



The Circular

No. 619 March / Māehe 2019

Working toward a gender equal New Zealand

First two stories now live on the Gender Dashboard

Greta Parker, NCWNZ Marketing and Communications Manager

NCWNZ is excited to announce that the first two stories are now live on the Gender Dashboard. You can view the stories here: www.genderequal.nz/datastories

We really encourage you to join in the discussions that we are facilitating based on these stories. Join us on the Gender Equal NZ Facebook page here: www.facebook.com/GenderEqualNZ

The first two stories focus on Economic Independence, and we'll be adding more in the coming weeks and months.

Huge congratulations to Sandra Dickson - Programme Lead, and Nina Herriman - Chief Storyteller on this milestone. A big thanks to all members who have contributed their time and feedback in getting us to this stage.

How you can use the stories

We want you to use the data stories from the Gender Dashboard to help us make equality, reality for all New Zealanders!

You can share the images direct to your social channels, or share the link in emails and messages.

You can use the data stories to:

- Start discussion and debate at your branch meetings.
- Spark your own stories - and share what the data means to you in your everyday life.
- Assist in telling stories about gender inequality in the media, or to support a discussion you're having on Facebook or Twitter.
- Support workshops or presentations that you may run to highlight issues of gender inequality.
- Provide information about gender inequality in submissions to parliament, local councils, or other regulatory bodies.



More info about the Gender Dashboard

The Gender Dashboard collects, collates and analyses data to build a shared understanding of the status of all women in Aotearoa New Zealand. We are working with expert partners to illustrate key areas of inequality from an intersectional perspective. The Gender Dashboard is one of our three innovative projects within the Gender Equal NZ campaign, which also includes our recent award winning Gender Attitudes Survey.

Providing accurate information about the current status of all women will allow the New Zealand media to tell more accurate stories about gender, contributing to a cultural shift toward a gender positive culture. The Gender Dashboard will assist in developing a shared understanding of gender inequalities with the New Zealand public, and provide community and advocacy groups with information to assist with campaigns towards gender equality.

Questions and feedback about the Gender Dashboard can be directed to our Chief Storyteller, Nina Herriman, on nina@genderequal.nz.

The reasons for **gender inequality in NZ incomes** are complex, but they don't excuse or explain it.
And it's not going to change if we keep making excuses.

Right: Screenshot from one data story available on the Gender Dashboard.



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Sandra Dickson

Marketing / Communications

Greta Parker

Office Administrator

Ruth Harper

Conversation Creator

Val Little

Chief Storyteller

Nina Herriman

Office hours

9am - 4pm, Monday - Friday

Physical Address

Level 4, 26 Brandon Street
Wellington

Postal Address

PO Box 25 498
Wellington 6146

Phone: 04 473 7623

Email: office@ncwnz.org.nz

Website: www.ncwnz.org.nz

Messages from Vanisa and Karen

Vanisa Dhuru, National President

2019 has begun with a busy period. While our country gets back to discussing and debating the issues of the day, NCWNZ steps forward to continue to battle the causes.

This month marks International Women's Day. The theme for International Women's Day 2019 is 'balance for better' – and this means we need a better gender balance in income equality, in leadership, in safety and health, in education and all areas of life. This would look like a gender-balanced boardroom, a gender-balanced government, gender-balanced media coverage, a gender-balance of employees, more gender-balance in wealth and gender-balanced sports coverage."

We don't currently have gender balance. For example, our new Gender Dashboard shows that women and men work the same number of hours each day – but women only get paid for 35% of their work, while men get paid for 63% of theirs. Pacifica women earn just 72 cents for every dollar that Pākehā men earn.

The World Economic Forum's 2018 GlobalGender Gap Report shows that true gender equality could be over 170 years away. This is absolutely unacceptable.

Karen Jenkinson, Interim Chief Executive

It has been a huge honour to see the soft launch of the Gender Dashboard, and I'd like to express congratulations to whole National Office team, both Sandra and Nina for their hard work on the dashboard, but also to Greta, Val and Ruth for supporting them both directly and indirectly with this work.

We are at such an exciting time for the team, with the launch of the dashboard, further work on a proposed repeat Gender Attitude Survey for 2019 and some exploratory funding application for the Gender Culture Task Force. It has to be 'watch this space'.

We intend to close the office from Friday 19 April for one week. This allows a small team to take advantage of the of statutory holidays. We will be checking our voicemails, and some emails and media management will continue.

