

THE COUNTRYWOMAN

INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

APRIL - JUNE 2014

Supporting the Children of Uganda

COUNT DOWN
TO WOMEN
WALK THE
WORLD
SEE PAGE 4



Pink Trees for Pauline

THE LADIES CIRCLE KICK OFF THEIR CANCER AWARENESS
PROJECT IN GAUTENG, SOUTH AFRICA

ACWW's Agriculture Committee

HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF VEGETABLE GARDENING





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ACWW Connects & Supports
Women & Communities Worldwide

The Countrywoman, distributed to over 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



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DEADLINES

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

January-March: November 1st

April-June: February 1st

July- September: May 1st

October-December: August 1st

Editor's guide on submitting articles & photos on page 4

THE EDITOR'S DECISION ON
ACCEPTANCE IS FINAL

WORLD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



ABOVE From left to right Mayor Matthew Dickerson, Ruth Shanks AM, ACWW World President & Greg Shanks (Husband)
LEFT Ruth Shanks AM, (center) with her family from left to right - Warwick Shanks, Greg Shanks, Lyndal Thomas & Jack Shanks

HI FROM AUSTRALIA

AS I WRITE this article at home in Australia, I am sweltering in temperatures, which for the past week have been over 38C every day. The best place to be has been indoors.

I attended my first Executive Committee meeting in London in November 2013 and it was very productive. We discovered, to our great joy, that all members of the Executive Committee, Margaret Yetman, Alison Burnett, Henrietta Schoeman and me all had the same thoughts, ideals and work ethic to take ACWW into the future, further to the resolutions in Chennai with regards to:-

- making ACWW a legal entity in its own right and limiting the legal liability of the Trustees.
- reviewing the Constitution to ensure it meets the requirements of the Charities Commission.

We have set up an Ad Hoc Committee and the four members who have agreed to serve on that Committee are: Ros Cooper (England), Elizabeth Warden (Northern Ireland), Princess Azizah (Malaysia) and Jenny Mitchell (Australia), with Jenny consenting to be the Chair of the Committee.

These ladies will carry out most of their work by email and Skype, but will have a meeting in London on 29th and 30th May, 2014. At the moment we are having initial discussions with the appointed legal firm in London. In early March we held the first Committee meetings for Agriculture, Promotion & Publications and Projects, Triennial Conference and UN Committees and also the first Board meeting of the triennium. I know the Chairs of these Committees worked hard to make the meetings fruitful and to enthuse the appointed members of the Committees.

We must make meetings inclusive of all and also an enjoyable experience, as these members attend the meetings at their own expense and this is certainly a big ask in this expensive world we live in. The Board meetings were a new experience for six Area Presidents and three Committee Chairs, so we conducted extensive Board and Area President training to enable these ladies to fully commit to the positions they have taken on. By the time you read my 'World President's Message', these members would have returned from the meetings, to

visit your society, filled with enthusiasm for ACWW. Please, if you have the opportunity, invite them and make them feel welcome at any function you have in your area. The more our members know about the workings of ACWW, the better they will be able to spread the word. On my return from London in November 2013, the Executives of my organisation 'The Country Women's Association of New South Wales' held an afternoon tea in my honour. This was a lovely gesture and I thoroughly enjoyed the chance to meet with them again. I am still wondering a little about a small part of the gift I was given by them. Amongst other travelling items they included a compass. I am not sure whether they think I will get lost as I travel the world, or whether I will need the compass to come home to my husband and family, or whether they were trying to tell me never to forget my beginnings in ACWW through CWA of NSW. I can assure them that this will never happen and I am most grateful of the support of the Executives and members in NSW. I live in the City of Dubbo, which has a population of approx. 42,000 people and I was very honoured to be afforded a Civic Reception by Mayor Matthew Dickerson in December last year.

Approximately 60 members of the Dubbo Community were invited to take part in honouring me and this position I now have. I promised that I will always promote our beautiful city as I move around the world, and that I will recommend it as a place to visit. The South Pacific Area Conference is actually being held in Dubbo from 31st August - 4th September 2014 and Mayor Dickerson is affording the Area President and members attending the Conference a Civic Reception as well. I would like to finish with a saying, which was in the latest Queensland CWA newsletter:

Life is like a camera
Focus on what is important,
Capture the good times,
Develop from the negatives,
And, if things don't work out
Take another shot!

Farewell for now

Ruth Shanks AM

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CENTRAL OFFICE NEWS

The New Year certainly started with some pace in Central office as we processed many membership renewals, continued to regularly update the new website with helpful information and news and prepared for the upcoming Committee and Board meetings, which have now taken place.

I am certain that ACWW can look ahead to a bright and positive future with strong governance and the desire to see real and continuing impact on the lives of women and communities worldwide. I am saying a fond farewell to ACWW myself as I move on to another role, but I wish the excellent staff in Central Office, and the new and enthusiastic Board and Committees, all the best as they work hard to improve the quality of life for women and communities worldwide.

Lisa Barker, Operations Manager

WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR IN THIS ISSUE

There is so much to read in this April-June 2014 issue. For example, ACWW is now accepting payments online through PayPal, so for readers who do not know how to use PayPal, read my guide on page 5.

On page 9 read about The Ladies Circle's support for the cancer awareness campaign, 'Pink Trees for Pauline' and finally, don't forget to check out a great knitting idea for Easter, which is also on page 9. Enjoy...!

Jennifer Atigolo, Editor

EDITOR'S GUIDE FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES & PHOTOS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Submitting Articles

It is very important when submitting articles, to make sure all the information contained is correct i.e. dates, times, amounts collected and the number of people who have attended your event or conference.

Also, please make sure that names of attendees mentioned in your article are spelt correctly, as well as names of groups and organisations. Please make sure to include all the groups featured in your article, if they have donated money, taken part or helped to organise your event or conference. If we do not know who the people are, we will assume that the names provided are correctly spelt. We will also assume that your submitted written article is accurate (please note articles may be edited).

Submitting Photos

It is very important when submitting digital photos via email, that they are high resolution 300dpi, or are a good high gloss print if you decide to send them by post.

It is also very important to provide clearly written full names of all the people who appear in the photos, from left to right. It would also be helpful to have a short caption of where the photo was taken. Please ensure that the names are spelt correctly and that the correct photo goes with the correct names and caption. As previously stated, if we do not know who the people are, we will assume that the names provided are accurate.

Please follow these instructions, as ACWW cannot accept any responsibility for inaccurate articles or mislabelled photos.



