



December 2007 Circular



BPW New Zealand

“advancing the interests of working women”



Theme for the Year “New Dimensions of Leadership – for the Future”

The Employment Relations (Flexible Hours) Amendment Bill--Vice President Angela McLeod

In the middle of 2005, the Transport and Industrial Relations Select Committee were calling for submissions on Sue Kedgley's private members bill...The Employment Relations (Flexible Hours) Amendment Bill. I took a look through our policy to see if we had anything to back a submission as I felt that it was important for women to be able to negotiate flexible working hours. We had several pieces of policy that would support a submission so I got to it and wrote one. The rest is history.

And history is a great thing for it teaches us...

This was the first submission I had written and in my haste to make BPWNZ look good, I also added that all important piece - we wish to speak to our submission. Here's where the real learning begins. I had absolutely no idea how to go about this and when the secretary's office (of the Select Committee) called me to make a time, she had chosen the sittings in Auckland as our national office was situated there. Well, that suited me fine as I live in Wellington. Time to pass the buck - which of course, I duly did - to Moira McLean and Maureen Beard. Moira rang me for advice.

Me?

In true BPW fashion I wracked my brain for someone to talk to about this. In true Angela fashion I woke one morning at 2am with an idea of who that might be. The husband of one of the Upper Hutt BPW women lobbies the government as part of his job. It turns out he has CV's on all the select committee members and studies them to figure out which buttons to push in a presentation. If you know the backgrounds and interests of the members, he says, you know how to pitch your presentation. Smart man - hey, it's not always an oxymoron.

While I was doing this Moira was unearthing examples of where the ability to negotiate flexible hours would have benefited women - and Maureen had an example from her family. They used these examples and made a very good presentation - so good in fact, that it started the ball rolling with the rest of the history.

The Select committee made history by recommending that the issue be laid on the table and that more research needed to be done. The Department of Labour and the office of the minister of labour put together a Workplace Leaders Summit on Flexible Work. This was a day when those for and against the amendment were invited to the Grand Hall in Parliament Buildings to discuss the next moves. The Department of Labour presented their research on the subject. Businesses who practise flexibility in the workplace were invited to speak about their experiences. Business NZ, The EEO Commission and Dept of Labour all spoke and then the afternoon was dedicated to small groups discussing ways to move forward in this. The general consensus was that education was a big part of the change needed but also legislation was felt by some to be an important part of changing business culture. Due to our submission and presentation, we were invited to participate in this day and I went along. It was a great day and I met several politicians who all commented on how well-written the submission was and also the great presentation by the two women in Auckland. I think that politicians are probably the worst at remembering names!

Some time after this, Sue Kedgley heard that her bill was coming before the Select Committee again and she wanted support to lobby for it to go to the house for debate. Sue called a meeting with interested NGO's specifically those that she felt had made submissions of such standard as to be in strong support of her bill. BPW NZ were invited to the meeting, so Noeline and I went along. That

meeting decided to form a coalition, and Sue offered the Green Party offices for meetings. They needed three spokespeople and after some discussions around needing a business voice, I offered to help out! We had a media launch and entered the lobbying lark with gusto.

It has taken some time to get the bill passed in to legislation - it had to pass three readings - which this one did last week.

Over this time we have met with several politicians - we have listened to their point of view, told them ours and discussed both to see if we could get them to see our side and vote our way. We went to Peter Brown of NZ First, twice. I am constantly told how well we have done and the functions that we have been invited to are part testament to that. I went to parliament to watch the bill go through its third reading and it was one of the proudest moments of my BPWNZ life...

Every Labour MP who spoke mentioned BPW.

Also in this circular, President Message, ICE, No to Violence, Congratulations, Triple crown membership, Status of Women.

President's Message – December 2007 - Faye Gardiner President

At the beginning of November, Federation Vice President Angela McLeod, Technology Convener Moira McLean, Past President Anita Devcich, Kaitaia President Katrina Cowie and myself visited Sydney for the national conference of BPW Australia. This was a lively and inspiring events, with stimulating speakers, fun social evenings and many happy reunions with BPW friends. Like us, they are embracing the mentoring and leadership training programs, and are very committed to advocating for the advancement of working women. We were warmly hosted by Kay Morrison, the out-going President, and were privileged to spend time with International President Nok Viravan, who gave an overview of progress in the review and restructuring of BPW International. A new Executive was elected at the conference and an old friend of BPW NZ, Marilyn Forsyth, out going President of New South Wales, is now national president. We hope to see her at our conference in April next year.

