

## Meet the Members



Mary White (L) and Florence Pepler (R)

## INTRODUCING

### Mary White & Florence Pepler

Goulds WI (London Area) would like to introduce you to two special Members: Mary White and Florence Pepler. These ladies are both devoted Life Members of the Women's Institute, but what you might be surprised to learn is that they are also 100 years old! Mary and Florence celebrated their 100th birthdays in 2009, and commemorated Goulds WI's 90th anniversary with their fellow Members the same year.

Mary was born in a stone cottage in Avonbank in October of 1909. She married Thomas Wallace White in 1929 and together they raised four boys and two girls on their farm in Downie Township. Mary resides in Stratford and has 13 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren. She has been an active WI Member since 1929 when she joined Avonton WI. When the Branch disbanded two years ago, Mary joined Goulds WI and continues to attend Branch activities when she is able.

Florence Pepler was born in July of 1909 - which means that she will be 101 by the time you are reading this! She still lives in her own home and enjoys gardening – she even cuts her own grass! Florence is the Tweedsmuir Coordinator for Gould's WI and has been for over 25 years. She still attends meetings and has been an active Member of her Branch for over 66 years. At the 90th anniversary, Florence displayed a dress that her mother made for her in 1912, when she was just 3 years old. A framed picture of that dress was also on display.

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## Communications Corner

By Manon Germain, Communications & Resource Development Officer, FWIO

Salut to all WI Members and prospective Members! I am excited to introduce you to the newest feature in the *Home & Country ROSE Garden* – the Communications Corner!

FWIO is very fortunate to have Members that are engaged in social and educational programs that benefit communities throughout Ontario. We are very excited to hear from YOU the Member, and to create spaces for Members to share insight, knowledge and experiences. For this reason, FWIO has re-launched its official Facebook Group and invites Members to share their ideas.

If you do not have a Facebook account – no problem! Our FWIO Facebook Group page is accessible for everyone with a computer and Internet connection to view what is happening and read the Discussions posted under different Topics. Social media policies are being developed to help everyone in the online discussions feel safe and secure while using Facebook. You can find a link to our Facebook Group in the "What's New" section on our website [www.fwio.on.ca](http://www.fwio.on.ca).

Over the next 6 months, we hope to develop a platform for ongoing discussions among the Members. If you have suggestions for topics, or would like to help provide your expertise to some specific areas and subjects (by overseeing a topic as a WI Expert), please drop me a line at [manong@fwio.on.ca](mailto:manong@fwio.on.ca) or call me at the Provincial Office.

