#### WFWP Oceania Newsletter: From Our Heart to Yours

Anne Bellavance July 1, 2019

## WFWP OCEANIA NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 | 2019

#### The Hope for Humanity Comes from Mothers



"History is calling for reconciliation, compassion, love, service and sacrifice.

Today's problems cannot be solved by the logic of power. ...

Our present problems can only be solved by the logic of love."

Dr. Hak Jan Han Moon Founder, WFWP International



## Connecting Communities Dinner - Victoria, Australia

Each year WFWP Victoria celebrates the inauguration of WFWP International through the Connecting Communities Dinner. This year we are twenty seven years old! The celebration is an opportunity for multicultural communities, WFWP members and their families to mingle and share. During the evening, WFWP Victoria honours their Board and volunteers, and presents the prestigious Global Women's Peace Network partnership award (GWPN) to our new partnering organisation. The 2019 recipient goes to the Victorian Samoan Advisory Council (VICSAC).



## Peace Building Seminar - Victoria, Australia

Organised by UPF and WFWP Australia, this second seminar in a series of four Peace Building Seminars explored the challenges faced by Australian families and the skills needed to face these challenges. These seminars have become very popular with community and service organisation leaders to augment their professional

Our speakers presentations were as follows:

Kosina Hanson: The neuroscience behind relationships and how emotional intelligence can be practiced in the home environment.

Taniya Jayasinghe: How Family trauma affects psychological adjustment in adulthood.

Anne Bellavance: Family Wellbeing and Functional Behaviours.

Randall Apps: Building bridges between Interfaith Communities.

<u>Dr John Bellavance</u>: *Mindfulness and Peace Building*.

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#### Mindfulness Retreat - Victoria, Australia

It was a beautiful early morning when we gathered for a day of mindfulness in the bush land of Belgrave Heights. For the event, WFWP Victoria partnered with the International Centre for Inner Peace and Happiness Inc. (ICIPH), founded and directed by Venerable Bhikkhuni Bodhicitta.

Highlights of the day featured a lecture about how the mind works and how to manage stress; learning about the meditation and mindfulness process; practicing mindfulness through the actions of 'walking meditation' and 'sitting meditation'; and, a time for Q&A, discussion and sharing the experience.



#### Vanuatu Charity Luncheon - NSW, Australia

During a Charity Luncheon held in Sydney to celebrate the 27<sup>th</sup> year of WFWP International, the WFWP Vanuatu President, Annie-Claude Malere Nasak was the Keynote Speaker. Historically, WFWP New South Wales has supported the development of WFWP Vanuatu. Read Annie's keynote address by clicking on 'Read More'.

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#### International Day of the Family - Auckland, New Zealand

UPF-NZ commemorated the UN International Day of Families at the Polynesian Centre, Mangere, Auckland. A total of 80 participants from diverse religious and ethnic backgrounds gathered for the event. Under the theme: "The Family Ideal, Our Common Heritage", the event was co-sponsored by the Women's Federation for World Peace New Zealand (WFWP-NZ).

The importance of family and its ideals cannot be understated, especially in this value-confused world. As we gather to celebrate the UN International Day of Families, we are united to protect what is most fundamental and dearest to world peace and human happiness, our families.



### International Women's Day - New Zealand

Dr Camille Nakhid, Associate Professor at the AUT School of Social Sciences and Public Policy was the 1st speaker. Camille spoke on the need to strive for balance in the community, rather than trying to gain the power of men. The 2nd speaker was Roshila Prasad, founder and director of Radio HummFM104. The third speaker was Sasikala Syed Niyamathullah, co-ordinator for WISE Women, strong women entrepreneurs in enterprises. WISE Women teach skills to women so that they do not feel isolated in the community.

Felicity Cairns from WFWP NZ was the fourth presenter, and spoke on the need for balance in community decision making on all levels in order to make a better world.

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## Stress Management and Mindfulness - New Zealand

The WFWP NZ President, Felicity Cairns introduced the speakers, Hanna Cleaver and Rose Ritchie. Hanna is a trained lawyer and studied Yoga in the USA while travelling abroad.

Hanna began by talking about stress as a young person. The exam stress she experienced in Year 12 was consuming. "No one teaches you how to deal with stress, and everyone wants less stress in their lives", Hannah shared. Stress is a personal response to a stressor. FOMO, (fear of missing out), is a big amongst the young generation.



**GWPN Seminar - Honiara, Solomon Islands** 

Women's Federation World Peace Solomon Islands (WFWP SI) expanded its Global Women's Peace Network (GWPN) during a Community Women Leaders Seminar on 1<sup>st</sup> June. The topic theme was: the *Family is the School of Love, educate for Character*. Alice Anthonia Houanihau, member of WFWP SI and President of Guadalcanal Provincial Women gave the Keynote address titled, *the family is the school of love, educate for character*, Alice shared that as a parent it is our responsibility to create true love within our families. Building a 'family of love' creates a character model, where children can be educated to become peace builders and peace ambassadors.

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#### International Medical Volunteer Service, Cambodia

Dr. YeJeong DeGeer is the Vice-President of our WFWP Queensland Chapter in Australia. She is a podiatrist and runs a medical clinic in Brisbane. We are very excited that YeJeong has had the opportunity to join the International Medical Volunteer Service team in Cambodia this year. YeJeong has been able to offer her expertise to the team in the area of foot and ankle care, and foot surgery. We are discussing with Cheong Shim International Hospital for the medical team to come to PNG next year. We will keep you posted.

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**INTRODUCING** 

**OUR NEW CHARITY STORE** 

#### WFWP CHARITY BOOK STORE



\$25.00



Women's Role in World Peace - Messages for Women from Dt. Hak Ja Han Moon \$3,00

We are excited to announce the launch of our new book,

\*Herstory! You can purchase \*HerStory\* at our brand new Charity

Store on the WFWP Australia website, or through Amazon. Click

on the button below to see what else is on sale.

All profits made from our Charity Store will go towards our Local Projects.

**SHOP NOW** 



# WFWP is an International NGO in General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

The Oceania Region of WFWP International has National Chapters in: Australia (Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria), New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, PNG, Samoa. Australia and New Zealand have Charity Status.