It is almost time for our National Individual Members (NIMs) to receive their annual membership invoices, just a small reminder of the AGM decision last year to move towards a 1 April membership cycle for our NIMs.

Thank you to everyone who supports us – working together for gender equality.

Congratulations and welcome to our new Standing Committee Convenors

The Board recently co-opted a number of new Standing Committee Convenors and is very much looking forward to working with them and our current Convenors and Committee Members as NCW carries out the important advocacy work. There has been an increasing number of important draft policies, programmes, and pieces of legislation on which NCW can positively influence and hence it is important we have well experienced and knowledgeable members to drive that work.

- Deborah Hayden - Health
- Eva Hartshorn-Sanders - Justice and Law Reform
- Heather Kirkwood - Education
- Lynley Hutton - Economics
- Raewyn Stone - Public Issues
- Venus Sood - Social Issues

We really look forward to working with you all as you assist the important advocacy and submission work of NCW. *More about Convenors on page 5.*

New infographics on gender inequality now available

Greta Parker, NCWNZ Marketing and Communications Manager

As many members will know, the team at National Office have been working over the last several months on developing infographics which tell stories about the Four Key Areas of Inequality, using results from our Gender Attitudes Survey.

We are incredibly grateful to those of you who have been providing feedback on this project. We've been thrilled to have had such a robust and diverse consultation process, working with many of our wonderful member organisations - and other organisations working to achieve gender equality, to produce these infographics.

We're excited to announce that all four infographics are now available! You can view and download the infographics at: www.genderequal.nz/ga-survey

These resources have been made for you - as well as other community and advocacy groups - to help drive cultural and social change. We really encourage all members to consider ways that you can use these infographics in your own networks and communities. Attached are key messages about the Four Key Areas of Inequality, which you can use in presentations, media interviews, or as background information.

More information about this project

Results from the Gender Attitudes Survey show that most New Zealanders (79%) agree that gender equality is a fundamental right for all of us. But 30% believe gender equality has been achieved for the most part, demonstrating the lack of shared understanding in New Zealand. The results also show a pocket of New Zealanders hold old-fashioned views about gender stereotypes and roles. The lack of shared understanding combined with these old-fashioned views hold all New Zealanders back from achieving true gender equality.

Many New Zealanders aren't sure what impact, if any, gender equality would have on the lives of New Zealanders. Some think it would make a difference, but aren't sure in which areas of our lives.

The National Council of Women's 2015 White Paper – *Enabling women's potential* – identified Four Key Areas of Inequality where women and gender diverse people are losing out: safety and health, economic independence, education, influence and decision making.

The Gender Attitudes Survey asked several questions which has given us a range of data and respondent quotes within each of the four key areas.

These infographics show (and prove with data from the survey) where New Zealanders recognised gender inequality, using their own words.

A farewell message from Ruth Harper, our Office Administrator

After nearly five years, I am sad to say I am leaving NCWNZ. I joined the National Office team in June 2014 and mostly my job has been to keep the organisation ticking over so that others can focus on the visionary work we are doing.

This organisation has always been different from other workplaces for me – it has been great to work somewhere that is trying to do something I really believe in. I am proud to have been a small part of planting the seed that was the white paper *Enabling Women's Potential*, part of nurturing the Gender Equal NZ campaign, and to have encouraged and supported the projects that have flowered from it including the Gender Attitudes Survey, Good Guys and the Gender Dashboard.

As a charitable organisation, we will never have the money to do everything that needs doing and so the office team are always trying to do more than they can manage in too few hours. I have enjoyed the challenge of trying to keep all the balls in the air – or at least hopefully only dropping ones that will bounce.

I wish NCWNZ all the best for the future – it is going to be tough but there are a lot of awesome people in this organisation and together you can make it happen.

Noho ora mai rā.



Te Hā o Hine Place

Christine Caughey, NCW Auckland Branch

In September 2016 the name of lower Khartoum Place was changed by the Waitemata Local Board to Te Hā o Hine Place, a name gifted by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei in recognition of the Women's Suffrage Memorial.

The name comes from the whakatauki proverb "Me aro koe ki te Hā o Hine-ahu-one" that can take as a meaning "to pay heed to the dignity of women".

