

THE COUNTRYWOMAN

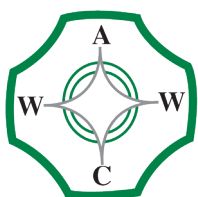
INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

ISSUE 2 - 2018

SDG 1 - No Poverty SDG 2 - Zero Hunger SDG 3 - Good Health & Well-being SDG 4 - Quality Education SDG 5 - Gender Equality SDG 6 - Clean Water & Sanitation SDG 7 - Affordable & Clean Energy SDG 8 - Decent Work & Economic Growth SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities & Communities SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption & Production SDG 13 - Climate Action SDG 14 - Life Below Water SDG 15 - Life on Land SDG 16 - Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions SDG 17 - Partnership for the Goals



SDG 17 Partnership for the Goals



ACWW @ CSW62: Advocacy in Action

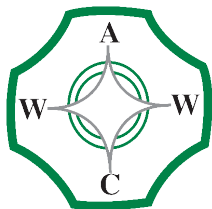
GLOBAL SURVEY OF THE LIVING
CONDITIONS OF RURAL WOMEN

29th TRIENNIAL WORLD CONFERENCE
Registration opens for Melbourne!

Registered Charity no. 290367
CIO No. 1174798

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London SE21 8EN



DEAR FRIENDS...

A Message from the World President


Associated Country Women of the World
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CIO No. 1174798

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The Countrywoman
ISSN 0011-0302

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The Countrywoman is the official quarterly magazine of ACWW, and was named by Mrs Alfred Watt MBE, the First President of ACWW in 1933.

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Please note the following deadlines for submitting your articles, updates and photographs to The Countrywoman. We welcome new contributors and those in areas not recently featured- please get in touch with nick@acww.org.uk if you need any help in submitting.

July- September: 30th May 2018

October- December: 30th August 2018

January- March: 1st December 2018

April- June: 1st February 2019

The Editor's decision on acceptance and inclusion is final.

It seems hard to believe as I write this, that 2018 is into its fourth month. They say *"time flies when you are having Fun"* and this certainly seems to be so.

My recent travels have included a visit to Jakarta, Indonesia, where I had the pleasure of attending the South East Asia and the Far East Area Conference. This was hosted by the Area President, Maria Abdul Karim and her committee from Perwari. There were members from Malaysia, Brunei and Indonesia in attendance and it was a great occasion for them. The members were very enthusiastic about the work they do within their own communities and in the wider world of ACWW.

The speakers were interesting and informative and the free time was an opportunity to network and have some fun. We had a visit to the Head Office of Perwari and were entertained by and joined in a performance by a children's music group, playing the Angklung, which is a traditional bamboo musical instrument of Indonesia. This group was set up originally with funding from ACWW. It was also a great opportunity to meet up with former World President Ursula Goh and to see that she is well and continuing to work with her organisation in Sarawak.

Then it was on to London for the first Committee and Board meetings of the year. This was an extremely busy time and there was little time for relaxation. This was the first time for Area Presidents to see the new office and also the first time for us to stay in accommodation in Dulwich Village, which is a 7 minute taxi ride away. The Crown and Greyhound Hotel was very comfortable, significantly cheaper than previous options, and the rooms were conducive to socialising after dinner. This was also a first time to meet the new staff members, Viktoria and Safia and it was a baptism of fire for them with the meetings etc.

We also took this opportunity to say good bye to Juliet Childs, one of our Projects Administrators, who had been with us for 11 years. She retired to spend time with her husband and we wished her well.

For those of us who come from areas where there is no snow, we were treated to a "winter wonderland" for most of the time we were there. Apparently this was the first time this amount of snow had fallen in central London for many years. It may have been cold outside, but inside the office there was a great sense of camaraderie and enthusiasm to take our Association forward. As this Triennium is only 2 ½ years, this was the last time the Board met, meaning

the Area Presidents only had two Board meetings. To finish up the week, we all had an adventure on a Red London Bus, having High Tea as we travelled around the centre of London. This was a new experience and enjoyed by all.

Then it was off to New York and attendance at CSW 62. There is a full report further on in the magazine, however I will say that the delegation from ACWW, which numbered 14 in total, had an amazing experience, holding the banner high for ACWW.

ACWW had submitted an Oral Statement to UN Women in the hope that we would be asked to present this to the Commission on the Status of Women. We were given the honour of doing this, and I believe, this is a first for ACWW. We were also invited to be part of a panel at two events, a side event and also a parallel event, and, of course, we had the launch of our Rural Women's Survey. There was a great deal of interest shown whenever we spoke to anyone about the survey and many promises to take part. Much more happened and you can read it about it further on.

As it happened, it also snowed in New York so I don't know what it is about ACWW but we seem to attract all sorts of phenomena wherever we go!!!!

My thought for this issue is:

"It is more important to know where you are going than to get there quickly. Do not mistake activity for achievement."

- Mabel Newcombe.

Remember it is less than a year to the Triennial Conference in Melbourne and we hope to see many of you "down under"

Ruth Shanks, A.M.
ACWW World President

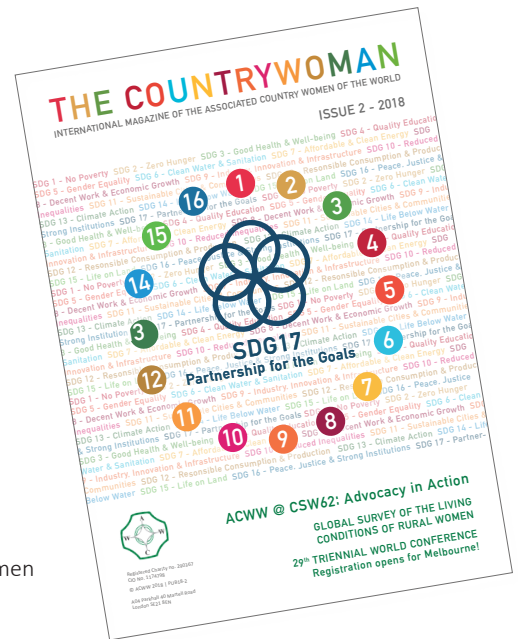


Ruth with Lopa Banerjee, Chief of the Civil Society Section at UN Women, during the first day of CSW62 in New York.

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COVER IMAGE

ACWW is committed to helping achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and we are proud to incorporate them into every aspect of our work.

Learn more about the SDGs by visiting our website or the Sustainable Development Goal Knowledge Platform at www.sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs

DON'T FORGET YOUR 2017 MEMBERSHIP IS DUE NOW!

PLEASE CONTACT CENTRAL OFFICE TO PAY NOW IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY

MAKING YOUR MAGAZINE SUSTAINABLE

We deliver The Countrywoman in an envelope rather than a plastic wrapper. This is because we use Forest Stewardship Council approved sustainable paper for both the magazine and its packaging. For every tree used in the production of this issue, three are planted in its place. This is part of ACWW's commitment to a healthier planet, and Sustainable Development Goal 12.





CENTRAL OFFICE NEWS

Tish Collins, ACWW Chief Executive Officer

As we moved into the new year many of you will have noticed that Sydney Salter is now fully responsible for Membership in addition to her other general office duties and, increasingly, a social media role. Juliet Childs, Project Administrator, has left us after 11 years with ACWW. Her three days are now being covered by Viktoria Dimitrova and Safia Roble, both of whom have become full time.

As you will know, Membership fees are always due on 1st January. It might be timely to remind you that only paid-up voting member societies (Categories 1,2 and 3) will have the right to vote at the Triennial World Conference in April 2019.

The Board meeting in March approved the new draft Bye Laws in line with the new Constitution and booklets will be circulated before the World Conference.

In March this year I was lucky enough to be privately sponsored to attend CSW62 in New York, and take an active part in the launching of the International Forum on Rural Women and ACWW's new Global Survey of the Living Conditions of Rural Women – of which there is much written later in this magazine. It was an amazing and empowering experience showcasing ACWW advocacy in action; we were able to partner with many friends old and new. I am pleased to be able to include a report here from one of the meetings I attended during this event.

There have been many invitations to speak about ACWW at WI meetings around the country and we 'fly the flag' at as many as possible. When the meeting coincides with Board members being in London it is sometimes possible for them to travel to such local meetings. This always adds a special international flavour to the event. The new 'information booklets' are proving very popular with members and we keep them up to date by reviewing before re-printing when stocks are low. If you would like copies of the 2018 Information Booklet, please contact Central Office.

In the UK, new legislation concerning data protection (General Data Protection Regulation) is coming in to force shortly and we need to be compliant. This involves policies on what, how we keep and what we do with personal data and showing that we have permission to hold it. We are lucky to be benefitting from some pro bono work reviewing our policies and procedures but don't be surprised if you get an email from Central Office asking you to confirm that you are happy to receive emails from us for ACWW business. We do not share our databases and do not 'sell' them or allow them to be used by third parties.

I look forward to writing to you all in the next issue.

Tish Collins, Chief Executive Officer

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Report on the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Caucus at the 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women New York, March 2018

During the Commission, regional caucuses are a crucial opportunity for representatives from those regions to gather and discuss the issues that directly affect them and to help generate local responses and solutions. At this Latin American and Caribbean Regional Caucus, women's NGOs from Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Argentina, USA, Mexico, Panama, Chile, Guatemala, Colombia, and Dominican Republic came together in New York.

In February 2018 there was a regional consultation with NGOs, chaired by Women's Ministers. Supported by UN Women, 60 networks working on diversity, (including rural, indigenous and LGBTQIA groups) put together a joint paper and recommendations to states ministers. Over two days of workshops they developed different strategies to work collectively on the following major issues:

1. Land, territory and natural resources – women's right to title and access to resources. The Ministers for Women were very open and receptive to this.
2. Water and Food Sovereignty – nutrition, SDGs and the right to water. Many complications arose here; Ministers rejected the concepts of sovereignty and rights but did accept the need for water and food security.
3. Violence and Human Rights – diversity, different forms of violence – gender-based and race-based. Very useful exchanges for public policies. Links between human rights offenders and the defence of territory.
4. Work, social security and education. Looked at the International Labour Office statistics on pay gaps and compensation differentials.
5. Health, sexual and reproductive rights – including legal and safe abortion, contraception, privatisation measures affecting public health and maternity provision. NGOs emphasised the necessity for cultural appropriateness of policy and human rights.
6. Political participation and social provision, including soldier women. Democratisation, legislation, participation in the electoral process and an emphasis on diversity.

The Ministers used this document in preparation for CSW62. The NGO networks were trying to be inclusive. However, religious fundamentalism is having a major impact on the agenda. During the discussion it became evident that access to justice for women was becoming a key issue and was not covered sufficiently in the document as it stands. CEDAW, especially Clause 14, was ratified in 1974 but the language remains inaccessible to most women in the region; they do not know what their governments signed up to, so are not pushing for implementation.

There was consensus that the issues raised above were the most relevant. The question was how to take this forward and influence the actions of Ministers? For example, the Guatemala Government has no political will to implement even the laws they have now. Despite everything, they seem to have moved one step back for women.

There is a need to link the document to SDGs, only 13 years left to complete the 17 SDGs so governments need to act now. An agricultural cooperative from Brazil was concerned about the impact of climate change; they are losing crop seeds and production. Their government was always late to respond and running behind. In Colombia armed conflict is affecting access to land, territory and resources. In Venezuela independent NGOs are not being considered as they are not politically aligned with the government. Increasing feminisation of poverty is evident. The Minister for Women is not engaged with the NGOs so the joint regional draft document is very important.

In conclusion, the area of justice was covered in some depth, there were two recommendations on training judges. They would be launching policy on entitlement and climate change, but these were delayed as they tried to get consensus between nations. Participants from every country expressed extreme frustration at the lack of progress as, with each change of government or Minister for Gender Issues, they had to start again with basics to develop an understanding of the issues. The notes for this report were presented to both the UK NGO CSW Alliance and the UK Government Equality Office during briefings at the UK Permanent Mission to the United Nations.

FINANCE & MEMBERSHIP



Heather Brennan, ACWW Finance & Membership Committee Chairman

As this article is added to the magazine, it is 365 days until the opening of the 29th Triennial World Conference in Melbourne, Australia. This is of course very exciting, as it offers our membership and societies the chance to come together and share their news, learn from each other, and crucially exercise their democratic rights in electing our new Board of Trustees.

Attending the Conference is an exciting experience, and whilst every effort is made to keep the costs as low as possible, it of course does come at a price. We know that some members have attended many Conferences, and often add a holiday before or after so they can learn more about the country they are visiting. On the other hand, many Societies struggle to afford to send a delegate to the Conference, and this means that they miss out on the hugely positive experience and opportunity for development and discourse with their international sisters.

