



The Circular

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Making a Difference for New Zealand Women

Bringing Back Kate

The National Council of Women New Zealand is strongly backing Women's Refuge's call to Bring Back Kate during its annual awareness month.

Women's Refuge is invoking the legacy of Kate Sheppard to call for more action against domestic violence, as part of its annual awareness month and appeal campaign. Part of the campaign is the creation of a 3D sculpture of Kate Sheppard, that will bear the names of people who have signed it to say they won't tolerate violence. Women's Refuge will present the signed sculpture to Parliament as a way to call for more action.

In a media release NCWNZ put out to support Women's Refuge, National President Barbara Arnold said there has never been a better time to draw on Kate Sheppard's legacy.

"New Zealand can be incredibly proud of Kate Sheppard's determination and skill in making sure our country was the first in the world to grant women the vote in 1893. However, from being first in achieving this major breakthrough, our country should now be ashamed at our domestic violence statistics.

"In 2013, there were 11,700 prosecutions for domestic violence-related offences."

In the media release Barbara urged New Zealanders to act to reduce the number of women who are victims of violence. People could act through donating money, supporting the refuge's call for Government to have an independent inquiry into relevant services and systems, giving time to a group working to support women or becoming more vigilant to increase the chance they could identify someone needing help.

Barbara said she encouraged NCWNZ members to get involved in the campaign, through working with local refuge branches or publicising the campaign so more people engage with it. Barbara also used



Above: *Women's Refuge Chief Executive Heather Henare and NCWNZ's Dianne Glenn holding up a Bring Back Kate teeshirt at the recent Symposium on Women and Children.*

the media release to remind people that violence against women wasn't the only area of inequality remaining, 121 years after suffragettes successfully got women the vote.

"We've come a long way but we've further to go. Women get paid less than men, and are less likely to be in leadership or decision making positions.

TV3 interviewed Women's Refuge Chief Executive Heather Henare and NCWNZ's Chief Executive Sue McCabe in early July after the campaign's launch. In the news clip, which aired on the 6pm news, Sue also highlighted that more work to achieve gender equality needs to occur. To find out more about the campaign visit <https://bringbackkate.co.nz>.

Domestic violence highlighted this month

There has been much activity and media coverage of this topic in recent weeks. To reflect that, this edition of the Circular has a number of articles looking at this topic. In addition to this front page story, Dianne Glenn has contributed information from Women's Refuge's Symposium on Women and Children; we provide information on the Impact Collective's *The Way Forward* report and we run a Women's Health Centre.

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NCWNZ Board

National President

Barbara Arnold

National Vice-Presidents

Rae Duff

Shirley Payes

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Members

Vanisa Dhuru

Mary Gavin

Helen Gibson

International Secretary

Rae Duff

Circular Editor

Helen Gibson

National Office

Chief Executive

Sue McCabe

Office Co-ordinator

Ruth Harper

Office hours

9-4pm everyday except
Wednesdays

Physical Address

Level 4, 26 Brandon Street
Wellington

Postal Address

PO Box 25 498
Wellington 6146

Phone: 04 473 7623

Email: office@ncwnz.org.nz
Website: www.ncwnz.org.nz

Elections - it's decision time

As you are all aware, next month is when the general election takes place. Every time this happens, or there is a local authority election, I am profoundly grateful to Kate Sheppard and her colleagues who worked so hard and for so long to get us the right to vote and participate as full citizens in the governing of New Zealand. Like me you will be giving thoughtful consideration to your local candidates and the different political parties and their policies; there is certainly much to weigh up. What are the proposals in areas that each of us cares about? How will policies affect women and their families? What is the likely diversity in parliament, and will this reflect the diversity of our population? Will there be cross-party co-operation where challenges are universal? What sort of a future do we want for New Zealand?

Many of you will also have provided opportunities for others in the community to hear what candidates have to say and find out for themselves the proposals each party is promoting. While this information is also available through news media, door knocking, posters and pamphlet drops, gatherings to meet candidates enable listeners to evaluate the human factors that are more difficult to convey. To what extent are listening skills in evidence? Do candidates treat each other with courtesy? What are their facial expressions, tones of voice? These factors can also influence us as we make our choices. We do need to take care, though, that our prejudices and pre-conceived ideas do not blind us to the merits of arguments presented.

At Conference in October we will be undertaking the process of putting in place a new Board of Management and Convenors. It is important to note that this will take place under the already existing Constitution; should

the revised Constitution be accepted by the Conference it becomes the operating document only once it has satisfied the Registrar of Incorporated Societies that the new rules comply with the Incorporated Societies Act and this will not happen until after Conference. You will have seen in the July Circular that there are nominations for all of the positions on the Board except for a Treasurer. Aida Tavassoli was co-opted to fill this position until Conference 2014 and we are greatly appreciative of her expertise and the time and energy that she has donated to NCWNZ. She is not able to continue in this role and so this gap is a major handicap to how well we can operate.

Another significant limitation is if there are not Convenors to head up standing committees. You will notice that there is a joint nomination for the position of Public Issues Convener; this is an initiative that the Board welcomes as a way of managing workload for busy people. It also has the benefit that it draws on the expertise of two people rather than an individual thinking that they have to know everything about the portfolio. Another possible scenario would be to have a branch take on the convener role and delegate the tasks among the members.