THE FINANCE COMMITTEE IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Alison Burnett, ACWW Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair

The Finance Committee for 2013-2016 consists of me, Scotland; Ros Cooper, England (Vice Chair); Margaret MacMillan, Northern Ireland and Heather Brennan, Australia. We will be working hard to try to reduce ACWW's costs and increase our income so that ACWW will be financially sustainable throughout the next triennium and beyond. This will also need the cooperation of everyone – the Board, and Societies and Individual members.

I am hoping most members have already paid their annual membership dues for 2014 and for those who still haven't, I encourage you to look at PayPal, now on our website, as an easier way to pay. For help on how to use PayPal, please read the 'Editor's Guide to using PayPal', on page 5. For UK members who pay income tax, I encourage you to sign a Gift Aid form, if you have not already done so. The amount that ACWW receives back from the government is 25p for every £1 you give; it is very worthwhile to ACWW. You can download a form from ACWW's website at: <http://www.acww.org.uk/members>.

One of ACWW's biggest costs is postage and one easy way to reduce this is by using email. I encourage everyone who has an email address to let ACWW know this, if they have not already done so. This includes individual members. An email address will also make it quicker and much easier to communicate with members. Advertising in our magazine could be another source of income. ACWW is a worldwide organisation and we are looking for members who may

have self-catering accommodation, a guest house/hotel etc to put in an advert. Please contact Jennifer Atigolo, Digital & Print Media Manager/Editor at Central Office for details - email: jennifer.a@acww.org.uk

Margaret MacMillan has asked Central Office to design a promotional card, the size of a credit card, promoting Pennies for Friendship (PFF), which can be used to encourage members to support PFF. For further details on PFF contact Central Office, or look on ACWW's website (<http://www.acww.org.uk/about/finance>). I hope that you will continue to give to PFF as this is our main source of income, which allows us to carry out our aims and objectives. If you have any queries about ACWW and Finance, or have any suggestions about ways in which we could raise money, or people and companies who may provide sponsorship, please let me know through Central Office.

MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS USING ONLINE BANKING

Account: Associated Country Women of the World
Account number: 01244108
Sort Code: 56-00-33
Branch: Westminster
Bank: National Westminster Bank, 57 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0HP
Swift code: NWB KGB 2L
IBAN number: GB67NWBK 56003301244108

WOMEN WALK THE WORLD

This campaign is driven by the Communications and Marketing Committee. Please note the change of name of the former P&P Committee, which was approved at the recent Board meeting after the recommendation, was initiated by its Chair, Magdie de Kock.



ACWW's Women Walk the World event in 2012 and 2013 were a huge success and now that we are in 2014 we want Women Walk the World to be bigger than ever. We are asking members and supporters to promote ACWW by walking on or around ACWW Day on 29th April 2014 and if possible raise money to help ACWW deliver its aims and objectives. Your walk could be an organised ramble through the countryside, a walk round a neighbourhood, a walk to a nearby field, a stroll in a park or whatever you like. To keep things interesting you could run a competition, or a raffle. If you haven't done so already, please announce your local walk as soon as possible, so that everyone marks the date in their diaries and you get a good turnout. Remember the best walk photo will appear on our July-September 2014 cover, so get creative! All entries must be received by

Friday 23rd May 2014. Entries received after this date will not be included. Please ensure your walk photo(s) are of high resolution - 300dpi, if submitting digital photos via email, or are a good high gloss print if you decide to send them in by post. Also, please accompany your photo(s) with a short article describing your walk.

Women Walk the World posters, with space for local walk information, and a sponsorship form are available on request from Central Office (telephone +44 (0)207 799 3875 - email info@acww.org.uk), or can be downloaded from http://www.acww.org.uk/conferences_events/women_walk_the_world2014.

Your participation in Women Walk the World will help ACWW achieve its goal of connecting and supporting women worldwide.

EDITOR'S GUIDE TO USING PAYPAL



ACWW HAS now set up an online payment system through PayPal, that members can use to pay for Individual memberships (new and renewal) and Society memberships (renewals only).

Why use PayPal?

PayPal is a payment service that allows individuals and organisations to interact in real time. The idea behind PayPal is simple, people can make financial transactions electronically online.

What's great is that PayPal keeps your financial information private. One of the benefits of this privacy is that when a buyer (you) uses PayPal, the seller (ACWW) never sees their credit card or bank account details. Another great feature is that you don't need a PayPal account to use PayPal; you can simply pay using a debit or credit card. However, if you would like to have a PayPal account, I have written a beginner's guide. This guide won't go through everything PayPal does, but it will help you to get set up and ready to go. Please visit http://www.acww.org.uk/info/acww_paypal_beginners_guide.pdf

Please note: You can still pay for your membership the usual way by either sending a cheque, or by calling Central Office with your debit or credit card details.

ENCOURAGE

SUPPORT FOR PENNIES FOR FRIENDSHIP

This was used at ACWW's Finance Committee's Workshop - Chennai, India (2013)

E-Everyone involved.

N-Name: 'Pennies for Friendship'. We keep it as everyone has heard of it

C-Charity: ACWW is a charity that needs funds and depends on each one of us

O-Outreach: ACWW reaching out to support communities and growing our support

U-Using events such as 'Women Walk the World' and 'Collecting Coins' and your own ideas

R-Reward: Your voices represented at UN level on behalf of women and children will make a difference.

A-ACWW volunteer who becomes a member and joins the email list for updates info@acww.org.uk

G-Good publicity in The Countrywoman magazine and on the new website www.acww.org.uk.

E-Every penny you collect helps ACWW carry out its core activities and accomplish its objectives.

AUSTRALIA - TOWNSVILLE, NTH QUEENSLAND QCWA ACCOMMODATION IN THE CITY OR BY THE SEA



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THE IMPORTANCE OF VEGETABLE GARDENING



ACWW's Agriculture Committee highlights the importance of Vegetable Gardening in FAO Consultation on Food Waste.

The Agriculture Committee has continued its partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on the topic of food waste. The Committee's latest activity was commenting on the draft report of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition, titled 'Food Losses and Waste in the Context of Sustainable Food Systems'.

ACWW's Agriculture Committee members drew on their own experience and knowledge when making suggestions. For instance, Bethan Williams, Committee member, emphasised the role of women and families in fighting food waste. Christine Reaburn, Committee member, urged ACWW

members and consumers in general to play their part, by eating seasonal produce, supporting local farmers, sharing abundant food, and of course growing their own vegetables. The ACWW campaign 'Grow locally, benefit globally' was mentioned as a practical example of ways to reduce food waste, as requested by FAO. This is because a household that produces food itself leads to less food lost in storage, transport and supermarket handling. In general, people have a strong incentive to reduce food waste when they have a strong connection to the food they consume. Other possibilities for action that ACWW's Agriculture Committee suggested were:

- Sharing the report with farm organisations and member societies.
- Holding workshops on basic food processing.
- Reintroducing traditional practices that



could reduce food losses, such as allowing 'gleaners' into fields after harvest to pick up spilt grain, corn cobs, etc.