On 13 December 2018 Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei and the Waitemata Local Board hosted a ceremony to unveil the interpretation sign that has been placed in the Te Hā o Hine Place to acknowledge this gift from Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. The unveiling marked an important moment in the place setting of the Women's Suffrage Centenary Memorial.

Above right:

Group from Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei who participated in the Blessing: To the right is Taiaha Hawke who conducted the Mihi Whakatau. In the centre are Precious Clark with Savannah Hawke who together unveiled the plaque.

Left:

NCW Auckland Branch representatives present at the unveiling are from left: Catherine McInally, Patricia Woodley, Christine Caughey, Elizabeth McEwan, and Annette Patterson also representing the Women's Christian Temperance Union.



Now seeking nominations for Health workshop participants for the Gender Dashboard

The Gender Dashboard is focused on the four key areas of inequality that NCWNZ recognised in our *Enabling Women's Potential 2015*: safety and health; economic independence; education; and influence and decision making.

We have made good progress developing the Economic Independence data stories after very helpful input from members in our first expert advisory workshop and via user and data testing.

Now we are starting the foundational work for **Health**, from the Safety and Health key area, as it's likely healthcare will be high on the public agenda this year.

We need some help to identify New Zealand's data experts in issues to do with the key area of **Health**, so we are seeking nominations from members. With these experts, we will hold to a one-day workshop in April to determine the best data indicators to measure:

- Sexual and reproductive health, including abortion
- Access to primary healthcare

- Mental health
- Differences between women (eg disability, ethnicity, trans and other women etc) and other areas of health we may want to explore.

We need nominations by March 18.

Nominations for experts can be of any gender; do not need to be NCWNZ members; and you can make as many as you like. In order that we can ensure we can assess nominations, we need you to indicate the following information (for example):

- **Name:** *Jane Health Expert*
- **Organisation:** *Institute of Gender Equity, policy advisor*
- **Reasons for Nomination:** *Ms Health Expert is an expert in access to primary health care for mothers and has researched access to healthcare in rural*
- **Contact details:** *J.HealthExpert@feministheroes.com*

Nominations, as well as any questions, can be sent to Sandra Dickson, Programme Lead, on sandra@genderequal.nz.

Meet our Standing Committee Convenors

Christine Caughey

Climate Change & Environment

Our changing climate brings perhaps the biggest challenge and risk facing global society, where the voice and actions of women must be heard. Working with a highly skilled Climate Change and Environment Committee we are committed to increasing understanding and actions to support women to resolve the significant challenges that face us all and we would welcome your interest and involvement.

Eva Hartshorn-Sanders

Justice & Law Reform

Eva Hartshorn-Sanders is the Director of Hartsheba Limited, which partners with organisations to achieve social, economic and environmental change. She is skilled in law reform, policy, strategy and negotiations - and her background includes over 15 years working in [and with] Government, NGOs, trade unions and political parties in Asia-Pacific and Europe. Last year she completed a Masters at Sciences Po in Paris and was one of the NZ NGO delegates at CEDAW, speaking on employment and welfare issues for women in New Zealand.

Heather Kirkwood

Education

I live in Wellington with my two children and have worked in the tertiary sector as an analyst and manager for nearly 20 years. Since joining NCWNZ as an individual member I have contributed to several Education submissions and look forward to working with members to make an effective difference to educational policy matters.

Lucy Gray

Consumer Affairs

I am actively engaged in a variety of roles including Co Lead PSA Delegate at University of Otago where I have worked in administration for 20 years; Convenor of the Dunedin Pay Equity Action Group and Custodian of Equal Pay banner; member of the Women's March Dunedin chapter and Otago Pioneer Women's Memorial Building Association. I live in West Harbour with my husband, daughter and cat.

Gabriel Brett Kelly

Employment

Gabriel has had several decades experience working through women's employment issues while employed in the NZ union movement as an organiser, educator, industrial advocate and H&S trainer. She has also seen life from the other side as an employer and owner of a small to medium sized business.

Beryl Anderson

Parliamentary Watch (PWC)

My involvement with NCWNZ began in 1989 when I became a member of Rotorua Branch. Since then I have been on the Bard, National President, Convenor of Public Issues and now Parliamentary Watch. I have assisted with the development of CEDAW alternate reports since 2003 and attended the CEDAW Monitoring Committee in New York in 2007 and 2012, and in Geneva in 2018. I have a depth of understanding of NCWNZ processes, the NZ legislative processes and the UN CEDAW process. I have a broad understanding of the gender issues that are impacting on women in NZ. I aim to have well-written high quality submissions made by NCWNZ to Parliamentary Select Committees as one way to influence positive change to the status of women in NZ.