Think carefully about whether any of these mechanisms would enable you to take a further step into leadership as well as a different contribution to our organisation.



Barbara

Keeping gender on the agenda

Gender equality-related issues have been reasonably high profile so far in the lead-up to this year's general election.

The activity of our member organisations has helped this, for example the Symposium on Women and Children featured in this newsletter. At this Labour Leader David Cunliffe apologised for being a man because violence is mostly caused by men – which in turn, sparked further discussion.

As well as our national members seeking change, many branches are busy organising election events, with the Lower Hutt Branch debate profiled in this edition. Your focus on this area is great. As well as making a difference at your electorate level, it provides a solid foundation for us to brief incoming politicians after the election on gender equality issues.

Suffrage Day this year falls the day before the general election on September 20. A volunteer is putting together a Suffrage Day plan which will include action at a national level as well as ideas on what you might like to do locally. It will dovetail in with or extend any planned activity to inform voters

of gender equality issues.

By the end of July we'll have our plan on our website under the members' section which will include ideas, key messages, and template media releases for branches. Please tell us your ideas.

One of the places where heaps of gender equality activity happens is online, and it's inspiring and energising to see the diverse range of groups contributing in different ways. I'm finding it a great way to keep up with and support many of our national members' activities, as well our international counterparts. If you're on facebook, please make sure you check out and like our page and encourage your friends and contacts to do the same.



Sue McCabe
NCWNZ Chief Executive

Constitution and conference update

As this edition of *The Circular* is being distributed, the Board is having its regular two-monthly meeting.

At this session we are discussing both the conference and the constitution, including covering the questions some of you have sent in. Thanks for your engagement with us on the conference and

the proposed new constitution we sent out in early June.

Following this meeting, we'll email out an update by Friday, 1 August containing more information on the conference programme and aim to provide answers to various questions and correspondence we've received.

Entries open for Enterprising Rural Women Awards

Entries are open for the Enterprising Rural Women Awards 2014. Last year's supreme winner, Diane Coleman, of Treeline Native Nursery in Rotorua, says business is booming after the publicity that followed her win.

"Winning this award has been a once in a lifetime opportunity that was challenging, exciting, scary, fun, humbling and has really put my business on the map," Diane says.

To enter the awards, women have to own and operate a small business with less than 10 full time equivalent staff, based in a rural area. The business must have been running for at least two years. If in partnership, women must be an active partner of 50 percent or more in the business. Entries close Friday 5 September. Visit www.ruralwomen.org.nz/enterprisingruralwomen for more information.

Hutt Valley candidate debate

There's no hope! So let's just party in this election year.

By *Suzanne Manning, Lower Hutt Branch*

There's no hope! So let's just party in this election year. This was the moot for a recent debate organised by the Hutt Valley branch.

The team of political candidates were, of course (!), asked to affirm the moot while the team of college students took the negative side.

Holly Walker (Greens), Chris Bishop (National) and Chris Hipkins (Labour), after first reminding the audience that they were debating rather than airing their personal or party views, proceeded to argue that there was no hope because the current politicians were doing such a bad job.

The semi-serious arguments covered inaction on reducing inequality or climate change, the foibles of the current politicians and jokes which really had nothing to do with the moot but were well received regardless.



Above: Political candidates Chris Hipkins and Holly Walker wait for their turn to humorously debate that people should just party in election

Their opposition was from Sacred Heart Girls College - Alex Garcia, Ishani Sukuraman, Martina Steiner, with Natalie Shackleton as the reserve. The young women argued that the adults had a responsibility for ensuring the younger generation were cared for, now and in the future, and if the adults gave up, where would they be?

They didn't make a good job of convincing us that they were powerless and without a voice – proving, in fact, just the opposite!

For us at the branch, the evening was a success. A forum was provided for voters to see how political candidates react in a less serious situation; young women were involved in a politically orientated event; there was an opportunity to showcase the work of NCWNZ to a wider audience including young people and their families; and we made a good amount of money to send our delegates to this year's NCWNZ conference.



Above: Sacred Heart Girls College students Alex Garcia, Ishani Sukuraman and Martina Steiner preparing to debate the politicians in Lower Hutt.

Branch election activity

Many branches are getting stuck into events and activity around the general election.

On July 29, a Women's Debate in Wellington is taking place that will feature:

- Carol Beaumont – New Zealand Labour Party
- Jo Goodhew – New Zealand National Party
- Jan Logie – Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand
- Tariana Turia – Māori Party
- Tracey Martin – NZ First Party

This debate is being co-hosted by Graduate Women Wellington, National Council of Women Wellington and Zonta Wellington. Doors open with refreshments at 5.30pm, and the debate starts at 6pm at Lecture Theatre 1, Rutherford House, Victoria University of Wellington



Women's Voices

Raewyn Iketau's Story

The three-part television series *Hope and Wire* has just finished screening. This series, directed by Gaylene Preston, told the aftermath of the Christchurch earthquakes. A lead character was Joycie. Joycie's character was based on Raewyn Iketau - one of the people interviewed for *Women's Voices*, a research project by NCWNZ's Christchurch Branch. An edited version of the interview with Raewyn follows.



Photo of Raewyn Iketau and Partner Charlie Duthie (L) talking about the TV show

Raewyn has lived in Christchurch for the last five years with her partner, Charlie, who has been working on the installation of the city's tram tracks. Raewyn has three children in the North Island from a previous marriage.

