



# The Circular

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## The New Year: Young women's perspective on issues today

**By Vanisa Dhiru, NCWNZ Board member**

Organisations within our NCWNZ membership must look at issues for all women. The problem when it comes to looking at women in our society and the issues is that we women come in all shapes and sizes, colours and personality types, from various backgrounds and upbringings, cultures and values. We live in different communities, will be cooking different meals for dinner tonight (if we cook at all) and we all have our own and sometimes differing opinions.

As a younger member of several women's group and associations across various sectors, I am often asked: So, what exactly do young women need? What problems do you face? How can my organisation help?

Straight out of the holiday season, issues in my mind include: How can I care better for my immediate family members who live away from me? How do I stay in touch with my many friends that have left the shores of Aotearoa in a pursuit to bring home pounds, yen, USD or renminbi and buy property, start a family... should I be buying a house? Do I buy New Zealand products or fair trade, do I buy everything online or go into a store and inspect it first? How organic are products that label themselves as 'organic'? How do I do my part to preserve our environment? Should I purchase carbon credits for my flights? What charity should I support? Which news media outlet do I trust and follow on Twitter? Do I have too many connections on Facebook? Should I buy meat from the supermarket or the support a local butcher? Do I ask to renew my work contract, or do I find something else in this climate of high unemployment? How often should I go to the gym or do I need to eat healthier food, or go on a diet? Should I freeze some of my eggs now in case I want to start a family one day – or should I gamble and hope I don't need IVF. When will I get married (whilst writing that sentence, I hear my parents groan...)



*Some of today's issues as posted on Facebook from young women around New Zealand.*

I am only one young woman in Aotearoa. I do not at all represent a majority, or even a minority. I am the only young New Zealand born Indian that I know who works for a not-for-profit, lives in a rented apartment in the city, has an honours degree in Design, a brother in London and an early-retired father and working mother living in another town. As I am only one woman, I thought best to ask my friends what their issues were for today's world. And I asked them the way I knew I would get an answer... through Facebook. Comments on my post included:

*"Finding a good job so I can use my degree - very tricky in [town/city] at the moment. Choosing between saving to start a business or go overseas to work or buy a house as it's only going to get more expensive as time goes on - sigh."*

*"Student loans often stress me out (regular updates of the balance from Studylink do not help!) It's*

*concerning thinking about how long it may take to progress up the career ladder as a graduate in a competitive market with many other grads and males who, on average earn more than us ladies. Having to get a home loan down the line, save for travel and pay for everything else - on top of repaying the loan - makes the financial future stressful just to think about!"*

*"Finding a job with your current degree is tricky in the current economic climate. When I completed my undergrad degree in law - with honours mind you - I didn't get a single interview! As a postgraduate money is a huge deal..."*

*"Sexual violence, and abuse towards young women is a serious issues (e.g. Roastbusters); another issue for young women right now is employment or lack thereof meaningful employment; more and more young women are also talking to me about pay equity... I also think for young women from migrant and refugee backgrounds there is a lot of oppression,*

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**NCWNZ Files High Court Challenge to Charitable Status Decisions - see page 13 for media release and plea for support**

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**New Years Resolution**

As we move from the old to the new year many people take time to review what has been done, or not, and make plans for what they might achieve or change in the year coming. You know the sort of thing – lose weight, get more exercise – but for most, it is a time of holidays, when we relax. The temptation is to eat too much, and sit around out of the heat doing nothing. Then we return to our normal lives and our good intentions get swamped under the realities and busyness of our everyday.

As an organisation that has been around for 117 years, NCWNZ demonstrates resolution. We are here for the long haul and we are not giving up on our vision for what we want to achieve, to make New Zealand a better place for women and their families. What do we mean by this? What does "better" look like? And as we reflect on this statement we realise that it holds multiple layers of complexity, and this is why resolution is required. We can't do it all at once or even quickly.

2014 Goals

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



Think about some of the layers. Do we mean physical improvement? This could include health care, housing, nutrition, or access to water and energy. What about mental improvement? Education, both formal and informal, mental health care, and positive ageing are some aspects of this.

Where should we focus our efforts this year? Those of you who attended the National Executive meeting in September last year will remember the address from our Patron, Dame Leslie Max and the challenges that she presented to us. We followed this with an opportunity for delegates to give feedback as to what actions NCWNZ could become involved with that arose from her discussion. Since then the annual report of the organisation that she heads, Great Potentials, has been

released; the most pressing challenge for us in New Zealand that this highlights is child poverty. You can read the full report on [www.greatpotentials.org.nz](http://www.greatpotentials.org.nz).

Similarly child poverty was the subject of the New Year message from the Governor-General His Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir Jerry Mataparae.



He reminded us that this is the 20th International Year of the Family, and urged us to consider how we can help families in difficulty.

With this challenge coming from both our Patron and the Representative of the Queen, will we be found wanting, especially when such work comes within the purview of our core business?

Perhaps you could investigate what "better" looks like in your community and find ways that you can contribute. The Great Potentials annual report shows where their activities are located - many of the places where NCWNZ Branches are located, are also where the HIPPY programme is underway. Is there some way that your Branch can assist? Many schools have programmes to grow food and prepare it for children to eat; this could make use of your skills honed over years. What about reading with children? Find out if any of your local schools would appreciate volunteers to help with this. Involving the local sections of Nationally Organised Societies will strengthen all the groups and build a wider community of interest in which children can be nurtured. And don't forget to tell us all what you are doing by writing about your activities for the Circular.

So, what is each of us going to do this year to implement that NCWNZ resolution to improve society for women and families?



*Barbara*

## Taranaki Branch event

By Adell Morton, NCW Taranaki Branch, Soroptimist International of New Plymouth representative



NCW Taranaki Branch members at New Plymouth District Council.

On 29 October, several members of the Taranaki Branch attended the swearing-in ceremony for the New Plymouth District Council elected councillors.

Members were present to show support to the two women councillors, Heather Dodunski and Marie Pearce.

Both women were flattered by the NCW representation and both made a point of thanking us for our support. NCW members were delighted to be invited to attend, and that so many present and past members were able to come along and show that they are alive and well in Taranaki!

After the ceremony, members were able to talk with the various councillors over light refreshments.

## Wairarapa Branch Christmas dinner makes news

As reported in the *Wairarapa Midweek*, 19 November 2013

### Concern for women

At their final meeting for the year and celebratory dinner, members of the Wairarapa branch of [NCWNZ] were honoured to have Dame Miriam Dell and national vice-president Mrs Rae Duff as guests.

