



The Circular

No. 572 May / Haratua 2014

What's at Stake for Women's Rights and the Future Development Agenda?

By Rae Duff, 1st Vice President and International Secretary

The 2014 session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW58) held in New York 10 – 21 March, which focussed on the "Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for women and girls", will have important consequences for the future international development agenda that will come into force when the MDGs expire in 2015.

While there have been great advances in women's human rights over the past two decades, the current context is one of rising backlash and increasing regressive forces that use religion, culture and tradition to violate women's human rights with impunity.

During the two weeks, workshops, panels and seminars were held by UN Women and some of the 3000 NGOs and women's organisations represented. They outlined the shortcomings in the design and implementation of the MDGs and the lack of progress on gender equality that has hindered progress towards all MDGs.

Examples of structural inequalities such as persistent gender pay gaps, women's disproportionate share of unpaid care work, low levels of women in decision-making, discriminatory attitudes, norms and legal frameworks were highlighted and discussed. International Council of Women (ICW) presented an excellent panel discussion using the ICW-CIF 2012-15 theme as the framework: "Caring for Women is caring for the World: The Challenges and Achievements pre and post 2015".

After two weeks of intense deliberations UN Member States/Countries adopted agreed conclusions on the theme. The agreement puts the empowerment of women and girls at the centre of the global development agenda. They call for the elimination of "all forms of violence against women and girls, the elimination of "all harmful practices, including child, early and forced marriage, female genital mutilation and sexual harassment" and ensuring



"the promotion and protection of the human rights of all women and their sexual and reproductive health and rights, along the lines of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action."

There were also calls for women's access to opportunities and resources, including quality education, control and ownership of land and other productive assets. Recommendations for steps to achieve peace, security, sustainable development including environmental and climate change policies, and empowerment of women and their full participation in public and private sector decision making were also made.

The outcome document advocated for a stand-alone sustainable development goal post-2015 that addresses women's and girls' access to opportunities and resources, to be integrated through targets and indicators in the post-2015 development framework.

The safety, human rights, education and empowerment of women are pivotal in the post-2015 debate. UN Women has stated that "The agreement represents a milestone towards a transformative global development agenda that puts the empowerment of women and girls at its centre."

See page 10 for CSW58 photos.

Next Circular: Feature by Nive Sharat, Young Women's Caucus delegate from New Zealand.

The World YWCA led the Young Women's Caucus along with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). This safe space offered young delegates the opportunity to raise their voices. They drafted an oral statement to be presented to the member states of CSW58, declaring, "We (young women) are more than statistics — we are a valuable asset to the nations, a critical population group for achieving sustainable human development, but more importantly we are people whose human rights have to be at the core of any transformational agenda. Our voices must count in shaping the future of humanity."

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One action we can continue

At this time in early May I am in the midst of an intensive family time – a wedding, visits from family from overseas and most importantly the birth of my first grandchild. Our families are the safe place from which we go out into the world to take on all the challenges that our lives bring. They nurture us, sustain us through sorrow and bring us such joy and delight over the passing years. Our own families are our treasure, and the families that make up our nation should be thought of also as treasures.

NCWNZ can be proud of the achievements that it has worked for over many years to improve the lives of New Zealand families. In 1925 policy was passed asking that a married woman have equal rights with the father as the guardian of their children, and this was only one sphere of concern. Members have contributed to research on the provision of maternity services, training for child care workers, play areas for children safe housing and the provision of 14 weeks paid parental leave. This particular topic is still progressing as work continues to extend this out to 6 months.

The Social Progress Index (SPI), which was released in early April, showed that New Zealand is the most socially advanced nation in the world out of 132 countries. The SPI uses data from 3 main areas of social issues – basic human needs, foundations of well-being, and opportunity - to produce a more holistic understanding of a country's well-being than that provided by GDP alone.

As Nelson Mandela said, "There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children." In this respect it is encouraging that New Zealand ranks highly on many of the things that matter such as water and sanitation (1st), personal

freedom and choice (1st), and access to basic knowledge (2nd), despite ranking 25th on GDP per capita. The project's Executive Director Michael Green on Fairfax NZ described New Zealand's result as exceptional, especially in the context of our relatively low GDP. The US was ranked at 16th and he was quoted in the New York Times of 3 April 2014 as saying "The US has done better at investing in drones than in children."

Despite this promising report, we know that there are challenges for women and families in New Zealand. The SPI also rated New Zealand at 115th for obesity and 76th for suicides, and highlighted the gaps in the data around violence against women. Around the same time there was a report on the struggle that rape crisis centres are having to stay open with increased demand for their services in a climate of dwindling funding, and the announcement that one of the two safe houses operated by Women's Refuge in Palmerston North was to close because of lack of funds. We are all aware of the discussions around child poverty and the implications that this has for the long term prospects for those in this most difficult and stressful circumstance. We hear of the flow on effects in health, education, housing, and know that despite what reports such as the SPI tell us there are a significant and increasing number of our families for whom opportunity is limited and outcomes are poor.

For NCWNZ one action we can continue to undertake is to research what it is really like for the disadvantaged in our society, and to present those findings where it counts. This very important work requires the contribution of us all.



Barbara
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NCWNZ Conference - Friday 10 to Sunday 12 October 2014

The official opening for the NCWNZ Conference 2014 is at 7pm on Friday and Conference will close between 2-3 pm on Sunday.

We look forward to seeing as many delegates as possible coming to participate in the range of discussions and decisions that shape the work of our organisation as well as enjoying the opportunity to make connections with like-minded women.

Registrations do not close until 1 September but it is wise to book airfares well in advance. The Board will confirm the registration fee after the next Board meeting 9-11 May.

