



New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women CANTERBURY BRANCH

PO BOX 6733, CHRISTCHURCH 8442

Website: www.canterburynzfgw.org.nz

PHONE 364 3530 & FAX 364 3583

E-mail: thebranch@canterburynzfgw.org.nz

PRESIDENT:	Bernadette Devonport	Phone 358 6245	email bernadettedevonport@gmail.com
SECRETARY:	Geraldine Murphy	Phone 383 3958	email geraldinemurphy@xtra.co.nz
TREASURER:	Hilary Stubbs	Phone 383 0084	email hilarystubbs@clearnet.co.nz
MEMBERSHIP:	Barbara Peddie	Phone 377 0246	email bpeddie@clear.net.nz

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2014

NEXT BRANCH MEETING

The next meeting will be a guided tour of the regalia hire premises followed by afternoon tea and will take place on **Wednesday 10th September at 2-3pm at 9 Creyke Rd.** There is plenty of parking is available on the grassed area up the drive between 91 and 93 Clyde Rd.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership numbers have continued to decline in the last 12 months and, as at 30 June, we had 61 members, consisting of 19 ordinary graduates, 5 honorary members, 1 associate member and 36 senior members. This drop in members, particularly younger members, raises serious concerns about the future of the branch and, because of this, the committee have decided to hold a panel discussion to talk about this issue, invite members' opinions and investigate possible ways of both attracting new members and retaining existing ones.

This will take place after the AGM on Thursday 23 October at 7.30pm in the Rangi Ruru Staffroom. There will be further details in the next newsletter.

TRUST BOARD REPORT

The Trust Board met on 2 July 2014 and our next meeting is scheduled for 3 September 2014.

Donations

As highlighted in the previous report the Trust Board took the view that our giving should benefit as many as possible within the parameters of education, women, young people and welfare. Our giving in the 2013/2014 financial year broke down as follows. Education \$99,594.00; General Charitable \$21,180.00; Arts, incorporating the themes of education and young people in particular \$5,800.00.

Academic Dress Hire Business

Jean Sharfe as business manager of the business has confirmed the appointments of Eve Falconer as Assistant Manager Administration and Kay Holyoake as Assistant Manager Operations. The business would not be the success it is without the huge input from volunteers who come every Tuesday to work on a wide range of tasks. Now I am coming to Creyke Road on a more regular basis as Chair, I continue to be impressed by their dedication and commitment to the business. We are an aging workforce and it is important that we make the most of the significant expertise of staff and volunteers to put

the business on a footing that allows it to continue long after we have retired.

A long term solution to premises for the business is high on the priority list for the trust board as is the future computing requirements and accounting system we use. Sub committees are working on these issues.

Two Conference Travel Awards have been awarded

Jennifer Dickson who is completing a PhD in Mechanical Engineering will attend the IFAC 19th World Congress 2014 in Capetown to present a paper
Kate Wootton who is completing a Masters degree in Biological Sciences will attend the Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting in Sacramento California 10-15 August to present a paper "*How far is too far when perturbing a food web*"

These awards are valued by students as departmental funds for attendance at conferences etc diminishes. The opportunities of networking and learning afforded to those who have the chance to present at International Conferences are invaluable.

Ellen McCrae Trust Chair

REGALIA HIRE REPORT – Jean Sharfe

The cleaning of regalia has been completed and stocktaking is well under way.

Enrolments for the University of Canterbury's December graduation have begun and will close on 30 September. Preparations are under way for school prize-givings, with information packs going out to schools this week. We have already received inquiries from a number of schools, including South Otago High School whom we supplied for the first time last year when Otago were unable to.

The first of our medium sized graduations, the Graduate School for teacher training will be held on 25 August.

BRANCH REPORT- CANTERBURY 2012- 2014 (The Branch Biennial Conference Report recently sent to the National Executive)

Goals and Priorities

In the past two years the Canterbury Branch of NZFGW has continued to experience a steady and small fall in numbers. Older members are resigning from the organisation but not being replaced with younger members. Despite this, the Branch is fortunate to have an almost full complement in the Branch Committee with a group of dedicated members keeping the Branch active. Between 2012 and 2014 we have had two Presidents, Dr Barbara Peddie and Dr Bernadette Devonport. They have led by focussing first on consolidating our move to a University of Canterbury house at 9 Creyke Road and second, encouraging female post-graduates at the university to meet and network. The Committee has attempted to maintain contact with these post-graduates, facilitating meetings and offering reduced membership rates. In part, this was possible because of a very generous bequest from a former member, Dr Elizabeth Flint. Dr Flint's bequest has also made the Branch financially independent from the Trust and Regalia Hire Business, helping the process of clarifying the relationship between the Branch, the Trust and the Business.

