

# THE COUNTRYWOMAN

INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2012

## Women Walk the World... The winner's story

7 PAGE  
'WALK'  
REPORT  
SEE PAGE 13



## Nineteen Amazing Weeks

ACWW WORLD PRESIDENT UPDATES US ON HER PRESIDENCY

## Triennial Conference 2013 - CIRCULARS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN THE LEAD UP TO THE CONFERENCE





COVER: Clogher Women's Institute & Monaghan Federation Irish Countrywomen's Association (ICA) Ireland, winners of the Women Walk the World competition - see page 13

The Countrywoman, distributed to 70 countries worldwide, is the magazine of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW), NGO Official partner of UNESCO

Named in 1933 by Mrs Alfred Watt, MBE, MA First President, ACWW



ISSN 0011-0302

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**DEADLINES**

Please note the following deadlines for sending articles and photographs to 'The Countrywoman'.

October-December: August 1st  
 January-March: November 1st  
 April-June: February 1st

(colour, glossy- not matt- prints or digital photos, high resolution)

THE EDITOR'S DECISION ON ACCEPTANCE IS FINAL

**WORLD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



May Kidd, ACWW World President, walking with Angus Federation above and with her family below, for Women Walk the World. Photo by Graeme Hammond

**Dear Friends**

SUNDAY 29TH APRIL 2012 will go down in ACWW history, as the day when thousands joined in and walked the World. I was preparing to walk when a message came in from Ruth Shanks, President South Pacific Area, New South Wales, Australia:

"We have just completed our walk, the weather was brilliant, we walked from the shopping centre to the local gardens. Came across a rose named 'Glamis Castle', which I believe is not far from your hometown. This made us feel a little closer to ACWW. Have a great walk!"

Yes, Ruth is right, Glamis Castle in Scotland, which is the childhood home of the late Queen Mother, does stand nearby. What a feeling of togetherness the Women Walk the World event has created.

On my own walk, we strode off to the strains of bagpipes, a real live piper, kilt and all! We followed on, children and dogs too, wearing flags of the 70 countries where ACWW is active, around our necks (see above). My family and I pictured below, also carried out our own walk for Women Walk the World, both events were fun.

In March of this year I attended the United Nations (UN) Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 2012) in New York, along with 14 ACWW delegates.

The priority theme was, 'The Empowerment of Rural Women and their Role in Poverty and Hunger Eradication, Development and Current Challenges'. Our UN and Agriculture Committees held effective seminars. Thank you friends for keeping the ACWW flag flying at the UN.

I was humbled by the many inspirational women I met, none more than Layla from Iraq, who was tortured and sentenced to life imprisonment for defending women's rights. After ten years she was released, but forced to flee her country for another decade. Now back in Iraq, she remains a human rights

activist and works to eradicate violence against women. It was a privilege to talk with her.

Also at the UN, I came across 'The Children's Charter of the United Nations Women's Guild', written by Dorothy Roigt, which could have been written for ACWW (see below).

*May Kidd*

**May Kidd MA JP**

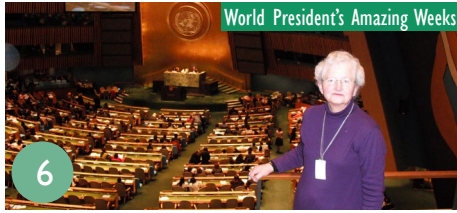
**'THE CHILDREN'S CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS WOMEN'S GUILD'**

"There shall be peace on earth, but not until  
 All children daily eat their fill,  
 Go warmly clad against the winter wind,  
 And learn their lessons with a tranquil mind.  
 And thus released from hunger, fear and need,  
 Regardless of their colour, race or creed,  
 Look upward smiling to the skies,  
 Their faith in life reflected in their eyes."

written by Dorothy Roigt



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As you may know, Women Walk the World 2012 was a great success and Central Office wants to thank all of the groups who took the time to walk, to raise the profile of ACWW and to raise funds to support the work of the organisation.

Central Office was busy throughout April, helping societies to get ready for their walks, providing leaflets, presentations and sponsorship forms. We have now received so many excellent reports and photos that I am sure you will enjoy reading later in the magazine. In London we have also been busy celebrating Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee and preparing for the Olympic Games. Please bear with us throughout the months of July and August as there may be some disruption to our usual working hours.

If you have any questions about the work of ACWW, would like to request materials to further promote our work, or are interested in becoming more involved as a volunteer then please do get in touch. Your support is what drives ACWW on, giving us the means to empower women worldwide.

As always you can follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

**Lisa Barker, Office Manager**

RECYCLE YOUR JEWELLERY FOR CHARITY

To all Supporters who live in the UK, ACWW staff have come up with a simple way for you to help boost the much needed funds of our charity and benefit your environment, by running an unwanted Jewellery Recycling Collection appeal. Please donate any unwanted jewellery towards this appeal. We want everything from just worn out to damaged, broken and incomplete items, so any odd earrings and snapped chains are a great start.

If you are in the UK, you can request freepost recycling envelopes from Central Office for your jewellery recycling. If you are outside of the UK, we have international recycling envelopes for the scheme, but you will need to pay the postage fee. Please ask family, friends and colleagues to participate in our Jewellery Recycling Collection appeal.

Everything you give to us is recycled and turned into donations, so please start now. Thank you very much for your support!

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## SONGS OF PRAISE



Songs of Praise concert at St. Andrew's United Reformed Church' in Brockley, London

ON 26 MAY 2012, St. Andrew's United Reformed Church in Brockley, London, held a Songs of Praise concert in support of Christian Aid and ACWW. Christine Ro, ACWW UN Secretary, attended the service.

This was the choir's debut and the mix of gospel, pop and traditional South African songs had people dancing in the aisles.

Jeanne Barsby of the Southern Counties Supporters Group gave a well-received talk on ACWW and encouraged the attendees to become members. Thanks goes out to Sonia Weston, church secretary and Louis van Nieuwenhuizen, choir master, for arranging the event.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE



Alison Burnett, Treasurer & Finance Committee Chairman

I WOULD LIKE TO thank the members for renewing their subscriptions so promptly and hope that the few who still have to pay will do so a.s.a.p.

Congratulations to all the members throughout the world who took part in Women Walk the World. There was a great response to the idea. Although the event was to promote the work of ACWW, as Treasurer, I do hope that there was also a lot of money raised.

From the ACWW Facebook page and from emails I have received, I am amazed at the variety of ways, in which members have raised funds, while at the same time enjoying themselves. These funds are vital if ACWW is to continue doing all it does to help women throughout the world, who are less fortunate than us.

### Could you be a volunteer for ACWW?

The Finance Committee would like to acknowledge the work of ACWW

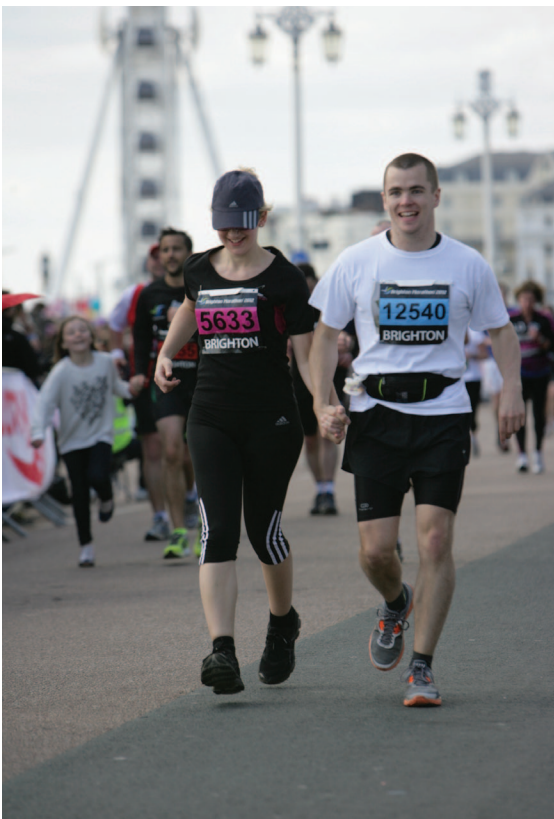
volunteers in small groups or societies, as well as those who serve on the ACWW Board and committees.

Often called 'International officers or reps' as individual members, they keep their members informed. As Margaret McMillan, Finance Committee Member and 'Pennies for Friendship' promoter says, "They also collect donations and organise fundraising events."

She adds, "The amounts collected by these volunteers can range from a few pounds to thousands and we appreciate every penny." Margaret concludes "I had an email from the 'The Federation of WI's in Ontario' that raised over £30,000 for 'Pennies' in the past year and their International Officer, Cynthia Rabstein, tells us that branches collect pennies at every meeting and it all adds up.

