



# New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women

## CANTERBURY BRANCH

**PO BOX 6733, CHRISTCHURCH 8442**

**PHONE 364 3530 & FAX 364 3583**

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

E-mail: [thebranch@canterburynzfgw.org.nz](mailto:thebranch@canterburynzfgw.org.nz)

PRESIDENT: Bernadette Devonport Phone 358 6245  
SECRETARY: Geraldine Murphy Phone 383 3958  
TREASURER: Hilary Stubbs Phone 383 0084  
MEMBERSHIP: Barbara Peddie Phone 377 0246  
ALMONER: Ngaio Francis Phone 322 7647

email [bernadettedevonport@gmail.com](mailto:bernadettedevonport@gmail.com)

email [geraldinemurphy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:geraldinemurphy@xtra.co.nz)

email [hilarystubbs@clearnet.co.nz](mailto:hilarystubbs@clearnet.co.nz)

email [ppeddie@clear.net.nz](mailto:ppeddie@clear.net.nz)

## NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2015

### FEBRUARY BRANCH MEETING

The first meeting for the year will be a lunch at **Rosebank Winery, Johns Rd on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 12.00pm**. Those who have attended our previous lunches there will know that it is a very pleasant venue and we hope all members, especially newer ones, will make a special effort to come along.

If you are coming, will you please let **Enid Smith**, phone 358 9492 or email [aesmith2@clear.net.nz](mailto:aesmith2@clear.net.nz) know by the **16<sup>th</sup> February**. Transport is available if required.

**Congratulations to Branch member, Della Bennet who was recently granted a Harriette Jenkins Award.**



Della describes herself as Christchurch born, a wife and mother of two fantastic kids and a mature student at the University of Canterbury. She holds a BSc and is currently commencing her Masters' research

project on a New Zealand endemic seabird, the Hutton's shearwater. Her study will provide information on their diet, diving depth and the marine ecosystem food chain of the Kaikoura nearshore system. This knowledge will allow the tracking of future environmental changes and the impact these variations might have on the marine food web. She will use the allocated funds for equipment and travel to her research sites.

### FURTHER BRANCH MEETINGS PLANNED FOR 2015

**27<sup>th</sup> May – Awards Evening,**

**18<sup>th</sup> July – Lunch**

**9<sup>th</sup> September – Afternoon tea**

**22nd October – AGM**

**28<sup>th</sup> November – Morning tea**

### MEMBERSHIP

Subscriptions for the 2014/2015 year are now due and thank you to those who have already paid. There are still quite a number outstanding and payment would be appreciated as capitation is due soon. If you have mislaid your account or are unsure about anything, please contact the Membership Secretary, Barbara Peddie  
Phone 377 0246, email [ppeddie@clear.net.nz](mailto:ppeddie@clear.net.nz).

### A Message from the Branch President

2015 is here already and the Branch Committee met in the last week of January to prepare for the year's Branch meetings. The 2015 Committee is printed in this newsletter. They are wonderful people who are giving their time on your behalf to ensure that as many women as possible can pursue tertiary careers.

Our Branch meetings for 2015 are printed in this newsletter and we encourage you to come along and share in the work that we do to help other women. We are beginning with lunch at Rosebank on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> and we look forward to seeing you there. Contact Enid if you are able to come. Of our other Branch meetings the highlight is the Awards Evening May 27<sup>th</sup>. We are very fortunate

because the University of Canterbury is making a room available for us to use this year. We shall be in the Undercroft 101 room. This is set up for meetings like ours and is below the James Hight Library. This year we have also decided to bring the Awards Evening forward from 7.30pm to 5.30pm. This will make it easier for awardees to attend and we will be able to have more awardees speak about their research. So, put this date in your calendar!

Several issues that the Branch Committee will be considering this year include- changing our name, establishing an Archives Project and updating our website. As you know, IFUW is in the middle of voting to alter its name. New Zealand has already done this and several branches no longer use Federation in their name. The Branch Committee will be consulting you soon. We are also interested in putting our archives in order and going through our membership since establishing in 1921 to see if we can write small biographies of prominent members. These ideas are at an early stage and we shall keep you informed.

Our website is providing much interest to both members and others. Do have a look at the website. We keep it up to date and for members there is always the latest newsletter and information about events and meetings. For those interested in applying for awards and scholarships we have application forms and information readily available.