At this point we would like to encourage those Members and Member Societies who are able to contribute to the 2019 Conference Sponsorship Fund. This money is used to support less affluent Societies to send a delegate to the Conference, generally a first time attendee, and covers their registration fee or contributes to their travel costs. It does not fully cover their costs, and they are still expected to contribute to their attendance and accommodation, but makes a big difference to their ability to attend.

Our strength is in our membership, and we appreciate that there many, huge, and diverse, demands on everybody's income. We also appreciate every pound that is donated, and work tirelessly to ensure that money is spent responsibly and to the best

effect. Supporting a member in attending the Triennial World Conference is a fantastic way of investing in their personal development, empowerment and their ability to take what they learn at the Conference back to their own Society and community.

If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send your donation to Central Office, clearly marked as being for the '2019 Conference Sponsorship Fund'.

On that note, can I take the opportunity to kindly remind you all to be sure that all money (including and especially bank transfers, BACS payments and international bank drafts) sent to Central Office should include a reference to who is sending it, and what the money is for. Please also include your up-to-date contact details to ensure we can send you a receipt (ideally by email).

To correct a typographical error from the previous issue and clarify, please see the current membership rates below.

Category 1 Societies (former Category I)
£105 + handling

Category 2 Societies (former Category II)
£64 + handling

Category 3 Societies (former Category III)
£53 + handling

Category 4 Societies (former Category IVa)
£35 + handling

Category 5 Individual (former Category IVb)
£25 + handling OR £65 + handling for 3 years

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you in Melbourne!

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Branch:
Westminster

Swift Code:
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If you are sending a bank transfer, please use your name or membership number as a reference. Please don't send cash in the post!



LEAVE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

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. Such legacies 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.

You can be assured that your gift will make a genuine difference to our work. To find out more please email tish.c@acww.org.uk to receive a Bequest Information Pack.

OBITUARY: JEAN SMITH

Jean Smith, a Life Member of ACWW and National Life Member of Rural Women New Zealand, passed away on 2 January this year. Jean was well-known to many from Triennial Conferences and her time on the ACWW Board, as well as being much loved throughout the South Pacific Area.

We are grateful to Penelope England, CEO of RWNZ for the notification.

Jean, a member of the Swannanoa Branch, North Canterbury, was a former Dominion President of the Women's Division Federated Farmers and also a former South Pacific Area President of (ACWW).

Jean was the 'stamp lady' for RWNZ for many years. She raised thousands of dollars for ACWW's Pennies for Friendship from the stamps sent to her from all over the country.

Jean shall be remembered with affection for her enthusiasm and her example to all, of 'Service Simply Given'.

Compiled from notes by Penelope England



THE ART OF BEING NICE & KIND

Magdie de Kock, Communications & Marketing Committee

“Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see”

- Mark Twain

As I was contemplating this article, I recall our family visit to Disneyworld in the USA some years ago. Apart from all the amazing exhibitions, the wonderful shared experiences with our children and the good time we spend at the theme parks, I was also impressed by the kindness we received from all the employees. They all seemed to be very nice, polite, friendly and kind to everybody and I wondered how that was possible. Were they never tired, irritated or fed up with all the holiday makers and noisy children? They treated everyone with so much courtesy, kindness and genuine respect. True to my nature I engaged in a conversation with a young employee and asked her how it was possible for her and her colleagues to be so extremely nice and courteous all the time? With a smile she said: *“We are being trained to be nice and kind to everyone every day!”*.

I used to believe that being nice and kind is something one is born with and that the “nice gene” was something you either had or didn’t have. My studies in human behaviour proved the Disneyworld employer to be right- being nice is something you learn and practice for the rest of your life. To be a brilliant musician takes many hours of daily practice. To be in shape you have to exercise regularly. To be nice and kind to others is a lifelong, ongoing process. You never get to stop learning what it means and what it takes to be nice. But it is well worth the effort, because being nice brings you rewards you never imagined.

“I expect to pass through life but once. If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show; or any good thing I can do to any fellow being, let me do it now, for I shall not pass this way again”

- William Penn

Keep in mind; it’s difficult to be nice and kind to others when you are not nice to yourself. Working on yourself and cultivating your own self-esteem takes a lot of trouble. As a life coach I have often see individuals who have a difficult time being nice to others as they often come from a place of ego or a lack of self-esteem. Being with someone who’s coming from a place of ego, they want you to feel good about them. But when you are in the company of people who feel good about

themselves, they want you to feel good about yourself. Good self-esteem is a gift you give to others.

It doesn’t matter how right we are, how smart, or even how great we are at anything at all; if we’re unkind, then our smarts, our looks, our great job, our leadership skills, and so much more are pretty much worthless. Kindness is not about us; it’s about the other. Medical science has found direct correlations between gratitude and brain activity. Acts of gratitude and kindness reduce negative activity in the left temporal lobe, a part of the frontal lobes of the brain. This is the place in the brain where emotion, reason, and higher thinking processes are displayed. People who enjoy close relationships are healthier than those who don’t; their immune systems are stronger, and thus better able to fend off illness. Recent scientific research has shown that devoting resources to others, rather than having more and more for oneself, brings about lasting well-being. Kindness has been found to be the most important predictor of satisfaction and stability in a marriage.

Kindness is defined as the quality of being friendly, considerate and generous. Kindness sometimes has a connotation of meaning someone is naive or weak, but on the contrary being kind often requires courage and strength. To me kindness is an interpersonal skill and something we should aim to acquire.

“A warm smile is the universal language of kindness”

- William Arthur Ward

Allow kindness to take over your moment, your day, your week, your month, your year, and your life. Plato said: *“Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle.”* If we think about it rationally, we’d probably understand that horrible people do horrible things because they’re hurting. Remember, though, that what goes around comes around! Research has shown that being kind to others increases our own levels of happiness as well as theirs. What’s more, it has a knock-on effect – kindness is contagious, so it makes a bigger impact on our surroundings than we might think.

Being nice doesn’t have to cost anything, what’s important is that it’s an act of expressing genuine care for another person. In fact, there’s no limit to the ways in which we can be kind to others – all we need to do is pay attention to those around us and start seeing opportunities to help! Kindness makes people want to be around us. One of the most common responses to kindness is gratitude – and that means people appreciating what we’ve done for them and seeking out our company!

Three golden rules to consider:

- Do one kind thing for yourself each day which doesn’t involve buying something. Congratulate yourself on your achievements, or have a long, relaxing soak in the bath!
- Each day, try to do something kind for another person. It doesn’t matter what it is, as long as it helps somebody else!
- Resist any urges to be unkind. If you’re on the verge of being unkind to someone, stop and reflect: What are you hoping to achieve from this?

Sure, kindness takes courage. But let’s fight back against unkindness and be the best versions of ourselves that we possibly can be. Be kind and nice to everyone, always. It might not make the world go around, but it certainly makes it a lot more joyful and comfortable to live in.

I have often quoted Maya Angelou and I would like to do it again. She said:

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel”

- Maya Angelou

Compiled by Magdie de Kock
Chairman of the Communications and Marketing Committee.

Acknowledgements:
Pieces of Mind – Karyn Hall
The Be Nice Revolution – Winn Claybaugh



#Wiki4Women @ UNESCO



Nick Newland, Policy & Communications Manager

On International Women's Day, 8 March, ACWW UN Administrator Safia Roble and I attended the Wiki4Women event at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. Coders from around the world attending in person, addressing the information gap and imbalance of women represented on one of the world's most visited websites, Wikipedia. Attendees were taught how to create, edit, fact check, proof, and improve articles on Wikipedia, with specific focus on positive and accurate representation of women.

We divided our time with Safia focusing on research to fact check and correct the article already existing about HRH Princess Azizah, adding further detail and updating references. This is crucial in the fight against 'fake news', and particularly relevant as it concerned a member of our own ACWW family. Nick used the training to create a new article from scratch, also focussing on a familiar face. The point of this element was to create a 'good' article, with proper source referencing and quality control, as well as of course raising the profile of ACWW.

We now have the ability to create new, edit existing, and improve sub-standard articles on Wikipedia, as well as being able to update the ACWW page over which we have previously had little control. As certificated participants, our Wikipedia profiles give us greater reach than 'normal' editors, and this is effectively a quality 'marque' in terms of online presentation.

Whilst in Paris, we also met with;

ACWW Individual Member Rind el Hage (Lebanon), who was previously featured in The Countrywoman. She is currently teaching in France on a UNESCO funded internship, educating children from under-privileged backgrounds STEM subjects and their importance in the achievement of the SDGs. Rind also offered input into our Side Event with the New Zealand Government at CSW62, which focused on the impacts of female empowerment and education achieved by ACWW.

Philippe Beaussant, Chairman of the UNESCO NGO-Liaison Committee; Having met with Philippe several times previously, this meeting discussed the Global Survey, and secured the attendance of Marie Claude Machon (also of the Liaison Committee) at our event launching the Global Survey in New York. Furthermore, Philippe confirmed that he is committed to securing the Global Survey full patronage of the Liaison Committee and UNESCO. Whilst at this meeting, Philippe also arranged special access to Annual Grounds Passes to UNESCO, so that we could



#Wiki4Women - A World Contributory Movement hosted by UNESCO and the Wikimedia Foundation at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris on 8 March 2018

(L-R) ACWW UN Administrator Safia Roble, Anna Burdyliak, Nick Newland and Nadiia Nechytailo

more fully engage with UNESCO offices and attend other meetings more easily in future. Finally, ACWW's advice and input was sought on the NGO Liaison Committee website, and it was agreed that partnership to develop this would be mutually beneficial.

The Wiki4Women event was well attended, with more than 150 coders, staffers and NGO partners represented. Our networking during the session included meeting Anna Burdyliak and Nadiia Nechytailo (attending separately, but both from Ukraine), amongst many others. Anna kindly agreed to translate the Global Survey into Ukrainian and Russian, and both have expressed interest in securing responses in their own communities.

Whilst participating in the Wiki4Women event, we took part in several media interviews; Safia was interviewed by UNESCO's media department for use on their website and social media channels, whilst Nick was interviewed by Wikipedia and the Wikimedia Foundation, the Swedish Permanent Mission to the UN for their website and radio station, and the several others.

Stemming from these interviews, as well as raising the profile of ACWW, we have secured the participation of the Swedish Mission in promoting the global survey to all Swedish embassies, consulates and missions globally.

This was a very productive day spent in Paris, and ACWW has already started reaping the benefits of our attendance.

SIXTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

CSW62 | MARCH 2018

The 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW62) convened at United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA on 12 March 2018. The Commission is held each March and combines the negotiations of 'States Parties' (UN-speak for national governments) with the biggest gathering of women-focused Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the world. This year, more than 9,000 NGOs were present, and held more than 450 Parallel Events. These offer opportunities for discussion, collaboration, negotiation and engagement in support of the Priority and Review themes. This year's Review Theme was 'Women in Media', and the Priority Theme was 'Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls'.

The States Parties' negotiations focus on reaching Agreed Conclusions, the working document to which all governments commit as a plan of action to improve the living conditions of women around the world. This process begins with what is known as the 'Zero Draft', a text which is distributed to all governments before the Commission meets for input. This year, ACWW was invited to consult with the UK Government Equality Office (GEO) when they received the Zero Draft, joining colleagues from the National Association of Women's Organisations (NAWO), Age Concern, and Soroptomist International Great Britain and Ireland.

As part of this process, ACWW was able to input text regarding the impacts of urbanisation on isolation in rural communities and access to education, healthcare and the diversity of rural women. This text was carried by the UK Government to the European Union negotiating block, approved at this stage and carried through to the global Zero Draft which entered negotiation at the start of CSW62. This is not only the first time that ACWW has been involved in this process, but the first time that we had been able to add text in support of ACWW resolutions and policy.

We are very grateful to the GEO, and in particular Charles Ramsden and Andreas Heraclides, for the opportunity to offer input and for their collaboration and facilitation of ACWW's delegation whilst in New York, including invitations to the UK Ambassador's Reception, and high-level briefings held at the UK Mission each evening. UK Chief Negotiator Aaron Holtz was also enlightening and helpful in understanding how best to advocate for ACWW's issues on this global stage.

ACWW's delegation to CSW62 was 14 strong, with many members of the Board and Committees paying for themselves to join the official group. This large delegation gave ACWW an unprecedented opportunity to advocate for our policies, promote the Global Survey of the Living Conditions of Rural Women, and reach new audiences. It also ensured we could reach a huge number of events throughout the week and has led to the creation of new strategic alliances and partnerships across the globe.