ACWW depends on volunteers from Area Presidents to every individual supporter in her local group. If your group does not have an ACWW volunteer, could that be your role?" Contact Central Office for more details: [info@acww.org.uk](mailto:info@acww.org.uk)

# WOMAN RUNS THE WORLD!



Lisa and her husband, Carl Barker cross the finish line at the Brighton Marathon 15th April 2012



Valerie Stevens (second left) ACWW's UN Committee & family, came out to support Lisa at the Brighton Marathon, 15th April 2012

ON A SUNNY but cool day in Brighton, our Office Manager, Lisa Barker, completed her first marathon in a time of 4 hours and 45 minutes.

Lisa said "The first 20 miles went surprisingly well but, as we hit the seafront, it became more challenging.

My energy was low and I couldn't imagine ever getting to the finish line. However, through the support of my family, friends and all of those who sponsored me, I managed to carry on and cross the finish line.

The feeling of completing such a daunting personal challenge was

amazing." Donations continue to come in to Central Office for Lisa's efforts and are greatly appreciated. Lisa says "Every penny raised will go towards furthering ACWW's aims of empowering women worldwide – especially those women who do not have access to adequate healthcare, education and sanitation."

If you would like to sponsor Lisa's efforts, please visit <http://www.justgiving.com/acww>, or alternatively make cheques payable to 'Associated Country Women of the World' with a cover letter with reference 'Lisa's Sponsorship' and send it to our London Central Office.

# CARDI KATHIRESAN A TRIBUTE

IT IS WITH SADNESS that we report the death of Cardi Kathiresan.

Cardi joined the staff of ACWW as the organisation's Accountant on 2nd November 1992, a position he held until his retirement on 31st March 2010.

For more than 17 years, ACWW benefitted from his considerable financial experience and expertise. Cardi quickly became far more than just 'the Accountant', as he took the work of ACWW to his heart.

He knew every facet of the organisation and took a special pride in the many projects funded by ACWW during his time with us. Like the self-help projects, which transformed the lives of the most needy women and families around the world. Over the years,



Cardi became a familiar figure to hundreds of ACWW members from all parts of the globe. Never too busy to listen or offer advice, we recall his gentle smile and his little touches of quiet humour. He was greatly respected, conscientious, unfailingly considerate and kind, one of life's true gentlemen.

Cardi Kathiresan, who died on 12th May 2012, will be remembered with deep gratitude and much affection by all in ACWW whose paths crossed his.

**May Kidd**  
ACWW World President

## AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

### NUTRITION IN RURAL TONGA & RURAL SOUTH AFRICA



AT THE RECENT UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York, the Agriculture Committee held a workshop titled 'Nutrition in Rural Tonga and Rural South Africa'. The presentation discussed malnutrition – both over- and under-nutrition in rural areas, comparing the past and present in Tonga and South Africa.

In the past, diets of rural people in these two countries were focused on plants and grains, with little fat, sugar and processed foods. Lifestyles were active and plants were grown organically. Today however, low-quality processed and sugary foods are inexpensive and widely available, while fresh produce is less available. As a result, in Tonga alone, there has been a dramatic rise in diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and other conditions. There are similarities in South Africa, where infant formula rather than breast milk has become more popular and diets have changed to incorporate more

saturated fat and refined carbohydrates. Interestingly, the only difference between the affluent and the poor is the protein content of the diet. Thus, in contrast to the Tongan situation, where poverty and low nutritional status go hand in hand, in South Africa wealthier and poorer people alike have increasingly unhealthy lifestyles.

After discussing the nutritional problems in South Africa and Tonga, the Chairman of ACWW's Agriculture Committee, Anphia Grobler, concluded by pointing to possibilities for improvement. These included school feeding schemes, increased employment and more recreational opportunities. One promising area is vegetable gardens, which is one of the Agriculture Committee's areas of focus. In Tonga, for instance, investment in vegetable gardens could increase jobs, improve the availability of fresh produce and possibly reduce the country's dependence on foreign aid. Therefore the Committee will continue to promote vegetable gardens and look for ways to link this theme with support for poor communities in rural areas.

### RURAL WOMEN LAG BEHIND ON MDG'S

GOVERNMENTS have missed an important opportunity to support rural women. The failure of the negotiations at the Commission on the Status of Women to reach an outcome is a disappointing signal sent to women farmers around the world about their governments' commitment to address gender inequalities.

Rural women globally face persistent gaps in access to resources, knowledge and services, underpinned by persistent inequalities in rights. By all measures, despite repeated public commitments to gender equality, governments have by-and-large failed to meet even the most fundamental targets.



Women lag behind on every Millennium Development Goal (MDG), except for the fourth goal of reducing the mortality of children under 5.

About 79% of women in developing countries consider agriculture as their primary source of livelihood. Yet, because of cultural attitudes, discrimination and a lack of recognition for their role in food production, women have a reduced access to productive resources. In sub-Saharan Africa, only 15% of landholders are women and they receive less than 10% of credit and 7% of extension services. As a result, their productivity lags behind, negatively affecting their livelihoods and that of their families. Lack of access to services and infrastructures takes away time from education and other opportunities and this gap in access disproportionately affects women and girls. According to FAO, in Malawi, for example, women spend over eight times as much time fetching wood and water per week than men, while in rural areas of Guinea, for example, women spend twice or more than men on the same tasks.

When it comes to the importance of supporting women's access to resources like education, training and markets, Governments need to set in motion concrete actions and programmes to truly address rural women's needs. Robert Carlson, President of World Farmers said "The failure to address the persistent inequalities that undermine rural women's status and well-being should be the priority area of focus for Governments. We will not achieve sustainable development if we do not achieve gender equality."

# ACWW WORLD PRESIDENT'S NINETEEN AMAZING WEEKS



May Kidd, ACWW World President wearing a Sari in Chennai, India

MAY KIDD, ACWW World President, sent in a quick snapshot of her presidency:

Just nineteen short weeks was the time it took to experience the most inspiring, educational and fulfilling period of my ACWW life so far. India, South Africa, Lesotho, New York, Prague and London all featured in my travels. In between came all too brief family times at home. There may have been occasions when I asked myself why everything had to come along at the same time, but I would not have changed any of it. My journey started in India where I recall the noise and bustle all around. There were crowds of people and endless traffic, day and night, car horns sounding incessantly. In fact this was encouraged as many vehicles carried a sign on the rear: PLEASE HONK!



May Kidd, ACWW World President on the back of a motorbike in India



May Kidd, ACWW World President at the 2012 UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York

I recall the elegance of the Indian women walking slowly by in their colourful Saris. I resolved to copy their example and dressed in Indian attire for the duration of my stay.

This went down well with the groups I visited, though I confess I never did fully master the art of donning the Sari.

I shall never forget the children, the orphans being tenderly cared for by DMI, some just toddlers, who sat quietly through the long thanks-giving service for India's Children's Day. Some children then got up on the platform and entertained us with some lively impromptu dancing.

Then there were the older children in one of the villages, fortunate enough to receive additional education at the end of the school day. These are the lucky ones, many more are not so lucky.

A country where the warmth of the sun is matched by the warmth of the people – that is my abiding memory of India.

After this, I was off to Prague- At the annual International Meeting of Countrywomen, my photos of India came in useful for a PowerPoint presentation. I

welcomed the opportunity to promote ACWW and the 2013 Triennial Conference in Chennai.

It was then onto South Africa and Lesotho where, once again the welcome was as warm as the sun. What a delightful way to avoid the Scottish winter!

I will not forget a happy get-together with a group of members at the home of ACWW Deputy President, Anphia Grobler, nor shall I forget going to church for the baptism of Anphia's grandson. Then it was off to Lesotho for the Area Conference, where all the

speakers were excellent, as were the society reports. What sticks in my mind is the final guest speaker, an attractive young woman with Down's syndrome.

She described how she struggled to achieve all that normal youngsters had achieved. Her words were unforgettable: "I tried and I failed. I tried and I failed. I tried and I failed. I tried and I succeeded!"

Back in South Africa, I spent my final few days as the guest of Area President, Semane Molotlegi Queen Mother of the Bafokeng Kingdom. We visited a group celebrating its 10th birthday. I am unlikely to forget that occasion, for that was when a message came through from home announcing the safe arrival of our latest grandchild.

Finally it was on to New York and the 2012 UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). What a thrill to mix with the thousands of delegates from all around the world, each with a story to tell.

I remember the five young female college students who gave presentations as part of their Women NC Fellowship, on Empowerment of Rural Women in South Eastern US.

They covered sex trafficking, political participation of rural women, community health systems, technology education for girls, and agriculture and rural women farmers. Clearly it is not only in the less developed countries that there is a need to make progress with women's empowerment.

I was invited by the German Ministry of Family Affairs to participate, along with the German Association of Rural Women, as a panelist at a German side event 'Fair Chances in Rural and Urban Areas', my remit was to give a global perspective. My presentation went down well and was well received, which was a bonus.

