

# THE COUNTRYWOMAN

INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

ISSUE 4 - 2018



## ACWW PROJECTS FOCUS

We learn more about sustainable development

COUNTDOWN TO MELBOURNE

WOMEN WALK THE WORLD

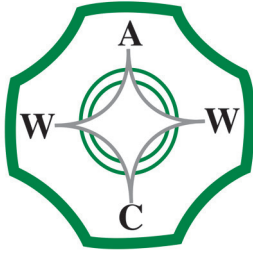
ADVOCACY UPDATE



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## The Countrywoman Issue 4 - 2018

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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 that we welcome submissions for *The Countrywoman*, particularly from first time contributors or those in areas not recently featured.

Due to ACWW's strategic advocacy policy, articles may be printed in the most appropriate issue, not necessarily the most immediate. We welcome contributions throughout the year.

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

# DEAR FRIENDS...

## A message from the World President

It is hard to believe that we are into the final quarter of 2018, with the Christmas Season and the New Year almost upon us. The sad news for this magazine is the loss of our European Area President, Mrs Margaret McMillan in July 2018. We have lost a stalwart of ACWW and a great promoter of "Pennies". Our condolences were passed on to her family, and there is an obituary notice further in the magazine.

As I mentioned in the previous magazine, the last two Area Conferences for the Triennium were held recently. The first, in Colombo, Sri Lanka for Central and South Asia. This was a very well organised and attended conference and I congratulate the Area President Mrs Thilaka Perera and thank both her and her husband Nihal for their kind hospitality. I also was able to monitor two projects, the NEST Association and Lanka Mahila Samity. These were two very well organised projects and gave opportunities to many in the lovely country of Sri Lanka.

Unfortunately, at the last moment, I was unable to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Eurasian Women's Forum in Russia and also the East, West and Central Africa Area Conference in Uganda, owing to the fact that my husband was ill and required major surgery, so, as I have always commented, family must come first and he and the family needed me at that time. He is now well on the way to recovery.

As this was a last-minute decision, and it is difficult to obtain a visa to Russia, and our CEO Tish Collins was accompanying me to Russia, (because of her prior involvement with the organising of the conference), the decision was made for her to deliver my addresses on behalf of ACWW. According to the reports, it was a good conference and ACWW was in the forefront of the conversations. I hope we will have further opportunities to take part in similar events.

I am sure you are now all aware of the Women Empowered Fund and we have had some great feedback about the logic and sense of changing the way we support the projects from ACWW. All money that is sent for projects is placed in the restricted fund and is used when and where we have requests, twice a year when the Projects Committee meet. All donations are treated with great respect and information is sent to the donors, so they know when and where their money has gone.



By the time you read this message, the Early Bird Registration for the Triennial Conference will be close to closing so I hope you have taken this opportunity to save a little money. It is going to be a great event and we have many nominations and resolutions for you to make decisions on, so please come with thoughts and ideas to celebrate our 90 years.

For those of you who are on Facebook, I am sure you have been impressed with the information being distributed about resolutions passed by our Triennial World Conferences in years gone by. When you read them, it makes you wonder if anything has changed over the years and maybe we need to ask ourselves, what have our organisations done in the recent times to improve the living conditions of Rural Women the world over. Maybe this conference will be the time for us to take stock and go forth with renewed interest and vigour to make sure we celebrate our centenary in 2029.

I would like to wish you all the best for the New Year and hope that 2019 will bring you much joy, happiness and not too much hard work.

My thought for this issue is:

*"Real joy comes not from ease or riches or from the praise of men, but from doing something worthwhile."*

Sir Wilfred Grenfell

Ruth Shanks, A.M.  
ACWW World President

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## COVER IMAGE

ACWW's Project 1029 in Bangladesh: Providing Agricultural Training & Production Inputs for Empowering Vulnerable Women & Enhancing Family Level Food Security. The cover photo shows Sabani in her vegetable garden, sent to us with the project's recent progress report.

## MEMBERSHIP

As you are aware, all Society and Individual Memberships are due in January. Please ensure that you are fully paid-up in good time, particularly if you attending the Triennial World Conference in April 2019.

## 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, Chief Executive Officer

As preparations for the 29<sup>th</sup> Triennial World Conference build, this issue of *The Countrywoman* includes the 'biodata' of the 32 candidates standing for the 16 Board positions. This has already been sent as a Circular and is available on the website but we know members like to have it in print. The first issue of 2019 will reprint the accepted Resolutions and Recommendations but they are also available in the Conference section of the website under Circulars.

All Areas have opted to elect their new Area Presidents by 'postal vote' in 2019. Full details of how this will be facilitated will be circulated shortly to voting member societies, as it worked efficiently for 6 Areas last time. This enables all member societies in an Area to participate in the vote even if they cannot be represented at Conference. 'Postal' includes secure email and online options as well as paper and envelope, but there are checks in place to ensure the papers are limited to official representatives and the returns are kept secret until counted at Conference. The other Board positions for the World President and Committee Chairmen will be elected at Conference as previously.

If you are intending to attend the Triennial World Conference as an observer, perhaps you would consider offering your services as a proxy voter for a member society who are unable to have a representative there in person? This must be done through Central Office who will be happy to make the connections and supply you with the appropriate forms. Unplanned or unregistered proxies will not be allowed. More information will be circulated shortly.

It is not too late to send donations in to sponsor a first time delegate from another society. Such very generous gestures are much appreciated and extend the hand of friendship between members. For guidance, any donations will be gratefully received but £475 pays for full registration so either this and / or a contribution to accommodation can make a real difference.

Wherever the Conference is held involves long distance travel for some and it is a strength of ACWW that the venues move around the world spreading opportunities. Forms for those seeking sponsorship will be made available before this issue of the *Countrywoman* reaches you and support will be spread as widely as possible.

Emily, the intern mentioned in the last issue, has joined the staff one day a week as admin support with a particular focus on GDPR compliance. With nearly 90 years of records this is a big task and we need to ensure items of historic interest are kept and organised appropriately. Sadly, UN and Agriculture Committees Administrator Safia Roble has not been kept on past her probationary period and we shall be looking to recruit a full compliment of staff as soon as possible. Please bear with us if your emails are not answered immediately but we shall be doing our best.

