



New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women

CANTERBURY BRANCH

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NEWSLETTER APRIL 2014

*****APRIL BRANCH MEETING ****

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 22nd April at 12.00pm at 9 Creyke Rd.** At this lunch time meeting (lunch will be provided), Glyn Strange will be bringing this year's Yevres exchange students, Samantha Kennett-Ny, who will go to France later this year, and Eva Conforto, who has just arrived from France to spend three weeks in New Zealand, to speak. Eva will deliver the speech she is giving on Anzac Day to the RSA. Parking is available up the drive between **91 and 93 Clyde Rd.**

Advance Notice The May branch meeting is the very important **Awards Evening** which will be held on **Wednesday 28th May at 7.30pm in St Barnabas's Church Hall.** There will be information about the speakers in the next newsletter and as in previous years you are assured of a most interesting and informative evening.

REPORT OF THE FUNCTION TO HONOUR JUDY BROOKS' AND CAROL HART'S WORK ON THE TRUST BOARD

On the 7th March, a group of branch members, present and past Trust Board members and university staff spent a very pleasant afternoon catching up with former members, enjoying afternoon tea and listening to the following well deserved tributes to Judy and Carol presented by Ellen and Ngaio Judy and Carol were then each presented with a bouquet of flowers and invited to cut the celebratory cakes.

Some photos taken at the event may be seen on the back page of this newsletter.

Tribute to Judy by Ngaio Francis

In paying tribute today to Judy Brooks for the past 13 years' service as the Chair of the Trust Board of the Canterbury Branch of the NZ Federation of Graduate Women, I must go quite a way back into last century to show fully what we owe to Judy, for these years are a culmination of many years of volunteer work.

The Trust Board met for the first time in 1991, but preparation for this had been going on for twelve and a half years before that, following instructions to all branches from the National Executive of what was then the NZ Federation of University Women. Meetings were held with legal, financial and taxation advisers and information gathered as to what was necessary to safeguard from the clutches of the IRD, the money the Branch was earning from its Regalia Hire business.

Consultations increased as the 1980s progressed, and a Trust Deed was eventually produced to comply with the Charitable Trusts Act regulations. Through all these interactions Judy was pivotal, as convenor of the Hoods and Gowns – which she had been from the mid 1960s – leading the band of hard working member volunteers who raised the Branch's funds. Many were the hours she spent in those final years with our lawyer, Olly Matson, and the various Branch Presidents. I remember Dawn Wright and myself being with Judy on several occasions as we finalised wording and conditions to go back to the branch committee for approval.

And so the Trust was born.

It had a bumpy first few years because some of the branch members were suspicious and fearful of what would happen to their hard-earned money. To allay their fears Judy had to constantly explain and reassure, and even arrange special meetings to involve them in consultation about what they wanted their money spent on under the governing regulations of the Charitable Trust. It was a trying time, but it was from this time on that we started establishing our scholarships, awards and grants for the students of the University of Canterbury, which had been the main recipients of the Trust's charitable donations. As a result we have built up a good relationship with the Scholarships Officers over the years with Judy as the on-going main link.

Judy kept the business growing and the Trust developing. She had close contact with the Registry staff and Alan Hayward and these contacts were vital to the success and efficiency of the Regalia Hire and the expansion of its services as the University graduation requirements changed and other institutions joined the growing number of clients. We have continued to enjoy a very happy relationship with the University and all the staff dealing with graduations, a relationship we have been very grateful for – and this is largely due to Judy's on-going working with them.

Our premises grew too and were maintained with the valued University support, as from 1967 we were established in the basement of the Old Chemistry building of the Arts Centre. But we were not tenants of the Arts Centre and so Judy, to get to know others on the site, joined the Friends of the Arts Centre Association and in time became a member of their committee, and their representative on the Arts Centre Trust Board. As a result our Trust Board benefited from her participation, knowledge and excellent relations she built up in this area as well. She recommended working with them on developing some of their facilities as well as some of ours. I recall these involving alarm systems, grand pianos and toilets!

When the Board introduced the new system of paid part-time staff working with the volunteer team in the hire business, Judy, though still convenor of Hoods and Gowns, found time to assume the chairmanship of the Trust Board, and, for a few years, did both jobs. When a new convenor, Jean Sharfe was appointed to take over that part of her duties, she still continued to work in the Hire business and still does today.