Awards Made

The highlight of the year for the Branch is our Awards Evening where we acknowledge the success of those to whom the Trust has granted awards and scholarships. The Awards Evening allows us to meet the awardees and to listen to them speaking about their studies and research. The Trust continues to provide financial assistance to as many female tertiary students as possible at the University of Canterbury, Lincoln University, Christchurch Polytechnic and

the University of Otago Medical School in Christchurch.

Events

We aim to have Branch meetings at regular intervals and to vary these meetings. Twice a year we meet for lunch at local restaurants and at least three times a year we have speakers at evening meetings. In the past few years we have enjoyed listening to secondary school students who are part of a Christchurch/France exchange based around ANZAC Day. We finish the year with a morning tea for Senior members and a Branch meeting where we collect gifts for children at a local school.

Interested Branch members have also enjoyed participating in research activities this year and we have contributed to NZFGW's report to IFUW on Beijing +20, the proposed changes to the New Zealand Education Act and Conference Remits.

Publicity and Coverage

We have not been prominent in the newspapers these past two years, although we have invited reporters, and University publicity personnel, to our Awards Evenings. One innovation, which did not work but which we intend to try again, was to invite Year 13 students to our Awards Evening, so they could see and hear about the studies of our awardees.

The Regalia Hire Business gives us access to graduating students and we continue to distribute leaflets at graduations. The Branch Committee makes active use of our website. We frequently change the photos illustrating Branch events and keep readers up-to-date with coming events. At the suggestion of the Committee I write a small piece for the website after our monthly Branch Committee meetings.

Forward Looking Goals

The Branch will continue to work with the Trust Board to 'future proof' the Regalia Hire Business and clarify and consolidate the relationship between the three parts of Canterbury NZFGW. This includes reviewing the aims of the Trust and the operations of the Regalia Hire Business as well as renewing hardware and software. On a practical note, the Branch will also ready itself for another move. The lease on Creyke Road is for 5 years and we are in negotiations with the University of Canterbury as to our future location.

We also look forward to ordering and filing our archives.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

NCW are working on an Action Item entitled *Modernising Parental Leave* which is intended to modernise the scheme to better reflect current work and family arrangements. If any member has an interest in this area and would like further information and/or to comment, please contact Marlene Smith, phone 359 9225 or email g.e.smith@clear.net.nz by 18 August.

IFUW Hegg Hoffet Fund – Conference Table

Joy Dunsheath advises that there will be a "shop" selling donated items at the NZFGW Conference on 26 to 28 September 2014 in aid of the IFUW Hegg Hoffet Fund for refugee and displaced women graduates. She says "The shop will be organised and run by volunteers. We hope that each Branch will organise one or two members to collect items and bring them to the Conference." Joy suggests small saleable items such as: *gift vouchers, tea towels, Christmas decorations, jams, pickles, scarves, necklaces, earrings, baby gear, travel souvenirs, small ornaments, packaged cards, playing cards, silver items, coffee*

spoons, new packaged items, travel guides, linen, coffee/ tea cups, small works of art, cushion covers, brooches, CDs, DVDs, rings, sun hats and so on.

Please ask family, friends and neighbours to donate. Price the items reasonably, if you wish, or they will be priced by the organisers. She would like one or two **valuable items to raffle**. Also, it would be superb if a Branch or someone was prepared to donate a **gift basket** for one of the raffle prizes. Please contact Joy if you are able to donate a prize for the raffle. For further information about this fund go to the IFUW web site:

<http://www.ifuw.org/what-we-do/grants-fellowships/hegg-hoffet/> or contact joy.dunsheath@xtra.co.nz IFUW Hegg Hoffet Fund Committee



To make a **donation to the Hegg Hoffet Fund** please complete this form and return it to:

NZFGW National Executive, The Treasurer, PO Box 2006, Wellington 6140.

Name.....

Address.....

Email address for receipt

Internet Banking: I have paid \$_____ by internet banking into the NZFGW bank account 03 1571 0018209 00. Please identify with your name and "Hegg Hoffet"

Cheque: I enclose a cheque for a donation to the Hegg Hoffet Fund \$_____

Please make your cheque to: The New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women

If any member has of these articles to donate, please contact bring them to 9 Creyke Rd on a Tuesday between 9.30am-2pm or contact Bernadette Devonport, details as above.

IFUW No Ceilings Project Studies have shown that educating girls leads to more prosperous, stable, and healthy communities. Chelsea Clinton from the Clinton Foundation leads an internet discussion about the state of girls' education around the world with Rebecca Winthrop from the Brookings Institution, and Kennedy Odede from Shining Hope for Communities. The No Ceilings: The Full Participation Project aims to evaluate and share the progress women and girls have made in the 20 years since the UN Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. IFUW members are invited to share their own observations about their communities in a survey that will be used to advance IFUW's mission of the full participation of women and girls all aspects of political, social, and economic life. Go to http://www.ifuw.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/2014_June_1_1_Update.pdf for the survey and other links.

