



WOMEN'S FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE AUSTRALIA

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Contents

From the National Office.....	<i>page 3</i>
WFWP Australia.....	<i>page 4</i>
WFWP International.....	<i>page 5</i>
1. Global Women’s Peace Network	
- UMLSV receives the GWPN Award - VIC.....	<i>page 6</i>
2. Bridge of Peace	
- The 4 Steps for Peace Making in the Bridge of Peace.....	<i>page 7</i>
- Bridge of Peace Celebration.....	<i>page 8</i>
3. Seminars, Conferences & Workshops	
- Across Victoria.....	<i>page 9</i>
- Across New South Wales.....	<i>page 16</i>
- Across Queensland.....	<i>page 20</i>
- Across the World - International.....	<i>page 25</i>
4. Service Projects for the Pacific Islands	
- Project 1: The New Hope Academy School.....	<i>page 34</i>
- Project 2: Canteen & small retail Shop.....	<i>page 36</i>
- Project 3: WFWP SI Sewing Department.....	<i>page 37</i>
- Project 4: Janet’s study experience at SINU.....	<i>page 43</i>
- Samoa women’s sewing centre.....	<i>page 44</i>
- Annual Walkathon to support our Islands Projects.....	<i>page 45</i>
- Vanuatu women receive reading glasses.....	<i>page 47</i>
Who We Are.....	<i>page 49</i>
Financial Report.....	<i>page 50</i>
Global Women’s Peace Network Partners.....	<i>page 51</i>



From the National Office



The Annual Report is a celebration of you connecting with the vision and mission of WFWP International that was passed onto us from our Founders Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and her late husband, the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung

Moon. As a WFWP member, or Friend of WFWP, the report shows your commitment to our four pillars of work:

- Serving communities through our humanitarian projects within Australia and the Pacific Islands.
- Strengthening families through values driven workshops, forums, seminars and conferences.
- Reconciling differences and healing wounds of the past, celebrated during the Bridge of Peace.
- Global Women’s Peace Network (GWPN), which is a global network of women leaders who are peace builders within their community.

At the national office we explore ways to deliver projects and events to empower women, strengthen families and connect communities by liaising with our Boards members in the Queensland, New South and Victoria Chapters for best practice.

2018 saw a focus on setting up structures to deliver increased capacity to our Board members through professional development in the NFP sector; updating our documents to meet Australian professional standards; branding and marketing ourselves more via social media; developing world class events; engaging with volunteers to support our work; gaining more members who love what we do and want to support financially; and, of course expanding our fundraising capacity to serve women living within the Pacific Islands. Our achievements reflect this focus and are highlighted in this report.

Looking at the year retrospectively, our best outcome has been the privilege of connecting with you. We are richer because of your input, your investment of heart and your passion to serve others alongside our Board members. For this I am deeply grateful and I sincerely look forward to getting to know you more as a friend during our 2019 events and projects.

Anne Bellavance
Vice-president, WFWP International (Oceania Region)
President, WFWP Australia



WFWP Australia

Women's Federation for World Peace

Living by the Logic of Love

WFWP Australia asserts that the family is the cornerstone of peace in the world, and that mature couples are the foundation for strong and loving families. Our organisation encourages every woman to become a “woman of peace” through cultivating her heart, the mother’s heart. To care not just for her own children but for the children of others, the children of other nations and the children of the world by developing and expressing the qualities of empathy, forgiveness, and unconditional love.

WFWP Australia has ongoing programs in four areas:

1/ The Global Women’s Peace Network

2/ Bridge of Peace events

3/ Forums and seminars

4/ Service projects within the Pacific Islands.

As an organisation of women, we adhere to the principle that by working together, taking initiative, and empowering one another across traditional lines of race, culture and religion; we can create healthy families and resolve the complex problems of our societies and world.

WFWP Oceania Region: Australia, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Vanautu, Fiji and Samoa.

WFWP Australia has three chapters: New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria. Victoria is the regional and national head office.

We stand for:

1. We affirm women’s value in the eyes of a loving Creator, and promote a world of goodness and peace.
2. We uphold and defend the God-given rights and dignity of women here in Australia and worldwide.
3. We promote healthy and virtuous relationships within the family between husband and wife, parents and children and extended-family members. We educate and nurture young women to develop a character of internal and external excellence.
4. We embrace one global community transcending long-held barriers such as race, religion and nationality through service, education and celebration of unique differences.
5. We empower women to take the lead for the sake of World Peace in all sectors of society, utilizing their qualities of selflessness, compassion and a desire for mutual prosperity that are central to a mother’s heart.



WFWP International

Mission Statement

WFWP International was established in 1992 by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. Dr. Moon and her husband, the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon are a remarkable couple who have worked together for over 50 years to pioneer a way for peace on the global arena. In 1997, after 5 years of humanitarian service work, WFWP International received the prestigious General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ESOCOC) and has maintained this status to the present day.

WFWP International's worldwide network of national and local chapters seeks to realise a peaceful and harmonious global family through four major activities worldwide:

- * Service projects targeting the empowerment of women and children through supporting the UN 2030 Sustainable Development goals.
- * The peacebuilding "Bridge of Peace" sisterhood project focuses on reconciliation, forgiveness and healing between people.
- * Educational conferences, seminars, forums and workshops seeks to empower women, and raise society towards a stronger moral value system.
- * The Global Womens' Peace Network (GWPN) is a network of women leaders and organisations dedicated to solving pressing social issues and securing an environment for human development. Through peace leadership based on a feminine paradigm, the GWPN seeks to ensure lasting peace and prosperity for generations to come.



WFWP's international service projects and activities support the realisation of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals of:

- No poverty
- Zero hunger
- Good health and well-being
- Quality education
- Gender Equality
- Reduced inequalities
- Climate action
- Partnership for the goals

WFWP is founded on the belief that a peaceful world begins in the heart of each person and in each family. Women from WFWP are committed to serving communities, strengthening the family, reconciling differences and healing wounds of the past.

As a Global Women's Peace Network, we are working together to establish a culture of heart in the family, community, nation and ultimately the world; in order to achieve genuine and sustainable peace under God.

Global Women's Peace Network

The World Peace Prayer Society receives GWPB Award, Melbourne, May 5th

1

Following a tradition introduced in 2017, it was then time for conferring the esteemed Global Women's Peace Network Partnership Award. This year's recipient was the World Peace Prayer Society. Founded in 1955 by a Japanese philosopher, Masahisa Goi, to promote a neutral non-sectarian movement for world peace, the Prayer Society is an organisation that transcends religion, politics and ethnicity. As an NGO associated with the UN's Department of Public Information, it has members worldwide and continues its mission through a range of peace building activities. To receive the award, two members of the Victorian branch Silvana Benacchio and Anda McMillan were invited to the podium. Expressing her gratitude for this tribute to their work, Anda emphasised our shared role - "Women working together to realise one global family rooted in a culture of sustainable peace". Etched on the award, this message will be a lasting and constant reminder of our joint responsibility towards peace building.





2

Bridge of Peace

The 4 Steps for Peace Making in the Bridge of Peace

Responsibility: We break the chains of our resentments and anger by realizing these emotions poison and debilitate us. Our attitudes, thoughts and mind-set are more essential than our external circumstances. As we take responsibility for our mind-set and determine to begin anew, we can be liberated from the effects of past or present hurt even if our basic circumstance is unchanged.

Respect: By recognizing the rights of the other, no matter who they are, we are able to open our minds to the possibility of a solution. Without respect, the only answer is death of one kind or another and the perpetuation of the cycle of conflict.

Repentance: A Personal Cease-fire: As we take responsibility, we have the strength to see our own shortcomings and our capacity to disregard the needs and situations of others. To end conflict in our own lives, we need to hold a personal “cease-fire” precipitated by self-awareness, honest assessment of our own actions and a willingness to see from the viewpoint of the other.

Commitment: As we embrace our partner of peace, whether new sister, spouse, friend or family member, we seal our personal commitment to one another and the tasks of self-development and peace building.





Bridge of Peace Celebration

Melbourne, 22nd September

Anne Bellavance, WFPW International Vice-President (Oceania) and Veronica Hassett WFPW Vic. Vice-president conducted the signature Bridge of Peace Ceremony.

The Bridge of Peace seeks to build real and lasting friendships between people from different cultural, religious and national backgrounds. The motto of the ceremony, coined by the founder of WFPW International Dr Hak Ja Han Moon is: "If the women of the world can be sisters, the men of the world won't go war."

The purpose of the Bridge of Peace is to enable healing and reconciliation between people who may have

been enemy nations in the past. Hatred is generational, passed on by the attitudes and conversations that children learn from their parents. The Bridge of Peace seeks to break this cycle of mistrust and prejudice. By becoming sisters (and brothers) who share each other's stories and develop true friendship, then our world view changes. This brings about a change in how we think, communicate and act; resulting in healing and reconciliation from the grassroots level.

The leading ladies for the ceremony were: Charlotte Mukamuberwa from Rwanda and Jody Dontje from Australia. Both women provided a personal perspective on the powerful role played by women in peacebuilding.





3

Seminars, Conferences and Workshops Afternoons with WFWP, Victoria

On Saturday August 4th, participants gathered to share an 'Afternoon with WFWP' where different activities were provided to enhance one's self care and practise mindfulness. Led by WFWP member Elise Hanson, the afternoon was a wonderful opportunity for participants to discover their own potential on the journey to self-development. Elise, affectionately known as "Mama Elise", is a spiritualist and holistic healer, proficient in Self Mastery and Metamorphic Healing and her talents were shared freely with all the participants who not only enjoyed the experiences but gained many insights.

