



# New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women

## CANTERBURY BRANCH

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## NEWSLETTER JUNE 2015

### JULY BRANCH MEETING

The next Branch meeting will be a lunch to be held on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 12.00 at the Chateau on the Park**. This is always a very pleasant occasion and we hope members will make a special effort to come along. Names to Enid Smith, phone 358 9492 or email [aesmith2@clear.net.nz](mailto:aesmith2@clear.net.nz) by 15<sup>th</sup> July

### A Date for your Diary

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 2pm a tour of the Court Theatre in Bernard St Addington is planned. This will be followed by afternoon tea. There will be more details closer to the time.

### REPORT OF AWARDS EVENING

A large number of awardees and their families as well as a small number of branch members attended the recent very successful Awards Evening held at the University of Canterbury. There were twelve speakers who spoke on a wide range of topics as follows:

You can view the list of Award winners and more information on the speakers at:

<http://www.canterburynzfgw.org.nz/html/events.html>

### CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL ANNUAL AWARDS

This event was on 6 June 2015 at the University of Otago staff club to honour South Island 2014 & 2015 awardees and to celebrate the large contribution NZFGW branches make towards funding education for women. In the financial year to 30 June 2014, our branch Charitable Trusts donated almost \$640,000 in grants and awards within New Zealand. Just over 25% of this funding was channelled through the national NZFGW Charitable Trust.

Applications for national awards for study in 2016 are now open on

<https://nzfgw-applications.org>

### The Jim Gardner Memorial Lecture

**DATE** – Sunday 26 July

**PLACE**- Lecture Theatre C2 University of Canterbury

**TIME** – 2pm

**SPEAKER** – Dr Chris Jones, History Department, University of Canterbury

**TOPIC** – The 800th Anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta. Admission is free and afternoon tea will be served in the foyer following the lecture. A gold coin donation for this would be appreciated.

## **TRUST BOARD REPORT - Ellen McCrae Chair**

Members of the Trust Board met on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

### **Donations**

The key purpose of this meeting was to allocate our funds for the 2015/15 year and attached to this report is our allocation of funds for the year.

### **Succession planning and appointment of New Trustees**

The board identified succession planning as a key priority and we invited two members Jill van de Geer and Gloria Moyle to join the board. Jill has had over 15 years governance experience plus CEO experience in the Methodist Church. Gloria Moyle has high level administrative and teaching skills recently retiring as head of department. She established and ran a business for 13 years and has accounting and administrative skills associated with that.

### **Craigs Investment Portfolio**

In February 2014 the Board made an investment of \$150,000.00 with Craigs Investment Partners to establish a portfolio. Currently the portfolio is valued at over \$200,000.00 and in July 2015 we will invest a further \$50,000.00 in the portfolio to bring this to 25% of our overall investments. We confirmed our Investment policy to include our requirements in respect of ethical investments.

### **Conference Travel Award**

Della Bennet applied for a Conference Travel Award to travel to attend the NZ Marine Sciences Society Conference in Auckland she was granted \$200.00

### **Award Assessment Forms**

Ngaio Francis has put considerable effort into our award assessment process and further

refined forms to be used by our selection panels to bring consistency and ensure we are judging in line with the purpose of each award and to a defined standard.

### **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

A very warm welcome is extended to new members Annette Dunham, Jill Van de Geer and Gloria Moyle and we look forward to meeting you at upcoming branch meetings. Jill and Gloria are members of the Trust Board

### **Appraisers for NZFGW National Awards**

If you are interested in being an appraiser for the NZFGW Fellowships and NZFGW Susan Byrne Award, we would like you to register your interest. The months of July to September are very busy for the selection panels, with each application requiring approximately 30 minutes, plus administration time as part of a panel. There are approximately 60 Fellowship applications received by 31 July and 35-40 Susan Byrne applications by 31 August. The selection panel for the Fellowships has five members, all of whom must be members of NZFGW, and three members for the Susan Byrne Award.