As well as attending events organised by other groups, societies and NGOs, ACWW was involved in several significant events across the week. On Wednesday, World President Ruth Shanks was invited to speak at the UK NGO CSW Alliance's main event where she addressed collaboration between NGOs and business toward achieving the SDGs. On Thursday, Ruth chaired a session of UN Women's flagship CSW62 event, before hosting ACWW's own Parallel Event, launching the Global Survey. Ruth's final speaking engagement was on Friday, where she joined colleagues from New Zealand. You can read about these events across the page. In addition to speaking at Parallel Events, ACWW interventions from the World President, CEO Tish Collins and Policy & Communications Manager Nick Newland, were heard in the UN Women NGO Briefings, States Party-hosted Side Events, and the Latin American Caucus.

One of the crucial issues of CSW62 was ensuring that voices of NGOs, and thus the women they represent, were heard. Obviously, and sadly, this is something not all National Governments want, and this became clear at certain points during negotiations and through the activities of the week. An example of this came on Thursday, when NGOs were invited to present their Oral Statements to the Commission at 4.55pm, when the session in which they were to be presented had begun at 3pm, and was due to end at 6pm, meaning that the vast majority of NGOs were scattered across the UN Campus, and at local venues hosting Side and Parallel events. A second opportunity was offered for NGOs to present their Oral Statements in the second week of CSW62, when most NGOs had returned to their respective countries. Luckily, ACWW's networking had proven effective during the first week and, though our whole delegation had returned home, Princess Sekyere of Ghana very kindly agreed to stand in and present our Oral Statement to the Commission, which she did with grace and aplomb.



UK NGO CSW Alliance Parallel Event

On Wednesday 14 March, World President Ruth Shanks AM joined a panel of experts at the Armenian Convention Centre for a Parallel Event hosted by the UK NGO CSW Alliance.

The meeting was chaired by Maria Miller MP from the UK Parliament, and hosted by Zarin Hainsworth OBE as Chair of the Alliance. The panel included Donna Iman Achara from the Justina Mutale Foundation; Nicola Jones, Principal Research Fellow on Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence (GAGE); Rachael Smith of the NAWO Young Women's Alliance; Patricia Monje from Practical Action; Sandra Tumwesigye from Isis-WICCE and Amanda McRae, Women Enabled International's Director of UN Advocacy.

Ruth spoke on the topic of 'Rural Women and Global Industry Collaboration on the SDGs', and gave case studies of ACWW's projects as well as highlighting an example of 'good practice' from international auditor and accounting company KPMG and their work on the Sustainable Development Goals.

There was a lively discussion from the panel and the other attendees in the room, leading to suggestions of working models that could benefit ACWW and other organisations. After an intervention from a delegate from Syria, highlighting the communications issues suffered by those in conflict zones, ACWW was able to offer some suggestions on engagement with media companies to address the lack of network and infrastructure in these areas. This builds on recent conversations we have been having with a global telecommunications company in the last few weeks and which we hope to be able to publish more information on shortly.

EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN & GIRLS

Rural Women New Zealand Parallel Event Case studies from New Zealand and around the world to empower rural women and girls, including youth, governance and media



ACWW Parallel Event Launch of the Global Survey

ACWW's own Parallel Event at CSW62 was held on Thursday 15 March at the Midtown Loft on Fifth Avenue, in central Manhattan.

A full report from the event is featured on the next page, but it is also important to note that this event included the first reading of ACWW's Oral Statement. This event was filmed and broadcast live on our Facebook page, and can be watched following this link:

www.facebook.com/acww.media/videos/1646390982105386/



Leave No-one Behind for Planet 50/50 by 2030

UN Women is the United Nation's lead body working for gender equality worldwide. As part of CSW each year, UN Women organise a major 'flagship' event on the priority theme.

We were pleased to be able to support this event, held on Thursday 15 March, with World President Ruth Shanks chairing one of the focal sessions, and feeding back to the main meeting. This was a great honour for ACWW, and it was a pleasure to see so many representatives from all over the world in attendance.

One of the key things to be highlighted by this event, and CSW as a whole, was the need for presence, engagement, and participation in the activities of the UN and its bodies to ensure that the voice of ACWW and those of our members are heard on the global stage.

Friday 16 March saw Ruth again speaking on an expert panel, this time joining moderator Hellen Swales, President of Business and Professional Women New Zealand and Upper Hutt City Councillor; Fiona Gower, President of Rural Women New Zealand; Lauren Halligan, from women-focused media company Double Denim, and a member of the Aotearoa Youth Leadership Institute; Janet Gibb from BPW New Zealand and Waikato District Council; and Ashleigh Smith, founder of the anti-bullying organisation Sticks 'n Stones.

Ruth introduced the audience to ACWW's Project work, including Project 1022, 'Fertilise Your Future', working with Guatemala's Fundación Junkabal. This fantastic initiative has allowed 25 beneficiaries to undergo vocational training, self-awareness sessions, marketing training, and a total of 8 workshops. 15 of the 25 participants have succeeded in securing an internship after their training, and all 25 are now more financially independent and acting as 'agents of change' in their communities. She also discussed Gertrude Andrias, a superb community leader and ACWW member in Papua New Guinea, and her work in community development and sustainable education.

It was also very interesting to hear from the other members of the panel, particularly Fiona Gower from Rural Women New Zealand. As President, Fiona was able to draw out successful examples of community collaboration, sustainable economic initiatives and commercial enterprises.

One speaker at this event brought home the realities of rural isolation and the impacts of bullying for all attendees; trainee nurse Ashleigh Smith from Dunedin explained how her tiny community had been overwhelmed by suicides amongst its young population, and her reaction. In response to bullying in schools and the local community, Ashleigh founded the anti-bullying organisation Sticks 'n Stones. Sticks 'n Stones is a student led programme focused on taking positive action online to stop both Bullying online or in person. Students have an enormous amount of experience with life online and can support younger students, their parents, families and communities to better understand the benefits and pitfalls. Authentic leadership opportunities, decision making and spokesperson roles are the heart of our project to show that teenagers have the passion, commitment and knowledge to change attitudes and behaviour.

A wonderfully eloquent speaker who really engaged with her audience, Ashleigh left many of the attendees in tears, and reflecting on the challenges of their own communities. You can read more about Ashleigh later in this magazine, and can visit www.sticksnstones.co.nz

Every speaker at this event gave an important and interesting insight into the lives that rural women live, and we were honoured to have the opportunity to support the event when previous arrangements fell through. The whole event was live-streamed via ACWW's Facebook page, and can still be watched- in fact, it has already been viewed more than 2,100 times. We will be filming and broadcasting more meetings and events as we are able, and look forward to bringing these to our members as often as is practical.

You can watch the broadcast of this Parallel Event here:

<https://www.facebook.com/acww.media/videos/1647368438674307/>





INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON RURAL WOMEN

GLOBAL SURVEY OF THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF RURAL WOMEN

In 1935, the Associated Country Women of the World conducted an international survey of its members around the world. This survey was intended to provide information about women living in rural communities, their habits and lifestyles. At the time, this was a groundbreaking project, which fed into all aspects of ACWW's work in the following years.

When the Sustainable Development Goals were adopted in 2015 to replace the Millennium Development Goals, the United Nations identified a 'data gap' relating to rural women. There has been much discussion of this at the international, national and local levels, but no nation or non-governmental body has suggested a solution.

In 2017, ACWW decided that this data gap needed addressing, and it was agreed that we should lead efforts on a new Global Survey of the Living Conditions of Rural Women, gathering a coalition of other bodies around the world to strengthen our already global network. Thus the International Forum on Rural Women was founded.

We have been working with research scientists, statisticians and a combination of ACWW members and non-members to compile a new Global Survey. On 15 March 2018, at a Parallel Event to CSW62, we launched the new Survey and gathered together representatives of some of our new partners in New York.

As well as offering us a chance to explain the Survey and recruit involvement, the launch also introduced new organisations to the work of ACWW. This was a great opportunity to network, all the while sipping fantastic coffee from the Global Survey Coffee Cups! We were pleased to partner with the Humanity Helping Sudan Project and their flagship project, 734 Coffee. HHSP is run by Manyang Reath Kher (photo right), a respected authority on the South Sudanese refugee crisis. He spent nearly 13 years of his childhood as a 'Lost Boy of Sudan'. For the past 10 years, Manyang has raised awareness and money to call attention to the world refugee crisis; especially in the camp where he survived. 734 Coffee is grown in Ethiopia by Sudanese refugees, and sold globally to fund educational opportunities for these refugees- this is a fantastic product promoting sustainability, and tastes great!



ACWW's delegation to the 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women: (L-R) Heather Brennan, Tish Collins, Pat Twiss, Ruth Shanks, Susan Jonas, HRH Princess Azizah, Chris Trewick, Alison Burnett, Margaret Yetman, Nick Newland, Henrietta Schoeman, Sheila Needham, Jo Ellen Almond, and Anna Gibbon at the launch of the Global Survey of the Living Conditions of Rural Women, 15 March 2018.



U-Report is a fantastic system for carrying out surveys with young people around the world, and has been developed by UNICEF. It is administered by WAGGGS, and we are pleased to have agreed a cooperative agreement to reach new audiences and feed data into the Global Survey.

ACWW Chief Executive Office Tish Collins, Girl Guide Ankita Saigal, HRH Princess Azizah of Malaysia, ACWW World President Ruth Shanks AM, WAGGGS U-Report Manager Zoe Carletide, Adam Heuman, Director of Engagement for WAGGGS and ACWW's Policy & Communications Manager Nick Newland.

World President Ruth Shanks AM introduced the Global Survey and the history of ACWW's work in this area. She also presented the Oral Statement to CSW which ACWW had prepared. Policy and Communications Manager Nick Newland then discussed the technical aspects of the Survey, and introduced some of the Partners who were present, before handing over to Ankita Saigal, a Malaysian Girl Guide. Ankita introduced the work of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), and the U-Report mechanism.





ACWW World President Ruth Shanks AM introduces the Global Survey of the Living Conditions of Rural Women, before Nick Newland discusses the technical process of the Survey. Girl Guide Ankita Saigal from Malaysia then discussed WAGGGS collaboration with the Survey and U-Report.

ACWW has formed the International Forum on Rural Women to conduct the Global Survey with our key partner the World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organisations (WAITRO). Together, we have built the Survey mechanism, and have started building the network of organisations who will work together. Our thanks go to WAITRO Secretary General Dr Rohani Hashim for her commitment to the Survey and the partnership with ACWW. Sadly, Rohani was unable to join us in New York due to work commitments in Malaysia.

Of the new partners secured in New York, Soroptomist International have been wonderfully enthusiastic. We were pleased to have the opportunity to discuss the Survey and future collaboration with SI's President, Mariet Verhoef-Cohen.

Throughout the process of preparing for CSW, ACWW was involved in consulting on the 'Zero Draft' with the UK Government Equality Office. We were grateful to have the opportunity to input on this text, from which the 'Agreed Conclusions' are built, and for the support of the UK Mission to the United Nations during our stay in New York.

We are very grateful to all those who participated in the launch, and who have already committed to partnership in the Global Survey. We will continue to reach out to ACWW's members around the world and to build a broad network of organisations focused on raising the voice of rural women.

The Survey is now open and available at www.ifrw.org.uk, where you can take it in any of the 11 languages live so far. We have another ten or so due to be available in the next few weeks and will continue to expand this list as much as we can. Please do complete the survey and encourage your friends, family and colleagues to also participate.



ACWW's CEO Tish Collins with Andreas Heraclides from the UK Government Equality Office's EU and International Policy team; Soroptomist International Great Britain and Ireland's Assistant Programme Director Advocacy Margaret Clark, ACWW World President Ruth Shanks AM; Soroptomist International President Mariet Verhoef-Cohen and ACWW's Policy & Communications Manager Nick Newland.

Translators & Contributors

We would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the following for their efforts in the preparation of the Global Survey of the Living Conditions of Rural Women:

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Visit www.ifrw.org.uk to take part in the Global Survey now!

SIXTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN CSW62 | MARCH 2018

Parallel Event: Graduate Women International

Education & Information Communications Technology with Rural Women in Rwanda and Australia

ACWW Treasurer Heather Brennan attended this event and sent through this, one of ten reports, from her time at CSW62:

“A really interesting event which gave a full explanation of the advances in education in Rwanda and what was hoped to achieve in rural Australia. Two Professors from Curtin University Western Australia and one Rwandan Minister spoke.

It is amazing how a country can change when the President gives his full support to gender equality. There has been remarkable change since the genocide of 1994 and, while there is still extreme poverty, there is also recognition that education through modern technology is the tool which will bring this country to a competitive position in the modern world.

For all children, education of twelve years is compulsory. The use of technology like mobile phones will enable rural women and their children to share in knowledge distributed.