The theme for the afternoon workshop was C.A.R.E. which was put into practice with activities related to each aspect of the theme -

C for Calm

A Mindfulness exercise aimed at creating inner peace through exercises of the mind

Activity: Colouring Book

A for Acceptance

An exercise to create acceptance of self by developing the ability to make changes from within

Activity: Game – Snakes and Ladders

R for Resonance

An exercise on how to develop a realm of resonance

Activity: Mandala

E for Energetic

An exercise to encourage practical application by developing a masterpiece

Activity: Glass Painting ('Soul' expression)





Seminars across Victoria

▪ Peace Building Seminars

A seminar on Peace- building Leadership was held on Saturday June 16th. While the initial sessions focused on the qualities required for peace-building and the historical perspectives involved in the struggle for dominance and ultimate restoration of the sovereignty of goodness, the keynote address focussed on the parallels between ancient Egypt and Judeo-Christianity links to peace-building.

Keynote speaker Dr John Coles is an Australian Physicist and author of “Macroscopic Historical Correlation - Jacob is Revealed and God Affirmed”. His presentation revealed how ancient Egypt was guided by God and therefore could play an important role in resolving the Israeli Palestinian conflict and encouraging the presence of peace in the Middle East. To realise this goal, Dr Coles offered a recommendation which he proposed to Mr Fakhry.

This recommendation involved the joint actions of the international community, Egypt and Israel building a new Capital City for Palestine. Besides funding, this would require some conciliatory measures which each country would have to undertake if peace was to be reached.

The seminar concluded with the presentation of the Ambassador for Peace Award to David Westbrook. David is the CEO and founder of Westymedia Group and Building a Better Australia Group. Besides producing media material for corporate promotions and documentary programs for hospitals and other organisations like the UN, David provides free training for young people wanting work experience in film production particularly those who are recent migrants to Australia and have limited means of support.





Seminars across Victoria

▪ Faith Stories - 7th July

At a time when news reports expound the tensions between races, ethnicities and religions, it is heart-warming to know that a group of women in the Yarra Valley are working towards breaking down racial and religious stereotypes to create community cohesion.

Women's Federation for World Peace ran the 2nd Faith Stories event on 7th July 2018 with a focus on Eastern faiths & philosophies.

The panel of speakers were well known representatives from their faith communities.

Venerable Bhikkhuni Bodhicitta, Theravada Buddhist nun; Anda McMillan from The World Peace Prayer Society; Irene Anania member of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification; Param Kaur, Co-director of Sikh Australian Support for Family Violence; and Geeta Devi, Victorian State President of Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia Inc. (World Hindu Council of Australia); and the Founding & Executive member of Indiancare Inc. shared insights on meditation, values, living with a spouse's mental illness, racial cohesion and inner peace.

Venerable Bhikkhuni Bodhicitta is a Sri Lankan Theravada Buddhist nun who is based in Melbourne, Australia. She is the Spiritual Director of International Centre for Inner Peace and Happiness Inc. in Victoria, and Buddhist Chaplain at RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia. She has conducted numerous meditation retreats, lectures, Dharma talks, and discussions in

Australia, Malaysia, and Sri Lanka. She is a renowned meditation teacher with over 25 years of experience.

Anda McMillan joined The World Peace Prayer Society in 2013 (the organisation was founded in Japan in 1950) and has since coordinated a small but enthusiastic group of peace advocates in West Gippsland. The group meets twice monthly to share practices which promote the idea that world-wide peace begins with developing inner peace at the individual level. The group has also hosted community events as part of world-wide initiatives such as Symphony of Peace Prayers, a forum to encourage interfaith dialogue and the UN-based International Day of Peace.

Irene Anania is a member of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, which was founded in Korea in 1954. Irene has run her Wellness Therapies practice (Change Dynamics) since 2008, while at the same time teaching on and off and also running seminars and workshops for carers of people with mental health issues.

Param Kaur is the Co-director of Sikh Australian Support for Family Violence (SASAF). She is also a kindergarten teacher and a volunteer with Sikh Interfaith Council of Victoria. She will be sharing with us the testimony of her life of faith: her process of learning about love and dedication, taught to her from her mum since she was at a young age; and her journey to embrace her faith and values.





Geeta Devi serves in several not for profit organisations as the Victorian State President of Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia Inc. (World Hindu Council of Australia); and the Founding & Executive member of Indiancare Inc. She is also a life member of: Hindu Society of Victoria Inc (Sri Shiva Vishnu Temple, Carrum Downs); and Telugu Association of Australia Inc. In these roles, Geeta Devi is involved in delivering various community projects and strives to spread the message of unity in diversity and to promote Sanatana Dharma values.

Five women from very different ethnic groups, faith backgrounds, and life histories with one common thread expressed best by John, an attendee, who said “Faith Stories made me realise that we are so close to each other. Our spiritual journeys are so similar; we are ‘one family’ and share such a common

experience as human beings in our personal growth, our relationship within our families and how we relate to each other within our community. Everyone should hear these stories!”

Attended by over 40 people, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. “Insightful”, “informative”, “builds community”, “speakers were excellent”, “stories all resonated with everyone”, “a wonderful day” were just some of the lovely words shared with us.

Local media provided support for the event via 3 interviews with WFPV Victoria President Anne Bellavance. “It was encouraging that local Community Radio embraced the concept of Faith Stories, it made me feel connected to my Hills community,” said Anne Bellavance.





Conferences Across Victoria

▪ UN International Day of Peace - 22nd September

The Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) and the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) hold an annual 1 day conference in Melbourne to support and foster peacebuilding within our diverse multicultural city. This year the conference was held at the Church of Christ Convention Centre, Clayton. Titled 'The Right to Peace | Legacy of Peace Builders', the event attracted 58 participants, many of whom are Ambassadors for Peace and members of WFWP. The organising committee comprised members of the Victorian Peace Council: UPF, WFWP and I Declare Peace.

The keynote address titled Positive Peace: Peace building using the Positive Peace research from the Institute for Economics and Peace was presented by Charles Allen who works in Sydney for the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP). Charles works with existing and new partners within the IEP to identify and support practical peace building and development, at policy and community levels. He spoke about the research undertaken to quantify peace, its drivers and its economic benefits. The 2018 IEP report indicates that Syria is ranked the least peaceful nation and Iceland is the most peaceful. While Ethiopia and Burundi registered the largest deteriorations in peace, the Central African Republic and Sri Lanka showed the largest improvement. Since 2008, research indicates that the world has become less peaceful. One reason for this is the increase of non-state actors in conflict. Alarming, the global economic impact of violence in 2016 was \$14 trillion.

Workshops

Six workshops were also held during the two afternoon breakout sessions, with participants choosing between one of the three workshops.

Workshop 1: The Peace Building Legacy of Rev Dr Sun Myung Moon

Dr John Bellavance, National Vice-president of UPF and UPF Victoria chairperson, provided a brief overview of the life of the remarkable founder of UPF and WFWP - the Reverend Sun Myung Moon. After screening

the video about the peace building legacy of Dr. Sun Myung Moon and his wife Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, a historical view of the world wide initiatives were presented with regards to the role of faith, the arts, media, education in peace building. Dr. Bellavance also shared some personal experience with our founders while he played a leadership role in Canada.

Workshop 2: Friendship equals Peace

"Greater understanding and respect of each other's cultures leads to a more harmonious existence, and with friendship comes the two way benefits of peace and prosperity".

This was the theme that Robin Matthews, National President of the Australia China Friendship Society spoke about in her presentation. Robin explained the work of the ACFS which was established in 1951 to promote friendship and understanding between the peoples of Australia and China by fostering interest in each other's civilization, history and heritage. This is achieved by cultural exchanges, Chinese language broadcasting, organising exhibitions, concerts, specialist tours to China and arranging delegations to Australia. Robin spoke about her family's friendship with China including welcoming a delegation of agricultural officials to her family's farm in the 1980's to learn about wool production. Another aspect of the ACFS was supporting the establishment of the Pacific China Friendship Association which contributes to a peaceful and prosperous Asia Pacific community.

Workshop 3: My Samoa

Lio Ale, Chairman of the Victorian Samoan Advisory Council shared about the history and geopolitical situation of Samoa. His personal testimony touched on family, culture and faith. There's a Samoan saying, "le ala i le pule o le tautua" meaning to be a chief, you need to serve first. Chiefs are not only responsible for the village people but their family welfare as well. This creates a culture where everyone gets along with each other and they learn to love one another. Family, culture and Christianity work hand in hand. They all



exist in all families, villages, churches and the whole country. In Samoa the family can't function without culture and Christianity; the chiefs and each family make up the villages and culture, and the same people make up each religion. It's the people that make up these three pillars and the love that binds them is intrinsic to Samoan culture. This love is shared between parent and children, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, chiefs and the village people, church ministers and the congregation, and every single person. Everyone in Samoa has a role to play and it's everyone's responsibility to make sure that there is peace within each families, village and faith.

Workshop 4: The Quest for World Peace and UBUNTU: African Perspective through Nelson Mandela

On the 100th anniversary of Nelson Mandela's birth, Dr Appollo Nsubuga, committee member of the Melbourne Nelson Mandela Commemorative Committee, spoke about the values that drove the efforts of Nelson Mandela. Dr Apollo explained the philosophy behind Ubuntu, namely the belief that "I am because we are", that who we are depends on the investments that others in us. The second core principle of Ubuntu is the belief in the universal nature of the human family, which is that we are all connected and that our future is connected.

Workshop 5: Purposeful Strategies for Peace

Jody Dontje, founder of The Help Nepal Appeal asked the question, would you rather be happy or fulfilled in life? The first step to identifying ones true fulfilling life mission, is to reflect on one's current life priorities

and begin to make conscious efforts of building peace within ourselves and creating more peace for others. Jody provided participants with the opportunity to find a peaceful balance between life priorities by reflecting on their 'Wheel of Life' and creating 5 Action Steps to begin to make positive changes that will allow more peace within oneself and for others.