Bina Roy Programme

The Bina Roy Partners in Development (BRPID) Programme supports projects that empower girls and women through education and leadership development. BRPID grants are awarded to IFUW national federations and associations from developing countries on a competitive basis. The four projects being supported in 2014 are: job search

skills for young women in Cambodia, literacy and numeracy skills for women in Sierra Leone, school mentorship in South Africa and entrepreneur skills to girls in Uganda

(<http://www.ifuw.org/ifuw-awards-four-development-grants/>)

Dr Bina Roy was the first Asian President of the International Federation of University Women. She believed that friendly and supportive links should be forged among IFUW affiliates to provide strong international solidarity, while encouraging and aiding the creation and implementation of projects. BRPID was first named the Counterpart Aid Programme in 1978 and later renamed BRPID in memory of Dr Roy.

BRPID projects are made possible by donations from IFUW members and supporters around the world. To date, nearly 60% of IFUW's national federations and associations have participated in the programme, either as project sponsors or donor partners. IFUW is currently seeking funding from NFAs for 2015.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Harriette Jenkins Awards

NZ Federation of Graduate Women - What's in it for me?

Those who have been members of NZFGW for six months or more may apply for up to \$3,000 funding through one of our Harriette Jenkins awards. Applications are taken annually and close on 30th September. Applicants need to have been financial members for six months or more. Check out our website www.nzfgw.org.nz for further details. Joining NZFGW is a great way to link with other women and groups from a wide range of occupational backgrounds supporting education for women at a local, national and international level.

Rosemary Seymour Research & Archives Award

In 1974 Rosemary Seymour, a Waikato sociologist, initiated a newsletter and a network of women interested in women's studies, that evolved into the Women's Studies Association (NZ). In 1985 this fund was established in her memory. Donations are always welcome.

In 2014 the fund will enable us to make **two awards of \$1000** each, one for which only Māori women may apply, while the second is open to all women. Women's groups may also apply for either award.

Applications should include:

- Name
- For Māori applicants: iwi and hapū, or geographic region;
- Postal address;
- Title and aim of project;
- Institutional affiliation or organisational involvement (if any);
- Purpose/Justification;
- Literature relevant to this project;
- Research strategies;
- Relationship between the project and the Aims of the Association (listed below);
- How the award will be used (give some indication of the budget for the study and the way in which the grant would contribute to the completion of the project);
- Any other sources of funding for this project? (If 'Yes', please indicate these sources);
- Please indicate if you are enrolled as a student, and if so, your course (e.g. B.Sc., M.A., PhD) and year of study.
- **Lastly, please state in your email letter if you are applying for the Open to All Women award or the Māori Women award. You cannot apply for both awards.**

Applications should be sent by email attachment, by **31st October 2014**, to: julie.benjamin@vodafone.co.nz

Aims of the Women's Studies Association (NZ)

The WSA (NZ) is a feminist organisation formed to promote radical social change through the medium of women's studies. We believe that a feminist perspective necessarily acknowledges oppression on the grounds of race, sexuality, class and disability as well as gender. We acknowledge Māori as tangata whenua of Aotearoa. This means that we have a particular responsibility to address their oppression among our work and activities.

The principles of the Association are:

- To undertake, promote and disseminate research about women by women from a feminist perspective
- To inform and educate women about women in culturally appropriate ways
- To encourage the preservation of existing material about women in culturally appropriate ways
- To facilitate the establishment of women's studies courses with a feminist perspective
- To undertake and promote the publication of material about women
- To organise and participate in activities, conferences, seminars and displays in furtherance of the aims of the Association.

NEWS FROM OTHER BRANCHES

MANAWATU JOURNAL OF HISTORY MASSEY COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE

Since 2005 **Graduate Women Manawatu member Lucy Marsden**, who is a former Massey University Archivist, has published eight articles on the history of

Massey in the Manawatu Journal of History.

Lucy has been a member of the Manawatu Branch of FGW since 1992. She served both on the Branch Committee and the Trust Board from 2001 until early 2009. During that period she was at various times the Branch/Trust liaison and keeper of the archives (to 2009). Lucy continues to convene the selection panel for awards to UCOL students.

To commemorate Massey's 50th anniversary of being a full university, Lucy's lively and readable articles are being reprinted as a special issue. Lucy has drawn on the resources of the University Archives, and has illustrated the articles with contemporary photographs. Topics include Vice-Chancellor Alan Stewart, early architect Roy Lippincott, Professor Keith Thomson, capping reviews and the Drama Society. She commented: "As well as being important in the history of Massey and its Manawatu campus, I chose topics that interested me. I especially enjoyed exploring the family connections of Arthur and Ethel Russell of Wharerata; perhaps historians are all celebrity columnists at heart!"

