



## NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION OF GRADUATE WOMEN (INC.) NORTH SHORE BRANCH

PO Box 33 1050 Takapuna  
Auckland 0740

### October Newsletter 2009

**Websites:** NZFGW: [www.nzfgw.org.nz](http://www.nzfgw.org.nz) IFUW: [www.ifuw.org](http://www.ifuw.org)

**MORNING MEETING:** Thursday, 5 November 10 am

**Venue:** Ann Holdaway's home, 35 Ocean View Rd, Northcote Ph 4183242

**Programme:** Social time and trading table that raises money for our branch. Please bring a small plate to share for morning tea and also plants, jams etc for the trading table. Jean Kebbell will collect your contributions if you are unable to attend. We will finish our meetings for the year with group discussion.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP:** Tuesday, 13 October 7.30 pm

**Venue:** Pat Ward's home, 9 Mackey Ave, Devonport Ph 4452647

**Topics:** update on Government current educational cuts; plus group organisational plan for the year

**FRIDAY NIGHT WIGS GROUP:** Friday, 30 October, 7.30 pm

**Venue:** Helen Sturm's home 68A Karaka St, Takapuna

**Programme:** Social time and planning meeting for Wigs, 2010. This will be an opportunity to discuss the future of this group. Anything is open for change, venue, night in week, format.

**HATCH:** Tuesday, 20 October at 7.30 pm

**Venue:** Lynn Holbrook's home 35 Marywil Cres, Hillcrest Ph 4435157

**Programme:** Coffee or bubbly. Review of NZFGW Conference and discussion on future of Hatch. Plans for 2010. This will be our last Hatch meeting for 2009 so we look forward to seeing you all.

All members are welcome at all meetings. If you have transport problems for any meeting, phone Jean Kebbell (418-3712) who will try to find a ride for you.

### **End of Year Dinner: Sunday, 29 November, 6.30 pm for 7 pm at the Fairway Lodge.**

Guest speaker will be Steve Maharey, Vice Chancellor of Massey University. Cost \$37.00 per head. Payment to the Treasurer by 20 November, please.

Deadline for next Newsletter deadline: 28 October, 2009

# Branch News

## Meeting Reports

### PAC

At the September meeting discussion took place on some of the issues that might be addressed in the Branch contribution to the 2010 CEDAW report e.g. Article 10: Education school donations, violence-free schools to see if there has been any improvement in these issues since the last CEDAW report. Other issues included child poverty, social workers in schools, second chance education, parent education, the impact of inequality. Sources of useful data were also suggested e.g. Ministry of Education, school guidance councillors, Statistics NZ, Youth Law, UNICEF, Human Rights Commission, Children's Commission, Salvation Army, the New Zealand Herald.

It was also suggested that members take it in turns to arrange the monthly meetings. The NZFGW conference will be discussed at the October meeting.

### Friday Night WIGS Group

Mary Paul gave a very interesting talk at Cynthia McKenzie's home on Robyn Hyde, the writer who lived for some time on the Shore. Hyde worked as a journalist and struggled to make her way in what was then a man's business world. Mary thought Hyde was very much a New Zealand writer and indeed preceded Sargeson and the literary circle who gathered at his home on Esmonde Rd. Hyde was beset with mental health difficulties following the struggle after the birth of her two children, the first stillborn. She died leaving her son Derek as a nine-year old.

### Hatch

We welcomed one of our members, Catherine Bacon, who has just completed her PhD research into Vitamin D, as our guest speaker. How much do we need and in what areas of our health does vitamin D play an important role? Catherine's research showed that this was a very complex question with no simple answers when other contributing factors to bone density, various forms of cancer and other diseases were considered. We were all most interested in Catherine's research to date and she juggles her career with motherhood.

### AGM 5th Sept at the Lake House, Takapuna

We were warmly welcomed by President Gwenda White who then introduced our speaker Dr Charlene Lutes, our National President and member of our branch. Charlene gave an excellent address tracing the history of Women's Rights Movements from the right to education through to the right to work and looking now at the third wave – the right to a more accommodating work environment allowing good parenting whilst pursuing excellence in the work place. The meeting reports are contained in the Annual Report that has now been circulated to all members.