Raewyn was on the West Coast during the September earthquake. But at the time of the February earthquake, Raewyn was at a Christchurch city restaurant and she crawled under a little table.

After the earthquake she ran home. "Over all the holes, over the bridge, around the corner and, of course, all the shops had fallen down. There was glass and things falling down. There were people everywhere".

Raewyn and Charlie were living in Peterborough Street in the central city, in the back flat of an old house. They have two Pekinese dogs. "They have been with me ever since I met my partner; they are like our children; they sleep on our bed and they have what we eat. They are absolutely spoilt rotten".

She found the dogs in the garden. "One was under the leaves, in the potato patch, and the other one was in the tomatoes, they were absolutely shaking". Alone with the dogs, she "didn't know what to do because I couldn't get hold of anybody on the phone". Charlie came home late afternoon. "He had rescued a couple of people from under steel girders and rigs; got them out and the ambulance took them."

Once things had settled down, Raewyn and Charlie

"decided we were going to stay where we were, in the Red Zone. We made a long-drop in the back of the garden. We built ourselves a BBQ from the bricks from next door's wall and heated water for our bath, and anything else. We just decided we had to 'bum-up and head-down' and stay where we were and we managed. We had a lot of fun, but I wouldn't want to go through it again".

The damage to their flat was not too bad. An add-on to a two-story house, it had separated slightly from the main house, leaving a small gap. The flat had moved nearly half an inch off the foundations, but Raewyn said it was still on good solid foundations.

They were renting "so we got on the phone to the landlady and said, 'we're not paying \$160 a week, we'll give you \$80 and if you don't like it we'll move out' but the landlady agreed... There were quite a few cracks along the roof, and in the big bricks in the fireplace, and a bit where you go to shut the outside door. It wouldn't shut, but there were no broken windows". The worst impact for Raewyn was "all my preserves fell out of the pantry and were smashed. I think that hit me the hardest". However, access to basic services was another story. "We had no power and no water for three months."

Raewyn is resourceful. "We had a nice clean yellow recycle bin. That was my water bin. And up around the corner at Euro Cars, in Salisbury Street, was an underground tank."

Raewyn found a shopping trolley and "I put all my

buckets in it to take home. I would fill them up and put them into the yellow bin, and return for a fill up". She continued doing this "until they cordoned off the top end of Salisbury Street. We couldn't get in then. So I put the ladder over next door's fence into the Play Centre in Salisbury Street and hooked my hose up to their tap".

"Have faith in yourself. Don't listen to what other people say. If you think you can do it or maybe you think you can't do it, at least try..."

Raewyn and Charlie found it difficult coming and going from their Red Zone home. "It was really difficult because you had to have a letter with your name and address on it and another form of identification. The only thing I had was a passport that had expired, and half the time they said it wasn't good enough. "Well, that's all I have. There's my photo; this is me. You can tell it's me".

Then the authorities put a time limit on coming in and going out for vehicles. "Charlie was working sometimes until ten o'clock at night, doing sewerage pipes and that. He would park the truck in Salisbury Street and walk through, and then go around there in the morning and get it. But no, it wasn't nice".

The 'munted' houses surrounding their home were a good source of firewood, for heating water and cooking. Raewyn was stopped and questioned many times by the police.

Raewyn and Charlie left Peterborough Street after the June earthquake. They stayed a month with a friend while they tried 37 places before finding a flat. They couldn't go back to Peterborough Street as it had moved further off its foundations and windows had cracked.

Raewyn is philosophical. Her health suffered a little, but she is "all right at the moment." She has "met so many different people. It has given me the confidence to know that I can survive, and to say what I need to say; and to encourage people that if you don't think you can do it, just give it a

go. Just try. If you just put your mind to it you'll be surprised what you can accomplish".

Raewyn is renowned in her community for her resourcefulness. "Where I live there's lots of fruit trees. I ride a bicycle and notice lots and lots of fruit trees. After people have knocked their houses down, or even if people are living there, I will go and knock on the door". She makes jams and chutneys.

"I went to the refuse centre out at Hornby and got all the jars we needed for free. Last year I made 372 jars of jam, and 174 jars of chutney, and I gave most of them away to the community. And that makes me very proud".

One of Raewyn's Peterborough Street neighbours contacted *The Press* newspaper for a photographer to visit Raewyn. Now she is recognised in the supermarket.

Raewyn claims this publicity boosted her confidence. "I like to think it's not being a 'star'; it's just explaining to people that it doesn't matter how hard things get, just hang in there. There's always a shiny light at the other end of the tunnel".

Raewyn and Charlie will return to the West Coast. "We have a home, a little A-frame house over on the West Coast, in Cobden, Greymouth. It's only across the river to the whitebait patch and a couple of miles up the road to the mussel patch. We are going to build some vegetable bins and we will become a couple of old hippies! But we will go home".

Raewyn has a message for others: "Have faith in yourself. Don't listen to what other people say. If you think you can do it, or maybe you think you can't do it, at least try. If you succeed you know you have done it, but, if you don't succeed, pat yourself on the back for trying, because that's the most important thing that I have found out through all of this. If you don't try you will never ever know. You will never work it out. You have got a brain up here; it is what we were given. A lot of men don't allow their wives or partners to use a brain, but you use it on your own. And it's brilliant!"

