



COUNCIL BULLETIN

National Council of Jewish Women of Australia Ltd.

Volume 90 Number 1 September 2013/5774 Rosh Hashanah Issue

P.O. Box 2220 Caulfield Junction VIC 3161

email: president@ncjwa.org.au www.ncjwa.org.au



President's Message



Di Hirsh OAM

Rosh Hashanah and the High Holidays are a time for introspection and looking back over the past year, as we prepare for the year to come. This past year has been very busy and very productive for NCJWA; with our Tour of Israel Projects after Pesach, Plenary in Brisbane in June and celebrations of 90 years since Dr Fanny Reading established the Council of Jewish Women in Sydney.

Dr Fanny was a staunch Zionist and great visionary who aimed to establish a national organisation with branches in every city in Australia. It took only six years for the organisation to

establish sections around the country and become the National Council of Jewish Women. We pay tribute this year to the outstanding foresight of our founder, who organised Jewish women in community service, education and fundraising for projects locally and in Israel, Jewish and non-Jewish.

In June a dinner was held in Brisbane when the national leadership assembled for our Plenary meeting. The Queensland Jewish and wider communities joined us for the 90 years celebration.

The NSW Section celebrations included a delightful cocktail party with the launch of an oral history book containing photos and interviews with significant women who had contributed so much to Council over many years. Eight history panels were also launched on the evening, depicting the history of the organisation and the vital work that has been carried out.

I would like to wish Rimma Sverdlin OAM and Dalia Ayalon Sinclair OAM mazeltov on receiving Medals in the Order of Australia in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours. This is a well deserved reward for their many years of dedication to NCJWA and to the community and we are thrilled that they have been recognised in this way.

The NCJWA Tour of Israel Projects was

an outstanding success. For half the participants it was an opportunity to see for the first time where our fundraising dollars are going, while also meeting both the recipients who benefit and those who work so hard to carry out the programs. For those who had been before it reminded us of how important the work is and how much our support is appreciated.

At Plenary the national leadership revisited the vital issues of who we are and where we are going, an opportunity we only have once every four years. I was thrilled at the positive energy that emanated from the strategic planning session, as we worked together and focused on how to make the work of NCJWA more productive and more relevant to Jewish women in the 21st century.

I am very pleased to report to you that NCJWA is now on Facebook and you can follow us on Twitter @ncjwaaustralia.

I would like to wish you all *Shana Tova u Metuka*. May you all enjoy a happy, healthy New Year together with your families and friends, may you be inscribed in the Book of Life for the coming year and may there be peace in Israel and the Middle East.

Di Hirsh OAM
National President

Why NCJWA Remains Relevant

We are well into the 21st century and Jewish women are not only the majority of the Jewish people, they are highly educated, articulate and well organized. So why haven't they achieved equality? The International Council of Jewish Women, an umbrella organization with affiliates in 43 countries, held a demonstration at the Knesset [in May],

entitled "Jewish Women Worldwide Demand Equality."

Dressed in white and carrying placards with the flags of over 20 countries, women from the US, UK, Israel, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Australia, South Africa, Canada, Columbia, Uruguay, Slovakia, Croatia, stood silently but powerfully. They reminded us that

despite the remarkable progress made by women in the "Feminist Revolution" of the past 50 years, women in general and Jewish women in particular still suffer from inequality in almost every area of contemporary life.

SHARON SHENHAV **Why do Jewish Women Still Need to Demand Equality?** (continued p3)

Inside

NCJWA
NSW
celebrates
90th
BIRTHDAY



NCJWA
visits
Israel

Women
&
Equality

Stop
the
Traffik

Rosh Hashana is a time to confront and interrogate our relationships and interactions with the broader community, just as we are also commanded to consider our involvement with Hashem.

This is the opportunity to take stock. We look at where we have been, what we have done well, what we can do better. We assess our own actions and challenge our motivations. We contemplate our behavior in order to acknowledge those occasions when we have ill-treated others – whether by being rude, degrading, dishonest, defamatory or even by being inattentive – and take action to rectify the situation. At the same time we look forward and make an effort to be a better person and to work harder for a better society into the future.

In this issue of the Bulletin, we are taking this opportunity to look in two directions – both forward to the future, and backwards to the past. It is amazing to think that NCJWA was established 90 years ago!

We join so many others in congratulating the NSW Section on reaching this milestone and extend those congratulations to the many, many women who have committed enormous effort as part of NCJWA. This issue is

a celebration of the achievements of the past 90 years.

We also travel with the NCJWA women who journeyed to Israel earlier this year, to visit the various Israel projects in which NCJWA plays a part. Again the importance of the commitment of all members of NCJWA to make a difference in Israel is a highlighted and our work in that direction is something in which we can all take pride.

Of course, there remains much for us to do. When we celebrate the birthday of the world, we are reminded that our task is to repair the world – or at least leave it in a better state than it was in during our lifetime.

Step One in improving the world must be understanding and that requires our educating ourselves about issues of equality which remain on the agenda.

It is vexing that in the 90 years since NCJWA was established, women have still not achieved equality. That there are still agunot; that there is still violence against women; that there is still trafficking and child labour; still homophobia; and still poverty, racism and social need. We hope that the Bulletin plays a role in increasing our understanding of some of these issues.

Step Two to improving the world is taking action. In this issue of the Bulletin we recount some of the action we are already taking. But we also encourage you to become even more of an agent for change. In this Bulletin we challenge you to take action with respect to chocolate and the ongoing issue of agunot.

You can also take action by becoming more involved with NCJWA!

From now on we are only publishing a physical copy of the Bulletin twice a year – at Pesach and Rosh Hashana. This is not to provide you with less access to information, but actually to increase your engagement. By the time when we would ordinarily be publishing the Chanukah edition, we will have a new website which will regularly provide you with stories, educational opportunities and means of engagement with NCJWA.

We are now on Twitter: @ncjwaaustralia and Facebook - so please follow us.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 5774,

**L'Shana Tova Tikatevu
Melinda Jones & Andrea Cooper for
the Bulletin Editorial Team.**

Contact us

melindajones613@gmail.com

Deadline

Deadline for Pesach Bulletin
14th March 2014

NCJWA

National President
Di Hirsh OAM

Immediate Past President
Rysia Rozen OAM

Vice President
Susie Ivany

Vice President
Dalia Ayalon Sinclair

Vice President
Barbara Stewart-Kann OAM

Honorary Council Secretary
Shirley Glance

Honorary Treasurer
Emma Lindell

Founder
Dr Fanny Reading MBE

NCJWA NATIONAL OFFICE
Secretary: Dorith Kranz

Contact us:
president@ncjwa.org.au
03 9523 0537



P&B Law and Lindsay Kotzman wishes **NCJWA** continued success in their wonderful work.

We are proud to be a sponsor of NCJWA.

At **P&B Law** we deal in all areas of Property and Business Law including:

- Property Conveyancing
- Partnership Agreements and Joint Ventures
- Business Transfers
- Wills and Estates.

Please feel free to call Lindsay Kotzman at any time **9692 9888**

Website: www.propertylaw.com.au



Women in general and Jewish women in particular still suffer from inequality in almost every area of contemporary life:

- Decision-making in government is still dominated almost entirely by men. Yes, the recent elections in Israel have resulted in the largest number of female MKs serving in the Knesset – but that number is 27.

Certainly not 50 percent and therefore not even close to equality. Several female ministers hold important portfolios, but the cabinet is clearly male-dominated and decision making at the highest levels of government is controlled by men.

- Economic equality, as recently shown in several studies, does not exist. Women earn over 30% less than men, even when they hold executive positions. This inequality exists despite the fact that in Israel women are more highly educated than men. Somehow, the academic achievement of Jewish women does not translate into economic equality.

While this economic inequality is found in the public as well as private sectors, it is particularly prevalent in Jewish communal organizations worldwide. Jewish women are rarely hired as CEOs of major Jewish organizations, and when they do break through that glass ceiling they are paid less than their male colleagues.

- Religious inequality is perhaps the most glaring and painful form of inequality. The Jewish divorce process is completely controlled by male Orthodox rabbis. We are all aware of the tragic and shameful existence of agunot, women trapped in an unwanted or non-existent marriage because their husbands refuse to give them a get, or bill of divorce.

Women cannot be appointed as rabbinical court judges (dayanim) and

the statutory Commission to Appoint Dayanim is currently unable to function because for the first time in almost two decades not even one woman has been appointed or elected to the commission. Women's organizations petitioned the Supreme Court to rectify this situation and the case is pending. Legislation has been proposed which would guarantee three places on the 10-member commission to women and add another position which would be held for a woman. Even if this legislation should pass, which is doubtful, women would still be in the minority on the commission.

The Women of the Wall have shown us that Jewish women are barred from praying according to their wishes, though Jewish men seem to be able to pray in any manner they choose. The shocking photos of women being arrested for wearing a tallit or carrying a Torah are a source of shame to the State of Israel and the Jewish religion worldwide.

The recent Jerusalem District Court decision made it very clear that Jewish women have the right to pray as they wish at the Kotel and cannot be arrested for wearing a tallit. These heroic women will be celebrating Rosh Hodesh on Friday, May 10, and the world will be watching to see if those religious fanatics who attack the women will be arrested or allowed to continue their verbal and physical abuse unheeded by the authorities.

- Domestic violence and other forms of violence against Jewish women continue to exist, despite good legislation and more robust enforcement of these laws by the criminal justice system. Almost weekly the media reports still another case of a woman murdered by her husband or partner. Rape continues to be a regular occurrence and Jewish women are not safe in their own homes.
- Sexual harassment in the workplace seems to be rampant. The current spotlight is on the media with the case of Emanuel Rosen dominating the daily news.

However, as Seth Frantzman pointed out in a recent article in this newspaper ("Institutionalized harassment of women," April 30), the male-dominated workplace has been much too tolerant of sexual harassment, whether it is in universities, government offices, private companies or the army. Women who complain to their superiors are likely to become ostracized and their careers

shattered. If they file police complaints they will be considered saboteurs.

- Equality in the Jewish home is still unfulfilled.

Even when a woman has achieved a successful career, she returns home to take on the major role in child-rearing, cooking, shopping, car-pooling and cleaning.

