



New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women

CANTERBURY BRANCH

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NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2014

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Canterbury Branch of NZFGW will be held on **Thursday 23rd October 2014 at 7.30 pm** at Rangī Ruru School, Hewitts Rd.

The business of the meeting will be:

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous AGM
2. Presentation of Annual Reports and Financial Statements
3. Election of Officers
4. General Business – proposal to change Rule 16 (see last month's newsletter for details)

After the conclusion of business there will be a panel discussion in which two of our younger members and a former member will present their views on what the Branch is doing and what it should be doing. Those present will then be invited to contribute and we hope as many members as possible will come along and join in this vitally important discussion.

We welcome new members on to the committee and are particularly looking for a Vice-President and Public Affairs Convenor as well as general committee members. If you are interested please contact the secretary who will arrange nomination.

Trust Board Report October 2014

University of Otago Christchurch Medical School Summer Studentships

In the past the Trust Board has supported the University of Otago Christchurch Medical School Summer Studentship programme by funding 1 project as well as offering an award of \$500.00. These studentships offer an excellent opportunity for students to develop their research skills and typically produce data of high value. The Trust Board has agreed to fund two studentships to the value of \$10,000.00 for the 2014/15 summer. The following two projects have been chosen.

Investigating the pathology of cobalt-induced pseudo-tumour formation

Prof Margreet Vissers, Dr Tim Woodfield, Prof Gary Hooper - Supervisors

Metal ions are known to be toxic in high concentrations and metals such as cobalt are known to activate cell stress pathways. Pseudotumours are growths that form in patients with failing hip prostheses. The degenerating joint releases heavy metals, including Co^{2+} , and this could activate HIF-1 (Hypoxia Inducing Factor) in the surrounding tissues, generating the growth factors conducive to tumour formation

Perioperative DVT prophylaxis in surgical patients admitted to General Medicine with pulmonary embolism or deep vein thrombosis

Supervisors Dr Dave Cole; Dr David Jardine; Dr Pleavo Tovarante.

Harriette Maher a student completing a BAHons (Art History) has the opportunity to attend a conference run by the University of Sydney on

Curating Feminism. This aligns with the study Harriette has pursued this year and the conference offers a unique opportunity gain further knowledge and experience from the lectures and master classes being offered. She has been offered a special travel award.

The Trust Board continues with the process of developing a budget for 2014/15 year. Our aim is to set parameters around the % of income allocated to scholarships; the value and the number of scholarships, awards, grants etc awarded in the educational field; % of income allocated to charitable donations; the proportion of investments to be allocated to investment portfolio versus bank deposits; clearly identifying the utilities, financial system, and wages associated with running the Board.

Round the Square

Therese Minehan with Geraldine Murphy's assistance has drafted a new preface to Round the Square that outlines information pertinent to the current situation in the Square and the city.

Accounting System and updating computing Hardware and Software

Oliffs have updated the computing hardware and software for the Academic Dress Hire Business, Branch and Trust Board and training in the new accounting system Xero will take place in the coming week.

Ellen McCrae Trust Board Chair

SADIE BALKIND AWARDS

Applications for the Sadie Balkind Scholarship and Awards close on the 31st October.

The Scholarship which is a single award of \$6000 (or it may be awarded as \$3000 to two candidates) is open to Masters and Doctoral students only. The Awards, of \$500 to \$1500, are open to all full time Post Graduate students including those completing Honours or undertaking PG study outside a Masters or Doctoral programme. Applicants must be New Zealand citizens and graduates or graduands of Canterbury or Lincoln University.

Application forms are available from the website www.canterburynzfgw.org.nz or by emailing thebranch@canterburynzfgw.org.nz

REPORTS FROM THE CONFERENCE

Branch President Bernadette Devonport and Trust Board Chair Ellen McCrae recently attended the NZFGW Biennial Conference held in Wellington over the weekend of 26-28th September.