— *Extract from interview recorded on 24 July 2013*

Hot off the press – Latest report on domestic violence

The Impact Collective released its report *The Way Forward* on July 21. In a New Zealand Herald article the authors call their proposal an integrated "one door, right door" system to replace a "broken, fragmented and inconsistent" approach. The authors say integrating services instead of funding services that operated in isolation would add \$22 million to the \$70 million the state already spends on 774 separate family violence services. An article from the Family Violence Clearinghouse that summarises the report follows.

The Impact Collective has released a report proposing the establishment of an integrated system to better address intimate partner violence (IPV) and child abuse and neglect (CAN).

'The Way Forward - An Integrated System for Intimate Partner Violence and Child Abuse and Neglect in New Zealand' was written by Ruth Herbert and Deb Mackenzie, in partnership with Violence Free Network Wairarapa (VFNW). VFNW is an interagency network of providers working to eliminate family violence in the Wairarapa region.

The authors say they seek to help "prompt a collective conversation" about why a different approach is needed and how an integrated system would help effect long term, sustainable change.

They describe an integrated system as a "formal and proactive response whereby all agencies will deliver consistent and safe services. Complex problems such as IPV and CAN involve multiple agencies and individuals, each with differing responsibilities and



Deborah Mackenzie

They write, "The New Zealand and international



Ruth Herbert

working on different parts of the problem. An integrated system for IPV and CAN is where all agencies and individuals who are either directly or indirectly involved at all levels operate as one system."

evidence is clear that in a high proportion of families IPV and CAN and sexual violence are all occurring. The system that responds to CAN must be integrated with the system that responds to IPV. Strategies aimed at addressing CAN are less likely to be successful unless any current or past IPV is also addressed and vice versa."

In contrast, they conclude that "at present, the system is broken, fragmented and inconsistent, has gaps and overlaps and no infrastructure to hold together all the services and outcomes."

"Organisational practice is inconsistent. There is no standardised approach for identifying and managing high risk cases. There are no clear lines of accountability, no mechanisms to repair parts of the system when things go wrong and no evidence-based and standardised safety planning processes to ensure all those travelling the system are safe. Services are fully stretched and there is no way we can keep loading more cases into the current system. Meanwhile we focus on temporary repairs - minor adjustments and short-term initiatives, thinking that if we just did one or two more things we could fix the problem."

The infrastructure of the integrated system they propose would consist of a national "backbone agency" and approximately 32 regional hubs. Rather than replacing what already occurs, it would incorporate and build on existing networks, agencies and multi-agency processes; fill gaps and remove overlaps and inconsistencies; and provide infrastructure and processes to link and support all parts of the system to work together.

The report also considers the financial implications of introducing an integrated system. The authors state that investing in the system they propose would produce a 15-fold diminishing return on investment. To view the report visit http://www.theimpactcollective.co.nz/thewayforward_210714.pdf

The New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse is the national centre for collating and disseminating information about domestic and family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand. To learn more about it or subscribe to receive its news go to <http://www.nzfvc.org.nz>

Symposium puts the political spotlight on domestic violence

By Dianne Glenn JP. President NCW Papakura/Franklin Branch

The July 4 Women's Refuge Symposium on Women and Children, promised a state of the nation discussion on life for women and children in New Zealand in 2014. It had a number of riveting speakers. This article focuses on the talks by politicians.

Women's Refuge Chief Executive Heather Henare stated in her opening address that there is nothing like a refuge symposium to bring out political statements, especially in an election year. She indicated it was a special day "to listen to the 500 voices of survivors of domestic violence and to find out what we can learn from death reviews of the women, men and children who have died.

"We all know the cost of domestic violence in New Zealand – we know what needs to happen to address it, but we are not doing so. Key issues are the ongoing failure to acknowledge this as a gender issue – overwhelmingly men over women. Many continue to think it is a "relationship" issue, myths remain which make it harder for women to leave an abusive partner," Heather said.

She said few political parties sought the refuge's expertise, and most of the recent political announcements missed the gender issue. 20,000 women and children use refuge services annually – 209 are housed per night.

"There needs to be a groundswell of public opinion to make a difference – what can all of us do to create a change? We need to harness everyone's energy and resources. That is what today is about as we launch Women's Refuge Awareness Month and Annual Appeal Campaign".

Tina Cross, a long-time refuge supporter, wrote Walk Away to give women a voice and gifted it to Women's Refuge as a fundraiser. It can be bought online. Her stirring rendition of this song set the symposium's tone. She was followed by Shakti's Shasha Ali, who requested a two-minute silence for women who have lost their lives to domestic violence. Shasha reminded us of the plight of many ethnic women - Middle Eastern, African and Asian - who are left out of the political landscape, marginalised and whose voices are increasingly silenced.

Satchi and Satchi then launched the campaign Bring Back Kate. The advertising agency has

supported Women's Refuge for 13 years.

Political party representatives were then asked to keep "Gender on the Agenda" before the first politician, Minister of Social Development Hon Paula Bennett, spoke. She stressed the need for a whole of Government and cross agency approach. National will introduce GPS monitoring for men most likely to breach protection orders. She talked about more money for justice to ensure a safer home environment.

"This Government has introduced Whanau Ora and the Vulnerable Children's Action Plan – working with whole families and across agencies but we still need to plug the gaps." The Government has funded Women's Refuge \$15 million annually.