- Carrying on with promoting the vegetable gardens campaign 'Grow locally, benefit globally'.

If you would like a copy of the FAO report, or the contributions made by various organisations, please contact Central Office – email: info@acww.org.uk.

IN MEMORY



David Beatty Mundy (1919-2013)

David Beatty Mundy, husband of past ACWW World President, Lyndsay Hackett-Pain Mundy, died on Christmas Eve 2013 in the Lady Minto Hospital, Salt Spring Island, Canada. Born in Edmonton, he graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Alberta in 1940. He enlisted in the Canadian Army (Loyal Edmonton and later in the C.A.'s Wireless Intelligence Service, serving in England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany, the Normandy campaign being one of the seminal experiences of his life. Post-war, he joined the Canadian Public Service as a Trade Commissioner in England, Stockholm and in Paris with the Canadian Delegation to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

In 1962, Prime Minister Diefenbaker appointed him Assistant Deputy Minister of Defence Production, where he helped to conceive, negotiate and implement the Defence Production Sharing Agreement with the United States. In 1970 he became President of Air Industries of Canada and in 1979, to indulge his great love of the wilderness, he began white-water-rafting, canoeing, sailing and farming. He will be missed by all who knew him.



Margaret Berruex-Bryant (1932-2014)

It is with great sadness that ACWW learned that Margaret Berruex-Bryant, fondly known as Meg, died after a short

illness in Switzerland on February 16th 2014. Sharon Hatten, ACWW's UN Committee Chair wrote "Meg became an ACWW UN representative in Geneva in 1984. Her interest in Human Rights, especially Children's Rights, was her main focus. She was active on the Working Group on the Abuse of Child Labour and the sub group on Children in Armed Conflict and Displacement and the Committee for Juvenile Justice.

She also represented ACWW on the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva. While Meg was from Bath, England, she loved her farm house in the Alps of Switzerland and often said "I am a farmer's wife, I can relate to the needs of rural women". She would drive to the station and take the train into Geneva to attend meetings. Meg sent in interesting articles to Central Office, one such article was about children who had to go to jail with their mothers, as there was no one to look after them on the 'outside'. She was appalled at the fate of child soldiers who were recruited, indoctrinated to commit crimes and then abandoned when their fighting days were over. Her NGO colleagues in Geneva remember her as a warm, delightful and very committed participant at meetings where

her opinions and ideas were readily accepted. She was there when the draft Convention on the Rights of the Child was discussed and accepted by the OHCHR.

While Meg didn't like the computer, she liked writing reports, sending notes and cards, and was a secret author. Meg was a strong advocate for human rights. The UN Committee and ACWW will miss her input, guidance and advocacy on our behalf".

Other tributes include:

"We, the NGO community will miss a modest and committed woman whose goal in life was service to others. She did so much to improve the lives of women and children in need." Joanna Koch, ACWW UN Rep, Geneva.

"For many years she contributed to the empowerment of women worldwide as the International Representative of ACWW. Her work was a strong pillar for us on the NGO Commission on the Status of Women CSW in Geneva." Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda - President, NGO CSW-Geneva.

"I enjoyed her presence but also her deep concern about the rights of the child. I worked with her on Female Genital Mutilation, as well as the Child Soldier. She was always a very reliable person and gave valuable contributions to our discussions." Simone Ek of Sweden - Senior Advisor Child Rights Connect.

"I remember Meg well as a warm, delightful and very committed lady and a regular participant at the group meetings". Nigel Cantwell - Coordinator of the NGO Group

ADVOCACY WITH POSITIVE RESULTS



ONE OF the tasks ACWW's UN Committee carried out after the 2013 Triennial Conference was to encourage all member societies to use their lobby letters and send the list of Resolutions and Recommendations to their local governments. The Resolutions passed in Chennai (2013) urging States to record without prejudice the births of all children, stop violence against women and girls, stop the practice of Female Genital Mutilation and endorse the UN Resolution 1325, are all important resolutions and do influence decision makers. The UN Committee on behalf of ACWW has sent letters to 35 agencies in the UN system.

Updates from the UN:
Universal Birth Registry: "Every day children

around the world are denied their basic rights - like education, health and safety." October 2013 was a milestone month for children, refugees and asylum seekers. After more than three years of advocacy work in Geneva by the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Child Right's Connect), the governing body of the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) unanimously adopted a piece of international law focused on civil registration.

The policy highlights the importance of birth registration immediately after birth without discrimination, and recognises that civil registration systems, which record births, deaths, cause of death and marriage, all provide information for policy and humanitarian planning.

Birth registration is the official record of a child's birth by a government, which establishes legal identity. It is a fundamental human right enshrined in Articles 7 and 8 of the 1989 'UN Convention on the Rights of the Child', which gives every child the right to be registered at birth by the State within whose jurisdiction she/he is born.

Birth registration also serves as a prerequisite to the realisation of other human rights integral to a child's development and

well-being. It is a crucial first step towards building a protective environment against abuse, exploitation, violence and statelessness. Children can receive education, health care and know they belong. ACWW's Resolutions were listed in the recent quarterly report of Child Rights Connect.

Protecting Women who Promote HUMAN Rights:
"Women are transforming communities everywhere, but they cannot complete their work if they are targets of violence." The Office of the High Commission on Human Rights reports the first UN resolution on the 'Protection of Women Human Rights Defenders' was adopted by the UN General Assembly's Third Committee on 27th November 2013. More than fifty States co-sponsored this important resolution. The main clauses in the resolution called upon States to ensure protection and integrate a gender perspective to enable a safe environment for the defence of human rights, ensuring violations and abuse are duly brought to justice, and to ensure adequate protection for those who participate in the pursuit of improving women's rights with international organisations including the UN.

RESOLUTIONS IN THE NEWS

HOPEFULLY YOUR work on the Resolutions & Recommendations approved at ACWW's 2013 Triennial Conference is going well.

Below is a roundup of some recent news stories related to ACWW's Resolutions.

Maternal Health

As of 2008, the country with the lowest maternal mortality rate is Italy, with 3.9 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births. The country with the highest rate is Afghanistan, with a staggering 1575.1 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births. In Nigeria, the First Lady has pointed out that high maternal mortality is related to a more general lack of information about health issues.

Stop the Practice of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

A UK branch of the women's organisation Zonta International has achieved 100,000 signatures for its e-petition "Stop FGM in the UK Now". This level of signatures guarantees that a parliamentary debate will take place.

