

HATCH

The NZ Federation of Graduate Women (North Shore Branch) has started a new group for young mothers, held on the third Tuesday of each month. This is a daytime group for graduates who would like to have discussions, interesting speakers, book reviews etc in a relaxed environment where children are welcome.

The group meets in a private home with coffee and muffins at 10am followed by a speaker at 10.30. At present, the meeting is organised by a senior member of FGW. As Hatch grows we hope the young members will take ownership of the group, but we oldies will be there to give support and help with the children as required.

So far our group is small. However, all agree that it is worthwhile and enjoyable.

Why do people come?

Interesting company, morning tea, discussions on topics other than children and the time is ideal, as many mothers find it difficult to get out at night.

What do they get out of it?

Meet new people, get out of the house, have open-minded discussion, other things to think about.

What do we do at meetings?

Coffee, food, discussion, informal presentations, speakers from within and outside the group.

What do we do with children at the meetings?

Embrace them, include and enjoy them. A senior member is available to help with children as required.

How do we see Hatch developing?

Many of our current more senior members began their association with Graduate Women through similar groups when they left their careers and became “at home” mothers. Keeping contact with other professional women was very important and the support and inspiration given by more senior members was invaluable. In fact, the friendships that we formed then with older members are the reason many of us have continued our long-term membership of FGW.

Many young women re-enter the workforce after a short time at home for several reasons. Some out of financial necessity, others keen to keep up on their career path, and some out of loneliness. For those at home, we hope to offer some stimulating discussions, interesting speakers, good company and a lifelong association with FGW.