2015 will be a good year for this Branch. We look forward to sharing and working with you to promote and encourage graduate women in New Zealand.

**Bernadette Devonport**

## TRUST BOARD REPORT

The Trust Board last met on 4<sup>th</sup> of December and our first meeting of the year will be on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2015. The following was decided at our December meeting.

### CPIT Scholarships

Each year the trust will offer two scholarships to the value of \$2,000.00 to women students in the Bachelor of Medical Imaging (BMI) programme, CPIT. Medical imaging students must complete clinical placements and typically this requires students to travel and live outside Christchurch for periods of the year. These scholarships will assist with that cost. Candidates must be proven high achievers across all academic subjects as well as in clinical and professional skills and must be going into the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the BMI degree.

### Sadie Balkind Scholarship and Awards

The 2014 Sadie Balkind Scholarship \$6,000.00 was awarded to Felicity Thomas PhD in Mechanical Engineering

### Awards of \$1500 were made to:

Josephine Clarke	MA Political Science
Sophie Davis	MA Art History
Ellyse Gore	MSc Geology
Amy Rice	MCom Economics and Finance

### Study Travel Awards

Recommendations were made that two study travel awards be made to Hannah Charan – Dixon and Beth van der Haven respectively. They will be undertaking research for their MSc Biological Science in Tonga and this will include a project teaching practical aspects of science research to secondary school Tongan students. Bernadette will contact the Tongan FGW to arrange a link up.

A special Travel award was recommended for Nixie Boddy.

**Round the Square** is now available as a pdf file at a cost of \$13.00. Individuals can order via our website.

### Lease agreement with the University of Canterbury and Memorandum of Understanding.

Board members have agreed to sign a negotiated Lease Agreement with the University of Canterbury and alongside this we are pursuing a Memorandum of Understanding with the University.

### Suggestions for recipients of donations made by the Canterbury NZFGW Trust

As members know one of our objects is to undertake, support and encourage such other charitable works within New Zealand as the Trustees from time to time approve. We would appreciate your submitting ideas. A list of how funds were distributed in the 2013/14 financial year is in the February 2015 Branch Newsletter.

### Trust Email

The trust email address is [trust@canterburynzfgw.org.z](mailto:trust@canterburynzfgw.org.z)

### Website

A list of our 2014 recipients of awards, scholarships and prizes appear on our refreshed website. Canterbury FGW Awards for categories 1 – 5 inclusive will close on 31 March and the information sheet and application forms appear on the website as well as appearing on "Breakout" a website used by the majority of Universities in New

Zealand including Canterbury and Lincoln. The latter directs students to our website to print out forms.

### Ellen McCrae Chair

## REGALIA HIRE REPORT

The year finished on a very busy note with school prizegivings, the University of Canterbury December graduation and the Christchurch School of Medicine's ceremony for graduands. Demand for PhD regalia was again particularly heavy, with regalia used in the morning ceremony being recycled for the afternoon and the Med. School ceremony.

Regular Tuesday morning regalia hire activities will recommence at 9 Creyke Rd on Tuesday 10 February. Any branch member is very welcome to join us between 9.30am and 1.30pm. Preparations are now underway for the University of Canterbury April ceremonies, with enrolments opening on 1<sup>st</sup> February.

Ten new Masters gowns have been received from Ballantyne's, this is half the order which was placed at the beginning of last year.

The annual dry cleaning of gowns has commenced and should be completed in time for the CPIT graduation in late March.

## CONFERENCE REPORT



The Trust Board recently granted a Special Award to Harriet Maher to attend a conference in Sydney. Below is her report.

The 'Curating Feminism' Conference at the Sydney College of Arts, 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> October 2014, was a rewarding and engaging experience. The day of the conference, Saturday, was arranged into three panels which covered a diverse range of topics relating to feminism, curating and art.

The first panel addressed the exhibition which was mounted in conjunction with the conference, also at the Sydney College of Arts. The speakers were a mix of artists and curators, which gave the session great depth in the topics and perspectives. 'LEVEL', a feminist collaboration of artists and curators, spoke about their alternative approach to curating and the collaborative methods which they employ in curating feminist work. They spoke of

their commitment to non-hierarchical structures, which is a central part of feminist discourse, particularly in the arts.