Her modern, liberal, educated husband or partner seems blind to the need for him to take on an equal share of the work at home.

Yes, despite a great deal of progress in the last 50 years, Jewish women have not yet achieved full equality.

We should all be joining efforts to achieve this goal.

SHARON SHENHAV is a Jerusalem-based lawyer and director of the *International Jewish Women's Rights Project of the International Council of Jewish Women*. She was the only woman who served two terms on the *Commission to Appoint Dayanim* as the elected representative of the *Israel Bar Association* from 2003 to 2009.

This article was originally published in the *Jerusalem Post* 8/5/13. Reprinted with the kind permission of the author.

SAYING NO TO HOMOPHOBIA

NCJWA has joined the 'No to Homophobia Campaign' on the suggestion of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria (JCCV) to reduce the incidence of homophobic, biphobic, transphobic and intersex harassment within the Jewish community by empowering members of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender & Intersexed (GLBTI) and broader communities to respond to and speak out against this harassment.

Background

The JCCV GLBTI Report demonstrated that Jewish members of the GLBTI community are subjected to discrimination, harassment and abuse because of their sexuality. This results in negative health outcomes such as drug abuse, self-harm, depression and suicide.

The report also found that these health issues are ameliorated when discrimination, fear of discrimination and vilification subside.

One of the report conclusions was for the Jewish community to address these issues of vilification by becoming better educated and aware of the impacts of discrimination.

What can you do?

Like the 'No to Homophobia' Facebook page and give your word online. Advise the JCCV so we can sign you up as a supporter. Read the information on the 'No to Homophobia' website and develop a statement about how positive change will be addressed in your workplace.

NCJWA NSW 90th ANNIVERSARY

Dr Fanny Reading M.B.E., founder of NCJWA

"When one has known the life and work of Dr. Fanny Reading, one never again doubts the power of the individual in creating peaceful change" (Stella Cornelius AO OBE)

- Fanny Rubinowich (Reading) was born in Minsk, Russia in 1884 and arrived in Australia at the age of six. The family settled initially in Ballarat.
- After gaining a Diploma of Music at Melbourne University in 1914, Dr Fanny Reading enrolled in medicine and graduated with an MB BS in 1923.
- Her medical practice was in Kings Cross, NSW. **"No one wants to know that there is so much heartbreak, suffering and...degradation in the Cross. I must live and work here"** (Dr Fanny Reading).
- Dr Fanny founded The Council of Jewish Women in Sydney: **"In 1923, at our first meeting, we promulgated the aims of our organisation: service to our religion, to our people and to the country in which we live"** (Dr Fanny Reading).
- Dr Fanny served as President from 1923 until the National Council of Jewish Women of Australia was formed in 1929. She became National President from 1929 to 1955 and Life President from 1955 until her death in 1974.
- By her own example Dr Fanny inspired Council women to work together, to become leaders in the community and active participants in their own right.
- At a time when Zionism was not universally accepted in the Jewish community, Dr Fanny included the Zionist ideal in Council's aims from its inception, and was a delegate at the XIV Zionist Congress in Vienna in 1925.
- Dr Fanny lobbied at the highest government level, before, during and after World War II, to open doors for Jewish refugees to enter Australia.
- She also lobbied the British Government **"that the gates of Palestine be opened for unrestricted Jewish immigration as an urgent necessity for the saving of Jewish lives"** (NCJW Conference Resolution, 1943).
- Dr Fanny Reading was named as a **"Woman of Distinction"** by Justice Herron of the Supreme Court for the principled stand she took on behalf of the Australian Jewish Community in a libel action against Smith's Weekly. This publication accused Australian Jewry of sending funds to support action against the British in Palestine.
- In 1962 Dr Fanny, suffering from Parkinson's disease, moved into the Wolper Jewish Hospital where she lived until her death in 1974.



Dr Fanny's message



University Graduation



Dr Fanny Reading with Council House Members 1961



Dr Fanny Reading with Council House Building Committee



Dr Fanny Reading receiving her M.B.E



PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
Women making a difference



PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
Women making a difference



Honours

George V Jubilee Medal (1935)
George VI Coronation Medal (1937)
M.B.E. for her Welfare Services to NSW (1961)

Board Positions held

Honorary Medical Officer at St. George Hospital and Rachel Forster Hospital

Life Governor of the Benevolent Society, Dalwood Children's Hospital and Women's Hospital Crown Street

Trustee of Wolper Jewish Hospital

Memorials

Dr Fanny Reading War Memorial Council House, Woollahra

Dr Fanny Reading Auditorium, National Jewish Memorial Centre, Canberra

Jewish National Fund settlement Neve Zipporah, Israel

Dr Fanny Reading Scholarship in Semitic Studies at the University of Melbourne

Dr Fanny Reading Scholarships to NCJWA National Conferences

A wing of Wolper Jewish Hospital named after her in 1966

A lounge at Wolper Jewish Hospital dedicated to Dr Fanny Reading in 2011

CJW - original name of organisation

NCJW - refers to National Body, now known as NCJWA

NCJW NSW & NCJWA NSW - refer to NSW Division

CELEBRATION

Community leaders, members and friends celebrated with a wonderful cocktail event at Fanny Reading Council House to mark NCJWA NSW's 90th birthday. To the strains of Opus 4 string trio, community leaders, members and friends schmoozed and enjoyed the sumptuous cocktail fare.

The focus of the event was the launch of eight large history panels, an overview of our organisation's work, projects and community service. These panels will be a user friendly easily portable display to be used at Council and elsewhere when required and were funded by a number of generous sponsors. The History Panels were researched and compiled by a small dedicated group of members: Dr Yoke Berry, Liane Froneman, Jeannette Tsoulos and Robyn Lenn OAM.

The NCJWA Oral History book was also launched at the event. Coordinated by Eva Robey, the team comprising Deidre Hart, Sunny Gold, Joan Rodd, Robyn Lenn, Susan Levy and Tina Vander Heyden who interviewed, recorded and transcribed Council memories from longterm members and leaders.

The Guest of Honour for the event was Gabrielle Upton MP, Member for Vaucluse. NCJWA National President Di Hirsh OAM brought greetings from NCJWA members around Australia and a congratulatory message from ICJW President Sharon Gustafson. NSW Division President Victoria Nadel spoke of NCJWA 's contributing presence in the community since the organisation's inception in Sydney in 1923, and the inspiration drawn from its founder Dr Fanny Reading throughout Council's long history. Anne Reid and Zina Conway OAM catered the event with an outstanding finger-food menu.

90th ANNIVERSARY SPEECH – NCJWA NSW

Welcome and thank you for being here with us to celebrate National Council's 90th Anniversary.

I think we would all agree that we have all been guilty at times of taking for granted those things we hold dear, the circumstances in which we live, the rights and freedoms we enjoy and assume that it has always been the case, and so fail to acknowledge the influence an individual or organisation has had in actively challenging the status quo, bringing about positive change and providing a model for those who follow.

As a community we take for granted the right of a Jewish State to exist. So it is difficult, for example, to believe that there was a time when a majority of people in our community did not support the idea of a Jewish homeland. Yet this was a commonly held view at the time that National Council was founded. But not so National Council, which took what was a revolutionary position in 1923 standing out as an organisation that from its inception supported the Zionist ideal and was committed to raising funds for Eretz Yisroel at a time in the British Empire when this was seen as a sign of divided loyalty.

National Council was revolutionary in other ways. It stood out and stills stands out as the only Australian Jewish women's organisation whose platform comprises Israel, the Jewish Community and the wider Australian community, with a focus on promoting social justice and empowering and improving the lives of women and children.

As a small but vital community we should be proud of our welfare services. Again, National Council was at the forefront in this area, being the first Jewish women's organisation in Sydney to provide organisational assistance for Jewish migrants between the Wars, meeting the boats, providing support and setting up a men's hostel.

It may seem that National Council has always been here, 90 years is a long time. Yet getting started as an organisation in the 1920s was not plain sailing, particularly because it was a women's organisation.

We take for granted today, despite the challenges that women still experience, an acceptance of women's rights and our organisations' rights to take their place in positions of power and influence. But not so in 1923. National Council faced opposition from male members of the community, in particular the Rabbonim, who feared that a women's organisation like National Council would try to exert too much influence over community and congregational matters. Better that they/we should stick to more traditional roles, supporting husbands and preparing the supper.

But that was not to be and National Council thrived on the feminist ideal 'that women working together could achieve anything.'

It's been said that the main means of influencing others is to set a good example and that successful influence is about creating a way for people to contribute to making something extraordinary happen.

Fortunately for National Council, that example was set by a Russian immigrant, a women's rights activist, a determined and quietly spoken member of the Socialist Party, a medical doctor who practised by choice in Kings Cross amongst the prostitutes, street kids and victims of domestic violence, at a time when the only really acceptable career for a woman was marriage.



NCJWA NSW 90th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



This woman was of course our founder Dr Fanny Reading, MBE whose vision was to establish a women's organisation as a distinctive and active force within the Jewish community, participating in their own right, combining this with the more traditional goals of fundraising and community service.

Dr Fanny, as she was affectionately known, provided the perfect model and thought nothing of standing up to be counted when necessary. In 1947 for example, she represented the Jewish Community as the plaintiff in the case against the jingoistic and anti-Semitic publication, Smith's Weekly.

Her example inspired others within Council to speak up, whether it was lobbying the government during the 70s and 80s to vote NO in any United Nations vote that equated Zionism with Racism, long before the male leaders in the community thought it necessary to take action.

Or, again setting up committees to educate Australian lawyers on the need to push for a get along with a secular

divorce and continuing the lobbying to find the means within halacha to assist 'chained women.'

And of course, Wolper Jewish Hospital which grew out of National Council's Wolper Convalescent Home in Sydney and has continued to grow as a result of the transfer of the title deed to the hospital for a dollar, still a real metziah by any standards!

What women could achieve is also seen in the venue in which we celebrate today. Council House came about, not as a result of a donation from a generous benefactor, but from years of fundraising and no-interest loans by members and friends.