The Switzerland-based International Federation of University Women has pointed out that FGM is an obstacle to girls' full educational attainment. Health problems associated with FGM can lead to girls' repeated absences from school. In addition, undergoing FGM and marrying immediately afterward brings some girls' education to an end.

Registration of Births

In the Philippines, politicians have proposed a



Photo Robert Yates/Department for International Development

bill that would penalise doctors and midwives who do not register a child's birth within 30 days. The penalty would be a fine and possibly a jail term. In India, the National Registration Department has been told to be more sensitive about what it lists as children's birthplaces. For instance, discarded babies sometimes have 'garbage bin' written on their birth certificates, causing them humiliation later in life.

Stop Use of Bisphenol A (BPA)

In the US, a study published in the scientific journal *Scientific Affairs* found that BPA is related to approximately USD 3 billion of health costs each year. Another scientific article, this one in the *British Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, warns that too little is known about the long-term effects of BPA and other chemicals that leach into food through packaging.

RESOLUTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Stop Violence against Women & Girls
Some Norwegians have been shocked by an advertising campaign featuring women in traditional Norwegian clothing and situations; the women in these images have horribly bruised faces. This presents a striking contrast to the captions of the pictures, such as "Welcome to Norway" and "Made in Norway". The aim of the campaign is to show that in Norway violence against women is not new. The programme MenCare+, based in the Netherlands, seeks to involve young men in the fight against gender-based violence.

Health workers, social workers and community groups will promote more positive ideas of male behaviour through workshops and counselling.

Women as Victims of Conflict
In Colombia, two women have been appointed to the conflict negotiation team between the government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, a rebel group. UN Women has praised the inclusion of women as the conflict in Colombia has had a huge impact on women and children.

The Peace Women project has launched a mobile app (an application for smartphones) called Women, Peace & Security. After downloading the free app, users will have immediate access to information on many areas related to women as victims of conflict - documents about the UN Security Council, national action plans, advocacy materials, and more.

CREATIVE FUNDRAISING IDEA: PART 3



HAZEL ARMSTRONG, ACWW member from England has brought another great idea to raise money for ACWW's Pennies for Friendship fund.

Now is the time to get creative and raise funds for ACWW projects. This idea came from a WI group of about 50 members, who were having a meeting with other groups, where there would be many people.

Hazel says: In the back of most folks kitchen cupboards there are mugs (2 or 3), which are unloved and/or unused. Making sure the mugs are clean and useable, fill them with themed goodies. Here are some ideas.

- Packets of vegetable seeds
- Bath or shower goodies

- Hot chocolate sachets, sweets or small chocolates
- In a large mug, a pair of fluffy bed socks
- Cotton wool balls, mini cleanser and mini moisturisers

Place each filled mug in the centre of a large piece of pretty tissue paper (2 layers are best), place that on an even larger piece of florist cellophane, gather them up and tie a bow making sure NOTHING inside is visible

During the WI's meeting, some of the ladies in the group had donated 2-3 filled and wrapped mugs. Though the other members could not see the contents of the mugs, they bought a ticket from a 'dip' (also known as 'tombola') and those tickets ending in 0 or 5, won a mug. Even some of the ladies who brought in the mugs bought tickets, with some of them winning and walking away, if they were lucky, with a different mug. At the end of the day there were no mugs left, just a healthy profit. The WI meeting raised over £400... Good luck!

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FROM CHENNAI TO BERGEN!

2014 OPENS THE UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All. 'Secure Sustainable Energy' is one of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals to follow on from the Millennium Development Goals in 2015.

Although the proposed ACWW Resolution 'Energy for All' was not passed at the Triennial Conference in Chennai, there was no lack of interest in the very important subject of sustainable energy. Members were concerned about the setting up of a special 'Energy for All' fund; there were worries about undesirable environmental effects caused by large projects; if not properly introduced, they can lie unused and wasted. With these points in mind and spurred on by their underlying enthusiasm, Wiltshire Federation of WIs is proposing to present a revised version of this Resolution at this year's European Area Conference in Bergen, Norway at the beginning of May. The new resolution 'Secure Sustainable Energy' will focus on community energy projects and access to sustainable energy for all. The success of community energy projects anywhere in the world depends not only on new or improved technologies but on a range of social, environmental and economic factors.

Let us co-operate together, join the global effort to combat climate change and create a better future!



WE SUPPORT
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
FOR ALL

29 WI VISITS USING MY BUS PASS!



Seaford WI, England, one of the WIs Sylvia Baker visited

SYLVIA BAKER, 87, who is President of Patcham Morning WI and a dual member of Preston Village WI in England wrote "In 2013, I had the privilege of carrying the Olympic Torch and afterwards raised over £2,013 for a variety of charities including ACWW. This year I decided I needed a new challenge, so I thought I could see how many WIs I would be able to visit using my bus pass. It seemed like a good idea when I first thought of it, but with a really bad winter it felt as if I wouldn't start my visits till March. In spite of this I was able to make 29 visits and raise the £500 I was aiming for. I didn't realise how many WIs were quite a long walk from the nearest bus stop. In several cases I had to take three buses and on one horrendous day four buses and a taxi! However, it was wonderful how welcoming everyone was and how helpful too. I had no idea what a variety there was in the different WIs, as they were large and small, formal and chaotic, but all equally friendly. I hope my visits might suggest a way for other groups and individuals to support ACWW".

FLOWER OF THE MONTH RAISES MONEY FOR PENNIES FOR FRIENDSHIP

BURTON BRADSTOCK WI in England sent in a cheque for the amount of £100, which their members had donated, mainly raised through their 'Flower of the month' competition. Gay Sundt, Treasurer of Burton Bradstock WI said "At each monthly meeting members were encouraged to bring a flower, which must come from their own garden and then everyone votes for the winner with pennies. In fact, a lot of our members vote with larger value coins.

The winning flower is decided on by the number of coins, NOT the value of the money beside that entry, so a vote with a 1p coin counts the same as a vote with a 20p coin. At the end of the year, we have a trophy which is awarded to the member who has won the most monthly competitions.

At the end of last year our members and the Committee decided to round up what was collected to £100, which we then sent to ACWW".



PINK TREES FOR PAULINE

THE LADIES CIRCLE'S CANCER AWARENESS PROJECT



IN 2012 Carol-ann van Jaarsveld, together with Adri van Nieuwenhuizen - a breast cancer survivor and Dr Pam Kerr, an Educational Psychologist founded 'Pink Trees for Pauline', a non-profit organisation that aims to unite people around the world for a single day each year, in order to improve the lives of those living with cancer. The charity is in honour of Carol-ann's mother and grandmother who both lost their lives to cancer and who were both named "Pauline".

