



NCWSA NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the National Council of Women of South Australia Inc.

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Patron-in-Chief: Mrs Liz Scarce

Patron: Mrs Emily Yarwood

President: Mrs Betty Khor

President-Elect: Ms Margaret Flint OAM

Honorary Treasurer: Mrs Helen Pointon OAM

Greetings to All

Ruth Gibson Memorial Award 2012

It gives me great pleasure to announce the 2012 recipients of this Award are Ms Chelsea Lewis and Dr Wendy Abigail. An afternoon tea was held at NCW House on Saturday 25 August, at which the Awards were presented.

ICW

This year the ICW-CIF General Assembly will be held in Seoul, South Korea, from the 17th – 22nd September and hosted by NCW Korea. This year three NCWSA Members will be attending this event. Maureen Oborn and I will be attending as members of the NCWA Delegation, Hean Bee Wee will be there as a member of the ICW Board.

The theme of the Conference is "Progress for Women is Progress for All: Evaluating the United Nations Millennium Development Goals; Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women." Australia has six nominations for the ICW Board. I am sure that this will be a memorable event and I am looking forward to learning more of the work of ICW.



NCWA

The NCWA Triennial Conference will be held in Canberra from 5 - 7 October at the Canberra Rex Hotel. Friday 5 October will be spent at the Australian Parliament House, followed by a visit to the Australian War Memorial.

At this conference an important issue for all National Councils will be discussed. This is the proposed redesigning/streamlining of the current Standing Committees. It is not expected that this process will be completed at the conference but that a solid start will be made. It is necessary that productive and meaningful suggestions be put forward for the benefit of all National Councils in Australia.

So far there are seven NCWSA Delegates to this Conference: Betty Khor, President, Margaret Flint OAM, President-Elect, Helen Pointon OAM, Di Lockwood, Maureen Oborn, Glenys Jones OAM and Hean Bee Wee.

The Adelaide White Ribbon Breakfast Committee

Plans are well under way for the 2012 White Ribbon Breakfast which will be held on Friday 23 November at the Festival Centre Banquet Room. The Guest Speaker will be Mr Andrew O'Keefe, White Ribbon Foundation Chairperson and also a TV Host.

On 2 August the Governor of South Australia, Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR, also a White Ribbon Ambassador, and Mrs Liz Scarce gave a Thank You Reception at Government House for the AWRBC and its supporters.

Betty Khor

REPORT OF MEMBERS' FORUM HELD 21 JULY 2012

A Forum was held on Saturday 21st July for NCWSA members to discuss the future of NCWSA. The meeting was coordinated by Di Lockwood and Fiona Dorman. These two had prepared a detailed questionnaire, which had been distributed to all members some weeks prior to the Forum to collect data to analyse the views of affiliated organisations, associate and life members. The data was studied by them and then on Saturday a SWAT analysis was carried out. They will produce a final report for discussion and distribution to the membership later this year.

The event did not produce the enthusiasm from the membership needed to produce a statistically valid opinion. Only 16 responses to over 100 questionnaires were received and only 11 people attended the event. This result alone opens many questions that NCWSA needs to consider about itself. These include including its viability and solvency, does it have a significant role in SA or has time passed and other groups assumed its previous role. All organisations need to review their function and actions regularly- have we allowed this opportunity to pass?

May I congratulate and thank Di and Fiona for all the work they did for this event.

*Millicent Hughes OAM
State Coordinator*

MEDIA RELEASE

Code to be changed to allow pet dogs in outdoor dining areas
(3 August 2012)

Australia only

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) has approved a proposal to allow dogs in outdoor areas of eating establishments.

FSANZ Chief Executive Officer Steve McCutcheon said the decision had been notified to food regulation ministers who had 60 days to seek a review. If no review is sought, the decision is gazetted and becomes part of food law in Australian states and territories.

Mr McCutcheon said the Food Standards Code currently didn't allow animals, other than assistance animals, in areas where food is handled.

"However a number of jurisdictions have regulated to allow pet dogs in outdoor dining areas, resulting in an inconsistent approach across Australia," Mr McCutcheon said.

"While this proposal aims to provide a consistent approach nationally, businesses will retain the right to say whether dogs are allowed on their premises."

A FSANZ risk assessment found that the risk of foodborne transmission of disease from pet dogs in outdoor settings to humans is very low to negligible.

More information

[Proposal P1018 – Companion Dogs in Outdoor Dining Areas](#)

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Contributed Elaine Attwood AM

MAJOR SUNSCREEN BRANDS MISLED BY NON-NANO LABELLING.