From the Conference Committee

Auckland Branch is looking forward to hosting the 2014 NCWNZ National Conference at Waipuna Conference Centre in Mt Wellington. You can check out the venue www.waipunahotel.co.nz and we have arranged a special accommodation deal of \$138 a night for a twin room there. Other accommodation options nearby include Sylvia Park Motel and Ellerslie Highway Motel. Waipuna is near the Sylvia Park shopping mall and train station, however public transport is not always reliable on the weekends and we advise staying at or near to Waipuna rather than in the city.

We also encourage people to consider making time in their travel arrangements to visit some of the important spots for women in Auckland, before or after the conference itself. We will be putting

together a list of possibilities, including Khartoum Place's Suffrage Memorial. We also hope to organise a welcome event at the conference venue from 5pm on the Friday, before the official opening at 7pm, so please make time to attend this if you can.

Finally, if branches, NOS and National Members are able to give us some advance notice of the number of people they are likely to send that would greatly assist our planning. Our Conference Convenor is Toni Millar toni@tonimillar.co.nz or you can contact our Branch President Julie Fairey 027 285 7734 or 09 620 9256.

We look forward to updating you again soon!

NCW Auckland Branch

Waipuna Hotel & Conference Centre

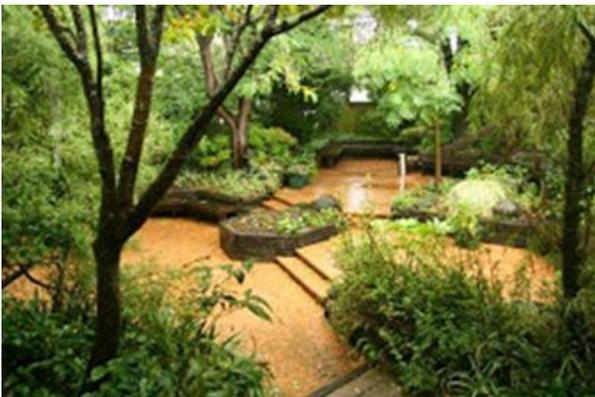


Photo source: https://www.google.co.nz/search?q=waipuna+hotel&oq=waipuna+&aqs=chrome.1.69i57j0l5.9522j0j8&sourceid=chrome&es_sm=122&ie=UTF-8

Our new Chief Executive, Sue McCabe

Sue started work on April 22 and has had a very busy induction period with Board members and Michelle.

Sue says she's looking forward to getting to know members and will write an article on her first few weeks in the role for the June circular. Sue welcomes hearing from you in her first few days and weeks - so don't hesitate to get in touch.

She can be reached on 04 473 7623 or office@ncwnz.org.nz on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.



Nomination for the Mary Fran Myers Gender and Disaster Award 2014

Barbara Arnold, on behalf of NCWNZ board, has nominated Rosemary Du Plessis for the Mary Fran Myers Gender and Disaster Award 2014 for her commitment and tireless work as research committee coordinator of the women's voices project for the Christchurch branch.

This award is offered annually by the Gender and Disaster Network and the Natural Hazards Center at the University of Colorado-Boulder US.

As co-director of the Natural Hazards Center, Myers recognized that disaster vulnerability is influenced by social, cultural, and economic structures that marginalize women and girls.

The Natural Hazards Center and the Gender and Disaster Network established the award in 2002 to honor women and men whose advocacy, research, or management efforts have had a lasting, positive impact on reducing disaster vulnerability.

The Mary Fran Myers Award recognizes disaster professionals who continue Mary Fran Myers' goal of promoting research on gender issues in disasters and emergency management. Also Individuals eligible for the award will have added to the body of knowledge on gender and disasters or furthered opportunities for women to succeed in the field.

Preliminary report on *The Circular* survey

Many thanks to everyone for completing our survey. Here is a snippet of the results on the overall satisfaction of *The Circular* - a fuller report will be included in next month issue.

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Not satisfied		2.3%	2
A little satisfied		4.5%	4
Quite satisfied		19.3%	17
Very satisfied		46.6%	41
Extremely satisfied		27.3%	24
Total Responses			88

A very special thanks to Liz Gordon, NCW Christchurch branch member for collating the survey tool and results.

*Liz Gordon PhD LLB
President, New Zealand Association
for Research in Education
Managing Director, Pūkeko Research Ltd*



High Court costs

Thank you to all those generous Branches, NOS and many individuals who have made donations to assist with the costs involved in appealing the DIA - Charities decision not to backdate the NCWNZ reregistration (see page 6 of the March Circular for full details of what is involved). Our current total is over \$9,000. We are still seeking 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.**

Important reminders

- ◆ Branch Officers information and Annual Reports are due at National Office as soon as you have completed your AGM in May.
- ◆ Branch Annual returns and subscriptions are due at National Office by 21 June 2014. Please contact National Office immediately if you have not received or have mislaid your form. It can also be downloaded from the Members area under Resources on our website: www.ncwnz.org.nz/members/resources.
- ◆ We are seeking proposals for the future directions for the Webb Rosebowl. Please refer to April Circular page 6 for details of this process. **Branches may submit multiple proposals if they wish.**

Seeking Finance Committee members

We are seeking people to join the Finance Sub Committee for NCWNZ.

This Committee informs the direction of our financial assets. Applications close on Wednesday 14 May 2014 - more details on our website, www.ncwnz.org.nz.

Nominations for NCWNZ Board & Standing Committee Conveners

It is time for Branches and NOS to consider nominating candidates for the NCWNZ Board of Management and Standing Committee Convener positions to be elected at the 2014 Conference.

There are a number of vacancies in Standing Committees as a result of Conveners reaching the end of their term but any of the following positions are contestable:

National President (1), Vice Presidents (2), Treasurer (1), Board Members (3), Special Officers being Conveners of Standing Committees (10) and Convener of the Parliamentary Watch Committee (1).