In support of Pink Trees for Pauline, The Ladies Circle, South Africa, kicked off their Pink Trees for Pauline Cancer Awareness Project, in Gauteng on 11th October 2013, by wrapping 150 trees along Setperk Street in Randburg in bright pink fabric.

Before any of the 150 trees were wrapped, participants were asked to buy pink fabric at a minimal amount per meter and then 'sell' it to businesses, organisations or private donors for a significant price per meter, who would in turn wrap the trees along the roads of their own towns. The 'profit' was then donated to a local cancer charity or hospice, to make a difference in the community. More than 15 branches of The Ladies Circle participated in one specific province in South Africa and a huge amount was raised in the Gauteng province alone.

This nationwide initiative was supported from Graaff-Reinet in the Eastern part of South Africa to Upington in the North Western region, and large amounts were raised for cancer patients, caregivers and hospices. Hundreds of trees were decorated in pink in more than 55 towns across South Africa and even in Namibia. Great care was taken not to harm the trees or damage any property and all the necessary permissions and permits were obtained.

Brenda Bisschoff of Hospice East Rand wrote in her letter of gratitude: "Working here at Hospice East Rand, we have found that a human being needs certain things for

survival. We all need affection, the human touch and acknowledgement or recognition.

All of these are in fact elements within the worldwide hospice philosophy and can, in no small part, be attributed to its success".

She added "This feel-good project was not just a blessing to the patients, but it also gave recognition and acknowledgement to the people who supported and took care of those who suffer from this dreaded disease. Most of all, it touched the heart of every member of The Ladies Circle, who participated and made a difference in the community". Adri van Nieuwenhuizen, MD of Pink Trees for Pauline said "Pink Trees for Pauline believes that everyone deserves a second chance and must be treated with respect and dignity while on their life's journey. Every story of hope that is told is confirmation that Pink Trees for Pauline is travelling along its mission...a small step at a time. Our mission is to create a pro-active initiative that will produce long term effects, which will linger forever in the hearts and minds of everyone involved".



KNITTING DUCKS FOR EASTER



FOR THOSE of you considering making a unique Easter basket, Marie O'Toole a member of ACWW's Communications and Marketing Committee (formerly known as P&P Committee), brings a great idea for this Easter. How about considering a knitting project? The idea is to knit Easter ducks and fill them with delicious chocolate crème eggs that you, your friends and family would enjoy.

You will need

- Double Knit (DK) yellow wool - No 3.5 or 4mm depending on tension
- A pair of knitting needles
- Orange felt for the beaks (cut into a small diamond shape).
- Black felt (cut into small circles), or thread for eyes
- Cotton wool ball to fill head
- Coloured ribbon to finish off.
- Cadburys Crème Eggs

Instructions

BODY: Cast on 24 stitches (sts). Work in garter stitch.

Increase each end of 2nd and alternate rows until 40 sts on needle.

Knit 10 rows.

Cast off 10 sts, knit to end repeat this row until you have 20 sts.

HEAD: Continue on these 20 sts for 12 rows.

To finish: Thread through all loops and gather tight. Sew all around head and body leaving lower edge open. Fill head and gather neck to hold in filling. Glue eyes, cut a small diamond in felt for beak and glue on to head.

MISTERTON WI'S AFTERNOON TEA RAISES MONEY FOR ACWW

Members of Misterton WI (Somerset, England) enjoyed a village walk followed by afternoon tea in the courtyard of their hall. The event raised £113, which has been donated to ACWW's Water for All Projects.

Several members of Misterton WI also catered for a Harvest Supper, which was organised by the Parochial Church Council, where the sum of £322 was raised and again donated to Water for All Projects.

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A HAPPY CHILDREN'S HOME



HORNS WERE blowing, people were chattering, children were heading to school and workers to their various jobs. The sun was just coming up and it was a brand new day in Chennai, India, when Suzanne Garrett, ACWW's UN Committee member, was heading out to monitor a project at a place called the Happy Children's Home for ACWW's Projects Committee.

Suzanne said "I had been joined unexpectedly by two Somerset WI ladies from the UK, who had just arrived that morning and wanted to see our work on the ground. It was great to have their company. Our guides collected us from our hotel and we headed out for our adventure. None of us had been in India before and this was a whole new world, remote from Australia (where I am from) and the UK.

ACWW's Projects Committee had agreed to fund the project at the children's home some time ago and it was up to me to make sure that all was as it should be. No project is funded without serious consideration as to its viability. Annai Theresa Social Work Association (ATSWA) had applied for funds to sink a bore at the Happy Children's Home. This would mean that the facility, which provides care for ninety girls in a girls' home and ninety boys in a boys' home, would have water for their basic needs and also importantly sanitation.

We were treated like celebrities as firecrackers were thrown in our path and magnificent leis placed around our necks. There were even banners welcoming us with our names displayed for all to see.

The children were absolutely delighted to see us and danced around us as we were led to the bright blue bore standing in the middle of a paddock. It fell to me to cut the welcome ribbon. There were more ribbons to cut as we were led to the girls' hostel building

where I had to inspect the various rooms with washing facilities and squat toilets.

A water tank had been erected on the roof and now the kitchen had water for their cooking. Next was the holding tank, which looked like a large swimming pool where I had to turn on the tap to prove that it all worked. I had to admit that one of my first thoughts was 'where is the safety fence to protect the children from drowning!'

Next was the visit to the boys hostel and how different was the welcome we received. Boys are boys all over the world and it was a real party atmosphere that greeted us.

They were six inches off the ground and so excited. As with the girls' hostel, the boys facilities were top class and I proudly repeated my efforts with ribbon cutting and turning on a tap. I left them with greetings from ACWW and I bring back greetings and thanks from all the children and their carers.

One of the girls who looked about 13 years old kept saying to me "Thank you... Thank you for helping us we have all we need" yet all they have is a bed in a dormitory and a hole in a wall unit where they keep their chests and few belongings; but to them it is everything they need. I was so proud to inspect the homes of these children.

I discovered when asking questions to the carers that many of the girls are children of the temple prostitutes and if they hadn't been rescued and included in the Happy Children's Home, they would have been groomed to take over from their mothers. The support they have received has saved these beautiful girls from that appalling fate.

Without the wonderful efforts that members have made towards the work of ACWW, none of this would have happened and these beautiful boys and girls would have been neglected and out on the streets, with no one to care for them. Thank you ladies and please thank your societies for caring as you do, about the women and families in the world. I was proud to represent you all".