The discussion around collaboration was ongoing throughout the day, both as a practice of second-wave feminist artists and groups in the 1970s and 80s, and as an approach taken by feminists today. 'LEVEL' argued, however, that contemporary feminist collaborative practice is not nostalgic for the collaborative impulse of second-wave feminism, but is instead a reclamation of this practice. They, and other speakers, emphasised the productive nature of disagreements during the collaborative process, highlighting how important trust was for women working together.

Kelly Doley, an artist and curator whom I was in contact with before the conference, also spoke about collaboration in relation to the work she curated for the 'Curating Feminism' show. The work was a video performance piece by feminist collaborative 'Hissy Fit', exploring the construction of female hysteria and the lack of accurate representations of female aggression in the media. She proposed that no two collaborative models are the same, and outlined her curatorial method of diversity, conversation, non-hierarchical structures, knowledge-sharing and political focus. She emphasised the importance of actively promoting different perspectives and placing different voices alongside each other.

There were also presentations from artist/curator duo Elvis Richardson and Virginia Fraser, who produced the satirical, humorous and critical 'magazine' *Femmo*, displayed in the exhibition, and Bridget Noone, who worked with Soda\_jerk for the exhibition. These projects once again demonstrated the productive potential of collaborative practice on all levels: collaboration between artists, collaboration between artists and curators, and collaboration between curators on the exhibition. This panel is evident of what Bridget Noone pointed out, that "collaboration is the hegemonic curatorial approach of the art world."

The next panel discussed Publics, Audience and Curating Public Space, with speakers Bianca Hestor, Sophia Koujoumdjian, Jo Holder and Gillian Fuller. Jo Holder also discussed the nature of contemporary feminist collaboration, saying that while collaboratives today recall feminist politics of the 1970s, the 'cluster/mob' or 'strength in numbers' approach has its limitations, demonstrated by the fact that statistics in the art world today are much the same as they were 30 years ago. Instead, she argued, more sustained structural interventions. The conference addressed many issues of intersectional feminism – of being inclusive of different voices and perspectives, but Jo also highlighted the need to move beyond pluralism – simply saying that feminism can be x

AND y – towards creating a mainstream discourse. Events like this conference are important vehicles for this process of discursive development.

One of the discussions that particularly interested me was Gillian Fuller's presentation on her online database of Australian art, Design and Art Australia Online, during which she spoke about the website's potential ability to 'rewrite the canon' – or to disregard it completely and move away from canonical structures. Given that my research this year focused on canons of art quite closely, particularly the feminist canon, my interest was piqued when this discussion came up. It raised questions about the future of canon-making – whether this would be decided, as traditionally, by curators, art historians and critics, or by databases such as DAAO – and whether the canon is still a relevant concept to contemporary art. Given that this conference was all about expanding the perception of feminist art and what feminist art can do, it seemed to me that the idea of a canon, which creates a hierarchical structure of art and artists, is an outdated concept which we need to remain critical of. Gillian, in response to previous speaker Elvis Richardson's talk about her statistical online project 'The Countess', pointed out that DAAO is close to gender parity, with 5,000 women artists represented in contrast to 6,000 men.

The conference was a great opportunity for me to meet and discuss with people of similar research interests to myself, and to hear from Australian and international leaders in curating feminist art such as Maura Reilly, the founder of the Elizabeth A. Sackler Centre for Feminist Art at the Brooklyn Museum, New York; Michael Birchall, an activist curator from Berlin; and Jacqueline Millner and Catriona Moore, co-convenors of the research cluster Contemporary Art and Feminism at Sydney College of Arts. I was also able to meet the artist Kelly Doley whose work at West Space in Melbourne (2012) and Boxcopy in Brisbane (2014) will potentially form part of my Masters research. I am very grateful for the grant that allowed me to attend this interesting and informative conference, and to extend my knowledge of, and participation in, feminist art.

### Youth Exchange Honours Bomber Pilot's Sacrifice

Those who attended our November meeting and heard Sarah speak about her experience in France may be interested in the following article from the *Christchurch Mail*, 28<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

Villa Maria Year 13 student Sarah MacDonald has spent two weeks in France as part of an exchange marking a feat of wartime bravery.

The exchange is in honour of Christchurch bomber pilot Flight Lieutenant Noel Stokes, whose plane was attacked by enemy fire on July 29, 1944. Stokes ordered his crew to bail out and heroically manoeuvred the fiery Lancaster bomber to save it from crashing into the French village of Yevres. In doing so he was killed instantly.