As international secretary for NCWNZ, Rae is closely involved in the compilation of the alternate/shadow report to the Government's official CEDAW report on the status of New Zealand women, which is due to be presented to the UN in the middle of next year. Different women's organisations, including Zonta, NZ Women's Institutes, the Maori Women's Welfare League, Rural Women and Business and Professional Women have taken responsibility for a particular subject and are monitoring reports from



Wairarapa Branch members and guests, from left: Lynette Stutz, Dame Miriam Dell, Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Rae Duff, Gabriel Rolls, Julie Huffer, Halina Kania, Wendy Pearce, Trix Bryant, Di Grant, Helen Dashfield.

appropriate government agencies and collecting vital information and statistics.

Rae also spoke about the annual global conference of the Commission on the Status of Women which is in New York in March. Those at the conference will study challenges and

achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for Women and Girls, as well as access and participation of women and girls to education, training, science and technology, and equal access to employment and decent work. [abridged]



## Wanganui Branch book launch celebrating 75 years

Wanganui Branch Members recently gathered with former members, friends and supporters to celebrate the launch of the book; "Wanganui Branch 75 Years 1937-2012".

Author/researcher Margaret Campion says that while the book is a history of 75 years of NCWNZ activity in

Left: Author and researcher Margaret Campion with NCW Wanganui's new historical book

Wanganui, its early chapters go back further in time to the emergence of the Women's Movement in New Zealand and the development of National Council of Women of New Zealand.

The tireless efforts of leading Wanganui women who fought for women's equality with men during the suffrage campaign and participated in the founding years of NCWNZs history makes interesting reading.

## Looking ahead for NCWNZ Rosebowl: Members to decide the future

In 1994 Sheila Belshaw donated a silver rosebowl to NCWNZ, in memory of her parents Sir Clifford and Lady Webb.

A competition was established centering on a theme or a challenge for Branches to undertake a project and report on it every two years to coincide with the NCWNZ Conference.

Over the past 20 years, themes for the Rosebowl Competition have included: Unity in Diversity; Making Communities safer; Publicity initiatives for the work of NCWNZ; Input into local decision making by NCW women; fostering peace in the community; Branch involvement in positive mental well-being in the community; how Branches support NCWNZ to achieve its future goals.

There has been some very interesting presentations which have been enjoyed by Conference attendees. However, the numbers of entries in recent years suggests that the concept of the Rosebowl Competition in its present form has now run its course and the Board has decided it is time to decide on an alternative role for this beautiful trophy.



*NCWNZ Christchurch President Judith Sutherland (second left) accepts the Rosebowl from Barbara Arnold NCWNZ National President. Two other members of the NCWNZ Christchurch Branch research committee also pictured: Helen Gibson (far left) and Rosemary Du Plessis.*

**Branches are invited to prepare a brief power point or hard copy presentation for the 2014 Conference with their suggestions for the future place and use of the Sir Clifford and Lady Webb Rosebowl.**

*Further details of the format/entry date for the presentation of the proposals will be in the next Circular.*

### Call for NCW women on the 2014 Honours List

If you know of any NCW members that have been acknowledged in this years New Year Honours list we would love to feature them in upcoming Circulars. Contact National Office with any info by email: [office@ncwnz.org.nz](mailto:office@ncwnz.org.nz).

### Advanced warning for Remits!

Next month we will be formally calling for Remits for the 2014 Conference, including the exact timeline for submission and amendments. However, if you are already thinking of possible issues, you may like a reminder about the process.

Firstly, consult the most current Book of Resolutions 1896- 2010 and the Appendix for 2011-2012 to check that the proposed remit is not already covered by existing policy. Once you have done all your background research, cross-checked and verified all your facts, word your remit carefully and ask several independent people proofread it for clarity and lack of ambiguity.

When you are ready to send your remit to National Office you will need to include:

- The remit
- The rationale
- The objectives, which must be achievable and measurable
- Consideration of any financial implications
- A practical follow up Plan of Action (eg. draft letters and/or press releases) so that the Remit once passed is able to be actioned without delay.

We look forward to your remits and action plans.

### *continued from page 1:*

*cultural issues and intergenerational conflict in their families. There is also still a lot of discrimination and institutionalised racism that plays a huge factor in young women's opportunities in life."*

Forgive me as these comments come from only a certain sector of society – a fairly well-educated socio-economic world, with access to the internet. None are young single mothers, or part-time/full-time working mothers, or those stay-at-home mums.

How do other young women feel about today's issues... money, education, relationships, travel, career, health, to give back. I doubt much has changed in terms of what women want compared to generations before us... however with the battle to get more for women – access, education, representation – we continue to have problems based around our unique economic and cultural situations. How do we as organisations serve these women? By collaboration, by not all doing the same thing in the same way, by being able to articulate our difference to the women we are serving. Issues facing young women are as diverse as the women in NZ.

Our issues depend on the environments we live in, so local organisations must focus on the grassroots issues that affect young women locally.

This year, listen to young women in your areas. Ask for their opinions on what you need to do, and actually do those things. Nothing new about that.

## Report from ICW

*By Christine Knock MNZM, ICW Vice President*

### International Council of Women Board Meeting and Regional Council of Americas Seminar and Regional Meeting

*26 November to 5 December 2013*

It had been a number of years since an ICW Meeting had been held in South America. The ICW Board made a decision in South Korea after the ICW General Assembly that we would travel to Bogota, Columbia for a Board Meeting and also hold a Seminar afterwards.

As I was to travel via Santiago, Chile on my way to Columbia, I decided to visit the Galapagos Islands (one of the places to see on my "Bucket List") and I went on a 6 day cruise, managing to see in person many reptiles and mammals I had only watched from the television (including the giant tortoise and visiting the Charles Darwin Centre).

We had a successful Board Meeting with many items to discuss and make decisions on, and we had the opportunity in the evenings to taste the local Columbian cuisine.

The theme of the Seminar was Women's Leadership in Politics and Economic Empowerment, we had representatives from Columbia, Guatemala, Canada, and the eight ICW Board Members.

Opening and Welcome speeches were given by Cosima Schenk ICW President and other Presidents.

A welcome was given by Cristina Guesso de Victoria from the Columbian Government who spoke on the "role of women in higher and senior positions within Government" and the capacity and professional development.

We had a message from a female who is the Minister of Foreign Trade and Defence, a security policy had been developed and this lady was the first women to be involved in Foreign Trade.

We had two Panel Sessions one on Human Rights and other challenges (the Moderator was ICW Board Member Linda Liu).