Nominations close on 9 June 2014. Nomination forms are available from National Office and can also be downloaded from the members' area of the NCWNZ web-site. They may be submitted electronically or posted. Nominees for Board positions are also required to complete the NCWNZ Police vetting form, available from the website.

If you would like to know more about the process or to discuss any of the positions please email office@ncwnz.org.nz and your inquiry will be referred to the best person to help you.

Under our Current Constitution, the following Rules and By-laws apply:

Rule XI Elections:

1. The following shall be elected by Conference:
 - (a) The Board of Management
 - (b) The Special Officers
2. (a) No person shall be eligible for any position on the Board of Management, as a Standing Committee Convener or as Convener of the Parliamentary Watch Committee unless she has served on the National Executive or a Branch Executive, or a Nationally Organised Society Executive.
 - (b) No person shall serve in the same capacity on the Board of Management for more than two consecutive terms, one year or more shall be deemed to be a full term.
 - (c) No person shall serve as Convener of the same Standing Committee or as Convener of Parliamentary Watch Committee for more than three consecutive terms; one year or more shall be deemed to be a full term.
 - (d) No member of the Board of Management shall at the same time serve as a Convener of a Standing Committee.

Camellia Fund

The Camellia Fund, formerly known as Cents in May, is an annual tradition in NCWNZ where each Branch or NOS makes a donation towards the running expenses of the organisation based on the number of members. Originally it was 5 cents per person but obviously inflation and currency changes have altered that. Some branches collected the 'levy' at their AGM and others developed a tradition of a holding a small fundraiser which was also fun such as a tea party, a raffle or a 'bring and buy'.

We are very appreciative of those Branches and NOS who have continued this tradition and hope others will enjoy reviving it with ingenious ideas of how to promote the fun in fundraising.

Wellington Board room available for hire

The NCWNZ Board room is available to hire during weekdays. If you require a room for a private meeting or small workshop, our venue is ideal. Our room seats 12 comfortably, has excellent lighting, a whiteboard and use of a fully equipped large kitchen. Toilets located on same floor.

Rates: \$50+GST half day; \$100+GST full day.

More info www.wellington.govt.nz/services/community-and-culture/community-directory/community-venues/c/central-city-boardroom-for-hire

- (e) All candidates for any position on the Board of Management shall undergo New Zealand Police vetting procedures prior to the circulation of candidates' names for election.
3. In the event of a vacancy occurring, the National Executive shall have the power to fill the vacancy.

By Law 5

- (a) Nominations for the Board of Management and Special Officers may be made by Branches, Nationally Organised Societies and the Board of Management.
- (b) Nominations shall be accompanied by the written consent of the nominee.
- (c) Nominations shall be forwarded to the Board of Management not later than 4 months before Conference and shall be circulated to Branches and Nationally Organised Societies at least 6 weeks before Conference.
- (d) The elections shall take place on the second day of Conference.

NGO Hui held in Hamilton March 2014

By Helen Stenhouse, President, NCW Hamilton Branch

This hui was the fourth held in various cities in New Zealand during the last eighteen months and it is planned that there be at least two others to take place during 2014.

Attended by approximately 50 representatives from 12 or more organisations, the hui was hosted jointly by NCW Hamilton, MWA, MWWL, Pacifica and YWCA and ably chaired by Elizabeth Bang from NCWNZ.

Margaret Retter MWA addressed the meeting informing those present of issues being addressed by the Ministry. Then followed the four keynote speakers: MWWL, NCW, YWCA and Pacifica. Each representative outlined the rationale for their organisation and shared information about their ongoing projects which, of course, all concern the welfare of women. There is a continuing need for women to be given a voice and each organisation endeavours to offer support and advocacy.

Representatives from all other groups who were present were then invited to speak. It was an inspiring occasion hearing from so many diverse organisations about the work they do within their communities and to note the parallels and issues in common.

Although we are all aware that there is such a great need 'out there' it was uplifting to listen to women who are so passionate about the work they do in their organisation and to recognise that there are many NGOs working creatively and tirelessly to provide a better deal for women.

You are in for a treat, Nelson, when you attend and participate in the forthcoming Hui in your area.



Photograph from left: Speaker standing – Awhimai Reynolds, GM, MWWL. Seated – Telesia Kalavite, PACIFICA; Helen Stenhouse, NCW Hamilton; Anne Bennett, YWCA Hamilton; Elizabeth Bang, NCWNZ; Margaret Retter, MWA.

Mourned

Dame Dorothy Winstone DBE, CMG

Dame Dorothy Gertrude Winstone, was a retired New Zealand educationist and academic. She sat on the Royal Commission on Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion which ran from 1975 to 1977.

The *Dorothy Winstone Centre Theatre* at the Auckland Girls' Grammar School built in 1988 is named in her honour. She was knighted as a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1990.

A tribute to Dame Dorothy Winstone from Dame Miriam Dell

I first met Dorothy 74 years ago when we were both at Auckland University College. Even then Her leadership qualities had been discovered as she was on the executive of the Students' Association. She was older than me and a few years ahead so our paths did not cross again till some years later. She attended the NCWNZ conference in 1970 and was nominated for the

Board and I became President. We very soon got into a close working relationship. She undertook the daunting task of revising the constitution and went about that with her usual attention to detail and methodical processes.

Throughout the ensuing years our paths met on many official occasions as we both held office on various bodies. I vividly remember facing her searching questions when I presented the submission of the Association of Anglican Women to the Commission on Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion.

Dorothy supported me, as I did her, in all our national responsibilities. We met at international meetings.

Above all she was a very dear personal friend, a friendship sustained by long conversations, and brief to the point notes.

Dorothy will always command our respect and admiration. She will be greatly missed, but never forgotten.

[slightly abridged by Editor]

Families Commission role changes under new legislation

Bought to our attention by Jean Fuller, PWC Convenor

In March this year, Social Development Minister Paula Bennett welcomed the passing of a Bill refocusing the role of the Families Commission, to house a vital new Social Policy Evaluation and Research unit (SuPERU).