The new office bearers are:

President: Janice Tan Vice President: Jean Kebbell

Treasurer: Hilary Miller Secretary: Helen Sturm

Committee: Linda Atkinson, Christine Ball, Helena Marsh, Judith Stratton

Managing Trustees of NZFGW North Shore Branch Charitable Trust:

Janice Tan (President), Fay Pankhurst (Treasurer), Helen Sturm (Secretary), Wyn Hoardley, Frances Bell (convenor, Awards Committee), Margaret Ellett (convenor, Academic Dress Committee)

Academic Dress Committee

Margaret Ellett (convenor), Faye Pankhurst (Treasurer), Judith Stratton, Janice Tan, Beverley Turner, Catherine Boughtwood

Awards Committee:

Frances Bell (convenor), Nan Inkson, Jane Legget, Carina Meares, Janice Tan

Other positions: Hospitality: Alison Ogg, Oral History: Margaret Coldham, Jean Kebbell

Archives: We do need an archivist. Our records are now safely housed at the library of Massey University so the position now entails keeping current records.

Appointment of Auditor: Staples Rodway

### **General Business**

Dues: The annual subscriptions of the North Shore Branch of the New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women be increased by \$5.00 for the financial year 2010-2011 beginning July 2010.

### **Remits for the 28th Triennial Conference, 2-4 October at St Cuthbert's College, Auckland**

#### **A Policy Remits submitted by branches**

##### **1 Hutt Valley branch: Early Intervention Programmes for Dysfunctional Families**

That NZFGW supports intensive, early intervention programmes designed to improve the life chances of children born into the estimated 5% of NZ families who have shown high levels of dysfunction over several generations.

##### **2 Waikato branch: HIV & AIDS Intervention / Prevention Programmes.**

That NZFGW requests the Minister and Associate Minister of Health to:

1 Review existing evidence-based intervention / prevention programmes available in New Zealand and ensure accessibility of these programmes to those most at risk;

2 provide significant additional funding to ensure educational initiatives reach all New Zealand-based communities, not just men who have sex with men;

3 encourage involvement of 'Positive People' in the development and delivery of paid intervention and prevention programmes.

\* ('Positive People' is the term used by people infected with HIV and / or AIDS to describe their status.)

##### **3 North Shore branch: Funding for Community Education Reinstatement**

That NZFGW urges the Government to reinstate funding for community education to at least its pre-budget 2009 level.

#### **B Remit on Dues**

a That Capitation dues for IFUW increase from \$25 to \$30 for year ending 30.6.2010 (i.e. up \$5).

b That Capitation dues for the General Fund increase from \$12 to \$15 for the year ending 30.6.2010 (i.e. up \$3). (Graduates & undergraduates)

c That the Capitation dues for the Travel Fund remain at \$7. (Graduate & undergraduate.)

d That subscriptions for Independent Members increase from \$47 by the same amounts as in a, b and c.

e Supplementary dues payable to NZFGW by university centre branches stay at \$600.00.  
Total increase: \$8.

#### **C Proposed Constitutional Changes**

1 Change in membership criteria to reflect IFUW changes, 2007: widened to include other institutes of higher learning, etc.

2 Statement on use of NZFGW name and logo: use of both limited.

3 Branch rules to be updated, and changes sent to the National Executive when made.

4 Payment of dues for Members Emeritae. Normally an M.E. is attached to a branch, and not liable for a subscription to that branch. The branch pays her dues and capitation.

5 Designation of Independent Members as Members Emeritae: procedure detailed, in case it should ever be required. NZFGW to pay her capitation and IFUW dues.

These remits have gone through approval by our Branch and will be endorsed by our delegates at the conference.

**Day registration** is still possible for the forthcoming conference. Come along to hear some interesting speakers.

### **Changes to Branch Committee**

We farewell Gwenda White who has served as president for the last three years. Gwenda and her very willing and able personal assistant and typist also known as husband John will take a well earned break and travel to Germany to visit their daughter. Gwenda has put her own stamp on the presidency and worked very hard to keep the Branch alive and in good heart. We wish you all the best, Gwenda. Leaving the committee also are Jean Silver, Sally Stone, Ruth Ell and Cynthia McKenzie who we thank for their hard work.

We welcome the new president, Jan Tan and new committee members, Helen Sturm, Helena Marsh and Christine Ball. Helen and Helena need no introduction as they have served on the committee in the past and Helen has been on the National Executive for the last three years.