Participants could purchase handmade Nepali gift items to support her non-for-profit charity efforts in Nepal. If you wish to gain contact with Jody, you are welcome to via her email address: jodyleedontje@gmail.com

Workshop 6: Living for the Sake of Others – the Legacy of Peacebuilding

Dr John Bellavance presented the peace building principles of UPF. He explained that moral and spiritual values play a significant role in transcending self-interest, including national ones. He suggested that this principle because only then can the UN truly protect the human rights of all people and build peace. The three pillars of peace were outlined, namely, peace between mind and body, peace with the family and peace with our natural environment. With respect to mind and body unity, character is needed which is the individual's capacity for self-regulation of impulses and to act morally. The second pillar is the family. In the family we mature in our love for others and our in values. The family is the unit for building a peaceful society, nation and world.





■ Connecting Communities Dinner Party - 5th May

A wonderful buzz emanated as guests gathered to celebrate the 26th anniversary of the Women's Federation for World Peace at the Mount Waverley Youth Centre on Saturday May 5th. The festivity of the occasion was enhanced by the beautifully set tables and colourful floral arrangements.

As Veronica Hassett, Vice President of the Victorian chapter of WFWP and the evening's MC, welcomed the guests, a strong sense of community permeated the hall. After a Welcome to Country, Anne Bellavance was invited to the podium to address the gathering and initiate the evening's activities. The address included an interesting account of the time spent at the CSW 62 in New York during March. This year, four representatives from Oceania three from Australia and one from New Zealand were able to attend the inspiring event. Following this account, Anne presented a PowerPoint Presentation which documented the origins of the Women's Federation, its goals and its achievements internationally, and locally. Recognition was also provided to the Board Members whose support is an important aspect of the Federation's mission. Judith Talanoa, a volunteer with WFWP, was acknowledged with a certificate and a gift for her diligent and positive contributions to our activities.



This year, the dinner was ably catered for by Kyung Mi, chef and owner of Sushimon, a Korean restaurant in Bentleigh. The buffet style dinner providing a range of delicious Korean fare was relished by all the guests. Entertainment after dinner was provided

by Huanchaco – a Melbourne based band playing World Fusion music. Playing a mix of different cultural music with Latin undertones, the talented foursome entertained the guests, who joined in with gusto - clapping and singing along in time to the music. Some guests were even inspired to form a Conga line and sway along to the rhythm around the hall.



Great excitement continued when the raffle tickets were spun around the raffle barrel and lucky winners were invited to the raffle table to choose a prize. The door prizes of boxes of Krispy Kreme donuts were well received too.

Attention then centred on the enormous birthday cake lit with candles which were blown out by the Board Members while onlookers joined in a lively rendition of 'Happy Birthday'. After generous slices were cut and distributed, the guests savoured this sweet treat. The night drew to a close not long after having achieved the goal of communal connection in a cheerful and friendly environment.





Across New South Wales

■ Christmas party - December 2017

A gathering of the NSW Chapter of WFWP for a Christmas Pot Luck was a multi-cultural affair with 13 different nationalities being represented. Seventeen wonderful women attended contributing a range of different culinary delicacies for all of us to enjoy.

After lunch, Aila shared a film about the work being done by WFWP around the world including areas in Oceania. The film was inspiring and encouraged an animated discussion amongst the audience.

The audience were then introduced to Ms Bernice Torstensson by Aila. Ms Tortensson is the President of the South Pacific Island Foundation – an organisation with whom WFWP has networked when sending aid to Vanuatu after it was badly damaged by a cyclone some years ago. Since then, Aila and Bernice have developed a strong friendship.

Bernice, who continues to be involved in the reconstruction work in Vanuatu, presented a report on the Foundation's work in Port Vila. The Foundation has contributed towards the building of a school, a hospital and 90 cyclone proof dwellings for the community of Port Vila. In recognition of her efforts, Aila nominated Bernice as the recipient of the GWPN award for 2017.

Inspired by the work carried out by our Chapter, Patricia, one of the visitors to the event, was moved to join the Board. Patricia is warmly welcomed to our organisation.

The contribution of each member at this gathering is truly valued and it is hoped that the underlying mission of WFWP will continue to inspire these members to build families and communities who are healthy and happy.





■ Annual General Meeting - 2nd January

On Tuesday the 2nd of January, members of the NSW Chapter of WFWP gathered together for the AGM to hold elections for new members to the Board and to review the activities and events held during 2017. As a result of being inspired by the work done by the organisation, one of two visitors to the AGM was motivated not only to join the organisation but to join the Board.

In her report, Lina Tuzet provided details about a donation made by a French school in Sydney. The school has donated 1600 books which are being prepared for shipping to a library in the village of Lamlu in Vanuatu. Currently, the library has only 5 books and this number will be boosted by this very generous

donation. Besides this donation, ten boxes of books collected by members of the Victorian Chapter will also be shipped to Lamlu.

Planning for another seminar in 2018 was another item on the day's agenda. It is hoped that the next seminar will focus on leadership training and networking with people within the Aboriginal community. After the success of the 2017 seminar, Hamnida, a corporate trainer has expressed an interest in working again with our Chapter in 2018.

The contributions of all the women to our Chapter are valued and have helped us to move forward and achieve our goals.





Seminars across New South Wales

■ Evening Seminar - May 3rd

A seminar for WFWP members was held on the evening of May 3rd. Mrs Madhu Sharma, a trained psychometrician, a certified career counsellor and a member of the British Psychological Society was the Guest of Honour and Speaker for the evening. Besides her background in psychometry, Madhu has a PhD in Modern Indian History and certification in Green Belt Six Sigma and Competency Mapping. With an exceptionally long career of 30 years in research, testing, teaching and training, Madhu has conducted 5800 workshops and trained approximately 120 000 organisational leaders.

While sharing her experiences with her audience, Madhu expressed her pleasure at being able to attend this special occasion as it provided her with an opportunity to “interact with a wonderful set of ladies who were teachers, students and senior officials of WFWP”.

In her presentation, Madhu described the pathways her life’s journey has taken and how her training eventually helped her to develop her own identity. Although highly trained, she revealed, initially she was lacking in an identity and unable to make her own decisions until Destiny intervened. A paradigm shift occurred and she was able to connect with her inner vision. She started to work with women whose low self-esteem and lack of confidence gave her a purpose in life and inspired her to share her knowledge and experience with them to give them hope and helped to empower them to share their skills and talents. Madhu believes that one can learn at any age and no matter when you start learning, your life can change for the better. She advised us to love ourselves as this has an impact on our level of self-esteem – the force that propels us forward in life.

Her address provided us with much food for thought and we are grateful to have had this opportunity to spend some time with her. We look forward to organising similar sessions which will help us broaden our vision and energise us with hope for the future.





■ Women's Leadership Seminar: Creating confidence through developing vision in Life and celebrating success - October 5th - 7th

According to the local Budawa Aboriginal Signage Group, the Collaroy area where the leadership seminar was held, means 'junction of two creeks' and nearby Narrabeen has the Aboriginal meaning 'source of fresh water'. The Gadagal people were the first owners and caretakers of the land on which we met. We acknowledge the traditional owners of this land and pay our respect to them, past and present. Our meeting place has so much connection to fresh water for the Gadagal people that it was very natural that our weekend was blessed with fresh rain.

Although the participants came from seventeen different cultures, by sharing ideas and opinions, they were able to discover that they all share a common humanity. In order to find peace and to love others, they not only need to take care of their own selves, they need to love themselves.

Madhu Sharma is an internationally trained psychometrician from the British Psychological Society, certified in Competency Mapping and Green Belt Six Sigma. She holds a degree in MPhil in Modern Indian

History and an MBA. Madhu has been certified as a skilled trainer by AIMA and NOCN (UK), a career guide by www.psytec.uk. With a cumulative experience of 30 years in research, teaching, training and psychometric testing, Madhu has to date conducted 5,800 workshops and trained 120,000 people in organisations.

Special thanks go to all the participants for taking time out from their busy schedules to attend the leadership training. As well, thanks go to all those who supported the seminar with time, expertise and finance.





Across Queensland

■ Christmas Party - December 13th 2017

WFWP Queensland had a beautiful annual End of the year/ Christmas Party on 13 December with over 35 participants.

In the program we presented 2 organisations, Access Community Service LTD and Logan Elders INC, Global Women's Peace Network Partnership Award plaques. They are our close partners and supporters of WFWP. And we also recognised three organisations which supported and collaborated with us in many ways with Certificates of Appreciation. Those three were Believing Women for a Culture of Peace, National Council of Women QLD and Logan's Helping Hands.

For my resignation from the president of WFWP Queensland and the vice president of WFWP Australia, I was very moved and humbled to receive certificates of recognition and gratitude from the WFWP Int. president Yeon Ah Nim and the national president Anne Bellavance.

And we introduced our future president of WFWP Queensland, Susi Evans. She shared her vision for WFWP.

The program ended with Christmas trivia & singalong lead by Yejeon DeGeer, and of course we enjoyed celebration supper.

We were very happy to have a joyful program with WFWP members and contacts.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to all of you for your support for WFWP Queensland for past 5 years.

Written by Mamiko Rattley





■ Inaugural Meeting of Young Indigenous Women for Peace - 16th April

Young Indigenous Women for Peace (YIWP) was established by Aunty Peggy Tidyman of Logan Elders in collaboration with WFWP Queensland in early 2018.

This initiative aims to empower young indigenous women by helping them to connect with their cultural and traditional backgrounds through the provision of opportunities which contribute to the development of self-confidence & resilience, and which encourage them to understand and embrace broader cultures. YIWP's inaugural meeting was held on Monday 16 April 2018 from 6pm at the Meeting Room in the Sunnybank Hills Library.

After an Acknowledgement of Country, Aunty Peggy Tidyman encouraged all the participants to introduce themselves to each other. Besides two young

indigenous women Djandi Merenda and Caitlyn Ryan, other participants included Aunty Cathy Jackson and Sheri Merenda from Logan Elders and Yuko, Sara Josifoska, Shizuyo Adamedes and Julia Raymond from WFWP.

After the introductions, Aunty Peggy explained the aim of the YIWP initiative and outlined the program. Mamiko Rattley, past president of WFWP Queensland, introduced WFWP and its activities in Brisbane using a PowerPoint presentation. She encouraged YIWP youth to understand WFWP's core values by inviting them to attend the Celebrating Life presentations in July.