Venus Sood

Social Issues

I am committed to my career path in governance. I joined Nelson Branch of the National Council of Women in March 2018. My current role of Vice-Chair is not only giving me a great platform to learn from the chair and exec members but has also given me the confidence that NCW is moving forward on the right track.

Lynley Hutton

Economics

I have over 20 years' experience in leadership of both people and programmes across the government, private, and education sectors, holding senior management roles encompassing policy and investment analysis from a financial and economic perspective. I am an experienced researcher and writer with a strong interest in women's issues, currently working on the final stages of publishing a book on women and leading.

Raewyn Stone

Public Issues

After many years in the local government and NGO sectors, I am keen to contribute my experience of policy work in human rights, equality and diversity areas. I have also worked a lot across sector boundaries and well understand the relationships between social, cultural, environment and economic outcomes and the cross-cutting gender issues.

Jane George

Family Affairs

I am a registered social worker living and working in rural Aotearoa. I am passionate about equity for rural communities and I am undertaking doctoral research to identify how to best value health professionals so they will choose to work and live in rural areas.

Gender and climate change at the UN

Victoria Rhodes-Carlin, Rebekah Hill, Helen O'Connor, and Fai Tongdethsri, youth delegates who attended climate change negotiations with the [Aotearoa Youth Leadership Institute](#).

Poland hosted the 24th round of negotiations (**COP24**) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (**UNFCCC**) in December.

Our government played a constructive role. It sent diplomats, farming leaders, and representatives from civil society, business, trade unions, and tangata whenua. Two independent Kiwi youth delegations contributed.

We had high expectations. The negotiations focused on two fronts: the 'Paris Rulebook' and the 'ambition package'. Systematic gender issues, however, remained. Despite formal progress on a Gender Action Plan, the reality on the ground remained deeply unequal and challenging.

Progress on Paris: In 2015, the world's governments agreed to the Paris Agreement - the first treaty where every country pledged to cut their emissions. This marked a crucial international moment. 2015 was when climate action became unstoppable – reinforced a year later when much of the world recommitted to the Agreement despite Trump's election and climate denial.

The Paris Agreement itself had both legally binding and non-binding elements, with countries required to pledge contributions, but with the content of these contributions being almost entirely nationally determined. The Paris Rulebook, which is neither Parisian nor an actual book of rules, was agreed in Katowice in December 2018, but was missing one chapter - on international carbon markets and other ways to transfer emissions reduction credits. It makes up the implementation guidelines (and sometimes rules) for the Paris Agreement.

But rules and guidelines alone won't stop climate change. The 2015 pledges leave the world on track for 2.7-3.5°C warming this century. That's why civil society and many governments called for an ambition package from Katowice. The Paris Agreement is built around five yearly reviews, starting in 2023. Because the Paris Agreement had been expected to enter force in 2020, governments also agreed in Paris to a separate 2018 review process - the facilitative dialogue, or Talanoa Dialogue. This process ended in Katowice, with countries now expected to enhance their contributions this year or next.

In Paris, governments also asked the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (**IPCC**) to consider the additional impacts of 2°C of warming compared to 1.5°C warming. The IPCC released its report in October 2018, confirming the importance of the Paris Agreement ambition of keeping warming below 1.5°C. This sparked controversy half way through COP24: a few states refused to welcome the IPCC

report, despite asking for it just three years earlier. Tensions between populist climate denial, petro-state national interest, multilateral ambition, and calls for justice from frontline communities regained focus. But, ultimately, Katowice recognized the 1.5°C report and sent a needed political signal: all countries need to step up in 2019 and 2020.

Stalemate on gender? Gender issues, however, remain an ongoing point of tension. Climate change reinforces existing systemic inequities. Women bear a disproportionate burden of climate impacts worldwide.

There are some signs of progress – on paper. In 2017, the UNFCCC established a Gender Action Plan. This aimed to showcase and 'mainstream' women's involvement in confronting climate change (many states' diplomats still seem to use 'gender' and 'women' interchangeably, without considering other gender identities).