Hon David Cunliffe launched Labour's "Eliminating Violence Against Women and Children" policies by apologising for being a man. He said Labour has a strong policy to address inequality and sexism, as it was not okay to continue these practices.

"Our country somehow allows this to go on. It would be great if I could stand up here and say we are working together so Women's Refuge and the police are adequately funded. I can't because the level of violence is too great".

Labour will provide \$60 million extra over four years for front line services and to seek cross-party solutions for a long term plan to stop family violence.

United Party's Hon Peter Dunne acknowledged the huge untreated social problem. He said he supported National's policies and believes family is the fabric of society. He called for cross party solutions, closer co-operation between police and social services, one-stop-shops to get family friendly assistance and every referral to be addressed. He said there needs to be better relationship counselling and parental education, and if both parents were involved there would be better outcomes for children.



The Maori Party's Marama Fox shared the experience of having family members murdered through family violence. She said Maori were over represented in statistics but domestic violence is not limited by race and was not just within marriage but all relationships and within all lifestyles – rural and urban. A common theme is poverty and poor housing but she said many families are large with low income and do a great job raising children. Marama said no culture accepts domestic violence. She said a whole of Government approach was needed as well as Government working with NGOs.



Marama said Whanua Ora was a successful Maori Party programme, and she acknowledged the Pacifica Proud and It's Not Okay programmes. She said the Maori Party has been ridiculed for aligning with National but this has made a difference to Maori.

NZ First's Tracey Martin said there had been a big change in membership with many women working to keep the party afloat and that this had changed the tone. Tracey said she supports the Bring Back Kate campaign and Sue Moroney's Paid Parental Leave Bill. NZ First supports men sharing parental leave. This would alter employers thinking about employing women. She commented on National cutting Adult Community Education funding, saying many women survivors attended these classes to change their lives. She acknowledged Shakti's work and said culture cannot be an excuse for abuse. NZ First supports pay parity.

The Internet Party's Miriam Pierard spoke of the deluge of domestic violence, leaving NGOs to pick up the leadership failure. Women's Refuge must be consulted on policy to gain strong evidence. Miriam said National has tried to micro-manage beneficiaries rather than guide and support women and children on to the road to safety. Miriam said New Zealand had an opportunity to change to a land of equal opportunity through the women's liberation movement but that our profit driven economy has failed us. She said we have valued only women's paid work. To get change, NZ needs a brave, radical new platform to build together as the solution does not lie in old models but strategic alliances to change the Government.

Green Leader Metiria Turei did not get a fair

hearing as time had run out. She quickly reminded us that Green MP Jan Logie consistently took complaints to Government week after week about funding cuts and lack of leadership. The woman at the centre of the alleged assault by the Malaysian diplomat went to Jan Logie to get political co-operation. She said this shows the Green Party is recognised for its support for women and children. Metiria said she was glad to hear Labour's policy and supported a Senior Minister in Cabinet for Children. She said Parliament needs cross party cooperation with a new coalition that will have a collective commitment. With faith and belief, there could be a change if we want women and children to be in front of all decisions.

Other speakers included:

- Business woman, philanthropist and entrepreneur Theresa Gattung spoke of the role of women in corporate NZ
- AUT University Associate Professor Dr Denise Wilson addressed health issues for Maori women and children
- Council of Trade Unions President Helen Kelly enlightened us on employment issues and challenges for women
- AUT University Professor Judy McGregor spoke on NZ's human rights record for women and children
- Auckland University Associate Dean Maori Khylee Quince addressed the legal system's impact on women and children
- Auckland University Associate Professor Susan St John spoke on child poverty and what we can do about it.

Visit the members' section of www.ncwnz.org.nz to see summaries of these presentations.

The rise and rise of violence against women

By Nicola Brebner. Story taken from the Auckland Women's Centre's newsletter.

Whether it's teenage girls being raped, murdered and left hanging from a mango tree in India, a drive by shooting carried out by a young misogynist in California or a woman murdered while walking home from a bus stop on Auckland's North Shore, it all stems from a global culture where women are regularly treated as second class citizens. Objectification, sexual harassment and violence are common in the lives of women throughout the world. In New Zealand one in three women are victims of male violence in their life time.

Gender inequality

A recent paper from the Australian Centre titled Study of Sexual Assault, Gender Equality and Violence against Women: What's the Connection, cites gender inequality as the key factor underpinning violence against women. It also acknowledges that the connection between violence and inequality is complex and to be analysed properly needs to be considered from a variety of perspectives. It notes the importance of considering other intersections of disadvantage such as race and class which may serve to compound the disadvantage. Beyond the economics of inequality the paper acknowledges that gender inequality is also highly influenced by societal attitudes, beliefs and status.

So, why the apparent recent spate of violence against women around the world? It's impossible to say whether there has been a rise of violence against women or that more of it is now reaching the media. What is clear is that the patriarchy is feeling threatened and is desperate to reinforce its power and control through violence and fear. The recent publicity succeeds in forcing people to think about it, and perhaps even have conversations about it, but it also serves to benefit the patriarchy in that the stories themselves make and keep women fearful.

Challenging the patriarchy

UN Women are focussed on preventing violence against women by implementing laws, gender-based policies and education initiatives. One of which is Voices against Violence, a recently developed global, non-formal curriculum. This initiative strives to provide young people with the tools and expertise needed to understand root causes of violence, to educate and involve peers and communities to prevent such violence and to learn about how and where to access support if violence is experienced.