COMMUNITY SERVICES AWARD NOMINATION OF BERNARDINE HAY



Lefttoright:AndrenaFoster,RichardBates(President)& BernardineHayreceivingtheCommunityServicesAward

IN DECEMBER 2013, Bernardine Hay, an ACWW member and former FWI President was presented with a Community Services Award by Richard Bates, President of the Rotary Club, Kloof, South Africa. Andrena Foster a Rotary Ann and a member of Kloof WI delivered the following tribute to the Rotary members and visitors at their yearend social evening for the award:

Andrena Foster said in her tribute to Bernardine Hay:

From 2011 to 2013, Bernardine was the President of Kloof WI, working very hard on behalf of its members. She later held various offices in the Highway Group WI and for the last two years has been President of the Federation of WI doing a sterling job, especially when organising two WI Federations of KZN Congresses. It was at this time she represented FWI on the National Committee of the South African Woman's Agricultural Union.

Bernardine was instrumental in promoting the WI at a Craft Show at the Greyille Race course in 2008. She further organised the knitting of over 2,500 dolls that were distributed to school children. These dolls were made as part of an awareness campaign against child trafficking and abuse in 2010.

Bernardine was a Biology teacher and used this knowledge as a trustee on her Committee where her portfolio was gardens. Bernardine has also taught as a Sunday school teacher and has played the keyboard, accompanying the Kloof Choir in entertaining the elderly members of the community. Bernardine, together with ladies from her church sewed tracksuits for underprivileged children and arranged distribution of donated clothing to the needy, even in rural areas in KZN. Bernardine started a group at a church for African ladies in the Shongweni area where she taught them sewing, knitting and craft skills to supplement their pensions. They learnt to sew 'Hotboxes' to sell, a method of cooking with limited use of power.

Through the SAWAU she arranged for a financial advisor to speak to them on basic finances. As Bernardine has for many years unselfishly served our community, we feel that she is a worthy candidate for recognition of her efforts with a Community Services Award. Congratulations to Bernardine!

MONITORING AND SOCIALISING IN INDIA AND SRI LANKA



Left to right Margaret Mackay, Past ACWW Projects Committee Chair (2010-2013), John Mackay (Husband) with staff and beneficiaries at Dumbara Gedere Health Centre

MARGARET MACKAY, previous ACWW Projects Committee Chair (2007 - 2013), monitored four ACWW projects whilst on her travels in India and Sri Lanka, after the 2013 Triennial Conference. The projects were: 0930 and 0834 in India; and 0916 and 0940 in Sri Lanka.

INDIA

Thursday 3rd October 2013

On our first visit to India my husband, John and I left our hotel in Chennai at 10am, with a car and driver, and travelled south west to the town of Arni in the district of Tiruvannamalai to monitor an ACWW project, run by the Integrated Rural Women Education and Development (IRWED). We were welcomed at their office, within the home of the Treasurer Mr Moyeesan (Moses). Mrs Rita, Secretary, was also present.

After I had examined all the records, we were given lunch before setting off for ACWW's pig project number 0930 in the village of Melsenbagathopu accompanied by Mrs Rita in the car with us and Mr Moses on a motor cycle. This remote hill village, 50 km from Arni, was unapproachable by car for the last 3 kilometers, so we set off to walk the distance in the searing heat. After 15 minutes, Mr Moses arranged a 'tuk tuk' vehicle to take us the rest of the way for which we were very grateful.

We were given a very warm welcome in the village by the families and entertained by the children in the local primary school. Although remote, they are fortunate to have a source of electric power and a water tank supplied by the government. We were given a tour of the village where we saw their humble homes (some with satellite dishes attached!), the pigs, piglets and pig pens. I was ceremoniously presented with a pig and asked to convey sincere thanks to ACWW for funding the much needed project in their

isolated hill village. We left the village by 'tuk tuk' and re-joined our car and driver for a visit to Kasdiampan, which is one of the villages where another successful IRWED project 0834 (Carpentry Project) is ongoing. After being warmly welcomed, we were given a demonstration of the ladies' carpentry skills.

They worked deftly with hammers and chisels to produce a stool within a short period of time. We watched them skillfully holding wood with their feet whilst chiseling and hammering and wondered about comments from the "Health & Safety" brigade! This successful ongoing project is giving an income to the ladies and their families and improving their standard of living, and they are also able to send their children to school. Two ladies commented that a power saw would make their task a lot easier!

We communicated with the people in both villages through interpretation by Mrs Rita and Mr Moses who were very helpful in assisting us throughout the visits.

On returning to IRWED's office in Arni, we met Mr Moses' wife and two sons and were given dinner before leaving for Pondicherry. It was a long journey south east to Pondicherry where we were staying for the next two nights. After a tiring, but inspiring and successful day, we eventually arrived at our hotel at 9pm.

Monday 7th October 2013

Whilst staying in Trichy (Thiruchirappalli), I took the opportunity to visit Divine Child Trust. Mrs Jothi, Managing Trustee of Divine Child Trust, took us to her home where we met with Father Arulanthem member of the trust. I did not meet with any of the beneficiaries but was assured that the HIV Aids Prevention and Education Project had been very successful. On behalf of the Divine Child Trust, both Mrs Jothi and Father Arulanthem conveyed their sincere and grateful thanks to ACWW for funding of the project.

SRI LANKA

Monday 21st October 2013

Whilst staying in Kandy, we took a 90 km round trip to visit and monitor, NEST project 0940 in Ududumbara. We were met in the nearby town and guided to the Dumbara Gedere Centre, where we received a very warm welcome from the General Manager, Mr Priyanthe Gunasinghe, the staff, parents and children. We enjoyed a guided tour of the Centre and the Garden, including the Play Group where it was a joy to interact with the children. John and I were both invited to plant a pepper vine in the well stocked garden.

After monitoring the project we watched a PowerPoint Presentation about NEST and

were then treated to a delicious lunch. We thoroughly enjoyed the visit and wonderful hospitality. It was with reluctance that we said our goodbyes, but hope to return for another visit.

Wednesday 23rd October

On our journey from Nuwara Eliya to Yala National Park, we took a detour to visit, and monitor, part of Lanka Mahila Samiti (LMS) Rain Water Project 0916 in the Moneragala area. We were met by representatives from LMS office in Colombo, Jeewani Sugundasa and Monica Fernando, and also the field officer in charge of the area, Manike Samaakone. A visit was made to two Pre-School centres, one in the town of Hulandawa and the other in a rural area. Visit one was to LMS' Mayura Pre-School and Training Centre, Hulandawa, Monaragala and visit two was to LMS' Pre-School, Dombagahawela, Monaragala. It was a pleasure to meet and interact with staff and children at both centres.

As we had a long journey to reach Yala National Park, we were unable to stay as long as planned. Our driver was keen to leave sharp as he was reluctant to drive through the park in the dusk/dark in case we encountered an elephant. Elephants are known to roam on the road and approach vehicles and we did, indeed, encounter a huge elephant, which was walking up the middle of the road towards the car. Unable to avoid or drive around the elephant our driver stopped, reversed and eventually threw some food to distract it. Only then were we able to pass safely and speed on our way.