Speaking of which, I hope you are seeking sponsorship to enable as many club members as possible to come to Hamilton next ANZAC weekend. A stimulating and entertaining program of work and play is assured.

Back on the home front – BPW NZ was part of the coalition committee promoting the need for legislation to give employee's the right to request Flexible Working Hours. Our Vice President-Issues Angela McLeod, and our Legislation Convener Noeline Reisch, have worked very hard promoting the Bill, attending committee meetings, and press conferences, and lobbying for workers to have the right to negotiate flexible work schedules with their employers. On Thursday 21st November the Bill was passed into legislation by Parliament. Congratulations to you both, and many thanks from women with dependants and all caregivers who will now have the right to request working hours that take their care giving commitments into consideration. See the leading article for Angela's account of this very successful lobbying project.

I am sure that many of you will be taking part in activities supporting the campaign to end violence against women. BPW International has become a "launch partner" of the UNIFEM international campaign supported by Nicole Kidman to "Say NO to Violence Against Women". See the article in this Circular about BPW involvement and how your club can participate.

The Club Leadership Forum on 2-3 February next year is generating much interest. Those presidents and past presidents who have not already returned the questionnaire, please do so as soon as possible so we can ensure that the program reflects your needs. Those actual and potential club leaders who intend to come, please return your registration form and cheque as early as possible to help with planning for numbers. Closing date is 31st January but the earlier the better.

So where has the year gone? With the holiday season fast approaching a slight feeling of panic sets in as we contemplate all that must be achieved "before Christmas". The Christmas rush seems to get earlier every year, with Christmas decorations in some stores in October and Christmas functions starting at the beginning of November. Amidst all this hustle and bustle, take time to enjoy friends and



family, and above all, to take care of yourselves. In New Zealand we are privileged to each be able to celebrate Christmas according to our own beliefs and customs, or not, as we choose. However you spend the holiday season may you have a happy, safe and relaxing holiday with your loved ones. Best wishes for the festive season to you all.

President's Calendar 2007 - 2008

December	1	Exec Teleconference
	12	BPW Tamaki Christmas meeting
February	2-3	Club Leadership Forum
	4	Executive Meeting
April	25-27	Federation Conference, Hamilton



Days to Remember

Nov 25-Dec 10	Ten days of activism against gender violence
Dec 1	Closing date for BPW Remits for Conference 2008
Dec 5	International Volunteer Day www.volunteeringnz.org.nz
Dec 10	Rural Women's Day
Jan 15	Written amendments to remits due

Say NO To Violence Against Women

BPW International joins the Say NO to Violence against Women" campaign.

BPWI is a 'launch partner' in the internet-based campaign to end violence against women that was launched on 26th November and will run until 8th March 2008. The following information is reprinted from the UNIFEM website where you can find information about how you can participate in the campaign at club level. http://www.unifem.org/campaigns/vaw_25nov/toolkit.php

WHAT: A global Internet-based advocacy effort on ending violence against women. Organized by UNIFEM, the initiative is designed to demonstrate that there is an ever-growing movement of people who raise their voices and demand that ending violence against women be a top priority. Participants will add their names to an internet "virtual" book as an expression of public support and call for action.

WHO: UNIFEM Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman is the campaign's spokesperson.

"I am committed to amplify the voices of the women and girls who have been subjected to violence and abuse. That's why I was the first to sign up my name for this important campaign. Please add your name to mine and say 'no' to violence against women. Let survivors of violence know that they are not alone, that they can count on us."

—UNIFEM Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman

The initiative is supported by a wide range of United Nations organizations, along with Prof. Dr. Yakin Ertürk, UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women. Civil society organizations and the private sector have also joined as partners.

"Those of us who have worked on ending violence against women know that one of the greatest barriers to overcome is the silence that surrounds the issue. This is why I welcome this campaign. We must create a culture of zero tolerance for one of the most pervasive — yet least punished — human rights violations in the world."