However, for as long as gender inequality remains a deep-seated cultural and societal issue challenging it remains huge. In New Zealand we desperately need more groups like Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP). Led by Jackson Katz, this US-based concern enlists men in the struggle to prevent men's violence against women. Unfortunately, there are also many women who continue to believe that sexism and inequality are figments of their imagination and that women should just 'get on with it'. Behaviours and attitudes across all of society need to be challenged and altered. Just as men can be feminists, so too can women be misogynists. These attitudes need to be explored as part of the school curriculum through gender studies courses in secondary schools.

Take Back the Night in Auckland

Feminist Action is organising a Take Back the Night march to remind the city that we have every right to walk safely at night without fear of male violence. All are welcome, Friday 29 August, 7pm, corner of Symonds Street and Alfred Street, ending in a rally at Aotea Square (from 7.30pm). For more info email: feministaction@gmail.com.



Auckland
**Women's
 Centre**

Treaty

Why were there differences between Te Tiriti O Waitangi and the English version?

The differences occurred translating the original English draft into Māori. The translator, Henry Williams, would have known if he had used the words *rangatiratanga* or *mana* in Article I (which are closest to the meaning of sovereignty), the rangatira would never have agreed.

They could not have given up their Rangatiratanga or mana. In fact, the reason many signed was that Article II confirmed their rangatiratanga. Williams wanted the Treaty signed and there have been many opinions about why he used *kawanatanga* instead.

One is that Williams believed Māori welfare would best be served by accepting British colonisation. Or perhaps he believed securing agreement between the parties on the day, based on goodwill and his assurances, was paramount, and that any compromise he had made could be worked out later.

Another view is that Williams may have assumed, like others at the time, that Māori could not claim sovereignty in any international sense, so by including rangatiratanga in the second Article; it safeguarded what they had. This belief was at odds with the British Government's recognition of the Declaration of Independence.

The 1846 and 1852 constitutions provided for Native Districts and in 1840 it might have been assumed (and desired) by Williams that the vast majority of the country would be governed by Māori as Native Districts, while English law applied only to the Pākehā settlements at Kororarereka (*now Russell*), Port Nicholson and Auckland.

Thus the frequently reiterated views of rangatira in later years that the Treaty provided for English law for settlers and tikanga (*traditional rules for conducting life, custom, method, rule, law*) for Māori may not be inconsistent with what Williams had in mind. Also, many missionaries had a vested interest in land. After the Treaty, Williams confirmed legal title to 9,000 acres of land. Missionary interests generally depended on working with rangatira of the people among whom they lived. Hence Busby and Williams wanted rangatiratanga to be given Crown recognition.

"Whatever Williams intended, it is clear that the Treaty text, in using *kawanatanga* and *rangatiratanga*, did not spell out the implications of British annexation." Claudia Orange, *The Treaty of Waitangi*, p 42.

Source: The Treaty of Waitangi: Questions and Answers published by Network Waitangi, 2012 edition. Reproduced by Creative Commons License. Can be accessed at www.nwo.org.nz (*Explanations added in italics*)

Next Month: Why was the British intention to gain sovereignty not fully explained at Treaty signings?

Letter to Editor

Dear Editor,

I have just noticed that *The Circular* no longer lists on its back page Calendar the International Day of Disabled Persons. I don't know when or why this ceased but I have dug out some old Circulars from 2004 – 2009 and it is listed in these as December 3rd. Please would you consider re-instating this?

I am on the National Executive of the *Disability, Spirituality and Faith Network*. As a group we work to raise awareness and make life easier for disabled persons. In recent years we have managed to achieve a *Disability Sunday* (3rd Sunday in June) advocated in the lectionaries used by most of the main stream churches. Currently we are in the final stages of producing a book *Welcoming Churches* that outlines how churches (and all public buildings) can be made more user-friendly for persons of any disability. This booklet has been generously funded by the women's groups of the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches but will be available for sale to all who care about discrimination.

I know NCWNZ cares about discrimination so please help raise awareness by including: December 3 - International Day of Disabled Persons.

Thank you
Rosalie Sugrue
Kapiti

(Note from editor: The day is back in the calendar. Thanks)

Intro to new historical snippets section

By Mary Gavin, NCWNZ Board member

In the recent survey of *The Circular* some members told us they would like snippets of NCWNZ history from time to time.

Our history has been documented in three notable publications:

- *Women in Council – a history of the National Council of Women 1896-1979*, by Betty Holt with Joyce Herd and Dorothea Horsman
- *The Women's Parliament – the National Council of Women of New Zealand 1896-1920*, by Roberta Nicholls
- *The National Council of Women - a centennial history*, by Dorothy Page

The current and background stories reflected in our own primary sources of Minutes and Conference papers and especially in *115 Years of Resolution*, edited by Helen Bruce and Beryl Anderson, are of course history in the making.

We hope all branches and NOSs still have copies of Dr Dorothy Page's definitive work as the book is out of print and quite hard to source. It is hoped it will be republished as a digital book.

NCWNZ's contribution to the women's movement is also referenced extensively by other writers, in particular in *The Dictionary of New Zealand Biography* and in Sandra Coney's *Standing in the Sunshine*.