In the afternoon we had another Panel Session on Women's Economic Development where I was the Moderator for this session.

Panelists included Juliana from Columbia serving as Director of Banca de las Oportunidades, she informed us on a programme of the Government of Columbia that promotes access for all people to formal financial services.

Eunice from Guatemala spoke of her life experience involvement in Inter Family Violence personally and professionally.

Gladis from a town in Guatemala (a Major's wife with 9 children), she had received leadership training through receiving a scholarship in the US. Gladis had formed groups for women in her community (including indigenous women) who are discriminated against. She assisted in training women to be independent from their husbands, empowering them to look after themselves both physically and psychologically.

Susanna spoke on her life as an Entrepreneur, she had the opportunity to travel to the US where she did Fashion Design.

She had worked in a Multi National Company which allowed her to meet and work with women.



*ICW Regional Councils meeting attendees, Bogata Columbia, 2013*

She became involved in a project Anti-Aging Technology in Columbia.

Presentations we heard during the Seminar confirmed to us that there is no feminist movement in Colombia. Women who have a position in the Parliament, at the Senate, as members of the Government are mainly promoting their own image searching for their own personal success.

Colombia is amongst the most unequal countries in the world. The social stratification is such that it is a real obstacle to the equal promotion of women. Only a rich woman can struggle for a political position.

Inequality is everywhere: between social classes, between races, between men and women, inside the family, in the access to property, in the peace process negotiation.

In the last ten years, rich women became richer and poor women poorer.

**Continued... Visit to Foundation Foyer Bambi**

Some of the ICW Board Members had the opportunity to visit Foundation **Foyer Bambi**. The Foundation **Foyer Bambi** is a hope in the darkness. For those of us who attended we were impressed by the testimonies of young mothers who explained how the Foundation changed their lives. This Foundation was founded by the Swiss from private and public sectors about ten years ago to alleviate and save the life of abandoned children or women with several children they could not bring up. There are now a number of branches of the Foundation in parts of Columbia.

The Centre we visited was located in the South of Bogota, the poorest part of the city. The young women who come to this centre have the opportunity to come for training sessions as they have no support in life and who are extremely resentful against their family (beaten or raped by their own father), against society and the Government who are unable to provide any help or shelter. Social services in this country are practically non-existent. These women need not only financial support to raise their family but also they need training in different professions in order to raise their family. The most important need however is to restore their self-esteem, their self-defence and their autonomy and

this is an objective for ICW to look at supporting. The weekly training courses are given by professionals and psychiatrists.

For ICW, there is nothing better if we can restore a hope in women's lives. We brought them a slogan they were enthusiastic about: "I didn't know that I could do it, but I did it".

For me this was my first visit to South America and I am proud to be part of an organisation such as the International Council of Women which enables me to be able attend and participate with many women from around the world for the future of girls', young women and women.



ICW Board members in Bogota, Columbia 2013

**Commission on the Status of Women (CSW58)**

The fifty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women will take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 10 - 21 March 2014. The CSW is instrumental in promoting women's rights, documenting the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women. UN Women facilitates the participation of NGOs in sessions of the CSW.

The Priority theme for this year's CSW58 is: *Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls* and the Review theme: *Access and participation of women and girls to education, training, science and technology*, including for the promotion of women's equal access to full employment and decent work (agreed conclusions from the fifty-fifth session) - See more at: [www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw58-2014#sthash.gABGdbj4.dpuf](http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw58-2014#sthash.gABGdbj4.dpuf) Representatives from the Ministry of Women's Affairs, National Council of Women (NCWNZ), NZ Federation of Graduate Women (NZFGW) and NZ Women's Watch (formerly Pacific Women's Watch, NZWW) will be attending.

Those who wish to find out more about CSW and especially the agenda planned for CSW58 are invited to watch this video presentation which is an excellent introduction to the work undertaken during a CSW session. <http://webtv.un.org/watch/preparatory-panel-for-2014-57th-session-of-the-commission-on-the-status-of-women/2207516331001/>

**International Women's Day theme: Inspiring Change****Saturday 8 March**

International Women's Day (IWD) is a very special day for Women in New Zealand and worldwide. It will be celebrated across New Zealand on or about 8 March. *Inspiring Change* is the 2014 theme for our [internationalwomensday.com](http://internationalwomensday.com) global hub and encourages advocacy for women's advancement everywhere in every way. It calls for challenging the status quo for women's equality and vigilance inspiring positive change.

Women's equality has made positive gains but the world is still unequal. International Women's Day celebrates the social, political and economic achievements of women while focusing world attention on areas requiring further action.

Breakfast meetings are an important part of the celebrations in New Zealand but there are many non-traditional ways as well.

**Please let us know how your NCWNZ members will be celebrating in 2014.**

During the first week of the Commission on the Status of Women, International Women's Day will also be commemorated at an event on 8 March at UN Headquarters.

Source: [www.internationalwomensday.com](http://www.internationalwomensday.com)

## Education stalwarts receive New Years Honours

By Susan Manning, Education Committee Convenor

*It was very pleasing to see a number of women educationalists receiving New Year's honours – congratulations to them, and well done to those people who nominated them. In this article I give a brief introduction to two of them, Maureen Jehly and Cathy Wylie, who have both worked over many years to improve educational outcomes for our children throughout the country.*

**MAUREEN JEHLI MNZM**  
(Formerly Maureen Locke)

*Picture from NZ Herald website, 31/12/13*



Maureen is of Ngati Whakaue descent, from the Te Arawa confederation of iwi in the Rotorua area. In the 1960s she became involved in Playcentre with her young children (she has nine children), eventually becoming president of the Rotorua Playcentre Association. When she moved to Wellington in 1977 she started working at the Victoria University crèche, joining the NZ Childcare Association (NZCA – Te Tari Puna Ora) in 1982. By the end of the 1980s Maureen was the NZCA's training director, with a major focus on improving the situation for Māori children in mainstream settings as there were still many children (then and now) not attending Kōhanga Reo centres.

In 1988, the *Before Five* early childhood reforms were announced as part of the government's restructuring of education. Implementation groups were set up in 1989 to work out the details, and the early childhood sector protested at the lack of Māori representatives on those groups. Maureen was therefore seconded – to *all* of the groups. Despite the workload, Maureen made an impact on the thinking of the implementation groups, insisting on the Treaty of Waitangi being incorporated into the reforms.

Maureen continued to work for NZCA, establishing their Mana Māori training centre in Rotorua in 1992. She also established Tuporo, a bilingual early childhood centre in Rotorua specifically for low income families (now managed by Te Kōhanga Reo National Trust). After recently retiring from the NZCA, they awarded her an honorary degree for her lifetime of activism, innovation, and commitment to social justice for Māori and for young children.