As we head towards the end of 2018, all at Central Office send you our best wishes for Christmas, New Year and your local celebrations. This year seems to have moved even faster than normal, and we are already looking at the 29<sup>th</sup> Triennial World Conference as being imminent!

Please do not forget to update Central Office with any changes in your contact details, ensuring that we can keep you fully up to date with all that ACWW does.

The Global Survey of the Living Conditions of Rural Women will close on 31 December 2018, and we need every ACWW member to take part. If you are uncomfortable using a computer or smart phone, please ask a friend, neighbour or young person to assist. It is so crucial that this information is collected and can be presented to those international and national bodies who take decisions about your daily lives without your input. Visit [www.ifrw.org.uk](http://www.ifrw.org.uk) to take part.

Tish Collins  
Chief Executive Officer

## EDITOR'S NOTE

At last, and sure that it will be greeted with much anticipation, we are proud to publish this issue of *The Countrywoman*, which includes the photos and reports from Women Walk the World 2018. Congratulations again to our Cover Competition Winners, Brimley WI, UK.

As ever, we've had a busy few months in Central Office, but I'm hoping that these efforts have been more visible than ever. Our Facebook posts have received greater engagement than ever before, with more than 95,000 individual people viewing our posts between 1<sup>st</sup> July and 15 September (an average of 1257 per day!). This includes our infographics, promotional posts, videos and other resources which are produced for members. To check out this fantastic resource, and print off posters and sheets for your group, just visit Facebook and search for 'Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW)'.

We continue to investigate new ways of reaching our membership, and supporting those who are spreading the word of ACWW. If there are resources you would find useful, please do not hesitate to contact us as Central Office; we can't always guarantee to have them available straight away, but if there is a way of helping we will.

On a personal note, I would like to thank members of the Scottish Women's Institutes who made me so welcome at their Triennial Meeting in early September. As well as a chance to catch up with past World President May Kidd, and have my first taste of haggis, it was a wonderful opportunity to meet more members, introduce them to the WE Fund and tell them more about PFF. It was a real honour to be piped to the stage by a bagpiper, and a pleasure to meet Linda Retson, Chairman of SWI, and Collette Craig, Chairman of the FWI Northern Ireland (photo below).



Global Survey of the Living Conditions  
of Rural Women

Visit [www.ifrw.org.uk](http://www.ifrw.org.uk) to take part

# MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

## Finance & Membership Committee

### Pennies for Friendship

We so often hear that people are collecting for Pennies for Friendship, but don't know the history of the idea, or why it remains so crucially important to ACWW.

The 'Pennies for Friendship Plan' or 'Million Members Fund' was launched just before the 4<sup>th</sup> Triennial World Conference held in London in 1939. As is explained in *The History of ACWW and of its Member Societies* (Mrs Neve Scarborough, 1953), "The idea came to Mrs Drage, suddenly, that if every member contributed a penny in addition to the official subscriptions, ACWW would have a sure and comfortable income without causing harshness to anyone".

The same year, the Executive Committee of ACWW reprinted 'A Stimulus to Better Citizenship', believing that members would be inspired by the sentiments expressed by Mrs Madge Watt, ACWW President. We are pleased to include an excerpt here:

***"This is not a collection. It is an opportunity. We are, moreover, as country women, members of self-governing bodies entitled to affirm our faith in our own world movement... For nearly ten years we have worked in the ACWW with all our resources and all our strength for friendship among the world's country women. We have got it. Now we must make that friendship a leaven to raise our fellow citizens from lethargy about world affairs".***

It feels as if these words are equally as valid today, and should remind us all of the need to reach out and be active not only in our generosity, but in advocacy and friendship. Think what could be achieved if each member of ACWW gave an additional £1 alongside their membership in support of Pennies this year. Separate from our fundraising, but an investment in ACWW.

Thus far in 2018, Pennies for Friendship has raised £90,104. As has already been said, this is an opportunity for members to show their solidarity and participation within the organisation. We are never anything but grateful for the hard work and generous donations from our supporters.

The Global Survey has already been mentioned in this issue, and previous issues of *The Countrywoman*, but really is so important for our members to be heard. It reiterates the mandate for ACWW to work globally, and to connect women all over the world. Please do take the time to take part, and encourage those around you to do so too. If ten women in each community participate, we get a real picture of what the living conditions are like.

Thank you for all that you do to support ACWW, and your continued commitment to our shared ideals and objectives. We are unique as an association, bringing together so many different women in so many different circumstances. Our next big chance to come together will be at the Triennial World Conference in Melbourne next April, and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there. It really is a unique and exciting, powerful and inspiring experience.

### Memberships

As we head into the latter half of the year, it is always good to remember that all Individual and Society Memberships are all due in January 2019. To pay online, simply visit our website and follow the 'Support Us' link. These rates are shown below:

Category 1 Societies	£105
Category 2 Societies	£64
Category 3 Societies	£53
Category 4 Societies	£35
Category 5 Individual	£25 (£65/3 yrs)

**Membership Kitty says:  
Don't forget you can pay online!**



### MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS USING ONLINE BANKING

Account:  
Associated Country Women of the World

Account Number:  
01244108

Sort Code:  
56-00-33

Bank:  
NatWest Bank, 57 Victoria Street, London United Kingdom, SW1H 0HP

Branch:  
Westminster

Swift Code:  
NWB KGB 2L

IBAN:  
GB67NWBK56003301244108

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](mailto:tish.c@acww.org.uk) to receive a Bequest Information Pack.

# ACWW PROJECTS FOCUS

We take a more detailed look at project updates around the world



As you will know, in 2017 we celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ACWW's Projects Committee, and in the last issue of *The Countrywoman*, we introduced our new initiative, the Women Empowered Fund. In this issue, we take a closer look at some of our most recent projects and give you insight into their concept, implementation and impact.

We are also pleased to bring you an update on the progress of the WE Fund, and to thank you for your generous donations! As a reminder, the WE Fund allows you to contribute to funding projects up front, receive much faster updates, and benefit from a greater understanding of the impact you are making. Crucially, as this funding is not limited to specific projects but rather Priority Focus areas, your donations will reach further and benefit people across the world. As funds are used, the pots can be replenished with donations. We are always so grateful that those who support projects are so personally invested, both financially and emotionally, in this work. Connecting women has always been a crucial part of ACWW, and joining communities together through the Women Empowered Fund continues this work into a most sustainable, more effective, future.