The meeting concluded after a discussion about future projects of the YIWP, including a possible trip to Japan.





Seminars across Queensland

■ The Importance of Fundamentals to Resolve Social Issues: The Need for Universal Principles - 4th July

WFWP Queensland in conjunction with UPF Queensland organised an evening seminar on July 4th 2018 at the Interfaith Community Centre in Annerley. The seminar was attended by a total of 75 people amongst whom were several community leaders. Susi Evans, President of WFWP Queensland and the Reverend Steve Evans, Director of UPF Queensland coordinated the event together.



Amongst the special guests were Dr. Robert Kittel, World President of Youth and Students for Peace (YSP), Rev. Shang Park (FFWPU Continental Director for the Oceania Region), Mr. Greg Stone (UPF Secretary General for the Oceania Region) and Rev. Soon Teck Lim (FFWPU Australia President).

After Aunty Peggy Tidyman, an Indigenous elder and Ambassador for Peace (AFP) delivered the 'Acknowledgement of Country, the seminar commenced. The evening's activities included an inspiring speech from Dr. Kittel who enlightened the audience about why his speech could be the most important speech in life, the presentation of four awards to UPF Ambassadors for Peace and entertainment by Robert and Rowa Kaforau who sang two inspiring songs about peace and healing love.



Feedback from the community leaders who attended was positive and indicated that the presentations had a great impact on them. They also expressed an interest in inviting some of the presenters to community events to share their views.

Maureen Mopio, host of a radio program "Women's Profile" was impressed by the evening's message and invited Susi to share this message on air. Susi will be speaking on Maureen's program on July 27th. The evening was a success and it is hoped that further programs will be organised enabling us to continue to share the message of peace and offer strategies to resolving social issues.





■ Character and values education Seminar - 6th August

A seminar on character and values education was held at the FFWPU centre on Monday 6th August. Organised by WFWP Qld for members of the Young Indigenous Women for Peace (YIWP), it was attended by six members of YIWP, three members of WFWP Qld and the leader couple of the centre.

The evening commenced with a video on WFWP Japan's annual activity report after which John Adamedes, the UPF education officer, delivered a presentation on the Family as the School of Love.

Additionally, he provided two lessons from the Celebrating Life program on "Who Am I?" and "Responsibility". His presentation was most inspiring and had all the members of the audience listening attentively.

To conclude the evening, Yejeong, a Board member of WFWP Qld described the journey she undertook to achieve her professional goals. She advised the audience particularly the younger members to continue to work at achieving their goals if they wanted to succeed in life.

The next WFWP project titled "The Peace Road Event" is to be held shortly and Yejeong invited the audience to attend this event.

Feedback from the participants indicated that they found the content of the evening most interesting and of value to them.

Another seminar is planned for the future to enable us to complete the remaining content of the Celebrating Life program.





■ Brisbane Peace Road - October 13th 2018

Held at the Albert Bishop Criterium Circuit in Nundah, the event was co-sponsored by WFWP Queensland, the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU). Although the morning was quite wet, the bad weather did nothing to daunt any of the participants who joined in all the events with a great sense of enthusiasm and adventure.

After AFP member Aunty Peggy offered clarity and history of the land with her acknowledgment to Country, the cycling competition began with WFWP members and friends joining Dr Yejeong Kim Degeer, her husband Chris and his brother Robert Degeer leading the way.

With four categories to choose from, participants from different age groups competed in a range of preliminary races which were followed by the Peace Solidarity Walk.

After an explanation of this world wide initiative by Steve Evans the Chair of the UPF, the Walk took place with participants joining together to complete one lap of the criterium. The Walk completed, the two top cyclists competed in the final "one-on-one" race which was won by Chris Degeer.

The day would not have been complete without the obligatory raffle draws and the 'best dressed walk'. Awards were handed out to winners of the different race categories by Peace Ambassadors Dr Vasugi, Officer Dario and WFWP President Susi Evans.

The passion and sense of unity displayed by the staff and our supporters was both inspirational and wonderful. Special thanks go to our MC Kim Raymond who was supported by Naoko and Julia, our audio – video guru John Adamedes and Chef Shizuyo for her contribution.

To all the volunteers who made this event so special particularly Mamiko Rattley, Yuko Josifoski, William Saver and Robert Kaforau, we offer our appreciation.

We look forward to celebrating next year's event with many more participants as our organisation continues to grow.





Across the World - International

International Leadership Conference - 11th March

Attending an International Women’s Federation event has not ever been an opportunity offered to me till now when I was asked to represent Australia at the International Leadership Conference being held from 18th to 21st of February in Seoul, Korea. As Anne Bellavance the President of WFWP Australia was unable to attend this conference, she directed the invitation my way and off I flew to Seoul to participate in the conference organised by the International Peace Federation.

While travelling to Seoul, I was seated next to a woman flying to Seoul to attend the Winter Olympics as her son was competing in the bob sled event. While I learned about bob sledding from my travelling companion, I was able to inform her about the Women’s Federation for World Peace and its role in promoting peace.

I arrived in Seoul on the 18th morning and was driven to the conference in Cheongpyeong. While travelling to the conference, I was struck by the serenity of my surrounds. I had heard Korea referred to as ‘the Land of the Morning Calm’ and I could whole heartedly endorse this title as I absorbed the beauty and calm spirit encircling the conference centre.



My time in Korea was absolutely wonderful. While enjoying different aspects of Korean culture including the food, I was uplifted by the stories presented at the conference about the work being done by women

across the different continents.

Mrs Hak Ja Han Moon our founder related her experiences in Africa where she has been working to promote peace and reconciliation. Her main role there was to heal the hearts of the African people whose ancestors had been taken as slaves to the Americas. Both the President of Senegal and Nelson Mandela’s grandson Mandla Mandela praised Mrs Moon’s efforts towards generating universal peace. While Mandla was highly impressed by his grandfather’s efforts to promote peace in Africa, he felt that Mrs Moon’s efforts were loftier as she was working towards global peace.

During the conference, I was lucky to meet up with Susan Kone the WFWP President from Nairobi Kenya. While conversing with her, I mentioned my hope that she would meet a young woman from Nairobi with whom I have connected online.

Attendance at this conference was empowering and an opportunity to recognise the great gifts the participants possess. I was buoyed by their enthusiasm and the love they have for all people. The conference provided me with a zest for sharing the goals and vision of WFWP with others. The world is in need of change and by taking the lead; women can pave the way for change through the power of love and care.





■ CSW62 Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls - 18th March

In De Saint-Exupéry's classic tale written in 1942, the fox in "The Little Prince" reveals a secret....."One sees clearly only with the heart" and this secret, once revealed, buoyed the prince as he progressed on his journey in search of wisdom. This same secret revealed itself time and time again as I journeyed through CSW 62 and listened to the stories of the numerous presenters.

Amongst the constant distractions and destructive forces operating across the globe, hundreds or perhaps more accurately, thousands of women are using 'their hearts to see clearly' and some of these women narrated their tales of how they are making a difference to the orphans in Africa, to the impoverished schoolgirls on the northern borders of Thailand and Myanmar and to the marginalised Dalits in Nepal. These women came to share their stories across the different venues hosting the side events and parallel events during the NGO CSW 62 Forum in New York.

Listening attentively to their stories and to the underlying messages in each of these stories, one could not but be energised to reach out, follow their star and make a difference no matter where or to whom. Some of the messages that resonated strongly and could reap rich benefits if practised across the globe are that in the pursuit of success, no person should do harm; peace is freedom to see the needs of others naturally and human rights are sacred rights.

With regards to the first message of 'doing no harm', speakers at a parallel event titled "Promoting Mental Health and Well Being for the Advancement of Women" emphasised the need to develop a range of interventions to deal effectively with people experiencing mental health problems. While depression continues to become a wider mental health problem, the implementation of current interventions is neither timely nor socially acceptable thus causing further problems. In rural settings, this

issue is exacerbated. Besides the lack of treatment facilities, the social stigmas attached to mental health problems creates an environment that degrades women and treats them like pariahs.

One of the suggested strategies to alleviate this growing dilemma was to use technology more effectively and more frequently. Besides reducing the time and physical effort required to perform tasks most often performed by women to run a household, technology could also help women to connect with others including health professionals who could offer advice and counselling to deal with concerns regarding emotional and mental issues. By connecting with others, women in rural areas could be provided with a listening ear, strategies to build their self-esteem and treatment options to help reduce their sense of despair and isolation.

Many women in rural settings or in rural areas dominated by males have little or no access to equity and are often subjected to gender based violence. Responses to this violence are often cruel and victims are subjected to further violation of their human rights when they are placed in mental institutions or isolated from their family. This is in direct opposition to SDG 3 – access to good health and wellbeing and needs to be addressed. The provision of education for women and training for local health workers in rural areas were seen as key strategies to enable the reduction in mental health problems in rural areas.

These strategies which require government and civil society investment have been operating successfully in Guinea where funds and effort have been provided to improve the ratio of health workers to citizens. In the session "Investing in rural health workers for the economic participation and empowerment of rural women and girls", presenters provided evidence that highlighted the impact such a program was having. Besides providing initial training for local health workers, training programs that enhanced their skills



provided further qualifications in midwifery and nursing were also made available. Education was seen as Power and enabling health workers to improve their skills and knowledge caused a ripple effect as the health of mothers and babies improved due to better access to trained midwives and nurses.



While there were many opportunities to listen to the transformative changes that women have wrought in many areas, we were reminded that negative forces were at play across the globe that were working against women. Hon. Ulrika Karlsson an MP from Sweden cautioned her listeners to become aware of the political groups proliferating across the world with views that are detrimental to gender equity and who are trying to demolish the gains made by women over the last 40 years in regard to equity. “Disregarding women’s rights”, she warned was “detrimental to the globe”. She urged women to stand strong and ensure these gains continued to occur.