**CATHIE WYLIE MNZM**

*Picture from NZCER website*



Cathy Wylie is a Chief Researcher at the NZ Council for Educational Research, and has been a part of that organisation since 1987. Her background was in social anthropology and evaluation of social welfare programmes and policy. Cathy has been instrumental in some high profile and large scale research on educational outcomes and policy, focusing mainly on the schooling sector. Cathy is the lead researcher on the *Competent Children* study, a longitudinal study looking at the effects of early childhood education on later schooling accomplishments and child development. The latest instalment, *Competent Learners @ 20*, was published in 2011. She also instigated regular national school surveys from the beginning of the *Tomorrow's Schools* educational reforms in 1989, and this, combined with other research she has done, has led her to write the book *Vital Connections* during her year as the JD Stout Fellow at Victoria University in 2011. The book is a commentary on the effects of the reforms, and argues that what is needed to improve educational outcomes for our children is greater connections between schools so that knowledge about what works in learning and teaching can be shared and built upon. Like Maureen, Cathy is committed to social justice and a world where education can make a difference for all our children, not just those privileged to be born into a family with money.

*Sources: Alison King, New Year's honours: Maureen Jehly, NZ Herald 31/12/13.*

*Helen May, Politics in the Playground, 2009.*

*NZCER Website [www.nzcer.org.nz](http://www.nzcer.org.nz)*

*Cathy Wylie, Vital Connections: Why we need more than self-managing schools, 2012.*

## Results from Family Affairs Committee effort

In December 2012 Billa Field, NCWNZ Family Issues convenor, forwarded a submission to the Health Select Committee's inquiry into improving child health outcomes and preventing child abuse.

In November 2013 National Office received an email from Select Committee Services.

*Dear all,*

*The Health committee has published its report on the inquiry into*

*improving child health outcomes and preventing child abuse, with a focus from preconception until three years of age. The committee would like to thank you for your submission on the inquiry. The full text of the report can be found on the parliamentary website at: [www.parliament.nz/en-nz/pb/sc/documents/reports/50DBSCH\\_SCR6007\\_1/inquiry-into-improving-child-health-outcomes-and-preventing](http://www.parliament.nz/en-nz/pb/sc/documents/reports/50DBSCH_SCR6007_1/inquiry-into-improving-child-health-outcomes-and-preventing)*

*A hard copy will be sent to you by post.*

*Many thanks*

*Arwel Hughes  
Clerk of Committee  
Select Committee Services*

Jean Fuller, commenting that Parliament does not move swiftly – most times, sent her congratulations to Billa and the Family Issues Standing Committee on having their contribution recognised.

## Women's Voices: "Is there going to be anything for the kids?"

*Our earthquake story focus this month tells us what was done for the children.*

Amber Henderson was completing an internship/scholarship with Youth Alive Trust (YAT) in New Brighton, which operates under the umbrella of the Grace Vineyard Church. Amber talks about the role that her organisation played in supporting children in the Eastern suburbs of Christchurch following the earthquakes.

Grace Vineyard Church had opened up their support centre on the Wednesday following the quake on 22 February 2011 and initially Amber helped out at the church and was aware that "There were some parents here that were wondering if anything was going to be put on for the kids". Amber describes how a mother said, "Is there going to be anything for the kids?" ... our kids have no school... they have no water/power... What is something safe that they can do? At this time, all schools in the area were closed until further notice and no one was allowed in the YAT building or any other buildings in the area. Grace Vineyard Church contacted the local police about using their generator for the programme, and also contacted Lianne Dalziel, the MP for Christchurch East. On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February, Amber's boss started up a kids' holiday programme. "As soon as that got started, I was there full-time helping out with that, and it went on for 15 days". They thought 20 children might turn up. In fact, they ended up with over 100 children on the first day and over the two-week period they ran the programme they had around 1500 children and their families participating.

Amber mentions that "we had teachers and preschool teachers that came along, that gave their time to do face painting, and arts and crafts stuff, and we had bouncy castles. This programme was free and was held over at Central New Brighton, We had Canterbury Sports volunteer their men... we had Tiddlers (a woman who does kids races)... We had magicians come, and we had Squirt the Clown from Australia. He came off his own back (he later



Amber Henderson

flew back to help with the post earthquake schools programme)". The police came and gave out drinks. The Funky Monkeys from Auckland came down to perform for the children. Zumba was being done in one area and a dance tutor from the North City Church was teaching the kids hip hop in another. The programme would then run for about two and a half hours. During this time, Amber walked around, talking to people such as the leaders running the bouncy castles, games, etc. and the parents, and children participating in the holiday programme.

Following the success of the impromptu holiday programme, YAT planned a number of other initiatives: Schools fun afternoons, a Football festival, and 'I love New Brighton' day, Year seven and eight 'EPIC' dance party and Break the Quake in Auckland. Once the children were back at school, Amber describes how "... after that, the schools wanted us to go round ... We did a fun afternoon which was a good way for the kids to see school in a good light compared to when they had last seen it - in more of like a fun, safe atmosphere". This included the bouncy castles, Squirt the Clown, Tiddlers, etc... They also had jewellery making and face painting. The local Pirate Band performed, and Cheapskates brought

down ramps and skateboards. Parents were invited. It was held during the last half of the school day, and they had a sausage sizzle among other things. Amber said that her time spent at the schools, "was really good and the kids... I sort of thought the boys wouldn't be so into it, but actually I think the boys got into making jewellery more than the girls did. A lot of them would come up and make something for their mum... It was good being able to talk to the kids as well and see how they were because I was new to the area... I've never actually been out here other than for the beach... getting to know the kids... it was good".

The Football Festival comprised of a two-week training camp with Wynton Rufer in New Brighton. It was a free event, with free drinks and food and it was held down at Rawhiti Domain - "the kids loved it".

The 'I love New Brighton' day was also held at Rawhiti Domain. They had a live band, bouncy castles, Tiddlers, circus people, etc. Cheapskates brought along rollerblades and skateboards. ZM radio station came out, faces were painted, and sausages were given out for free. According to Amber, "it was a primo day for it". Over 1000 people came out that day. Amber describes it, "It was a really cool day; it was really nice. There were massive black t-shirts saying - 'I love New Brighton'".