For some years, Friends of the Earth (FoE) have been printing a Safe Sunscreen Guide informing the public which sunscreens on the market do not contain nano particles in their ingredients. The two nano-ingredients largely used in sunscreens are Titanium Di-Oxide and Zinc Oxide. These ingredients become clear on the skin and absorb UV radiation, rather than reflecting it as non-nano sunscreens do.

An Australian company called Antaria has for several years been supplying a zinc oxide powder called ZinClear-IM to sunscreen manufacturers to be used in their formulas both in Australian and overseas. It was the main ingredient in 10 sunscreens which appeared in the FoE Safe Sunscreen Guide. In February this year, tests carried out by the National Measurement Institute (NMI) showed that some of FoE's recommended sunscreens, contrary to claims of being nano-free, did in fact contain nano-materials. The testing was initiated by FoE and following the results, they immediately recalled and shredded their Guide.

The National Measurement Institute used the International Organisation for Standardization's (ISO) definition in its testing. This definition is accepted by 32 member countries, including Australia.

It appears ZinClear-IM is an aggregate or a 'cluster' of nano particles and Antaria is using the cluster size for its definition, rather than the individual nano-particle as accepted by the ISO.

FoE asked the NMI to look at the patent which described the formula for ZinClear-IM. NMI's conclusion was: It (ZinClear-IM) is a nano-material as defined by International and Australian Industrial standards.

As a result, FoE has now lodged a complaint with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) alleging that Antaria's promotion of ZinClear-IM as nonnano, leads to misleading and deceptive conduct.

The complaint is endorsed by the Public Health Association, Australian Education Union, the ACTU, and The Consumer Action Law Centre.

An additional complaint to the ACCC alleges Ross Cosmetics is similarly misleading their sunscreen brand customers.

There are differing opinions as to whether nano-sunscreens are safe, but regardless of who may turn out to be right on that issue, consumers should have accurate and truthful labelling so as to be able to make an informed choice whether or not they purchase and use them - or any other product containing nano-ingredients.

Nano particles are also used in some cosmetics. In Europe labelling of nano-ingredients in cosmetics will shortly become mandatory. It is time labelling of products produced through nanotechnology were labelled for consumer choice. Labelling is the single, most important avenue by which a manufacturer makes known to a consumer what they want them to know about a product. Similarly, information on a label is the main means by which a customer makes a decision as to which product to purchase. Therefore labelling serves both constituents well. New Zealand has just announced that nano-sunscreens must be labelled by 2015, in line with the new European regulations. Australia is noticeably lagging behind on this issue.

FoE have an on-line petition if you wish to support their call for labelling of nanosunscreens and cosmetics in line with the EU and New Zealand. Go to:- <http://nano.foe.org.au/sunscreenaction/>
For more information on FoE Nanotechnology Project web page visit:
<http://nano.foe.org.au/exposing-great-sunscreen-cover>

*Contributed Elaine Attwood AM
26th July, 2012.*



ADELAIDE WHITE RIBBON BREAKFAST 2012

The annual Adelaide White Ribbon Breakfast will be held at the Adelaide Festival Centre Banquet Room on Friday 23 November 2012 to celebrate UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

We are delighted to announce that **Andrew O'Keefe**, Australian Chairman of the White Ribbon Foundation, will visit South Australia to be our Guest Speaker this year.

Andrew is best known as the host of Channel 7's "Deal or No Deal" and as co-host of "Weekend Sunrise". Previously he spent several years as a solicitor with Allens Arthur Robinson, and a term with the Public Interest Advocacy Centre. Andrew was also an inaugural member of the National Council to Reduce Violence Against Women.

Please distribute this to your networks, more information soon. Bookings will open late September until sold out.

Cintra Amos and Gillian Lewis

Co-Convenors, Adelaide White Ribbon Breakfast Committee

WHY SIGN THE ATTENDANCE OR APOLOGY LIST?

Seems like a little task- not worth the effort and everyone knows me –and I’m here!
Well maybe some do, but the ones that count? Who are they—the Insurance Company.

So at the request of the Newsletter Team, just a little reminder.
Everyone knows about Public Liability Insurance and Employee Cover. Yes but no.
But do we know how this Insurance system works, especially do we know our responsibilities, not to mention our possible financial losses?