The new 'SuPERU' offers a much needed service for the whole social sector to fill the gap that exists in New Zealand for independent, evidence based research around social services.

"By looking across the entire social sector, SuPERU will give organisations a clear and accurate picture of how effective their services are, and what could be done better," Mrs Bennett said.

"The NGO sector will be able to

call on the Commission to get support and advice on where it should be investing resources to get the best results."

The Families Commission will fill the role of the 'honest broker' described by the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor Sir Peter Gluckman.

The Bill also establishes a Social Science Experts Panel that will provide academic peer review of all research and reports carried out or issued by the Commission, as well as general guidance. This will ensure that the Commission's work and standards are of the highest quality.

"Good decisions are based on good advice, which in turn is based on good evidence. It's crucial that decision makers and

the public have the information they need to understand the risks, the opportunities and the trade-offs when making complex and costly choices.

"The Bill also provides for a more streamlined structure, with a single Commissioner down from the original seven. The Commissioner will be supported by a Board of up to six other members.

"This is a great opportunity to increase the relevance of the work the Families Commission does, and provide a refocused structure that families and community organisations will benefit from," Mrs. Bennett said.

Source: www.beehive.govt.nz/release/families-commission-role-changes-under-new-legislation

Doctors and Advertising – A review of the Medical Council's Statement on Advertising

By Judy Whitcombe, Parliamentary Watch Committee member

The Medical Council sought to review its statement on advertising and produced a paper for consultation. The paper addressed the use of titles by doctors and the use of discount coupons and gift certificates. The paper reviewed some of the national and international literature and developed proposals on which feedback was sought.

The NCW submission (S14.07) recently covered the 8 questions posed. We wanted the use of titles to be regulated so that only approved titles were able to be used by doctors and these to be

published in the Medical Register. The full title rather than an abbreviation was supported.

There was concern about the use of gift certificates and coupons by doctors and guidelines were needed. And doctors advertising non-medical products such as skin care treatments was not supported.

We asked to be advised when the Guidelines for doctors have been approved so that this information could be conveyed to our members.

Mourned

Heather Hickey

NCW Hibiscus Coast Branch

It is hard to imagine our dinner meetings without her smiling friendly presence. Heather had been on our executive committee for some years, including as Acting President. She will be sadly missed by her much loved and treasured family, her many friends and by members past and present of this branch.

Contribution by Colleen Edward, NCW Hibiscus Coast Branch

Women's Voices: "Things were changed forever"

In loving memory of Susan Mary Barnes



Our earthquake story this month is from Susan, a long time NCW member. It is with much sadness and a deep sense of loss that NCWNZ Christchurch Branch conveys the news that Susan Mary Barnes passed away on 12

March 2014 after courageously fighting many illness over many years.

Susan's earthquake story was recorded by Rosemary Du Plessis in October 2012.

Susan Barnes was a delegate for the Association of Presbyterian Women and in recent years took the minutes of meetings on her laptop, her guide dog, Sam, by her side. She provided much valued support to Judith Sutherland when she was President of the Christchurch Branch, and knitted numerous colorful booties for her grandchildren. Through her intervention, the Branch was able to meet at the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind when few venues were available after the quakes. She also advised the Women's Voices research team on how research material could be formatted to maximize its accessibility for blind readers. She has not attended meetings for some time due to her very fragile health. Read her full story at <https://quakestudies.canterbury.ac.nz/store/object/14534?p=248>

Susan was born in Christchurch, but grew up in Cheviot where her father's family has lived since the 1890s. Her mother's father and grandparents had also lived in Cheviot in the 1920s. She grew up surrounded by a large extended family and felt very at home and secure in that community. As a child she made frequent visits to Christchurch to visit her mother's parents and her father's mother, and she became very familiar with the city. Her first experience of earthquakes was in Cheviot where shakes happen quite frequently.

In 1981 Susan went to University of Canterbury to study English and History. At the start of her second year she was very unwell and missed a lot

of classes. That year she suffered from terrible headaches that were finally traced back to damage to her neck when she had slipped on some wet grass during the first week at university. She was also diagnosed with arthritis and given medication that should never be given to diabetics. This led to a series of health problems and a long period in hospital that eventually led to her losing her sight. According to Susan, "My body was basically packing up". She had been diagnosed as a diabetic as a child, but this was the first time her life was at risk. Susan was 22 and spent many months fighting for her life.

She had a lot of time to think while in hospital and this helped her to come to terms with the damage to her body. "I wasn't left feeling completely shattered. I knew that this 'me' wasn't just this sighted person and these things hadn't been lost just because I could not see properly". She decided that there was some purpose in her life - a reason why she had not died. When she was discharged from hospital in 1984, she got a letter saying that she was now a member of the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind, even though she could still see well enough to read the letter! She ended up becoming involved in all sorts of activities for the blind. "I became for a while a full-time blind person. It was all about being blind." For a time involvement in blind activities took over her life. During this time she also worked for several years for Gordon and Gooch in their magazine division.

In 1994 Susan got her first guide dog, Goldie. She was thinking about going to university and she knew she would need a dog to negotiate the campus. At the beginning of 1997 she went back to University of Canterbury and did a double major in Sociology and Philosophy. Initially she just wanted to sit in on a couple of Philosophy lectures, but in the end, she formally enrolled as a student because she had told so many other blind people that "it is better to try and fail than to fail to try."

In 2007, she graduated with a BA (Hons), First Class Honours in Sociology and received her postgraduate degree on the stage at the Christchurch Town Hall with Sam, her third guide dog. Susan says, "He is a really sound dog. He is a bit blokey on occasions, but his work is really good... He is really smart."

