



# New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women

## CANTERBURY BRANCH

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## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2016

### NEXT BRANCH MEETING

There are no branch meetings planned for March and April and the next one will be the Awards Evening on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May to be held at the Jack Mann Auditorium, University of Canterbury (former College of Education), Solway Ave at 5.30pm.

Further details along with a map and directions will be provided closer to the time. In the meantime perhaps you could mark the date in your diaries.

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

A warm welcome is extended to new members:

**Hannah McKerchar** who is a PhD Student. She has LL.B and BSc Hons degrees and her special interests lie in the fields of Biochemistry, Proteins and Biomaterials, Proteomics, Mass Spectrometry and Wool and Textiles.

**Gunta Glading** who has a BA Hons degree and is interested in Music, Politics, Biographies and Arts and Crafts.

### GRADUATIONS

Helpers are required for the following graduations

#### Christchurch Polytechnic

Wednesday **23rd March** 9.00am to 1.00pm  
or 1.00pm to 5.00pm (at 9 Creyke Rd)

Thursday **24th March** 11.00am to 2.30pm  
or 2.30pm to 5.00pm (Horncastle Arena)

#### Canterbury University

Monday **18th April** 8.00am to 1.00pm  
or 1.00pm to 5.30pm (at 9 Creyke Rd)

Tuesday **19th April** 11.00am to 2.00pm  
or 2.00pm to 5.30pm (Horncastle Arena)

Wednesday **20th April** 8.00am to 1.00pm  
or 1.00pm to 5.30pm (at 9 Creyke Rd)

Thursday **21st April** 11.00am to 2.00pm  
or 2.00pm to 5.30pm (Horncastle Arena)

#### Lincoln University

Thursday **7th April** 8.00am to 1.00pm  
or 1.00pm to 5.30pm (at 9 Creyke Rd)

Friday **8th April** 11.00am to 2.00pm  
or 2.00pm to 5.30pm (at Lincoln Univ.)

If you can assist at any of these times, please ring  
**Kay Holyoake, phone 351 9738**

# TRUST BOARD REPORT

– Ellen McCrae, Chair

Prior to our last meeting, the Governance Committee arranged for the three committees, finance, awards and governance to develop preliminary terms of reference as they relate to the Strategic Plan. The committees reported back to the Board and will have draft terms of reference ready for the next meeting of the Board. The following Vision Statement was adopted for our Strategic Plan- *A stronger community through education for women.*

## Scholarships and Awards

I urge all of you to visit our website

[www.canterburynzfgw.org.nz](http://www.canterburynzfgw.org.nz)

Click on **scholarships, grants and awards** to see the range available and then, under **award recipients**, read about women we have supported recently. Applications for many of the CFGW Awards for 2016 close on 31 March 2016.

Applications for the Aoraki CPIT Medical Imaging scholarships close on 30 April. Applications for Category 8 Special Project Awards close on 31 May, these awards are for women undertaking a special project, which should have a regional or local content or application. This category is open to a wider community of women, who can be, but are not necessarily, students. Applicants do not need to be associated with a university or other educational institution

**The New Horizons for Women Trust** will be offering two Foundation Studies Awards under our name in 2016 and these applications close 17 April 2016. See [www.newhorizonsforwomen.org.nz](http://www.newhorizonsforwomen.org.nz) We were proud to support 2 x University of Otago Summer Studentships, plus present a prize for the best presentation of a summer studentship project. Check out <http://www.canterburynzfgw.org.nz/html/events.html> for details of the projects we supported.

The School for Young Writers Ypres French Exchange will receive \$1,000.00 in the 2016 year

## Endowed Masters' Scholarships

**University of Canterbury:** The Trust Board endowed scholarships at the 300, 400 – 600 and PhD levels. Our 400-600 level scholarships were endowed at \$16,500; however the University now offers \$6,000 scholarships at this level so we had the choice of making one premium scholarship, or raising the number we offer in a year, so we are negotiating along the latter path.

## Conference Presentation and Travel Awards:

### Ellen Turnbull

Study Travel Award to undertake exchange to Univ. Brit Columbia as part of her BSc Psychology

### Amanda Inglis

Conference Travel Award to present at the 11th IWA Pond Technology Conference in Leeds

### Wendy Hoddinett

Conference Travel Award to present at European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools Bridging the Gap 2016 in Switzerland

### Tara McAllister

Conference Travel Award to present at the Society for Freshwater Science Annual Meeting in Sacramento California in May

### Samantha Jean Lee

Conference Travel Award to present at a Paediatric Academic Societies Meeting in Baltimore in late April if paper accepted

## NZFGW Face to Face meeting

I will be attending an NZFGW Executive meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March alongside Helen Heddell as our Branch President. Items for discussion include:

1. Sessions will cover Strategic Thinking and Plan Review to

include NZFGW Mission and NZFGW Image, Communications and Marketing, plus website Review.