It was a pleasure to catch up with our two greatly valued UN representatives in New York, Patricia Altschuler and Anushka Wirasinha. They work tirelessly in and around the UN, keeping the ACWW name to the fore and keeping us informed. I shall not forget my brief visit to the General Assembly building, which looks just as you see it on television. Returning from New York, there were only a few days to go before I was off to London once again for a week of ACWW committee meetings.

This is no more than a brief glance back at these hectic weeks. I wish to say a big thank you to all who welcomed me, assisted me in every way, gave me hospitality in their homes and made every trip a positive experience.



Jo Almond ACWW Secretary & Triennial Conference Committee (TCC) Chairman

JO ALMOND, Triennial Committee Conference (TCC) Chairman, has provided important information for the upcoming 2013 Triennial Conference, which members and member societies should know:

## Circulars

**ACWW societies** should have received Circular 1, 'Nomination for Officers and Chairman of Specified Committees'. Please review the application and information sheet. Send nominations to Central Office by September 21, 2012. Make sure that 'TCC Confidential' is on the outside of your envelope. Any nomination received after the due date will be disqualified.

All societies should have also received Circular 2, 'Call for Resolutions and Recommendations'. When you are preparing to submit either a resolution or recommendation, reread By-law 16,

Triennial Conference Resolutions and Recommendations. This by-law states that, 'Resolutions deal with the Constitution and General Policy of ACWW, as well as international issues and are mandated, which must be worked on if passed by the appropriate majority. They should be of international importance and capable of implementation.

Recommendations may, after adoption by the Triennial Conference, be suggested to societies as a line of action, which they might choose to follow. Due date for either or both is 21st September, 2012. Circular 1a, 'Nomination for Members of Specified Committees' will arrive in September.

There are 6 Specified Committees, Agriculture, Finance, Promotion and Publications, Projects, Triennial Conference and United Nations. The board, after receiving and reviewing applications, will appoint members to committees. Central Office

will then notify appointees following Triennial Conference.

Please read each circular carefully and follow directions. If forms are not filled in correctly, or do not have the right documentation, candidates will be disqualified. Societies will also be receiving Circular 5, 'Call for Society Triennial Reports' in September 2012. This circular will instruct you to write a report for the Triennial Conference Report booklet. Start getting your thoughts together now.

Ask yourself what has our society accomplished this triennium, what special events have we held, or what special projects have we supported. This report will be due February 2013.

If you, as an individual, have not been made aware of these documents, please contact your Society President for this information. As always Central Office and I are available to answer further questions.



## COMPETITION : THE GIFT OF READING IN CHENNAI



2013 SEEMS A long way off, but you know how time flies. So, how many of you are saving your pennies to join ACWW at Chennai in Southern India? The Triennial Conference Committee (TCC) is putting together an interesting programme of workshops and visits,

and there will also be a competition.

The competition for the Conference is to make a re-usable shopping bag out of recycled material. It can be made in any medium, the size no bigger than 16 ins x 14 ins (40.5cm x 35.5cm), excluding the handles.

This competition ties in with ACWW's Agriculture Committee's commitment to promote the use of re-usable shopping bags, to stop the use of plastic bags and reduce the use of packaging.

The bags will all be displayed at the 2013 Triennial Conference, where there will be a people's choice and a silent auction, the money raised will go towards ACWW's Pennies for Friendship. So ladies, it's time to put on your creative hats and show how imaginative you can be.

BETHAN WILLIAMS', member of the TCC wrote: My ten year old grand-daughter is a very keen reader. With book in hand she is always walking out of school with a finger on the right page ready to start reading again, as soon as she can.

My grand-daughter is lucky, as she can borrow books from her school library and all types of books are given to her as presents. Orphans living near Chennai, India are not so lucky.

As an initiative from ACWW's Area Presidents, it has been suggested that ACWW members who are going to the 2013 Triennial Conference, take one or two reading books in the English language with them in their luggage, which is taught there as a second language. Also please take a small pack of new school supplies for children, age 4 – 14, such as notebooks, pencils, erasers, biros and rulers. Some of the children work for part of the day in a quarry and attend school afterwards, such is their desire for learning.

The second United Nations Millennium Development Goal states, that every child, girls and boys alike, throughout the world is entitled to a primary education.

ACWW can help achieve this goal by the simple gesture outlined above. Reading is the foundation of any education and books play



a vital role in the educational development of all children. Those not able to travel to Chennai may like to contribute these gifts, by asking a friend travelling there to take a book on their behalf. One or two books will not burst your luggage allowance, but it will make a big difference to the many children, who deserve all the help we can give.

**IMPORTANT:** Please note that books etc. should not be sent to ACWW's Central Office or to Chennai directly. They should be taken with you to the Conference or given to a friend who is going. All donations will be given to the children, who are in the care of DMI. Many thanks.

## TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

# CONFERENCE INFORMATION FOR 27TH TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE TRADE CENTRE, CHENNAI, INDIA 26TH SEPT-2ND OCT 2013

EMPOWERING WOMEN WORLDWIDE-ENCOURAGE, EDUCATE, ENRICH



## TIMETABLE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Thursday	26 September	Registration at conference centre	
Friday	27 September	Area Meetings / Plenary	Opening Ceremony
Saturday	28 September	Plenary / Board Elections	
Sunday	29 September	Plenary	
Monday	30 September	Interfaith Service / Tour / Sight Seeing	
Tuesday	1 October	Plenary	
Wednesday	2 October	Plenary	Mega Evening / Gala
Thursday	3 October	Departure Day	

### PLEASE NOTE THAT ACWW IS NOT RESPONSIBLE IN ANY WAY FOR:

- 1 ACCOMMODATION - All bookings of accommodation are the participants' own responsibility.  
Due to the Host Country's booking procedure for accommodation, these and further contact details will be made available in a later issue of 'The Countrywoman' and websites [www.acww.org.uk](http://www.acww.org.uk) | [www.acwwindia2013.com](http://www.acwwindia2013.com)
- 2 TRAVEL - Participants must make their own travel arrangements
- 3 INSURANCE - All participants are advised of the importance of arranging comprehensive cover for personal accident, personal liability, medical expenses, baggage, cancellation charges, etc. as soon as they register.

### PLEASE NOTE

ACWW is not liable for any events beyond its control. These include unusual, unforeseeable or unavoidable events beyond our control, the consequences of which could not be avoided even if all due care has been exercised, including but not limited to war, threat of war, riot, civil disobedience or strife, government action, terrorist activity, natural or industrial disaster, fire, adverse weather conditions, level of water in rivers or floods and closure of airports. This will include industrial dispute involving third parties, technical or maintenance problems or unforeseen operational decisions of air carriers, such as changes of schedule or any failure in the information technology infrastructure.

### ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS AND VOTING RIGHTS

1. The Officers of ACWW.
2. Five voting delegates from each Category I Society.
3. Two voting delegates from each Category II Society.
4. One voting delegate from each Category III Society.
5. Chairmen of Specified and Ad Hoc Committees.
6. Category IV(a) and IV(b) members as space allows.
7. Past World Presidents.
8. ACWW UN Representatives.
9. Visitors invited at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

### HOW TO REGISTER

- (a) Complete registration form, sign and date it.  
Detach and send to ACWW, Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London SW1P 3RB, United Kingdom, together with Conference Early Bird registration fee of £515 per person (payable by cheque, bank draft or credit card, exclusive of bank charges) to arrive at our London Central Office no later than 25th May 2013.

After the 25th May 2013, the fee will rise to £565 per person and the cut-off date will be 1st August 2013.

- (b) All cheques and, bank drafts should be made payable to the 'Associated Country Women of the World'.  
If you wish to pay by credit card, please download and complete the Card Payment form on the website: [www.acww.org.uk](http://www.acww.org.uk) (Please note that a surcharge is levied by the bank on all credit card transactions.)

Bank Transfer using the following SWIFT DETAILS

Account Number 01244108  
BIC NWBK GB 2L  
IBAN GB67 NWBK 5600 3301 2441 08  
\*Please ensure to reference with your FULL NAME

- (c) On receipt of the completed registration form and fee, ACWW will send you confirmation of registration to be retained and shown at the ACWW registration desk in Chennai, India.

Fully paid-up Member Societies, may send voting delegates according to membership category.  
Fully paid-up Individual Members of ACWW may attend as observers.