Susan was jolted awake by the quake on 4 September 2010. "When I woke up being shaken,

I first thought I was having a cataclysmic hypo... And then I thought 'this must be quite a big earthquake... this could be the end of the world', then 'if I am going to die. I am going to die in my own bed, thank you'... So I stayed in my bed."

Susan had not expected the aftershocks. "I was a bit surprised when they first started coming, but they were nothing compared with the whopper." She heard on the radio about the impact of the quake on Canterbury and Christchurch. There was an element of unreality about it all.

"Then the sun came out and that afternoon some people were doing their mowing... It seemed like only a minor blip for me... I had got off remarkably unscathed... Sam was fine; he was not turned into a quivering wreck." Before she went back into town, nearly two weeks later, she checked whether they could get from the bus stop to the pharmacy. "After my first cautious trip into the centre of the city, I don't remember being so cautious again." Things seemed to go on much as they had before the quake.

On 22 February 2011 Susan was answering an email message when the house suddenly started shaking and moving... "Sam came to stand beside me and I said to him, 'Oh, Puppy, that has to be more than a 5!' Then I finished my email and sent it off. That must have been about 12.51... But by the time I sent that email, there were people who were dead."

Susan later turned on her TV and they were talking about a body. And she thought, "I don't know whether I want to hear this. But I need to know." A number of people came to see that Susan and Sam were OK and she got a lot of calls. After the quakes people often thought, "How will she (Susan) manage?" But she did not really need any special help. She managed as well as most people did in September and February. "I was very aware following the February quake that I could not look after anyone else; I just had to look after Sam and myself... That was as much as I could realistically do... but it was difficult for me."

At the same time, after that quake, "things were changed forever, and not just changed, but gone. That hit me really hard emotionally, in a totally selfish way... I had been legally blind for 24 years, but combined with my memory and my sense of direction, I had been able to get around the city with my dog... I'd kept my mental map of the central city from when I had been sighted. And suddenly that mental map was completely useless..."

Eventually Susan went back into the central city

when she and Sam did their warrant of fitness with a guide dog instructor and managed to get around. She also went with a friend in March 2012 when people were allowed into the Square. It was a dull, grey day and she could not see anything, even with her face pressed to the wire netting of the cyclone fence in front of Christ Church Cathedral. All she was seeing was what was in her memory. Susan had a good knowledge of the central city as she had worked in the city and also found her way around it with three guide dogs.

After the quakes, Susan started to spend more time at Northlands mall. Together Susan and Sam started to get to know their way around. Susan reflected on this change in their lives. "We have made the transition from being central city shoppers, library goers, bank customers, all those sorts of things, to being 'mallers'... That has been helped by two or three people who we knew from the central city who have been working at the mall."

Susan started going onto the internet and visiting a number of different quake related websites soon after the first quake in September 2010. She went onto GeoNet and onto Christchurch Quake Map, but also Canterbury Quake Live, Chris Crowe's website, and she created her own data base with information on the quakes. Susan's talking book player 'DAISY' (Digital Accessible Information System) helped her to easily navigate through a range of digital audio recordings and she could use DAISY to download MP3 files from the internet and listen to them. As a result, her reading and her access to what is happening in the world was not been disrupted by the quakes.

Susan accepted that different people have different priorities for the rebuilding of the city centre. She said that: "I don't personally care about a covered sports stadium, but I accept that it can be important for some people". She thought that museums, art galleries and other public places like the Town Hall were important because "these things are about people and a sense of belonging". She hoped that "some of our past can be preserved and I hope that they don't just build concrete slab monstrosities... I can't quite get my head around the fact that I won't be able to see it, but I hope to feel the life and the spirit that comes back into the centre of town. It will not be the Christchurch I have ever known". While others have left Christchurch because of the earthquakes, Susan wanted stay. She stated: "I am here by choice... It is not just where I have washed up. It is always where I have chosen to be."

More photos from CSW58



Above: Magdalena Sepulveda Carmona, UN Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights and other young women making up the panel meeting "Making Unpaid Care Work Count in the Post 2015 Framework"

Below: ICW-CIF Panel "Caring for Women is Caring for the World"- Speaker Monica Tolman, Hon Vice President of NCW Great Britain and ICW-CIF Co-ordinator of Status of Women Standing Committee. At the table L-R Lopa Banarjee, Chief of UN Women's Civil Society Section; Celine Paramunda, Medical Mission Sister originally from India and Cosima Schenk, ICW-CIF President, 2012 – 2015 from Switzerland.



Left: Members from NZ attending CSW58 at the NZ Mission Breakfast hosted by Minister Hon Jo Goodhew.

Beijing + 20 Workshop: 24 May 2014

Venue: Rural Women, 57 Willis Street, Level 8 Willbank House, (above Unity books)

Parking: Closest parking is at (a) Wilson Parking Chews Lane, directly opposite the Central Library (Saturday, \$4.00 per 6 hour period); (b) the Public Library off Harris St; (c) the Lombard Parking Building on Bond St off Victoria St, and (d) Michael Fowler Centre Car Park (off Wakefield St)

Next year is the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action (BFP). The United Nations plans to review progress through a series of regional meetings and possibly another international meeting, either as part of CSW 2015 or independently.

In preparation for these meetings the UN has distributed questionnaires to member countries. They hope to receive responses from governments and non-governmental organisations.

The purpose of this meeting is to prepare a response from NCWNZ to the UN Women Guiding Questions.

All who are interested in the Beijing Platform for Action, the Post 2015 Agenda and the CEDAW Framework for Action are most welcome to attend.

Any contribution from your area of expertise will be greatly appreciated by the presenters and help in the preparation our report.

If you wish to discuss the issues prior to the meeting, please feel free to contact:

Rae Julian: raejulian@paradise.net.nz
Hm: 04 934 3447

Rae Duff: randsduff@xtra.co.nz
Mb: 021 297 9390

A potluck lunch will be provided and a gold coin donation (on the day) to cover the cost of morning and afternoon tea would be much appreciated.