We ended up with the overwhelming view that the Gender Action Plan was tokenistic – with a shockingly low baseline. New Zealand's mostly-female negotiating team was led by two women – including Ambassador Jo Tyndall, who co-chaired the negotiations towards the Paris Rulebook – but key decision-makers in the negotiations are male. The UNFCCC boasted that Katowice set records for female participation – for the first time, over half the negotiating bodies had more than 38% women there (and nine of 28 co-chair positions are held by women).

While the final COP24 decision recognises women's roles in adaptation and technology, negotiations on loss and damage (dealing with harm from climate change impacts happening now) ended up blocked. Kuwait, on behalf of the Arab group, shut down any recognition of gender, saying '*there is no difference of the impacts of climate change between men and women*'.

The conference's physical setting in Polish coal country reinforced this. UN experts have also highlighted significant concerns about women's rights in Poland, especially around reproductive rights. The government hosting the COP presides over the negotiations for a year, and has significant formal and informal power to shape the negotiations.

All this means that civil society organisations have a crucial role to play in and around the climate negotiations. In the corridors, there was a real air of frustration about the lack of gender responsiveness in the negotiations. We were impressed by the strategic, effective, radical lobbying from the Women and Gender Constituency, which was intersectional and inclusive – and surprisingly aware of the importance of emotion and fun in motivating and influencing people.

There is a crucial role for organisations like the National Council of Women in influencing these negotiations, especially to secure gender justice.

Changes to the Births, Deaths, Marriage and Relationships Registration Act

Jan Logie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister of Justice (Domestic and Sexual Violence Issues)



If fear and intolerance wins over our hearts and minds in debates occurring around the Births, Deaths, Marriages and Relationships Registration (BDMRR) legislation, we will fundamentally be rolling back the limited progress we have made as a country to establish core human rights for one of our most marginalised groups of people.

Trans and non-binary people are a small but significant population in Aotearoa. The NZ Youth2012 survey found 1.2% of young people identified as trans and 2.5% weren't sure of their gender. Trans/non-binary people have always existed. Takatāpui is an identity that covers various gender identities and sexual orientations here in Aotearoa, while Tāhine, Whakawahine and Tangata ira tāne refer to trans people specifically. These identities are not new. There are many gender identities across the Pacific including akava'ine;, aikāne, Fa'afafine,; fa'afatama, fakafifine, fakaleiti; and vakasalewalewa. As the Human Rights Commission noted in their world leading 2008 Inquiry into trans rights "The Inquiry's findings show clearly that being trans is not a lifestyle choice; it is simply one dimension of the rich diversity that is humanity."

Too much of the recent debate has directly or more subtly questioned this reality. This is taking us back in time. The HRC report in 2008 recognised the need for significant work to ensure trans (and intersex) people have equal protection under our laws and the ability to be free from discrimination. They didn't recommend any special rights just adequate access to the rights available to other New Zealanders.

The report recognised four areas for immediate attention (11 years ago):

- Strengthen trans people's participation in decisions about them
- Strengthen the legislative protections to prevent discrimination
- Improve access to healthcare
- Simplify requirements for change of sex details on birth certificates, passports and other documents.

They didn't specifically recommend this law change in 2008 but strongly supported it when parliament was considering it last term.

The 2008 report "revealed that the lives of trans people in NZ are marked by discrimination, severe barriers to equitable health services, and limited legal and public recognition of who they are." and "They face pervasive and entrenched barriers to the enjoyment of the same rights and responsibilities as other New Zealanders."

We have been very very slow to progress these priorities. Trans people's organisations have not been funded, or regularly consulted on government policies that impact them. We are yet to clarify that the Human Rights Act covers them, we have only now lifted the cap on the number of gender affirming surgeries funded each year, and several DHBs have not provided any healthcare to trans people. We have started to see some schools actively trying to ensure trans/non-binary students are safe and feel included but it's not consistent.

The area where, arguably, we have made the most progress has been enabling people to change the sex details on their passports and drivers licenses. New Zealand's approach has been highlighted as best practice in reports from UN experts to the UN General Assembly. The proposal in front of parliament now, is just to make sure the birth certificate process is also aligned so that people's identity documents are consistent. Having identity documents that match is important for everyone, including for employers and government agencies wanting to verify a person's identity. It is not an issue for most people in New Zealand, but is a significant issue for trans/non-binary people whose identity documents do not match.