# ACWW 27TH TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM



TITLE (MISS/MRS/MS/MR) \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBERSHIP No \_\_\_\_\_ (QUOTED ON The Countrywoman label)

SURNAME \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET NUMBER AND STREET NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN/CITY \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY/PROVINCE/STATE \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL/ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (INC COUNTRY & AREA CODE) + \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICIAL DELEGATES ONLY – PRINT SOCIETY NAME AND MEMBERSHIP NUMBER BELOW  
\_\_\_\_\_

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE (NON REFUNDABLE BUT TRANSFERABLE ON TRANSFER PAYMENT OF A £10 FEE)

I enclose **£515** Early Bird Registration fee

To arrive at Central Office no later than **25th May 2013**

For registration after this date please enclose **£565**

Final date for registration is **1st August 2013**

FOR ACWW OFFICE USE ONLY

**Please see Conference Information (page 10) 'How to register' for payment methods.**

Spouse/Partner details (fees as above)

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

## PLEASE NOTE

ACWW is not liable for any events beyond its control. These include unusual, unforeseeable or unavoidable events beyond our control, the consequences of which could not be avoided even if all due care has been exercised including but not limited to war, threat of war, riot, civil disobedience or strife, government action, terrorist activity, natural or industrial disaster, fire, adverse weather conditions, level of water in rivers or floods, closure of airports. This will include industrial dispute involving third parties, technical or maintenance problems or unforeseen operational decisions of air carriers such as changes of schedule or any failure in the information technology infrastructure.

I indemnify ACWW of any liabilities arising from the personal injury or loss of personal property during my attendance at the Conference.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

Date sent \_\_\_\_\_

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Oven scones [siobhanningram.com](http://siobhanningram.com)

## OVEN SCONES

Alison Bayley, Scotland  
Taken from the 26th Triennial Conference Cookery Book

8oz. Self rising flour/USA all purpose flour  
(or plain flour with extra tsp. baking power)  
1 tsp. baking power  
2oz. Butter  
Pinch salt  
1 oz. Sugar  
1 egg  
Milk to mix  
2oz. Sultanas, currants or raisins (may be omitted)

Heat oven to gas mark 7, 425<sup>o</sup>f or 220<sup>o</sup>c. Grease a baking sheet, Mix flour, salt and sugar together. Add butter and using finger tips, rub ingredients together until mixture resembles bread crumbs.

Add fruit and beaten egg. Mix, adding sufficient milk to make a soft dough.

Try not to work the mixture any more than necessary. If dough is sticky to touch, sprinkle with more flour or else add a little milk if it is too dry to roll out successfully.

Turn onto floured board and roll out to about ¾ inch (2cm).

Use a cutter to cut dough into 1-1/2 or 2-inch (4 or 5cm) circles or cut into squares with a knife. If glazed tops desired, brush with a little milk before baking. Place on prepared baking sheet and bake for 12-15 minutes until golden brown.

Cool on a wire rack and serve with butter and/ or jam, honey or syrup.

These are best eaten the same day but can be reheated slightly the next day or toasted. They freeze quite well but are best warmed before serving.

## HONoured FOR HELPing

**HRH Princess Azizah Iskandar**, ACWW Area President for South East and Far East Asia, received the 'Global Empowerment Award 2012' on 16th May 2012 during this year's 13th Asian Women of Achievement Award. The award honoured individuals who inspire economic and social progress across the world, as well as outstanding leadership, responsibility and courage.

HRH Princess Azizah was given recognition for her outstanding work for the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), as well as for her tireless efforts and contributions to help childless couples through the 'Tunku Azizah Fertility Foundation' (TAFF).

She is President of Pahang Girl Guides, Royal Patron of Friends of WAGGGS and internationally, a member of the prestigious Baden Powell Society and one of the Global Fund Ambassadors of the world.



HRH Princess Azizah Iskandar, ACWW Area President for South East and Far East Asia (right) receiving the Global Empowerment Award 2012 in London

HRH Princess Azizah, who is a firm believer in the adage 'Teach a girl, you educate a family', said "When they mentioned TAFF, I was trembling and I had tears in my eyes. I am so honoured and deeply overwhelmed."

The award ceremony was held at the London Hilton Park Lane, where women from Asian countries were acknowledged and recognised for their contributions in areas from business, public service, social and humanitarian, in media and sports.

## WAU MPUMALANGA MEMBERS TEACH THE YOUTH



Members of WAU Mpumalanga with the pupils from Lydenburg. The winner, Sinethemba Mnisi (front-right) holds her prize.

The members of Loerie branch in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga, South Africa have been busy teaching high school pupils the art of baking koesisters, a traditional South-African delicacy.

It is a syrup-coated doughnut in a twisted or braided shape (like a plait). It is prepared by deep-frying dough in oil, then dipping the fried dough into cold sugar syrup. Koesisters are very sticky and sweet.

The members have already visited a few schools and plan on visiting many more.

The pupils bake their own koesisters, with the WAU members standing by to help them

where needed. Afterwards the delicacy is judged and the winner receives a hand mixer from Kenwood.

In the town of Barberton, a pupil named Sinethemba Mnisi won the prize. As she is being raised by her grandmother, who bakes to make ends meet, her prize can now be used to help her grandmother. In Lydenburg the winner was Brandon Boshoff, a pupil interested in becoming a chef.

As the mission of WAU is to educate, this project succeeds in teaching the youth skills that may generate income in the future.

## CANADA VISITS



**Canada Society of Quebec Women's Institutes**  
ACWW Canada Area President, Margaret Yetman, visits the Canada Society of Quebec Women's Institutes (QCWI). While there, QCWI President, Judy

Kenton, presented her with an ACWW Collection Box of coins to support the work of ACWW.



### Visit to Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario society

Margaret's visit to Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario society was a success, as she addresses the convention delegates on the work of ACWW. Christine Reburn, ACWW Agriculture Committee member, was one of the attendees.

## LAA MIE- GOOD DAY



From left to right: Clare Christian, President of Tynwald; Roma Patten, ACWW Rep; Kath Wilson, Federation Vice Chairman and Dympna Connolly. Photo by Paul Dougherty

**Roma Patten** spent a busy couple of days on the Isle of Man, discussing ACWW's work with various groups and individuals. Sharing her experiences, Roma said: We had a great lunch and presentation at Glen Helen with WI members from all parts of the Island.

My reason for visiting the Island, was to talk about my recent visit to the UN's 'Commission on the Status of Women' (CSW), held in New York. I gave an after lunch talk to some 40 – 50 members and a further smaller informal gathering in the evening. A lunch date had been arranged with the Manx Government's Head of Overseas Development Team, as there was an interest in match funding for projects.

I also met Rosemary Clarke, Director of the One World Centre, who works towards

producing leaflets in simple local languages on a range of important day to day topics i.e. health.

The highlight of my visit was meeting the President of Tynwald The Honourable Clare Margaret Christian BSc, MLC.

She gave freely of her time including a full tour of the Tynwald parliament chambers (there are three) and the Millennium Room, which was created after the Millennium Celebrations of their continuous parliament in 1979. This is the oldest continuous parliament in the world. The Millennium Room houses the many gifts given to the Manx people to mark this achievement and celebration. One interesting fact I learned was that Clare's mother attended the 1965 ACWW Triennial Conference in Dublin.

## TEA WITH MARGARET MACKAY



From left to right Judith Leach (Resolutions Officer), Jean Bates, ACWW Officer & Margaret Mackay ACWW Projects Chairman

**Northamptonshire WI** members welcomed Margaret Mackay, ACWW's Projects Chairman to afternoon tea.

They learned how Projects are run and also heard an update on an ACWW project in which they supported a group of women brickmakers in Kenya.

## RUISLIP WI DONATES



Left-right: Beatrice James, Vivien Beckett, Frances Zarifis, ACWW Rep & Evelyn Sleet, Ruislip Common WI President

ON 9TH MARCH the Deputy President Anphia Grobler was invited to visit Ruislip WI. Beatrice James made the arrangements and nearly 40 WI members from the Middlesex Federation attended. Anphia spoke on Nutrition: Rural South Africa and Rural Tonga. The same workshop was

presented by the Agriculture Committee at the United Nations, Commission on the Status of Women in New York. Ruislip WI donated £177.16 to ACWW's Women Feed the World fund. The money was collected by collecting foreign coins, then selling them by weight. A very clever way of raising funds!



Members of the Women's Agricultural Union North in South Africa

## SOUTH AFRICA'S SOLUTION TO E-WASTE

AN AWARENESS CAMPAIGN from the Bushveld Region of the Women's Agricultural Union (WAWU), in the Limpopo Province of the Republic of South Africa, was launched to encourage the safe and responsible disposal and recycling of electronic and electric waste (e-waste). At the annual Regional Conference of the WAWU (Bushveld Region) on 7th March 2012, a campaign was launched to promote awareness of the detrimental effects of e-waste on the environment, water resources and health, when dumped irresponsibly. Working towards the safe and responsible disposal and recycling of e-waste, WAWU's campaign is also looking to increase public participation. E-waste is a collective term encompassing all waste generated from discarded electronic and electrical goods, including all computer equipment, cellular phones, PCs and their components, lap tops, scanners, copiers, phones, televisions, etc.