**Please RSVP by Tuesday 20 May to Rae Duff:
randsduff@xtra.co.nz or
office@ncwnz.org.nz**

Which Treaty is the right one?

Te Tiriti O Waitangi, the Māori text, has primacy for several reasons:

1. Because Māori culture in 1840 was primarily an oral one, what was said at the time would matter much more than what was signed (the opposite of the British model). The missionaries verbally assured Rangatira that their sovereignty was acknowledged.
2. Te Tiriti O Waitangi includes Hobson's signature on behalf of the Crown and 543 signatures of rangatira, and is therefore legally the 'document of significant signature'. An English version has only 39 signatures - and those 39 Rangatira had debated the meaning of the Māori text, before signing what they believed was Te Tiriti.
3. In law, when the intent or meaning of a legally binding contract is not clear, the principle of *contra proferentem* applies – this means that the decision goes against the party that drafted the ambiguous provisions; in this case, the Crown.
4. This principle, when applied to treaties between indigenous peoples and governments, suggests the meaning of the indigenous language text has precedence over other understandings.
5. As well as the *contra proferentem* principle, it is necessary to remember that all of the discussions at the signings were in Māori. In Māori law the words spoken were crucial. Indeed Sir James Henare once said that the key to the Treaty's meaning and mana lay in the Māori text – "ko te mana te kupu, ko te kupu te mana".
6. Finally, the population was something like 200,000 Māori and about 2,000 Pākehā at the time of the signing. It is absurd to suggest that those Rangatira who signed Te Tiriti would have voluntarily given up their power to a foreign entity, after having declared their national sovereignty and independence just five years previously [in the Declaration of Independence].
7. So there are several grounds, logical, legal and moral, for giving precedence to Te Tiriti O Waitangi over the English version. Despite this, in 1975 the New Zealand parliament required the Waitangi Tribunal to give equal weight to both texts, the rationale being that both carry signatures.

Source: The Treaty of Waitangi: Questions and Answers published by Network Waitangi, 2012 edition. Reproduced by Creative Commons License. Next Circular Issue: So what did Māori grant under the Treaty of Waitangi?

4 million rising

One billion rising, a campaign set to spark a demand that would see violence against women and girls obsolete. How can one campaign do this?

On 14 February 2013, one billion people from 207 countries rose up and they danced. Any form of artistic expression, so long as it's a peaceful protest, to encourage solidarity. A global call to men and women alike that it's time to end the silence. If you didn't know about it, try YouTube. The word inspiring comes to mind.

Why February 14th? Well, it started with a play originally written in 1996 by Eve Ensler, exploring different feminine experiences including birth, love and menstruation. From this, V-Day was born on 14 February 1998. Since then the play has been performed in front of

thousands. V-day events are happening worldwide as a means to raise awareness on behalf of local groups working to end violent behaviour towards women and girls. One billion rising acts as a necessary next step, a new stage for discussion, where protest is encouraged outside of government offices, embassies, workplaces and police stations to name a few on February 14 of each year. The results are ground breaking. Nigeria is rising to continue their fight to stop child marriage. Los Angeles is rising to promote rape awareness and sexual assault in the military. Bangladesh is rising to lobby political parties to bring forward legislation that protects women at the forefront. Mongolia is rising to highlight effects of sexual abuse. Will you rise? 14 February 2014 has been and

gone, but our obligation to enforce equality hasn't. International Women's day on March 8th has celebrated and admired women worldwide. One look at their website see's that their determination to encourage the population to stand up never ceases. Many people have submitted their footage online, from single photographs with encouraging messages to dance footage for V-Day events. Enforcing this frame of mind can start somewhere small. Find One billion rising on Instagram @vdayorg or @emo_creature for hundreds of encouraging images set to motivate your mind.

Put New Zealand on the map. Begin to imagine what justice looks like for you, your community, your city, your country.

Source: www.onebillionrising.org

The Young Mothers' Club

By Zoe Hammond, Communications Student, Massey University

Where do I begin to wonder of the trials and troubles of a young mother? As a young student I perceive motherhood in a way perhaps out of place to what it actually takes to be that full-time caregiver. I can only assume that I won't understand until I experience it myself. What does it cost to feed a flourishing family? Is a family/work balance possible? What happens when your child falls ill? It strikes me that there are many important questions regarding what concerns the mother's of the next generation.

I spoke to one 27 year-old stay at home mother; she has a toddler, and a long term partner who works full-time to support their budding family. A rented house in a low socioeconomic neighbourhood, but a loving and welcoming home that has all that you would need to support a child. She explains that she hasn't worked in nearly two years, when I approached the subject of money she explained that she was more concerned with falling behind in the employment game. It was when I moved towards the issue of emergency funds that she was fully engrossed in discussion. "I feel people need to take more notice of surroundings and people," she tells me. She knows too well that they don't have excess money for many luxuries, but she believes it's the little things you do that count. She goes on to notify me of a woman that attends a local group, this lady recently stopped attending because she has a toddler who has just been diagnosed with a serious illness. She explains that she wanted to donate to this family, no matter how small the amount. She goes on to tell me that there are so many parents who don't seem to be consciously aware of their children. For example, sitting idly by on their cell phones and not always giving the utmost attention to their child. "It doesn't matter where you are or who you have with you, you need to keep an eye on your child because things can go terribly wrong in seconds," she advises. This young mother is concerned with missing even a small part of seeing her child grow, admitting that money is something she doesn't think too often about.

"If I can save a bit, perfect, but what scares me most is whether or not my daughter is alright."