It would be daunting and unfair to condense the information in the above works to snippets so the series of brief vignettes we will publish will not be chronological but will focus on possibly less well-known aspects of our history occurring in the social context of the day.

We would appreciate feedback on this approach.

"And their works do follow them"

By Mary Gavin, NCWNZ Board member



Kate Sheppard's grave, Addington cemetery, Christchurch <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>

On 13 July it was the 80th anniversary of Kate Sheppard's death in 1934 aged 87.

The best known photo of Kate was taken in 1905, the year she was once more elected to NCWNZ's Presidency to succeed Margaret Sievwright who died several days prior to the start of the Conference and also the year in which NCWNZ went into recess. The image on the \$10 is based on this photo.

It can only be speculated what motivated Kate Sheppard to try again 12 years later when in 1917 she, Jessie Mackay and Christina Henderson circulated a draft Constitution mooting the council's revival with a new structure based on branch representation.

Although Kate resigned as President for health reason prior to the 1919 Conference, in her previously prepared Presidential address she urged delegates to focus on goals of equal pay for equal work, fuller representation of women in parliamentary representation and administration of the law and the need to enlist the interest of younger women. Familiar themes?

International Secretary Report for the Circular

By Rae Duff, NCWNZ Vice President

Upcoming Conferences

The next General Assembly of the International Council of Women (ICW) is to be held at Izmir, Turkey 30 May – 5 June 2015.

Izmir is Turkey's 3rd largest city, and is a centre for arts, trade and philosophy.

Diary this date and start saving for an opportunity to learn more about ICW's work, catch up with friends and make new ones.

There is a conference at the United Nations Bangkok Convention Centre 17 - 20 November by ICW's Asia and Pacific Regional Council, and the National Council of Women Thailand, in cooperation with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). The theme is 'Assuring Sustainable Development Goals: Challenges in Transforming Women and Girls in Asia and the Pacific'. The conference will take place in conjunction with the Asian and Pacific Conference on Gender Equality - Women's Empowerment: Beijing + 20 Review, organised by UNESCAP. Rae Julian and Rae Duff plan to present the NCWNZ/UN Women Aotearoa Review of Beijing+20 Report prepared through a NCWNZ Wellington workshop, Action Item responses and comments from Branches, Pacifica, Maori Women's Welfare and the Human Rights Commission on the draft document.

Members are welcome to attend but no NCWNZ funding is available.

Beijing+20 Review and Commission on the Status of Women

2015 is the 20th anniversary of the Fourth World conference on Women in Beijing and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. UN Women has distributed a guidance note for the preparation of national reviews to United Nations member governments and civil society organisations.

NCWNZ has worked with the UN Women National Committee for Aotearoa to produce an NGO report. The Ministry of Women's Affairs released their draft version in May. The questions were distributed as an Action Item to our branches and affiliates for response. A Wellington workshop on 24 May enabled NCWNZ members to discuss the questions. The draft report has been emailed to branches for comment and is on NCWNZ website's members'

section. We wish to make the report data rich and welcome substantive comment.

The 59th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW59) will take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York and is tentatively scheduled for 9 -20 March 2015. The Commission will review progress made on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for action. The session will address challenges affecting its implementation, as well as opportunities for achieving gender equality and women's empowerment in the post-2015 development agenda. Our NCWNZ/UN Women National Committee for Aotearoa Review Report will feed into the global review.

Janus 1995 NGO CEDAW Research Award.

The New Horizons for Women Trust was launched in 1992 to enable women to develop their potential. It funds a number of Second Chance Education Awards and Research Awards.

One of these is the Janus 1995 NGO Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Research Award, which NCWNZ is delighted to receive this year.

New Zealand ratified CEDAW in January 1985. Every four years the New Zealand Government reports to the CEDAW Monitoring Committee and at the same time, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) are also encouraged to write an Alternate or Shadow Report.

NCWNZ is co-ordinating a nationwide consultation to produce an Alternate NGO Report for presentation at CEDAW Committee hearings. It assesses the Government's CEDAW implementation. NCWNZ has identified that although it has 42 member organisations and 22 branches to support anecdotal research, stronger quantitative measurements are needed.

There are many agencies that collect this data in specialist areas and therefore NCWNZ has developed a new approach to collect good disaggregated data through using a more intensive 'Collaborative Lead Group Relationship' progress for data mapping.

The award funding will enable NCWNZ to prepare, print and present the reports to be considered in September 2014 and 2015 by the UN CEDAW Monitoring Committee alongside the Official New Zealand Government Report. An oral presentation by NCWNZ and NGO representatives is expected to be made in Geneva in July 2016.

Final remits for conference

Introduction

After consideration on the suggestions for amendments to the remits put forward by branches and NOSs this is the final wording for each of the remits at this year's conference.

The Parliamentary Watch Committee have made recommendation that we should be considering making policy applicable to a wider group of decision-makers rather than just government and this is reflected in the introductory phrasing of some of the remits. The recommendation around a capital or lower case on "government", was that we are asking the institution (government) not the party in power (Government) and also that when we are asking the government it is about a change in legislation, or possibly government controlled funding.

In some cases remits have been separated out into separate clauses; this is to help with understanding and should not detract from the intention. Please remember that the notes for each remit were published in the June Circular and provide points of discussion at Conference.