It also includes all obsolete electrical appliances, e.g. washing machines, hair dryers, microwave ovens, fridges, etc, as well as

fluorescent tubes, low energy globes (CFL's) and batteries. All these items accumulate in our homes and work places, eventually making their way in bin liners to landfill (dumping) sites. They may also end up in the hands of informal recyclers, scavenged in an effort to generate an income from the valuable metals and components contained.

E-waste is a valuable source of secondary raw material, but can be toxic if handled or discarded improperly. It contains substances which need specialist handling to avoid health and environmental damage. Heavy metals used during the manufacturing process of electronic and electric equipment, such as mercury, lead, chromium, beryllium and cadmium, are mainly responsible for the damage caused by e-waste to the environment. Many of the above mentioned elements are classified as Persistent Bioaccumulation Toxins (PBT's) because they do not decompose completely and continue to linger in the environment, accumulating when they penetrate living tissue. WAWU have

stated that e-waste should never be disposed of at municipal dumping sites, where it gets burnt, melted or ploughed into the soil, or compressed along with other waste.

This is extremely dangerous as the PBT's contained, e.g. mercury, remains in the atmosphere, transforming into methyl mercury. When it rains, toxins filter into the soil, eventually reaching and contaminating underground water resources, and polluting the food chain, for example, fish and the fatty tissue of animals that are exposed to polluted drinking water.

The same applies to foods such as vegetables that have been irrigated with contaminated water. Methyl mercury poisoning causes neurologic defects in infants and developmental defects in young children.

In adults it can cause insomnia, headaches and impaired cognitive functioning. In 2009, e-waste comprised 5-8% of the waste at municipal dumping sites in South Africa and this percentage has increased since then. It has been estimated that the accumulation rate for e-waste is three times faster than that of any other waste category. It is an international problem.

An area of concern is the practice by developed nations of dumping e-waste on undeveloped nations in the guise of 'second hand electronic equipment donations'. The e-Waste Association of South Africa (e-WASA), an organisation that was established in South Africa in 2008 to address the growing problem of e-waste, has set up a number of accredited recycling plants, whose sole task is to safely recycle metals and chemical substances from e-waste. Some of these plants work with selected supermarket outlets for the safe disposal of batteries, and low energy globes. For the rest, concerned consumers and organisations have been advised to deal directly with the accredited e-waste recycling agents, which are set up in local areas in and around South Africa.

## WOMEN WALKED THE WORLD FOR ACWW

April 2012 will be remembered as the time women around the world walked for ACWW. To date, the amount raised from Women Walk the World has reached £3,513.26

On the days leading up to ACWW Day (29th April), as well as on the day itself, groups from member societies across the world, along with their families and friends, gathered together to promote ACWW and to raise funds for its valuable work.

Thousands joined in on what could only be described by most, as some of the coldest, wettest days of the year. But

with the rain pouring down on them and umbrellas blowing inside out, they kept going, determined to complete their walks.

They walked in vast rural areas, in historical parklands, in village greens and even in car parks, all in the name of ACWW. There were some regions which enjoyed the sun, but not many. Almost every corner of the world took part; Australia, Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, New Zealand, South Africa and India, to name a few.

To encourage members to join in, ACWW ran a competition for an article

about this event, where the winner's photograph would appear on The Countrywoman's front cover.

The winners of the Women Walk the World, who are featured on the cover, are **Clogher Women's Institute (WI)** and **Monaghan Federation Irish Country Women's Association, Ireland**.

The runners up were **DMI & Tirutani Rural Development Society Chennai, India** and **Southern Ontario Support (SOS) Canada**. Well done to our winners and to all who took part! We invite you to read the reports from page 13.

CLOGHER WI & MONAGHAN FEDERATION ICA IRELAND

WINNERS



Above: The winning photo for the Women Walk the World Competition - Clogher Women's Institute and Monaghan Federation Irish Countrywomen's Association (ICA), Ireland. Below: Some of the members pictured on their walk.



ON A BRIGHT sunny morning, the ladies of Clogher Women's Institute (WI) and the ladies of Monaghan Federation Irish Countrywomen's Association (ICA), came together for Women Walk the World, thanks to Patricia Cavanagh, President - Monaghan Federation ICA and Rosemary Adams, President - Clogher WI. They meet in Clogher Valley and stopped off for morning coffee and scones at Somers cafe, before beginning their walk. There was forty-nine women in total from the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Along the prepared route there were blue and yellow balloons placed at various points and bright footprints and signposts to direct everyone. A risk assessment had been carried out before hand and a St John's Ambulance member joined them, just in case any medical attention was needed.

After coffee and lots of photographs taken both by members and reporters from the local paper, the assembled women divided into groups. Walking along the county road to the beautiful Fardross Forest, one group carried out a long walk, while the other a short walk. Patricia said, "The group walked along small by-roads, forest paths, across a bridge and finally along a number of stepping stones over the river, which added a sense of adventure and achievement to the outing".

Kathleen Edwards, Executive Member for Clogher Valley Area, who had welcomed everyone especially guests from the ICA, thanked Beryl Boyd for organising the event, ably supported by the members of Clogher WI. She also thanked the cafe owners for the excellent lunch and for allowing them to park.

Both groups agreed that they looked forward to future joint activities. Beryl thanked Hazel Hay of neighbouring Augher WI for her initiative in planning and highlighting the routes with the colourful balloons, footprints and arrows. Several pictures appeared in the newspaper the following week, showing the very special occasion that had been enjoyed. It is hoped the press coverage will encourage more members to take part in such events in the future to raise money for ACWW.

DMI & TIRUTANI RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY CHENNAI, INDIA

RUNNERS UP



The Society of DMI, along with Tirutani Rural Development Society, organised a walk and seminar on the 29th April 2012 at Poonamallee, Chennai, India.

Sister Viji DMI, ACWW Area President, Central and South Asia, Sister Sasi Rani DMI, Assistant Superior General, Mrs. Malini the Tamil Nadu State Level Women Federation Leader, Mr. Michael and 200 women from DMI and TRDS took part in the walk. The 'Walk' was arranged so that the women would walk to the seminar hall. At the seminar Sister Viji delivered a Keynote address on the 'Role of ACWW in preparing women for the future'. While addressing the conference, Sister Viji said "As women we have proved that we are not less than the men and this is the time to join hands with the global women community to create a better tomorrow."

SOUTHERN ONTARIO SUPPORT (SOS) CANADA

RUNNERS UP



President Debbie Bauer does not let adversity stand in the way of walking with members of the Southern Ontario Support (SOS), and with all the women who were walking. When told by security services that the group could not walk in the area of Western University, London, Ontario for which permission had been given, Debbie and the group came up with the idea of walking in the parking lot and talking to people who were parking their cars. Bookmarks specially designed for the walk, were placed on each parked car.

Members of SOS realised this encounter with authority was a very minor occurrence compared to the real life challenges faced daily by women in other parts of the world, but it certainly did make them stop and think that everyone has an obligation to help each other.

On the plus side, they received very positive responses from people they stopped to talk to. SOS left the campus of the University with heads held high, proud that they had walked and thrilled that they had contributed some financial support.

CERCLES DE FERMIERES DU QUÉBEC' CANADA

The photo below show members of CFQ Ste-Mélanie who walked for ACWW.

The event was covered by a local paper advertising the activity. They intend to use it to incite more people to donate to ACWW.



Marché du Commerce, 29 avril 2012

WOMEN WALK THE WORLD

FEMEIA MILENIULUI III 'THE WOMAN OF THE THIRD MILLENNIUM ROMANIA



**Afrodita Roman** President of Femeia Mileniului III / The Woman of the Third Millennium (WTHM) association said "We organised a Women Walk the World event to raise people's awareness of ACWW and our own association's activities.

The walk was planned way ahead and many items had to be either arranged or made in advance, informing our local authority about the walk and ordering flyers and Women Walk the World badges, to be worn by each participant.

Our walk was planned to start at 10 am from the centre of the town. About 30 members, friends and clients, including 4 children, showed up 10 minutes before the walk started, wearing personalised - WTHM shirts. We all set off for a 2 hour walk (about 4 Km) from the city centre to the Platoul



Cornesti Leisure Park and Zoo, carrying a Women Walk the World banner and being escorted by a couple of the local guards to ensure our safety. It was a lot of fun during the walk with individuals chatting and taking photos on the way. The organisers also carried with them donation boxes and some handmade items, created by the beneficiaries of our organisation's workshop: friendship bracelets and present bags, so that every participant could make a small donation or buy an item.

Finally our group arrived at their destination, a place in the middle of a forest, located at the top of a hill in about an hour, where we stopped for refreshments. Along the way we promoted both organisations, raised money and had fun. The weather was excellent, it was the first warm and sunny weekend of Romania's spring and everyone enjoyed the walk."