2. NZFGW Advocacy: for what, with who, to what end. NZFGW Membership and how NZFGW works.
3. NZFGW Trust Board meeting that will cover discussion on existing National Awards. The Canterbury Trust Board members have drafted a statement in response to a paper circulated by NZFGW National Executive regarding the latter's role in making awards

**The Lease on 9 Creyke Road** has been signed for a further 2 years and while the premises are not ideal they do offer us a strategic position close to the University and we continue to value the relationship we have with the University of Canterbury

**The Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 comes into force on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016** and this makes trust board members accountable, requiring us to act positively on all issues of health and safety in our workplace

### **NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN REPORT – Marlene Smith**

Ellen and I were present at the February branch meeting when Rae Duff, the NCWNZ National President addressed the Branch on the subject of Gender Equality. She noted that we had come a long way in a short time when several women leaders held important positions including that of Prime Minister, but that we are not doing so well at present. She focussed mainly on the strategy aspects of the White Paper, including prerequisites which needed to be in place before we have a gender equal New Zealand, and assured us that NCW is powering up to make sure more New Zealanders have the freedom and opportunity to determine their future plans, including establishing a think tank, seeking funding for a secretariat and producing an

annual monitor (with the first report to be in September 2016) and working with CEDAW.

They also plan to reduce the number of submissions (i.e. action items) and focus on equality issues. She asked us to keep up the good work, stay connected and speak up against sexism.

The NCW Board is currently at changing the membership model. The organisation needs to be more efficient and visible. There are difficult times ahead but they want to make the organisation fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Rae's inspiring address ended with the words, "We are the link between our mothers' mothers and our daughters' daughters."

### **REGALIA HIRE REPORT**

**– Jean Sharfe, Regalia Hire Manager**

March brings the beginning of a very busy period for Regalia Hire. This month we will be supplying regalia for Otago Polytechnic staff, Vision College's graduation on 11<sup>th</sup> March and CPIT Autumn Graduation on 24<sup>th</sup> March immediately before Easter. These will be followed in April by Lincoln University on the 8<sup>th</sup> and Canterbury 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. To finish the graduation 'season' we have the Open Polytechnic graduation on 4<sup>th</sup> May.

At present we are receiving enrolments for the University of Canterbury April graduation and these close on 15<sup>th</sup> March.

We have recently received a very generous gift from long term member of the Branch, Dr Pat Campbell, of 2 sets of PhD regalia, her own and that of her late husband, Dr Alastair Campbell. We are very grateful for these as the number of PhD graduates increases each year.

### **BELATED RETURN OF REGALIA**

After the February 2011 earthquake the contents of the choir room at St Mary's Church Merivale were placed in boxes and taken home by one of the choir members. He recently got around to looking in one of the boxes and found two B.Com hoods, one BE Hood and one

BSc hood, all belonging to Regalia Hire. Needless to say we were very pleased to have them back at last.

## BOOK LAUNCH

*BEHIND THE TWISTED WIRE* by Jennifer Haworth

The definitive study of New Zealand's commissioned war artists and soldier-artists in World War I.

**To be held in St Barnabas Fendalton Church Hall Christchurch on Wednesday 30 March 2016 from 5.30-7.30 pm.**

Christchurch-based Jenny Haworth is the author of the highly successful *The Art of War* which focuses on the commissioned war artists of World War II. It sold over 3,000 copies and is becoming a collector's item. She is well-known as a writer of non-fiction and of novels. Her most recent novel, *The Undone Years*, tells the story of a Christchurch painter in Paris at the time of the 1919 Peace Treaty negotiations.

RSVP to: [jjhaworth@extra.co.nz](mailto:jjhaworth@extra.co.nz). Copies of the book may be obtained from her (as well as on the night) at \$49.95.

### NEW HORIZONS FOR WOMEN TRUST

**Applications for all awards opened on 1st March and close on 17th April**

For information visit our website: <https://www.newhorizonsforwomen.org.nz/award-applications> or contact our Administrator, Rachel Nankivell at [enquiries@newhorizonsforwomen.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@newhorizonsforwomen.org.nz)

**Society for Research on Women - 50th Anniversary Celebration**

*Saturday 21 May 2016, Wellington Girls' College*

One of the Trust's founding organisations, the Society for Research on Women in NZ

(SROW) is celebrating the 50th anniversary since it began in 1966. Former members are arranging a daytime gathering on Saturday 21 May at Wellington Girls' College, where the Society was formed, to mark the occasion, to review what SROW has accomplished and to look at how research is being conducted now.

From the beginning of the New Horizons for Women Trust, SROW contributed to the research awards and to the Endowment Fund. It was a nominating body until it was wound up in 2006 and its life members retain the status of partner organisation to the Trust.

Any of our supporters who are former SROW members and would like more detail about the event should contact Mary Mowbray ([trevandmary55@gmail.com](mailto:trevandmary55@gmail.com)).