95% of the area has 4G mobile data coverage and 85% have a mobile phone, with points available for free charging. This equipment is used for ordinary life, providing service not only for educational purposes but to maintain good health services in rural areas. Pregnant mothers can be monitored and supported, whilst information is distributed on nutrition, markets for food sales and agricultural details such as sowing periods and crop care .

Every school child has a laptop to enable all to access the internet. 5000 kms of fibre optic cable has been laid throughout the country and government offices are all connected.

Basic business training is achieved through ‘digital ambassadors’. Students, when unemployed, travel back to their villages and teach residents and women are assisted in their empowerment through the use of this technology.

In rural Australia the Western Australian Centre for Rural Health aims to improve the health of the indigenous people. Queensland’s James Cook University has introduced a programme for rural medicine whereby the doctors train for 20 weeks then practice in rural areas. Death rates in indigenous settlements have decreased by 16% since the programme began.

The professors also explained that isolation, travel distances and health services are all challenges for rural health in Australia. Health services provide Medicare funding while telehealth interventions allow health services to be transmitted over distances. There is now an online learning blackboard available with worldwide access through the internet to promote rural health.

This was an interesting event which provided a lot of information, delivered by women who are passionate about their subject.”

Report by Heather Brennan, ACWW Treasurer

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Parallel Event: YWCA Canada

Highway of Tears: Gender-based Violence in Rural & Northern Canada

Margaret Yetman, ACWW’s Deputy World President, prepared this report from one of the events she attended:

“Three speakers made presentations at this session, with each telling their story of the many struggles that exist among the Indigenous people living in Northern areas of Canada. For me personally, it gave me more of an insight of the huge challenges and difficulties that exist in my home country of Canada.

The following is a list of the many difficulties the indigenous people encounter on a regular basis:

- Youth and women abused
- Lack of safe and affordable housing
- The need to provide steps to keep women/children safe in their communities.
- Lack of providing means for schooling for children
- No 911 Emergency Services in place
- Insufficient shelters to accommodate abused children and women
- Corrupt Chiefs who control the communities
- Lack of bus and taxi services
- Lack of programs in schools to make the girls aware of abuse
- Bullying
- Need for Youth Clubs
- Lack of internet services
- The harmful use of Drugs and Alcohol
- Lack of clean water
- Climate Change has caused the drying up of many lakes which means less ice for snowmobiling.

The message offered by the presenters to help solve the many problems of the indigenous people was to lobby government to provide funding to build more shelters; provide better transportation, such as, buses and taxis; provide more adequate schooling; and Programs on Abuse, Bullying, and “You don’t have to put up with what is being done to you”.

Report by Margaret Yetman, ACWW Deputy World President



United Nations HQ in
Winter: The day before
the snow fell

EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN & GIRLS



NGO CSW/NY Daily Briefings

During CSW, representatives of Non-Governmental Organisations from all over the world gathered for briefings from UN Women and certain 'key player's, including Ambassador Geraldine Byrne Nason, Ireland's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, and Chair of CSW62.

During the first day's briefing, ACWW's Chief Executive Office Tish Collins made an intervention in response to discussion of the data gap on rural women. As well as introducing delegates to the Global Survey, this opportunity also gave representatives to see ACWW's delegation and sparked conversations throughout the week.

The second day briefing was chaired by Lopa Banerjee, Chief of the Civil Society Section at UN Women. Ms Banerjee has had more than a decade-long career with the United Nations. Prior to the UN she worked with the private sector as well as with civil society, in India. Before joining UN Women, Lopa worked with UNDP and OHCHR in South Africa and UNICEF in Iran, Bangladesh and New York. In India, Lopa worked for several years in communication, research and advocacy.

Ruth with Lopa Banerjee, (whose mother happens to be a long-term friend of Ruth's!).



ACWW CEO Tish Collins delivers an intervention during the morning briefing, encouraging NGOs present to engage with the Global Survey.



Snow Laughing Matter: Ensuring Agreed Conclusions

As discussed earlier, CSW exists in two forms in parallel. One is the gathering of NGOs and those agencies of Civil Society focused on the empowerment of women; the other is the negotiations between States Parties (national governments) who attempt to reach 'Agreed Conclusions'. The Agreed Conclusions are the commitment each country makes to work on the issues highlighted, but also offer a standard by which those countries can be assessed when the priority theme is reviewed.

It was particularly important that Agreed Conclusions were reached for CSW62 as the last time that Rural Women had been the priority theme, no agreement was reached due to 'difficult' issues which could not be overcome.

Much of the first week of CSW61 was lost when the UN closed due to heavy snow in New York, so everyone was apprehensive when the weather forecasts for March 2018 were very snowy. Luckily, there was a genuine determination from all participants, and the snow was not too heavy (until the end of the second week), and so negotiations forged forward.

As recipients of UK Government briefings each evening (thanks to ACWW's collaboration with the UK Government Equality Office and the efforts of the UK Mission to the United Nations), it became clear towards the end of the first week that certain issues were proving a challenge; namely clarification over forms of 'family' to include non-traditional models, and the right of women to a 'life free from violence'. Whilst it is shocking to many of us that these issues would prevent a national government from committing to a serious agenda for the empowerment of women, these issues were sadly predicted and the combination of States Party and Civil Society pressure on the intransigent countries eventually won over.

Late in the second week of CSW we were delighted to receive news that negotiations had not only resumed, but been successful: Agreed Conclusions had been reached and adopted by the Commission. Having participated in the drafting process, and with some of ACWW's input included in the final copy, we were energised to hear that the Commission had succeeded. Whilst the language may not be perfect, and could have gone further to call countries to account, this is a major and important achievement we have been honoured to have been involved in.

SIXTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

CSW62 | MARCH 2018

Parallel Event: UN Women, WFP, FAO and International Fund for Agricultural Development

Delivering as One: Achieving the SDG's with and for rural women and girls

Henrietta Schoeman, ACWW's Secretary reports output from this Parallel Event:

"As women's empowerment is a pre-requisite for the SDG's to succeed, it is important that all governments and institutions focus on rural women and girls. In dialogue women must convey their visions when asked how they see their future. Rural women are caught in conflicts on owning land and land rights. They also have the least access to basic social programs like health and nutrition. Systemic issues of violence against women is also a big issue. It is therefore important that women be participants in all aspects of planning and policy making.

Wealth created by a community co-operative stays in the community. A household methodology should be taken – move the focus to people. The opportunities for women will be better if the following happens:

1. Political will from Governments.
2. No one must be left behind.
3. Protection for those asserting their rights.
4. Partnerships that put people in the centre of the developing of aspirations.

Crucially, we must make women actors of government instead of recipients of grants."

Report by Henrietta Schoeman, ACWW Secretary



Parallel Event: Women in Law and Development in Africa Strategies for Rural Women's and Girl's Empowerment

Pat Twiss, a member of ACWW's UN Committee writes about attending this event:

"Strengthening women's land rights, IFAD (International Fund for Agriculture Development) is investing in rural people, enabling poor rural women to overcome poverty who have few rights, less land and working to mitigate the gender gap on land ownership. There is a shortage of land due to urbanisation, legal issues and challenges like war and climate change.

A strategic framework 2016-2025 has been set up and women are supported in buying land with a land policy that does no harm, offers an ownership voice and provides support.

Women's equal right to own land is also a human rights issue. Women can be key drivers of economic growth, sharing status, economic and social empowerment. A small investment can have big impacts on the lives of her family and community.

The meeting's participants were clear in their message, that the lives of many women in Africa will improve when access to basic rights including dignity, land ownership and representation are secured.

SDG 5a says it all: Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and national resources in accordance with national laws."

Report by Pat Twiss, ACWW UN Committee



◀ ACWW representatives at the NGO Delegate Reception on the second evening of CSW; Canada Area President Sheila Needham, Treasurer Heather Brennan, Deputy World President Margaret Yetman and USA Area President Jo Ellen Almond

▲ The 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women opens in the General Assembly at the United Nations Headquarters, New York

EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN & GIRLS

Events Attended by ACWW Delegation during CSW62

Glossary of CSW Terminology

Agreed Conclusions

The outcome document from CSW, negotiated throughout the two weeks and which all States Parties commit to fulfilling

Civil Society

NGOs, Academic Institutions, Businesses and other bodies who work together to further the aims of the people they represent

CSW

The Commission on the Status of Women. CSW is the annual gathering of States Parties and Civil Society facilitated by UN Women to improve the lives of women globally. This year's meeting was the Sixty Second session of the Commission, hence CSW62

INGO

International Non-Governmental Organisation. ACWW is an example of an INGO.

Mission

Like an embassy, most countries maintain a Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.

NGO

Non-Governmental Organisation. Generally focused on one country, but the term is used almost interchangeably with INGO.

SDGs

The Sustainable Development Goals. These are the 17 global priorities agreed by the UN and Civil Society which should be achieved by the year 2030. These build on and replace the Millennium Development Goals.

States Parties

This is the general term used to describe the Countries who attend UN events, generally meaning their national governments.

Zero Draft

Before the Agreed Conclusions comes the Zero Draft. This text is created by UN Women, and sent out in advance to all States Parties for feedback and consultation with their own Civil Society representatives. The States Parties often then work together within 'blocks' (the European Union, for example), to agree a draft, which is then returned to UN Women. This becomes the starting point of negotiations at the beginning of the formal sessions of CSW. This year for the first time ACWW had the opportunity to consult with the UK Government and the EU block, and this led to elements of our input being included in the Zero Draft, and eventually the final Agreed Conclusions.

Side (State-sponsored) Events:

The Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in New Zealand, Australia and Argentina

A Townhall Meeting with Civil Society and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

UN Women: Leave No-one Behind for Planet 50/50 by 2030

Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom to the United Nations: Ambassador's Reception for UK based NGOs attending CSW62

Parallel (NGO-hosted) Events:

Celebrating Rural Women in Nigeria
Zero to Heroines

Disability, Violence and Survival of Rural Women Globally

Transformation of Ukraine; Opportunities for Rural Area Women

Rural Older Women & Widows:
Beyond poverty and violence

Grace under Fire: Sexual harassment and violence in Rural Australia

5 Countries' Gender Projects to empower rural girls and women

Highway of Tears: Gender Based Violence in Rural/Northern Canada

Canadian Federation of University Women: Opportunities and Challenges for Rural Women in the Global Community

National Council of Women of the United States- Finding A Common Thread: Rural Women and the SDGs

The Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women- Diversity of Experiences of Rural Women in Canada: Feminist Intersectional Research and Action

The Role of the Australian Human Rights Commission in advancing the human rights of women and girls

Graduate Women International: Education & Information Communications Technology with Rural Women in Rwanda and Australia

Case studies from New Zealand and around the world to empower rural women and girls, including youth, governance and media

National Council of Women of the United States: Obstructed Birth

NGO CSW/NY: Latin America & Caribbean Regional Caucus

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts: Through her eyes, girls are unsafe

Parallel (NGO-hosted) Events:

International Development Research Centre (Canada): What works to Tackle Early Child Marriage & Empower Rural Women and Children

Women and Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF-AO): What Strategies for Rural Women's and Girl's Empowerment?

Wales Assembly of Women: Making the case for a new legally binding treaty on violence against women and girls

Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation: The role of Rural Women in Climate Change Resilience

Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention: Sex, Power and Money- The Plight of Rural Women Globally

Mission Mujer A.C.: Investing and Empowering Young Women and Girls through ICT Skills Development and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics).

Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office: Female Genital Mutilation; Advancing Awareness and Advocating for Global Action

Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society: Rural Women at the Core of Effective Climate Change Response

ICA International / Community Media Hub
Crimea: Global Online Dialogue, 50,000 displaced persons

Soroptomist international: Solutions to the Multilayered issues Faced by Rural Women

Womankind Worldwide: Rural Women Resisting Land Grabs in Uganda: Research Launch

Urban Diversity and Mobility Research Centre: How do women make cities smarter?

Public Services International: Gender responsive public services to Empower rural women and girls affected by climate change

Urgent Action Fund- Latin America: Rural Women Resisting State Impunity and Criminalisation

Overseas Development Institute: Shifting Norms for Gender Justice. Evidence on What Works

GROOTS Trinidad & Tobago: Empowering Rural Caribbean Women & Girls on issues of Gender Equality, Reproductive Health & Rights

Oxfam International: Boosting Livelihood Improvements Through Women's and Girl's Empowerment and Leadership.

ACWW'S ORAL STATEMENT PRESENTED TO THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Presented by the Associated Country Women of the World on behalf of the undersigned non-governmental organisations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to the participants of the 62nd Commission the Status of Women.

Associated Country Women of World (ACWW); World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organisations (WAITRO); Solar Cookers International (SCI); Soroptomist International (SI); Soroptomist International Great Britain & Ireland (SIGBI).