This publication is available from selected bookshops, the Massey Alumni Shop online or from manawatujournal@inspire.net.nz.

Two NZFGW Branches celebrate IFUW Day

A group of Palmerston North members of the **Manawatu Branch** met to watch the film "Belle". They then decamped to an eatery and spent a happy hour talking about the power of social conformity, the real existence of a painting, the building shown and the Zong Case Law.

Not just a story of a mixed race young

woman coming to grips with her position in society, this film used as its pivot the law of Britain at the time, 1781, that supported the Atlantic slave trade by deeming slaves to be merchandise; a matter of insurance. It was also a love story.

As a bonus to the afternoon, our talking was accompanied by some jazz music playing as part of the Manawatu Jazz festival.

The third annual **Graduate Women North Shore** Awards High Tea was held at Massey University, Albany on Sunday afternoon 13 June to celebrate the awarding of scholarships to 3 first year tertiary students and 4 post-graduate students. More than 40 family members, friends, former teachers and academic staff from Massey supported the awardees.

Dr Roberta Hunter from the Institute of Education, gave the keynote address. She spoke about her research which has resulted in a new method of teaching mathematics to Pasifika children in some of the poorest schools in the country.

Dr Hunter and her colleagues have been testing their belief that with the right approach, Pasifika children can do as well as their peers in mathematics. Her methods have been recognized overseas.

Women in the rebuild – “My Mum works here”

(From the June/July edition of *Panui*, the publication of the Ministry of Women’s Affairs.)

The Ministry of Women’s Affairs continues to work closely with employers leading the rebuild work in Christchurch to ensure they consider women for career and training opportunities.

The latest Household Labour Force Survey (March 2014 quarter) reflected a positive movement in women’s employment. It showed that, in Canterbury, the female labour force participation rate (67 percent) is higher than the national rate of 63.7 percent.

There are now 10,500 more women employed in Canterbury compared to March 2013, a seven percent increase in employment. There are also fewer women who are unemployed – 200 fewer unemployed women in Canterbury since the same time last year.

“We are really impressed with the work SCIRT (Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Rebuild Team) is doing in this area to increase the visibility of women in construction,” said Chief Executive Jo Cribb.

“One example is the SCIRT entry in the recent ‘Canstruction’ competition, held at the Ellerslie International Flower Show in March 2014. This is helping increase the visibility of women in construction, while contributing to a worthwhile cause.”

Canstruction is an extraordinary annual design competition where teams compete to build enormous structures made entirely out of unopened cans of food. This design competition has been run for years in the USA, but this is the first time it has been run in New Zealand.

Structures were made entirely from cans of food and were self-supporting. The competing teams were issued with a list of permitted building materials to be used to ensure the structural safety of entries. These included plywood, cardboard, metal rods, velcro, tape, rubber bands etc. The total build time was a maximum of 12 hours from start to finish.

The theme of the competition was “In our backyard” and this entry says “My Mum works here” on one side and “My Dad works here” on the other side. After the competition all the cans are then donated to charity. Christchurch City Mission was the recipient of 35,000 cans of food this year.

The full gallery of the Canstruction entries can be viewed at:
canstructionchch.org.nz/gallery/category/1-2014 .

OTHER COURSES YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN

GREAT WAR SOLDIERS RETURN HOME – Gwen Parsons

Starts 19 August, at the WEA, 59 Gloucester Street,

10 – 11.30 am, 3 Tuesdays, \$19

This series of three talks considers the experiences of Great War veterans in New Zealand between 1915 and 1939, with special focus on soldiers returning to Ashburton and Dunedin. It will look at the condition of veterans as they returned home, and consider the nature of the medical support they received for both physical and mental problems. It will then consider the government’s repatriation provisions put in place to help veterans, including war pensions and the soldier settlement scheme. Gwen Parsons has undertaken extensive research into New Zealand Great War veterans and published a number of articles and book chapters.

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

DUBLIN’S FAIR CITY -5 evening sessions on the following topics:

- Celtic and Viking Dublin
- Medieval Dublin
- Tudor Dublin and Trinity College
- Georgian Dublin
- Dublin as capital city

Mondays 1-29 September from 7.30-9pm. Fee \$50 due by 29 August

SUNDAY SESSION – BRISTOL: GATEWAY TO THE ATLANTIC

Sunday 31 August 2-4pm. Fee \$20 due by 29 August

For further details and enrolment contact Frieda Looser at email frieda.looser@gmail.com

NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION OF GRADUATE WOMEN

30th CONFERENCE

at Rydges Hotel, 75 Featherston Street, Pipitea, WELLINGTON

on **26 - 28 SEPTEMBER 2014**

WOMEN EMPOWERING WOMEN AS LEADERS

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