Saturday 26th October

We accepted a kind invitation from Sally Hulugalle, one of the founders of NEST to visit her home and NEST's headquarters. It was a pleasure to meet Sally, her husband Arj and some members of NEST Board.

We discussed the extensive amount of worthwhile work carried out by NEST throughout Sri Lanka and the possibility of submitting another project application. It was a very worthwhile visit and we enjoyed wonderful hospitality with a delicious lunch.

On leaving Sally's home, we went on to visit Kare House, a NEST Halfway Home/ Shelter and the Gladys School of Community Health work. We met some of the ladies and their children in Kare House and were given a guided tour of the Gladys School of Community Health.

Throughout our visits, we were courteously treated and asked to convey sincere thanks to ACWW for funding the projects. We thoroughly enjoyed our time spent in India and Sri Lanka and hope to return soon.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Photo: caramel pecan roll - kcchef.com

OVERNIGHT CARAMEL- PECAN ROLLS Jan Harris, Indiana, USA

2 (25 ounce) packages active dry yeast
1/2 cup warm water
2 cups lukewarm milk
1/3 cup white sugar
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1 tablespoon baking powder
2 teaspoons salt
1 egg
7 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup butter

2 tablespoons light corn syrup
1 cup pecan halves
1/4 cup butter, softened
1/2 cup white sugar
1 1/2 tablespoons ground cinnamon

Base:

Warm the milk in a small saucepan until it bubbles, then remove from heat. Let cool until lukewarm. In a small bowl, dissolve yeast in warm water. Leave until creamy, about 10 minutes.

In a large bowl, combine yeast mixture, sugar, oil, baking powder, salt, egg, milk and 3 cups flour. Beat until smooth.

Stir in the remaining flour, 1/2 cup at a time, beating well after each addition. When the dough has pulled together, turn it out onto a lightly floured surface and knead until smooth and elastic, about 8 minutes. Lightly oil a large bowl, place the dough in the bowl and turn to coat with oil. Cover with a damp cloth and let rise in a warm place until doubled in volume, about 1 hour.

Topping:

Heat brown sugar and 1/2 cup butter until melted. Remove from heat; stir in corn syrup. Divide mixture between two 9x13 inch baking pans. Sprinkle 1/2 cup pecans in each pan. When dough has doubled in size, punch down and turn out onto a lightly floured surface. Roll out into a large rectangle and spread with butter.

Sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon. Starting with the long side, roll up the rectangle into a log, and slice into 1 inch wide rolls. Place the rolls slightly apart in pans. Wrap pans with aluminium foil and refrigerate at least 12 hours but no longer than 48.

Remove rolls from refrigerator and let stand in a warm place until doubled in size, about 30 minutes. Meanwhile, preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

Bake uncovered in preheated oven until golden 30 to 35 minutes. Immediately invert pan on heatproof serving plate. Wait for 1 or 2 minutes before removing from pan, so that caramel drizzles over rolls.

ACWW MEMBER SOCIETIES WAU AND SAVF JOIN FORCES



Frontrow Mhlanga Boipelo, Kheswa Beauty and Tsienyane Omphemetse, Backrow Sethunya Banyana Mhlanga Kelebogile Muthal Pinkie with Lynette Steenkamp and Ann Fitzgerald from Rustenburg WAU Branch (leaders in this project).

The WAU from Platina Area in the North West Province started a joint Crochet project with SAVF of Rustenburg in aid of the Monato School. The school, which educates children up to grade 9 and is twenty kilometres from Rustenburg, South Africa.

As it is extremely difficult for some parents in the area to afford transport to town once their children complete grade 9, this project was initiated to teach the girls a skill, which they could utilise to become entrepreneurs. Sienie van Vuuren PRO North West Province WAU, South Africa, said "Melanie Schrenk, a

learner-social worker, from SAVF requested our assistance and the WAU members were keen to help". She adds: "Ladies from five different WAU Branches take it in turn to spend time each Friday between 12pm and 2pm at the school. The Principal, George Mabe and his staff revised the schedule slightly to fit this wonderful workshop into their school hours.

We bought fifty crochet needles and received donations of various types of yarn from WAU members and friends. Another highlight, for the more than forty girls, is the



Frontrow Amogelang Moloji Kupi Kopano Moremi Mmathapelo Masibiya Lebogang Ngxamakele Boniwe Backrow Selemela Dikmo (Educator) Diamile Queen and Magaswane Rifilwe

tasty food and refreshments they receive every time, which is also donated and prepared by members of SAVF and WAU.

As some of the girls are unfamiliar with English, their devoted teacher, Selemela Dikmo, is also on duty every Friday, so she can assist with interpretations". The girls have made crocheted lovely flowers for decorating hats, or to attach to head bands, or wear as brooches. The WAU members in charge are Ann Fitzgerald from Rustenburg Branch accompanied by a brand new member, Lynette Steenkamp.

The Regional Chairperson, Pam van Rensburg, has visited the school twice, accompanied by NW WAU President, Judy Steynberg, to oversee the project and to be updated on the girls' progress.

PROJECT REPORTS

MONITORING REPORT

BANGLADESH

Water Supply and Sanitation Facilities to Destitute "Garo and Coach" Tribal families for their Survival and Upliftment

Organisation: Dipshika Polli-Unnayan Karmoshuchi (Meaning Lamp-flame Rural Development Program) DPUK
Supported by: Isle of Ely FWI; Dorset FWI

The aim of this project run by Dipshika Polli-Unnayan Karmoshuchi (DPUK), was to provide 10 tube wells and 20 latrines for selected settlements, which would improve the health and sanitation of families in a large area of Bangladesh.

Hazel Armstrong, ACWW Projects Committee member and Projects Resource Person, who monitored this project, visited

four villages, which had benefitted either from a latrine or a well. She reported that the project appeared to have been carried out in line with their original application to ACWW. Hazel says "Even though the project is working, there is a huge area to cover with 300 tribal people, and travelling around such a large area is difficult. It is difficult to decide which village gets a well and which gets a latrine, with the area being so vast and the needs so great". DPUK had selected sites by health criteria and where communication was possible, because of the language barriers with some areas.

She adds "These were some of the most deprived people I had ever met. They had no access to healthcare, clean water, sanitation, electricity or education. Their overriding desire is to have both a well and a latrine in each village followed by education for their

children but they expressed intense gratitude for what they had received. The need in the area is far beyond the finances of ACWW and I suggested other agencies that may be of use to them in their quest to achieve their goals".



