmower, the rotary hoe and the outstanding and dedicated volunteers are very much noticeable at this site; we are quite proud of how good the area looks and many passersby also comment on this.

In the coming weeks the Mitre 10 Site’s raised beds will be prepared for the winter with a top up of pea straw, manure, compost and top soil in an effort to improve the moisture retention within the raised beds. This site has been a prolific producer throughout the season although white butterflies have caused many headaches! Progressive planting has taken place in the raised beds all summer with gaps being filled as quickly as they appear. Meanwhile at the Ravensdown Site the beds will be aerated and also topped up once again with manure. The main aim here is to continue to improve the soil structure of the planting beds as the base underlying the thin topsoil is very hard.

We are planning to have a few more vege stalls before the end of the season where we will have spuds, pumpkins, parsnips, cabbage, beetroot, spring onions, celery, leeks and silver beet available. We are also waiting to harvest our yams; it’s just a waiting game for the tops to completely die off! On Saturday May 5th we will be at Mitre 10’s car park while a fortnight later we will again be at the Winton Market in the Presbyterian Church hall.

We are currently on the lookout for up to 20 bales of pea straw. If anyone has any that they don’t need, please contact Louise at Winton Community Support (03 236 9934) and she will make arrangements to pick it up.
**The Journey YOUTH**

**Masquerade**

**OP SHOP BALL**

Friday 25th May
7pm — 11pm
Tickets $5pp
Central Southland Presbyterian Hall
11 Meldrum Street, Winton

For more information or to secure a ticket contact Amy or the church office - cspoffice@xtra.co.nz, 2369792, 02112286479

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**Fridays 10am**

at the Salvation Army,
Dejoux Road, Winton

Music and movement for pre-schoolers then enjoy some coffee and morning tea while your children play or join in the art/craft activity

$5 per family For more information contact 236 0928

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**SPEAK UP**

**STAND TOGETHER**

**STOP BULLYING**

Friday, 18 May 2018
www.pinkshirtday.org.nz
#pinkshirtdaynz

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**Pop along for an informal cuppa and a chat**

All ages Welcome!

Wednesday
2nd & 16th May
10am to noon
Presbyterian Church
Info phone Sharron 2368325

**Line Dancing**

**Wednesday Evenings**

7-8pm, Oreti Hall

**All Welcome**

**Come along and have some fun**

**No Charge**

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**PLAY!**

Fridays 10am
at the Salvation Army,
Dejoux Road, Winton

Music and movement for pre-schoolers then enjoy some coffee and morning tea while your children play or join in the art/craft activity

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**A WINTON NETBALL CLUB FUNDRAISER**

**Quiz Night**

Saturday 19th May
Midlands Club Rooms

An action packed night of raffles, auctions & great prizes!

BBQ Tea Available $20 per team of 4 7pm start Doors open 6.30pm

Team Registrations To: Erica Stevens 027 233 2959