



New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women CANTERBURY BRANCH

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NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2014

February Branch Meeting

The first meeting for 2014 will be a lunch at **Sweethearts Café, 161 Gardiners Rd on Saturday, 22 February at 12.00 pm.**

As well as a lunch menu there is cabinet food from \$6.

This will be an opportunity for a catch-up with other members and a chance to hear what will be happening in the branch during the coming year.

If you are coming, would you please phone Enid Smith, 358 9492 or Annette Etwell, 338 5077 by 15 February.

Please join us at 9 Creyke Road on Tuesday 11 March 2014 at 2.30pm to honour Judy Brooks and Carol Hart

Members of the Canterbury Branch of NZFUW Trust invite you to join us in honouring Judy Brooks and Carol Hart for their contribution to the Trust. Judy stepped down as Chair in December 2013 after 13 years in the position. Judy has been a member of the Trust Board since its inception serving most of those years as Convenor of Hoods and Gowns.

Carol Hart has been a member of the Trust Board since its inception, initially serving as Treasurer from the foundation of the Trust until 1996. She took over responsibility as Chair from 1997 to 1998 and has subsequently been a Board member until her resignation in January 2014.

There is plenty of parking on the grassed area at the back of the house.

To get to it come up the drive between **91 and 93 Clyde Rd.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The dates of branch meetings for 2014 are as follows:

- February:** Saturday 22nd, lunch
- March:** Thursday 20th, Rangī Ruru, speaker
- April:** no meeting
- May:** Wednesday 28th May, Awards Evening; St Barnabas Hall
- June:** no meeting
- July:** Saturday 19th, lunch at Chateau on the Park
- September:** Thursday 25th, Rangī Ruru
- October:** Thursday 23rd, AGM, Rangī Ruru, speaker
- November:** Thursday 27th, Rangī Ruru speaker

Membership News

Congratulations to Canterbury Branch member, **Denise Ford**, who has been granted a Harriette Jenkins Award of \$3,000 for travel and research costs associated with her Master of Ecology degree at Lincoln University. Denise is investigating invertebrate communities in ecological restoration sites in Christchurch city.

Other Harriette Jenkins Award recipients are:

Gail Hutcheson, Waikato Branch who received \$3,000 for travel and child care costs associated with her PhD in Geography studying the emotional geographies of the impact of the Canterbury earthquakes on relocated families including a focus on mothers.

Nike Franke, Independent Member who received \$1,000 for costs associated with her PhD survey costs for a randomised control trial evaluating Triple P Online for parents of 3-4 year old children at risk of developing hyperactive behaviour problems, with selection through Early Childhood Education Centres.

Trust Board Report

At the December meeting Judy Brooks resigned as Chair of the Trust Board after 13 years service in the Chair. Judy has been a member of the Board since its inception initially as Convenor of Hoods and Gowns, a position she has held from the early 1980's until relinquishing the role to our current Convenor Jean Sharfe in 2005. Judy took over as Chair of the Trust in 2000.

Ellen McCrae was appointed as Chair and accepted the position for a 12 month term. In early 2014 Carol Hart resigned from the Trust Board. Carol Hart has given long service to the board initially as Treasurer, as Chair for a year and then as a Trustee.

Sadie Balkind Scholarship was awarded to Simona Seizova.

Sadie Balkind Awards were given to Petrena Anne Fishburn; Roseanna

Gamlen-Greene; Paddy Gibson; Nicole Wheeler.

The Trust Board confirmed the recommendations of the History Department that the following students be recipients of the History Level 1 book vouchers valued at \$200.00

Nicholas De Norie Silva; Liam Stonely; John Davies; John Whitcombe; Milena Petrovic.

Similarly the Board confirmed the recommendations of the English Department that the following students be recipients of the English Level 1 book vouchers valued at \$200.00

Emma Deason; Haley Payne; Elena Simantos; Emily Oakley; Josephine Brown.

Hannah Franklin received a \$300.00 Conference Presentation Travel Award to assist her attendance at the NZ Ecological Conference in late 2013

The Board has also established a University of Canterbury Emerging Leaders Scholarship for 2014

Judy and Jean met with Andrew Lovatt, CEO and Liz Hodgson, Property Manager of the Christchurch Arts Centre to discuss the future for Academic Dress Hire and at this stage nothing conclusive can be established. Academic Dress Hire has a finite lease on the current premises in Creyke Road terminating early 2016. It was agreed a subcommittee be established to review the building requirements for the business, members being Jean Sharfe, Bernadette Devonport and Marlene Smith.