## Project 1035 - Mushroom Growing for Social and Economic Development Uganda: Kasese District Women with Disabilities (KADIWOD)

Project 1035 is situated in Kasese District, western Uganda, just above Lake George and bordering the Democratic Republic of Congo. Working with partner organisation Kasese District Women with Disabilities (KADIWOD), project participants are growing mushrooms as a stepping stone to social and economic development.

Mushrooms provide a fast yielding, nutritious food source and a reliable source of income. Their protein content is 3-7% when fresh, and 19-35% when dried. They are a source of all essential amino acids, amides and lysine; they require low start-up costs with short-term returns on investment – they can be produced and sold within 2 to 4 months, whilst spawn or seeds and spawn bags can be bought by the entrepreneur at a reasonably low cost, allowing for an acceptable profit margin.

Mushrooms need shade to grow, which in turn benefits the workers and reduces the exertion associated with open cultivation. Therefore, the group applied for funding for a mushroom growing project in Kasese, and their proposal was approved by the Projects Committee in October 2017.

The relevance of mushrooms to Kasese District is compounded by their use in different tribal traditions. For example, the Batooro use mushrooms in the preparation of special meals for in-laws and honoured persons, whilst amongst the Bayiira, mushrooms are used in rituals after the birth of a child and as medicine to cure measles.

Thus far, the project has achieved the following:

- 3 mobilisation meetings were conducted in the sub-counties of Karambi, Kyabarungira and Kasese Municipality, each attended by 9 people
- 105 people from the three sub-counties were trained in mushroom growing techniques and the benefits of mushroom consumption
- A three-day field trip to Kabala was organised for 10 beneficiaries in order to gain practical experience and acquaint themselves with alternative practices for efficient mushroom growing
- Materials like drums, substrate (cotton husk), watering cans, tapelines, maize bran (husk), plastic tanks to hold water, polythene bags, and pawns (mushroom spores) have been purchased and distributed
- Continuous monitoring and support are provided to project beneficiaries, ensuring maximum efficiency and impact.

The group reports that the beneficiaries started harvesting in February 2018 and that there has been a good level of cooperation between the trainers, trainees, and local leaders. The project is already benefiting the community, as demonstrated by the local demand for the group's produce for home consumption.



*"It all looked like a myth during the mushroom training workshop, when we were taught how to grow mushrooms indoors, using local resources. But when I saw them growing, they looked beautiful and appetizing.*

*Once I tried them, I realised how delicious they are and I could not believe that they were a product of our work. I couldn't decide whether I liked the ones we had grown or the wild grown ones better, which is great because we can use them interchangeably.*

*Looking at the materials used, the labour, and the availability of spawns, the project is a good investment which can boost the family income."*

The main challenge encountered so far is the lack of dryers to process the mushrooms that have not been sold. Local drying methods proved insufficient, as mushrooms perish quickly and therefore, the lack of proper means to dry them leads to loss of possible income and wasted produce. The project's budget did not include the cost of the driers, and this has created a setback for the group.

Nevertheless, the beneficiaries are very optimistic as the returns from their activities have been positive, and they are hoping to be able to invest some of the profit into two dryers in the next months.

## How do KADIWOD grow mushrooms in Kasese?

- 1 Substrate identification: Choose a suitable type of substrate (growing medium) for better results (KADIWOD used cotton husk as it is the one with longest gestation period; 3-4 months)
- 2 Substrate sorting: Remove unwanted materials and hard objects like stones, wood etc.
- 3 Substrate soaking: Soak the sorted substrate to soften the tissues
- 4 Substrate draining: Drain the soaked substrate to mix with lime, maize, glucose, sucrose, carbohydrates, and proteins for healthy growth.
- 5 Substrate fermentation for extra tissue softening; taking a period of 3 days.
- 6 Sterilisation and steaming to kill all pests and diseases that could have attacked the substrate.
- 7 Inoculation or Spawning; when the spawns are introduced to the sterilised substrate ready for colonization, for a period of more than 3 weeks.
- 8 Packed substrate is taken to the Incubation room (dark room) and after 21 days, when it has colonised to allow the growth of mycelium, the polythene bag is cut 3 times to allow water, humidity, light, and other nutrients to reach the growing mycelium. This then develops into mushrooms.
- 9 Transfer of substrate to the growing room.
- 10 Water the substrate after 3 weeks of colonization (depending on temperatures)
- 11 Harvest the mushrooms 5 days after cutting the polythene bags.
- 12 Sort the harvested mushrooms and take the ones that are not being sold fresh to the driers.



Mongolia is currently ranked as the 33<sup>rd</sup> poorest country in the world, and the Khovd Aimag district is recognised as one of the most deprived regions in Mongolia. The World Bank, in conjunction with the National Statistical Office of Mongolia (NSO), reported at the end of 2017 that the poverty rate in the country had increased from 21.6% in 2014 to 29.6% in 2016. In rural areas, this rate reaches 34.9% and in Khovd Aimag reached 36.7%.

Worryingly, these numbers look good when compared to the 52.7% of the population falling under the scope of poverty in 2010. This followed a devastating winter which left nearly 9,000 families in trouble after their entire herds froze or starved to death. Another 33,000 lost half their livestock. Almost 10 million cattle, sheep, goats, horses, yaks and camels died, a fifth of the country's total, at a cost of 520bn Tögrögs (£250 million).

Many these former herders have been re-directed to cities to look for work and the poverty rates have since dropped. However, there remains insufficient opportunities for work, and high levels of financial strain on rural families.

To help address these issues, ACWW partnered with Sain Tus Center on Project 1032, Women's Economic Empowerment. This project provided boot and felt-making training for two different groups, plus health education and business skills training to 40 low-income, female-headed families from nomadic communities in Jargalant.

The aim of this project was two-fold. First, to help improve the economic conditions of beneficiaries; second, educate and empower participants, raising awareness of and helping them address health and social issues in their communities.



The Countrywoman 2018-4

## The Training Programme

**Financial Accounting Training;** to track their daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly family income and expenditures. Each family made a 5 year financial plan they will aim to follow in the future.

**Organisational Structure Training;** group structure, defining the group's role, requirements for group members, group management, and taking responsibility for employees, were among the topics discussed. The groups established monthly evaluation meetings as a result.