NZFGW Conference 2014 – Bernadette Devonport

Ellen McCrae and I attended the 2014 NZFGW Conference as representatives of the Canterbury Branch. Thank you to the Branch for allowing us to be there. There were 55 attendees and representatives from the Pacific Islands and Australia. We were delighted that the IFUW President, Catherine Bell, could attend. She addressed the conference on both days as well as at the opening ceremony on Friday afternoon.

Speakers

All the speakers at the conference were well worth hearing.

On Saturday morning a panel spoke about their experiences and thoughts of being leaders in their fields-

Dr Rosanne Hawarden on being the co-founder of a national company and Board director, noting that more women are needed in business governance;

Julie Hardaker, Mayor of Hamilton, on women in Local Government, coping with being in the public eye and the variety of successful leadership styles; Dr Gill Greer, CEO of VSA and director of a number of non-profit organisations, saying that women need to be independent and resilient and insist on being heard in decision making and how can we share skills and experience to help women in the Pacific;

Suzanne Snively, advocating Open Government Partnership and attempting to bring transparency into government decision-making. She also emphasised the negative impact of family violence.

Catherine Bell spoke on women's empowerment principles and the need to change business outlook to reduce gender bias. She referred to a website weprinciples.org

After lunch Lucy Duncan spoke about women in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and detailed her experiences of a career in the Ministry, including being New Zealand's Ambassador to Argentina.

The keynote speaker on Sunday morning was Professor Brigid Heywood, Assistant Vice-Chancellor Research, Academic and Enterprise at Massey University. She was the first female Professor of Chemistry in Britain with experience in research for the oil industry. Professor Heywood spoke of her career in Chemistry and Academe.

National Executive 2014-16

Ann Pomeroy (Wellington) President
Amanda Taylor Young Members
Elizabeth Eppel (Wellington) Secretary
Pat Sivertsen (Independent Member) Treasurer
Christine Ross (Wellington) Public Affairs
Vivienne Bryner (Otago) Website
Rowena Taylor (Manawatu) Charitable Trust Secretary and Awards
Jan Tan (North Shore) Membership
Gail Hutcheson Newsletter
Bernadette Devonport (Canterbury) CIR

Constitutional Changes

Changes are outlined in the programme book.

The Conference approved changes to the Trust that allowed for a two year Executive, which is the Trust Board.

The Conference also approved changes to the Constitution that allowed for auditor/reviewer and allowed for succession planning.

Independent members were given a greater say in NZFGW matters and a network approved for them.

Reports

Reports presented are in my programme book. They include NE Convenor, Branch, IFUW, PGW and associated organisations.

The President noted that future conferences are not likely to be as comprehensive as this one. Low numbers attending this year mean that we will probably have half day face-to-face General Meetings every second year with a Council meeting by audio-conferencing in the alternate year. Another idea that National Executive would like Branches to consider is abolishing Council meetings and having an AGM instead.

The Treasurer noted that the expected deficit was lower than budgeted because of the change in timing for payment of dues. Travel to overseas conferences was the biggest item of expenditure. The travel fund is exhausted and with a healthy buffer in the IFUW dues fund the conference approved a change in distribution of Branch dues from \$30 IFUW to \$20 \$7 travel to \$17 and general administration remaining the same at \$15-18.

There was some discussion about having one national subscription rate and reducing the general administration amount by \$3 so that Branches had more money.

The Charitable Trust is concerned that Waikato may join Auckland in not supporting national awards, especially as the bulk of awards go to women from these regions.

Remits

The four remits were passed with minor changes.

They were originally

Remit 1- That NZFGW urges the Government to review the conditions for repayment of student loans

Remit 2- That NZFGW advocates for improved access to postgraduate education for women in all subjects

Remit 3- That NZFGW urges the Government to promote education on sexuality and reproductive health rights, particularly with regard to the prevention of teenage and unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.

Remit 4- That NZFGW urges the Government to strengthen measures to ensure pregnant teenagers and teenage parents are supported to continue their formal education

We proposed the first two remits and our group of Marlene, Barbara, Ellen and myself will be helping Catherine Ross to put together a plan of action.