We welcome the CSW62 theme examining challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls, particularly in a period of increasing challenges for these most vulnerable members of our societies. With one third of women globally having suffered physical or sexual violence, and campaigns for equality not yet overcoming the challenges of populism, engrained sexism and societal injustice, we must work harder, and faster, to improve the living conditions of rural women.

Rural women are disproportionately affected by the darkest actions of humanity, whether this is in time of war or peace, and those from rural communities who flee conflict are at even greater risk. Whilst it is recognised that these women are being 'left behind', there has not yet been enough done to ensure that their voices are heard.

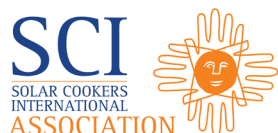
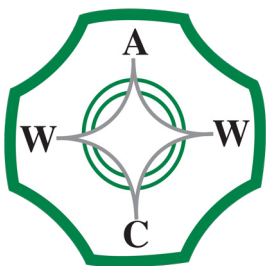
The view that rural women are one homogenous group is a false narrative as, whilst they may face many similar and consistent challenges, additional considerations must include their traditions and ethnicity, social standing, sexual rights, freedom and safety, religious freedoms, environmental considerations and respective locations. Grouping all rural women as one is not only erroneous, but dangerous, and we risk further marginalising those in greatest jeopardy from the frequent and significant shifts in global development.

It is with this in mind that the Associated Country Women of the World, in collaboration with the World Organisation of Industrial and Technological Research Organisations, is convening the International Forum on Rural Women. This body, a network of organisations around the world in more than 100 countries, is uniquely poised to reach women in rural communities and advocate for their needs. We are pleased to announce that on March 15th 2018, we will launch a Global Survey of the Living Conditions of Rural Women. This survey will establish a baseline for continued monitoring and reporting, with the results published and available to all UN bodies, NGOs and partners.

As organisations, we are deeply committed to the Sustainable Development Goals, and the survey results will assist in reporting on the SDG indicators and assessing the impact of policy, funding and publicity priorities in those communities which are hardest to reach.

Information will be gathered on healthcare access, breast-feeding, education, the use of information technology and the internet, birth records, land rights and access to clean water, and safe sanitary facilities. Additional questions will gather data relating to the Zero Hunger Challenge.

We are inviting all delegates to CSW to consider participating in the deployment and execution of this survey and ensuring its successful reporting to UN bodies and partner organisations. Our attendance here is proof of our commitment to collective and collaborative action. Please visit www.ifrw.org.uk for more information, and consider how your organisation might play a role in this initiative.



ACWW's Oral Statement was presented to the 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women by Princess Sekyere of Ghana, who kindly agreed to represent World President Ruth Shanks as our delegation had left New York several days earlier.

Princess Sekyere is a corporate communications professional and Presenter/Producer at ETV Ghana. She is the Director of Kingdom Concepts Consult, which specialises in communications and corporate social responsibility, and also founded and leads the Princess Sekyere Mission, an NGO that nurtures young women and children in poor urban areas. You can learn more about the PSM by visiting www.princesssekyere.com

Women Walk the World 2018

A perspective on CSW62 from Alison Burnett, ACWW Finance & Membership Committee

I travelled to New York on Sun 11 March 2018 to attend the UN CSW62 event. This was my second visit, the first being in 2007, when I was a member of the ACWW UN Committee. I felt this was a very worthwhile experience and certainly helped with my understanding of what the UN does and where ACWW could become more involved.

In 2018 there were many, many more NGO/Civil Society representatives attending than there were in 2007. Unfortunately because of the numbers attending, NGOs are unable to attend the main governmental meetings where they discuss the draft agreements unless specifically invited. It is hoped that these agreements will be accepted and become the outcome which all governments will work on in their own countries.

2018 Themes –

Priority Theme: *Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls.*

Review Theme: *Participation in and access of women to the media, and information and communications technologies and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women (agreed conclusions of the 47th session)*

As said above because of the huge increase in the number of NGO's attending CSW, there was no space for NGO's to be observers at the government discussions but there were hundreds of side events and parallel events which anyone could attend – if you could find space in the room!

Side events are held by Permanent Missions and UN entities on UN premises during CSW, Parallel events are organised by NGO's and held outside the UN buildings. An added bonus this year was the launch of our Global Survey on the Living Conditions of Rural Women. This was very well received wherever it was talked about. The final results and analysis should help ACWW focus its strategies and will allow ACWW committees to work together to advance ACWW.

The parallel events that I attended were all interesting in their own right but no matter whether the countries involved in each session were from rural areas in a developed country, rural areas where there was no electricity, water, transport etc or somewhere in between, the problems to be solved were the same:

Lack of education, isolation, (whether distance or social), access to land fit for purpose or to own (esp for women on their own, single parents or widows), access to finance, lack of financial literacy. Distance from doctors, hospitals, maternal care, housing, schools, technology, and communications. (Huge issues to solve, and time should be spent in getting any plan/project correct before implementation so that time and money are best spent.)

There is a lack of data in rural communities and it is hoped that ACWW's Global Survey on the Living Conditions of Rural Women will give us the information needed to solve at least some of the problems of women living in rural areas.

On a positive note many women have the skills to take themselves out of poverty which they possibly aren't aware of – running a home (no matter how small), bringing up a family, making their own clothes, feeding their family and probably also their wider family. They will be good at time management, prioritising what needs to be done, budgeting (esp if they have no money), social skills, etc. Leadership skills if they work in groups, clubs, financial skills. Children in schools learn these skills without thinking!

Climate change which is a big issue with the developed world is probably not in the thinking of the women struggling to survive day to day but we can give them help to combat its effects.

Once again I came away from CSW enthused by what is happening about women's issues worldwide as I did the first time 11 years ago, but my worry is that many of the things talked about then where the theme was 'The elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child', sound very similar to the same problems today that women living in rural areas are facing. (The girl child in some poorer countries is often the mother figure bringing up a family when the mother is too ill to do anything or even an orphan. She will be facing exactly the same problems as mentioned above). I do hope that ACWW can 'walk the walk' and take the CSW words and put them into action!

Each year women mark ACWW Day on 29th April with a walk or other gathering, sometimes on the day and sometimes before or after.

This gathering raises awareness of ACWW in local communities and is a great opportunity to meet with like-minded women in your area.

Women Walk the World is your chance to get out there - walk locally, around your office or across the country - and tell people about ACWW.

We love to feature photos from Women Walk the World in our July issue each year, and we run a competition - the best photo showing you out walking will be printed on the cover of the next issue of The Countrywoman. To take part, all you need to do is:

- Send us a high resolution photo
- Make sure that it is in portrait format (if you're not sure, look at the cover of the magazine and imagine your photo there!)
- Tell us who is in the photo (husbands, dogs and other animals all welcome!)
- Get us your photos by 30th May 2018

Please send your images by email to the Editor, Nick Newland at nick@acww.org.uk

If you are taking photos on a mobile (cell) phone, please send them in the largest size possible if given options.

We'd love to see as many different pictures as possible, so please do send them all in.

29 April 2018 ACWW DAY

WHY ARE ACWW'S PROJECTS CHOSEN, HOW DO THEY WORK, AND WHAT IMPACTS DO THEY HAVE?

As a change from the usual pattern of project reports, we take an in-depth look at a recent ACWW Project in Guatemala to see how local, community based projects make a difference.

Project 1022 Fundación Junkabal Guatemala

As our readers will know, ACWW's Consultative Status with UN Agencies such as UNESCO is a vital part of our existence. As well as feeding back information and having input on these bodies' activities, we receive guidance and examples of 'best practice'. These practices are incorporated into our selection of projects, and our assessment of their outcomes and achievements. This is a crucial part of our work to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by the year 2030.

According to the Shanghai Consensus from 2012, vocational education and training (VET) plays "an essential role in tackling youth unemployment and underemployment" and that together with literacy and higher education, ensures inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all (UNESCO, 2012).

UNESCO, therefore, advocates for the need of better developed vocational programmes in developing countries and insists that such programmes should be put forward in all international sustainable development agendas. This international narrative intertwines nicely with the bottom-up, community focused project funding of ACWW. Project 1022 in Guatemala is a good example of the type of input ACWW wants to have in women's communities around the world.

ACWW believes that connecting all facets of our work makes us stronger as an organisation and better reflects our membership around the world. Our network is one of rural and non-rural women, and each member brings different strengths to the whole. Project funding works to achieve the same aims as our advocacy work, and both seek to improve the living conditions of women in rural communities.

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Background

Fundación Junkabal was the organisation that implemented this VET project on the ground and their project proposal was approved for funding with ease by the Projects Committee in March 2017 due to their extensive experience in vocational training programs.

Junkabal's work has been empowering women as agents for change in their family and society for almost 60 years. The organisation's primary purpose is to educate girls and young women from the least prosperous parts of Guatemalan society through integral education programs that include technical training in different areas. Project 1022 introduces 25 women beneficiaries to three professional fields; marketing, catering, and the beauty industry.

Implementation & Outcome

The introduction of practical components in all workshops equipped the participants with skills which put them in an advantageous position when applying for internships.

The training programme progressed from general workshops on personality strengths and their application in the labour market, to a more individual approach. Fundación Junkabal facilitated one to one interviews with a vocational training coordinator and a social worker and taking into account the answers given by the interviewees, they were advised to choose the type of training best suited to their skills and character. Three of them took up marketing, nine aspired to become successful within the beauty industry, and 13 recognised their calling as chefs.

15 of the 25 beneficiaries of the project succeeded in securing internships in their professional field of choice following the completion of the programme and with the cooperation of Fundación Junkabal.

Fundación Junkabal were a great and responsive partner to ACWW and we recently received a fantastic update on the development progress of the project beneficiaries. According to this report, 3 months after the completion of the training programme, 56% of the beneficiaries have found a job, continued studying or started a business of their own as a result of their new skills and experience in their professional field of choice. This is a sustainable impact, and these women will continue to benefit, and help their communities, in the future.

3 months after completing training, 56% of participants are in further education, have started their own business or are now employed



25 students undertook a 5 month training programme, with 45 students receiving guidance packs

Case Study

Pamela Carolina benefited from a five month scholarship.

After intense integral vocational training she has become a pastry chef. She was one of the most dynamic and curious students of the group. Soon after the programme finished, she started advertising her new skills and is currently catering for family events. In addition to the event catering, she is selling cakes for all occasions and makes flower arrangements.



MEMBER PROFILE

Ashleigh Smith - New Zealand

Ashleigh joined ACWW during CSW62, and we were all impressed, shocked, and humbled by her presentation on bullying in rural New Zealand. She is the founding member and Chairperson of anti-bullying organisation Sticks 'n Stones, a Queen's Young Leader and an Associate Fellow of the Royal Commonwealth Society. We sat down and asked her a few questions...

Tell us a little about where you're from, what kind of community you live in?

I grew up in rural New Zealand, in a beautiful little town called Naseby. It's my favourite place in the entire world. It's the kind of community where everyone knows everyone. Naseby is part of a wider community called the Maniototo, which is well known for farming and the Central Otago Rail Trail. I spent my childhood climbing trees, building huts, exploring and spending time with my sister and parents. When I turned 18 I was well and truly ready to get out of the Maniototo for a while, it was a socially isolating place growing up - probably one of its very few down falls. But now sometimes I love going home to Naseby for that exact reason. You can hide away from the world. Get on your mountain bike and get lost in the forest, my favourite thing to do!

What is your current occupation?

I left home after I finished my final year of school and moved to Dunedin. I'm currently a nursing student, now in my final year of study at Otago Polytechnic. I love nursing, it provides me with an opportunity to try and change someone's life every day. Outside of nursing I am part of an organisation called Sticks 'n Stones. We are young people on a mission to make every young person in New Zealand be accepted and respected for who they are. We are essentially a bullying prevention organisation. We believe the best people to target bullying among young people, are the young people themselves! It makes sense!

Why do you think international bodies like the United Nations are important, and can they make real changes in today's world?

I'm going to be completely honest here, before I was selected to attend the United Nations Commission on the Status of Woman last month, I didn't really know much at all about the United Nations. I'd heard bits here and there, but if someone asked me what its purpose was, I would be lost for an answer. During the lead up to CSW I started doing more research... and then I came across the Sustainable Development Goals. The SDG's set the mark. It makes things more measurable and countries more accountable. The thing about something like the United Nations, it's never going to be very effective unless you have the backing of civil society... The SDG's are something myself, my community and my country can sink its teeth into. We can look at the goals and identify exactly what we can do to help achieve them. Every single one of us has the ability to change the world for the better. The SDG's help provide a vision for doing so.

What do you do in your spare time to relax?