Break the Quake in Auckland was an amazing camp. "Youth Town in Auckland ended up getting funding for 450 young people in Christchurch to go on camp... all free, so flights, accommodation, food, the whole deal". The day that they were meant to fly to Auckland was the day that it snowed heavily in Christchurch, so it was postponed until October. In the end around 80 children went up to Auckland. "We went and saw 'The Smurfs' and we went to Rainbows End... We got to go to Eden Park, the rugby stadium up there.

Amber talks about her personal efforts during this time. During the

two-week holiday programme in February, she was working for YAT during the day, and also working at Coffee Culture in the evenings. "I would leave here New Brighton and walk to Merivale because there were no buses... It took two and a half to three hours to walk it. I was pretty exhausted by the end of it... I'd get there and we could scratch the silt off my hands. You'd scratch it off my face and see the silt and then my face and the silt... It was really gross... I did it for however many days the programme was running".

Amber was able to observe the positive effect that their programme was having on the children. She tells this story:

*There was one boy on the first day, he goes to New Brighton Catholic, he just wouldn't talk to me... A wee skater boy who couldn't care less, but over the two weeks... he slowly started to warm up... and by the end of it he was talking to me properly... By the end of it he'd let*

*me get a photo of him doing some jumps... That was pretty cool ... There were another couple of boys... and they were sitting by themselves... I went over to see how they were. They were... very down, but after talking to them they were all right, and they just sort of got up and went off to play... The highlight of it was just the kids probably being there by themselves, and feeling very alone, but then being able to come over and talk", then they were off and running around happily.*

Another important outcome of the YAT initiative was the involvement of the secondary school adolescents. Amber says, "We had action teams that would go out and clean up the silt... That was really good for high schoolers actually to get them out. That was happening when the kids went back to school, and the kids that went to Aranui High. The teachers were like 'actually if the kids want to stay helping out with

*the community, then we'd like them to stay with you guys helping out with the community, it's really good for them to be actually out doing something."*

While Amber began her time at YAT in "unfortunate circumstances", those circumstances contributed to it being one of the best years to get into youth work. "The need has always been there, but it's more in your face now, it's more at the top, people are more willing to ask for help now". Amber hopes that there will be faster responses to the post earthquake needs of people in New Brighton. She says that a lot of people did feel cut off and they need to know that "they haven't been forgotten". She says that "there is really not much out here for the kids." There is a need for more things for young people to do and to belong to in this part of Christchurch.

Visit [www.youthalivetrust.org.nz](http://www.youthalivetrust.org.nz) for YAT programmes for kids.

## What is the Treaty of Waitangi?

A treaty is a legally binding international instrument agreed and signed by two or more sovereign nations. The Treaty of Waitangi is thus an agreement which forms a contract or covenant between the British Crown and Māori hapu through their Rangatira. It was signed on February 6, 1840, by Captain Hobson, representing Queen Victoria, and eventually by more than 500 Māori leaders. It was written in Māori and called Te Tiriti O Waitangi.

It recognised the rights of Māori as Tangata Whenua of Aotearoa, as set out in the Declaration of Independence (see the October Issue of Circular). It enabled the peaceful acquisition of land for settlement purposes and ensured that immigrants could come and live here in peace. It allowed the Crown to exercise limited governorship (kawanatanga) in order to control British settlers' behaviour and regulate their settlement.

In the Treaty, the word Pākehā meant all those living in New Zealand without laws to cover them. It included all non-Māori. In the Declaration of Independence, the Rangatira expressed their desire to protect Pākehā who were here to trade or settle in the Treaty, the Queen agreed to arrange governorship over Pākehā living here without British law. Māori were abiding by their own laws.

In return, the Crown guaranteed the continuance of Māori authority and sovereignty (tino rangatiratanga) over their lands, villages, and everything else they treasured - including language and cultural customs -

and accorded Māori similar rights to those of British people. It also protected religious freedom.

### Who wrote the Treaty of Waitangi?

Captain William Hobson brought written instructions from the Colonial Secretary, Lord Normanby, but James Busby, the British Resident, and Hobson's secretary, Freeman, did the actual drafting from those instructions. The English language draft was then translated into Maori

by the Reverend Henry Williams, a missionary who had been here for more than 20 years, and his son Edward. This English language draft has never been found.

The Williams translation is Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the document that was agreed to on February 6 and thereafter. A subsequent version, written in English in March, differs greatly from Te Tiriti o Waitangi itself and this is why some people believe there are two versions of the Treaty.

A copy of this subsequent version carries the signatures of 32 Rangatira who signed it at a Church Mission meeting at the Waikato Heads, and seven Rangatira who later signed in the Manukau area because a copy of the Māori text was not available.

*Source: The Treaty of Waitangi: Questions and Answers published by Network Waitangi, 2012 edition. Reproduced by Creative Commons License.*

*Next Circular Issue: Are Te Tiriti O Waitangi and the English version the same?*

## On the focus of abortion law

*This letter was to be published following the debate in Circulars 556/558/559/560-1-2-3. An oversight meant that it did not appear in August 2013 Circular as requested.*

10 July 2014: Simonette Boele's 'Focus on abortion law in New Zealand' in the May *Circular* uses the phrase "ensure women's autonomy". Whatever way one looks at the question of abortion, the debate can never be reduced to autonomy alone, which is what she seems to be suggesting. There is always more at stake because there is a new human life, a separate unique being growing independently inside her. A new human life has human rights.

Recent research in Australia showed that amongst the general public 87% said that they would support initiatives that would reduce the number of abortions. In our own country abortion statistics are the lowest since 1995. Meanwhile it is disturbing that the Government is now being pressured by CEDAW to decriminalise abortion as a human rights measure for the woman but not for the new human being. New Zealand was the first government to sign up to CEDAW. There is nothing in this Convention that requires those who have signed to decriminalise abortion.

Ethne Wyndham-Smith  
CWLNZ National Social Issues Officer

## On the future of NCWNZ

**7 January 2014:** The Circular Editor, NCWNZ, Dear Madam,

We write as the four Branch Life Members of Whangarei NCW in respect of NCWNZ President Barbara Arnold's letter to Members of 6th regarding the future for NCWNZ.

The situation of women is vastly different from 118 years ago, and it is obvious that our organisation can no longer operate effectively in its present form.

While we appreciate that careful consideration to change is necessary, we query the need for an independent enquiry when there are many competent women in our midst. Furthermore, a review period of eighteen months seems a long time if we are, to quote, "already in crisis." We are disturbed at the thought of the possible cost of the exercise, and are concerned that the

Centennial Fund may be eroded as a result.

We anticipate robust dialogue on this subject and look forward to hearing the opinions from other members regarding our venerable and respected organisation.