Despite threats from the German invaders, who ordered that the bodies of Noel Stokes and rear gunner Norman Wilding be buried in a hole in the ground, local inhabitants risked their lives to give the men a Christian burial.

Every year since 1944 the village of Yevres has had a ceremony commemorating Stokes' sacrifice. In 2005, the School for Young Writers French Exchange was established and volunteers set about securing funding for a young Kiwi to represent the country at the ceremony in Yevres each October. The Federation of Graduate Women, the New Zealand France Friendship Fund and the Papanui RSA have all contributed.

Noel Stokes attended Hagley High School, then called Christchurch West, from 1932-1934. A memorial stained-glass window was installed in the village church in Yevres and in 1962 a village street was named "Rue du Lieutenant Stokes". A book about his heroic actions had the title "*Pas de gloire sans effort*" reflecting the original motto of West.

## INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS

**Bernadette Devonport, CIR, National Executive**

NZFGW is interested in two activities of IFUW at the moment: the involvement of IFUW in the review of the Beijing Platform for Action and the proposed name change for IFUW.

**Beijing +20** is the theme for the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW59) to be held in March 2015. United Nations member countries made a commitment twenty years ago when they adopted the Beijing Platform for Action and in 2015 CSW will review the progress made and the challenges remaining in these countries towards realising gender equality.

IFUW is participating in the review through papers, submissions and workshops. IFUW submitted a paper earlier this year for the 59<sup>th</sup> Session, highlighting particular aspects of the Platform for Action including, education and training of women; women and the economy; the girl child; violence against women; women in decision making; women and health. The IFUW website has this

paper, and the weekly IFUW Updates have excellent information on what is happening to graduate women around the world, including summaries and links to the paper.

The 59<sup>th</sup> Session is also allowing us to participate in a new activity within IFUW: twinning with other NFAs. At the same time as CSW59 is meeting in New York next year there will be CSW Parallel Sessions. One of those will be a workshop on Peace Opportunities at the United Nations. Graduate Women USA has asked us to twin with them in presenting at this workshop. Consequently there will be some New Zealand members attending along with, we hope, some of our Fellows who are studying in New York. If you want any further information about this workshop please contact me.

Earlier this month NGO CSW held a forum in Geneva to review the European situation in relation to Beijing +20. IFUW was present at the forum and put forward several recommendations. See the IFUW website for these recommendations.

**Name change for IFUW:** At the IFUW Conference in Istanbul in 2013, delegates voted to modernise the organisation by reviewing and revamping a number of areas. Since the conference, IFUW has rebranded with new colours and upgraded its website, facebook page and twitter feed. IFUW now proposes to change its name in keeping with the broadening of education at the tertiary level and recognising that there is a large group of women who could belong and join with us in advocating for gender equality. Consequently national associations who form IFUW (NFAs) are asked to vote between now and March 2015 on IFUW becoming Graduate Women International (GWI). NZFGW Branches are asked to discuss this issue and advise National Executive. And not just Branches. We also welcome comments from Independent Members.

New Zealand, along with several other NFAs, acknowledges the sense of the change. There are more than just universities engaged in tertiary education. But we are fortunate here in New Zealand in not having a complicated federal/state/national structure that could make changes difficult.

**To contact Bernadette** email her at: [Thebranch@nzfgw.org.nz](mailto:Thebranch@nzfgw.org.nz) (the Canterbury branch email address).

## ORGANISATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Interest is sought from members to represent NZFGW on the various organisations which we affiliate with, or in which we are members. The organisations include the following, and where we have a nominee that person's name is in brackets – but this does not preclude members from joining us as alternates and/or shadows: **ANGOA** (Elizabeth Eppel/Ann Pomeroy/anyone else?); **NCW** (Elizabeth Eppel/Christine Ross/plus we need one more); **Parliamentary Watch** (must be Wellington based due to narrow lead time for presenting submissions in person); **New Horizons for Women Trust** (Jo Innes/anyone else also interested?); **Ministry of Women's Affairs International Caucus** (also Wellington based - Elizabeth Eppel/Ann Pomeroy/we need a third person as an alternate); **UN Women** (Amanda Taylor/anyone else?); **Pacific Women's Watch** (Beverley Turner/anyone else?).