Relaxing is something that doesn't come that easily to me... As soon as I begin to 'relax' then my brain sees this as a great opportunity to come up with all sorts of new ideas! As a leader looking after yourself is incredibly important. You can't look after anyone else if you can't look after yourself.... Something I'm working on getting better at!

What is your biggest aspiration for the next 3 years?

Here's the thing.... I have no big overarching goal or plan for my life. To be honest I have no idea what I'm doing. I just take each day as it comes and roll with it. Finishing my degree would definitely be a wise move... then get some experience as a nurse. Then, who knows?! The one thing that I hope I will stand by no matter what, is this philosophy: I believe there is an opportunity to inject kindness into someone's life in every moment, of every single day. In this busy world we can miss these moments. Search for them and grab them with two hands. That's the best way to change the world.



ACUNS IN VIENNA

Projects Committee Chairman Anne Marit Hovstad reports back

ACWW was invited to attend and contribute to ACUNS's Annual Conference in January. The Conference took place from 10-12 of January at the UN's Vienna International Centre. As Projects Committee Chairman I felt honoured to be asked to represent ACWW to this Conference.

The Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS) is a global professional association of educational and research institutions, individual scholars, and practitioners active in the work and study of the United Nations, multilateral relations, global governance, and international co-operation.

ACUNS promotes teaching on these topics, as well as dialogue and mutual understanding across and between academics, practitioners, civil society and students.

Thirty years ago, in 1987, a group of scholars and UN practitioners came together at Dartmouth College for a conference whose purpose was to create a new organization to stimulate and support research and teaching on the role of the UN system in international relations. There was a shared sense among a number of scholars at the time that activities at the United Nations University and throughout the UN system were not benefitting from research and teaching taking place in universities and research centers.

The Vienna UN Conference provides ACUNS members, academics and UN officials with an opportunity to discuss contemporary UN issues with the Vienna based organizations. The conference is held in January each year. This year the conference took place at UN Vienna International Centre from 10-12 January 2018.

The choice of topics for the Conference were all related to the upcoming CSW62 in New York and it's Priority Theme: "Challenges and Opportunities in Achieving Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Rural Women and Girls."

On 12 January, the third and last day of the Conference I gave my talk under the session "Rural Women, Resources and Empowerment". The panel consisted of Dr. Theresia Oedl-Wieser and myself. The moderator was Mrs. Laurie Richardson. Theresia talked about rural women in the mountain areas of Austria and their work for sustainable development. I used this as a starting point for my talk, my knowledge and many years' experience from visits to Uganda and other countries in Africa to give a picture of the challenges rural women in Africa are facing every day.



Academic Council of the United Nations System Conference, January 2018

ACWW's Projects Committee Chairman Anne Marit Hovstad attends ACUNS with Laurie Richardson and Theresia Oedl-Wieser in Vienna.

Other topics discussed during the Conference included:

- Preventing Violence at Home
- Ensuring Access to Sexual and Reproductive Rights
- Women's Critical Role in the Common Good
- Encouraging Women to Excel in Technology Fields
- A more gender-balanced World
- Confronting Specific Dangers Faced by Women during Times of War
- Cross-cutting gender issues; Migration, Corruption and Environment
- A more gender-balanced World: Women participating in policy, political, economic and development spheres.

It is important for ACWW to be invited and be present at conferences like ACUNS. I met with, and was presented to, many interesting participants and it was a pleasure to give information about ACWW. The younger generation was very well represented, about half the audience and participants were young people under 25! They were well educated and the knowledge and engagement in the discussions were both Impressive and promising!

I was taken good care of by ACWW's UN Representative in Vienna, Dr. Gertraud Pichler as she invited me to stay with her in her home, and she accompanied me to the Conference venue both days. I am so grateful. I think we both felt we experienced some added value during those wonderful days.



Young delegates at the Academic Council of the United Nations System Conference in Vienna, Austria, 10-12 January 2018.

FRIENDSHIP LINKS

A kind invitation from Arlene Roberts, South Pacific Area Friendship Links Coordinator



Hello and welcome to a journey of discovery through the South Pacific Area within the comfort of your own home when corresponding with a member in this area. Here you will find areas of beauty that will captivate your interest in travel, culture, fauna, flora, crafts, agriculture, business and panoramic views. Australia, New Zealand, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Niue Island, Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa and Christmas Island. These amazing areas are the South Pacific Area of ACWW.

Australia is surrounded by sandy beaches and is well known for its native Kangaroos and Koalas; New Zealand has its Silver Fern, Kiwi birds and Kowhai flower. Then there is Niue Island which has amazing ocean wildlife including sea turtles and Frangipani Flowers. Papua New Guinea has the Bird Of Paradise Flower, as do the Solomon Islands who also have an array of bird life and the Hibiscus Flower. Tonga hosts the Tongan Whistler Bird and the Koki Parrot. Red is one of the well-known colours of Christmas and on the Christmas Islands you will see the renowned Christmas Island Red Crab. Tuvalu has a very beautiful native flower and that is the yellow Banksia. This is widely used in floral arrangements. Then we have Western Samoa where you will find floral blooms in the Ginger Family along with Hibiscus blooms and coconuts. Samoa is also known for its native wildlife which includes The Samoan Broadbill Bird and Basket making. Each area has its own diverse culture and agriculture. The traditional crafts are delightful with endless variations of basket making, jewellery, wood work and traditional dress and many more.

Now, ladies, you can travel these amazing areas from a seat in your homes through the eyes of ACWW's Friendship Links Programme.

You can learn all about the local fauna and flora, farming, sea life, horticulture, education, health care, crafts and culture from a South Pacific pen friend.

Culinary variety is always of interest to people and you can learn about the different herbs, meat, vegetables and ways to cook them through the things you can learn from your Friendship Link. The ladies who you can be linked with will often have a common interest, craft or hobby for you to share.

Friendships can be occasional or as thrilling as you wish to make them. Learning about each other and the way of life in your area can often open pathways to improve living conditions such as new water supplies, better sanitation, better food production techniques and even diverse ways of educating people in arts, crafts history and much, much more. We can all do with a friend and your Friendship Link can be by hand written communication, email or even social media. It is for you and your Penfriend to enjoy.

These Links were first known as "Letter Friends". After 50 years these Links are now available through 75 Countries. These friendships bring ladies together from all over the world. A true Sisterhood of Women who share common goals and interests. Friendships can help to cut down on stress and can give you a lot of confidence in what you do.

Of course, with the next Triennial World Conference being held in Melbourne, there's a good chance you could meet your new Friend in person. Why not take this opportunity to make a connection that can last a lifetime.

All you need to do is apply to the ACWW Central Office for a Friendship Links Application form. Return the completed form to Sydney Salter at info@acww.org.uk or Magdie de Kock at cmchair@acww.org.uk

Find it a life changing experience and remember: *"Together we can make a difference."*



Amazing Chances Waiting Worldwide

At the inaugural meeting in 1969 of our Essex Federation Eves Corner WI, we heard a wonderful speaker from ACWW, and I was hooked! Having told us of the projects they were involved in, she mentioned the pen-friend scheme, which I signed up for. What an amazing match they managed!

Not only had my new friend Elaine worked in a pathology lab, as I had, her son was 2 years old, as was my daughter, hers older by 3 years. Her husband worked at Nekoosa paper mill, Wisconsin as an engineer, whilst mine was a painter and decorator for a building firm in Danbury, Essex.

We wrote often for 11 years, then came the invitation to visit them. Such excitement, and a few concerns, would the children get on? Would the husbands? When we landed in Chicago, there they were to meet us, and how we chattered! Elaine said *"I've no idea what you're saying, but you SURE sound good!"*

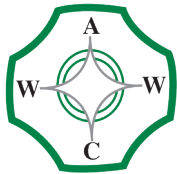
The children, then two 13 year olds, a 16 and 10 year old will never forget that trip-traveling around the great lakes into Canada and back via Niagara, camping in State Parks. Two years later, they came for their first trip to the UK. After visiting London and Colchester we sailed over to the Isle of Wight. Elaine's children had never seen "the ocean", with the Great Lakes on their doorstep there was no need to! Our trips then took us to Denver, the Grand Canyon, Pennsylvania, New Mexico, and to North Carolina where we spent Easter with our friends. They returned to England, visiting places which were new to us too, and joined us for our daughter's wedding in 1998. Staying in each other's home, meeting family and friends, travelling together, worshipping in each other's churches, all have given us such wonderful experiences, enriched our lives and made us what Elaine describes as "heart friends".

The frequent letters have become emails, but I still get a thrill from seeing that familiar handwriting and US stamp on a letter. We achieved "full circle" three years ago when we took our grandsons, aged 10 and 14 to Chicago, travelled by Amtrac up to Wisconsin and stayed with Elaine and Bill. They have 5 grandsons, so knew exactly how boys tick! They finished their holiday with a day at the same Theme Park their Mum had enjoyed all those years ago, on her first visit. I doubt I would have even been "across the pond", had it not been for the ACWW, nor would I have met my wonderful friend.

Submitted by Caroline Lambert

◀ You can always tell an English woman by her sunhat and handbag!

Caroline Lambert with her friend Elaine in Utah, USA in 1987.



CONFERENCE INFORMATION FOR THE
29th TRIENNIAL WORLD CONFERENCE
MELBOURNE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA
4-10 APRIL 2019



Theme: 90 Years of Achievements, Building 90 Years of Opportunities

TIMETABLE:

Please note that this was updated in October 2017 and details may be subject to change

NOTE: Discussion of Resolutions, Recommendations and Reports from Area Presidents will be distributed throughout the days of the Conference.

Thursday	4 April	Registration at Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre / Outgoing Board Meeting / Area Meetings / Briefing for Returning Officer, Tellers, Stewards & Scrutineers
Friday	5 April	Opening Ceremony / Conference Sessions / Elections
Saturday	6 April	Conference Sessions
Sunday	7 April	Thanksgiving Ceremony / Conference Sessions
Monday	8 April	Conference Sessions / Invitation to host 2025 / Election results / Gala Dinner
Tuesday	9 April	Conference Sessions / Closing Ceremony / Area Meetings / Board Hand-over
Wednesday	10 April	Excursion Day / Incoming Board Meeting (<i>this continues into Thursday 11 April</i>)

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS & VOTING RIGHTS

The following may attend:

- The Board of ACWW
- A maximum of 5 voting delegates from each Category 1 Society
- A maximum of 2 voting delegates from each Category 2 Society
- 1 voting delegate from each Category 3 Society
- Representatives of Category 4 Societies
- Category 5 Individual Members
- Past World Presidents
- ACWW United Nations Representatives
- Visitors invited at the discretion of the Executive Committee

Fully paid-up Member Societies may send voting delegates according to membership category.

Fully paid-up Individual Members of ACWW, and members of ACWW Member Societies, may attend as observers.

NOTES

Please note that ACWW is not responsible in any way for:

- **TRAVEL** Participants must make their own travel arrangements
- **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
- **VISAS** Participants must check whether they require an entrance visa for Australia and apply for it in good time. You may need a Letter of Invitation to support your Visa, please indicate this on the next page.
- **ACCOMMODATION** Participants must make their own accommodation arrangements. A list of suggested accommodation options in a range of prices will be sent to you with your registration acknowledgement.
- **ACCESSIBILITY** Participants must arrange their own assistance for accessibility requirements, details and advice will be sent with your registration acknowledgement.

PLEASE ALSO NOTE:

ACWW is not liable for any event beyond its control. These include unusual, unforeseeable or unavoidable events beyond our control, the consequences of which could not be avoided even if 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.

REGISTRATION FEES

ALL THOSE ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE AS VOTING DELEGATES, NON-VOTING DELEGATES, OBSERVERS, SPOUSES/ FRIENDS/FAMILY ETC. MUST PAY THE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE

- **EARLY BIRD** conference registration opens on **29 APRIL 2018** and closes **1 OCTOBER 2018**, the rate is **£440** per person
- After **1 OCTOBER 2018**, the fee will rise to **£475** per person, and the final deadline will be **31 DECEMBER 2018**
- The **DAY ATTENDEE** rate is **£105** per person per day. The deadline for Day Attendees will be **31 DECEMBER 2018**. Please note that Day Attendees may attend for no more than 3 days.

If you are attending the Conference as an observer / spouse / partner / friend etc., your registration fee will include optional visits throughout the week and must be booked with your registration.

Registration fees include your attendance at Conference Sessions, refreshments during Conference, lunches and Gala Dinner. Attendees are responsible for their own accommodation, breakfast and dinner. Day Attendees will receive refreshments and lunch on the day(s) of their registration only, and will have to pay an additional surcharge for the Gala Dinner if attending on 8 April. **The optional Excursion Day Tour at the end of the Conference (10th April) is not included.** Please read the details on the following page, and tick the box on your registration form if you would like to include this Excursion Day Tour.