**Small Business Management Training;** Development Stages of a Small Business; Research Methods; Difficulties and Weaknesses of Small Business; Required Skills of Small Business keepers; and Marketing Skills. Both groups received accounting ledgers in order to track income and expenditure. Sain Tus reports that at the end of the project implementation period it was much easier for both groups (those making boots, and those working in felt-making) to evaluate the efficiency of their small businesses.

**Group Fund Management Training;** in this module, the beneficiaries were taught how to spend group funds and monitor the financial movements efficiently, in order to allow for future growth.

## Project Implementation

The boot making group bought electric sewing machines and raw materials in November 2017 and, a few months later, they were selling them at the Khovd market and in their local community. They also travelled for two months in the countryside in late spring and sold 172 pairs of new boots and repaired 268 pairs of old boots and shoes, plus receiving a bigger order for 52 pairs of dancing boots in June 2018.

The group working with felt bought wool combining machines and started producing different types of felt products, mostly traditional slippers and souvenirs. They received an order for 1,300 pieces of Christmas decoration from Australia in November 2017, and the client placed the same order again in May 2018. They even made 12 pairs of slippers for an order from Sweden and were able to buy a second wool combining machine from the profit they made.

Sain Tus Center's staff encouraged the two groups and advised them throughout the project. During the ten months of active project implementation, the groups showed good attendance and they learned from each other's management techniques.

Sain Tus further supported the groups to build marketing networks and promote their products at exhibitions and markets. They had stands at a trade exhibition in February, which proved highly profitable and will participate in another one organised by the Chamber of Commerce of Khovd Province in September 2018.

## Project Impact

Group incomes greatly increased as a result of this project. Before, the 'Buyant' Felt Product Group had an average income of 1,300,000MNT (around £410), and after the average had risen to 3,145,700MNT (around £990). The 'Jargalant' boot making group raised their income from 1,300,00MNT to 3,352,350MNT.

From their profits, around 50% was then reinvested in the cooperatives, meaning that their actual income from external sources had risen around 25% overall. With further expansion, it is projected that this will rise in the future.

The Women's Economic Empowerment Project has not only improved the prospects of participants, but has enabled them to further develop self-reliance skills through a number of training days on Stress Reduction and Mental Health Care, Reproductive Health, Nutrition Education, and Basic Hygiene Practices. In their Final Report, Sain Tus emphasise their commitment to maintain links with, and provide support to, the beneficiaries of their projects in future.

This was the second Sain Tus project supported by ACWW, and an evaluator visited them in May 2018 to assess their work. The report indicates that this project has achieved its objectives and emphasises the diligence of the group's staff members and their commitment to work according to the community's needs. Attention to the beneficiaries' involvement and preservation of nomadic traditions and arts have greatly contributed to their sustainability.

The other aim of the ACWW evaluator's visit was to assess the impact of Project 973, Greenhouse Development, which was completed more than two years ago. Since the end of the project, the two groups of farmers involved had recorded a 94% increase in profit and both groups have purchased a second, slightly smaller poly-tunnel each.

If you like the sound of this project, why not support the  
**WE FUND Focus Area:  
INCOME GENERATION  
& LIVELIHOOD**



## Case Study: Ariunaa\*

Ariunaa used to be a herdsman in the countryside, where she lived with her six children and husband. Her family lost their livestock in 2010's cold winter and were forced to move to Khovd (Jargalant Sum<sup>1</sup>). Left unemployed and with no source of income for three years, she participated in vocational training on felt production in 2015. She started making small felt products and decorations at home with hand-made combs, meaning a limited scope for increasing productivity over time.

She created the "Buyant" Felt Product Group with 10 members in 2016 and was looking for financial support to purchase supplies and tools. After the group was involved in Project 1032, members received further training, a wool combing machine and raw materials which hugely increased their efficiency. Before the project, Ariunaa's monthly income was 60,000 MNT (about £19) and after the project she earned 420,000 MNT as the group leader (about £132). Living conditions have improved and she is proud to have stable work and income. She is careful to re-invest as much as possible back into the business to allow for its further growth.

## Case Study: Otgonbayar\*

Otgonbayar lives with her 4 children in Khairkhan Bag of Jargalant Sum. She was unemployed for six years, with her only source of income a state provided child benefit of 80,000 MNT monthly (20,000 MNT per child). In 2016 she participated in a 45 day boot-sewing vocational training programme funded by the Labour Department. After that she started sewing boots at home but did not have the capital for initial investment in a sewing machine or raw materials for the boots. With the funding received from ACWW and through Sain Tus, her group was in a position to purchase these things, and started producing a larger number of boots as well as repairing old ones. Her current income is 500,000 MNT, which allows her to provide for her children and think about further expansion of her business<sup>2</sup>.

\* names may have been changed to protect the privacy of project participants

<sup>1</sup> The 12 Provinces of Mongolia are divided into 331 Sums (districts) with each sum subdivided into Bags - intended to sort the families of nomads in the district into groups, without a permanent human settlement.

<sup>2</sup> Our monitoring report shows that average participants earn 200,000-250,000MNT but that group leaders earn more, based on experience.

# Project 1029 - Agricultural Training for Food Security Bangladesh: WEEDO

Project 1029, 'Providing agricultural training and production inputs for empowering vulnerable women and enhancing family level food security' provides support and training for 100 landless and marginalised families without access to government programmes or reliable employment. This project seeks to facilitate access to unused land which can be used for growing fruits, vegetables, spices and medicinal herbs in order to supplement the family diets.

Women Empowerment and Environmental Development Organisation (WEEDO) has conducted a baseline survey of the families participating in this project, and has already seen impacts from the project. There has been an increase of 68% in the number of families planning to cultivate vegetables throughout the whole year.

WEEDO further reports that whilst only 4 of the 100 families were in a position to sell their vegetable produce at the point of the baseline survey, the training on improved techniques of cultivation has been very effective. 70 families are now able to produce enough for their own needs, and sell the surplus to help support themselves.

The practice of preserving vegetable seeds from one season to the next has also increased from 10% to 70%. Use of organic manure has been widely encouraged within the community. The position of women has improved considerably as a result of the project's activities.

At the point of the baseline survey, only 5% of women felt that they could take part in decision-making processes within their families; after the development and implementation of training on women's rights, this has risen to 50%.

