



ACWW Day

Badenoch WI (Guelph Area) celebrated ACWW Day this past April at Badenoch Community Hall

in Puslinch. The Branch decided to have an Indian theme, as the next ACWW Triennial Conference is going to be held in Chennai, India in 2013.

Cindi Rabstein, Past-President of Wellington-Halton District (and current FWIO International Officer), welcomed everyone and, after the singing of the Women's Institute Grace with Lynn Lodge at the piano, 41 Members sat down to a cooked Indian breakfast. Badenoch WI worked very hard, decorating the hall beautifully and putting on a wonderful display of Indian articles.

After breakfast, Florence Peer introduced her sister, Eileen Cockburn, who had just returned from 6 weeks in India, where she had been delivering kits for the organization, Sleeping Children Around the World, and visiting her daughter who is living there. She told the audience about the Indian way of life: the friendliness, the food, the traffic, the schools, and what life is like in rural areas. She expressed how clean they kept their houses and their children, despite living with mud floors and a tin roof.

It was a very informative morning and \$125 was made after expenses, which will go to the ACWW Canada Project to help women in the Caribbean, Central and South American Areas.



BRANCH PROFILE

New Dundee WI

New Dundee WI (Guelph Area) is one of FWIO's largest Branches with 65 current Members. The Branch, located in Waterloo District, formed in 1907 and welcomes Members from surrounding towns. They welcome women of all ages - one of their youngest Members just had a baby.

New Dundee WI proudly celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 2007. Each meeting that year was reflected in this achievement along with several activities, including publishing the 4th edition of the Homemakers Delight Cookbook.

The Tweedsmuir History Books have been one of the biggest projects for the Branch. Presently, their collection contains over 21 albums and records over 175 years of community history. Recently, the Tweedsmuir's were digitized and put on a webpage linked to the Wilmot Township History archives. Hayesville and New Hamburg WI's have amalgamated with New Dundee WI, and their history is also contained on this webpage.

The Branch helps their community through numerous fundraisers, with proceeds going toward such projects as a new digitalized mammography machine for St. Mary's Hospital and a new community playground for a local park.

The Branch tries to make their monthly meetings diverse and interesting for all ages. Members are welcome to invite friends, and guest speakers provide the variety needed. Some Members have shared their experiences of trips that have enriched their lives and have passed this passion onto other Members. Says Life Member, Carol Sararus: "these kinds of meetings keep us informed, and the support, interaction and fellowship after each meeting continues to draw us back each month."

Pictured at the Branch's WI Tea Party is Elva Fried with her daughter, Yvonne - both WI Members.