### **What skills and qualities do you need?**

Appraisers need to be able to:

1. access and assess online applications
2. spend a concentrated time period over 2-3 weeks
3. work as part of a team

The Awards site is now open on <https://nzfgw-applications.org/> or [www.nzfgw.org.nz](http://www.nzfgw.org.nz) and click on the Awards button on the top bar.

If you would like to register your interest for this role for this or future years, please contact the Awards Convenor Rowena Taylor on [awardsconvenor@nzfgw.org.nz](mailto:awardsconvenor@nzfgw.org.nz) by 30 June.

## List of Charitable Trust Donations for 2014/15

<b>EDUCATION</b>		<b>Order of St John (Ambulance)</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
		Aviva Family Violence Services	\$ 1,000.00
<b>CFGW Awards</b>	\$18,000.00	Ferrymead Heritage Park Trust	\$ 300.00
<b>CFGW Conference Travel Awards</b>	\$ 4,200.00	Orana Wildlife Trust	\$ 300.00
<b>CFGW Study Travel Awards</b>	\$ 6,800.00	Risingholme Community Centre	\$ 300.00
<b>CFGW Special Awards</b>	\$ 2,200.00	YMCA Wainui Camps	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Sadie Balkind Schol/Awards</b>	\$12,000.00	Kingdom Resources Addington Trust	\$ 700.00
<b>Fellowship Trust Board NZFGW</b>	\$17,500.00	Heart Children Canterbury	\$ 500.00
<b>Harriette Jenkins Award NZFGW</b>	\$ 3,000.00	Shakti Ethnic Women's Support	\$ 700.00
<b>Lincoln University Oen. And Vit. Prize</b>	\$ 500.00	Women's Night Shelter YWCA	\$ 700.00
<b>Lincoln University Fees Scholarship</b>	\$ 1,500.00	Dress For Success	\$ 600.00
<b>Science and Technology Fair</b>	\$ 264.00		
<b>Hardship Grant -Canterbury University</b>	\$ 5,000.00	Family Help Trust	\$ 900.00
<b>Hardship Grant - Lincoln University</b>	\$ 3,000.00	Community Law	\$ 500.00
<b>Canterbury Medical Research Foundation</b>	\$ 2,000.00	Kids Can	\$ 300.00
<b>New Horizons for Women Trust</b>	\$ 1,000.00	Lincoln and Districts Community Care	\$ 500.00
<b>Adult Reading (ARAS)</b>	\$ 1,000.00	Salvation Army	\$ 1,500.00
<b>School for Young Writers</b>	\$ 1,000.00	Cholmondeley Home	\$ 2,000.00
<b>University of Otago Summer Studentship</b>	\$11,500.00	Royal NZ Foundation for the Blind	\$ 300.00
<b>Univ of Cant History &amp; Eng. Book Vouchers</b>	\$ 2,000.00	Deaf Aotearoa New Zealand	\$ 300.00
<b>Doris Le Roi Prize</b>	\$ 1,000.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 19,400.00</b>
<b>Helen Wily Prize</b>	\$ 1,000.00	<b>ARTS</b>	
<b>Champion Centre</b>	\$ 500.00	Canterbury Repertory Society	\$ 1,000.00
		Court Theatre	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$94,964.00</b>	Christchurch Symphony Orchestra	\$ 1,500.00
		Christchurch School of Music	\$ 1,200.00
<b>Charitable/General</b>		Malthouse Theatre Trust	\$ 500.00
<b>Presbyterian Support Services</b>	\$ 1,500.00	Risingholme Orchestra	\$ 300.00
<b>Christchurch City Mission</b>	\$ 1,500.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,500.00</b>
<b>St Vincent de Paul Society</b>	\$ 1,500.00		
<b>Methodist Mission</b>	\$ 1,500.00	<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>\$119,864.00</b>

## **From Jan Tan – National Membership Convenor**

### **NZFGW and Independent Membership: An Alternative Option**

In a recent Listener article, Helen Kelly, of the CTU, pointed out that traditional organisations, - churches, political parties, social groups are struggling to maintain their traditional model of membership.