To assess the project implementation and impact, an ACWW evaluator visited WEEDO in Narail District, Bangladesh in May 2018. As part of her trip, she visited WEEDO's office, where she met project coordinators, managers, general staff and volunteers.

**ACWW is committed to the success of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.**

**All our projects fit within this global framework for action.**



Whilst doing so, she reviewed documents and records, which she reports were in line with ACWW's funding policy. Furthermore, she found the activities were carried out and implemented to schedule, despite minor hiccups. The Project Coordinators achieved this through careful planning, establishing open communication channels with stakeholders, and conducting regular monitoring sessions, which enabled them to identify and address gaps.

Based on her findings, the evaluator concluded that the project was successful as it achieved the following:

- beneficiaries have access to a wider range of foods;
- they gained an extra source of income;
- they are more involved in local decision-making processes;
- WEEDO believes that their project will prove to be sustainable.

This is a very important determination and ACWW is hoping to re-visit their work again in the next two years to confirm the impact and report back to its supporters.



# Project 1023 - Enhancement of Nutritional Health Security for Dalit Women India: Deepam Trust

In 2017, the World Bank Joint Malnutrition<sup>1</sup> dataset was published, and showed that in India, as well as several other developing countries, almost half of child deaths under the age of five are from nutrition-related causes.

The health complications they develop largely relate to poor nutritional habits and hygiene in the day-to-day lives. The data also shows that the nutrition of the mother during pregnancy is a crucial factor in the health of her child. This data is supported by findings from the Indian government's National Family and Healthy Survey<sup>2</sup>, which highlights that 52% of pregnant women aged 15-49 years are suffering from Anaemia.

When the mother is undernourished, her child will also suffer from insufficient nutrition. Project 1023 addresses this issue through nutrition education and small-scale agricultural training for women in the Thanjavur District of Tamil Nadu.

The Final Report received from project partner Deepam Trust summarises the achievements of the year-long project:

- The total of five training sessions were conducted on reducing malnutrition, food safety awareness, basic health, sustainable cooking methods, and organic home garden preparation, between April and July 2017. As a result, 250 Dalit women have a better understanding of the importance of good nutritional habits and potential that home gardens have in improving the nutritional quality of the food consumed by their families.
- 250 women from 25 villages built small vegetable gardens in the backyards of their homes and received seed kits and seedlings to ensure the diversity of their produce. As a result, 222 (89%) families increased consumption of fresh home garden products.
- 56% of the targeted households reduced expenditure on vegetables by 75%, and over 50% of them doubled their household income from their home gardens.
- 600 women from village self-help groups attended awareness meetings on the importance of good nutritional practices and organic home gardening. They were also provided with clear instructions on how they could get Vitamin A drops and de-worming tablets from government departments.

This project aimed to promote gender equality and empower the target group with livelihood skills. It gave these women greater control over the products consumed by their families and provided them with a small source of income. Most importantly, the women who took part in the training became recognized in their community for their agricultural skills, resulting in higher self-esteem and allowing them to interact outside their usual social circle of family and neighbours.

Project 1023  
Final Report

**250**  
women constructed  
vegetable  
gardens

## Case Study: Mrs G\*

Mrs G from Keluthur village of Thanjavur district has a physical disability which made it difficult for her to provide for her family.

A field worker from Deepam Trust got in touch and invited her to take part in the training, where she received a seed kit and guidance on best agricultural practices. She owns half an acre of land behind her house where she now cultivates turmeric, sweet potato, black gram (pulse), mustard, aubergine, radish, tomato, greens, pumpkin, onion, and bitter gourd.

With a drip irrigation system in place, and in just two years, Mrs G. has harvested approximately 1200 kg of vegetables in consecutive seasons. Of her harvests, she sold 1000 kg and earned INR. 28,500 (around £315). She sold vegetables in a local market, at shops in the Dalit community, as well as at a street stall in her village. Mrs G used the profit from the sale of the excess produce to cover her family's medical expenses and the general household supplies.

## Beneficiary Feedback:

*In the dry season [when fewer vegetables are available], I would prepare for her a dish with fresh vegetables from my garden.*

*Impressed, she would taste it and ask 'How can you have all these vegetables in the dry season?'*

*This would convince her to visit my garden and learn to do the same."*

Ms M\*,  
Beneficiary from Maharajapuram  
Village



\* names may have been changed to protect the privacy of project participants

<sup>1</sup> UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition dataset, updated May 2017. Available from: <https://data.unicef.org/topic/nutrition/malnutrition/>

<sup>2</sup> National Family Health Survey – 4, 2015-2016; <http://rchiips.org/NFHS/pdf/NFHS4/India.pdf>



# Project 1019 - HIV & AIDS Prevention, Education, Caring & Improving Attitudes Sri Lanka: NEST

To date, HIV related awareness programmes in Sri Lanka have largely focused on urban areas and high risk groups. This has enabled Sri Lanka to maintain a low HIV infection rate which the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) estimates to be less than 0.1% within the general population and less than 5% within high risk groups. Nevertheless, a significant knowledge gap remains, particularly amongst young people as illustrated by a UNICEF-supported national survey. It found that young people, particularly in rural areas, knew very little about HIV infection, modes of prevention, common symptoms and signs. It also found that significant numbers of young Sri Lankans believed that HIV can be spread through mosquito bites, kissing or sharing meals. Clearly there is an urgent need to educate young people, and equip educators with the necessary knowledge and resources to address prevalent misunderstanding.

Aware of the situation, ACWW funded Project 1019, which was implemented by Nest. The project provided 4000 students (aged 14+) with workshops on HIV/AIDS awareness. The students were from 103 Government-funded schools, and learned about the disease, modes of transmission, and prevention, as well as care and management techniques. In conjunction with the workshops, training was also provided to several teachers. The programme was well received. Nest reports that many students have kept in contact and requested further information. Moreover, prior to the programme, teachers from these schools reported that they could not teach sex education to students as they were not comfortable doing so. Following the awareness training, many teachers stated that they are more confident in teaching sexual health, particularly on issues pertaining to HIV/AIDS.