National Council's influence and work continues today - offering the opportunity for members to engage with women of diverse cultures through interfaith and transcultural work; raising awareness of women's health and family safety through Jewish Women's Breast Cancer Network, supporting migrants and empowering women through the MUM FOR MUM program, and giving women a voice on women's rights through volunteer and educational events, as well as supporting our 4 Israel projects, The Haifa Rape Crisis Centre, Ilan Foundation for Disabled Children and Adults Tel Aviv, and Scholarships at Haifa University for one of the most disadvantaged communities in Israeli society, Ethiopian Women and of course our partnership with JNF of 18 joint projects to date.

NCJWA is affiliated with three Australian Government funded alliances of national women's organisations, the Australian Women's Coalition, the Australian Women Against Violence Alliance and the Equality Rights Alliance and through these organisations we are ambassadors for the Jewish community and are able to represent Jewish Women nationally and our affiliation to the International Council of Jewish Women ensures that our platforms are

globally based and represented through ICJW's consultative basis at the United Nations.

Dr Fanny's Jewish Community was a much more homogeneous world and National Council is now one of the many organisations that make up the vibrant mosaic that is our Jewish community. However it still offers something unique, the opportunity to support Israel and Jewish community issues but also to volunteer and advocate on wider issues, that to quote Dr Fanny, 'concern common humanity' and to do so as proud Jewish women through a Jewish organisation.

Obviously as a women's organisation, we have a certain focus and selectivity, but we are never sexist. So I would like to refer to a very famous man's three questions, questions that we should ask ourselves about the way we live and also because they so perfectly fit our organisation's ethos. The man was of course, Rabbi Hillel. He asked:

If we are not for ourselves who will be for us?

Well, National Council has always been ready to support and care for Israel as well as our local Jewish community and its interests.

But, If we are only for ourselves what are we?

As an organisation National Council has always had a wider agenda, encompassing compassion for our neighbours and their welfare, irrespective of their faith or background.

And, If not now when?

Well I can say definitely, in the past, now and into the future.

**Victoria Nadel,
President, NCJWA NSW**





Angela Davis OAM

A huge crowd gathered at Karrakatta Cemetery in Perth on Thursday 13 June to farewell Angela Davis, who passed after a long and intense battle against cancer. It was an exceptional tribute to her popularity and influence that so many people attended.

For well over 25 years Angela has been a mainstay of NCJWA WA. She began with the Playgroup that later formed the basis of

the Yael Group, which she also chaired. Her many skills soon became apparent. In 1994 she became a state Vice President. A protégée of the then President Renee Silver, Angela rapidly showed her talents for organisation. She succeeded Renee as President and her 1st term as WA Section president was four years. Under her leadership our organisation flourished.

Angela's first experience of the broad extent of Council's influence came as recipient of WA's Dr Fanny Reading Scholarship. In 1994 this enabled her to attend the NCJWA National Conference in Canberra. This was an intense and exhausting time for her, especially as her own mother was by then fighting the same health battle Angela has just lost.

Angela was one of those rare people who saw and understood the big picture – she learned the workings of NCJWA to the highest levels. Over the years she stepped up and became a senior member of the National Board. Angela was made an honorary Life Member of the National Executive at the 2011 National Conference, which unfortunately she was not well enough to attend.

It was a huge thrill for her to be awarded the OAM in 2011 for services to the Jewish community and NCJWA. This was an enormous compliment to her leadership and management skills.

When the WA Jewish Communal Appeal was launched, Angela rapidly found herself involved in organising the appeal functions. She also became active in the WA NCW and frequently represented NCJWA at functions across the WA Community. She involved herself in networking among women of similar interests and responsibilities and ensured that we maintained Council's fine reputation in the Australian community.

Like most successful Council women, Angela was backed by a wonderfully supportive family. Her husband Roger was always there for her, helping with functions and generously sorting out our many computer problems over the years. Their home was always open for meetings and they were always most gracious in their hospitality, especially when hosting visitors from the National Board.

Our hearts go out to Roger, her children Stephanie and Jonathan and her brother Ivor, and especially to her father Jack Cohen, who just one week earlier, also suffered the loss of his sister Renee Moses. We wish them all Long Life and pray that they will take strength from the love, admiration and esteem with which Angela will long be remembered. Those who knew her well will never forget her wonderful sense of humour, her gentle uncomplaining manner or her uncanny ability to see to the heart of a problem and work out a solution.

In late October we will host an event – the Breast Cancer Network Mini-Field of Silhouettes - in recognition of those who have suffered the disease and those close to them. This event will be dedicated to the memory of Angela. We feel confident the community will give this special event its full support.

Sue Levy

World Environment Day was established in 1972 by the UN Environment Program. It is celebrated annually on 5 June. The aim is to raise awareness of the environment and encourage people and governments to act in ways that will preserve and protect nature.

This year's theme was **Think Eat Save**.

These three words are a timely reminder that in every country, rich and poor, vast quantities of food are wasted every day. Often in underdeveloped countries this waste often occurs as part of production. Waste is also caused by wars, inadequate storage and inefficient supply chains.

Wealthy countries, however, have no such excuse for their enormous waste of food. It is estimated that Australian families, for example, throw away 20% of the food they buy. This is a whopping 3 million tonnes of food per year. If you add this to the food thrown out by retailers, restaurants as well as farmers, whose less than perfect produce is spurned by the supermarket chains, then the amount of food lost to waste is closer to 40%.

In Australia wasted food usually ends up in landfill, where it rots to produce methane, a greenhouse gas at least 20 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

Also when we throw food away, the water consumed in its production is also wasted. As 70% of the world's fresh water goes into growing food.

This is an unforgivable waste of a finite resource. Our wasteful habits are contributing to global warming, as food production is responsible for 80% of deforestation and 30% of greenhouse gases.

The world's population now an estimated 7 billion is set to increase to 9 billion by 2050. In theory, enough food is produced to ensure that nobody starves. Yet around the globe, every day 20,000 children under the age of 5 die from hunger.

Ordinary citizens cannot be expected to tackle the grave problems facing underdeveloped countries. It is up to their governments to improve infrastructure so that food can reach the people who need it and is not left rotting by the roadside.

We, however, can play a part in reducing food wastage in our own country by acting responsibly and encouraging others to do the same.

Think Eat Save - buy only as much as your family will eat. Think, and as much as possible buy locally grown food, to save transport and reduce greenhouse gases.

Apart from having the satisfaction of doing your bit to save the planet and help your fellow beings, think of the money you will save!

Jeannette Tsoulos
Environment Chair

Arnold Bloch Leibler

Lawyers and Advisers

banking & finance • commercial & corporate
competition • litigation & dispute resolution
native title & public interest law • private clients
property & development • public companies
reconstruction & insolvency • taxation
technology & intellectual property
workplace advisory

celebrating

1953-2013

years

level 21
333 collins street
melbourne vic 3000 australia
t: +61 3 9229 9999
level 24 chifley tower
2 chifley square
sydney nsw 2000 australia
t: +61 2 9226 7100
www.abl.com.au

**Arnold Bloch Leibler is proud to support the
National Council of Jewish Women of Australia**

Freeing Chained Women



For over 30 years the issue of agunot has been on the agenda of human rights and feminist organisations. The International Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women considers agunah to be a human rights violation. It should simply not be acceptable that a man has an absolute right in divorce to engage in abuse and effectively blackmail his ex-wife.

Many creative solutions have been recommended, but there is still no resolution of the problem. NCJWA has been at the forefront of these developments. We have been proactive in raising worldwide awareness of the issue confronting Agunot but in the past foundered on the question of whether the civil courts (the Australian legal system) had a role to play in this or whether only a halachic solution was acceptable.

Earlier this year a one day Agunah Summit was held, sponsored by the New York University Tikvah Center for Law and Jewish Civilization and the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance (JOFA).

Statistics about Get abuse in Israel were presented by Professor Ruth Halperin-Kaddari, Director of the Ruth and Emanuel Rackman Center for the Advancement of the Status of Women at Bar-Ilan University. According to her survey of 320 divorcing women in Israel, 1 in 3 were subject to threats of Get refusal, and 70% of women who had divorce settlements to their disadvantage (that deviated from normal settlements) were subject to Get refusal.

It is impossible to know numbers in the Diaspora, for just as with domestic abuse and sexual violence, we only uncover the tip of the iceberg. There is no question, though, that the problem of Agunot remains a serious and ongoing human rights abuse.

Two strategies stand above all others as ways to move forward. The first involves halachic prenuptial agreements, which build on the idea that the ketuba was originally designed to protect women's rights. Rabbi Aryeh Klapper, Dean of the Center for Modern Torah Leadership, proposed that Rabbis should not only refuse to officiate at a wedding without a prenuptial agreement, but they should boycott weddings without one. This is a strategic solution, not one of principle, but there are already a growing number of Australian couples taking the prenuptial path. This has the potential to solve future issues, but does nothing for existing Agunot.

The other solution proposed, by Rabbi Asher Lopatin, a Modern Orthodox rabbi, was the establishment (again) of an alternative international Beth Din which would apply Halachic solutions and free agunot. He felt that at this time the legitimacy of such a Beth Din could be achieved, even though the one established by Rabbi Professor Emanuel Rackman 20 years ago was disbanded because almost no Orthodox rabbis recognised its decisions.

Given the lack of commitment by those who have the power to solve the issue in Israel and elsewhere (the Rabbinat and the dayanim), something has to give if this issue is ever to be resolved. Blu Greenberg argued:

"It is obvious that it will take a much stronger force to enable contemporary halachists to look at the matter in a new way. That force must be the Jewish community. Just as a covenant exists between God and the Jewish people, so a covenant exists between the Jewish people and their spiritual leaders. Explicit principles in the tradition affirm this partnership. The entire structure of halachic interpretation and of responsa literature holds the promise of incorporating communal need. In our generation, if a community sees injustice and does not act, it becomes a bystander... This is not about convenience, but about justice and the "honor of the Torah."

We should do whatever we can to support the proposed international Beth Din and whatever we can to put pressure on this body to address the plight of all agunot around the world.

Melinda Jones

Guilty pleasures –The Trafficking of children and



If you are anything like me – you want to know the ingredients of what you eat! You certainly don't want them to include human trafficking and worst forms of child labour. As recently as last month, we had reports of 200 boys being rescued from trafficking in Cote D'Ivoire. Whilst rescue is important – it isn't good enough. We want trafficking to end so no-one needs to be rescued.