HOW TO REGISTER

All registration fees are payable to ACWW upon registration. To reduce costs, please pay in one transaction, itemising your requirements on the appropriate section of the form. **Please fill in one form per person, and carefully check which form you should complete:**

- FORM A:** This is the form for Attendees. Whether you are likely to be a voting delegate, non-voting delegate, member of a group from a society or an individual member, this is the form you should complete.
- FORM B:** This is the form for Observers / Friends / Spouses / Family who wish to come to the Conference or accompany an Attendee, but are not active participants or delegates.
- FORM C:** This is the form for Day Attendees. If you are only attending the Conference for up to 3 days, please complete this form. This form will be released in July 2018.

Online Registration

1. Visit the Triennial World Conference page of our website www.acww.org.uk/conference.html
2. Complete the Online Registration Form and submit **OR** Download the Registration Form and fill-in and email it to worldconference@acww.org.uk
3. Pay for registration online using the payment portal / make a bank transfer using the following details:

ACCOUNT NAME:	ACWW
BIC:	NWBK GB 2L
IBAN:	GB67 NWBK 5600 3301 2441 08
SORT CODE:	560033
ACCOUNT NO.:	01244108

Registration by Post

1. Complete the Paper Registration Form, sign and date it
 2. Send the completed Form to: **ACWW, A04 Parkhall, 40 Martell Road, London SE21 8EN, UK**
 3. Ensure that payment (made by cheque, bank transfer, credit or debit card online or by telephone) is received at ACWW Central Office no later than the cut-off dates.
- All cheques and bank drafts should be made payable to "Associated Country Women of the World". If you wish to pay by debit or credit card, please contact ACWW Central Office to make these arrangements- please **DO NOT** send your card details by email or post.
 - If paying by bank draft or transfer, please ensure you use your **SURNAME, followed by First Name** as a reference.

FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE PRINTED IN THE COUNTRY WOMAN AND MADE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE IN DUE COURSE. TO REGISTER PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:
www.acww.org.uk/conference.html

FOR ANY AND ALL COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING THE TRIENNIAL WORLD CONFERENCE, PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS: worldconference@acww.org.uk



29th TRIENNIAL WORLD CONFERENCE

MELBOURNE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

4-10 APRIL 2019



Conference Tour Information - Please read carefully!

It is traditional that ACWW Triennial World Conferences include activities for those spouses, partners, friends, and supporters not wanting to sit through the entire conference. At the end of the Conference, there is an Excursion Day Tour which sees members from all over the world spend the day together exploring some exciting local sights, activities or projects.

For the 29th Triennial World Conference in Melbourne the Hostess Society, the Country Women's Association of Victoria, have organised a variety of options for the final Excursion Day Tour and three tours for the spouses and partners etc. There is also a Pre-Conference City Sights Tour of Melbourne which can be booked. Please read the following information carefully, as you will need to indicate if you would like to participate on the forms on the following page (or ideally when you register online).

PRE-CONFERENCE CITY SIGHTS TOUR (4 April 2019) - Additional fee of £30

This tour aims to orientate you with your host city, Melbourne. The inhabitants of Melbourne love her elegant layout, her Victorian grandeur and architecture, her wide tree-lined streets, the hustle and bustle of this thriving metropolis. It includes the coach travel and tour guide, and will give you a great introduction to the city. If you would like to add this to your registration, please tick this box on the form when you complete it.

EXCURSION DAY TOUR (10 April 2019) - Additional fee of £100

The Excursion Day Tour at the end of the Conference is a great chance to spend some social time with fellow delegates, friends, and colleagues whilst seeing a little more of Australia. The price of the tour is not included in the general Conference Registration Fee, and you will need to tick the box on the Registration Form to indicate you want to take part.

There are four options (labelled A, B, C, and D) and you will need to list them in order of preference - of course, we will do our best to ensure that you get your first choice of tour, but there is a small chance it may fall to your other preferences. We will ensure that you are kept up to date with this as we process applications. So, for example, you might select your tours as follows:

Tour A 3 Tour B 1 Tour C 2 Tour D 4

In this example, you most want to go on Tour B, then if not available you would prefer Tour C, then Tour A, and Tour D is the one you are least interested in.

TOUR A WILDLIFE & WINERY



The tall ash forests will guide you into the spectacular Blue Dandenong ranges. You'll travel through the picturesque Yarra Valley to the Healesville Sanctuary, and enjoy wildlife encounters along the way. The generous spit-roast lunch will be hosted at a regional winery, and include a sample of their wine. Your sweet tooth will be satisfied by chocolates at the Yarra Valley Chocolatery & Ice Creamery, before you head to the Healesville Sanctuary which is home to over 200 species of Australian birds, mammals and reptiles. You'll be delighted with a walk around the natural bushland, and will have the opportunity to meet some of Australia's native animals.

This tour will leave the Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre (the Triennial World Conference Venue) at 9.30am and return at 4.30pm. The fee includes the coach journey, 2 course lunch at the Winery, and a glass of wine.

TOUR B PENGUINS ON PARADE



At dusk each evening, the Little Penguins come home to Phillip Island from the sea. You'll watch from an elevated boardwalk as they cautiously waddle from the beach to their burrows after a long day out in the water. Phillip Island is a treasure trove of Australian wildlife; you'll encounter seals, koalas, kangaroos, wallabies, birdlife and, of course, the penguins! You'll visit Churchill Island where you can explore the working farm, or enjoy ocean views from the café. At the Koala Conservation Centre you'll see koalas in their natural habitat and, before sunset, you'll head to the Penguin Parade and wander through the 'Penguin Experience' exhibit so you can learn more about them. Finally you'll walk out to Summerland Beach and take your seat for the Penguins on Parade.

This tour will leave the Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre (the Triennial World Conference Venue) at 1pm and return at 9pm. The fee includes the coach journey, visit to the Koala Conservation Centre, entrance to the Penguin Parade. Please note that dinner is not included.

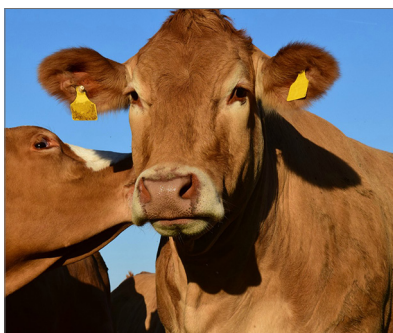
TOUR C GREAT OCEAN ROAD ADVENTURE



The Great Ocean Road is a photographer's delight, and consistently features in the Top 10 of the world's greatest coastal drives. This is a day tour that will impress, as you join the Gray Line tour along the Road, taking in spectacular views of long sandy beaches, rolling surf, precipitous coastal cliffs and river inlets. You'll travel through popular resort towns including Anglesea, Lorne, Wye River, Apollo Bay, and Port Campbell. The stops will include the Twelve Apostles boardwalk, Loch Ard Gorge and Island Arch. A refreshment stop will be at Port Campbell before heading inland back to Melbourne.

This tour will leave the Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre (the Triennial World Conference Venue) at 7.30am and will return at 7pm. The fee includes the coach journey, morning tea and National Park fees. You will be able to purchase your own lunch at one of the seaside towns along the route.

TOUR D A COUNTRY AFFAIR



Enjoy a wonderful day meandering through the green hills surrounding the country towns of Warragul and Yarragon in West Gippsland. Situated just over 100 kilometres south-east of Melbourne, it is home to some of Victoria's richest agricultural land and is among the major suppliers of milk for Melbourne. Visit the Warragul Hospital Linen Service to see their Industrial Laundry operation before carrying on to lunch supplied by the wonderful ladies of the Warragul Night Branch Country Women's Association. You'll then visit Flavorite Tomatoes, a tomato, eggplant, capsicum and zucchini production farm. With the support of a dedicated network of growers and a few other stalwarts from the Hydroponic Farmers Federation they have taken a cottage industry to a major supermarket category. Before returning to Melbourne visit the most technically advanced dairy farm in the District to see the fascinating robotic milking on a grazing farm, and even enjoy a cup of tea!

This tour will leave the Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre (the Triennial World Conference Venue) at 9am and will return at 5.30pm. The fee includes the transport, visits to farms, light lunch and afternoon tea, accompanied by a member of the Country Women's Association of Victoria.

OBSERVER / SPOUSE / PARTNER / FRIEND DAY TOURS

Many of the delegates at the Triennial World Conference are joined by spouses, partners, friends or family members who support them during their travel and attendance. The Country Women's Association of Victoria have organised the following day trips, which are offered to all of these accompanying attendees. Please indicate on **FORM B** (over the page) which of the trips you would like to take part in. Please note that if you are registering as a Spouse / Partner / Friend etc., these trips are included in your registration fee **BUT** you must indicate when you register which tours you would like to attend.

DAY TOUR 1 - 5th April 2pm - 5pm ABORIGINAL DREAMTIME

Discover how the landscape of Melbourne has supported the cultural, economic, and spiritual life of Indigenous people and settlers for more than 60,000 years. See the impact of explorers and settlers on the Aboriginal people, and the landscape, fauna and flora. Explore how the ecosystem supported hunting and gathering, medicine and bush tucker as well as discovering the role of traditional stories- Dreamtime.

Learn about clan territories, the Batman Treaty, alliances, historic events, archaeological sites and the eel cycle. This is a walking tour so ensure you wear comfortable shoes!

A cup of coffee and cake is included at the end of the walk.

DAY TOUR 2 - 6th April 10.30am - 2.30pm CARLTON BREWERY

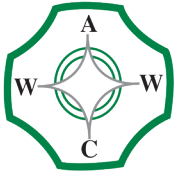
Visit the Carlton Brewhouse, located at Australia's largest brewery and home of some of Australia's favourite beers including Carlton Draught and Victoria Bitter. Here you can go on a beer expedition, following the River of Beer through which 150,000 litres of fresh beer flows each day. You'll be guided through 150 years of brewing history and knowledge as you experience the sheer scale of this iconic facility on the banks of the Yarra. Return to the Brewhouse to sample your favourite brewery fresh beers.

The tour includes a guided tour of the brewery followed by a tasting of your choice of six great beers from their extensive range of brews and a light lunch.

DAY TOUR 3 - 9th APRIL 10.30am - 1.30pm MCG: HALLOWED TURF

Explore the inner sanctum of the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), walk on the hallowed turf and experience where legends play- all whilst taking a guided tour. Gain an insight into Melbourne's sporting culture by exploring one of the world's most iconic stadiums, as you hear from proud MCG volunteers and go behind the scenes of the 'G'. You can stay after the tour and visit the National Sports Museum at your own expense.

Please note that if you are registering as a Spouse / Partner / Friend etc., these trips are included in your registration fee **BUT** you must indicate when you register which tours you would like to attend.



29th TRIENNIAL WORLD CONFERENCE

MELBOURNE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

4-10 APRIL 2019



FORM A: ATTENDEE REGISTRATION FORM

1 FORM TO BE COMPLETED PER PERSON Spouses/Friends etc. complete FORM B, Day Attendees must complete FORM C instead

PART A: YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS - PLEASE USE CAPITAL LETTERS

Title (Miss/Mrs/Ms/Mr/Dr/Other): Home Language:

Surname (as in your passport):

First names (as in your passport):

Name you want on your Conference tag:

Don't forget to include any honours (OBE / AM etc) you want shown

Your residential address:

Town / City: Province / State:

Country: Postal / ZIP Code:

Telephone (including Country & Dialling Code):

Mobile / Cell (including Country Code):

Email Address:

PART B: YOUR SOCIETY DETAILS - PLEASE USE CAPITAL LETTERS

Full Society Name:

Please include your branch & country

PART C: REGISTRATION FEE & DETAILS - PLEASE TICK THE CORRECT BOXES

I am paying the EARLY BIRD registration fee of £440 The Early Bird Registration fee is available for registrations received at ACWW Central Office after 29 April 2018, and before 31 October 2018

I am paying the STANDARD registration fee of £475 Standard Registration is available for registrations received between 31 October 2018 and 31 December 2018.

PLEASE NOTE: No applications will be accepted after 31 December 2018.

I wish to register for the City Sights Tour at £30

I wish to register for the Excursion Day Tour at £100 Tour A Tour B Tour C Tour D

Please number Tours in order of preference

I would like to pay by: Credit Card Bank Transfer / Draft Cheque Online

• Conference fee is non-refundable, but may be transferred. A fee of £15 will be required if transferred.

PART D: YOUR OBLIGATIONS & CONFIRMATION

- I confirm that I understand that photographs and video photography will be taken at the Triennial Conference for the publicity and promotion of ACWW
- I also understand that I will be required to submit a confidential Conference Medical Form (which will be sent by ACWW) on arrival at the Conference Registration Desk.
- I further indemnify ACWW of any liabilities arising from any personal injury or loss of property during my attendance at the Conference.
- I understand that ACWW will send confirmation that I have been registered for the Conference once my application has been received and processed, which may take a varying amount of time due to the number of applications received.