When I further discussed emergency situations with a 24 year old mother, her response was discernibly worried. "I think a big concern is money and expenses, as in do we have enough for emergencies now that we have to take care of a little one." She goes on to explain that outgoing money is a worry for her little family. School, childcare, food, travel related costs, the list I am given is extensive. She married her husband two years ago and she is now a stay at home army wife. "I think everything has changed especially because with everything we plan, there is another person we have to think about." She concludes by telling me that her long term goal is to create a happy family, a smile lights her face as if in prospect of a happier and more financially stable future.

I was initially met with hesitation by one mother. At 22 years old when she was pregnant with her first child, she is now a full-time student, part-time employee, and full time mother to a toddler. "I feel that parents our age are almost forgotten," she tells me. "People see me with a baby and make assumptions of my character, who I am, and how good of a mother I will be." She goes on to explain that what she dislikes the most is the sometimes negative connotation associated with being termed a young mother. She explains that because she didn't fit into teenage support groups, she found it difficult to converse with expecting parents ten years her senior. In a position where she can move forward with study to build a future, she is concerned instead with a perceived stereotype of being termed as a young mother, preferring to simply be called mother.

After broaching the subject of young mum's with a variety of women in their twenties I was myself apprehensive, knowing that I would be met with such a variety of opinions. The concern for each child's welfare is enormous, and is perhaps the main thing that I have come away from this with.



Upon hearing frequent conversation associated with the costs of raising a child, the financial strain on many families is evidently an immense struggle. But the underlying concern remains the same, to build a safe environment. "Young mum", or not, mother all the same.

Action Item response: Beijing + 20 Workshop

Remember Beijing? It was the 4th World Conference on women, which produced the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPFA). If that document had been fully implemented the status of women worldwide would be very different.

Next year is the twentieth anniversary of the BPFA. The United Nations plans to review progress through a series of regional meetings and possibly another international meeting, either as part of CSW 2015 or independently.

In preparation for these meetings the UN has distributed questionnaires to member countries. They hope to receive responses from governments and non-governmental organisations. NCWNZ is planning a workshop on Saturday 24 May at Rural Women, 57 Willis St, but we would like to give those of you from out of town an opportunity to participate. The key questions are set out below.

Please answer all, or just those that are relevant to your members. If you can provide any evidence to support your responses it would be most welcome.

1. What are NZ's three to five major achievements in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women since the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPFA)? Why are these considered to be the major achievements? What has contributed to this success (policies, legislation etc)?

2. What are NZ's 3-5 major challenges in the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women since the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPFA)? Why are these considered to be the major challenges? Describe strategies that are in place to address the challenges?

3. What setbacks/reversals in progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of women have been experienced since BPFA? What were the major factors that caused the setbacks? What measures have been implemented to counter the setbacks?

4. What is the status of progress in each of the 12 critical areas of concern of the BPFA? Have any of these areas been supported by legal measures, national policies, strategies, plans, programmes or projects since 2009? (*Give examples*) Were these measures monitored?

5. Describe the obstacles, gaps and challenges since 2009 in implementing the key areas of concern? Were there any countercyclical measures

introduced to counteract the effects of the global financial crisis? If so, did these measures incorporate a gender perspective and/or include women as a targeted group?

6. Have austerity policies/measures, such as tax increases, cuts in public expenditure, or public sector downsizing, been introduced in NZ in the aftermath of the 2007-2008 financial crisis? If so, to what extent did they affect the critical areas of concern? Please describe the effects of such measures on key indicators such as participation of women and men in social and economic activity, including education and training, participation in labour markets, unpaid work, access to social protection, access to credit or entrepreneurship?

7. What are the key priorities for action over the next 3-5 years for accelerating implementation of the BPFA?

Refer to Page 10 for more information on the NCWNZ workshop on 24 May.

This Action Item is due 15 May 2014.

\$7 million increase in gambling expenditure 2012-13

Gamblers in New Zealand spent \$2072 million dollars on the four main forms of gambling in the 2012/13 financial year, \$7 million more than the previous year, according to figures compiled by the Department of Internal Affairs. In 2012/13:

- ◆ TAB racing and sports betting increased by 4 per cent from \$283 million to \$294 million, reflecting the continuing growth of race betting
- ◆ Spending on NZ Lotteries products rose 3.1 per cent from \$419 million to \$432 million
- ◆ Casino gambling expenditure rose 2.1 per cent from \$509 million to \$520 million
- ◆ Spending on gaming machines in pubs and clubs dropped by 3.3 per cent from \$854 million to \$826 million.

Details are available on the Department's website under Gambling Expenditure Statistics: www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/wpg_URL/Resource-material-Information-We-Provide-Gambling-Expenditure-Statistics

#nomakeupselfiecampaign – yet another view

12 April 2014 - This picture was posted on Facebook by a group of Otago University students, responding to the #nomakeupselfiecampaign. Their caption for the picture was: "We hate #selfies almost as much as we hate cancer".

I agree with Julie Fairey, NCW Auckland Branch President, that the #nomakeupselfiecampaign normalises make-up and therefore reinforces the ideas that women’s appearances should conform to a particular model of ‘beauty’ and that appearance is the first or major thing that women are judged on. Having said that, I am sharing this photo (with permission) because I like the statement it makes. These young women are not buying into the sentimentality or the guilt trip that accompanies such peer pressure campaigns, yet they are still showing their support for the cause. And they are doing this by *deliberately, creatively, and playfully breaking the rules of the game*: a political act of sabotage. That’s something I always admire.



By Suzanne Manning, NCWNZ Education Convenor

To the Editor

12 March 2014 - I want to commend Vanisa Dhuru for her lead-piece in the February 2014 Circular issue, titled "The New Year: Young women's perspective on issues today". Vanisa provided a wonderful snapshot of what it is like being a vibrant and engaged, multicultural young woman in New Zealand today. I think she also reflected what it is like for her generation, when constantly bombarded by choices and frankly, decision-making. One can imagine that at times this must feel like a wall of noise that is always challenging you, to get it right first time around. Right now, I love being a Gen X woman, because that volume of noise didn't exist when I was younger; it was comparatively peaceful.