Mondelez (owner of Cadbury and Toblerone and formerly Kraft) is the only major chocolate company to not provide us with a deadline for ensuring ingredients sourced from human trafficking and worst forms of child labour will not be in the chocolate products. They are the largest chocolate company in the world and has more than a 50% market share in chocolate blocks sold in Australia. For the industry to change, they need to change. Nestle, Mars, Hershey and Ferrero Rocher have all given us a deadline. Nestle has even certified all their Australian produced chocolate and many of their products are fair trade and Kosher.

Like other chocolate companies, Mondelez has known about child trafficking in their industry since 2001. In November 2012 we welcomed their statement to invest \$400m into 'sustainable cocoa', and in July this year they released more information about what the focus of this would be. But, they failed to provide specific targets or deadlines. We are asking for more direct action and information. There are still no clear details about when specific bars such as Toblerone will be made with certified cocoa beans, and when Mondelez will commit to certification for the rest of their range. Certification and public timelines for action are part of the six key steps we're campaigning for with respect to all chocolate companies.

Thousands of STOP THE TRAFFIK campaigners around the world have been in touch with Mondelez since November last year, asking for two things:

- When will Toblerone be traffik-free?
- When will they release a public timeline committing to certifying the rest of their range?

...but despite recent announcements there's still no clear answer to our questions. In Australia alone we have distributed 30,000 cards. We tweeted in February and March for a Traffik Free Toblerone and were recognised by Twitter as a high level tweeter – but alas still no answer from Mondelez.

We need your help to get Mondelez's attention. There is a card included for you to sign, stamp and send back to us. We had been sending our cards individually – now we will be collecting all your signed postcards and personally delivering them to Mondelez's Australia office on 18th October, Anti-Slavery Day. You can join us! Register your interest at <http://traffikfreetablerone.eventbrite.com.au/>

SPREAD THE WORD

Want to spread the word? Do you have friends, family, neighbours who might also sign? Order a bundle of postcards, have a signing at your school, faith group, university, work, local café...! You can order from the NCJWA Victoria & National office or from our shop <http://www.stopthetraffik.org/campaign/chocolate/what-you-can-do/62>

And here are some ideas:

Nearest and Dearest

It sounds obvious but the simplest way to drum up support is by asking your friends and family to sign and send a postcard. Part of a women's group or book club? Ask members to get involved and sign too- it will only take 30 seconds!

Tea Party

Over some certified tea and cake tell your friends about human trafficking and STOP THE TRAFFIK's campaign. Sign the postcards and send them back to us. You could even Instagram your event and share it on our Stop the Traffik Twitter and Facebook pages!

A Coffee and a Postcard to Go!

Meet friends for coffee at your favourite coffee shop which sells certified coffee – ask if they will support this campaign by putting postcards on their tables or counters and asking their customers to sign up.

Pop Into Shops:

Chat to your local shop about having some postcards on the counter to encourage customers to sign them. If they already sell ethically sourced produce they'll hopefully be more than happy to support the campaign and get involved.

Tweeters

If you are a tweeter, help us send 500 simultaneous tweets to Mondelez. Follow us now @stopthetraffik and get ready to join our Thunderclap in the run-up to Anti-Slavery Day on the 18th October. This is a way of sending a huge number of tweets simultaneously.

Shout us a coffee!

We need your help to continue this campaign. Shout for Good is a fun way to do this. Download the app or go to the website and shout us a coffee, tea or other item of your choice. We'll get a donation for that amount www.shoutforgood.com

Thank you!

Carolyn Kitto

President Stop the Traffik Australia



Sage Singer's face is badly scarred from a car accident that killed her mother. However, the reader soon sees that most of Sage's scars are really on the inside.

Her guilt and despair lead sage to a grief counselling group where she encounters Josef Weber, grieving the loss of his wife. Tentatively she establishes a friendship with this popular former teacher and sports coach. This soon leads to a most extraordinary request when Weber reveals that he has been an SS officer!

The author has used Wiesenthal's "The Sunflower" as a reference, but while Wiesenthal's SS man seeks redemption through forgiveness, Weber seeks redemption through death at the hand of a Jew. Sage Singer is the one he approaches for the task.

The Storyteller asks the reader to consider whether redemption is even possible for these crimes, and whether the living can grant such forgiveness. Sage is outraged that Weber feels any Jew will do, for his execution. Her anger is compounded by the fact that her grandmother, Minka, is a Holocaust survivor.

Minka's story, set in the concentration camp is graphic yet sensitively portrayed and the characters are complex and multilayered. These include Jews who betrayed fellow Jews to gain small favours and Nazis who still showed some glimmer of humanity.

Those familiar with Picoult's books will not be surprised that there are a number of sub-plots and quite a twist in the story right at the end.

The Storyteller is a compelling and reasonably satisfying read.

Sandra Gillis

Another review can be found at the Tablet Magazine:

<http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-arts-and-culture/books/130344/jodi-picoult-holocaust-vampires>

Hana Laor, Ilan Tel Aviv Chairman Hounored



Hana Laor receives her award from Israeli President, Shimon Peres
Photograph by Josefe Avi Yair Engel.

NCJWA wishes Hana Laor, current Ilan Tel Aviv Chairman, mazeltov on receiving Israel's '2013 Presidential Volunteer Medal'.

This is the highest award available for outstanding volunteers in Israel. Hana was personally presented with her award on 7 August by Israeli President, Shimon Peres,

61 years ago she was one of the founders of Ilan Tel Aviv. Today she remains involved with the hands on care for people with disabilities. She also

continues to work hard to develop new facilities and support the efforts at Ilan's special schools and kindergarten.

Her latest new vision is the Day Care Rehabilitation Center for adults caring for people with disabilities from age 21 onwards.



CONGRATULATIONS

NCJWA congratulates MICHA Tel Aviv on its 60th Anniversary. MICHA was founded by Dr Ezra Korine in 1953 as the Multidisciplinary Centre for Children with Hearing Loss. MICHA's mission is to enable infants and toddlers with hearing loss to acquire language, speech and communication skills. Approximately 85% of MICHA's graduates successfully integrate into the Israeli public school system.

NCJWA Brisbane recently raffled a quilted throw to raise funds for MICHA. The winner was Elvee Martin from Toowoomba.

The Impacts of the Sexual Objecti

Laurel Ginges, Social Worker, member of Status of Women Committee for ICJW, and **Dr Anne Morris**,
Chair of Status of Women Committees, ICJW and NCJWA

In the last Bulletin we discussed the disturbing fact that the sexual objectification of women has become an increasingly accepted part of our culture and way of life in Australia, as in many parts of the developed world. Sexually objectifying women has many damaging effects on women and girls and undermines the progress made in advancing women's rights, status, health and wellbeing. Yet it is escalating. It has increasingly infiltrated our media and advertising, permeating our magazines, news, music videos, video games, sport and the Internet, all of these funded by multi-billion global industries.

If objectification is the process of representing or treating a person like an object, then sexual objectification is the process of representing or treating a person like a sex object, one that exists to serve another's sexual pleasure.

We do not need to be conscious of sexual objectification for it to affect us – indeed the more common it becomes, the less we question it and notice its effects. More recently images of women have become increasingly violent and hypersexual. It has become more common for all sorts of products to be advertised alongside allusions to rape and violation of women.

Portrayal of Women in Women's Magazines



This Durex condoms ad is particularly concerning. The ad tells men that they can get away with rape if they use their product.

Jean Kilbourne points out that "Ads sell a great deal more than products. They sell values, images, ideas of success and worth, love and sexuality, popularity and normalcy. They tell us who we are and who we should be." If Kilbourne is correct we have a lot to be worried about.

Living in an objectifying society is toxic and increasingly dangerous for girls and women, and not good for boys and men either. Focusing on images of women in women's and men's magazines, this article discusses the impacts of sexual objectification.

Through women's magazines girls and women are constantly presented with images that both sexualise and objectify them. Rarely presented as rounded and self-determining human beings, they are depicted as passive, to be viewed (by men) and used.

Self-Objectification

With the increasing pervasiveness of sexual objectification of women and girls it is not surprising that girls and women commonly objectify themselves. They scrutinise themselves from an external vantage point, constantly monitoring their behaviours and bodies to maximise their 'appeal' (judged within an objectifying and hypersexualised frame). Essentially, women and their bodies become objects even to themselves. Objects are not active but are acted upon. Experiencing themselves as objects, girls become positioned as passive. The power to act is not theirs but lies with boys and men who are socialised to believe that they are entitled to consume women as things, not only in the media but in 'real life'.

Self-objectification produces a number of negative effects for girls and women. They become depressed and hopeless when faced with unrealistic media images of women that they cannot hope to emulate. Media images are unattainable because not even the models themselves look like their pictures. The final pictures have been constructed – airbrushed, photo-shopped and digitally enhanced away from depicting the actual, real woman. This can be seen in the two photos of Cindy Crawford.

"I wish I looked like Cindy Crawford" – Cindy Crawford



References:

Anderson Craig A & Warburton Wayne A (2012) Chapter 3 "The Impact Of Violent Video Games: An Overview" in <http://hdl.handle.net/1959.14/183576>
Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault (2005).
Biddulph S (2013) <http://www.smh.com.au/opinion/contributors/sexualisation-of-the-young-is-becoming-societys-cancer-20130225-2f1y4.html#ixzz2MOfm8yGf>
Fredrickson, B., Noll, S., Roberts, T., Twenge, J., & Quinn, D. (1998). That Swimsuit Becomes You: Sex Differences in Self-Objectification, Restrained Eating, and Math Performance. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 75, 269-284.

Heldman, Caroline (2012) www.thesocietypages.org Sexual Objectification (Part 2): The Harm

Helffick & Goldenberg (2009) <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jesp.2009.02.008> *Journal of Experimental Psychology*, University of South Florida

Horvath, MAH, Hegarty, P., Tyler, S. & Mansfield, S., (2011) DOI:10.1111/j.2044-8295.2011.02086., *British Journal of Psychology*.