She posed two questions to conclude her warning – “If not we, then who? And if not now, then when?” leaving us with the message that now is a critical time for action if the goals of CSW 62 were to be met.

Sessions organised by Women’s Federation for World Peace were informative and inspirational. At the side event “Fostering Hope for Rural Women and Girls through Integration and Education: Challenges and Impact”, presenters offered a range of ideas and facts on the problems facing women in rural areas and some effective strategies to deal with these problems.

Mr Ashraf El Nour the Director of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) Office to the UN described the work being performed by the Global Combat for Migration (GCM). This is an initiative which works to deal respectfully with the growing trend of mass human migration. “Human migration,” Mr El Nour explained is a “game changer.” While this phenomenon is occurring on a scale never experienced before, treatment of displaced persons is becoming less compassionate.

“While women tend to be a large percentage of these migrants”, he explained, “Their roles are changing.” Many of these women are migrating from rural areas to urban areas in their own countries or to other



countries in search of work. From the traditional role of ‘home-maker’ they are becoming ‘bread-winners’. While working away from home, these women nevertheless, still support their families at home sending money to provide for the education and care of their children while managing to contribute small amounts to a saving plan for the future. This game changing scenario is sure to have an impact on the future of these communities.

Professor Yeon Ah Moon the President of the Women’s Federation for World Peace International described the contribution that this organisation was making to alleviate the growing violations experienced by displaced people in different parts of the world. While these “homeless travellers” were vulnerable and often overlooked, she highlighted the role WFPW played in forming partnerships with other organisations to respond to these travellers with respect and love.



Dr Sakena Yacoubi from Afghanistan presented a personal perspective of the power of hope and education her organisation is able to offer to women in Afghanistan. Working in camps with refugees and women in rural areas, the Afghan Institute of Learning (AIL) has been providing education for Afghani women to become lawyers and advocates for ensuring rights for their sisters. She concluded her presentation with a brighter picture of women in her country who she assured us with joy in her voice were progressing and becoming more competent.

Two other speakers at the event provided examples of how scientific research and humanitarian efforts were contributing to provide hope and dignity to vulnerable women and children thus emphasising to the audience that they too could contribute to making a difference to others.

While the content of other sessions reflected these concepts and reiterated the notion of working for the common good, a key message for consideration when endeavouring to generate equity, was the importance of balancing the power between men and women and recognising that each gender has their own strengths. It is only by working in unison, can equity be truly achieved.

In conclusion, CSW 62 was an opportunity to listen, to be inspired and to reaffirm within myself the value of 'seeing clearly with the heart' and to work towards peace by uplifting, collaborating and transforming the lives of others by being a 'Leader of the Heart' a term referred to by Angelika Selle President of WFP USA and Vice President of WFWPI.

Written by Joan D'Abreo



■ WFWPI Parallel Event Highlights the Vital Role of Education for Rural Families - 16th March

On March 16, 2018, WFPW International co-sponsored a parallel event with The Guild of Service as part of the 62nd UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW62) on the theme “Engaging the Rural Family: The Vital Role of Education.” The speakers shared their insights on the role and importance of education and sustainable methods of supporting rural communities. The event started in anticipation and excitement as around 135 people filled the room on the second floor of the Church Center for the United Nations in New York City. There was a friendly atmosphere as members of several different women’s NGOs and participants of CSW62 greeted each other.

Ms. Khanna acknowledged that we are all “comrades on the path to women’s empowerment” and expressed her delight at creating new bonds with WFWPI and young women. She launched into a description of India’s challenges and barriers, such as how 69% of the population is illiterate, that there is a very high level of violence against women, and that women, especially rural women and girls, are marginalized in society. However, Ms. Khanna passionately spoke of the key role of education and how it intersects with the aforementioned challenges. She drew attention to the way we conceptualize “education” – that education does not only exist in the classroom, but how indigenous “barefoot knowledge” is also very important. “This makes sense because traditional knowledge is [also] knowledge,” said Ms. Khanna. The audience applauded enthusiastically as she said, “There is an absolute paradigm shift! The way we educate in India is changing.”

The next speaker, Ambassador Isaiah Chabala, former Permanent Representative of Zambia to the UN, gave his address by first acknowledging his faith and warmly spoke about all of us being “one human family.” Ambassador Chabala suggested a focus on what we can do to instigate change rather than focusing only on the challenges of those in rural communities. He spoke about his experience after retiring as Permanent Representative, feeling

called to a social justice ministry to advocate for orphans and widows who were in need, and to promote the empowerment of women within the UN. Ambassador Chabala confidently stated “I’ve become a women’s activist” and stressed the need to meditate and go back to God to become activists ourselves.

Dr. Bishnu Maya Pariyar, founding President of the Association of Dalit Women Advancement in Nepal, was welcomed next to expound on her experience working with Dalit women and children in Nepal through micro-funding, education, empowerment and sustainable farming. Dr. Pariyar shared the



moving and emotional story of her rural upbringing in Nepal, one of challenge and humiliation. However, through the support of her loving family and the Peace Corps, she was able to transform her life through education. “It was suffering,” she said. “[However] I turned that to love and power!”

Dr. Bishnu Maya Pariyar was born in Nepal to a family who were considered outcastes and was discriminated against while at school as she was considered an untouchable. She was often questioned, “Why are you at this school?” and was not allowed to sit at the table with the other children. She had to sit on the floor and was degraded throughout her school years because she was a woman and a member of the Dalit caste. She recognised that



education would be her key and worked towards gaining a doctorate in 2013. While completing her own education at age 20, she started her own organisation which offered educational opportunities for girls in Nepal. Through her inspirational story, she highlighted the power of practicing ‘the logic of love’ in her own life and work. Dr. Pariyar passionately shared how she started her organization in order to help those who are marginalized, especially by gender. “Education is Human rights!” she exclaimed. “We want to make sure that no one is left behind!” Dr. Pariyar’s ardent delivery ignited the audience into vigorous applause, especially when she ended with “educating one girl is educating the whole community, empowering one girl is empowering the whole community.”



The next speaker, Dr. Sandra Barrueco, an Associate Professor of Psychology at the Catholic University of America, spoke about her intervention approaches for young ethnically and linguistically diverse children and families, including migrant and seasonal farm workers from Mexico, in the United States. Dr. Barrueco highlighted the success of a family-focused, multi-generational approach, such as English as a Second Language classes as a family. Migrant worker families have complex and multifaceted challenges. Many of these families suffer from depression, emotional pain, displacement, and lack of time with their children. According to Dr. Barrueco, it is important to empower women and families by listening to their stories. Children’s education is not only a child’s issue, she stated, but also a family one. Through intergenerational learning with families, Dr. Barrueco believes that children can learn and develop in a holistic and more successful way.

The final panelist was a young professional who is a doctoral candidate at Yale University, Ms. Maile T. Phillips, who shared her experience in the Peace Corps as a Math’s teacher in a remote village in Sierra Leone where she initiated a girls’ club. The club focused on their empowerment and educational themes of goal-setting, leadership and sexual and reproductive health. Through working with the families of these young girls and their community, Ms. Phillips was able to encourage more girls to attend school. At the start of the year, there was 50/50 representation of boys and girls. But, towards the end of the year the class was mainly boys. The girls had to stay home due to home chores and felt awkward when they got their menstrual cycles. Girls end up getting married at a young age, have children early and often die during child birth. They have few job opportunities or the means to lift their own children out of the same cycle without the chance for education, this includes sexual health education.

In closing, Ms. Alexa Ward, Director of WFWPI’s UN Office in New York, explained how this event was primarily organized by a young adult team from WFWPI, which included the Emcee, Krista Smith, co-chair Maryam Farooq, Dustin Knoblauch, and Naria Garder, who were treated with great appreciation by the speakers and the audience. After the event concluded, there was a warm, inspiring atmosphere of support and solidarity among those present. The guest speakers and participants posed together for pictures, highlighting the perception that instilling an intergenerational, collaborative spirit is the way forward to success.



■ Horizon Summit – ‘Rising Side by Side’ - 21st March

Ninety two WFWP delegates from 22 nations attended CSW62 this year. The week of forums within the United Nations building, and around New York, concluded with the intergenerational weekend Horizon Summit held at the beautiful 4W 43rd Street venue in downtown Manhattan. At the Summit, our International President, Professor Yeon Ah Moon welcomed all the women delegates. In her address, she stressed the importance of Peace Leadership as a means for creating mutual prosperity and interdependence for everyone which in turn, she explained upholds universally shared values.

While Alexa Ward (WFWPI Dep. Director of the New York UN office) inspired the young women of WFWP to “make the work theirs, stand up, shine, and make the dream real,” Angelica Selle (WFWP USA President) asked the audience to search for answers to the question - “What could be done to solve the world problems of today?”

One solution, she suggested, lay in leadership and the most successful type of leadership she explained is leadership of the heart where ‘living for the sake of others’ is practised. “This,” she explained, “is a holistic solution that requires the joint efforts of each other, and will only occur if we understand the values we share.”

She highlighted the role that WFWP plays as an agent of change. WFWP offers a partnership approach where men and women, working together and supporting each other bring their attributes forward for peace building. To conclude her address, Angelica asked us to heed this African proverb - “If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go together” which recapped the essence of her presentation.

During the panel on Peace Leadership, Carolyn Handschin (Director of the WFWPI UN Office worldwide) shared that Peace Leadership must be rooted in love, and dignity must be rooted in purpose, because we are ‘one family under God’. Peace means horizontal balance and harmony; becoming one. Therefore, Peace Leadership is leadership with warmth, tenderness and love. It is about quality, not quantity.

Dr. Sakena Yacoobi (founder and CEO of the Afghan Institute of Learning and winner of the Sun Hak Peace Prize) explained that Peace Leadership is a great responsibility, because as leaders, we are role models for guiding people. She highlighted the necessity for leaders to have peace within themselves. “Peace”, she explained, “means you love each other”. In the Holy Koran, God said that we must love each other. Thus, a





leader must lead people with the right heart and work collectively with other citizens for peace.

