



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN OF AUSTRALIA

"Women working together can achieve anything." - Dr Fanny Reading

2019
ISSUE 1

SHAVUOT
EDITION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In March we celebrated International Women's Day (IWD) and expressed our keen hope that in the near future, all human beings feel safe and be treated as equal persons, regardless of race,

creed or gender.

Sadly, in March NCJWA stood united in grief with our Muslim sisters and brothers after the horrific mass murder in Christchurch, NZ. As Jewish women we can fully empathise with the pain and sense of injustice, of being persecuted and killed over one's race and / or religious beliefs. The world is a sadder place but together we must strive to overcome anger and destruction through solidarity and action across our wonderful multi-cultural society.

On a happier note, good progress has been made on the Strategic Plan's Communication and Profile Goals with the new NCJWA Web-site going live and our Facebook and Instagram posts taking off. Congratulations to all involved but especially to Debby Kloot for her hard and dedicated work. Thanks to our Board members and the Sections for their meticulous feedback, updates and useful inputs.

I have recently returned from visiting Israel to spend time with my family there, my gratitude and thanks to Shirley Glance OAM and Di Hirsh OAM for covering the National President's role in my absence. Whilst there, I had the privilege of visiting the new ILAN Centre with Di Hirsh. NCJWA has supported ILAN over fifty years and the Australian contribution is acknowledged in the new premises.

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER

MELINDA TANKARD-REIST

Author, speaker, media commentator, blogger and advocate for young people. She is best known for her work addressing sexualisation, objectification, harms of pornography, sexual exploitation, trafficking and violence against women.



CONFERENCE TOPICS

GENDER STEREOTYPING
OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIRLS
ADVOCATING FOR EQUALITY
STATUS OF WOMEN IN ISRAEL
LEADERSHIP
WOMEN IN BUSINESS
MENTORING
SOCIAL MEDIA

FULLY CATERED (KOSHER)
lunches, dinner & gallery event included



Join women from all over Australia
in actively shaping the future for women.

WOMEN - INVEST IN YOURSELF

8-9 SEPTEMBER
MELBOURNE
CAULFIELD PARK PAVILION

INFO & REGISTRATION:
NCJWA.ORG.AU/CONFERENCE2019

EMAIL: INFO@NCJWA.ORG.AU
PH: 0420 891 923

NSW DAYS FOR GIRLS

Thanks to Ruth Shteinman, NCJWA NSW DAYS FOR GIRLS Chair, & Janelle Dodd, DAYS FOR GIRLS Ryde area team leader, over 70 women & girls sewed, cut, pinned, packed & sorted items to help women & girls in developing countries have access to sanitary products. Thank you to all the generous volunteers who gave their time to help for the afternoon.



Program highlights for NCJWA Vic include an external review of Seniors programs and consolidation and expansion of Caring Mums and the Jam Project.



In December 2018, we had the pleasure to conduct the 2018 Fanny Reading Human Rights Lecture, having as lecturer Professor Neta Ziv of Tel Aviv University, with the topic of: "Ultra-Orthodox Feminism: The Struggle Of Israeli Haredi Women For Political Participation".



For International women's Day, NCJWA Vic Next Gen conducted the 'EVERYWOMEN' event, which included a panel of three extraordinary women discussing life lessons and inspirational insights.



For Pesach, we hosted our annual model interfaith women's Seder, with the support of the Victorian Multicultural Commission. We were joined by more than 80 women and girls from different faith groups for an evening of learning, song and laughter.

WA

"Escape to Shanghai" Presentation

An interesting, thoroughly researched presentation by Rabbi Dr. Moshe Bernstein.

From left : Ester Steingieser (NCJWA WA), Rees Barrett (UNAABA), Rabbi Moshe Bernstein, Dr Steve Lennon (UNAABA), Sol Majteles (Holocaust Institute WA)



Shalom Group Meeting with speak Rena Hesselson

From L-R Jenny Faigenbaum, Louise Wogens, Rena Hesselson, Lilian Kessly, Jenny Shub OAM and Rosa Levy.

Photo: Jean Finkelstein





BRISBANE

The past few months have seen our group enjoy talks from a variety of people including Man and Nature in Israel, The Queensland Variety Bash and a presentation on the history and ethics of fashion. Coming up we have a Ghost Tour booked where we hope to hear



stories about those buried in the Toowong Cemetery and Michael Komesaroff will present his new book.

We are involved in the Jewish

Community as well with our cake and coffee stall at the Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations where we sported our new logo and banner!

CANBERRA

Canberra had an incredible NCJWA Shabbat, coinciding with International Women's Day.

Joining with the ACT community, they held a women's Friday night service followed by Friday night dinner.

There were also short Ted talks on the topic of keeping young women engaged in the Jewish Community.

ANZAC DAY

Shirley Glance OAM and Rysia Rozen OAM represented NCJWA at Melbourne's VAJEX ANZAC Memorial.



Photo: David Jacobs

Viki Nadel OAM represented NCJWA at Sydney's NAJEX ANZAC day Commemoration.

Below is Viki, lighting a candle and laying a wreath on behalf of NCJWA.





A note from this year's recipient of NCJWA's Haifa University Ethiopian Women's Fund

I want to sincerely thank you for your generous scholarship. For me it means a lot, beyond a financial assistance. It is a recognition of the difficulties experienced by me and other students from my community to get this far.

Additionally, it reflects respect and appreciation for my achievements. I hope that more students will be able to enjoy the fellowship because it is really helpful and value-added.

With gratitude and appreciation,

Moria Mazal Tadela.



100TH OF SYLVIA GELMAN' AM MBE (Z"L)



This year would have marked the 100th Birthday of Sylvia Gelman AM MBE (Z"L), who passed away last September. Sylvia was born in April 1919, and had Sylvia been with us we would have recently celebrated her centenary.

Her absence is felt constantly - we miss her wisdom and guidance. May her memory continue to be a blessing to all who knew and loved her.

NCJWA.ORG.AU

NEW WEB PRESENCE

NCJWA has hit the ground running this year when it comes to all things tech.

To start things off, the new NCJWA website was launched.

This new site includes news and calendar listings, an online donation system and is fully optimised for viewing on a mobile phone.

This upgrade brings the NCJWA web presence into the modern era with a bang.

NCJWA can also now be found on Instagram - follow us at @ncjwa. On this platform we are connecting

with our younger constituents and those who appreciate the visual medium of Instagram.

And last but very not least, our Facebook page is always a treat,

with links to interesting material and of course lots of info about all the sections' activities!

At last count we were at 425 likes and growing! So

follow our Facebook too, where we are also found at @ncjwa.

See you online!

www.ncjwa.org.au



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONT.)

(cont. from front page)

I also met with Tel-Aviv University Professor, Daphna Hacker who is a leading academic and champion for Women's Rights in Israel. We discussed the growing challenges for women in Israel and whether NCJWA could play a role in improving Israeli women's political and social standing.

Since returning, I have been focusing on the consultative process for our proposed new Constitution and look forward to seeing it adopted ASAP. Thanks to the Governance Committee (Di Hirsh, Melinda Jones and Belinda Plotkin) for their on-going hard work.

The NCJWA Quadrennial Conference (September 8-9, 2019) "Women Unlimited", organising committee (Ros Gunn, Annette Sweet, Shirley Glance and myself with special envoys: Di Hirsh and Rysia Rozen) has an exciting program lined up with high profile keynote speakers and panellists. We are starting to get a lot of interest from the younger women in our community. I urge women to stand together and invest in their current and future development by attending our conference.

Negba Weiss-Dolev
National President