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## FROM GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL

### Women as business leaders

Huge gender gaps exist for women in business leadership. Women hold 12% of board seats worldwide and women chair only 4% of companies globally. Despite this, gender-balanced boards make good business sense: leveraging diversity increases the amount of perspectives at the top and broadens the focus of a board. According to a recent study, when Fortune-500 companies were ranked by the number of women directors on their boards, those in the highest quartile in 2009 reported a 42% greater return on sales and a 53% higher return on equity than the rest.

Equal access to education for all people is an essential element of economic growth. Increasing women's access to secondary, tertiary, non-traditional and continuing education enlarges a country's labour force, engages previously untapped talent, and as a result, increases GDP.

### Promoting global economic growth

The McKinsey Global Institute recently found that in the 95 countries analysed, women generate 37% of global GDP despite accounting for 50% of the global working age population. They identified a "full potential scenario" in which 240 million

workers would hypothetically be added through higher female participation. Women represent a huge resource pool that must be utilised to maximise GDP.

The key to reaching this potential is education: women still attain less than 75% of the educational levels of men in 17 out of the 95 countries studied. Globally, 195 million fewer adult women than men are literate; two-thirds of the illiterate population globally are women. Every additional year of school a woman attends increases her wages by an average of 12%. If girls are able to go to school, they are better equipped to enter the job market, secure high-skilled jobs and make productive contributions to the economy. Further, working mothers are also positive role models for their daughters. In one study of 24 countries, daughters of working mothers were more likely to be employed, have higher earnings and hold supervisory roles.

This form of economic growth will also promote economic development, through decreasing poverty and income inequality, while at the same time increasing health outcomes. Educating women and girls stands to bring huge returns on individual, national and global scales.

#### **Educated mothers have healthier children**

Educated mothers are more likely to maintain hygiene, vaccinate their children and recognise the signs of illness early.

They are more informed about specific diseases and are therefore more likely to know how to act on these observations so that their children acquire the proper care they need from health specialists.

An educated mother is more knowledgeable and has greater influence in household negotiations. This means that mothers can choose the most effective strategies for raising their children. Ultimately, educated mothers raise healthier children who are more likely to go to school, avoid early and forced marriage and have healthy children of their own when they are ready.

#### **On International Women's Day 2016, Graduate Women International called for states and policy makers to recognise the unique social influence of women teachers as they shape the next generation of young women**

Geneva, Switzerland, 8 March 2016 - Graduate Women International (GWI) takes this opportunity to call for states, policy makers and communities to highlight the

importance of women teachers and their invaluable contribution to a more equal, productive society. On International Women's Day, which celebrates the achievement of women and their rights, past, present and future, GWI's focus is on women teachers as key to the empowerment of women and girls through education up to the highest levels. GWI therefore urges states and institutions to implement the Sustainable Development Goal for Education agreed in September 2015. Commitment to invest in women teachers is critical to bring about Goal 4, to *Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning* envisioned for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Through GWI's three campaign strands of Create Access, Celebrate Teachers' Achievement and Strengthen Teachers' Agency, GWI draws attention to women teachers as powerful drivers of social change ideally placed to positively influence girls and young women. Women teachers need to be attracted and retained at all levels of education institutions, with a clear career path, regular upskilling opportunities and inflation-adjusted salaries in line with other professions. This can only be achieved by ensuring adequate investment in developing high quality teacher-training, ensuring gender parity in pay and deployment and by stringent monitoring of measures undertaken at all institutional levels. Of particular importance is the need for a gender balance in women secondary school teachers as positive role models in science, engineering, technology and mathematics (STEM) to encourage more young women into these fields.

GWI President Catherine Bell states: "The unique social position of women teachers and educators gives them the ability to inspire girls to stay in school and realise their potential. It is time to recognise their value with concrete action and give them a greater leadership and decision-making role at all institutional levels."

## NGAIO MARSH'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

For Lovers of Words, Heritage and Detective Fiction,  
The Ngaio Marsh House and Heritage Trust will celebrate  
Ngaio Marsh's Birthday

At the Old Boys' Theatre at Christ's College  
On **Sunday April 24, 2016**

5-6pm, wine and nibbles  
6-7pm, CRIME FICTION

A talk by **Professor Ken Strongman**

Emeritus Professor of Psychology, University of Canterbury,  
and well known columnist and lecturer on crime fiction.

Tickets \$25, Paper Plus, Merivale or Ph 358 8763 [philbates@paradise.net.nz](mailto:philbates@paradise.net.nz)



Graduate Women International  
*Empowering women & girls through lifelong education*

# Early bird registration is open until 31 May 2016

<http://gwiconference.org/registration>

**GWI 32<sup>ND</sup> TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE, CAPE TOWN**

*"At the crossroads between education, gender and human rights"*

**21-23 August 2016 General Assembly (GWI members only)**

**24 -26 August 2016 Public Conference**

*Disclaimer: while every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information in this newsletter, neither NZFGW Canterbury Branch nor the editor accepts any liability for any errors of fact or opinion.*