Learning about love begins at school where the curriculum teaches children to share and love each other. Young people are the future and older people are the link to the past, so both need to be brought to the table when seeking solutions.

Leaders need to go out into the community and listen carefully to the people in order to find solutions to problems. This builds respect and trust. Women have heart and a loving care, thus as a leader, women must act with this attribute.

Dr. Yacoobi shared that she is a strong believer who never gives up hope. “When terrible things happen, I go to my God and pray. We must be patient and never give up.” Describing her reasons for choosing to work with Afghani women, Sakena explained that as mothers are the first teachers, women must be educated. The family must be part of our children’s ‘values education’, because teachers cannot do it alone.



The 2018 WFWPI Global Woman’s Peace Prize recipient was Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury. The Ambassador is the permanent representative of Bangladesh to the UN & founder of the Global Movement for the Culture of Peace. Ambassador Chowdhury in his address advocated the need for engaging women in leadership roles particularly when seeking solutions for world peace.

He explained, “We should never forget that when women, who are half of our global population are marginalised, there is no chance for our world to get peace. When

women work together in equality with men, then we will achieve sustainable peace. When women are included in peace security, peace lasts longer and is more easily achievable because women bring harmony. The question is not to make war liveable for women, but to remove war from the security table. Empowering women’s peace leadership will be better for everyone. When women join politics they want to do something, when men join politics, they want to be something. None of the SDGs will make headway until we address women’s equality and empowerment. The UN has had a man occupy the head of the organisation for its entire 7 decades. Change is possible and long overdue.”

Ambassador Chowdhury shared that he was a proud feminist and advised us all to be feminists. “Feminism”, he clarified, “is not women against men; it is about human rights. It is about recognising the role of women and working with them to achieve change.”



In concluding, he advised us to consider this statement - “In your eagerness to get something done quickly, never lose your soul, and in the business of life, find space for spirituality”.

During the afternoon capacity building workshops, participants had a choice of attending two of the eight sessions.

Margaret Williams (senior Peace and Security Officer at the World Federation of United Nations Associations in New York) presented a session on ‘Advocacy, Building out a Strategy’. She explained the role the SDGs play in the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies; they



provide justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels of society. The SDGs are more inclusive, have many stakeholders, and thus provide ownership. They involve everyone everywhere to take responsibility, and they challenge member states to get involved.

She provided an extensive description of the process involved in building an advocacy toolkit. In order to attract interest in a cause, she suggested a focus on building a coalition. To do this, it is important to find the champion who 'gets' your cause and who will then champion your cause. It is important to build friendships and leave enemies at the door, rather than focusing on differences, find the sweet spot where you can work together with others.

When a project is ready to roll out, messaging is the key; it needs to be short, clear, relevant and powerful, linked to an action, and has a solution. You need to know your audience, publicise your message and pitch your message as, "I want to change x, y, and z and this is how to do it."



Angelica Selle (WFWP USA President) presented a session on 'Leadership of the Heart' in which she explained how a leader can win the heart of people in order to make positive change.

She highlighted the motto of WFWP USA which is 'to uplift, collaborate and transform'. In order to follow this motto, the truth is very simple – we need to ask how I care for others. The answer is only possible through developing relationships of the heart.

In peace building, we need to find common ground, and to achieve this, we need to break down barriers, because one person does not have all the answers. Collaboration is the key to solve issues.

Feminine leadership is about building fulfilling relationships, and is the foundation for peace building. 'Leadership of the heart' is an innate feminine style of leadership that involves the act of thinking about people's hearts, embracing others, and preventing personal feelings from getting in the way for collaboration to occur. It involves seeing from a higher perspective, rather than just from a personal perspective. WFWP is advocating 'leadership of the heart' to champion feminine styles of leadership in all areas of society. WFWP is promoting balanced leadership, rather than the power of a masculine or feminine leadership style over the other. This is a partnership approach, where men and women work together to bring peaceful solutions to societies' problems.





Service Projects for the Pacific Islands

4

The Pacific Island development projects of WFP focus on capacity building; empowering women with leadership, support, skills and knowledge to run and maintain the projects.

Financial support is an important component; these projects would not be possible without the vision and generous support of WFP members, volunteers, friends and partnership with local providers.

■ Project 1: The New Hope Academy School

The New Hope Academy Kindergarten was initiated by WFP Japan and WFP Australia and operated by WFP Solomon Islands.

In the year 2017, the school has developed and increased its participant's numbers to 110 students. The school enrolls students into the age group categories of age 3, 4 and 5. There were 50 students enrolled under age 3, with the support of three teachers. 30 students were enrolled under the age group of 4 years old, with the support of two teachers. Also, 30 students enrolled under the age group of 5 years old, with the support of two teachers. The school has one administrative staff that is responsible for doing related administrative matters for the school. The school also has one supervisor, which supervises the general well-being of the school. The school has a total of 8 staff.

2017 was not an easy year for the New Hope Academy Kindergarten, as the school had to move to a new location. This caused extra efforts and expenses. Despite this, the school has managed to settle down, and operated successfully until the end of the academic year of 2017.

The school was also delighted to receive a set of iPads, which have been donated by WFP Australia. They function as additional learning resources for the teachers and students. This donation has boosted the learning curve for students to the next level, and parents were really proud of this. Now the New Hope Academy is the first kindergarten in Solomon Islands that has a computer class where students can access

new technology, learn new things and develop their skills as part of their learning experience at school.

The school successfully completed the 2017 academic year, with 30 students graduating from the kindergarten to move onto a primary level of education.

The school has managed to break through to finance its ongoing activities, with the support of the schooling fees collected from the students. Collection of the school fees has also financed the teaching staff salaries and the general operations of the school.



The New Hope Academy Kindergarten School Board, together with the WFP Solomon Islands, would like to give sincerely thanks to the WFP Japan, WFP Australia and other donating individuals for your continuous support rendered for the School in year 2017.



■ School materials donated by WFWP VIC

On behalf of the Women's Federation for World Peace Solomon Islands (WFWP SI) and the New Hope Academy School (NHA), we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Women's Federation for World Peace Victoria, Australia for your kind donations. We thank you for donating school materials together with four projectors and second hand clothes.

On the 12th of April 2018, we were delighted to receive a total of 49 boxes from Melbourne containing materials which will be of great assistance to the NHA School and WFWPSI. The New Hope Academy School is so fortunate to have these additional learning materials which will contribute to a favourable learning environment for our young students. Now, the school is finally equipped with a school library which will enhance and boost the learning environment of the school.

Your continuous support is of great value to our team (WFWP SI & NHA).

Once again, we would like to sincerely thank the Women's Federation for World Peace Victoria, Australia and Beacons Hills College for your kind donations and for your continued partnership and friendship enabling us to work towards our common goals.



Why does WFWP focus its projects within the Pacific Islands?

WFWP Australia focuses its Service Projects in the Island Nations of the Oceania region (Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Samoa). These regions are some of the poorest countries in the world. The 2014 World Bank ranking of 181 nations according to GDP for the Pacific Islands is: Solomon Island (131), Micronesia (123), PNG (127), Vanuatu (119) Marshall Islands (113), Samoa (103) and Fiji (95).

In these countries there is no social security and education is not free, even in public schools. For these reasons, and especially being these regions our immediate neighbours, we feel responsible for their wellbeing and development.





■ Project 2: Canteen & small retail Shop

The WFP Solomon Islands had seen this as one of the contributing tools that can financially support the ongoing of its activities together with the general running of the school so the small retail shop had begun operated in June 2017.

The WFP Solomon Islands discuss and initiate the small retail shop. The aim of the small retail shop is to financially support with the new school building for Primary level of education for children/students of the New Hope Academy Kindergarten.

During the month of December 2017, the shop is successfully accomplishing its goal that is financially support the new school building.

The shop had help in financially supported to paid for the registration of the new school building from the Honiara city council and also meets other related costs that was required or demanded before the construction of the new school building that was constructed.

The shop initiated purposely to raise additional funds while at the same time the responsible staff had grown in their hearts of living for the sake of others and benefits in creating jobs opportunity for two staff.

Thus, with the small retail shop the school had grown its asset to empower the school as a whole. This is the first business that the school have and the retail shop is located within the school compound that makes it easier to access school stationaries and other goods for students and parents whom want to purchase items.

The small retail shop has successfully operated from June 2017 and currently operating to meet other financial needs for the school.

The WFP Solomon Islands is very pleased to have the small retail shop initiated purposely for financially supporting the New Hope Academy School expansion.





■ Project 3: WFWP SI Sewing Department

The Sewing department is one of the most influential project for WFWP Solomon Islands. This creates an avenue for women and girls to exert their knowledge and skills in sewing that create meaningful contributions to their family as a whole.

The sewing department under the WFWP Solomon Islands began in November 2016. The idea came out when the Australia WFWP donates thirty sewing machines to the Solomon Islands in year 2014. Thus, with these sewing machines, the Solomon Islands WFWP women meet and discuss that they should take ownership of these sewing machine by doing sewing trainings. The sewing training began in late 2015 by Ann Marie from Brisbane Australia who came to Solomon Islands to lead the sewing training sessions. Hence, in year 2016 the WFWP Solomon Islands had implement new ideas that our women should be responsible to sew the New Hope Academy Kindergarten School Uniforms.

Therefore, the WFWP Solomon Islands has selected four women and started to sew the school uniforms project and other small sewing projects for the schools as well.

In year 2017, the sewing department group had sewn the school graduating gown for the school grandaunts. In November 2017, the sewing department team had also successfully sew the school order uniforms for year 2018. They sew 120 pairs of uniforms in preparation for the academic year for year 2018. Generally, the women really develop their knowledge and skills with having strong determination to carry on these sewing activities. It had really change the mindset of women to think positives on how to develop themselves with being professional in sewing. Thus, it boost their performance to work extra harder to increase their sewing professionalism to a better required standards.