Hazel Armstrong (right) ACWW Projects Committee member monitoring the project in Bangladesh

PROGRESS REPORT



UGANDA

Psychosocial Support Rehabilitation and Reintegration of the Child Prisoners (with emphasis to the girl child)

Organisation: Companionship of Works Association (COWA)
Supported by: Norfolk FWI & Oxfordshire FWI

Anne Marit Hovstad, ACWW's Projects Committee Chair (2013-2016) monitored this project in September 2013 and met the Auditor, Accountant and Head of Companionship of Works Association's (COWA) Psychosocial Programme, who were

running the project, the Principal of COWA VTS and the Principal of the remand home being monitored.

Anne Marit said "Naguru Remand Home is a Ugandan governmental institution, in that the government is responsible for providing the children with food and clothes during their stay. However, what I have experienced during my visit to the institution is that there is a lack of both.

The remand home has, according to COWA, very few prison guards, so each ward has its own leader amongst the children, a kind of hierarchy that works. The purpose of establishing COWA as an organisation

was to provide these vulnerable children with competent individuals who could help them get ahead in life, to offer education and life skills.

From March to August/September 2013, the remand home has helped 387 juveniles.

However the number keeps fluctuating. The targeted number of beneficiaries is 135 children, 30 of these are supposed to be girls, while 105 are supposed to be boys.

We visited the girls in their residence, who were happy to see us and used the opportunity to talk to us in private. We asked them if they were motivated to continue school after being released, and they confirmed, this was what they wanted.

Some results of the activities from the project were necklaces and wood carvings, which we bought as beautiful gifts".



PROGRESS REPORT



CAMBODIA
Rural women livelihood development
 Organisation: Hope Association for Development (HAD)
 Supported by: Cheshire FWI, Isle of Wight FWI, England

The aim of this project was to improve the living conditions of the poorest women-headed families and vulnerable groups in order to give them opportunities to generate income. The project run by the Hope Association for Development (HAD) and which ran in 24 villages, benefitted 440 women and 14 men.

During its first six months the project carried out the following activities: 15 HIV/AIDS courses for a total of 125 people; 6 livestock technique training courses in which 150 people gained skills in chicken raising; and 20 women received credit from the project to start their own businesses.

MONITORING REPORT

PAPUA NEW GUINEA
Saving and Loan Scheme
 Organisation: Rural Women's Development Initiative Inc
 Supported by: Norfolk FWI, Buckinghamshire FWI, England; York Centre District WI, Canada

Ruth Shanks, ACWW World President, who monitored this project, reported that this project titled 'Saving and Loan Scheme', was well run by the Rural Women's Development Initiative Inc. It has run according to plan and has become a rotating scheme, whereby loans are repaid by the members and these funds are then used to assist other members.

The scheme with more than 300 members has been very successful with only one or two not completing the programme successfully. The World President met more than 30 recipients of the scheme and visited, on site, most of the members. The funds these women (and one man) received has been used in a number of ways, such as poultry raising, pig raising, processing and selling peanuts, coffee cherries (raw seeds) and vegetables, food store, barbecue stall at local markets and selling landfill (produced using a second hand land crusher). One lady has taken on a leadership role and is teaching other women how to manage their gardens.

One widow beneficiary has earned enough by selling products at a local market, to buy the materials to build a new home. The husband of a third beneficiary built some pigsties for her pigs and these pigsties are better than the home the family live in!

MONITORING REPORT



CAMEROON
Water & Sanitation (Provision of Safe Water and Toilets for Rural Communities)
 Organisation: Unique Child Common Initiative
 Supported by: Manitoba WI, Canada

This project titled 'Water and Sanitation' had been executed and water has been connected from a main source into five communities for wells and toilets, which have been constructed to serve these communities. According to the monitoring report, all phases have been completed, and all the villages are benefitting from the project. Workshops have been carried out to educate women and children on good sanitation and sustainable agricultural methods. The Past Area President, for East West & Central Africa, Emende Evelyn Nojang (2007-2013), who monitored the project, said "One of the most essential water points found was at a village Health Centre. This important Health Centre is now functional thanks to ACWW. With the success of this project, I would recommend expansion to other villages".

FINAL REPORT



INDIA
Computer Training to Carve a Career for Rural Adolescent Girls
 Organisation: Centre for the Development of the Rural Women (CDRW)
 Supported by: Worcestershire FWI; Les Cercles de Fermières du Québec; N Ireland FWI; Huntingdon & Peterborough FWI

Thirty young women from five villages, benefitted from a project for computer skills training, to prepare them to find employment.



Girls, who were 18 years old and had completed class XII, were selected for the project. These 30 girls were the daughters of widows or of destitute women, whose husbands had left the family.

The project, titled 'Computer Training to Carve a Career for Rural Adolescent Girls', helped the beneficiaries to acquire the following skills during a one year period: Java, Windows +, Tally, Windows ++, Linux, Preparing LCD, Programming and Desk Top Publishing (DTP). Once skilled, some of the trainees were able to get job placements and some were able to become self employed. One of the ways the project was evaluated and monitored was through examinations, in order to test the beneficiaries knowledge and understanding of what they were taught.

The 'Centre for the Development of the Rural Women (CDRW)', who ran the project, evaluated the beneficiaries enabling them to find out the strength and weaknesses of each learner. All of the beneficiaries thus far have secured pass marks and have been issued course certificates for job placements, or to become self employed.

There was a common belief that only educated urban young women were able to learn and benefit from the computer education courses, but CDRW has now come to realise that there are a number of talented illiterate rural young women in villages who are able to pick up and learn the course despite their limited educational background. Unlike some of their urban counterparts, unfortunately they have not been given the opportunity to learn, therefore being labelled as unskilled labourers. Apart from the computer literacy courses,

CDRW provided training in knitting recycling plastic wire bags to generate income.

The project was completed with the active participation and involvement of the community. CDRW has received positive responses and nearby villages have approached them to extend the project to their villages. About 56 candidates have registered for the next course, which will start shortly. CDRW will continue to run the project with the support of ACWW and other donors, as well as the beneficiaries.

FOR SALE

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- Working with Women Worldwide – Highlights of 75 Years of ACWW £5
- ACWW 2010 Constitution £3
- Pen Friend Scheme form (via email)
- ACWW A3 & A4 Projects Posters
- All about ACWW leaflet
- ACWW Mini leaflet
- ACWW Projects & Funding leaflet
- ACWW UN leaflet
- You can make a difference leaflet
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Bequests are incredibly valuable to the work ACWW does – not just for the women and communities who benefit from projects and the connections made globally through our work now – but to women and communities to come. Bequests enable ACWW to continue to deliver a broad vision of seeing generations of women empowered through the relief of poverty and sickness, the protection and preservation of health and the advancement of education.

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