Hegg Hoffet

Canterbury Branch was the only branch to produce a raffle in addition to items for the Hegg Hoffet table. Thank you to members who contributed. By Sunday morning Joy Dunsheath had taken almost \$1,400.

The programme book is available at Creyke Road.

NZFGW Conference Wellington September 2014

– Ellen McCrae

I valued the opportunity to attend this conference and while many faces were familiar it was very heartening to see so many young women in our midst, obviously the majority were from the Wellington area and we know Otago has a large younger member grouping so I am encouraged to take up the challenge here in Christchurch. These young women genuinely enjoy mixing with those who have gone before and like the sense of empowerment and opportunity they gain from being part of an organisation that has campaigned in their interests for over 90 years. My favourite comment came from a Hawkes Bay member who said “had I known it was going to be this much fun I would have filled a minibus with graduate women”. It was definitely an energising couple of days.

As Bernadette indicated the calibre of speaker was exceptional their collective message was clear, know what you want to achieve; connect with your communities and in that way connect with women; if you want to go far take others with you; be a queen maker not a queen bee and in particular nurture those coming on and provide them with opportunities. Power and opportunity comes from networks both formal and informal and women have to build these networks. Our IFUW President Catherine Bell brought IFUW into focus the effect of working in an international forum. As an organisation it is clear its advocacy role should be for women’s rights, equality and empowerment through access to quality secondary and tertiary education, and training up to the highest levels. This is our unique selling point the only organisation where the vision is for 100% of girls and women in the world achieving education beyond primary school.

While it may seem we are well down this path NZ data proves otherwise. I had the opportunity of attending an excellent workshop on writing submissions and using available data to provide a sound evidence base for advocating change. Deb Potter is a statistician seconded to the Ministry of Women’s Affairs and her role is drilling into the data to identify what makes a difference in women’s lives and education ranks alongside the other key factors of age; children; relationship; hours worked/unpaid work and ethnicity. As a

self declared “stats geek” Deb provided some excellent data focussing on the education component and we have advocacy aplenty to undertake.

OBITUARY

The following obituary of Graduate Women Western Australia member was sent to us by former National Executive CIR, Dorothy Meyer. Although she lived in Western Australia for most of her life Barbara was educated in Christchurch and attended the IFUW Conference in Christchurch in 1986.

Barbara Hale

Barbara Mary Hale was born in New Zealand on 5 April 1924 to Fred and Bertha Hale. In hospital for only a couple of weeks and until the onset of her last illness, Barbara was a vital member of Graduate Women (WA), especially as one of the trio of GWWA members writing the history of the last fifty years of AFUW(WA)Inc.

Barbara maintained links with lifelong friends in New Zealand where she was educated. She attended school in Christchurch at Rangi Ruru. She went on to gain library qualifications and the degree of Master of Arts in English from the University of New Zealand. Only close friends knew of her generous support for the institutions where she was educated.

In retirement she gave extensively of her time to the Australian Federation of University Women (WA) Inc. She held a variety of positions within the Association, including President, Secretary, and Membership Convener, and after moving to a villa across the road from headquarters she was the member who, without fuss or recognition, held everything together. She was made a Life Member of AFUW(WA) in 1991. Her dry wit and humour and erudition enlivened the Association’s literary groups. As Federal President during the 1985-88 triennium she led the Australian delegation to the 1986 IFUW Conference in Christchurch. During her presidency she nurtured into existence the first Association of AFUW in the Northern Territory and her personal efforts brought into being under the umbrella of AFUW(WA) a group of women graduates in Broome. As AFUW(WA) prepared for the IFUW Conference in Perth in 2004 her unmatched knowledge of members’ professions

and interests enabled the LAC to match members' labours with their skills. She was many times a voting delegate to IFUW conferences, travelling with her friend, the late Peg Hutchison of Wellington. Together they would extend the international journey to visit remote bird-watching sites. After Peg's death Barbara flew to New Zealand to acquaint herself with Peg's last days; that was Barbara's last overseas journey.