And then came the earthquake and the whole performance of vacating the Basement, packing regalia, paperwork and records, shifting and relocating to two new venues and setting up once more with help from the University expediting the move to 9 Creyke Rd. What a tumultuous and demanding last few years it has been for Judy to cope with as Chair of the Board. Despite all the difficulties however, she kept her cheerful optimism and calmly led us through.

So, Judy, we have so much to thank you for: at all times your competent and very pleasant, quiet leadership, your on-going work setting up valuable links and working relationships, over so many years. Hours and hours of dedicated work we have benefited immensely from – though Albie, I suspect, probably doesn't regard it in quite the same way.

Judy, you were there at the conception of the Trust Board, you guided it through its infant years and helped it grow into the strong, working body you have been able to hand over to the new Chair for the future.

You have been an inspiration, Judy, we thank you for all that you have done.

Tribute to Carol by Ellen McCrae

Our founding Trust Deed of 1991 was preceded by many years of negotiation before its establishment. The deed sets out who will be on the Trust Board and Carol in her role as Treasurer of the Canterbury Branch of NZFUW at the time became a Trustee. This role carried considerable responsibilities as The Trust set about managing the funds settled on

it from the Branch. Carol's administrative skills her determination to source the best advice through the then Spicer Oppenheimer ensured the Trust finances were placed and managed on a sound footing. Access to good financial advice is Carol's lasting legacy to the Trust. After 6 years as Treasurer, Carol assumed the Chair's role for 12 months and then continued as Trustee until resigning early in 2014. Calm and considered decision making throughout those 23 years have been a hallmark of Carol's contribution, her institutional memory has been invaluable. In my short time on the trust I have relied on Carol's willingness to respond to queries and give opinions in an objective manner mindful of the future for the trust.

Carol we thank you sincerely for this contribution of great significance to the birth and emerging years of the Trust.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

One of our oldest members, Stancey Yeabsley died recently aged 94. Stancey graduated in 1940 with an MA (Hons) degree in French and Greek and taught at St Margaret's College for many years. She joined the branch in 1981 and as well as regularly attending meetings in the past spent many hours interviewing branch members and compiling an oral archive which will be an invaluable resource for the future.

TRUST BOARD REPORT

The Trust Board had its third meeting for the 2014 year on 2nd April 2014.

THE TRUST DEED – ADOPTION OF UPDATED DOCUMENT

Wynn Williams solicitor J P Bell- Connell submitted documentation that the Board approved at its last meeting to include the

1. Letter to Crown Counsel
2. Originating application on notice for approval of a scheme under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957;
3. Affidavit of Ellen Lorraine McCrae in support of originating application on notice for approval of a scheme under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957;

4. Scheme amending powers of trustees and altering the mode of administration of applicant trust;
5. Memorandum of Counsel.

The Board remains hopeful that this first step towards approval by the Attorney General will proceed smoothly and the final step of High Court approval can follow without too much delay however we have yet to be advised of the timeframe.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE TRUST BOARD

The Board adopted the following document that sets out our vision, our mission, our values, the strategic goals that will underpin all areas of our work and our action plan.

Our Vision: to advance the education of and research opportunities for women and serve the Canterbury community by supporting other charitable activities.

Our Mission: to achieve our vision we will:

- Prudently preserve, grow and manage the capital of the Trust
- Provide sound governance to the Academic Dress Hire business
- Develop, deliver and promote effective philanthropy
- Be collaborative and innovative in our grant making and achieving our objects by meeting the changing requirements of grantees
- Develop strategic partnerships with other organisations having shared objects to advance leadership education and relevant research opportunities for women

Our Values:

As an organisation we accept it is important

- We treat all people with whom we interact with respect and value a diversity of views, ideas and cultures
- We act as long term guardians of the Trust's investments in the environment in which we operate
- We are committed to being fair, open and transparent
- We are responsive, accountable and act with integrity

- To achieve our vision the following strategic goals will underpin all areas of this work:

Strategic Goal 1. Prudent Investment

Apply investment strategies to preserve capital and grow the capabilities of the Academic Dress Hire business to maximise the funding available for granting

Strategic Goal 2. Delegation of Business Activities

To delegate responsibility for the operational management of the academic dress hire business to a business manager

Strategic Goal 3. Effective Grantmaking

By remaining responsive to the changing environment in education and developing partnerships to ensure grants are used to best effect the advancement of our vision

Strategic Goal 4. Sound Governance

To monitor and improve our governance practices with regular review to ensure effective delivery of our vision and goals

Funding Framework

We fund education and research activities including but not limited to:

- Women undertaking tertiary and postgraduate education, travel for conference presentations, study associated with the course being pursued
- Projects of relevance to women and the wider community undertaken by women
- Expenses incurred by women in pursuit of their tertiary education including but not limited to conference travel, attending courses outside their base university

Action Plan

Prudent Investment

- Establish a dialogue with our accountants and fund managers on utilising funds to preserve and grow them
- Determine a spending rule that will clarify the maximum amount to be

spent in making grants and the academic dress hire in any one year

Delegation of Business Activities

- Clarify role and develop parameters of responsibility for the Academic Dress Hire Manager and review performance
- Clarify the interaction between the Trust Board and the Academic Dress Hire Business
- Foster the growth of the academic dress hire business

Effective Grant making

- Identify current grants.
- Prioritise giving to be consistent with our vision in consultation with our stakeholders
- Prioritise our grant making within the parameters of the " *spending rule*" (see above in Investment paragraph)
- Be responsible in grant making by having and adhering to established criteria for scholarships, awards, funding of projects and other charitable organisations
- Review communication / advertising of our funding opportunities
- Review the effectiveness of the grants made

Sound Governance

- Clarify the roles and responsibilities of those on the Trust Board
- Determine criteria for membership of the Trust Board i.e. skills required and set up succession plans
- Set out the reporting parameters for the academic dress hire business and monitor closely
- Accepting responsibility for making sure the organisation is moving in the right direction

ACADEMIC DRESS HIRE STRATEGY

Inherent in the above document is the need for the Board to set a strategy for the Academic Dress Hire . Essentially in our governance role we are setting the parameters within which we expect the Academic Dress Hire business to operate.

FUNDING DECISIONS

Rachel North PhD in Biochemistry has been granted \$800.00 to assist with travel to attend the EMBO Enzyme

mechanisms by biological systems Conference in Manchester UK in June 2014. She will be presenting a poster entitled Enzyme Mechanisms by Biological Catalyst.

Tansy Wigley PhD in Chemical and Process Engineering has been granted \$800.00 to assist with travel to attend the 20th Symposium on Analytical and Applied Pyrolysis in Birmingham May 2014. She will present a paper "Development of the fast pyrolysis process to produce a high quality liquid fuel from Woody Biomass.

Sophia Hunt Master of Science in Ecology has been granted \$800.00 to assist her with travel to attend the Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting 2014 in Portland Oregon USA where she will present a summary of her research Climate – and habitat-medication of predator-prey interactions.

NZFGW Canterbury Branch Trust Board \$500.00 Prize in Viticulture and Oenology Lincoln University was awarded to **Emily Lamont**

A REMINDER RE CHARITABLE DONATIONS 2014

The Trust Board will be looking at charitable donations to be made for 2014 and we welcome ideas from the Branch members. Note that recipients must be a registered charity.

A Training Workshop / Leadership Seminar "**Confident Speaking for Young People**" will be run by Raewyn Dawson on Sat 10 May, 10am – 3pm at St Silas' Anglican Church (Cnr Main North Road & Tuckers Road). Cost \$10. Limited to 30 people. Contact Raewyn at chch.dawsons@gmail.com

FROM THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OBITUARY:

Microbiologist **Dr Margaret Elaine di Menna** ONZM, Scientist Emeritus, (8 July 1923 – 24 March 2014) was the first woman to gain a Doctor of Philosophy degree from a New Zealand university. Her doctoral thesis at the University of Otago was entitled "Yeasts of the human

body, their nature and relationship". Immediate Past-President Dot Page wrote of her in the March 2012 newsletter:

"The year 1954 may seem late for the first woman to gain a doctorate from the University of New Zealand, but the establishment of the degree had been far from smooth. The University first suggested it in a letter to the Premier in 1906, but no action was taken until after World War One. It was part of a whole raft of initiatives in this period of post-war expansion and optimism. The University, as its historian J.C. Beaglehole put it, was 'intensifying and expanding the scope of its work' in a process that included reforming the BA degree, raising the age of matriculation and establishing postgraduate scholarships in Arts, Science and Law.

The PhD however, established in 1926, was adjudged a failure and discontinued in 1930, after the award of just nine degrees, because of the difficulty in setting a uniform examination standard. It was only in 1944 that the PhD was reinstated, one aspect of an enhanced emphasis on research that was a key feature of the post-war period. It remained uncommon until the 1960s. Margaret Di Menna, therefore, with her MSc in 1948, and PhD in 1954, was by no means late in the field.

Her earliest publications appeared while she was still a graduate student and she remained an active, highly respected and frequently cited researcher, with a formidable list of publications" from her research at the Ruakura Soil Research Station and later McMurdo Sound.

