

# *NCWACT Newsletter*

## *Issue 321*

## *May 2014*

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### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Members

We are already one third through the year with Easter upon us.

It has been a busy time for NCWACT. Despite significant growth the ACT is still a small community. NCWACT relies on its longstanding members to keep it afloat and has the usual problem of attracting more and younger members. We are grappling with the fact that the organisation must keep abreast of change where necessary to do this and also to remain relevant.



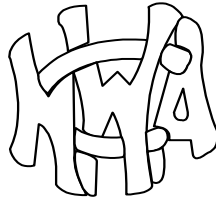
It is a different society today than when we started in 1939 and we face different challenges. This has been highlighted by the fact that it was felt necessary to update our Constitution to better reflect current activities. This in turn has required us to reflect on what our goals are now and to redefine and reconsider our *raison d'être* – while still being guided by the principles of NCWA and what it seeks to achieve. Discussion around these matters will be ongoing for the remainder of the year. We are also working on getting our web page up and running.

We have been fortunate in having really interesting and informative speakers so far this year- Kim Bool from Communities at Work gave a fascinating insight into what they are doing to help the less advantaged in our community, Shirley Sutton told us about the early history of nursing in the ACT and was asked so many questions she has promised to return and Melina Tensen from RSPCA (National) told us more than we probably wanted to know – but needed to know- about the lives of animals farmed for human consumption.

Preparation is under way for the Presidents' Lunch on 21 May 2014 at the Southern Cross Yacht Club. The guest speaker is Jenny Brown, Associate Prof of Midwifery at the University of Canberra. Profits will go to the bursary fund we are establishing for midwifery and teaching.

The Executive is still trying to gather in NCWACT material from members so that it is preserved,-too much has been lost already.  
So on we go – sleeves rolled up and ready.

Sue Schreiner



**PO Box 4, DEAKIN WEST ACT 2600**

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## **RESOLUTIONS FORM**

<b>Meeting Name:</b>	<b>2014 Mid Term Conference</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>27/28/29 May 2014 (tbc)</b>
<b>Resolution:</b>	<b>The NCW Australia urges all levels of governments to act to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by investing in and subsidising renewable energy production while stopping subsidising fossil fuel powered electricity.</b>
<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Wendy Rainbird</b>
<b>Position:</b>	<b>NCW Australia &amp; ACT Environment &amp; Habitat Advisor</b>
<b>Constituent Council:</b>	<b>NCW ACT</b>

**Rationale:**

1. More severe extreme weather events are occurring and are predicted to increase unless action to reduce GHGs happens. Australia faces a future of more record-breaking heat waves, causing more premature deaths of the elderly and infants, more extreme bushfire threats, more heavy rainfall events causing flooding in northern and north eastern areas, sea level rises and damaging storm surges affecting coastal infrastructure, and ocean acidification affecting marine life. (Climate Commission: The Critical Decade; Extreme weather-key facts.)
2. The costs of renewable power generation are coming down and their adoption is gaining momentum world-wide. In states and countries where renewable electricity is encouraged, like Germany, coal and gas-fired power stations now cannot compete in price with the increase in solar and wind power. Those are transforming power markets. USA is predicted to be producing 50 GW using renewables (from 9GW now) by 2016 and 36-47 States will have renewables at cost parity by then. China increased wind power generation by 50 times between 2005-12, new solar power capacity expanded by 75% in 2012. (2013 Solar Oration, ANU). Total global renewable energy power generation is expected to increase by more than 40% from 2011-2017. The momentum is happening. (The Critical Decade: Global Action Building on Climate Change)
3. By 2013 Australia had 1 million roof-top solar photo-voltaics (PV) generating 2.5GW, and has the best solar opportunities in the world. Also, commercial buildings could generate PV solar for thousands of businesses and homes. Solar farms are beginning to be built by local governments, eg ACT and Sunshine coast. By 2040 Australia could have solar-with-storage and wind power replacing fossil fuel powered stations. They will become unviable and obsolete. (2013 Solar Oration, ANU)
4. “Policy support has been central to driving investment and growth in installed renewable energy production in many countries. Conversely, declining support or policy uncertainty, has stifled investment in other countries. The global pressure to reduce emissions is only likely to increase as the climate shifts and global action accelerates.” (The Critical Decade; Global Action Building on Climate Change.) “Ninety countries representing 90% of global emissions are committed to reducing their emissions and have programs in place to achieve this. As the 15<sup>th</sup> largest emitter in the world, Australia has an important role to play.” (p 2 Climate Commission) “Essentially, we need to de-carbonise our economy over the coming decades.” (Dr Raupach, The Global Carbon Project)
5. Tax concessions to the fossil fuel industry mean in effect that Australian taxpayers are subsidising those industries by \$13.33 billion. (Paid to pollute. The Australia Institute Newsletter, March 2013)