—Prof. Dr. Yakin Ertürk, UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women

WHY: One in 3 women and girls may be beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused in their lifetime. Since funds are essential to change laws and policies, increase access to justice for survivors, address the links between violence against women and HIV/AIDS, and provide services, Ms. Kidman also calls for increased resources for the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, which gives grants to innovative efforts in the developing world that are helping end violence against women.

This is a historic moment. Ending violence against women is seen as essential to reaching development targets, such as the Millennium Development Goals, and also to security and peace.

"We need to break through the wall of silence that surrounds violence against women. And we must turn legal norms into reality in women's lives."

—United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

WHEN: Launched on 26 November 2007 to align with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and the ensuing global 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence campaign, www.saynotoviolence.org will continue until 8 March 2008, International Women's Day.

Congratulations to

Hinerangi Edwards - Newly Elected Director to the Board for Parininihi Ki Waitotara Incorporation. In October 2007, Hinerangi Edwards (who has been a BPW Hawera member since 2003) was successful in being elected to the Parininihi Ki Waitotara Incorporation (PKW) Board. This past year, Hinerangi has held the position of Associate Director for the same organisation and during this time has also completed the governance course with the Institute of Directors.

PKW is a Taranaki-based incorporation managing the interests of its 8,000 shareholders. These interests include 22,000 hectares of productive farm land, 15 dairy farms as well as dairy farm partnerships in New Zealand and Australia. The Incorporation owns commercial properties in New Zealand and Australia and also has lobster fishing interests in both countries. (Source: www.pkw.co.nz)

Hinerangi also has governance roles for other organisations including Aatea Consultants Limited, Ngā Hapū o Ngāruahine Iwi Incorporated and New Zealand Group Investments Limited.

Hinerangi's background is in education, career development and communications. In her role as director and consultant of AATEA Solutions she has undertaken a plethora of work including contract and relationship management. She is a fluent te reo Māori speaker and highly regarded trainer and facilitator. Hinerangi is of Ngāruahine, Taranaki, Te Pakakohi, Tangahoe, Ngāti Ruanui, Te Arawa, Tongan descent. She and her husband Kiwa Hammond live in Hawera with their daughter and newly arrived twin boys.

UN Committee on the Status of Women, New York, 25 February – 7 March 2008

The NGO Committee on the Status of Women, NY was created in 1972 as a Committee of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO.) Committees were later formed in Geneva and Vienna. These three Committees have worked together over the years to bring a positive presence to women's issues globally for 30 years.

It is our goal to help NGO representatives link with those who are like-minded to bring the issues of women from around the world to the attention of decision-makers at the United Nations. We provide space for NGO meetings and side events, and facilitate training and the sharing of information through an annual consultation. We work closely with the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women to assist NGO representatives in giving voice to their concerns.



If you are planning an overseas trip any where near New York in the New Year, you might consider attending this meeting as an observer. If you are interested to attend, kindly reply back to presidents.office@bpw-international.org ASAP with the following information:

1. Your full name as shown on your passport, including your title (Ms., or Mrs.)
2. Your address
3. Your tel., and fax #
4. Your e-mail address
5. Your BPW Club and country
6. The country that you are flying out / depart from to go to USA.
7. Need a roommate? Please specify.

The Dateline to request for your accreditation to attend CSW 2008 is 21 Dec., 2007.

ICE Campaign - "In Case of Emergency"

We all carry our mobile phones with names & numbers stored in its memory but nobody, other than ourselves, knows which of these numbers belong to our closest family or friends.

If we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our mobile phone but wouldn't know who to call. Yes, there are hundreds of numbers stored but which one is the contact person in case of an emergency? Hence this "**ICE**" (**In Case of Emergency**) Campaign.

The concept of "**ICE**" is catching on quickly. It is a method of contact during emergency situations. As cell phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons who should be contacted during emergency under the name "**ICE**" (**In Case of Emergency**).

The idea was thought up by a paramedic who found that when he went to the scenes of accidents, there were always mobile phones with patients, but they didn't know which number to call. He therefore thought that it would be a good idea if there was a nationally recognized name for this purpose. In an emergency situation, Emergency Service personnel and hospital Staff would be able to quickly contact the right person by simply dialling the number you have stored as "**ICE**".

For more than one contact name simply enter ICE1, ICE2 and ICE3 etc. A great idea that will make a difference!