Tick this box if you will require a LETTER OF INVITATION / VISA LETTER to support your visa application:

Signed: _____ Date:



29th TRIENNIAL WORLD CONFERENCE

MELBOURNE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

4-10 APRIL 2019



FORM B: OBSERVER / SPOUSE / PARTNER / FRIEND REGISTRATION FORM

1 FORM TO BE COMPLETED PER PERSON Attendees must complete FORM A, and Day Attendees complete FORM C instead

PART A: YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS - PLEASE USE CAPITAL LETTERS

Title (Miss/Mrs/Ms/Mr/Dr/Other): Home Language:

Surname (as in your passport):

First names (as in your passport):

Name you want on your Conference tag:

Don't forget to include any honours (OBE / AM etc) you want shown

Your residential address:

Town / City: Province / State:

Country: Postal / ZIP Code:

Telephone (including Country & Dialling Code):

Mobile / Cell (including Country Code):

Email Address:

PART B: WHO ARE YOU ACCOMPANYING?

Name of the Attendee you are accompanying:

PART C: REGISTRATION FEE & DETAILS - PLEASE TICK THE CORRECT BOXES

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I wish to register for the City Sights Tour at £30

I wish to register for the Excursion Day Tour at £100 Tour A Tour B Tour C Tour D

Please number Tours in order of preference

I wish to attend the following DAY TOURS Day Tour 1 Day Tour 2 Day Tour 3

This is included in your registration fee but must be selected here

I would like to pay by: Credit Card Bank Transfer / Draft Cheque Online

• Conference fee is non-refundable, but may be transferred. A fee of £15 will be required if transferred.

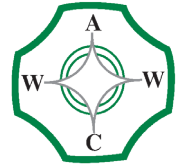
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Tick this box if you will require a LETTER OF INVITATION / VISA LETTER to support your visa application:

Signed: _____ Date:

SOCIETY FOCUS



We hear from Members and Member Societies around the world

OBITUARY: ALISON BAYLEY (1940-2018)

Alison Bayley passed away unexpectedly after a short illness in Edinburgh, Scotland on Wednesday, 3 January 2018. Her contribution to her own society as well as ACWW was remarkable and we honour her legacy.

Albert Einstein said: "The value of a person should be seen in what she gives and not in what she is able to receive."

Alison was a person who gave. She gave much to her family raising their daughter and supporting her husband in his profession while pursuing her own career. When she became a grandmother, she enjoyed spending time with her two granddaughters who were very fond of their Granny.

She gave much to her work at the Mathematical Laboratory in Cambridge, which was a pioneering University department developing some of the earliest computers. She had a very successful career at the Data Library of Edinburgh University, rising to Deputy Director. A former colleague has commented that she was a rare example of someone who balanced great success both in her professional and community work.

She gave much to ACWW. Alison served on the Board of Trustees of ACWW from 2007 – 2013 as Chairman of the Promotion and Publications Committee – as it was then known. She attended 7 Triennial World Conferences and 6 European Area conferences.

Alison performed her Committee duties with diligence. Her fellow Committee members held her in the highest esteem, and regarded it as a privilege to serve with her. She was a strategic thinker, a visionary who generously shared her knowledge, her expertise and her skills.

Alison was deeply concerned with improving the social media aspect of the Committee and ACWW and she was very keen to expand on the development of the Website. She initiated and implemented much in this field during the six years that she chaired the committee. Her fellow Board members enjoyed her company and described her as 'a strong woman who knew her own mind and commanded respect', 'an honest, dedicated supporter of ACWW' and 'a great friend'.

Our sorrow is lessened with the comforting thought that we had the privilege to know her.

Compiled by Magdie de Kock and May Kidd
January 2018



THANK YOU FROM TIRGU MURES, ROMANIA

The last ACWW European Area Conference was held in Tirgu Mures, Romania, between 4-8 September 2017, and was organized and hosted by the Woman of the Third Millennium Association (WThM).

It was a wonderful gathering of over 100 members from all over Europe, but also from other parts of the world, who attended the Opening Ceremony at the Palace of Culture in Tirgu Mures, and the conference sessions, workshops, day out and Gala Dinner.

The conference was successful, with interesting and touching speeches from Ruth Shanks, World President and Margaret McMillan, European Area President. We also heard from our Guest speaker from the WHO office in Romania, and Joanna Koch from the Alliance for Health Promotion. Presentations were made by the ACWW Committees, and of course recommendations and resolutions for the Triennial World Conference were discussed and adopted by the members.

Members from different countries brought over many items to help women and children in need: knitted items and toys, baby clothing, scarves, hygienic products, cosmetics, school supplies, pens, pencils, carioca, etc., which after the conference, were donated to our target group of women and children in Tirgu Mures, and to the other WThM branches in Romania (in Brasov, Zau de Campie and Sighetu Marmatiei).

A donation was also made to a kindergarten in Dumbravioara, in the Mures County, to the Kiwi Foundation, and to the Maternal Centre in Tirgu Mures – this Centre hosts 10 young mothers at a time, with their babies, ensuring them a roof over their heads and basic food, clothing and medication for a limited time.

Donations were very well received and much appreciated. We want to thank all the ladies and their respective groups for bringing along everything.

Submitted by Afrodita Roman

ASHA CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

The Association for the Social Education and Charitable Activities for the Poor Communities (ASHA) is a Category 1 member in Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh, India. This year they celebrated International Women's Day in style with a meeting focused on education, women's rights, economic empowerment and how to access government programmes and services.

We are delighted to be able to include some images here, and feature this celebration on the back cover of *The Countrywoman*.



DERBYSHIRE LADIES WANTED!

Derbyshire WI has been a constant supporter of ACWW for many years, and they are keen to reach out to those ACWW members who live locally and who are not members of the Women's Institute. They would love to hear from you, and invite you to join in their ACWW Supporter's Days and similar events.

If you'd like to get in touch with them, please contact Sam Hall by emailing acwwderbyshire@yahoo.co.uk



LOCAL HERO AWARD FOR DEPUTY WORLD PRESIDENT



ACWW'S Deputy World President Margaret Yetman was recently honoured as part of Canada's celebration of 150 years as a Confederated nation.

The Local Hero awards were given out around the country, and for the St John's South- Mount Pearl area were presented by the Honourable Seamus O'Regan, M.P.

The citation with the award reads as follows: *Margaret has worked to better the lives of women in Newfoundland and Labrador and around the world for over 50 years. Her work with the Women's Institute of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Federation of Woman Institutes of Canada, the Associated Country Women of the World, and the United Nations, has helped advance women's issues.*

Congratulations to Margaret from all of us!

DO YOU RECEIVE THE WORLD PRESIDENT'S E-NEWSLETTER?

If you don't currently receive the online newsletter sent out by the World President and would like to, please contact ACWW Central Office to register.

All you need to do is email us, and ask to sign up. The address is: info@acww.org.uk

TELL US ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY NEWS

We want to know what you do in support of ACWW and we'd love to see pictures. Please include some basic information so we can make sure we get the article right:

- Date of the event / conference / meeting
- Where was it?
- Roughly how many people attended?
- How much was raised for ACWW?

Send Society News to nick@acww.org.uk



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Northamptonshire County Federation of WIs marked UN International Women's Day, by holding a 'Day of Action'.

Over 80 women joined in with learning about micro plastics in water, and what difference they could themselves make to this issue. We learnt also about Female Genital Mutilation, of the problem this is in the UK, as well as around the world, then after a delicious homemade lunch received an illustrated talk from Mrs Margaret McMillan, the European Area President of ACWW.



During the day members made new friends, with time to buy and sell Pre-Loved clothes and accessories, with 20% of sales profits donated towards the ACWW project in India, that Northamptonshire is supporting at present.

Thank you to Sue Kendall, Federation Chairman of Northamptonshire County Federation of WIs for sending this through.

A SPECIAL CELEBRATION

Mrs Sandra Dickson, the President, and members of Portaferry WI were thrilled to sign a birthday card to mark the one hundredth birthday, 14 January 2018 of member Mrs Greta McMordie who lives in Strangford.

Mrs McMordie keeps up her interest in the WI with the Ulster Countrywoman and visits from members as she no longer comes over on the ferry at night to the monthly meetings. However, she continues to lead a very independent life style and actively follows world and local events from her radio, newspapers and TV.

Mrs McMordie served at Federation level as treasurer in the 1970s while a member of Upper Falls WI. When she and her husband, Harry, moved to Strangford, Greta formed Strangford WI which continued for many years.

Greta was ACWW Secretary from 1980 to 1983. She was responsible on behalf of ACWW for the organisation of the World Conference in Vancouver, Canada and travelled there twice at her own expense to meet the Canadian Hostess Committee. Greta announced the plenaries and conference events not only in English but also in word perfect French. Despite constitutional changes with no less than 232 amendments her charm, patience and personality made the Vancouver conference a remarkable and enjoyable experience for all.

Mrs McMordie's family organised a luncheon party for her immediate friends as well as one for her extended family. On 2 February, our Federation Chairman, Mrs Elizabeth Warden travelled to Strangford to convey the greetings of the Federation.

As Greta had been so active with the Associated Country Women of the World in Vancouver in 1983, Mrs Hilda Stewart, Former World President of ACWW, joined with Elizabeth to celebrate Greta's birthday. Our Portaferry Institute President could not come as she was attending a special birthday within her own family.

Mrs McMordie is now the fourth member of Portaferry WI to reach this centennial milestone. Founder members, Mrs Jane Birch in 1999 and Mrs Jeannie Croskery in 2011 together with Mrs Anna Beck who now resides in a nursing home in Kells.

Her birthday was on 28 December 2017, and she is pictured below with Elizabeth Warden.





INTERNATIONAL
FORUM ON
RURAL
WOMEN

GLOBAL SURVEY
OF THE LIVING
CONDITIONS
OF RURAL WOMEN

*We know that the voices of rural women
are the hardest to hear*

We want to change this

Visit

www.ifrw.org.uk

*to take part, and ensure that your
community is heard on the global stage*

*We would like to invite every ACWW member,
their colleagues, friends and families to participate
in this Global Survey.*

*It is so important that women in rural communities are
fairly represented and we are best able to advocate for
your needs when we can show the issues that affect your
every-day life. Please take part and encourage others in
your community to do so too!*



Associated Country Women of the World

ACWW Connects and Supports Women and Communities Worldwide

APPLICATION FORM FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP OF ACWW (Category 5)

SECTION 1: CATEGORY 5

Membership Fees are due for renewal on 1st January each year

Category 5 members (formerly known as Category IVb):

- You are an individual interested in the work and activities of ACWW
- You may attend Triennial World Conferences and Area Conferences
- You will receive a copy of The Countrywoman Magazine each quarter, and an Annual Report

SECTION 2: CONTACT DETAILS

Please ensure you inform ACWW Central Office if you change your contact details

DATE OF APPLICATION: New Member Renewal

TITLE: Mrs Miss Ms Dr Other

SURNAME / FAMILY NAME:

FIRST NAME(S)

POSTAL ADDRESS:

ZIP / POSTAL CODE: COUNTRY:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE NUMBER: Please include country dialling code

CELLPHONE NUMBER: Please include country dialling code

DO YOU WANT TO RECIEVE THE ACWW E-NEWSLETTER? YES NO

DO YOU BELONG TO AN ACWW MEMBER SOCIETY? YES NO

IF YES, WHICH SOCIETY:

SECTION 3: PAYMENT

1 Year = £25 + Bank Charges / 3 Years = £65 plus Bank Charges

HOW ARE YOU PAYING? Cheque Made payable to ACWW Credit / Debit Card
 Online Payment Bank Transfer

TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD, PLEASE CONTACT CENTRL OFFICE OR USE THE PAYMENT PORTAL
ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.ACWW.ORG.UK

PLEASE DO NOT SEND CREDIT CARD DETAILS BY EMAIL OR POST

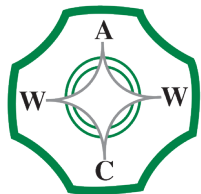
Notes on Payment

- ACWW processes personal data in line with the Data Protection (2010) Act and does not store Card details after payment is made
- If paying by Online methods or bank transfer, please include your name as a reference so we can track payments

Please send your completed application form and fee to:

ACWW Central Office

A04 Parkhall 40 Martell Road London SE21 9EN United Kingdom
W. www.acww.org.uk T. +44 (0)20 7799 3875 E. info@acww.org.uk



Associated Country Women of the World
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