In April 2011 to honour her achievements, Otago University named its Abbey College reading room after her. Dr di Menna died in Hamilton at the age of 90 years.

REPORT FROM THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MARCH (face-to-face) MEETING next page ...

Conference

Preparation of the Conference report is underway. Branches are asked to report on Branch activities over the last two years. Branches are also asked to have remits to NE Secretary Elizabeth Eppel by 15 June. To bring the Charitable Trust documentation in line with the changes made to the NZFGW Constitution in 2012 amendments are being made to the Deed and its appendices for members' consideration prior to Conference. The intention is to also revoke the subsidiary rules and replace them with a Treasurer's manual/guidelines.

Succession Planning

As members step down and as terms end NE is seeking expressions of interest from members who would like to join NE. We would particularly like to have a representative from each Branch. NE members are reviewing and updating job descriptions. Sian Halcrow has resigned as Young Members convenor and this work has been taken on in the interim by Jan Tan. We congratulate Sian on the safe arrival of her new daughter.

Membership

To assist the membership process each Branch is asked to send a copy of its membership form to Jan Tan Membership Convenor. Jan is developing a standard template, but the forms are also necessary to speed up the process for potential members who join via the website.

Strategic Plan and IFUW

The final shape of the Pillars is still being developed (emphasis is now much more on education from IFUW's perspective – but this doesn't prevent us from taking a slightly wider brief if we choose).

Finance

On the basis of the Treasurer's projected financial forecasts there will be no change to the NZFGW subscription for 2014-16.

Publicity

Rae Duff has developed an A4 size poster for use in all places where we might recruit new members. A key aspect is that it has a QR code linking to our website.

Ann Pomeroy President

Registration open: Women in Science conference, 9-11 July, Wellington

Registration and abstract submission are now open for '**Absolutely Positively Science**'. The seventh triennial conference of the Association for Women in the Sciences (AWIS) will be held in Wellington from 9 to 11 July 2014. The conference brings together scientists, academics, students, teachers, policymakers, communicators and more. It provides opportunities for women working, studying, or interested in any field of science to listen to, learn from and network with other women in science.

The programme includes: keynote speakers **Luisa Maffi** (Terralingua, Canada) and **Brigid Heywood** (Massey University); a panel discussion featuring New Zealand politicians; and invited talks and workshops.

Abstract submission is now open for 20/20 Science Snapshot sessions, in which each speaker presents twenty strictly timed 20-second slides; fast-paced, on-message, this is science served up in seven-minute slices!

<http://www.awis.org.nz/programme-2014/>

Peruse the programme; register for the conference; submit an abstract; follow on Twitter @AWIS2014.

OTHER MEETINGS

The Birthday Party - Ngaio and the Bard Light-hearted Celebration of Ngaio and Shakespeare's Birthdays (119th and 450th respectively)

Wednesday 23rd April at 6.00 – 7.30pm at Old Boys' Theatre, Christ's College.

Tickets \$25: Performance, wine and nibbles. Contact Margaret Sweet Phone 351 5607 or email

margaretsweet@xtra.co.nz or Philippa Bates, Phone 358 8763 or email philbates@paradise.net.nz

The Patriotic Response to World War I and those who Dissented – Gwen Parsons and David Grant

At the WEA, 59 Gloucester St
Saturday 12 April, 9.30am – 3.30pm

\$15 - All welcome

In this centenary year of the beginning of the First World War two authors, who have researched and written about various aspects of the war, will lead the discussion. Gwen Parsons will give an overview of the New Zealand military war effort, including where and when New Zealand troops fought, and discuss why New Zealand went to war and why we continued to support the war effort. David Grant, author of *Field Punishment No 1: Archibald Baxter, Mark Briggs and New Zealand's Anti-Militarist Tradition* (2008), will discuss how and why all objectors – political, industrial, religious, ethical, Maori, Irish – protested against

conscription in the First World War, and what happened to them. He will then draw parallels with the treatment of dissenters in Great Britain during the same war and explain why that country was much more liberal in its treatment of these people during the Second World War.

To enrol, phone 366 0285, email: admin@cwea.org.nz or go online to: cwea.org.nz

Please note there will be a break for lunch at approximately 12.30-1.30pm. We suggest you bring food for a shared lunch, or if you prefer, bring your own lunch.



Judy and Carol receiving their bouquets



Guests chatting over afternoon tea



Regalia Hire workers at lunch



Carol's thank you cake

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