HIGHER TEIGNMOUTH WI ENGLAND

**Members from** Higher Teignmouth WI, together with members of Teignmouth Townswomen's Guild and Probus, braved the rain, the wind and the cold, to Walk the World. Sadly, with their money tins ready, they only met 5 people. The Mayor had agreed to start them off, but the weather put him off, so the WI is hoping for a donation large enough to make up for this.

Gail Bradley, member said, "Maureen, our President and the committee did the hard work of getting a licence for a collection and contacting our MP and Mayor. Although the weather was atrocious, we took heart in the thought that many women face worse in the monsoons, and we knew other women were walking in similar conditions."



YARRAWONGA/BORDER BRANCH OF CWA VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA



**The Yarrawonga/Border Branch of CWA** of New South Wales, Australia held their Women Walk the world event from 2pm, Walkers assembled with one member on crutches. Women Walk the World banners were held and another sign saying first aider present was carried.

After all the members registered, they departed Customs House on Victorian side of traffic bridge Yarrawonga, Australia and walked across Lake Mulwala and Murray River into Mulwala, New South Wales.

Then around to the spectacular Weir Bridge and across the Murray River back into Victoria, they walked to the CWA Hall for a welcome afternoon tea. Faye Glover, a member said "The walk was successful and we managed to raise a lot of money."

PLAINS GROUP OF WIs NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, ENGLAND



Left to Right under all that wet-weather gear are the walkers: Margaret Green, Janet Evans, Jenny Gledhill, Kay Brown, Mary Webster, Ann Eaton & Carol Hart. Sandra Withnall, President of Gedling WI (without a hat) was there to wish the walkers well, as they set off from Gedling's Memorial Hall.

**As part of** the Women Walk the World, ladies from the Plains Group of WIs in Nottinghamshire set out on a grand tour. They had decided that their ACWW walk would be a tour around the 7 meeting venues of the Plains Group, namely Gedling, Netherfield, Parkdale (Carlton), Mapperley, Woodthorpe, Arnold and Bestwood Village.

The total trip was just over 10 miles, which does not initially sound like a big challenge. However, the weather on that fateful day was filled with constant rain, turning occasionally to sleet and hail.

With the wind seemingly changing at every turn to the faces of the walkers, it turned out to be quite a challenge after all.

Ladies from Bestwood Village, Gedling and Parkdale completed the route and were cheered on and generously sponsored by members of the other WIs.

MAWDESLEY WI LANCASHIRE, ENGLAND



**Ladies from** the walking group of Mawdesley Womens Institute enjoyed their walk through Bluebell Wood, also known as Knowles Wood in Mawdesley.

On that bright, sunny day the bluebells looked spectacular, which was a welcome to spring after a cold winter.

It was a delight for them to walk the country paths of Mawdesley and even better, in true WI style to enjoy a cup of tea en route at Heskun Hall Craft Centre. The WI raised money for ACWW by being sponsored by the other members.

## RURAL WOMEN NEW ZEALAND



**On Sunday 29 April**, 451 Rural Women New Zealand members and friends put their best feet forward, walking the length of New Zealand twice over, as part of the ACWW Women Walk the World event.

Jackie Edkins Communications Officer at Rural Women New Zealand said "When Ruth Shanks, ACWW's South Pacific Area President, challenged us to be part of this walking phenomenon, we had little idea how far we would go.

We set ourselves a goal of walking the length of New Zealand – 1600 kilometers, but when the tallies came in we find out our wonderful walkers had collectively walked from Cape Reinga (in the far north) to Bluff (in the far south), turned around and walked all the way back again!

Thanks to the pedometers we wore, sponsored by the New Zealand Walking Access Commission, we were able to track our tallies, totting up a grand total of over 3,500 kilometers in thirty-seven walks organised by our members throughout the country." Liz Evans, Rural Women New Zealand's national president said "The day was a huge success. We had great feedback from those who took part and many are keen to make this an annual occasion in our calendar." Liz adds "We had several generations taking part, from babies in prams to at least two women in their mid-80s who walked more than five kilometers each, with the oldest walker aged 87."

Their aim was to raise awareness of ACWW within Rural Women New Zealand, and collect money for Pennies for Friendship.

Jackie says "To help with the profile-raising, each of our walk leaders wore a specially designed Women Walk the World T-shirt, especially printed and donated by a local company. We are still collecting the funds raised, which came from sponsorship, donations and entry fees. Each walk had its own local flavour.

As many of our members live in rural areas, some decided to 'go to town' and do an urban walk for a change of scenery.

Others went 'bush walking' over hills and along forest trails, while some took an environmental approach, picking up rubbish along the way. Jackie concludes "We are all looking forward to doing it again in 2013 and already have ideas for making it even more successful."

## MIDDELBURG MPUMALANGA SOUTH AFRICA



The photo above shows members of Middelburg Mpumalanga of South Africa, who walked for ACWW.

## CEREDIGION WI WALES



**On ACWW Day**, WI members in Ceredigion joined in Women Walk the World on the coldest, wettest morning of the year. As members reached the Promenade at Aberystwyth on the west coast of Wales, it had just stopped raining. It was at this point that Anne Jones, County Chairman, declared they would start their walk – 10 minutes to 10. The crescent shaped bay looked dramatic with the tide coming in, white horses raced on the waves and even a small group of people swam. After a brisk walk from the bandstand they walked to the northern end of the Prom.

With the wind behind them, they turned and strolled south, admiring the stylish new pavements. They passed the pier, the ornate Old University College, the Castle ruins and the smart marina, admiring the spectacular view along the coast to the South.

It was still early for many to be out and the dog walkers had already gone home for breakfast; tourists came out later and some shop owners were busy setting up. Bethan Williams, Triennial Conference Committee (TCC) member said "We were warmly greeted by people who saw our banner, which was made by Cassie Wood, an ACWW Rep. Once we explained why we were walking on such a cold morning, money was soon deposited in our bucket.

As we turned back north into the gusting wind, we wondered if our friends across the Irish Sea had better weather." The group ended up at a cafe where they ordered coffee and Salt Lake Caramel Cookies. With old posters of the film Casablanca all around them, they sat planning the next ACWW walk - along what was declared 'The World's Best Coastline, 2012' in Wales. Bethan concludes "Thanks for the brilliant idea, let's do it again."

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY FEDERATION OF WIs ENGLAND



The photo above shows the few but determined members of Wootton and Grange Park WI, who joined in 'Women Walk the World'. Barbara Bentley PR Officer, Northamptonshire County Federation of WIs said "The weather did not put us off completely. Members from Wootton and Grange Park WI joined together to complete their walk for charity. Starting from Wootton, seven members and one partner braved the elements. Their original walk was changed, so that they did a brisk walk through Hardingstone village and, due to the unremitting torrential rain, went to the Garden Centre for Hot Chocolate before returning back to Wootton."

## PACHE TRUST INDIA



**PACHE Trust** held their 'Women Walk the World' in two villages, Thenkarai and Vikkiramangalam on 14th April & 29th April 2012. After each Walk there followed a talk, highlighting the benefit of ACWW throughout the world.

## BRACKLEY WI CANADA



**At Alta Acorn** Shirley Prouse, Alice Chandler, Glenn Younker, Marie Kenny, FWIC President Elect, Autumn Tremere and Emerson Tremere (Marie Kenny's daughter and son), all walked 8 kilometers for Women Walk the World. The sun was shining and there was a light breeze, as the group set off on their walk. It was reported by WI member, Marie Kenny, that the day was enjoyed by all.

WOMEN WALK THE WORLD

AVON FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SOMERSET ENGLAND



**Libby Lockyer** from the Avon Federation of Women's Institutes (AFWI) and an ACWW Representative said: AFWI asked me to arrange a meeting to promote ACWW and it was decided to choose a date as near as possible to 'ACWW Day'. When 'Women Walk the World' was announced, the idea for a 'Walk and Talk' meeting was born, although the meeting had to be arranged for 28 April.

Bleadon, a small village nestling on the foothills of the Mendips, was chosen as the venue for the "Walk and Talk" meeting. On the day of the event nineteen members ventured on the walk, setting off at a time, which we were told coincided with the walkers in New Zealand. We climbed two hills around the village, offering expansive views of the Somerset Levels, Glastonbury Tor, the Bristol Channel and the Somerset and Welsh Coastlines. The weather held for us and we returned to the Village Hall for lunch, which included delicious soups prepared by members of Bleadon WI.

The following day, 29 April, dawned with gale force winds and torrential rain - we were so lucky to have been able to do 'The Walk' in very temperate conditions. We were thinking of all those endeavouring to walk on the Sunday. Valerie Stevens UN Committee member who also attended the walk said "We managed to find a dry slot in the weather allowing us to walk over some delightful hills surrounding the village, leaving two members back in the Village Hall to heat the soup.