A commonality that the generation I come from shares in part with Vanisa's, is our dissatisfaction

with what the New Zealand labour market has to offer. I can imagine young women's disappointment to find that after three to five years of hard slog at University, those well-advertised career paths currently resemble "goat tracks". Personally, I was vexed the other day to read a Government Agency advertising for an Administration Officer, and desiring this person to have a Law degree. I classify this as exploitation. Currently, my University degree friends are "doing odd jobs and painting", "ushering", "applying for any work going, even menial", because the options have dried up. Too many friends have already left New Zealand.

Lynda Sutherland

NCWNZ would like to apologise for not including this letter in the last edition of The Circular.

Recent Submissions made by NCWNZ

NCWNZ made the following written submissions last month. If you would like to read the full submission, please visit: www.ncwnz.org.nz (Members' Area).

Title	Submitted to	Date
Education Amendment Bill (No 2) 193-1	Education Select Committee	30 April 2014

CHOICE Project

Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC)

Family Planning health promoters have been visiting campuses throughout New Zealand in February and March. The theme is 'Study Hard - Play Safe' and will focus primarily on raising awareness around the influence that alcohol can have on sexual decision making. Many contraceptive options will be discussed, most of which are available to students at little or no cost.

Research conclusively presents that young women are likely to choose a more effective form of contraception when there is little or no financial barrier. In fact, women are more likely to choose methods of long-acting reversible contraception (LARC). The following information collected by an American venture, the CHOICE project, concludes these facts. Guttmacher, on the promise of LARCs for youth, suggests that "because there is virtually no possibility of user error, IUDs and implants rank in the top tier of contraceptive methods in terms of effectiveness."

The CHOICE project - The venture began in St Louis, Missouri in August 2007. The aim was to look at the results associated with reducing the financial barriers linked to effective forms of contraception. All of the 9,500 women enrolled in the project were given access to any form of contraceptive they chose at no financial cost. Alongside this these women were counselled on the effectiveness of long-acting reversible contraception (LARC). The results were staggering.

- ◆ 75% of the women enrolled chose a LARC as their selected contraceptive method.
 - ◇ Mirena Intra Uterine system (IUS) 45%
 - ◇ Copper Intra Uterine Device (IUD) 10%
 - ◇ Implant 20%
- ◆ Among the 14-17 year olds enrolled, 25% chose an IUD, 42% an implant and 22% made other choices such as the pill.
- ◆ On average, 77% of women continued using the same method of contraception after 24 months.

Source: www.choiceproject.wustl.edu

Refer to Sections 9.4 of the NCWNZ 115 years of Resolutions to follow the range of overturned and superseded resolutions about contraception, a fascinating reflection of shifting social mores.

The Circular No. 572 May 2014

New Zealand considers reclassifying several OC formulations for pharmacy -access distribution

On April 8, the New Zealand Medicines Classification Committee considered an application submitted by a retail pharmacy group to reclassify several Oral Contraceptives (OC) formulations from prescription-only to a category that would allow distribution by a pharmacist who performs required medical screening.

The group is requesting reclassification of progestin-only pills (desogestrel, levonorgestrel, and norethindrone formulations), as well as second-generation combined oral contraceptives. The application refers to "a growing call internationally to remove the prescription requirement to access oral contraceptives."

More information is available at: www.otctoolbox.com/news/contraceptive-switch-on-new-zealand-agenda.aspx?utm_source=OCs+OTC+Working+Group+Update%3A+March+2014&utm_campaign=OCs+OTC&utm_medium=email

Accessed on website: <http://ocsotc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/OCs-OTC-March-2014-update1.pdf>

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day: 15 June 2014

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (15 June) brings together senior citizens, their caregivers, and governments to combat the problem of elder abuse. The day aims to focus global attention on the problem of physical, emotional, and financial abuse of elders. It also seeks to understand the challenges and opportunities presented by an ageing population, and brings together senior citizens, and their caregivers, national and local government, academics, and the private sector to exchange ideas about how best to reduce incidents of violence towards elders, increase reporting of such abuse, and to develop elder friendly policies.

Source: www.timeanddate.com/holidays/un/elder-abuse-awareness-day

Calendar

May		August	
2-3	ICW Regional Councils Meeting, European Centre of ICW, Asia-Pacific Regional Council, Regional Council of Americas at Malta	1	Board/Standing Committees nominations in Circular
9-11	NCWNZ Board Meeting	September	
22	International Day of Families	1	Closing date for National Conference registrations
24	NCWNZ Workshop on Beijing + 20 at Rural Women, 57 Willis Street, Wellington	6	NCWNZ Board Meeting
31	Branch Annual meetings to be held no later than this date. Updated list of Branch officers to be sent to National Office	19	World Gynaecological Day
June		17-22	Women's World Congress, Hyderabad, India
1	CEDAW Reports on Concluding Observations sections 36 -38 due at National Office	19	Suffrage Day
5	World Environment Day	21	International Day of Peace
5-7	Global Summit of Women, Paris	27	(to 1 October) 3rd Forum on NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO, Bulgaria
9	Nominations for Distinguished Service awards to reach National Office as per Bylaw 6(b) (i)	October	
9	Nominations for all Board positions and Standing Committee Convenors to reach National Office as per Bylaw 5c.	2	International Day of Non-Violence
21	Branch returns and subs due at National Office Two copies of Branch Annual reports and Financial statements due at National Office	9	NCWNZ Board Meeting
July		10-12	NCWNZ National Conference, Auckland
25-27	NCWNZ Board Meeting	11	International Day of the Girl Child
		November	
		25	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
		28-30	NCWNZ Board Meeting
		December	
		5	International Volunteer Day

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The deadline for material for the June Circular is Wednesday 14 May.

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

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