Remit 1: Aged Care Staffing Levels

Proposer Business and Professional Women

That NCWNZ urges the Minister of Health to:

- make compulsory minimum staffing hours per resident for registered nurses, carers, occupational therapists and physiotherapists in residential care facilities. This includes setting the staffing levels in aged care facilities providing hospital level care at the same level as those in public hospitals.
- increase and ring-fence the funding to aged care providers to meet the compulsory staffing levels.

Remit 2: Mental Health of Women in Prisons

Proposer Business and Professional Women

That NCWNZ recommends that:

- women in prisons are frequently screened for mental illness and those who are diagnosed with a mental illness receive appropriate treatment and support as required by Section 75 of the Corrections Act 2004

- these services are adequately funded.

Remit 3: Mental Health Reducing Suicide

Proposer Business and Professional Women

That NCWNZ urges the Minister of Health to make the reduction of suicide and the incidence of self harming a national priority.

Remit 4: CEDAW

Proposer Board of Management

That NCWNZ strongly urges the New Zealand Government to:

- implement fully the articles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- redress the recommendations of the CEDAW Monitoring Committee's concluding observations
- take cognisance of the most recent General Recommendations issued by the Monitoring Committee.

Remit 5: Early Registration of Pregnant Women to Improve Mother and Child Health Outcomes.

Proposer Papakura Franklin Branch

That NCWNZ urges the Minister of Health to set a National Health Target that requires District Health Boards to set a key performance indicator for all women to be booked in for antenatal assessment by 10 weeks gestation followed by wrap around maternal care services.

Remit 6: Sexuality and Reproductive Health Education

Proposer Papakura Franklin Branch

That NCWNZ supports:

- the promotion of education on sexuality and reproductive health rights particularly with regards to the prevention of teenage and unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases
- the strengthening of measures to support

Remit 7: Legal Minimum Age for Marriage

pregnant teenage girls to continue their formal education.

Remit 7: Legal Minimum Age for Marriage

Proposer Business and Professional Women

That NCWNZ supports the legal minimum age of marriage being 18 years without any exceptions for parental consent.

Remit 8: Voluntary Industry Code of Conduct on Body Image

Proposer Business and Professional Women

That NCWNZ supports the introduction of a voluntary industry code of conduct on body image to stop negative and exploitative portrayals of women and girls in all forms of media.

Remit 9: Universal Child Allowance.

Proposer Hutt Valley Branch

That NCWNZ recommends that each child between the ages of 0 and 18 years inclusive receives a universal child allowance to replace all present government living allowances for children, which is linked to the Consumer Price Index and paid to the main carer of the child.

Remit 10: Abortion Law Review.

Proposer Auckland Branch

That NCWNZ request the government to review abortion law and practice with a view to simplifying it and ensuring a woman's right to choose.

Remit 11: Elder Abuse and Neglect.

Proposer Auckland Branch

That NCWNZ requests the government to resource adequately the national contract for Elder Abuse and Prevention (EANP) Services.

Correction and clarification

In our July edition we ran the nominations for Board roles as part of our preparation for our October conference. We regret that we misspelt Dianne Glenn's name, and wish to apologise to her. Dianne is running for Vice President.

Also in this edition we may have confused some people with our piece on the liberation of the Kate Sheppard National Memorial Bronze Wall. Some of the Circulars sent out referred to the memorial's reinstatement following its removal.

In fact the memorial was not removed, but had been protected following the earthquakes given the possibility of damage from unsafe buildings. We picked up the error and corrected it so that most of the newsletters contained clear wording as to the situation with the memorial following the earthquakes.

Calendar

July		2	International Day of Non-Violence
25-27	NCWNZ Board Meeting	9	NCWNZ Board Meeting
August		10-12	NCWNZ National Conference, Auckland
1	Final version of Remits published in Circular	11	International Day of the Girl Child
September		November	
1	Closing date for National Conference registrations	25	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
6	NCWNZ Board Meeting	28-30	NCWNZ Board Meeting
19	World Gynaecological Day	December	
17-22	Women's World Congress, Hyderabad, India	3	International Day of Persons with Disabilities
19	Suffrage Day	5	International Volunteer Day
21	International Day of Peace	10	International Human Rights Day
27	(to 1 October) 3rd Forum on NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO, Bulgaria		
October			

Recent submissions made by NCWNZ

NCWNZ made no written submissions last month. If you would like to read any of our full submissions from previous months, please visit: www.ncwnz.org.nz (Members' Area).

Standing Committee Convener contact list

Consumer Affairs	Wendy Pearce	windyp@wise.net.nz
Economics	Katherine Ransom	ransom.katherine2@gmail.com
Education	Suzanne Manning	suzanne.manning@paradise.net.nz
Employment	Margaret Ledgerton	m.ledgerton@xtra.co.nz
Environment	Dell Panny	dellpanny@clear.net.nz
Family Affairs	Billa Field	d-b.field@xtra.co.nz
Health	Gina Giordani (interim)	gina.giordani@gmail.com
Justice and Law Reform	Cleone Campbell	cleone.campbell@shieffangland.co.nz
Parliamentary Watch Committee	Jean Fuller	gjfuller@clear.net.nz
Public Issues	Beryl Anderson	beryl_anderson@xtra.co.nz
Social Issues	Lynda Sutherland	lyndasutherland1@clear.net.nz



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The deadline for material for the September Circular is Wednesday 13 August.

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

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