Katz, Jackson, <http://www.jacksonkatz.com>,

Kilbourne, Jean (2010) Media Education Foundation,

Moradi Bonnie, Dirks Danielle, and Matteson, Alicia V (2005) Roles of Sexual Objectification Experiences and Internalization of Standards of Beauty in Eating Disorder Symptomatology: A Test and Extension of Objectification Theory, University of Florida

Papadopoulos, Linda (2010) The Sexualisation of Young People Review http://www.wrc.org.uk/includes/documents/cm_docs/2010/s/sexualisationyoungpeople.pdf

Spicer Tracy (2012) <http://www.theage.com.au/opinion/society-and-culture/and-heres-the-news-my-burns-got-nothing-to-do-with-the-story-20121025-28837.html#ixzz2LuF9Qwqx>

ification of Women in our Culture

Habitual Body Monitoring

Habitual body monitoring is another effect of objectification, where women and girls constantly monitor all aspects of their appearance - the positioning of their legs, their hair, who's looking and not looking at them. According to Dr Heldman, women take part in habitual body monitoring every thirty seconds.

The pervasive and relentless message from sexual objectification is that the worth of women and girls derives purely from their value as ideal sex object. They can never attain this ideal, even supposing it was worth attaining! It is not surprising that when girls and women measure themselves against this ideal and become so engrossed in how they look and in how desirous they can be in the eyes of men, their cognitive functioning becomes depressed; they have less attention, energy and capacity for other important matters in life such as learning.

Self-Efficacy

Research shows that within the first three minutes of looking at fashion magazines the self-esteem of girls and women decreases. Self-efficacy (belief in one's capacities) is also reduced. Educators are concerned at the numbers of girls dropping out of maths at senior levels of schooling, not because they achieve less than boys but because they lack confidence in their abilities.

Discipline & Punishment

Our sexually objectifying society also creates eating disorders, with women and girls constituting 90% of anorexia sufferers. Women and girls discipline and punish their bodies to achieve a culturally constructed, impossible, thin ideal. When 20 year old model Ana Carolina Reston arrived for her first foreign fashion shoot, she was warned she was too fat. Two years later and two stone lighter, she died from complications arising from anorexia. She was still modelling till the end.

Since models literally cannot get any thinner, photo shop comes to the rescue.



Ana Carolina Reston
Same model: Spot the difference?



Self-loathing and anxiety about when and how one's body will be looked at and evaluated by others is the inevitable result of measuring oneself against an impossible ideal.

Further, girls and women judge themselves within a pecking order. When other girls or women appear to be more valued as sex objects it reinforces the shame and low value of those who have judged themselves to be 'lower down'.

At Risk Behaviour

A culture that sexually objectifies girls encourages them to present themselves as sexually available and submissive. This puts girls at risk of unwanted sex and sexual assault. It is not surprising that sexual activity is occurring earlier in girls' teenage years. Considering young people's need for the approval of their peers, how many would have the strength, wisdom, understanding and support to resist these trends?

Women's magazines create and perpetuate these sexualised images with pernicious effects on women and girls, but popular men's magazines have, if possible, a more devastating effect.

Men's Magazines

Men's magazines can be found in newsagents, supermarkets and petrol stations, displayed at mid-shelf or lower levels, including at the counter and can be readily flicked through and purchased by teenage and younger boys. Categorised as 'men's lifestyle' rather than porn, they are not regulated.

Yet links to hard-core pornography and prostitution are explicit at the back of the magazines - pages of ads for hard core porn, sex chat, masseurs and escorts. The purpose of 'lads' mags' is to sexually stimulate male readers by turning women into sexual objects who are always sexually available and who represent the 'porn dream'.

Popular Men's Magazines



In 2006, ZOO magazine published an A - Z of pornography which included wrapping your girlfriend in cling film and defecating on her. It also included lots of references to women as bitches with advice on how to deal with your 'bitch' if she doesn't comply.

A study conducted by psychologists from Princeton University found that some men who were shown images of sexualised women readily associated them with words implying a 'thing' rather than a thinking person. Turning a human being into a thing is a first step in dehumanising someone. It is a move towards justifying violence against them, a process also common to racist and homophobic violence.



It is not 'cool' to suggest that men's magazines can be harmful. A British study conducted in 2011 demonstrated that a group of men and women found it difficult to differentiate between the statements of convicted rapists and routine descriptions of women in men's mags. Maxim magazine advises teenage readers that "a lot of women fantasise about things like being raped" and that "it's a myth that women like soft sex". There is undoubtedly a correlation between such depictions of women and the shocking statistics showing that 57% of girls and women in Australia have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking.

Constructing Masculinity

Boys and men may not be judged solely on their looks as are women. However, the message is also restrictive and limiting, constructing masculinity in a narrow and predatory way. As a powerful and pervasive social influence, sexual objectification of women also limits how boys and men define themselves and it shapes their behaviour. It influences boys to become fixated on being macho, dominant and violent - anything less does not measure up in the relentless peer world of popular culture.

Many boys learn their sexuality from porn. They fixate not on deep connection or tenderness and passion, but on treating girls like a service station to service their sexual desires and their constant need to display to themselves and their mates their macho masculinity. Through porn, they are tutored to see women as objects, reducing empathy and creating the perfect environment for violence against women.

Valuing Respectful Relationships

This dominant culture can make it difficult for boys and men who value respectful relationships, sensitivity, intimacy and equality with women to be accepted by other men and boys. They can be put at risk of being ostracised, ridiculed and of becoming victims of violence themselves.

Jackson Katz, one of America's anti-sexist male activists, believes that boys and men need to equip themselves with the knowledge of how to approach inappropriate behaviour displayed by peers so they can challenge it. Katz argues that the harmful macho and sexist behaviours that some boys and men display are rewarded through the increase of their social status. Therefore, peers have an influential role in reinforcing the offender's behaviour and status, or not.

Katz urges boys and men to understand gender issues as not only women's issues, but everyone's issues equally. After all, these issues so often defined as 'women's issues' do not exist in isolation from men and how many women are treated by some men.

Conclusion

The most significant health issue for women in Australia is interpersonal violence - it has a greater impact on their health and mortality than any physical illness. As many of us try to address the horrifying situation of violence against women, we find this work being washed away by a powerful cultural tide that increasingly normalises gender-based violence.

Similarly, the steps taken to address sexual harassment, inequality and discrimination in workplace and legal arenas, to create a society in which women can be fulfilled human beings - more than sexual and domestic servants for men - can be so easily undermined.

It is time for women and men to take notice, to join with campaigners such as Collective Shout www.collectiveshout.org and resist this tidal wave.



Dalia Ayalon Sinclair OAM

Dalia Ayalon Sinclair is the Immediate Past President of NCJWA NSW and has been a dedicated member of National Council for over 30 years. She has a passion for our organisation and has worked continually to promote its work and values. She is also currently National Vice President of NCJWA and co-chair of NCJWA National PR and Publicity.

Dalia has also held the Israel Affairs Chair for State and National NCJWA, organising and leading two NCJWA tours to Israel.

In 1998 she established the NCJWA NSW Mix & Match singles group at Council House. This was successful in bringing Jewish singles together and resulting in a number of marriages.

In 2003, she took up the NCJWA Israel PR and Information Chair. In 2004, she established the 'Working Towards Peace' program and visited our Sections nationally to present Israel Advocacy events. In 2005, she initiated NCJWA 'Celebrating Israel' to mark the UN General Assembly passing of Resolution 181 calling for the establishment of a Jewish State (29 November 1947).

In 2007, Dalia became President of NCJWA NSW Division and initiated new programs to improve the quality of life for women. These included MUM FOR MUM NCJWA program to

provide support for mothers of new babies, socially isolated and at risk of suffering post natal depression. In 2008 Dalia expanded the annual PINK SUNDAY to promote awareness of breast cancer and fundraise for Breast Cancer Network Australia.

During her NSW Presidency the Jana Gottshall Memorial Library, a specialist Jewish Women's research library was established at Council House.

In 2012, Dalia was awarded the Jewish Communal Appeal Hal Goldstein Award for outstanding service to the NSW Jewish Community.

Recently, in June 2013 Queen's Birthday Honours, Dalia received an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for service to the community through NCJWA and other organisations.

Victoria Nadel

Keeping Australia covered



Specific insurance arranged and packaged for:
retailers | wholesalers | manufacturers
developers | property owners | contractors
service providers | importers | exporters



www.scottwinton.com.au

Integrity
Service
Performance



Head Office

Scott Winton House
25-27 Alma Road
St Kilda Vic 3182
t (03) 8598 9411
f (03) 8598 9311

Ron Tatarka

Dip.Fin Serv (Ins Bk) ANZIF (Snr Assoc) CIP

Avi Tatarka

Dip.Fin Serv (Ins Bk) ANZIF (Snr Assoc) CIP

NSW

Suite 501, Level 5
1 Newland Street
Bondi Junction
NSW 2022
t (02) 9388 9055
f (02) 9388 9044

Simon Althaus

ANZIF (AFF)

"With very best wishes
to NCJWA and all
its members on the
occasion of its
90th Foundation
Birthday"

**Pelerman Holdings
Pty Ltd**

Proudly supporting our community organizations

Mazeltov to NCJWA on celebrating 90 years service to the community from
Don Hirsh Don Hirsh Dentist, 336 Carlisle St, Balaclava Victoria



Victorian President Vivienne Bass congratulates Rimma Sverdlin

Rimma Sverdlin OAM

NCJWA is proud to wish Rimma Sverdlin a mazeltov on receiving an Order of Australia Medal in the recent Queens Birthday Honours list

Rimma has been a Council member for many years. In 2000, she established the first of our Golden Age Clubs. These assist elderly Jewish people from the former Soviet Union, many of whom live in highrise public housing and feel isolated from the Jewish community. These clubs have been highly successful and are still running today.

Rimma has been continually involved in activities supporting the integration of Jewish migrants into the community. She was also a founder of Women Assisting Refugees and Migrants. The WARM program welcomed Jewish migrant families from the former Soviet Union, Israel, South Africa and South America, into the Melbourne Jewish community.

She served for 10 years on NCJWA Victorian Board as Vice President and had responsibility for our Community Service programs.