## **Second ACT Older Person's Assembly**

The Second ACT Older Person's Assembly will be held on 1 October 2014. It is hoped that the Assembly will focus on two or three key policy areas aimed at making the ACT an 'Age Friendly City'. The first Older Person's Assembly held in 2011 made a number of recommendations which informed the ACT Strategic Plan on Ageing.

The Second ACT Older Person's Assembly follows the first Australian WHO healthy Ageing Cities Conference which was held in Canberra in October last year. Attendees at that Conference heard from a range of international, national and local speakers about interesting and innovative programs designed to support our senior citizens

Details of the Assembly are being finalised. To facilitate productive debate at the Assembly and assist in achieving practical and meaningful outcomes, it is proposed that the numbers attending the Assembly will be limited. However, it is proposed that a number of community meetings will be held prior to the Assembly. These meetings will be open to all interested people and their outcomes will inform the Assembly debates. Details of these meetings and application forms to attend the Assembly will be available shortly.

Laurayne Bowler

ACT Ageing Advisor

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### **CWA Canberra Day Branch**

This year our country of study is Botswana. A very successful seminar was held recently at the Pavilion Hotel, with many guest speakers.

In February, as a result of an endowment, monetary awards were presented to Canberra High School student carers.

Annual Cooking demonstrations were held at Calthorpe House.

The CWA State Conference will be held in May in Griffith NSW and the ACCWW South Pacific Area meeting will be held in Dubbo in August. We look forward to being part of these celebrations.

Phoebe Bischoff.



# National Council of Women of Australia Ltd

Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Quentin Bryce AC CVO



**MID TERM CONFERENCE**  
**Tuesday 27<sup>TH</sup>, Wednesday 28<sup>TH</sup> and Thursday 29<sup>TH</sup> May 2014**  
**Chifley Alice Springs Resort**

*Caring for Women is Caring for the World*

<b>NAME</b> _____	<b>EMAIL:</b> _____	
<b>PHONE:</b> _____	<b>SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS:</b> _____	
<b>ADDRESS:</b> _____		
<b>SUBURB:</b> _____ <b>P/CODE:</b> _____		
<b>Role: Delegate  Coordinator  Advisor</b>	Which NCW? _____	
<b>FULL REGISTRATION:</b> (Please see website - <a href="http://www.ncwa.org.au">www.ncwa.org.au</a> - for all inclusions)	Per Registrant ticket price (incl 10% GST)	\$
<b>STANDARD RATE</b> Form & payment received from 1 January-30 April 2014.	<b>General</b>	<b>\$330</b>
<b>Local - within 1000km radius of Alice Springs</b>	<b>Local</b>	<b>\$220</b>
<b>'SO CLOSE' RATE</b> Form & payment received from 1 May 2014 onwards.	<b>\$440</b>	
<b>PARTNER PACKAGE</b> <b>Partner Name:</b> _____ <b>27<sup>th</sup> - Welcome Reception</b> <b>28<sup>th</sup> - Conference Dinner</b> <b>29<sup>th</sup> - Sunset Activity</b> (Pls note: No partners will have entry into other conference activities)	<b>\$150</b>	
<b>CONFERENCE DINNER ONLY</b> (included in Standard, 'So Close', Partner Package)	<b>\$99</b>	
No travel or accommodation is included in these fees.	<b>TOTAL:</b>	
<b>Cancellation Policy:- A full refund will be made if cancellation is made in writing by 26 April 2014. No refunds for cancellations after 26 April 2014. A substitution will be allowed. Standard, 'So Close', Partner Package registrations include Conference Dinner.</b> <b>All forms &amp; payments should be sent to NCWA Office. Not necessary for on-line forms.</b>		