In order to help address HIV/AIDS related stigma and discrimination, Nest conducted 6 further public awareness campaigns, which sought to improve knowledge of and change attitudes towards HIV/AIDS as well as mental illness. As part of these campaigns, they set up 20 outdoor stalls in 11 districts, where they distributed health literacy material and answered public queries regarding HIV/AIDS and Mental Health. They were able to engage large crowds and provide information to members of the community who were not aware or had misconceptions about these issues.

In conjunction with this campaign, project and health workers also made 1621 visits to individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS or Mental Health. During these visits, staff shared health literacy resources, taught participants how to care for themselves and others, and advised them on mechanisms to cope with stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS and Mental Health. As a result, a number of participants reported that they felt more empowered, supported, and optimistic. Family members of those infected with HIV stated that the programme has helped reduce their fears and as a result, they are now more willing to accept and care for people living with HIV/AIDS. Nest has succeeded in raising awareness about HIV/AIDS and helping to reduce stigma and discrimination for those living with the condition.



Project  
1019  
Final  
Report

**1621**  
health visits  
conducted as part of  
this project



If you like the sound of this project, why not support the WE FUND Focus Area: **NUTRITION, GOOD HEALTH & WELLBEING**



**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development



# IN MEMORIAM

## We mark the passing of European Area President Margaret McMillan

It is with sorrow that we inform members of the passing of Mrs Margaret McMillan, the sitting European Area President, on Friday 20 July 2018 after a short illness. A long-term member of both ACWW and the Federation of Women's Institutes of Northern Ireland, Margaret was well known by members in the European area and more broadly.

ACWW World President Mrs Ruth Shanks commented: *"It is always difficult to lose a relative, especially so when they were so active and engaged with all that they did. I, and the Board of ACWW, will miss having Margaret with us as we hold the last meetings of this Triennium, and thank her for her service and commitment to ACWW over the many years she was involved."*

The following obituary has been compiled by Agnes Black, also from Northern Ireland:

*"It is with great shock and sorrow that the Federation of Women's Institutes of Northern Ireland share the news of the passing of Mrs Margaret McMillan, ACWW European Area President and Board Member. She was an enthusiastic and loyal member who was totally committed to the aims and objectives of ACWW. She always put her best effort into everything she did. Margaret achieved a gold award for craftwork from the N Ireland Federation and was a keen golfer and gardener.*

*After raising her 4 daughters and nursing her late husband through Motor Neurone Disease, Margaret became Chairman of NI Federation International Committee and then spent 6 years on ACWW Finance Committee. She gave freely of her time and energy to her local community and hosted many ACWW visitors.*

*Margaret was constantly thinking up new initiatives for fundraising for ACWW, whether in Northern Ireland or at European and World conferences.*

*Many thousands of pounds were raised through her unstinting efforts. Her death came after a short illness and she will be greatly missed by her many friends around the world."*

Margaret McMillan was elected as ACWW European Area President in August 2016, and passed away on Friday, 20 July 2018. Any messages or queries can be sent to Central Office, by emailing Tish Collins at [tish.c@acww.org.uk](mailto:tish.c@acww.org.uk)



*"We would like to thank members for their acts of kindness and support during our mum's short illness. Also for the generous donations to the Federation of W.I. of N.I. for International Work in Mum's name. As you know, supporting people less fortunate than ourselves was a passion for mum for many years. Your donation was the perfect way to honour her memory."*

The daughters of Margaret McMillan: Louise, Hilary, Alison and Julie.



(top) Margaret McMillan

(left) With Afrodita Roman of Asociatia Femeia Mileniului 111 at the 2017 European Area Conference

(bottom left) with Afrodita and World President Ruth Shanks AM at the Area Conference

(bottom) Margaret at the Infinite Charity Forum in Ufa, Russian Federation in 2016.



# CASTLETOWN GUILD LOOKS BACK

Anne Payne gives us a guide to celebrating 100 years in style

Recently Castletown Irish Countrywomen's Association Guild in Co. Laois, Ireland, celebrated their centenary by producing the book 'Castletown ICA 1915-2015'. ACWW Member Anne Payne sent us a brief article and some photos - as we head towards ACWW's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, it is always so wonderful to see member groups and societies celebrate their own jubilees.



"This is a photo of Lucy Franks whose life was celebrated by the members of the Guild, of which Lucy was a Foundation Member. In 1915 she helped found a local branch of the Society of the United Irishwomen, with other like-minded women. It focused on teaching and promoting rural housewives to establish home industries.

This organisation later became known as The Irish Country Women's Association. Lucy moved to France after her father died, and on her way home lived for some time in England where she became interested in the ACWW and was a Founder member of the Organisation. She remained a member all her life."



"Lucy also had the distinction of being the National President of The ICA from 1942 to 1952 - the term of Office is now for a maximum of 3 years but it showed a great dedication to the service of women right across Ireland.

During the Centenary Year of Castletown ICA Guild in Co. Laois, the Guild members made a very historic visit to the grave of Lucy Franks in Deansgrange Cemetery in Dublin to pay their respects to their Founder Member to whom they owed a great debt of gratitude. They sang the ICA Anthem 'My Land', said some prayers and laid a beautiful plaque in memory of Lucy Franks on her grave. Lucy Franks passed away in 1964.

The photograph above shows the current President of Castletown Guild, Lucy Conroy and The Laois Federation President Anne Cass as they promote the Centenary Book produced by the members of Castletown Guild."

Thanks to Anne for sending this in to us!

## DONATE OLD JEWELLERY!



For many years, we have been using the unique services of our Recycling Partners, Recycling for Good Causes. Because of this, our supporters have managed to raise £4,014.90 simply by donating unwanted items for ACWW.

Recycling for Good Causes have been offering their services for 21 years, enabling thousands of charities, big and small, to benefit from not only generating much needed funds, but also helping the environment.

By donating items such as unwanted jewellery, watches, (even broken items), stamps, and out of circulation currency (UK & foreign), Recycling for Good Causes are able to resell, repurpose or break down these items and use for parts. At the very least, completely unusable items are sold as scrap to prevent further landfill.

There are a few ways to get involved: If you're a society in the UK, you can start a recycling project of your own, collecting items in your own post sack and sending directly to Recycling for Good Causes.

If you're an individual in the UK, you can send your unwanted items to Central Office, or contact us for a free-post slip to send your items directly to the recycling facility. If you're outside the UK and still want to be involved, please get in touch with Central Office.