At the national level of NCJWA Rimma has held the portfolio of Integration for a number of years and currently she is Chair of the Women's Health portfolio.

Rimma's community involvement doesn't end with NCJWA. She is also active with the Shalom Association for Jews from the former Soviet Union and is a member of the JCCV Executive.

Andrea Cooper

ICJW Report

Several NCJWA members attended the 2013 ICJW Rosa de Herczeg Seminar in Jerusalem in May 2013. Titled 'Judaism as a Universal Language – Jewish Perspectives on Contemporary Issues' the dual emphasis of the Seminar was on visiting historically important places like Mount Herzl, its Cemetery and Museum, the Athlit Detention Camp Museum in Haifa, the Golda Meir International Training Centre in Haifa and also on recognising the life styles of contemporary Israeli women.

Seminar participants were also hosted by women in the Bukharian Quarter and Ein Karim, learning about their traditions, their cultural backgrounds and enjoying their culinary expertise.

ICJW continues to be an inclusive global Jewish women's organisation which is proud of the multitude of programs and projects each affiliate runs in its home country. In common, among its many aims, ICJW affiliate programs work to upgrade women's rights in areas of gender equality and educational opportunity.

ICJW's work as an affiliate of the International Coalition for Agunah Rights Project maintains the perennial push to assist agunot, particularly women in Israel. NCJWA's most recent Scholar in Residence Sharon Shenhav attended the June 2013 Agunah Summit in New York which closed with a call for community action. The summit attracted more than 200 participants including orthodox rabbis, Harvard Law Professor Alan Dershowitz and Israeli Justice Minister Tzipi Livni, both of whom addressed participants. The Jewish world awaits an outcome which might really make a difference to the many orthodox Jewish women trapped within a former marriage.

The next ICJW Executive meeting will be held in Chicago during November. It will be attended by Asia Pacific Chair Eva Robey and ICJW Vice President for Australia, Robyn Lenn.

Robyn Lenn OAM
ICJW Vice President, Australia



Nona Rosenbaum

NCJWA NSW suffered a sad loss with the passing of Life Member Nona Rosenbaum in late 2012.

Nona had been a member of Council literally from birth. She was five years old when she joined her first Council Group, becoming a Council Buddy in Melbourne. Her involvement continued as a Council Teen and then as a member of the Council Youth Group. Following her marriage and move to Sydney she joined the Council Emergency Group.

In 1953 Nona, with Vera Cohen's daughter Laurelle Renof, founded the North Shore Group to which she belonged for the rest of her life.

Nona then served the National Board working for Kibbutz Kadarim for which she had lobbied when her son Ian became a kibbutznik. She was also the National Galil Chairperson during the period of NCJWA's joint JNF project constructing tennis courts in Australia Park.

Nona worked on the NSW Section Board for many years, and was Volunteer Chairperson for a term.

Over the many years she took on numerous roles at Council House, ably supported by her husband Sid who often assisted in the office. A dedicated Council Husband, Sid was honoured by NSW Division and made an NCJWA NSW Patron in 2001.

Her memory will stay with us.

Robyn Lenn



Australian delegation at the ICJW Silent Vigil in front of the Knesset, held during the ICJW Herczeg Seminar.



Wishing you and your families a sweet 5774 filled with good health and happiness.

Melinda & the Bulletin Team

NCJWA ISRAEL TOUR 2013

On Sunday 21st April El Al Airlines went on strike!! After a few delays and route changes, all 13 of the NCJWA Israel Tour participants arrived in Israel by 24th April for the start of our tour. We had a very enjoyable, stimulating and informative ten days together. We learnt a great deal about our Israel Projects and Interfaith Issues and came back with a better understanding of the people and land of Israel. Together with our Tour Guide, Amir, we travelled extensively and were certainly inspired and humbled. Our thanks go to the tour organisers, Di Hirsh, Shirley Glance and Robyn Lenn.

On the first evening of the tour, we were invited, together with other guests, to a reception at the home of the then Australian Ambassador, Andrea Faulkner in Herzliya Pituach. Andrea spoke glowingly of the work of NCJWA – both our local and Israel projects – and she praised us for our efforts.

We spent two days with the wonderful KKL/JNF Australia Desk representatives, Esti Goldwasser and Gadi Haber, who showed us some very worthwhile prospective new projects. Our first stop was at Nir Moshe, a proposed recreation area which is close to Sderot, an area affected by missiles fired from Gaza. We visited Kfar Darom in the Negev, home to a number of families who had been uprooted from Gaza in 2005 and heard a very moving personal story from one of the residents, as we sat in the shade on her front porch. At the Biosphere Park at Nachalat Shofet, we walked a magnificent nature trail which was established by KKL and is accessible for disabled visitors. We visited a farm run in conjunction with an organisation called Lotem, which provides respite care for children and adults with special needs, as well as women and children from abusive family situations. A stop was also made at Dudaim Waste Management Plant, which manages garbage from most of central Israel. Further north, in Karmiel, we visited Aluteva, the unique guesthouse and day care centre in Karmiel which caters for children and young adults affected by autism. The facility also offers respite care to families of special needs adults and children from a wide area. We were addressed by a staff member and we received special gifts made by the young adults who attend the day care centre.

However, the highlight of our time with JNF was the dedication of our most recently completed joint NCJWA-JNF project, the new children's playground at Golda Park on the Anzac Trail near Beersheva. This ceremony took place,

very appropriately on Anzac Day, 25th April 2013. At Golda Park, KKL-JNF had organised a very special ceremony for our delegation and other guests. On a beautiful, sunny afternoon we enjoyed music and refreshments and were addressed by Di Hirsh, Ze'ev Kedem, Director of the KKL-JNF Fundraising Department as well as KKL-JNF Regional Forest Director, Amir Mazor.

I quote Ze'ev Kedem who said "There are now 18 KKL-JNF Projects throughout Israel that are supported by NCJWA, for which I would like to thank you on behalf of KKL-JNF." He added "This park is used by soldiers and Jewish and Bedouin families. The beauty of the playground that you donated is that children from different faiths will all enjoy it together". Amir Mazor added "Without vision, nothing can succeed, and you are a part of this vision". The tour participants felt extremely proud of the acknowledgement of our efforts and we were presented with a certificate of appreciation.

Prior to the dedication ceremony, we visited the Park of the Australian Soldier in Beersheva, also a station on the Anzac Trail. This park was funded by the Pratt Foundation and emphasises accessibility as a high social value. It was particularly fitting to visit this park on Anzac Day and we placed poppies at the foot of the statue of the light horseman – a very moving experience.

The tour group spent a very interesting day visiting several of the ILAN facilities in Tel Aviv. We were welcomed by Hana Laor, the Chairperson of ILAN and also the Director, Silvina Freund. At the Onn Kindergarten, a plaque was unveiled in honour of the late Diana Gelfand (VIC) and we observed the children at play and were shown the special equipment and areas such as the Snoozelen Room For Sensory Therapy. Our next stop was at the Venezuela Kallisher school for children aged six to twenty one – Arab, Jewish and foreign students, all of whom use wheelchairs and suffer from moderate to severe disability. Their artwork was a pleasure to see. Here a plaque was unveiled in memory of the late Ray Ginsburg AM (NSW). We visited the site of the new Day Care Centre for Adults – a project with which NCJWA is now directly involved – and also the present centre where we were moved and inspired by the people we met.

A half day was spent at Haifa University, where we met with Michael Messinger, Executive Director, International Resource Development, who gave us a tour of the campus including the Hecht Museum. A plaque was dedicated to the memory of the late Dr Geulah

Solomon OAM, in the presence of a group of delightful young Ethiopian women students who have benefited from the NCJWA Haifa University Ethiopian Women's Fund.

At the Haifa Rape Crisis Centre we were welcomed by Dr Shira Sanders, the Resource Co-ordinator, who stressed how much they appreciate our ongoing and long-term partnership. One of the workshop facilitators spoke to us about the Empowering Youth at Risk Project, which is the area that we support with our funding.

The morning spent at Micha, the Multidisciplinary Centre for Children with Hearing Loss, in Tel Aviv was both moving and uplifting and we were immediately charmed by the happy, smiling children. We were addressed by the Executive Director, Boaz Herman. MICHA Tel Aviv's mission is to enable children with hearing loss to acquire language, speech and communication skills in order to best facilitate mainstreaming into the public school system. Approximately 85% of MICHA's graduates are integrated into the public school framework.

While in Jerusalem, we were taken on a tour of the Arab Shuk, the Christian and Jewish Quarters, as well as completing the Tunnel Tour at the Kotel. We also spent a few hours in the Muslim Quarter at Ecce Homo on the Via Delorosa, where we met Sister Trudy, an ex-Australian who belongs to the Sisters of Our Lady of Zion together with a delightful Muslim lady, who discussed the work of Interfaith Dialogue. Also present was Peta Pellach, another ex-Australian, who is Director of Educational Activities at the Elijah Interfaith Institute. We accompanied her to a meeting of Christians and Jews - the Rainbow Group – held in the beautiful courtyard of the Swedish Theological Institute.

Our visit to Dialogue in the Dark, at the Israeli Children's Museum in Holon, was both interesting and challenging. We had the opportunity to experience life as a blind person when we were guided in complete darkness through various situations, such as a home, a boat, a market and a café. Our other senses certainly came to the fore and we were all in awe of our blind or visually impaired guides.

The tour also included visits to Caesarea, Acco, Jaffa (lunch at Dr Shakshouka was great), the Mitzpe Shalom lookout on the Golan Heights, the Knesset, Yad Vashem and the graves of Israel's past leaders on Mount Herzl.

We experienced a great deal in our ten days together, but apart from our great

appreciation of the land and people of Israel, what we all really appreciated was the wonderful camaraderie of the group. We enjoyed each other's company and formed strong and enduring friendships, with many laughs along the way.