This month we introduce **Christine Ball** who joined FGW 23 years ago, when she was a fulltime mum, and appreciated being able to attend daytime meetings with her preschool daughter. Once back at work, she moved to the evening WIGS group, which then met on Tuesday nights, and co-ordinated that group for some time. The meeting night changed to Friday, and she has enjoyed those meetings over many years. She has agreed to co-ordinate the WIGS group in 2010. Chris and Christine have 3 adult children, 3 grandchildren, and a new grandchild due very soon. She began her career as a secondary teacher, moved into adult education, working for ESOL Home Tutors on the North Shore for 14 years, and currently is a lecturer in early childhood education at AUT University. She is also a part-time student, writing a thesis for M.Ed. on language minority children in early childhood education. Christine says she values her involvement with FGW, the interesting women she meets through our activities, and the support we give to women in their studies.

Our **North Shore Branch Charitable Trust** funded two awards this year through **the New Horizons for Women Trust**, that specialises in second-chance education for women. Their Awards ceremony was held this year on a Sunday afternoon, 20 September. Gwenda White, Past President, attended on our behalf and presented two awards. Lyn Dowsett of the NHFWT presided.

Angela Turei of Papakura and Sanjida Pathan of Mangere East were our two Award winners. Angela is completing a nursing qualification and hopes to specialise in midwifery, particularly among Maori women. She has been handwriting her work and is thrilled to be able to afford a computer. Sanjida is working towards qualifications in business studies, and is currently employed by the Manukau City Council, but expecting a baby shortly. Both spoke of the difficulty of studying with young children, and their gratitude to family and friends for support and encouragement, and the difference the award would make to their lives. They were interested to learn that in addition, they had gained an extra hundred and twenty or so Aunties on the North Shore, who would be pleased to hear news of their continuing careers.

Pamela von Hirst of the Nutrition Department at Massey Albany also received an award to complete her PhD on vitamin D deficiency. She has spoken to our Morning Group on the topic recently, and is currently completing work with Indian women in Mt Roskill. They appear to be particularly short of this vitamin in the New Zealand environment.

## Community News

**Human Rights Network Forum:** *'Human Rights Ignored - Imprisonment and Impunity in Sri Lanka'*. HRN's annual forum to mark UN Day 24 October (Labour Weekend) will be a week early on Saturday, 17 October, 3 pm in Mt Albert War Memorial Hall, 775 New North Rd, Mt Albert. There will be a panel of speakers, a film and discussion, and food stalls. For more information, please contact Beverley Turner ph: 418 0700

## IFUW/CIR

IFUW e-mail discussion on Women and Health, Week 2 summary:  
Questions were concerned with paid and unpaid work, and the situation of young mothers and the elderly. Most respondents believed that work that earned an income improved women's chances of economic

security. Responses indicated, however, great divergence in the extent to which education improved women's chances of economic security, with paid work offering a range of possibilities from breadline insecurity to reasonable prosperity. But women's prosperity as a group was generally lower than men's.

**Groups most affected by poverty.** On the question of whether there are groups of women more likely to suffer poverty, many agreed that **poverty was linked to age**, especially for women who were widowed, poorly educated, or who had not got employment and in countries where there is no system of pensions for the aged.

**From Dorothy Meyer, Convener of the Status of Women Committee, IFUW**

For the latest information from IFUW, click on the following sites:

**IFUW BLOG LOOKS AT ACHIEVING FULL GENDER EQUALITY IN EDUCATION**

<http://www.ifuw-forums.org/blog/>.

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2008 BINA ROY PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (BRPID)**

<http://www.ifuw.org/brpid/index.shtml>.

**PROTECTING CHILDREN IN CYBERSPACE**

[http://www.ifuw.org/advocacy/reports/2009\\_WSIS\\_forum\\_report.pdf](http://www.ifuw.org/advocacy/reports/2009_WSIS_forum_report.pdf)

**CYBERHATE: DANGER IN CYBERSPACE**

[http://www.ifuw.org/advocacy/reports/2009\\_CyberHate\\_Seminar.pdf](http://www.ifuw.org/advocacy/reports/2009_CyberHate_Seminar.pdf)

**REACHING OUT TO NEW MEMBERS**

[http://www.ifuw.org/docs/2009\\_membership\\_best\\_practice.pdf](http://www.ifuw.org/docs/2009_membership_best_practice.pdf)

**YOUNG MEMBERS' JUNE NEWSLETTER ON-LINE**

To view the June edition: <http://www.ifuw.org/vm/2009-06-vm-newsletter.pdf>

To view previous editions: <http://www.ifuw.org/vm/index.shtml>

To join the network: <http://www.ifuw.org/networks/subscribe-vm.shtml>

**Sender**

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