In short, the WFWP Solomon Islands is proposing for the future to engage the sewing department team to further do other sewing such as to sew varieties of island outfits and to market it to the public nationally.





■ Training of trainers report - April 12th

The Women's Federation for World Peace Solomon Islands (WFWP) SI is pleased to present its report on the recent sewing training program for the WFWP SI training of trainers.

May 2018, 7th to 11th May 2018 - Three representatives from WFWP SI participated in a sewing training program which cost SBD3600 and the training was successfully accomplished.

June 2018 - Proposed plan for month of June:

- These 3 trainers will sew the NHA School uniforms.
- They will sew other types of clothing for sale for example traditional island dresses, shirts, trousers, school uniforms and children's clothes
- They will hold sewing training programs for members of WFWP SI or other interested women for two weeks every month
- They will also conduct other fabric art programs such as fabric dyeing, printing on fabric, screen printing and fabric design

July 2018 - Proposal to open an Extension outlet for selling clothes

August 2018 to November 2018 - Sewing and fabric art programs will continue to create items for sale in the extension outlet.

December 2018 - Closing and Exchange programs

Although the creation of sewed items may seem a simple process, building an outlet for selling these items will require more effort and additional finance. A discussion will be held with members regarding a program of fund raising.

The photographs illustrate the training program taking place with members of WFWP SI





■ Updates on the WFWP SI Sewing Department - August 21st

The WFWP Solomon Islands are privileged to have two wonderful women who are dedicating themselves to keep our sewing department operating effectively. These two women are Nelly Masuaku and Catharine Rongona.

With the help of these women, the following achievements have been made possible -

- During July, 50 sets of uniforms for students were produced in response to a request from New Hope Academy.
- During August and September, sets of uniforms for 2019 will be produced. Altogether, it is planned to produce 100 shirts, 100 pairs of trousers and 100 dresses.

To increase sales, new products have been designed and manufactured. The new products are different sized clothing hanger bags. So far, 7 large bags, 4 medium bags and 2 small bags have been produced. While the larger bags will be sold for SBD 50, the medium size bags will be retailed at SBD 30 and the small bags for SBD 25.

The women intend to increase the types of products they design and create in the future. These products include handbags, shirts, peg holders, pillow cases and floor mats although the priority will be to produce school uniforms for 2019. To facilitate the sales of these products, it is intended we build an extension next to the current school retail shop.

Reflection from the Tailors:

1) Nelly Masuaku

I really enjoy creating, cutting and sewing products. I feel really good when I am doing these activities. To make our sewing more effective, it would be lovely to get a machine that can do button holes. It is our vision to train more women to sew products and so we can make more products and sell these in our shop. It would be good to open up our own WFWP shop.

2) Catharine Rongona

I really enjoy sewing and it is my aim to improve my sewing to a high standard. It would be nice to be able to create new designs and dressmaking patterns. I would appreciate attending a workshop on pattern designing so that I can broaden my knowledge and skills and sew better quality products. I am really enjoying my time sewing for WFWP SI and for the New Hope Academy.





■ WFWP SI Sewing Department officially opens for Business - September 19th

Sunday 16th September was an auspicious day for the WFWP Solomon Islands Sewing Centre as it was officially opened by the pastor from our local church. The opening was well attended by church members and their children. All present at this occasion were treated to a special lunch which included ice-cream for dessert.

Both Nelly Masuaku and Catharine Rongona are to be commended for their efforts in developing this sewing venture. Nelly who was at the opening was delighted to be part of this venture. She felt that the official opening was a truly 'blessed' occasion and was the realization of a wonderful dream. Catharine echoed these sentiments and acknowledged the possibilities this business offered other young girls and women in the Solomon Islands.

Soon after the ribbon was cut by the pastor, many young girls attending the event excitedly raced into the venue which caused Nelly to comment that the venture was more than likely to have a bright future seeing the enthusiasm of the future generation. Nelly encouraged all the women present to contribute to this venture so that it could continue to grow and provide them with a successful business while increasing employment opportunities.

Both these women emphasized that they would continue to meet customer demands by producing high quality products. As well, they assured their customers that they would continue to create innovative and diverse products to attract more customers.

Almost all the products displayed that day were purchased by those present with several orders placed for new products. The most popular items purchased were dresses, pillowslips and cloth wall bags.

Currently, the Sewing Centre acts as a workroom and a sales outlet. It is envisaged that as sales increase, funds can be raised to add on an extension specifically for a sales outlet.





■ Industrial sewing machines arrive in Solomon Islands - October

WFWP Solomon Islands would like to thank both WFWP Victoria and WFWP Australia for their generous and continuous support to our Chapter. The three industrial sewing machines sent by WFWP friends in Australia will be of great use to our New Hope Academy Sewing Project.

Nelly Masuaku and Catherine Rongona who have been working in this project are really excited to receive this gift as they will be able to use these machines to produce a range of garments. These machines will speed up the process of garment production and contribute to creating even more garments than in the past.

The 3 industrial sewing machines are currently stored at the NHA school but will soon be moved to the sewing department room.





■ Plans for the new location of WFWP SI Sewing Centre - November

Currently, one of the classrooms in the New Hope Academy is being used as a Training Centre for our Sewing Project. At a recent meeting, a decision was made to move this Training Centre to a new location as there are plans to use this room for school students in 2020.

A house in East Honiara has become available and would be an ideal location for the Sewing Centre and for an office for WFWP as it offers easy access to local communities. The house will need considerable renovations to make it suitable for our activities.

As the house has two stories, the plan is to use the ground floor as the Sewing Centre while the first floor will serve as the office for WFWP.

We envisage that the cost of the renovations will be about 400 000 SBD for which funds will need to be raised. The renovations are planned to take place in two stages. Initially, the priority is to renovate the ground floor by 2020 to accommodate the Sewing Centre before it has to move out of the school. Costs for this initial project will be around 200 000 SBD which we are hoping can be raised with the support of WFWP sisters in Australia.

Renovations are expected to begin by June 2019.



■ Project 4 - Janet's study experience at SINU - August



A new scholarship candidate sponsored by the WFPW 'Pacific Island Scholarship Fund' has been successful in enrolling in the Early Childhood Education Course at the Solomon Islands National University. Janet, who is our candidate enrolled at the University in March 2018 and is currently completing her first semester.

With a passion for helping children to receive an excellent education, Janet hopes to achieve success in her course and is looking forward to becoming a professional early childhood teacher.

When interviewed, Janet explained that her favourite school subject was Social Science. She explained further, "I really enjoyed it because I learnt more about the wellbeing of human beings which has helped me to develop and has contributed to my current studies."

Janet is happily married and mother to two children. She, herself, comes from quite a large family, having ten siblings (four brothers and six sisters). Her parents, she explained worked hard to send each one of her siblings to school.

"In the Solomon Islands," she revealed, "Many young people find it difficult to complete their education due to financial restrictions. School fees are very expensive, especially if the family lives in rural areas,

which was my situation. In fact, many students in the Solomon Islands come from rural areas, which make it hard for their family or themselves to afford school fees."

In most cases, parents can only afford to send the older children to school, resulting in limited opportunities for younger children in a family. Furthermore, when finances are no longer available, many young adults end up dropping out of school or college and not completing their education. As a result, they have limited access to well paid jobs as they lack qualifications.

In Janet's family, only a few of her siblings managed to complete high school. Luckily, three of them were able to attend university - one brother graduated with a Bachelor of Theology and is now working as a senior priest in the local Anglican Church; one sister graduated with a Diploma in Nursing; and another one of her brothers is studying to be a mechanic.

We asked Janet what her aspirations are for the future: "I want to support my siblings and those who go through the same struggles as we did growing up. I want to improve our standard of living and build a better life for my family. Through these studies at SINU, I want to become someone who people will respect and look up to for guidance. I want to become a good and responsible leader for my community."

To conclude the interview, we asked Janet what she would have been doing had she not enrolled in university. "I am not sure," she replied. "I feel there would be limited hopes for achieving my goals. I would probably be involved in a small business that could support my family on a day to day basis."

"As a young passionate university student, I am very proud that I received a scholarship from WFPW Australia. It is such a great blessing indeed to me personally and to my family as a whole. Our future is much brighter now. Thank you!"



■ Samoa women's sewing centre - May 3rd

On Saturday 28th April at 2pm, FFWPU Samoa hosted leaders federated to Women's Federation for World Peace Samoa and Women's Groups connected with me through Tribal or village links.

The meeting was held in our Tribal Meeting house, Tafito, Magiagi. Special guests were Taranaki Fiso Talamalei, President of WFWP Samoa, Oceania FFWPU leaders Greg Stone of Australia and Santosh Nepune National Leader in Fiji. The latter were part of an Asia Pacific delegation visiting for meetings with Samoa PM Tuilaepa and Head of State Excellency Tuimaliifanos.

Currently, groups federated into our WFWP Samoa include Two Assembly of God Church women's group, Tafito and Tonoa tribal women's groups and Atuaia Tribal women's group of Letogo. I invited Greg and Santosh to provide some encouragement to our new WFWP chapter and share the "4 Family loves" Curriculum and Character Education presentation - a syllabus currently being used by Fiji Education board and now being introduced to Samoa.

Tafito Women's group provided a morning tea and their President Sala was emcee. After Greg shared his PowerPoint presentation, Santosh spoke about family values in his home in Nepal. Then, an introductory video on the role of WFWPI was shown to the audience.

A lottery was conducted to ensure the sewing machines were distributed fairly before photographs were taken with our guests. Each group leader then gave thank you speeches and promised to utilise the machines well. We hope to send you photos of the resulting projects in the near future.

Thank you again to WFWP Melbourne for the donations. We have already received many reports of 'happy' mothers putting these machines to good use.