In the same way, membership in NZFGW is changing. Branch membership is dropping and several branches have closed or are in the process of closing. Independent membership needs to be an attractive option for those who are not easily able to attend a branch. Already independent members are larger in number than some branches and yet until recently they have had no representation on Council or at Conference.

At Conference in 2014 NZFGW made significant constitutional changes giving Independent Members representation on Council and at Conference. They will have representation at conference on the same basis as Branches i.e. according to membership numbers. With modern communication and social networking Independent Members now have the opportunity to form a cohesive and active network alongside branches. NZFGW promotes access to higher education for women and girls on a national and international level. This is a cause that would surely have wide support among women graduates no matter where they have studied. Through the use of social media NZFGW can appeal directly to many women graduates from universities, polytechnics and wananga who are looking for a way to connect with each other, to find out what graduate women are doing in other countries, to be part of national and international projects and to make contact with Graduate Women International members in other countries.

If NZFGW had a higher profile then some of these women graduates may become

financial members in order to have access to scholarships or to have some input into policy or vote at conference or mid-term council. At present, independent members have access to the nzfgw website (including information about scholarships and the national newsletter), as well as the weekly GWI Update and webinars. They are welcome to join in branch activities if they are passing through.

Independent Members will elect a Convenor (a job description will be available soon). Her task will be to communicate with members and intending members on a regular basis. She will circulate news from around the country and from the international scene through Graduate Women International. This is a big project and will need a membership convenor with the communication, networking skills and clear overview of social media to coordinate it. She would need to build a network of 'stringers' around the country who could feed in relevant news and information. A stronger online presence through Facebook and Twitter would develop and strengthen regional, national and international links. What about older members and those who are not active online? NZFGW branches will continue to exist and to provide opportunities for fellowship and networking as they have always done. NZFGW honours the women who have been active supporters, branch and national executive members for many years. NZFGW has a proud history. The challenge before us is to develop a viable model of interactive independent membership that communicates using 21<sup>st</sup> century technology. To that end, a membership convenor will be appointed who is conversant with the new technology and has the skills to build this network. The achievements of earlier generations of NZFGW members need not be lost as we continue to build a community of women with a passion for higher education and the transformation it can bring to our society.

### Report on the May Executive Meeting

1. Work continues on developing the independent members plan.
2. Several administrative matters were discussed including improvements to the letterhead template, need for finding a shadow treasurer, website updates, etc
3. Voting at GWI on the issue of amending the Dissolution Clause of GWI as required by Swiss Tax Authorities resulted in agreement to amend by 82% of members who voted (over three-quarters of NFAs voted). We also voted to include Ghana and Gaza to GWI.
4. The issue of power, sexism and harassment of women (in the context of the Prime Minister's recent contretemps) was discussed. An article will be developed utilising Marilyn Waring's work and relevant civics education.

**Dr Ann Pomeroy, President**

### CIR REPORT – Bernadette Devonport Reflections on GWI Webinars

Last evening I participated in GWI's webinar *GWI- Moving Forward*. In two ways this was a good webinar- the topic and the format. I shall first discuss this and then finish by looking at the usefulness of webinars to us here in New Zealand.

*GWI- Moving Forward* was topical and useful. GWI is in the process of reinventing itself and in the webinar Caroline Staffell recapped on what the organisation has done in the past year and what it is doing now to ensure that it fulfils its charter. The list was long. In the area of international advocacy GWI launched a new manifesto in January, detailing five issues it wishes to focus on and allowing it to share its position on lifelong learning for females. GWI has confirmed its partnerships with ITU and UNESCO, released to us members the first of four parts of an advocacy toolkit (see both *In Focus* and the members section of the GWI website) and issued two policy updates (International Women's Day and the Role of Females in STEM). Currently, GWI is presenting submissions at the World

Education Forum in Korea and the International Conference on ICT and Post 2015 Education in China. Caroline reminded us that GWI in Geneva will be presenting written and oral statements to the Human Rights Council, on the right of women to education beyond the primary level, and at the ILO's Session, on the economic empowerment of women.