The ability to correct the identity markers on your birth certificate is something that can make a significant difference for trans and non-binary people. There are times, usually significant moments, when we all need to show a birth certificate. These include when we get married, sign a parent's death certificate or our child's birth certificate, or when we enrol a child or youth at school. We don't tend to need to show a birth certificate often but to have a document that is at odds

with your identity, presentation, passport, and/or driver's license creates stress and unnecessary risk for trans/non-binary people. To be clear though, your birth certificate is not something that gives anyone access to a swimming pool changing room, book club, community organisation, women's refuge, toilet etc. No-one is asked to show a birth certificate, or a passport, to enter such facilities. Using any of those arguments against the BDMRR reforms suggests some people believe we should change the passport and drivers licence policy back. This would clearly roll back established rights.

The BDMRR changes will require a statutory declaration, which is legally enforceable. Typically, if a statutory declaration is obtained by fraud, false representation or by concealing facts, its effect can be overruled, and the person concerned could, by law, be fined or imprisoned, or both. These legal protections, and other laws provide against the very unlikely event that any man would try to change his birth certificate to get access to women only spaces to harm anyone. In other countries that have already made these changes the research shows the fears regarding this have not been realised. Similar changes have been successfully implemented in Argentina, Malta, Norway, Denmark, Portugal, Ireland, Belgium and most recently the state of California, and have been met with very positive outcomes. A study by the Williams institute at UCLA found that none of the claimed negative safety outcomes could be proven in areas where transgender non-discrimination laws had been adopted. The European Parliament also reviewed the impact of these reforms and found positive impacts.

The current proposed changes were considered in the last term of parliament and had the unanimous support of parliament after consideration of Allyson Hamblett's petition. The proposed amendments to the BDMRR Act had submissions for and against, though the weight were in favour, and the select committee supported change.

The UN Committee the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women recognises the marginalisation of trans women and the need to challenge discrimination based on a person's gender identity. The Committee has acknowledged this for a decade now and mentioned trans women three times in their concluding observations to the New Zealand government last year. Most notably, those comments related to the impact of gender-based violence and bullying on trans women and girls, and on their access to justice. Concerns about the human rights of trans women and girls are also shared by the National Council of Women, Business and Professional Women, the Māori Women's Welfare League, Women's Refuge, Sexual Abuse HELP Wellington and many others I'm sure. I understand many if not all of these groups also support the BDMRR reforms. The changes aren't significant for those of us not directly affected but if we

allow fear to win we will actually be undermining what little progress we have made towards ensuring trans and non-binary people are able to live the lives of dignity we are all entitled to live.

Republished from: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/jan-logie/changes-to-the-births-deaths-marriage-and-relationships-registration-act/10156512009464102/>

Events with National Members (NOMs)



Above: New Zealander of the Year Awards 2019 in Auckland. With Vanisa Dhiru (NCWZN President), Fiona Gower (Rural Women NZ National President), Margaret Pittaway (Rural Women NZ and finalist for Senior of the Year 2019) and Marianne Bishop (PPSEAWA National Executive).



Above: Pan Pacific and Southeast Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA) 90th AGM in Wellington. With Lusia Nute (PPSEAWA Auckland), Rachel Qi (Multicultural Wellington President), Her Excellency Ms Nur Izzah Wong Mee Choo, High Commissioner for Malaysia, Vanisa Dhiru (NCWZN President), Lonie Martin (PPSEAWA National President), Lorrienne Augatavaia (PPSEAWA Auckland).

Sad to announce the passing of Betty Stewart

Beryl Anderson, NCW Hutt Valley Branch

Betty Stewart joined Hutt Valley Branch in 1983 as the representative of the Association of Presbyterian woman.

While she may have been small in stature, Betty had a huge presence. She served on the executive committee being a brilliant Secretary to at least three Presidents, and was President from 1996 to 1998. She was involved in organising the national conference NCWNZ held in Trentham in 1998.

She attended ANZAC parades laying wreaths on behalf of NCW. Betty was one of the main organisers behind our fundraisers such as the soup and sandwich events. Betty supported the Henning Cup debate, often presenting the Suffrage Cup for best speaker. She attended a lot of conferences, Citizen ship Ceremonies, and had good networking, was always looking for people for the Executive, and even cornered one of the Branch treasurers on the soccer field.

Betty was made a life member of the Branch in 2006.