We admired the views of the Severn Estuary and Glastonbury Tor before returning for lunch. After lunch a very attentive and appreciative audience listened to a talk about ACWW and the UN."

DUNGWORTH & WADSLEY WIs ENGLAND



**Margaret Long**, Treasurer for Wadsley WI writes: The few of us who were able or available, organised our walk for 25th April. Seven of us from Wadsley and Dungworth WI in Sheffield proposed to walk from Wadsley to the picturesque Village of Bradfield. We should have experienced lovely views and some South Yorkshire's finest scenery. But, as forecasts had predicted, the weather was atrocious, driving rain and an increasingly strong North Eastern wind.

Undeterred and suitably attired, we set off. The planned route was altered to seek less exposed terrain. Fortunately we walked with the wind behind us but the rain steadily increased. We encountered a few dog walkers who questioned our sanity and a young girl who advised us to catch the bus. We pressed on regardless, astounded to see about a hundred returning house martins, flying low, battling against the wind over Dam Flask.

On a day that greatly contributed towards Sheffield's record wettest April for over 100 years, Dungworth and Wadsley WI members completed a very wet ACWW walk, remaining in good spirits and completing the four mile distance somewhat dishevelled.

We were cheerful and rightly quite proud of our achievement.

SUMMERFORD WI CANADA



**Summerford** didn't receive their mail that morning, so decided to conduct their walk to the post office, which was quite a distance away. As many of them walked to music, they managed to collect a small donation.

On their return they stopped and enjoyed coffee and muffins.



LANGHAM WI FEDERATION OF ESSEX WI ENGLAND

**Members** of Langham WI and their husbands, 14 in total, held their Women Walk the World event along the river Stour; during what can only be called the wettest drought walk ever. It had rained heavily during the previous night. They had planned to walk from Dedham to Flatford and back, along the river.

The meadows were already under water in some places, but valiantly they decided to have a go. However, half way through, they had to retrace their steps because fields were disappearing fast under their feet and the option of spending some time marooned on high ground with cows simply did not appeal to them. Langham WI was pleased to find that with their efforts they managed to raise money for ACWW.



JINDABYNE BRANCH OF THE COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA

**Christina Webb**, CWA of NSW Jindabyne Branch said: at 918 metres above sea level, as the clock struck 10:00am on a chilly autumn morning, a group of Jindabyne women in New South Wales, Australia, together with well behaved babies and dogs, joined the relay of Women Walking the World.

The brisk walk beside the alpine Lake Jindabyne was followed by coffee, or hot chocolate and apple strudel at the end.



## SOUTH STREET WI EAST KENT ENGLAND



On 30th April, 2012, 15 members of South Street WI, in East Kent UK, walked for ACWW. The choice of date was fortunate for them, as it was the sunniest day in the wettest April since records began.

They met at 9.45am, on the grassy slopes above Tankerton Bay, near Whitstable, a town famous for its oyster beds, restaurants and harbour. A photographer came from their local newspaper, so before they set off on their walk, they were photographed.

South Street WI walked to the next coastal town of Herne Bay, which is a good hour and a half of steady walking. Their route took them along the promenade, with the brightly coloured beach huts on the right and the North Sea on their left. It was a fine, clear day, so the women could see the wind farm out to sea and the destination ahead of them, across the bay.

The promenade soon gave way to grassland and the women began to meet others. Many of those walking, stopped to watch the group pass by, some asking the purpose of the walk, after which they wished them well. Others, in the distance, sent a friendly wave in their direction. Doris Marley, WI member said "We walked along in the warm sunshine chatting happily to each other, enjoying the changing scenery. Eventually, the grassland gave way to the sea and beach once more.

The friendly atmosphere amongst us must have been evident, as we were joined by a walker named Linda, who enquired about our mission. She was so impressed with the aims of the ACWW, that she promptly gave a generous donation and asked if she could join us for the rest of the walk. She was made very welcome."

Doris adds "We stopped for refreshments at the Bandstand and, thanks to the lovely weather, were able to enjoy our teas and coffees (plus the inevitable cakes) outside in the warm spring air.

Soon, it was time to begin our homeward journey. As we walked, still accompanied by Linda, we discussed the aims of the ACWW and agreed unanimously that the morning had been very successful. We all agreed that, without a doubt, giving our time to raise money in support of an organisation with such commendable objectives, is something we were all more than happy to do."

## KNARESBOROUGH WI NORTH YORKSHIRE ENGLAND



Knaresborough WI North Yorkshire walked for ACWW on Thursday 26th April 2012. Anne Ashton said: We had hoped for a lovely day and lots of participants but after a number of wet days and a poor forecast, we were glad that at least it was fine when we met for our walk. There were thirteen of us, plus one husband and one grandson, who met outside Aspin Cricket Club where we hold our meetings.

We set off in high spirits down into the Nidd Gorge to find the river Nidd overflowing, so it wouldn't be safe to walk on footpaths close to the river. We walked along Abbey Road past the now famous tree sculptures (as seen on 'The One Show').

At the end of Abbey Road the group split, some to do a shorter version of the route on better surfaces, the rest of us to go across the fields of Gallows Hill, (yes there was a gallows there in the past), where there were large areas of water. Then an easier section along a firm footpath by the Golf Club. We also walked along the Beryl Burton Way named after a famous female cyclist, who had lived for some time in Harrogate. We skirted woodlands in another section of the Nidd Gorge with lots of spring flowers, especially bluebells and wood anemones. The power of floodwater was obvious, as we crossed the river Nidd to pass the ruins of Conyngham Hall Farm, recently made safe so that people would be able to explore them. As we reached Waterside in Knaresborough, we felt that we needed refreshment, so we stopped at the Riverside café for coffee before heading for home individually just as it started to rain, but with all having walked about 7 miles.



## TOWCESTER EVENING WI & GREENS NORTON WI ENGLAND

Only a few members from Towcester Evening WI and Greens Norton WI turned out on 29 April, to take part in the Women Walk the World. Sue Hamilton said "What fun we had against the wind and rain.

Our original walk was changed so that we did a quick 1 mile through Greens Norton village and up the lane towards Braden village, before coming back to the village.

Special thanks must go to Gwen Blackburn for allowing us to drip in her utility room at the end of the walk whilst she warmed us up with coffee, before we got back in our cars to go home." The WI will put another date in their diary, to do other walk as part of their WI Big Walk, Little Splash project. At the WI meeting, the Thursday after the walk, they put out a bowl for ACWW, so that as Sue puts it, all those who bailed out and felt guilty would dig deep in their pockets to make a contribution to this worthwhile cause.



## DERBYSHIRE WI'S ENGLAND

Women from all across Derbyshire joined with women all over the globe to complete a charity walk with a difference. Members of Derbyshire WI's celebrated the dramatic improvements their projects have made to thousands of women and children across the world. Sue Watkins, Chairman of the ACWW International subcommittee said "In the WI we often do wonderful things, but we fail to tell anyone about them. We decided it was time we did!"

Despite temperatures of barely 5 degrees, driving rain, gale force winds and floods, over 100 brave souls set forth to support the world challenge. Not all of the planned walks across the county took place, but the 26 members who did undertake the walk from Kniveton were welcomed back to Willowbank, where they enjoyed hot coffee and soup.

## WOMEN WALK THE WORLD

FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S  
INSTITUTES OF NORTHERN  
IRELAND

**Anne Cassidy** from the Federation of Women's Institutes of Northern Ireland wrote: We stood at McArt's Fort on the top of Cavehill, towering above the city of Belfast and Belfast Lough, which widens out to join the Irish Sea. A passenger ferry left the harbour on its journey to Scotland, but from our viewpoint it looked more like a toy dingy. To the east were Bangor and the Crawfordsburn Country Park where another WI group was taking part in the Women Walk the World. We couldn't see them but waved in their direction – just in case they spotted us. Looking northwards, it was possible to identify Carrickfergus Castle, while to the south, the Mourne Mountains rose majestically and just beyond them, Slieve Gullion in County Armagh peeped into view.

Earlier that morning, we were joined by representatives of several Institutes from the counties of Antrim, Armagh and Down, and we all enjoyed some welcome refreshments together, before setting out. For those participants not familiar with the area, a local taxi firm 'Cedar Cabs' had generously provided free transport to the lower slopes not far from the site, where some of us had taken part in an archaeological dig last October. We were met by a photographer from the Belfast Telegraph and Cormac Hamill, Chairman of Cavehill Conservation.

After the 'photo shoot', everyone was keen to get going and away we went- complete with walking poles, bottles of drinking water and extra layers of clothing in case it was cold. The abundance of spring flowers was much admired, but unfortunately, the local wildlife seemed to have taken the day off, not a fox or badger in sight-not to mention the absence of owls, sparrow hawks, skylarks and other inhabitants. There were some challenging stretches but when the going got tough, we stopped and admired the view. The entire group made it to the top.