Caroline finished her recapping by reminding us that GWI was promoting several projects, in association with CHARGE, assisting rural women teachers to obtain degrees (Uganda, Sierra Leone), and improving girls' choices when going from secondary school to either university or paid work (Rwanda, Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria and the Congo). Organisations such as ours here in New Zealand can help these projects in several ways. (More on this in a minute).

The format of the webinar was an improvement on those in the past year. GWI surveyed its member organisations a few weeks ago and has heeded the call by participants to be allowed to be more involved. Unlike the last half dozen webinars, last evening Caroline spoke for 20 minutes and then opened the floor for discussion. This was good, but not enough. There were 9 of us last night and as usual the largest contingent (3 in this case) were from New Zealand. New Zealanders are geographically too far away to be actively involved in the projects Caroline outlined which meant that because her talk was a recap and not a reflection/analysis we were not able to immediately come up with good questions that could lead to webinar participants actively engaging with each other. The webinars are getting better but are still too much "talk and chalk".

Notwithstanding my comments, I have participated in enough webinars now to know that they are a very good way to get to know what GWI is doing and more importantly to communicate with like-minded women in other countries. I urge you register for the

next webinar- 16 June 2015 *Moving into Leadership*.

What did I take away from last evening's webinar? There are so many ways we here in New Zealand can do- organising events, holding seminars, writing articles, twinning with member organisations within GWI, using social media, fundraising and participating in workshops and webinars. What we need to do is reflect on our focus and the GWI focus and see how we can be more active in supporting women in education.

### **Harriette Jenkins Award**

**Branch Member Della Bennet recently received a Harriette Jenkins Award and was honoured at the Awards Celebration held at the University of Otago earlier this month. Branch President, Bernadette Devonport attended. Della is researching the Hutton's Shearwater.**

The Hutton's shearwater (*Puffinus huttoni*) is an endemic seabird that breeds only within the alpine seaward Kaikoura Mountains. The conservation of this species has an urgent factor as a decline has been recorded from 10 colonies to two colonies over the past 130 years. Currently, the two relict breeding sites are situated at the head of the Kowhai River and Shearwater Stream. To conserve this species, the Hutton's Shearwater Conservation Trust and the Department of Conservation has translocated 500 chicks to a predator-proof protection area on the Kaikoura Peninsula. However, it is unclear where the Hutton's shearwater forage and

how much they are relying on the coastal waters of Canterbury.

The monitoring of seabird species creates a lot of challenges as they spend their life predominantly at sea, thus there is a clear lack of scientific knowledge with regard to their migration, moult and diet. Understanding seabird diet is particularly important for the conservation and management of a species, as food availability is dependent on environmental conditions that can affect the temporal and spatial distribution of prey species and in turn affect breeding and chick rearing.

During the summer, I have collected Hutton's shearwater adult and chick feathers from the alpine and peninsula colonies. These feathers will be analysed, along with potential prey collected from the plankton, for their isotopic composition. Carbon and nitrogen are basic building blocks of life and their isotopic ratio in an organism can be used to map the food web and to estimate the preferred diet of a species, and potentially their foraging locations. These samples will provide an indication of what the Hutton's shearwater adults are eating and provisioning their chicks. I also deployed time and depth loggers on adult birds to capture their diving depth and foraging behaviour

***Disclaimer: while every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information in this newsletter, neither NZFGW Canterbury Branch nor the editor accepts any liability for any errors of fact or opinion***