Joyce Armstrong MNZM, NCWNZ Distinguished Service Award

Joan Howse, JP (Rtd.) Centennial Medal

Elizabeth Morgan QSM, JP

Audrey Trimmer B.A. Dip.Soc.Sc. NCWNZ Distinguished Service Award

—

7 January 2014: Dear Barbara, NCW Manawatu members met informally for lunch in early December. Although it was not a regular meeting, we did discuss your letter of 6 December 2013.

As a group we acknowledged the difficult situation NCW is facing and endorsed your efforts to maintain the organisation's viability.

We agreed that borrowing some Centennial Fund capital is a sensible option. One of our members expressed concern that NCW adhere to the terms of the Trust Deed. We are sure that NCW will be taking legal advice to ensure that this is the case.

We wish you and all the team at NCW in Wellington who are working so hard to maintain the organisation the compliments of the season and our best wishes for 2014.

Regards,

Deepika Gosai - NCW Manawatu Correspondence Secretary

*Note: The NCWNZ Board discussed our financial situation with a lawyer before these decisions were made.*

## Western Australian women not far behind us



*Women Leading the Way* is the name for the 53 brass plaques embedded in the pathway through the Kings Park Botanic Gardens in Perth to recognise the contribution women's groups have made to Western Australia.

They were installed in 1999 as part of the Century celebrations for Women's Suffrage in Western Australia. The Water Garden features many artworks by Western Australian women, with a Pioneer Women's Memorial being the first artistic element in the precinct.



## CEDAW and Substantive Equality

By Rae Duff, NCWNZ 1st Vice President

[Addressed to Summer Noelle, Radio New Zealand]

15 January 2014

I have been listening to your interesting discussion on Gender Equality. This is key to the work of the New Zealand National Council of Women (NCWNZ). The following is an excerpt from a paper Clarifying the concepts of Equality and Non Discrimination prepared for training of United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) delegates.

"The principle of equality is central to the CEDAW Convention. However, this concept has been problematic because the term equality for women is conventionally understood to mean "the right to be equal to men". The basis for this understanding rose from the fact that women faced gross inequalities in relation to employment opportunities, wages, access to and enjoyment of health, rights within the family, citizenship, etc. At this level of argument, being equal to men is understood to mean having equal rights as men.

The problem arose because equality is then extended to the understanding that women must be treated exactly like men if they are to gain equality with men or that if women want equality, then they must do everything that men do. The implication of this is that women must be treated according to conventional **male standards**. This obscures the ways in which women are different

from men. If rules of procedure, expected behaviour, processes by which a task is carried out, institutional arrangements etc., are the same for women and men, then women will be disadvantaged because of the differences between them.

The CEDAW Convention promotes the substantive model of equality and consolidates two central approaches to equality. First, the Convention stresses the importance of **equality of opportunity** in terms of women's access on equal terms with men to the resources of a country. This has to be secured by a framework of laws and policies, and supported by institutions and mechanisms for their operation. This is referred to as the **obligation of means**. But the Convention goes beyond this in emphasising that the measure of a Government's action to secure the human rights of women and men needs to ensure **equality of results**. The indicators of progress, in the eyes of the Convention, lie not just in what the Government does, but in what the Government achieves in terms of real change for women. Article 2 of the Convention enjoins the Government to ensure the practical realisation of the right to equality. Thus, the Government is obligated to show results, not just stop at frameworks of equality that are strong on paper. Hence, the Convention stresses that equality must inform the **practice** of institutions. This is referred to as the **obligation of results**."

## NCWNZ Media Release: Action is needed NOW!

Issued on 29 November 2013

The National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ) has been waiting impatiently to see an appropriate response to the Roast Buster scandal from the authorities. The response of the authorities has been too little and lacking in focus.

The New Zealand Government is a signatory to CEDAW, the UN Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The 2012 Report from the CEDAW Committee made specific mention of New Zealand's need to take action to protect women and children from violence especially sexual violence.

Barbara Arnold, NCWNZ President, said the type of abhorrent behaviour displayed recently by the young New Zealand males and lack of appropriate response by authority brings us into international disrepute. She said the NCWNZ Alternate 2012 CEDAW report to the Committee written by the New Zealand Non-Governmental Organisations clearly identified that many of the recommendations in the report of the Government's own Task Force for Action on Sexual Violence have not yet been implemented.

These included encouraging the reporting of sexual violence cases, strengthening the training of police, the provision of adequate assistance and protection for women victims and the collection and publication of accurate data on which policy makers can base new initiatives and the allocation of resources to implement them.

The inadequacy of police and legal systems to deal with cases of sexual violence has been clearly recognised by international and national groups for many years and it is high time that these issues are addressed she said.

It is to be hoped that the recent appalling events in Auckland will galvanise the Government and social agencies to act NOW to protect our women and girls.

NCWNZ encourages all New Zealand men to take the White Ribbon Pledge this month to never commit, condone or remain silent about all forms of violence towards women.



## Consultation on New Zealand's Constitution

Many NCWNZ Branches and individual members took part in the nation wide consultation, known as the Constitution Conversation. The Terms of Reference included a written constitution, the role of the Treaty of Waitangi, Māori representation in Parliament and local government, the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 and a range of electoral matters. There were 5,259 submissions from individuals and groups and, as expected, there was a wide variety of views expressed.

The NCWNZ submission can be found in the members area of our web-site at [www.ncwnz.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/S13.08-Constitution-Review-Sub-4-PI.pdf](http://www.ncwnz.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/S13.08-Constitution-Review-Sub-4-PI.pdf)

It was a comprehensive, balanced and thoughtfully worded response that reflected the diversity of our organisation. In response to the question about our aspirations for Aotearoa New Zealand, we said:

*"These could be summarised as living in a united, democratic, egalitarian country where there is no racial prejudice and we are forward looking while acknowledging our history".*

In November the Report on the conversation was released by the Department of Justice and it is available at [www.ourconstitution.org.nz](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz). It is an interesting and very readable document.

On December 5 the Constitutional Advisory Panel issued a press release, the key points of which are summarised below:

"While many of the Panel's recommendations on the constitutional topics acknowledge there is a need for more discussion and further development, the Panel has

made a recommendation to the Government on the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

Co-chair Emeritus Professor Burrows says, "The Act is seen as a fundamental and enduring part of the protections in our constitution. It's also apparent that people would support a review of the Act to explore whether it can be made more effective."

The Panel recommends a review of the Act to explore ways to limit Parliament's ability to pass legislation that is inconsistent with the Bill of Rights Act and to protect the Act from change. The review could also look at adding more rights to the Act, including economic, social and cultural rights, environmental rights and property rights.