Generally, the money raised through Recycling for Good Causes goes toward the Pennies for Friendship fund, which sustains the day-to-day running and administration of ACWW, as well as our advocacy work. But, as with any funds sent to ACWW, you can specify if you would like your contribution to support projects and we'll be more than happy to allocate your donation to the Women Empowered Fund, ACWW's Project Funding Initiative.

Contact Sydney at [info@acww.org.uk](mailto:info@acww.org.uk) for more information.

### Does your society have an Anniversary or Jubilee coming up?

We are hugely proud of our history as an organisation, and we're looking forward to celebrating our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the 29<sup>th</sup> Triennial World Conference in Melbourne, Australia in 2019.

If your Society or organisation has an anniversary or Jubilee celebration coming up in 2019 or 2020, why not send us your plans or announcements, or send us an article and photos of the celebration as it takes place.

We love to hear from our members, so please send them to [nick@acww.org.uk](mailto:nick@acww.org.uk)

# ...AND ALL BECAUSE OF ACWW

Communications & Marketing Committee  
member Moira Hammond

ACWW prides itself on being a real 'hands on' charity, with personal contact and, in particular, effective monitoring of projects playing an important part. Also vital is our 'word-of-mouth' approach and this very often has a knock-on effect. The following report describes how the example set by ACWW has been copied by one remarkable family in America.

Joyce Kruger Natzke has been a member of Wisconsin Home and Community Education Group for 62 years and, through this, learned of ACWW. For more than 15 years she has been an ACWW penfriend of Lyn Richards in Bristol, England, with whom she shares an interest in reading, painting and quilting. For 5 years has corresponded with Judy Parkes of Cambridge, Nova Scotia in Canada. She has even exchanged several visits with both ladies.

Although her society has not been actively involved in ACWW, Joyce really admires the work ACWW does, as indeed do all her family. What's more, they have all aimed to replicate its work.

When her daughter, Leslie, was working in Niger, Africa, she was so shocked at how young girls were being married off to much older men because their families were too poor to provide for them, that she decided to do something about it. For eleven years she has been raising money to bring 4 girls over to America for five weeks. Here they learn English and public-speaking, practical skills (for example bicycle-repairs and making sanitary-towels) and health and hygiene, all of which they pass on to other girls when they return home, proving to them that they can become independent. (One is even working at a university now.) Joyce's quilt guild also makes bags and sanitary products for the girls to take home.

However, the most dramatic effect of Joyce's interest in ACWW's ethos came when, tragically she lost her sixteen-year-old grandson, Paul, last year. His Mum (Joyce's daughter) asked that, in his memory, everyone should do something for someone who could not pay you back. As a result, Joyce's daughter-in-law, Lori, with friends, has already made more than eight dozen blankets for babies in Mexico.

The Countrywoman 2018-4



Joyce's idea was to make lap-quilts for cancer sufferers. Each design incorporates at least one heart and has a two-way journal with it. So far more than 200 have been delivered... and all because of ACWW.

The following story from Moira Hammond is another example of why 'word of mouth' is so important:

I have always told all my friends about the fantastic work that ACWW does all over the world. This was particularly the case when I was involved in monitoring the project funding for the Grafton War Wounded Community School in Sierra Leone, Africa.

One friend was so impressed by the success of this project, that he made a substantial donation direct to me in memory of his late wife, as she had been a teacher. With this, my husband (who was working in nearby Freetown at the time) arranged for the purchase of a generator for the village. This proved an absolute life-changer for many as it meant that Grafton adults could be educated in the evenings with the aid of electric light... and all because of ACWW.

Do you know of any similar occasions when ACWW has had an indirect influence on further funding or aid of some kind, why not send them to us at Central Office?

## SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOL SUPPORT

We hear from Volmoed  
Women's Agricultural Union

Tsweleng Early Learning Centre is about 35 km East of Rustenburg in the North West Province of South Africa, and serves children aged from 3-5 years. Tswanas are the majority people in the North West Province, and Setswana is their home language. Tsweleng means "we go forward together".

This centre is not state-aided, although it is situated in the grounds of the State Kloofwaters Primary School and depends on the goodwill of a local platinum mine and the community for its funding.

Since 2002, members of the Volmoed WAU have been involved with this pre-school and each year try to make or provide something for the children. In the past this has been anything from knitted beanies to smocks to wear when painting or doing other "dirty" work, to cots and bedding for dolls. The youngsters have a nap after lunch and small foam plastic mattresses were many years ago donated to the centre for them to lie on. Over the years the torn covers resulted in the mattresses becoming dirty and unpleasant to use.

Many years ago samples of fabric were donated to Volmoed for members' use and have over the years enabled many projects to be completed. Here they were used as patchwork for at least one side of some covers. We were able to fit and hand over 40 covers to the children on Friday, 25 May 2018.



# WOMEN WALK THE WORLD 2018

Our supporters around the world set out to spread the word!

We normally feature Women Walk the World in the 3<sup>rd</sup> issue of the year, but we wanted to ensure that our supporters got fair representation and coverage, so we are delighted to include these photos and reports in this issue.



## Little Stanney WI, Cheshire FWI, UK

Little Stanney WI chose a balmy evening on 3 May to pick litter along The Dee Estuary, and celebrate Women Walk the World.



## Horam WI, East Sussex FWI, UK

East Sussex ACWW Representative Dorothy Proietti sent through this photo of her with Horam WI and friends and family Walking the World. This was their first ever WWW event but not the last, as they are already planning to put on their walking boots for ACWW in 2019!



## Elsenham WI, Essex, UK

This Women's Institute raised £221.39 with their walk, which included neighbouring WIs. Sent in by Lindsey Peters, who commented "we are confident in assuring our members that their donations would be wisely spent and would make a real impact on people's lives".