BPW TRIPLE ONE CROWN -- Membership Challenge.

Barbara Clarke -- Vice President Membership.

Those of you who attended conference in Southland would have received information about this challenge.



It is an International challenge where clubs are being asked to track their new membership over 2006, 07 and 08.

There is an attractive Triple Crown pin that will be awarded to all members who introduce a new member in each of those years to their club, or three members in total over any or all of the three years.

Added to that any member who is responsible for introducing 10 (more) to their club by July 2008 will go into a draw for a free air ticket from anywhere in the world to attend the 2008 International BPW Congress in Mexico, October 2008.

Your club has the returning form and should have been recording and sending in those returns since 2006. They can be done now, retrospectively if this hasn't happened.

Please ask your President/Secretary if things are up to date.

Resolutions from BPW NZ Conference 2007 – Vice President Angela McLeod

So far the resolutions passed into policy at this year's conference have been followed up with letters to the appropriate MP's. I would like to start getting stuck in to the legal aid debate as there has been some noise in the media about it but at the moment there is another Coalition being formed that we need to be part of: Sue Kedgley has been lucky enough to have another bill pulled from the ballot and that is to do with the Country of Origin food labelling issue. The first meeting has not been held yet, and we will be involved as we have policy on this.

I'd like to point out that I am not taking sides with any politician, I have been to quite a few Labour Women's Caucus events and have built a good relationship with Dr Jacki Blue. At the moment it's just that Sue Kedgley has been active with issues we have policy on. I plan to form relationships with the

key players in all the parties as I feel that we need to be an organisation from which they can ask for guidance. And by presenting good arguments and being professional in those presentations, I think we can be that organisation. Business NZ is not the only organisation with a business bent!

BPW International President a “Woman of Influence”

As recently announced on BPW Online, an article on **President Chonchanok Viravan** has been published in **ReviewAsia** Magazine November 2007 issue under Paradigm Shifter section: "The Software of Gender Equality – Thailand's Woman of Independent Means,"

This article is part of a "Women of Influence" series on outstanding and influential women around the Asia Pacific region. You can view this article on the BPW International web site at <http://www.bpw-international.org/activities/news-reviewasia-dr.chonchanok.htm> or download the PDF file of the article from <http://www.bpw-international.org/pdf/ReviewAsia-Dr.Chonchanok.pdf>



BPW Women Elected onto Local Body Boards.

BPW NZ congratulates members who were successful in the recent local body elections. We honour them for accepting these responsible roles in their local communities and wish them every success in meeting the challenges of the next three years in the public eye.

BPW Franklin -- **Dianne Glenn** was re-elected to the Auckland Regional Council

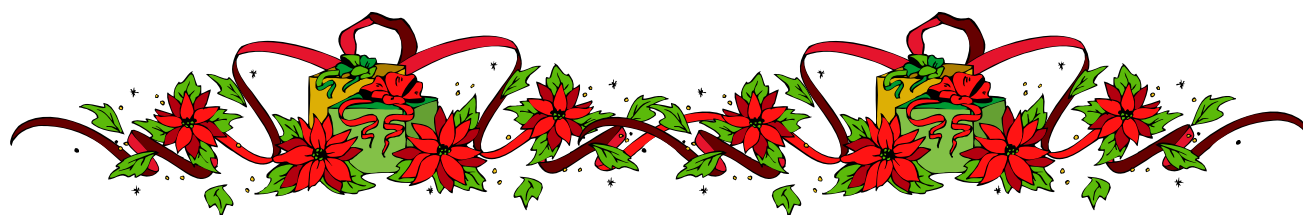
BPW Kapiti -- **Louella Jenson** was elected to the Paraparaumu Community Board.

BPW Gisborne -- **Barbara Clarke and Marie Burgess** were re-elected to the Tairāwhiti District Health Board, **Nona Aston** elected to Gisborne District Council and is now the Deputy Mayor.

BPW Upper Hutt -- **Cr Heather Newell**, Upper Hutt City Council, Chairperson of the Policy Committee.

BPW Huntly and Districts -- **Claire Gregson and Shelley Lynch**, both elected to the Huntly Community Board

BPW Hawera -- **Debbie Packer** Newly Elected Deputy Mayor for South Taranaki District Council



*I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men. -- Longfellow, 'Christmas Bell'.*

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