Basically for an attendee to a meeting to be covered by our Insurance there must be a written record of his/her attendance at the event. So if you have not signed the “present sheet” and fall down the steps as you leave you may not be covered by the NCWSA Public Liability Insurance; or if you are making coffee for friends or visitors in the kitchen and burn yourself-, you are still not covered. Always remember a friend’s memory may not be enough. If you come into NCW House to do a little job for NCWSA and there is no record of your attendance in the building or known intention of you coming to NCW House at that time, then you are not officially covered by either Public Liability or Employee Insurance.

My advice is to stop that little task becoming a major task. Always sign the attendance sheets as you arrive at a meeting and leave a note in the letter-box at other times you are in the building.

Millicent Hughes OAM
State Coordinator

Ruth Gibson Memorial Award 2012

The Ruth Gibson Memorial Award, which was inaugurated after Ruth's death in 1972, is in memory of her outstanding contributions in South Australia to many community organisations, especially the National Council of Women.



The award is open to women who are Australian citizens or permanent residents, who are over 18 years of age, and who have resided in South Australia for at least the preceding five years at the time of application. The award provides financial assistance for the winner to further her studies or research, or to travel to a meeting, seminar, symposium or conference, either in Australia or overseas.

An applicant must either be sponsored by an organisation affiliated with the National Council of Women of South Australia Inc. or must be a delegate or associate member of NCWSA.

This year two women were selected by the Selection Committee to receive this award.

Dr WENDY ABIGAIL

Wendy will be attending the ICOWHI 19th International Congress on Women's health 2012 and will present a project on her PhD findings entitled "Using Electronic media formats for promoting Fertility Awareness." In particular Wendy wishes to convert the Media clips into other languages.

While some of the Award could assist Wendy to prepare and present her findings at the Conference, the Selection Committee requested that the bulk of the Award be used to convert these media clips, particularly for the Thai, Malaysian and Chinese people.

CHELSEA LEWIS

Chelsea requested \$2,500 to further her studies to undertake the esteemed "Professional Management Program" offered through the University of Adelaide's Executive Education Unit. It includes 6 two day modules conducted over a 12 month period, study between modules, and a final examination, developing and delivering a strategic project.

News from Glenna Lear, who received a Ruth Gibson Award of \$2000 in 2007

Glenna, one of 2 awardees, and a mature aged student, was sponsored by Zonta Club of Adelaide. In the August 2007 minutes say -she was working towards her PhD. The theme of her thesis was "Third Age Learning in vulnerable regional communities." She studied at Uni SA, Mason Lakes Campus.

Glenna's PhD award was presented at a recent university of South Australia graduation ceremony.

Her thesis, *There's Got to Be More! The Third Age Life of Rural Women of Action* draws on her experiences as a farming partner and knowledge of living on the Lower Eyre Peninsula for the last 40 years. Glenna describes the learning experiences of seven busy, high achieving rural women from the LEP, who needed more from life after their children left home. They are passionate about their communities; want to remain useful, to give something back to society and to make a difference. In midlife, they emerged from relative obscurity to become community leaders and change agents, who transformed and revitalised their small rural service centres into thriving, vibrant and resilient 'can do' societies. In the process, they learned informally and tacitly through their activism, leadership and community engagement. Their most significant learning was about themselves and the wider world as they developed new identities, new careers and flourished to their full potential. They experienced personal fulfilment with a wider range of skills and knowledge and discovered new personal qualities and strengths in a lifelong layering process of continual learning from their experiences and through everyday activities.

Glenna's descriptions of their learning add to the theories of adult learning and transformative learning. In addition, the thesis reveals a subtle change in rural society with women replacing many men as leaders of community development.

Glenna believes attending university has been a privilege and she plans to publish her findings on rural women and their third age learning in academic journals and contribute to the theories of adult and transformative learning. She intends to continue as a consultant and advocate for adult and third age learning in rural communities.

Glenna thanks NCWSA and the Ruth Gibson Award Trustees for their support and assistance during her candidature.

Glenna Lear, her sister, Harriot, and lifelong friend Anne Heading Fox, niece of Ruth Gibson in front of the Ruth Gibson Sundial at the Festival Theatre.



Bessie Krell: A Tribute

I first met Bessie Krell in 1989, when we had units in a group in Toorak Gardens. Over time I learnt that after the death of her husband Betty had left her home in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe and her family came to live in Adelaide.

Bessie was immensely proud of her son, Ivan, who is a doctor in Norwood, his wife, Barbara, with whom she had a special relationship, like the Biblical characters, Naomi and Ruth, their children Laurin, and son, Rafi, and her second son, Alan, who is a lecturer in Art History at Sydney University.