Another subcommittee has been convened to review the criteria for awarding our scholarships and awards. Membership of this group is Ngaio Francis; Bernadette Devonport and Ellen McCrae.

Our website contains updated information/application forms for the awards and scholarships given by the Trust. This information now appears on NZUniCareerHub. A national website used by the majority of Universities in NZ to advertise available scholarships.

Ellen McCrae Trust Board Chair

Donation

In 2007 the branch received a very generous donation of \$50,000 from a member who wished to remain anonymous at least until after her death. She specifically requested that the money be used not for a scholarship but for general purposes of the Canterbury Branch. As she has now died we can reveal that the donor was Dr Elizabeth Flint. The branch is very grateful for this money and is using it to subsidise capitation fees. As a result membership subscriptions have not risen since 2007.

SADIE BALKIND'S BOOKS

Some years ago a large number of books were bequeathed to the Branch by former member, Sadie Balkind. For various reasons, the committee recently decided to dispose of them and members are offered the opportunity to come to 9 Creyke Rd any Tuesday between 9.30am and 2.00pm over the next month and help themselves to any they might like. Authors include Rudyard Kipling, Gene Stratton Porter, Alice Grant Rosman, Joseph Conrad, John Galsworthy and there are a few 1930s detective stories.

HIGHLIGHTS of MID-TERM COUNCIL, 2 NOVEMBER 2013

CHANGE OF NATIONAL EXEC PERSONNEL

- Pat Sivertsen (Independent) has replaced Margaret Ellett (North Shore) as **Treasurer**
- Jan Tan (North Shore) has replaced Martine Cashell-Smith (Otago) as **Membership Convenor**
- Catherine Gurnsey (Waikato) is standing in as **Public Affairs Convenor** for five months during Christine Ross's (Wellington) overseas sabbatical in the first half of 2014.
- Amber Fraser-Smith (Otago) is to shadow Dorothy Meyer (North Shore) to learn the role of **Convenor International Relations**.

MEMBERSHIP

While this is not a new trend and is one which affects many organisations, all branches agreed they need to take action to attract new members, including a 'value proposition' that appeals to younger women. Mature graduates, including those nearing the end of their formal careers, also need to know why they might enjoy being a member of NZFGW. Southland has signalled its intent to wind-up following its 30th anniversary in 2014. Standardising membership forms as much as possible and making them easier to access on websites will be actioned in 2014.

BRANCH CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Concerns have been raised that some Branches are no longer as well linked with their Charitable Trusts as in the past. Consequently some Charitable Trusts may be losing sight of their origins and the work carried out by NZFGW members to establish these Trusts. The greatest concern is that Trusts may not remain true to the goals of NZFGW (and IFUW), such as contributing to NZFGW award funds. Further work is to be carried out to assess this situation.

DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN

The plan is seen as providing focus and is assisting Branches to align their activities with NE and IFUW. The pillars are also helping branches and NE to prioritise activity. It will now be finalised and distributed to members.

COMMUNICATIONS

To present NZFGW as an active and vibrant organisation doing good things we need to actively update website information on our Website. Branches have interesting speakers, are offering grants and scholarships, are making submissions on proposed government legislation, and celebrating milestones – a record of these activities (plus photos) is needed for the website (as well as NZFGW News).

IFUW International Fellowships and Grant Competition

The 2014 IFUW International Fellowships and Grants Competition is now open. These awards are to be used for postgraduate research, study or training to be undertaken within the period 1 January 2015 to 15 March 2016. **The application deadline is 30 June 2014.** Results will be announced by 1 November 2014.

Eligibility of Applicant and Proposal: The Fellowships are for PhD candidates only. Applicants must have completed the first year of their doctoral studies in a university recognised by IFUW by the closing date for applications and must supply evidence to this effect.

Proposals will be accepted in any disciplinary field. Proposals must have demonstrated relevance to IFUW's mission policy as described on the IFUW website (www.ifuw.org) Proposals for all awards require work in a country other than that in which the applicant was educated or habitually resides. The minimum period for Fellowships is eight months; the minimum period for Grants is two months.