Peta Birnbaum



Snoozelen Sensory Therapy Room at the ILAN Venezuela Kallisher School



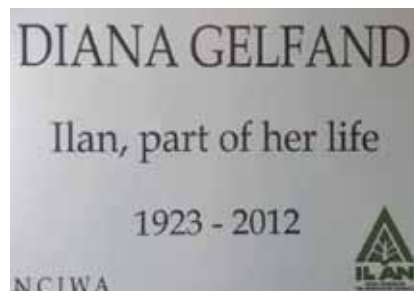
With tour guide, Amir, at the aqueduct near Caesarea



Hana Laor and Di Hirsh at unveiling of plaque in honour of Diana Gelfand at the ILAN Onn Kindergarten



ILAN Venezuela Kallisher School



Plaque honouring Diana Gelfand at the ILAN Onn Kindergarten



The NCJWA Israel Tour delegation at the Haifa Rape Crisis Centre Headquarters, together with Dr Shira Sanders (middle)



Members of the NCJWA Israel Tour with Australian Ambassador, Andrea Faulkner at her home in Tel Aviv



FW: L-R: Di Hirsh and Ze'ev Kedem unveil the donor sign at the new playground



Di Hirsh with the then Australian Ambassador to Israel Andrea Faulkner.



On the roof of Ecce Homo in the Old City.



We are delighted that Silvina Freund – Director ILAN Tel Aviv will be visiting Australia from 7th October – 17th October

7 th – 9 th October	Queensland
10 th – 11 th October	NSW
12 th – 14 th October	Victoria
15 th – 17 th October	ACT

Please contact your sections for further details

ILAN Adult Day Care Centre



The Day Care Rehabilitation enables and supports people with physical disabilities to live in the community

NCJWA ISRAEL TOUR 2013



Delegation with representatives from Lotem



The plaque at the playground at Golda Park, honouring NCJWA



Members of the NCJWA Israel Tour together with Gadi Haber from KKL-JNF (far right) at the Park of the Australian Soldier



Boaz Herman and Dr Vera Korine-Shafir at MICHA



The members of the NCJWA Israel tour at the dedication of the plaque at Golda Park the most recent NCJWA-JNF Project



Anita Shroot, Shirley Glance, Peta Birnbaum and Di Hirsh together with two Ethiopian students at the unveiling of the plaque in honour of the late Dr Geulah Solomon OAM at Haifa University



Signs seen at the Park of the Australian Soldier

Letters from Haifa University Students



Post Card



Dear NCJWA,

My name is Tsiona Taspay, I was born in Israel and I live in QRIT GAT. I am a student third year, at University of Haifa in Political Science department. I have 2 brothers and 3 sisters.

My parents born in Ethiopia and came to Israel in 1983 - they walk from their Village for Three Months to Sudan, they stay in Refugees Camp and after that they came to Israel to Qrit Gat and we live there since then.

The life in Israel was hard for my Parents because they didn't Spoke Hebrew And the mentality and culture were different, but my parents always Push us to study and to work

hard thank to that all of my sister and brother graduate university.

I lived at the dorms in Haifa for three years and I wanted to thank you for the contribution and financial aid that helped me a lot over this three years. I received a substantial discount that help me a lot.

I really appreciate the help and I hope it will Continue in order to make it easier for the students During the period of study at the university.

thank you
Tsiona

Post Card



Dear NCJWA, Hello, my name is Swomhon, I am 23 years old, I was born in Ethiopia. I came to Israel from Ethiopia when I was 10 year old. I am studying social work. I want to immensely thank you for giving me this opportunity and allowing me to thrive in University. Your help with dorm payments has allowed me to do my best without the worry of financial problems on my shoulders. I hope to prove to you as well that your donation is not being taken light heartedly and

it is going to help me on my path to becoming who I want to be. In my life, I hope to serve as an example for other Ethiopian Jews, like myself, to show them that if they reach for it, the sky is the limit. Thank you for making this hopes a reality. The work that you do is incredible and I greatly appreciate it. Keep up the good work Yours,

Swomhon

Post Card



Dear NCJWA,

My name is Misa Galou, and I am 28 year old. I Mother to a 15.5 year old girl. Daughter's father left us when she was born, and My mother helps me to raise my daughter.

I am writing to thank you for your generosity. My life is Quiet and humble. My father died when I was a little girl in Ethiopia. My mother raised us by herself. She taught us the value of volunteering and contributing to Israel, as the most important values. I have seven brothers. We all were in the army or still in the army. We believe that helping to other will help us in the future.

I study Multidisciplinary Studies, I'm in the first year of studies. I want to start learning social work next year

and work in this field upon graduation. This is the field that I most connected with it. I hope to influence and make a significant change in the field.

These days I volunteer in the community to which I belong, the Ethiopian community. I am helping in the cultural field, to establish rituals and performances related to tradition and our cultural heritage in Haifa.

The dorms Scholarship assisted me, to concentrate on my studies during exams. I managed to maintain grade average higher. It will help me in the future for continuing Studies.

Since your grant has been so important in my life, I Hope you will be able to continue this generous contribution to other students in future. May you continue to distribute your generous gift to future students.

Respectfully yours,

Misa Galou.

Special Weekend for Ilan Tel Aviv Children and their families



Over the past decade Ilan Tel Aviv has organised an annual weekend for children with physical disabilities and their families.

This year over 100 families enjoy this special weekend, with activities including visiting the beach and a water park. The hotel selected for the weekend was equipped to host guests with a disability, including those relying on wheelchairs. The families arrive on Friday and stay until the end of Shabbat.

The families who participated in this weekend rarely have an opportunity to take or afford vacations. Taking care of a child with physical disabilities is not easy. It narrows the possibilities of recreation for the whole family. These might cause physical and emotional difficulties.

Ilan Tel Aviv pays for all family expenses during the weekend including: accommodation, meals, entrance to the water park and special activities that this year included juggling, magicians, balloons, full screen movie and Karaoke evening for the parents.

The fact that the whole family is together sharing this weekend gives them the support they need to carry on.

We are very proud to have the possibility to keep doing the weekend annually. The families are always very thankful and look forward to be part of it every year.

Silvina Freund
Director IlanTA

News from the Sections

Brisbane

Brisbane Section was pleased to have been able to host the recent NCJWA Plenary Session and the 90th Anniversary celebration of NCJWA in Australia.

To mark this occasion a dinner was held at Diana Plaza Hotel and the Brisbane community and delegates to the Plenary enjoyed each other's company. Most Brisbane Jewish organisations were represented by their Presidents. We were also pleased to welcome special guests including Jane Prentice, Federal member for Ryan and Cr Vicki Howard (Central Ward) who represented the Lord Mayor of Brisbane. A delegation from the NCW of Queensland also attended including President Noela O'Donnell. Entertainment was provided by Tsoof Baras a student at



Gail Paratz & Lorraine Jacobs with their SZC Yitzak Rabin Awards

Well known former Brisbane resident Chanoch Suffrin returned to lead the weekend's Shabbat services at the South Brisbane Synagogue. His meaningful morning sermon honoured NCJWA. The kiddush and all the meals for the whole weekend were prepared and served by the women of the South Brisbane Hebrew Congregation. They were ably led by Myriam Goldman and Peta Briner. The Plenary delegates were full of praise for the quality and plentiful supply of food throughout the conference.

We congratulate two of our members Gail Paratz and Lorraine Jacobs who along with their husbands David Paratz and David Jacobs were recently honoured by the State Zionist Council with Yitzak Rabin awards for their work in the Brisbane Community.

Carolyn Goldsmith OAM

Canberra

We are delighted to report that we now have 40 members, following our AGM held on Sunday 21 July 2013. We continue to run with a steering committee, which has expanded to include new members.



Pam Sein and Janet Frommer

Welcome Tamar Cordover Pritchard and Liana Levin and also former members Jo Dixon and Fiona Sweet Formiatti. They join last year's committee members Dr Barbara Butow, Yael Cass, Sarit Cohen, Sylvia Deutsch, Janet Frommer, Yvette Goode, Dr Anita Shroot and Karen Tatz.

At our AGM stalwart and former steering committee member Pam Fein was presented with a Haifa University Ethiopian Scholarships Fund Certificate. Pam has single handedly raised hundreds of dollars for our various causes, including the scholarships provided at Haifa University for Ethiopian female students, through running stalls at the markets with donated household goods.

Pamela Rothman continues to represent us at the NCW of ACT, and gave an insightful report at the AGM on NCW's activities here in Canberra. The National Council of Women is an important part of Australian feminist history and is approaching its centenary.

The sharp contrast between our lives as Australian women today and those of our predecessors was brought into focus for us by AGM guest speaker Jennifer Horsfield. Jennifer is a Canberra writer and historian and spoke about the background to her books into women's lives, whose stories were so often untold. Even now, the task of the historian is much harder for women from poorer backgrounds, who were unlettered and often illiterate. Her talk provided a very personal insight into the world of women 100 years ago and into our own time. It helped us to reflect on how far women have come – how many choices we now have and how much we take for granted (like having educational opportunities, career openings and even fertility control) that were not available to our predecessors. Even so, it also made us think about how much still remains to be done for women, throughout the world.

By the time this issue goes to press we should have held a "Short and Sweet Poetry Afternoon" at the home of Yvette Goode. Proceeds from this literary event are earmarked for Breast Cancer Network Australia.

Sylvia Deutsch

Gold Coast

It's been a busy few winter months including holding two Sausage/Sizzle events at Bunnings. These continue to be a great fund-raiser for our Section. Thank you to all our volunteers.

Our AGM was held on 4 August, with 47 members attending including Tammy Ota who was visiting from Japan. Our thanks to Tammy who continues as long distance news editor. It was encouraging to see quite a few of our younger members present, as well as representatives from the various community organisations.

I'd like to welcome recent new members Sue Goldstein, Sara Longmuir and Betty Broit.

Elected to office for 2013/2014.

President: Barbara Stewart-Kann OAM

V/President Felicia Godwin

V/President Sheila Catterall OAM

Secretary Luana Goriss

Treasurer Elaine Watson

Catering Rayna Lewis

Trustees Barbara Stewart-Kann OAM

Pam Goldstein Rayna Lewis

On behalf of the Gold Coast Section I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members and their families a Shana Tova.

Barbara Stewart-Kann OAM

New South Wales



Woollahra Council 2013 Woollahra Citizenship Awards, Contribution to Community Awarded to MUM FOR MUM. L-R- Sue Fillingham, Peta Gam, Michelle Haifer, Victoria Nadel President NSW, Nadene Alhadeff MUM FOR MUM Co-ordinator, Suzy Wolanski, Andrew Petrie Mayor of Woollahra, Ruth Osen.