■ Annual Walkathon to support our Islands Projects - VIC March 3rd

The purpose of our yearly Walk-a-thon is to raise funds for the WFP Australia projects undertaken for nations in the islands of Oceania. Since 2003, WFP Australia has undertaken these practical service projects which include: donating books for school children on the Islands; donating sewing machines to support the Women’s Sewing Centres; providing funding for the solar project for the New Hope Kindergarten in Honiara and contributing to the Pacific Island Scholarship Fund.

This year, the “Support our Pacific Neighbours Walk-a-thon” took place for the first time at Lysterfield Lake Park near Narre Warren, on the outskirts of Melbourne. The event open to young and old provided three different types of trails: gentle; advanced; and one that catered for special needs.

On arrival, participants registered for their walk and were ready to hit the trail at 11.00 am. While walkers hiked off well-equipped with hats, water and snacks, volunteers prepared lunch using one of the barbeques.

On their return, the walkers enjoyed lunch which included barbequed sausages, salads and cold drinks. The overall atmosphere was very positive and every one was friendly and supportive. It was also very inspiring to meet new people interested in supporting our cause.

This year, funds raised from the Walk-a-thon will support the education of two young women in the Solomon Islands who have received scholarships from the “Pacific Island Scholarship Fund”. This project, in partnership with UPF and FFWPU is a not for profit development program that aims to provide young adults from Solomon Islands and Vanuatu with opportunities to access empowering education programs in their own country. The program supports young people who besides being passionate about getting an education, align their hearts with one of the values and goals of WFP: “Living for the sake of others”.





In the Solomon Islands, education is not free, so families can only afford sending their children to school until a certain age. As a consequence, youth and young adults do not fully complete their education and their place is therefore taken by foreigners. This creates a tremendous social problem: Solomon Islanders become second-class citizens in their own country. With this scholarship, WFWP allows young women to receive an education and feel empowered, thereby contributing to the resolution of this social problem.

Our first scholarship recipient, Jenny, has successfully completed her first year of study in Early Childhood Education and has now started her second year. We are all very proud of Jenny and wish her all the best for her final year of university. This year we have a second scholarship recipient Janet who is enrolling in the Early Childhood Education Course as well. Congratulations Janet! We wish her all the best for her studies.

Further WFWP projects for 2018 include the establishment of a women's sewing centre in Samoa where 20 sewing machines were sent in early February of this year. Over 500kg of donated books and school stationery were shipped to the New Hope Academy in Solomon Islands. Formerly a kindergarten, this school is being enlarged to include new classrooms as it transitions to become a primary school where the books and stationery will be very useful. Funds raised at the Walkathon contribute to the shipping expenses connected to these two initiatives.

WFWP is very grateful to all the sponsors, supporters and walkers who made the Walk-a-thon a successful event this year. Over \$2000 was raised on the day which will enable the realisation of the 2018 projects. Many thanks to all the volunteers whose assistance ensured the success of the event. The event generated a great sense of fun and it is hoped that this will continue next year!





■ Vanuatu women receive reading glasses - NSW August

For several years, the NSW Chapter of WFWP has sent schoolbooks and sewing machines to our sisters in Vanuatu. Many of these schoolbooks have been distributed to schools on distant islands where the need for these is great. Members of WFWP Vanuatu were invited by local women to visit some of these islands like Malakula and Tanna. While there, the members realised that many homes on these islands do not have electricity which impedes children and adults from studying or working at night while residents in homes that use firelight as a source of light have experienced deteriorating eyesight.

To respond to these difficulties, WFWP Victoria contributed to a project which supplied solar lights

to Tanna Island while WFWP NSW donated reading glasses to help those whose eyesight has deteriorated. Mrs Lee, a Board Member of WFWP NSW, kindly delivered 50 pairs of these glasses when she visited Port Vila and Tanna Island this August.

While the needs for these items continues to be great, we hope to maintain our support for these projects by collecting funds to organise another shipment of books and glasses to Vanuatu.

Many people have supported these projects and their kindness and generosity are truly appreciated as they have helped to make a difference to the children and women on these islands.





Glen Waverley Secondary College Supports the Pacific Island Service Projects

To encourage their Year 9 students to deepen their understanding of communities and the role they play as global citizens, Glen Waverley Secondary College conduct a special program - the Active Community Engagement Program (ACE). A partnership has been formed with WFWP Victoria who was invited for the second time to work with these students in achieving the goals of the ACE program.

During the 2 weeks of this program, the students were educated about the communities who inhabit the islands in the Pacific and WFWP's role in assisting these communities whose lives are less privileged than those living in Australia. Besides having no access to free education, many students are unable to attend school as their parents do not have the financial means to pay for their children's education. Without an education, the future for these children is bleak. To help break this cycle, WFWP conduct a number of humanitarian projects on these islands. Information about these projects was provided to the Glen Waverley students to help them understand how WFWP supports the islanders and to encourage them to partner with WFWP in their endeavours.

Information was provided on the Women's Sewing Centres, Books for the Islands project, the New Hope Academy in the Solomon Islands, the Island Lights projects, the Endeavour Credit Micro Fund program and the Pacific Scholarship Program.

Students were also informed about the reality of young women around the world who do not have opportunities for education above primary age due to:

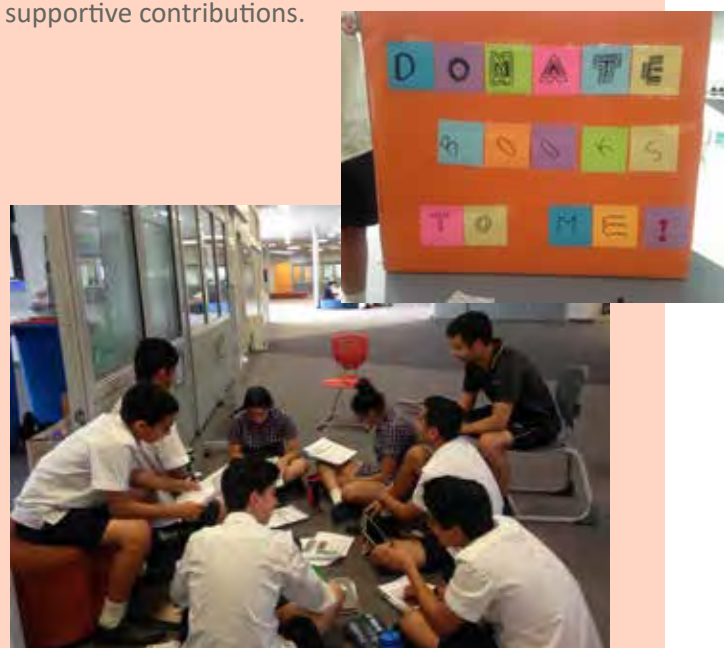
- their families' lack of funds
- the global preference for boys to be educated
- the struggle for teenage girls to get to school once they reach puberty due to lack of sanitary goods
- feeling threatened to walk to school
- being married off early so that more resources were available for the rest of the family
- lack of opportunities

Once the information was shared, students formed small groups to decide which projects they would support. A decision was made to contribute to the Island Books Project, the New Hope Academy shop and the Pacific Islands Scholarship program.

The students displayed much enthusiasm as they designed the following action plan to contribute to these three projects –

- Collect books from the local public library and the school library
- Bring books and clothing from home
- Raise funds through friends and family
- Raise funds through conducting a Car Wash activity at school for teachers' cars
- Raise funds through organising a school sausage sizzle
- Raise funds through placing special donation boxes in locations around the school and at public venues within Glen Waverley.

The students were provided with a special certificate from WFWP Australia for their enthusiastic and supportive contributions.





Who We Are



Anne Bellavance
Vice-President, WFWP International
President, WFWP Australia
President, VIC Chapter



Susi Evans
President, QLD Chapter



Aila Willitts
Vice-President, WFWP Australia
President, NSW Chapter



Queensland Team

- President** – Susi Evans
- Vice-president and Secretary** – Yejeon Degeer
- Treasurer** – Yuko Josifoska
- Committee Member** – Naoko Raymond
- Committee Member** – Julia Raymond



Victoria Team

- President** – Anne Bellavance
- Vice-President** – Veronica Hassett
- Secretary, Islands Projects Coordinator** - Giulia Iacono
- Treasurer** – Jacinta Darbishire
- Ordinary Member** – Joan D’Abreo
- Ordinary Member** – Charlotte Mukamuberwa
- Ordinary Member** – Elise Hanson
- Ordinary Member** – Saranya Kudiyarasu
- Ordinary Member** - Anne Altamore



New South Wales Team

- President** – Aila Willitts
- Secretary** – Debbie Bruce
- Treasurer** – Silvana Onnis In Daly
- Ordinary Member** - Rika Lim
- Ordinary Member** - Emma Bell



Global Women’s Peace Network Partners



As an Organisation, UMSLV works to bring unity and cooperation between all

Muslims, and foster goodwill and better understanding between Muslims and the broader society. UMSLV represent and enhance the profile of the Muslim community by conducting programs and celebratory functions with the local community; these being a platform for social interaction. UMSLV maintains contact with organisations that have similar objectives, and raises funds to support charities favoured by the organisation.



A mission to spread the Universal Peace Message and Prayer, May Peace Prevail On Earth, far and wide to embrace the lands and people of this Earth. May ‘Peace Prevail On Earth’ is an all inclusive message and prayer. It is a meeting place of the heart bringing together people of all faiths, backgrounds and culture to embrace the Oneness of our planetary family.



CREDITS

Editors: Anne Bellavance, Joan D'Abreo

Graphic Designer: Fiona McFarland

WFWP Australia National Office, Victoria chapter

42-46 Bartley Rd.

Belgrave Heights

VIC 3160

Ph: +61 3 5968 2664

E: contact@wfwpaustralia.org

New South Wales Chapter

824 - 826 George St

Chippendale

NSW 2008

E: wfwp.nsw@gmail.com

Queensland Chapter

60 Furore St.

Sunnybank Hills

QLD 4019

E: wfwp.qld@yahoo.com

www.wfwpaustralia.org

www.facebook.com/wfwpoceania

www.youtube.com/channel/UC9cW3xHmHDXkOoRTcIHDL0w

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