Administration Fee: Members of a national federation or association (NFA) of IFUW who are financial at the time of their application are eligible to apply without fee. **Independent members** are eligible to apply without fee if they were financial for the year 1 January to 31 December 2013 and are currently financial at the time of application, otherwise they must pay the administration fee as for non-members. Non-members may apply subject to an administration fee, which must have been made by the time of their application. The fee is CHF 50 for women in developing countries and CHF 100 for women in industrialised countries. Applicants should seek confirmation as to the appropriate payment by contacting fellowships2014@ifuw.org

Applications: There is a single application form for all the awards available. The selection committee determines the appropriate award for each recipient. IFUW reserves the right to make no award for any category if the Fellowship Committee so recommends.

Applications must be submitted electronically to fellowships2014@ifuw.org Printed forms sent via the post or fax will not be considered.

NFA members must apply through their national headquarters. Each NFA may propose up to three applicants. If more than three members wish to apply, the NFA is responsible for screening the applications and choosing the three to go forward. National leaders should read the detailed information on the website before making their selection. If they have any questions after doing so, they should contact fellowships2014@ifuw.org The deadline set by each NFA for receipt of member applications must allow time for any necessary screening and for the application material of the nominated applicants to reach IFUW Headquarters in Geneva no later than 30 June 2014.

Applicants are responsible for arranging that their references be sent direct to IFUW Headquarters in Geneva. Further detailed information, which should be read before making an application, can be downloaded from the IFUW website.

This includes:

- List of Awards available and their conditions.
 - Application form
 - Candidate instructions
 - NFA instructions
 - Referee Instructions
- <http://www.ifuw.org/what/fellowships/>

FROM MANAWATU BRANCH

Christine Leunens was the star presenter and author attraction at the Zimmerman Gallery, Palmerston North, where Manawatu Graduate Women met one early evening in November, 2013. Her most recent novel titled "A Can of Sunshine" was prompted by a study of Mother-in-law / Daughter-in-law relationships in Literature. What she found was nothing in literature, significant in itself, but what she heard was personal stories, lots of them. Christine then talked with psychologists and relationship advisors from different countries around the world, prompting her to write her novel. Christine spoke with great feeling, understanding and care about this relationship of mother-in-law and daughter-in-law, about why it can be so fraught with difficulty. Christine has a husband and young son herself and was nervous about her own mother-in-law's visit this summer holiday period!

NZFGW Fellow Cathy Neill studies Mathematics at Cambridge University

After embarking upon my first long-haul flight, my stay in England got off to a decidedly bumpy start, with a trip to A&E. Nonetheless, it was hard to stay down when I was looking forward to spending the next year studying at one of if not the finest educational institution in the world, Cambridge University. The first week of term hailed in a wealth of induction events in my college, Wolfson. Lectures started towards the end of that week.

In my course, Part III maths (which includes theoretical physics) we are free to attend the lectures of any papers we are interested in, with the final choice not submitted until May. We also have the option, submitted earlier, to write an essay on one of a number of topics put forth, in lieu of one exam. I elected not to write an essay, as I felt my undergraduate project at Canterbury had provided ample practice in academic writing, as opposed to Cambridge under-graduates who have not

had much at all by the time they enter Part III. I eventually settled on sitting exams for General Relativity, Cosmology, Quantum Field Theory, Black Holes and Advanced Cosmology. Only one of these (QFT) was different to what I had originally intended, but I was glad for the ability to switch.

We have eight weeks of lectures per paper, which take place three times a week. One would typically attend four lectures at a time. In addition to these we have four "examples classes" per paper in which a tutor will answer questions about a problem sheet given out a couple of weeks prior. The Cambridge system is certainly not without its problems. There is not really a formal, nor an online way of signing up to classes, and it can be difficult to get a hold of all the sheets and solutions. The terms are painfully short for the workload- a system I can only imagine is for the benefit of the lecturers' research- and many of my non-disabled friends struggle to cope. While undergraduates receive very involved small supervision classes in their college as well as a lot of college support, I found this support quite lacking as an international disabled graduate student new to the rather nuanced system. It's also easy to see why Cambridge has the lowest female-male ratio in the UK in my subject, with only seven per cent of the maths lecturers being female.

