

CAPITAL DAY



CURLY QUESTION . . .

What about the singletons?

Stacey Wood

THE day after Valentines Day, it can feel like you're surrounded by loved-up couples, but according to the last census, nearly a third of Kiwi adults over 20 are single.

Today, February 15, is Singles Awareness Day – a day for the unattached to celebrate their freedom and possibilities.

Don't let the acronym fool you, this is anything but a sad occasion, Wellington accountant Hilary Combes says. She is the founder of SaRC – Singles are Really Cool – and says Wellington is a hive of activity for single people.

“We have more than 560 people on our mailing list, and about 100 in our social club.”

Miss Combes, who moved to Wellington from Britain about six years ago, says SaRC is not about avoiding dating or relationships, but enjoying single life while it lasts.

“The reason I set it up was if you're single, you're expected to be out dating, and that doesn't work for everyone. You might be straight out of a relationship, or new to the area, or any number of other reasons. So while you're

TODAY'S THE DAY

Ways to celebrate your singledom on Singles Awareness Day.

- Join a club: if there's a hobby or sport you've always wanted to take up, why not make today the day you get involved. If you can't pick one, the SaRCers have a range of events on their calendar so you can give something new a try.
- Throw yourself the perfect date night at home: no compromising on food or wine, or movie selection – only your favourite meals and your favourite album on repeat.
- Bottle of wine or a six-pack of beers, and your best mates – a simple recipe for a great night.
- Buy yourself something pretty, or completely self-indulgent, just because you can.
- Three words: *Bridget Jones' Diary*.

single, we're saying, why don't you come out with us, meet some new people, and be involved.”

The SaRCers meet regularly for events from brunch to giant Jenga competitions – some events are for certain age groups only, while others are open to everyone.



Pleasure for one: Singles Awareness Day is anything but a sad occasion.