All these roles require summarising minutes and/or reporting on meetings

Finally the role of **Archivist** on National Executive is still vacant if anyone would like to take it on.

## OTHER COURSES OF INTEREST

Samah Sabawi, Gaza born, Melbourne based advocate, poet, playwright is speaking at the **WEA 59 GLOUCESTER ST at 7.00 PM on MONDAY 16 FEBRUARY**.

Samah Sabawi is Gaza born and Melbourne based. She is an internationally renowned advocate, writer, commentator, author, poet and playwright. She has written and produced the plays *Cries from the Land* (2003) and *Three Wishes* (2008), both having staged successfully in Canada. In 2014, Sabawi completed a sold-out season of her acclaimed play, *Tales of a City by the Sea*, which had an Arabic production by Al Rowwad Theatre in Palestine and an English production by La Mama Theatre in Melbourne, Australia.

Samah Sabawi is currently co-editing an anthology of Jewish and Palestinian plays from diaspora for the Playwrights Canada Press.

**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.**

## CANTERBURY BRANCH COMMITTEE 2014-2015

<b>OFFICIAL BRANCH ADDRESS</b>	P O Box 6733 CHRISTCHURCH 8442  Phone: 364 3590 Fax: 364 3583	Email: <a href="mailto:thebranch@canterburynzfgw.org.nz">thebranch@canterburynzfgw.org.nz</a> <a href="mailto:trust@canterburynzfgw.org.nz">trust@canterburynzfgw.org.nz</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.canterburynzfgw.org.nz">www.canterburynzfgw.org.nz</a>
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Bernadette Devonport</b> 70 Greers Road CHRISTCHURCH 8053	03 358 6245 <a href="mailto:bernadettedevonport@gmail.com">bernadettedevonport@gmail.com</a>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Position not filled	
<b>SECRETARY and NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b>	<b>Geraldine Murphy</b> 36 Royalist Avenue CHRISTCHURCH 8083	03 383 3958 <a href="mailto:geraldinemurphy@xtra.co.nz">geraldinemurphy@xtra.co.nz</a>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>Hilary Stubbs</b> 10 West Green CHRISTCHURCH 8083	03 383 0084 <a href="mailto:h.stubbs@rangiruru.school.nz">h.stubbs@rangiruru.school.nz</a> <a href="mailto:hilarystubbs@clearnet.co.nz">hilarystubbs@clearnet.co.nz</a>
<b>PAC</b>	Not filled	
<b>CIR</b>	Not filled	
<b>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</b>	<b>Barbara Peddie</b> 602A Madras St CHRISTCHURCH	03 377 0246 <a href="mailto:bpeddie@clear.net.nz">bpeddie@clear.net.nz</a>
<b>TRUST BOARD CHAIR</b>	<b>Ellen McCrae</b> 16 Gordon Ave Christchurch 8014	03 355 4391 <a href="mailto:ellenandgraeme-m@clear.net.nz">ellenandgraeme-m@clear.net.nz</a>
<b>HOODS AND GOWNS REPRESENTATIVE</b>	<b>Jean Sharfe</b> 97a Brynley St CHRISTCHURCH 8042	03 349 8366 <a href="mailto:sharfe.family@xtra.co.nz">sharfe.family@xtra.co.nz</a> <a href="mailto:regaliahire@canterburynzfgw.org.nz">regaliahire@canterburynzfgw.org.nz</a>
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Enid Smith</b> 14 Rosedale Place CHRISTCHURCH 8042  <b>Annette Etwell</b> 33 Rollesby St CHRISTCHURCH 8025  <b>Judy Brooks</b> 4 Makora St CHRISTCHURCH 8014	03 358 9492 <a href="mailto:aesmith2@clear.net.nz">aesmith2@clear.net.nz</a>  03 338 5077 <a href="mailto:etwellna@xtra.co.nz">etwellna@xtra.co.nz</a>  03 351 8114 <a href="mailto:anbrooks@xtra.co.nz">anbrooks@xtra.co.nz</a>
<b>NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES</b>	<b>Marlene Smith</b> P.O. Box 20316 CHRISTCHURCH 8543  <b>Barbara Peddie</b>	03 359 9225 <a href="mailto:g.e.smith@clear.net.nz">g.e.smith@clear.net.nz</a>