But overall my time in Cambridge has been one of great personal growth and expansion of my comfort zone, as well as of learning my limits. It has been a stimulating experience both intellectually and culturally. My college has lived up to its "cosmopolitan" reputation. I've become a member of CU Physics Soc., Trinity Maths Soc., Trinity Science Soc., The Archimedean, SciSoc, Cambridge Union and Emmy Noether Soc which have afforded me opportunities to hear speakers such as: Neil Gaiman, Roger Penrose, James Watson, Stephen Hawking, and Brian Cox.

Many thanks to NZFGW! Without your generous support I could not have completed my course.

Diary this Date Now

**NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION OF
GRADUATE WOMEN**

30th CONFERENCE

will be held at the

Rydges Hotel, 75 Featherston Street,
Pipitea, WELLINGTON

on **26 - 28 SEPTEMBER 2014**

**WOMEN EMPOWERING WOMEN AS
LEADERS**

**WOMEN WORKING IN THE
COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY
SECTOR**

Dr Rose Ryan and Heather McDonald from Heathrose Research Ltd are working with Women in Leadership Aotearoa to find out more about women employed in the Community and Voluntary sector in New Zealand.

<http://womeninleadershipaotearoa.wordpress.com/research/>

New Zealand's community and voluntary sector is dominated by women, and a 2009 study showed there is a pay gap between that sector and the general market of just under 17%.

This is problem on several levels: *The voluntary sector has all the ingredients to be at the forefront of change for women's representation – an understanding of equality issues, strong values, an already diverse workforce and an appreciation of caring responsibilities outside the workplace. But to date we have failed to achieve a level playing field amongst our own people.*

The Heathrose Research (with help from two small grants from New Horizons for Women Trust and the Industrial Relations Foundation), will initially survey women working in 30 NGOs.

FROM IFUW (Dorothy Meyer)

The staff of the International Federation of University Women sends their best wishes to all of IFUW's members. We wish for you learning, inner peace, health and wisdom in 2014. We sincerely hope for your continued support, confidence and above all, your feedback, in the coming months.

Child marriage in Yemen

A petition published in medical journal The Lancet calls on the worldwide Yemeni community to act against child marriage which plagues rural areas in Yemen. [Read more](#)

'Asking More' report

Pearson has published a report about the big education challenges facing the world, and how to solve them.

<http://pear.sn/ra50c>

India

IFUW members are invited to conduct presentations or workshops at Women's Worlds Congress 2014. If there are six or seven IFUW participants, then the Indian Federation of University Women Associations (IFUWA) can request for a special panel for IFUW/ IFUWA during the conference. Please contact IFUWA Coordinator for International Relations Dr Meera Bondre at meera.bondre@gmail.com

Japan

Fumi Takano, a life-long member of Japanese Association of University Women (JAUW) and Past President of IFUW (1980-1983) passed away on December 7th. She was 99. She dedicated herself to the education and empowerment of women through writing many books and leading one of the oldest women's colleges in Japan, Tsuda College.

[In expressing NZFGW condolences I was able to record that Molly Mabee remembered Fumi Takano when she attended the IFUW Conference held in Christchurch 1986.]

**Human Rights Council Working Group
on Discrimination against Women in
Law and Practice**

IFUW members are invited to contribute to the Working Group's research on equality and non-discrimination in marriage, rights and responsibilities in the family and participation in cultural life. This research will culminate in the report that the Working Group will present to the Human Rights Council in June 2015. [Take survey here](#)

Cambodia and New Zealand

Human rights audits on Cambodia and New Zealand will take place in Geneva from Jan 27 to Feb 7 at the [Universal Periodic Review](#) (UPR). The UPR is unique mechanism of the United Nations and consists of the review of the human rights practices of all States in the world, once every four years and a half. [Please contact us](#) if your national affiliate wishes to act.

Human rights at home

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) "has great potential to promote and protect human rights in the darkest corners of the world," Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General [Read more about the UPR](#)
At a local/regional level I will be attending the 2013 **Annual PGWNet Council meeting** being held in conjunction with the biennial Conference of the Fijian Association of Women Graduates (FAWG) in **Suva 7-8 February**. Beverley Turner, as the IFUW regional coordinator, will also be attending.

NZFGW is celebrating IFUW Day on Friday 7 March 5.00 – 7.00 pm in the NZFUW rooms at Old Government House, University of Auckland. On this occasion Award Certificates will be presented to 7 of the 2014 NZFGW Fellows who are studying either at the University of Auckland or Waikato University.
RSVP: Jan Tan jantan@xtra.co.nz by 4 March 2014

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.