On the Treaty of Waitangi, Panel Co-chair Sir Tipene O'Regan says "The Treaty is a founding document of government in New Zealand. Having heard from a wide range of New Zealanders, the Panel's view is that we need better information about the options for the future role of the Treaty. We can then talk constructively about developing constitutional arrangements that reflect this unique and diverse nation," says O'Regan.

The Panel recommends continuing the conversation about Māori-Crown relationships with a view to developing options for the Treaty's future role, and does not recommend at this time including the Treaty of Waitangi in a written constitution or abolishing the Māori seats.'

Source: [www.ourconstitution.org.nz](http://www.ourconstitution.org.nz)

## Korean delegation hosted by National Office



*In December, a delegation from Korea hosted by the New Zealand Korean Embassy came to discuss with NCWNZ New Zealand's gender-sensitive policy advanced cases and sharing with us their management planning of the Korean central and local government's Gender Impact Assessment.*

# NCWNZ Media Release: National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ) Files High Court Challenge to Charitable Status Decisions

**Issued on 31 January 2014**

NCWNZ has today filed a challenge in the High Court with a Notice of Appeal against the DIA - Charities' (previously the Charities Commission) decision not to back date the Council's re-registration as a charity. This follows the legal challenge made on 19 December 2013 against the IRD for the tax imposed during the 2 year 'stand down' period while NCWNZ were negotiating their re-registration.

As the charitable aims and purposes of the National Council of Women have not changed over 120 years the decisions of the Charities Regulator and the consequent imposition of tax by the IRD is widely considered to be unfair and wrong, said National President Barbara Arnold. However, she said, the Council is obliged to appeal against the Charities Regulator in the High Court, this being the only option under the Charities legislation. The Court's decision will have far reaching effects for the Charities legislation and Barbara Arnold said she expects

a clear direction for future charitable organisations. No voluntary group should be put under this sort of pressure in the future.

The National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ) is an umbrella organisation representing 30 organisations affiliated at national level and a further 40 organisations affiliated at branch level. It has 22 branches throughout the country attended by representatives of these organisations, as well as individual members. NCWNZ's function is to represent and promote the interests of New Zealand women through research, discussion and action. Barbara Arnold said this prolonged litigation has had a significant effect on the Council which has very limited financial resources and relies primarily on volunteers to carry out its work.

NCWNZ is seeking financial assistance with their court costs through a public campaign on the Givealittle website - [www.givealittle.co.nz](http://www.givealittle.co.nz).

## Plea for support

We urgently need your help as we challenge these decisions in court and would appreciate donations which can be made by **online deposit to Westpac bank: 030 502 0100 220 00** giving your name and 'donation' as references or by **cheque posted to NCWNZ**, PO Box 25 498, WELLINGTON 6146. Alternatively you can support our public campaign and make an **online donation: [www.givealittle.co.nz/cause/ncwnzhighcourt](http://www.givealittle.co.nz/cause/ncwnzhighcourt)**

## Focusing on the Future

*By Jean Fuller, Convener PWC and representative on the NGO Reference Group for the Retirement Commission*

*2013 Review of Retirement Income Policies by the Commission for Financial Literacy & Retirement Income*

**New Zealand Superannuation:** We all know someone who receives this benefit. Most of us expect to receive it when we retire. But what will it look like 10, 20, 50 years from now?

NZ Superannuation was begun in 1898 as an asset and income tested benefit which was set at about one third of the average wage. There was also a good character test to exclude wife deserters and prisoners. Asians were excluded and communally held Maori land was counted as an asset which effectively put that group outside the framework.

The changes have continued through the years but some ideas have been constant:

- compulsory savings have never been favoured,
- this is a bottom-line benefit intended to prevent poverty not an income replacement scheme,
- other policies contribute to the welfare of the elderly eg. health and disability services.

Now we are being asked to consider different policies as society changes. Population growth and longevity make

continuation of the present system problematic. Family support has played an important part in senior welfare but families are growing smaller and members are often separated from their older members. There is more encouragement for people to take personal responsibility for their old age. KiwiSaver is an important plank in this programme, but there is no requirement that when it matures it must be used for retirement income.

So how can the system respond to the challenges before our society? There is a wealth of information in the 2013 Review of Retirement Income Policies by the Commission for Financial Literacy and Retirement Income. You can obtain a print copy from the Commission or download it from [www.cflri.org.nz/retirement-income/policy-reviews](http://www.cflri.org.nz/retirement-income/policy-reviews).

Look for the acknowledgement of NCWNZ views in the quotes taken from submissions. Let the Retirement Commission know what you think. They are always looking for feedback. Have a discussion with a group or just tell them your own experience. This is an issue that affects us all.

## Human Rights Day and CEDAW

The 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2013 marked the 65th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 1948. The Declaration gave international recognition for the first time to the principle that the "inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation for freedom, justice and peace in the world". It declared equal rights for men and women, and prohibited discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, property, birth or other status in applying its principles.

The United Nations dedicated the 2013 Human Rights Day to the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in 1993, and the 20th year of establishing the Office of the High Commission for Human Rights (OHCHR). The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action stated unequivocally that the "human rights of women and of the girl child are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights."

The most significant instrument giving effect to these injunctions to ensure equal human rights for women, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women ("CEDAW"), has been enhanced by the Concluding Observations and General Recommendations issued by the CEDAW Committee. However despite the existence of international norms and standards, domestic legal systems in many countries still fall short of ensuring full and equal protection for the rights of women.

### Recent Submissions

There has been a great deal of work behind the scenes since the publication of our last Circular. NCWNZ made the following written submissions in late October, November and December 2013. If you would like to read the full submission, visit: [www.ncwnz.org.nz](http://www.ncwnz.org.nz) (Members' Area).

Title	Submitted to	Date
Inquiry into 2013 Local Authority elections	Commerce Select Committee	20 December 2013
Human Rights Amendment Bill	Justice and Electoral Select Committee	19 December 2013
The legal Framework for Burial and Cremation in New Zealand: A First Principles review	Law Commission	19 December 2013
Parole Amendment Bill	Law and Order Select Committee	6 December 2013
Publications and Indecency Legislation Bill	Justice and Electoral Select Committee	6 December 2013
Industry Training and Apprenticeships Amendment Bill	Education and Science Select Committee	6 December 2013
Social Security (Clothing Allowances for Orphans and Unsupported Children)	Social Services Select Committee	25 November 2013
Sentencing (Protection of Children from Criminal Offending) Amendment Bill	Law and order Select Committee	7 November 2013
Inquiry into engaging Parents in the Education of their children	Education and Science Select Committee	7 November 2013
Public Safety (Public Protection Orders) Bill	Justice and Electoral Select Committee	25 October 2013
Vulnerable Children Bill	Social Services Select Committee	25 October 2013
Credit Contracts and Financial Services Law Reform Bill	Commerce Select Committee	25 October 2013

Women and children, the disabled, minorities and migrants are still discriminated against and abused.