In 1992 she established the AFUW(WA) Inc Education Trust, which she led from inception, retiring from the chair only few years ago and as Trustee last October. Since then interest on the capital of the Trust, accumulated for over sixty years by memorial donations, bequests, academic gown hire proceeds and members' donations, has been untaxed. The Trust presently administers the funds of six postgraduate bursaries and in 2009 established a Gift Fund under the Tax Office's Scholarship Category, donations to which are tax deductible. Barbara's personal skills were at least matched by her astute management of the Trust funds.

Barbara died in Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Perth, Western Australia, on 5 June 2013.

FROM THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE NEWS 2014 NZFGW Fellows Meet

On 4 August, two of the 2014 Fellows home from their overseas study met Awards Convenor Rowena Taylor at Plimmerton for a coffee and walk along the beach.

Eleanor Bishop was home from her three year Theatre Directors' Course at Carnegie Mellon Institute in Pittsburgh. See Eleanor's website <http://www.eleanorbishop.co.nz/> NZFGW Whakaminenga Wahine o Aotearoa kua whiwhi tohu Sept 2014 Page 8

Charlotte Greenfield has completed her Investigative Journalism course at Columbia University, New York and has now travelled to Yogyakarta, Indonesia where she is employed as an intern for Reuters. You may have heard Charlotte interviewed on Kim Hill on Saturday 19 July in the guest slot. If not, here is the link to the interview:
<http://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/saturday/20140719> Charlotte's focus in on in-depth journalism and here is her article on the

ethical issue of surgery for intersex children published in *The Atlantic*:

<http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2014/07/should-we-fix-intersex-children/373536/>

A New Zealand charity has been set up by **Charlotte Greenfield** and her mother to pay for orphan girls in Kenya to attend boarding school. It's the **Education and Care for Kenyan Orphans Trust (ECKO) CC44208**

<https://www.charities.govt.nz/charities-in-new-zealand/the-charities-register/search-the-register/>

Phone: 04 934 3681 or email: fishsharon1@gmail.com

HOW DID THEY GET AROUND? TRANSPORT IN EARLY CHRISTCHURCH

Saturday 18 October, 1 – 4 pm, at the WEA, 59 Gloucester Street, \$12

Come along to hear fascinating insights into Christchurch's transport systems in years gone by. John Shanks, Tramway Historian and a founder of the Tramway Historical Society, will talk about the trams and the public transport system. Clare Simpson, cycling historian and enthusiast will describe how cycling took the city by storm in the 1880s. Geoff Rice, Adjunct Professor at the University of Canterbury will speak about 'Victoria Square as Christchurch's early transport hub'. His study of Victoria Square will be published later this year. This seminar is being offered as part of the Beca Heritage Week programme of events.

To enrol phone the WEA at (03) 366 0285 email: admin@cwea.org.nz or go online to: cwea.org.nz

The 2014 Quaker Lecture will be held in the Transitional Cathedral in Latimer Square on Monday, 20 October, at 7.30pm. There will be FOUR lecturers who are all active in Quaker life: David James, Jillian Wychel, Linda Wilson and Murray Short.

The topic this year is: ***Standing in this place: How do Pākehā support justice for Māori?***

There will be an opportunity for Questions at the end of the lecture. This will be followed by light refreshments. The lecture booklet will be available for \$10.

FREE entry. All Welcome. Enquiries: 359 3478

Christchurch Heritage House Tour

Sunday, 26 October, 2014

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Tickets \$25 at Ballantynes

or from Philippa Bates

philbates@paradise.net.nz

Six Christchurch Heritage Houses
*A tour in support of the Ngaio Marsh
Heritage House, a Category 1 Historic
Place.*



FREE LEGAL ADVICE

Canterbury Community Law wishes to advise that they now offer **free legal information and advice** at their new Disability Legal Advice Clinic.

Aspire Canterbury, 314 Worcester Street

**First and last Friday of each month from
9.30am-3pm**

**Phone 0508 CANLAW (0508 226 529)
to make an appointment.**

Email: admin@canlaw.org.nz Fax: 03 341 7586

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