Bessie took a great interest in the National Council of Women of SA and I had the pleasure of taking her to the meetings. Bessie was a delegate for the National Council of Jewish Women.

Bessie was a splendid example of a woman, who saw the best in people and made the most of the opportunities she had in her adopted land. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Christina McPharlin
NCWSA Historian



The Women's Information Service is a free and confidential information and referral service for all women in South Australia. Women seeking information can call **(08) 8303 0590** or toll-free on **1800 188 158** for country callers any time **between 9 AM and 5 PM Monday through Friday**. Women can also visit the service in person **Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm**. Women can also e-mail the Women's Information Service at info@wis.sa.gov.au.

More information about our services can be found on our [Face book page](#)

News from a Report by Georgia Heath, Manager Women's Information Service (WIS) to Women's Information Service Support Group Meeting 29 August 2012

Volunteers

Minister Gago held a morning tea for WIS volunteers to celebrate National Volunteers Week on 18 May Minister Gago paid particular tribute to volunteers Pat Ellis and Marie Tyerman for their respective contributions of 15 years and 20 years' service to WIS.

Collaboration with SA Cervix Screening

WIS collaborated with SA Cervix Screening during Pap Awareness Week in May to hold "The Pap Project". In this digital storytelling project WIS worked with two groups of young women to make 6 one-shot videos promoting pap awareness. The films were then made available through the You Tube and Face book. The project culminated in a film screening on the Friday of Pap Awareness Week. The Films were highly popular and during this time visits to the WIS Face book page increased by 300%. Channel 10 ran a story about Pap Awareness Week that included participants from the project and clips of the films.

WIS History Project

In May Minister Gago also announced a new WIS History Project to coincide with the 35th anniversary of WIS in 2013. This project will include the creation of a Wiki site where women that have been involved with WIS can record their stories, upload their photos and comment on other users' memories at WIS throughout its history.

Co-location

Minister Gago announced that WIS will be co-locating with the Office for Women. This was a key recommendation of the 2005 Women's Futures Report. The physical co-location will result in an improved collaboration and opportunities with the Office for Women policy team, the broader women's sector and the community.

The service at WIS will not be interrupted during the remodelling of the office and the new space will provide all the current services as well as creating a much more user friendly environment. At this stage we do not have date for the commencement of the remodel, but will inform all stakeholders as soon as we receive confirmation. The planning for the co-location of the Office for Women and the Women's Information Service (WIS) is continuing

Tax Help

The Women's Information Service (WIS) is again providing a Tax Help service in conjunction with volunteers from the Australian Taxation Office. This is a very popular program and places fill up quickly. The program runs from July until October each year.

NCWSA NOMINATIONS TIME LINE 2012-13

- The AGM is on 8 November 2012
- Nomination papers will be distributed by 20 September 2012
- Nomination papers need to be delivered to the office, either by post or in person, by close of business 26 October 2012
- A list of nominations will be available at the office by 1 November 2012
- It is the responsibility of the individual to ensure that forms are completed fully and all required signatures included when forms are submitted.
- Delegates and Associate Members are reminded that until the annual fee has been paid no delegate or associate shall be entitled to be nominated or vote. Not more than one delegate from each affiliated organisation shall be elected to the Executive Committee. Both delegates and associates are eligible for nomination to the Executive Committee.
- The proxy form enables a proxy delegate appointed by affiliated organisations to vote in the absence of delegates. NB: The proxy form requires signatures.

NCWSA Diary Dates 2012

Council meetings

2nd Thursday of month 6pm for 6.30pm

Executive meetings

4th Monday of month 7-30pm

All meetings at NCW House 95 South Terrace Adelaide.

9 August: Council Meeting: Speaker: Penny Paton: *Environment 2012*
27 August: Executive Meeting
13 September: Council Meeting: Speaker: The Hon. Kelly Vincent MLC.
15 September: Seminar: *Migration*
21 September: NCW War Memorial Fund Annual General Meeting 1.00pm.
24 September: Executive Meeting.
11 October: Council Meeting: Speakers: Margie Berlemon AM, Linda Jarrett: Youth Advisers
20 October: Afternoon Tea Fellowship **CANCELLED**
22 October: NCWSA Executive Meeting
8 November: Council Meeting
NCWSA Annual General Meeting
26 November: Executive Meeting

Should your email contact or postal details change, please advise us by mailing to:ncwsa@bigpond.com

Disclaimer

The views expressed by the contributors to this publication are not necessarily those of the Newsletter Team of NCW SA. Helen Pointon OAM, Helen Warmingham AM, Margaret Flint OAM