It's been an exciting few months since the last bulletin; joining up with NCJWA members from around Australia and taking part in the NCJWA tour of our Israel Projects as well as attending the ICJW Herczeg Educational Seminar and meeting like-minded Jewish women from around the world.

A real joy for us back home was the recognition of our Mum For Mum program which was awarded the Woollahra Council Citizen Award (2013) for its 'Outstanding Contribution to the Community' at an official presentation in March.

In June we welcomed Julie Nathan, ECAJ research officer who presented an interesting

but disturbing illustrated talk on online anti-Semitism in contemporary Australia.

Later in the month we held our AGM and presented donations from our Charity Fund to a range of Jewish and non-Jewish organisations, including the Asylum Seekers Centre of NSW, the Jewish Alliance Against Family Violence, the Benjamin Andrew Footpath Library, Motor Neurone Disease Australia Inc, NSW Board of Jewish Education and the Multiple Sclerosis Association.



Birthing Kits packing day: L-R Back- Louise Williams-Berry Miriam Levy, Joan Rodd, Susan Levy, Yoke Berry

Among the awards presented at the AGM was a special recognition, 'NCJWA JNF Women of the Decade' awarded to Zara Young OAM for her years of commitment to NCJWA NSW and National in a number of executive positions.

In July we screened 'Out of Cordoba' a documentary exploring the importance of interfaith relations in the struggle against extremism. The documentary was the focus for a lively critical discussion and was followed by a delicious Spanish lunch.

We were all aware of the irony that in the same week as the hype surrounding the new royal arrival, our section packed 600 birthing kits, to provide clean and safe births for women in developing countries. We had raised the funds earlier in the year to purchase the materials needed.

Our Jewish Women's Book Club events have been a great success, the last a discussion of Jewish lifecycle celebrations with presenter, Rebbetzin Mandi Lawrence.

As I write this we look forward to our next Jewish Women's Bookclub event with presenters, Dr Anne Sarzin and daughter Liza Miranda Sarzin who wrote 'Hand in Hand - Jewish and Indigenous people working together'.

A wonderful event was held in July to fund raise for our Israel projects, at Miri Orden's home.

A sumptuous afternoon tea was the highlight and a moving but uplifting documentary about Janusz Korczak was screened.

August has been a busy month with a number of key events. These included on Sunday 11 August a farewell for Israeli Ambassador Yuval Rotem and the following day the Status of Women- library event with Dr Anne Sarzin and Lisa Miranda-Sarzin.

Our highlight has been the 90th Anniversary cocktails held on Sunday 18 August. This included the launch of NCJWA NSW's History Exhibition Panels and Oral History Project.

I take this opportunity to wish all our members and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Victoria Nadel

Victoria



Vivien Brass presented Miriam Bass with the President's Award at the AGM

My pride in our organisation and our volunteers was compounded recently when we congratulated Rimma Sverdlin OAM on her Queen's Birthday Honour, which she received for her many years of work with the Russian and Jewish communities. I also attended the City of Glen Eira Volunteer Recognition Awards ceremony where a number of our volunteers received certificates for their varying hours of dedication across NCJWA(Vic). Whether they work in our Oppe Shoppe, assist with Seniors Clubs, volunteer with Caring Mums or serve on the Board they all help us continue to Make a Difference.

At our recent AGM Susie Balint OAM and Peta Birnbaum did not stand for re-election to the Board. They were both acknowledged for their contribution to NCJWA(Vic) over many years. We look forward to their ongoing involvement in various ways. I am most grateful to all our Board Members who show incredible cooperation, dedication and commitment and I look forward to working with them in the year ahead.



I-r Shirley Glance, Peta Birnbaum, Vivien Brass & Susie Balint OAM at a lunch to thank Peta and Susie for serving on the NCJWA(Vic) Board.

All participants on the NCJWA Tour to Israel would have to agree that it was a resounding success with visits to our projects a highlight. To actually see how appreciative the recipients of our project money are and the work that our money enables them to do, is indeed most gratifying.

An inspirational highlight of the ICJW Seminar in Jerusalem was an hour spent outside the Knesset. All participants wore white, in a silent vigil holding placards championing women's rights, supporting social justice and the empowerment of women.

Our constitutional review is complete and is now being sent to our Honorary Solicitors. We thank the committee who assisted Miriam Bass with the review.

Our Strategic Review is also well underway and we look forward to the final report.

With hard work, committed volunteers, grants and donations our programs continue to assist our community. The success of our Caring Mums program shows that it is uniquely answering the needs of new Mums.

On behalf of the Board and Staff of NCJWA (Vic) I wish all members a Chag Sameach and Well Over the Fast.

Vivien Brass

Western Australia

We are all devastated by losing our special friend and leader Angela Davis. It will take a long time to adjust to this new reality. Angela was part of everything we did and we miss her so much.

We had a very successful event in May to honour past and present members from Gilad and Shalom Groups. These ladies are in their 90s or approaching this age. Some of them started to work with Council before World War II, helping with JNF Princess Ball or serving tea in hospitals in partnership between NCJWA and the Red Cross. It was a remarkable event enjoyed by all. We encouraged them to bring a daughter, son or granddaughter/grandson, and they did!!!! They helped us with more fundraising for ILAN and we gave them some five to ten years of health and happiness, with a fantastic sharing of stories and many hugs and smiles.



Shalom Group (Western Australia)

Paula Midalia was presented with a special award from the Maurice Zeffert Home for her many years of volunteering at their kiosk. Sue Levy was the perfect MC, we had a wonderful display of memorabilia and a delicious afternoon tea catered by our own Yael girls.

Natanya had a special event 'Winter Warmer Brunch' with delicious soups and music.

We had a very good AGM this year with excellent guest speakers, Sallie Davies, Founding and Life member of Volunteering WA and her daughter Dr Megan Paull, from the Volunteering WA Research Committee.

August was the deadline for the Yolande Frank Art Competition. Each year we choose an article from the Declaration of Human Rights to be the inspiration for the drawings. All WA Schools receive invitations to participate in the Art Competition. Fay Enston was our judge this year.

Also held in August was the Yael group's very interesting talk on 'Genetic Disorders in Ashkenazi Jews'.

Ester Steingiesser

JNF WISHES YOU SHANA TOVA



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS FOR HELPING US BUILD A BETTER ISRAEL THIS YEAR

For over a century the Blue Box has been a proud symbol of Jewish identity strongly connecting us to the land and the people of Israel. Blue Box Campaigns have played an integral part in funding important environmental projects in Israel, continually helping us build a better country.

These projects have contributed to the development of modern, sustainable and thriving communities all over the country. This year we invite you to once again give generously to our Rosh Hashanah Blue Box Campaign. **Thank you for your help in "Growing our Future".**

To make a tax deductible donation, call 1300 JNF JNF (1300 563 563) or go to www.jnf.org.au/bluebox



Kew Chiropractic Centre
86 High St
Kew VIC 3101
Tel: 9853 1100



Do you get back pain or neck pain?
Could your posture be better?
Are you aching to feel better?

Dr Paul Wise and Dr Michelle Kotzman
(Chiropractors) have been helping people like you
for over twenty years.

Call 9853 1100 for an appointment

Proud supporters of NCJW

Upcoming Events and Activities

Brisbane

October - Come listen to Silvina Freund, Director of Ilan Tel Aviv Brisbane lunch and evening sessions

Tuesday 5 November

It's back and more fabulous than ever, join us for our Melbourne Cup Day lunch

For further information on our functions please call 0407 145 739.

Gold Coast

Monday 4 November

Annual Melbourne Cup Eve Function

Sunday 8 December

End of Year Donation Day

New South Wales

Tuesday 1 October

Jewish Women's Breast Cancer Network chat night - Pre Pink Sunday on women's health issues

9 - 11 October

Silvina Freund (Ilan Foundation) visit from Israel and visit to Print 35

Thursday 10 October

Silvina Freund fundraising dinner and presentation

Sunday 20 October

Pink Sunday

Thursday 14 November

Israel Projects theatre fundraiser 'From Door to Door' at the Jewish Museum

Wednesday 20 November

Transcultural Event - 'The Jew in the Lotus' - Film and book discussion

Thursday 28 November

Celebrating Israel (actual date 29th) - film and panel discussion

Monday 9 December

Founders Day - 'Unchained Women' Documentary + discussion

Sunday 16 February 2014

Kindertransport film & presentation by Janet Merkur. Funds to Ilan and Israel projects.

Sunday 16 March 2014

Purim Dance Party - MUM FOR MUM fundraiser

South Australia

Tuesday 4 November

Come join us for our annual Melbourne Cup Day lunch. Don't forget to bring a fun hat!

Victoria

Sunday 13 October

Afternoon Tea with Silvina Freund, Director of ILAN Tel Aviv. She will talk about the latest innovations at the ILAN Adult Day Care Centre

Monday 14 October

Ilan function, 8pm private home

Tuesday 29 October

Exclusive Jewellery Launch. We are thrilled to be collaborating with contemporary jewellery designer, Fairley, to create a unique NCJWA (Vic) signature bracelet.

Tuesday 12 November

NCJWA (Vic) Spring Brunch - "In Conversation with Meera" Meera Freeman one of Melbourne's most experienced food consultants and tour leaders in dialogue with renowned journalist Rachelle Unreich (The Age, InStyle, Harper's Bazaar) Hosted by Vivienne Fried

Monday 9 December

Human Rights and Founder's Day Function

Monday 16 December

Thank you to Volunteers Morning Tea

Western Australia

22 September

Interfaith Event for World Peace celebrating International Peace Day.

27 October

In partnership with Maccabi WA, a field of Pink Silhouettes. This is a fundraiser for Breast Cancer and a special project as a Tribute to Angela Davis OAM. Thanks to Sue Levy for her work on this

17 November

Mitzvah Day, with some three or more projects to choose from. Jill Green is organising our participation in this event.

Monday 27 January 2014

International Holocaust Remembrance Day in partnership with the UNAOWA.