The way down was somewhat easier and everyone felt exhilarated on reaching the bottom. Some had enjoyed the experience many times previously, but others had travelled to Belfast to avail of the opportunity and see, for the first time the superb panoramic views from McArt's Fort. We had lunch together before going our separate ways, many suggesting that the fundraising event should be held annually.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S RURAL INSTITUTES (SWRI)  
MIDLOTHIAN FEDERATION SCOTLAND

**Alison Bayley** ACWW P&P Committee Chairman wrote: Midlothian Federation of Scottish Women's Rural Institutes (SWRI) has Institutes in and around the City of Edinburgh, Scotland's capital.

When deciding on where to walk, the Federation wanted somewhere accessible by public transport, with car parking, not too energetic and undercover potential if it was raining and, most importantly, refreshment possibilities.

Edinburgh Royal Botanic Garden filled all these requirements. With over 70 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds, it provides a tranquil haven just one mile from the city centre. Also springtime is probably the most exciting season at the Gardens, as its famous rhododendrons burst into colour. Another significant attraction is the Queen Mother's Memorial Garden, a special tribute to a much-loved member of the British Royal Family, which has been imaginatively planted to present something for visitors of all tastes.

Each of the four corners represents different geographical areas of the world, with plants from Asia, Europe, North America and the southern hemisphere – very appropriate for an ACWW event. On Saturday, 28th April, members from various Institutes met in

WEST BRIDGFORD WI  
ENGLAND

**Susan Moore**, from West Bridgford WI wrote: Well, we did all we could! Rain poured down on us- the footpath disappeared under 4 inches of water, our brollies blew inside out, but we kept walking. Attenborough Nature Reserve near Nottingham is a beautiful place in the right weather, of course it was the right weather for the ducks and they were all out parading their new offspring.

We saw baby Coots, Moorhens, crested Grebes and Mallards – not caring what the weather threw at them. The Heron sensibly found shelter under the willow trees. We were six intrepid WI walkers who managed to raise money for ACWW.

the John Hope Gateway display area before heading off towards the Rock Garden in the glorious sunshine. By luck, we managed to choose the one dry, sunny day in April.

We toured the Garden in a clockwise direction, through the Chinese Garden to the rock garden and then via the heathers, past the glasshouses, towards the Queen Mother's Memorial Garden. Although it was still a little chilly, the Gardens were looking wonderful with lots of rhododendrons and azaleas coming into blossom. Unfortunately the Memorial Garden had just been well and truly pruned, so was not at its best.

However it was good to see SWRI's name on one of the Caithness stone tablets. Then, in true rural tradition, it was time for afternoon tea in the Visitor Centre, much enjoyed by all. Reports of walks for Women Walk the World have come in from across the globe and we were delighted that Midlothian Federation could be part of this worldwide event.

## JOYDENS WOOD WI ENGLAND



**On Tuesday** 24th April, eleven members, one WI husband and one WI dog, from Joydens Wood WI met at 10am and walked two miles around our local woods (Joyden Wood).

This is ancient woodland and can be traced back to King Cenulf of Mercia and is even mentioned in his Charter of 814AD.

The woods are now cared for by the Woodlands Trust charity, who have declared Joydens Wood a special place and 1,200 years ago King Cenulf, would most certainly have agreed. Much goes on in these woods- there are guided walks, wild life surveying, educational workshops, wood craft fairs and battle re-enactments etc.

Seven wooden sculptures have been installed, each depicting over 2,000 years of woods natural and human heritage. Joydens Wood is an amazing site and a stroll through it is a memorable experience whether you are history-seeking, or just wish to have a pleasant stroll to admire the bluebells, violets and primroses and the many varieties of trees. After the walk, they finished off at the home of WI member Doreen Fox, where tea and coffee and homemade bread pudding were served. With sponsorships and donations they managed to raise money for Pennies for Friendship.

WOMEN WALK THE WORLD

SOUTH PETHERTON WI ENGLAND



Members & supporters of South Petherton WI: Mary & John Olive; Jean Knight & Jeff; Sheelagh & David Dunning; Freda Gifford and Yvonne Chatfield.

**Yvonne Chatfield**, member of South Petherton wrote: Unfortunately, as was probably the case for a lot of people, we had to cancel the planned walk for Sunday 29th April as the weather could not have been worse. Luckily we had another project planned, two members organised a coffee morning in the Parish Church on 1st May. Fourteen members attended, together with husbands, friends etc.

Seven walked around the village in a token event for Women Walk the World. We all enjoyed delicious homemade biscuits, together with the usual chat. Our donation was the result of the generosity of those involved, together with a couple of donations from those unable to attend.

PROJECTS FINAL REPORT



UGANDA

Psychosocial Support and reintegration of vulnerable children in to the Community with Emphasis on the Girl Child Prisoner

**Companionship of Works Association (CoWA)**, is a not-for-profit organisation, which received funding from ACWW to help children in prison, focusing on the female prisoners in Kampala, which is the largest city and capital of Uganda.

Over 300 children participated in skills training in moulding and carpentry, which involved the making of products, like flower pots, vessels and sculptures. They also benefitted from music, dance and drama training. During the programme's implementation period, 36 youngsters including 6 females, participated in the international children's day of broadcasting.

Each of the participants received a token of appreciation. They were also trained in modern farming practices, in which the children have been taught how to optimally use small plots of land for farming.

Through this activity, the children have also been able to supplement their diets from the garden harvests of bananas, cassava and vegetables like tomatoes and onions. With the funds from ACWW, children were able to access legal justice, leading to the release of 119 children, including 22 girls.

Efforts towards basic education have also been enhanced. One former inmate, Irene Nansamba, graduated in tailoring.

Back in September, 17 boys were identified to undertake studies at CoWA Vocational Training Centre and of these, 11 were pursuing a course in building, 5 in welding and metal fabrication, while one was pursuing carpentry and joinery. ACWW funding has played a significant role in the rehabilitation of these children, CoWA and all who they have helped are very grateful.



INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS & DONATIONS

Please use this form (or fax/copy if you don't want to cut your magazine) to make donations, join ACWW or renew individual memberships.

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All prices are exclusive of postage & packing.

- ACWW Promotional Pin 3/4 inch diameter - £1.00
- Badges (Brooches) - £2.00
- ACWW Greetings Cards - each 60p, £2 for four

Overseas orders will be sent by surface or 'small packet' rate.

(If remittance not sterling, please add sufficient to cover bank charges)

## Publicity Material

Leaflets are available from Central Office.  
Please state quantities required and date needed.

- ACWW Bookmarks
- Resolutions & Recommendations booklet
- Working with Women Worldwide – Highlights of 75 Years of ACWW £5
- Individual & Society Membership forms
- June 2001 Constitution £3
- Pen Friend Correspondence form (via email)
- ACWW & the United Nations
- ACWW Stickers
- Water For All leaflet
- Women Feed the World leaflet
- ACWW A5 promotional mini leaflet
- 'All About ACWW' leaflet
- 'You can make a difference' leaflet
- Pennies for Friendship labels available at <http://acww.org.uk/acww-label.html>

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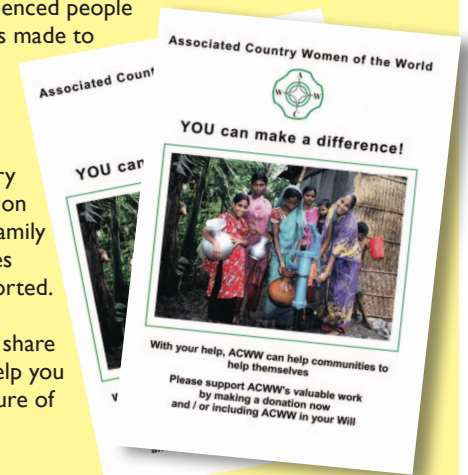
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## LEAVE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

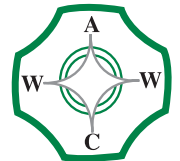
A BEQUEST to ACWW is no vague charitable gesture. The organisation has always approached the funding of projects that will aid rural women in need in a strictly practical way. Proposals are carefully evaluated and, if they qualify for backing, programmes are monitored on the spot by experienced people like ACWW's own Area Presidents. Money given is made to work and to show results.

ACWW is active in more than 70 countries worldwide and supports a range of rural women's development projects. Around 30 are funded every year providing leadership and skills training, nutrition education, literacy and basic education; including family planning and HIV/AIDS awareness. Small businesses and income-generating schemes are actively supported.

Bequests can either be for a fixed amount or a share of your estate and your solicitor will be able to help you make the appropriate choice. Safeguarding the future of ACWW and its unceasing work is up to you.



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