The 2012 Concluding Observations of the CEDAW Committee made specific mention of New Zealand's need to take action on a number of challenges that continue to impede the full implementation of the Convention. These challenges cover issues such as the recourse to gender neutral language with respect to gender based violence in domestic violence situations; pay inequality and pay equity; the employment, economic and social impact of the 2011 earthquake on women; the impact of government policy changes on the most vulnerable such as the financial cuts in legal aid schemes and changes to the Family Courts; and the adequacy of targets and benchmarks to advance women's rights.

NCWNZ endorses the statement made by Ms Navi Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights 'we have much to do if we wish to pass on a better world to a next generation that is better educated, more tolerant and less violent than the long-term human rights vision in Vienna 20 years ago.'

In preparation for NCWNZ's 2014 and 2016 alternate/ shadow CEDAW reports the next CEDAW workshop will be held on 22 February 2014 at Massey University's Wellington Campus. The 'Lead Groups' will report on the progress made on the Framework for Action. All welcome to attend.

*For further information please contact Rae Duff, NCWNZ Vice President: [randsduff@xtra.co.nz](mailto:randsduff@xtra.co.nz)*

## Keeping little ones safe at bath time

**To prevent accidents in the bathroom, never leave your child alone.**

**Keep bathrooms closed when they are not being used.**

### Bathtub safety

Bath time can be bubbles of fun. But you need to be very careful with your child around water. Most drowning deaths in children happen at home, mostly when the caregiver leaves a child alone in the bathroom. Do not leave your child alone around water, not even for a few seconds. Babies can drown in as little as 5cm (two inches) of water. Drowning is silent so you won't necessarily hear any noise or struggle.

### Ways to prevent bathing accidents

Here are some things you can do to keep your little ones safe at bath time:

- Stay close enough to your child so that you can reach out and hold them if they slip or fall in the tub.
- Use non-skid decals or a mat inside the tub to prevent slipping.
- Use toys in the tub to keep your child busy and sitting down, and away from the taps.
- Keep the temperature of your water heat below 45 degrees (lukewarm) to prevent burns. Always test the water first with your elbow.

- Keep all sharp objects, such as razors and scissors, out of your child's reach.
- Unplug all electric items, such as hair dryers and radios.
- Empty the tub after bath time is over.
- Keep the floor and your child's feet dry to prevent slipping.

Children younger than 6 years old should **never** be left unattended in the bathtub. They should also not be in the bathroom alone if there is water in the bathtub. Empty the tub after bath, and MAKE SURE that the tub is empty before you leave the bathroom.

Older siblings bathing with younger ones should not be put in charge of a younger child's safety, there should be always be an adult in the bathroom during bath time.

### Bath accessories

**Baby bath aids** are products like baby bath seats and baby bath rings that support an infant sitting in a bath. The suitability of these products changes as your child grows.

Your baby will still need careful supervision in the bath if you are using a bath aid. Babies and small children should always be supervised near water.

Babies have drowned while using bath aids.

They can be useful for those mums and dads with bad backs or those who simply wish to free up both hands while bathing the child. Although useful, it's important to remember that there are associated risks when using these types of products – and supervision is still essential.

A baby bath aid does not keep your child safe while in the bath.

### Bath Plug pop ups (depress-engage/depress-release type)

are handy but can pose a risk. These plugs can catch and trap hair and could cause your child to drown. Due to the simplicity of this product it can easily be manoeuvred by little ones.

### Need more information?

- See "Keeping Kids Safe on: [www.consumeraffairs.govt.nz/for-consumers/goods/product-safety/keeping-kids-safe](http://www.consumeraffairs.govt.nz/for-consumers/goods/product-safety/keeping-kids-safe)

Read information on these websites:

- Safekids New Zealand [www.safekids.org.nz](http://www.safekids.org.nz) – the national child injury prevention service, and a service of Starship Children's Health
- Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) – see "Child-proof your home" [www.acc.co.nz/preventing-injuries/at-home/child-proof-your-home/index.htm](http://www.acc.co.nz/preventing-injuries/at-home/child-proof-your-home/index.htm)
- [www.wellchild.org.nz](http://www.wellchild.org.nz)

Source: Consumer Affairs update, January 2014, Issue 14/22

## Petition by UNICEF



UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) have started a petition on [change.org](http://change.org) to support the launch of the Kids Missing Out report - and to help build pressure for action as we head into election year and the next report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

Please sign the petition and share, share, share!

Join the campaign: <http://chn.ge/1dO9Rme>



## Calendar

<p><b>February</b></p> <p>3 NCWNZ Board Meeting</p> <p>12 March Circular copy due</p> <p><b>March</b></p> <p>8 International Women's Day</p> <p>21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination</p> <p>22 NCWNZ Board Meeting</p> <p><b>April</b></p> <p>13 NCWNZ Founder's Day</p> <p><b>May</b></p> <p>9-11 NCWNZ Board Meeting</p> <p>15 International Day of Families</p> <p><b>June</b></p> <p>5 World Environment Day</p> <p>15-21 National Volunteer Week</p> <p><b>July</b></p> <p>25-27 NCWNZ Board Meeting</p>	<p><b>August</b></p> <p><b>September</b></p> <p>6 NCWNZ Board Meeting</p> <p>10 World Gynaecological Day</p> <p>19 Suffrage Day</p> <p>21 International Day of Peace</p> <p><b>October</b></p> <p>2 International Day of Non-Violence</p> <p>8 or 9 NCWNZ Board Meeting</p> <p>10-12 NCWNZ National Executive, Auckland</p> <p>11 International Day of the Girl Child</p> <p><b>November</b></p> <p>25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women</p> <p>28-30 NCWNZ Board Meeting</p> <p><b>December</b></p> <p>5 International Volunteer Day</p> <p>10 International Human Rights Day</p>
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### The deadline for material for the March Circular is Wednesday 12 February

Please send all contributions to the Circular Editor via NCWNZ National Office: office@ncwnz.org.nz

*Disclaimer: The views expressed in this Circular are not necessarily those of the National Council of Women of New Zealand*