Hutt Valley NCWNZ acts as the mother organisation for the Lower Hutt Suffrage Centennial Scholarship Charitable Trust – the SHE Trust. Betty was Chair of the Trust from 1999-2012 (2010-2012 joint Chair with Sue Locke), and was made a Patron of the SHE Trust in 2013. Betty put a lot of energy into the Trust during her time as Chair, not least of all involvement in fundraiser efforts to increase the scholarships and prizes awarded each year.

Betty lived and breathed NCWNZ and the SHE Trust. In the words of the NCW prayer, Betty was concerned for the welfare of all people, she sought to serve, with energy and enterprise in her labours and in in a true fellowship of service.

Sue Westwood, a respected woman in Whanganui passes on

Sheryn Robertson, NCW Wanganui Branch

I am hoping that you will be able to include some of this article in the next edition of the Circular, as I feel that she embodied many of the ideals that NCWNZ is endeavoring to inspire in younger women. She definitely never let the fact that she was a woman stop her from achieving her ambitions.

We will miss her greatly at our meetings because of her knowledge, wisdom and ability to get down to the nitty gritty. As she said herself, "Respect the process and let the process respect you."

Excepts from the Whanganui Chronicle, 9 February 2019

Her first taste of local government came in 1981, becoming the first woman elected to be Waitotara County Council (it later merged with the Wanganui City Council. She and her late husband Graham had moved their family to St Johns Hill, which then had it's own Otametea town board...

... She campaigned hard and everyone she met got the same message: "Hi, I'm Sue Westwood. If you vote against me at least you know me." She beat the other candidate handsomely. "I stood because I didn't want to be amalgamated with the city and have to pay for the sewerage. Now 34 years later I still don't want to pay for it," she said...

Her services to the community were recognised in 2013 when she received a QSM in the New Year Honours.

More about Sue's life and career can be read online: <https://www.pressreader.com/new-zealand/wanganui-chronicle/20190209/textview>

Conference 2019 update

We are excited that this year's conference will be in Wellington in September. The Conference Committees are currently in the process of securing a venue and confirming the dates. We know this will be a great opportunity to reconnect, share, and discuss issues of relevance for NCWNZ members.

Branch Presidents & Treasurers zoom meeting in March

We have scheduled the following online zoom call times for NCW branch presidents and treasurers this month, and a Convenors call will follow shortly:

Sunday 03 March 2019, 5pm

Monday 04 March 2019, 8pm.

Submissions

NCWNZ made the following written submissions over the last few months. To read the submissions, visit www.ncwnz.org.nz (Members' Area).

Title:	Submitted to:	Date:
S18.40 Equal Pay Amendment Bill	Education and Work Committee	27-Nov-18
S19.01 New Zealand Māori Arts and Crafts Institute Vesting Bill 111-1	Maori Affairs Committee	22-Feb-19

Calendar

March

- 08 International Women's Day
21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

April

- 07 World Health Day
13 NCWNZ Founders' Day
17 Day of Silence (LGBTQ)

May

- 05 International Midwives Day
10 Mother's Day
12 International Nurses Day
15 International Day of Families
17 International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia

June

- 5 World Environment Day

July

- 12 Malala Yousafzai Day
17 World Day for International Justice
30 International Day of Friendship

August

- 01-07 World Breastfeeding Week
12 Youth Day

September

- 19 Suffrage Day
21 International Day of Peace
26 World Contraception Day

October

- 01-31 Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Standing Committee Convener Contact List

Please note these new email addresses for Convenors

Parliamentary Watch Committee	Beryl Anderson	pwc@ncwnz.org.nz
Climate Change & Environment	Christine Caughey	environment@ncwnz.org.nz
Consumer Affairs	Lucy Gray	consumer.affairs@ncwnz.org.nz
Economics	Lynley Hutton	economics@ncwnz.org.nz
Education	Heather Kirkwood	education@ncwnz.org.nz
Employment	Gabriel Brett Kelly	employment@ncwnz.org.nz
Family Affairs	Jane George	family@ncwnz.org.nz
Health	Deborah Hayden	health@ncwnz.org.nz
Justice & Law Reform	Eva Hartshorn-Sanders	justice@ncwnz.org.nz
Public Issues	Raewyn Stone	public.issues@ncwnz.org.nz
Social Issues	Venus Sood Guy	social.issues@ncwnz.org.nz



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The final deadline for material for the April *Circular* is Wednesday 13 March 2019.

If you would like to contribute to *The Circular*, please contact the Editor via NCWNZ National Office to discuss what you would like to do.

Email: circular@ncwnz.org.nz

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