Payment Options - this form becomes a Tax Invoice on completion of payment  
**ABN 46 061 777 937**

<b>*Visa or MasterCard or AMEX (fees apply)</b>	<b>EFT: Name of Account: NCWA</b>
<b>Card Number:</b> _____	<b>BSB: 015 311 Account #: 2602 34655</b>
<b>Expiry Date:</b> ____ / ____ <b>CVV (3 digits):</b> ____	<b>Ref: (Surname) 2014</b>
<b>Name on Card:</b> _____	<b>Cheque: Payable to NCWA</b>
<b>Signature:</b> _____	<b>Money Order: Payable to NCWA</b>
<b>Amount: \$</b> _____	
National Council of Women of Australia (NCWA) PO Box 4, Deakin West ACT 2600	<b>Accommodation</b> <b>Chifley Alice Springs Resort</b>
<b>Ph: (02) 6285 2337 Fax: (02) 6282 7191</b>	<b>Book on-line</b>
<b>Email: info@ncwa.org.au</b>	<b>OR</b>
	<b>Phone Bookings - 1300 792 030</b>

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN ACT.**  
**The President and Members of the Executive request the pleasure  
of your company**

at the **Presidents Lunch**

on

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 12:00 for 12:30

at the

Southern Cross Yacht Club, Lakeside Marquee,  
Mariner Place, Yarralumla

Guest Speaker:

**Jenny Brown, Associate Professor of Midwifery and Convenor Bachelor of  
Midwifery at the University of Canberra**

Profits to Bursaries for Midwifery and Teaching

Contacts: Jean Hodgkinson: 6260 5129 Jessie Middlemiss: 6273 3482

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Cost: \$50 per person

RSVP: Hon. Treasurer

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN ACT.

P.O. Box 3028 MANUKA, ACT 2603

Acceptances and payment, please, by 16 May 2014.

Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ person/s.

Bank Transfer

BSB:062 900

Acc.No: 0080 8645

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate dietary requirements.

Guests' names would be appreciated

# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN — ACT

## Presidents Lunch Raffle

*Money raised will support NEWACT Bursaries*



**1st Prize: Bluebirds Quilt**  
Donated by The Thursday Friendship Group at Addicted to Fabric



**2nd Prize: Framed painting donated**  
by Constance Aronsen



**3rd Prize: Embroidered Cushion donated**  
by Pat Savas



**4th Prize: Hand-made**  
Necklace donated by Wendy Saclier

**\$2 a ticket or 3 for \$5**

**To be drawn Wednesday, 21 May 2014**

## Dear member

The Executive has felt it necessary to update our Constitution. This means some of the Rules have been changed and some major changes have been made.

This draft has been prepared for your consideration.

Summary of significant changes:

1. **Preamble and Policy statement** deleted. Sentiments as appropriate included in the Objects. Were not binding .
2. **Definition** section expanded
3. **Objects** have been expanded. They need to be wide enough to encompass our activities now and in the future while being specific enough to be meaningful.
4. **Associate membership** is open to all – no longer restricted to women (complies with antidiscrimination legislation).
5. **Members who resign** must hand back to the Council any NCWACT documents in their possession.
- 6 **Office bearers** are to be the President, immediate Past President, Vice President (reduced to one), Secretary (reduced to one) and Treasurer. The numbers on the Executive remain the same and duties can be reallocated as needed.
7. **Counsellors** have been removed as they have no longer been used.
8. **Executive** - can decide how many meetings it holds (but not less than six) and can hold them by electronic means if necessary  
- **members can appoint another Executive member as a proxy if away for a good reason.**
9. **Annual General and other meetings** – notice of and procedures at expanded
10. **Policy and role of Executive member.** The whole Council may set out what policies it wishes to adopt- C17A(e). As the Executive has to manage the affairs of the Council, an Executive member who is a delegate must reflect the views of her organisation when voting on these general policy issues but not when she acts as an Executive member – there she must put the interests of NCWACT first when making a decision C17A(d).
11. **Old 7.6 deleted** – no longer appropriate to require half the Executive to be delegates – a rule not followed in practice
12. **Old 7.8 deleted** – not practical
13. **Council Representative** - Cl 8 The purpose of this clause is to ensure that the Council speaks with one voice and that no one can go off and do or say things which have not been agreed to and agreements made that others don't know about.
14. **Officers insurance** In this day and age it might be felt necessary to insure the Executive and others in case of litigation - Cl 16.



**THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN**  
**of the**  
**AUTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**  
Established in 1939

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING;**

**When: 12.30 pm, 12 June 2014**  
**Where: Yarralumla Uniting Church**  
**Denman Street, Yarralumla, ACT**  
**Purpose: To amend the Constitution of the National Council of**  
**Women of the Australian Capital Territory**

**A copy of the Draft Constitution will be available at the meeting, or may be obtained from the Assistant Secretary,**

**Laurayne Bowler**

**Ph 6231 8630 M: 0409 302 406 Email: [lbowler@netspeed.com.au](mailto:lbowler@netspeed.com.au)**

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**RURAL AND URBAN WOMAN**

Although their environments are different Rural and Urban Women have similar concerns. For the younger woman childcare has high priority but for mainly different reasons. Affordable childcare is essential to all women and this is not happening. Rural women have distances to travel, high petrol prices and accessibility to care. Living in the bush has its own problems e.g. running a property. The farmers are having a bad time at present the climate drought and floods; cattle prices are down causing many farmers depression and more seriously suicide. The wives have to return to work, some to retrain, thus enabling them to keep the farm. Childcare is often not available.

Urban women too are keen to pay their mortgage, school fees and so are called back into the workforce. Many of their husbands are being retrenched at short notice. Grandparents are filling in for the role of carers.

SOLUTION financial support for low income families, relieving the social inequality that exists; more childcare centres and staff. Will the Government take notice of its duty to the next generation?

Medical help is limited in the country and waiting lists are long for appointments. This is similar in the city where appointments for specialist staff have long waiting lists. Some rural towns have improved being larger; small towns have a harder time keeping medical staff.

SOLUTION more training to be offered.

**MONICA GLENN O.A.M A.C.T. RURAL AND URBAN ADVISOR.**

## **Dates for your Diary**

National volunteer week May12 - 18 2014.

Midwinter Arts & Crafts Show at Yarralumla Church Centre June 27 to June 29

### **NCW ACT Meeting Dates 2014**

Executive  
May 5  
June 2  
July 7  
August 4  
September 1\*  
October 6 \*  
November 3  
December 1

Please contact Sue or Roslyn for details of venue

### **President's Lunch May 21 2014**

### **Special meeting re the Constitution June 12 2014.**

Assembly  
May 8  
June 12  
July 10  
August 14  
September 11 AGM  
October 9  
November 13

All Assemblies are held at Yarralumla Uniting Church Centre Denman Street, Yarralumla  
Meetings commence with Lunch at 12 noon  
followed by the meeting, usually over by 2.30 pm

**NCWA CONFERENCE 27 - 29 May in Alice Springs see registration form**

NCW Adviser's Meetings Contact Ros Dixon Ph 6169 3506

NCW NEWSLETTER - August 2014 - CLOSING DATE for items of interest  
The next newsletter will be produced in July 2014 for August 2014

Please send items to the editor Jean Thomson OAM before 20 July 2014

Email: [elabeach@thomzone.com](mailto:elabeach@thomzone.com) or (02) 62813396