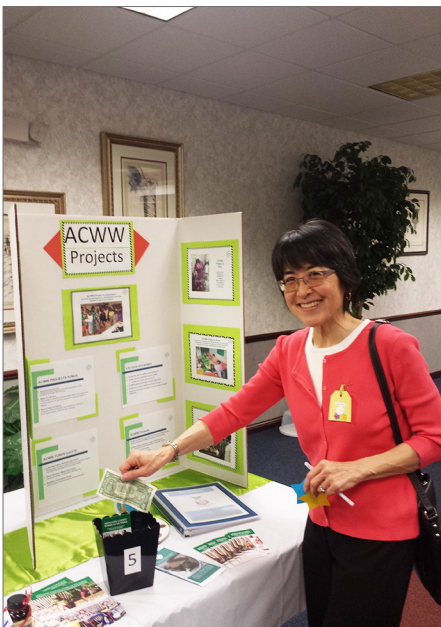
## Lyon's Brook WI, Nova Scotia, Canada

On a cool, wet evening members and friends of the Lyon's Brook Women's Institute held their Women Walk the World. The members enjoyed the opportunity to get some exercise, socialise with their neighbours and learn about ACWW. A local reporter joined for part of the walk and submitted an article to the local paper.



## Pictou District WIs, Nova Scotia, Canada

On a lovely spring evening, members took a break from their Spring District business meeting to celebrate Women Walk the World. Representatives from all nine Women's Institute Branches for Pictou District participated. Branches were encouraged by Pictou District President, Lynn MacLean, to hold their own walk at the Branch level. Front second to right is former ACWW World President, Dr Ellen McLean, (blue jacket), who also took part.



## ▲ Prince Edward Island WI, Canada

Convention Area District #6 Branches of the Prince Edward Island Women's Institute took part in the Women Walk the World in Kensington, Prince Edward Island, Canada recently. L-R: Marlene Clark, Janet Cotton, Kay Wall (Harvest Festival Chair), Lola Meek Ogilvie (Secretary) and Doreen Cole (President),

## ◀ Lake County HCE, Illinois, USA

The Illinois Association for Home and Community Education Annual Meeting recognised Lake County HCE as the local highest fundraisers for Pennies for Friendship, and here we see Lauren Yahiro of Ben Port HCE in front of one of the prominent ACWW displays the organisation organises at its many events. Thanks to Maggie for sending this through to us.

## Crawford County HCE, Illinois, USA

On May 1, 2018 HCE members and guests from Crawford County Illinois, USA met for their annual International meeting. The meeting was held at the Palestine, Illinois First Christian Church. During this meeting Phyllis Adams gave a brief talk about ACWW and Women Walk the World. She told how ACWW uses the money for various projects throughout the world. After listening to the talk twenty-six members and guests took a walk and collected money for Pennies for Friendship. Thanks to Phyllis for sending this in to us, with several photos. Sadly the photos were too low resolution to print, but we are grateful for the efforts of all involved.

## Chrissie Bedwin & Liz Christian Derbyshire FWI, UK

This year saw a spectacular effort from long-term supporters Chrissie Bedwin and Liz Christian from Bedfordshire FWI, who undertook a momentous journey for Women Walk the World, completing the Dertwent Valley Heritage Way over 5 days in April. It follows the river Derwent for its entire length, linking their walk to water, the heart of so many ACWW projects and campaigns.

As they walked we received regular updates in photos and descriptions, and by using social media and a fundraising website, raised £762 in total. More than 30 people donated to their efforts, including family members, friends and neighbours, WIs, individual WI members from around Derbyshire and anonymous supporters.

The pair were also supported along their route by local members who helped keep them supplied, and who helped raise awareness of their good work. The photos below show the support team, and Liz and Chrissie crossing the finish line!



Congratulations to Chrissie and Liz, and thank you for your hard work and effort. It was a real pleasure to see the updates, and we were pleased to share some of them on our Social Media channels. A fantastic effort that we're sure will inspire others for next year.

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## CWA Hartswater, South Africa

Chairman Snoekie Erasmus sent us this photo of the 12 (well, 11 with 1 taking the photo) women who attended their walk on 29 April in Harswater, South Africa.



## Howard Branch, Queensland CWA, Australia

A little group of ladies from Howard Branch walked the length of the pier at Urangan Hervey Bay, Australia. The pictures shown are from start to finish! On the walk was Susan Micklewright (with the chicken T shirt), president Mrs Judy Sheean, Mrs Faye Wilkes Johnson (treasurer) Mrs Gayle Minniecon, Miss Karyn Dudley and a fellow QCWA member from Urangan branch Mrs Cae Adams. Susan says "The pier is 868m, not quite a marathon but a gentle stroll on a warm Sunday morning. We collected AUS\$298 with more pledged. At the end of the walk we joined up with husbands, who kindly looked after baggage etc, and had a well deserved coffee and cake in the nearby cafe". Congratulations and thanks to all who made this effort!



## Vermillion County Home and Community Education, Illinois, USA

Vermillion County HCE held a Women Walk the World picnic and walk on April 26, 2018 at Kennekuk Cove County Park near Danville, Illinois, U. S. A. Nine members and one guest attended. Pennies for Friendship were collected and information about ACWW projects were shared. Mary Stampini sent these photos through, and says "the weather was perfect and we stayed to visit and eat footprint shaped sugar cookies. I had to share this with you because it's so cute. An HCE friend from another county had the footprint cookie cutter and made the cookies for our walk. I made the Rock and sand fabric table runner. They're walking the world.....until we ate them. I took the pictures, so there only 9. The husband in the back is a member, too. It was a fun day. The walk was a sidewalk through the woods and I thought that would be easier walking on our 'not-so-mobile' members".





### ◀ Rockland St Mary & District WI, Norfolk FWI, UK

The Norfolk Federation of WIs was hoping to run their fund-raising Women Walk the World event on the National Trust's Blickling estate for the fourth year in a row. Last minute changes to the Trust's events policies meant paying high fees, so branches held their own walks. Brenda Packman sent us some photos, and sent the following: *"Rockland St Mary and District WI braved the weather to walk at How Hill field studies centre, Ludham, Norfolk. Walking two miles on an exposed embankment by the River Ant was abandoned in favour of exploring How Hill's Secret Garden!"*



### Petersfield Villages Group of WIs, UK

Ladies from five WIs got together for a 9km walk around Bramdean, Hampshire followed by a pub lunch. £220 was raised in sponsorship and donations. Thanks to Ann Mattingly for sending in this photo, and to Petersfield, Street, Stroud Afternoon, Stroud Evening and West Meon WIs.



### Yarrowonga Border Branch, Country Women's Association Victoria, Australia

Members of Yarrowonga Border branch were joined by those from Corowa Branch and friends for their Women Walk the World event. On 26 April they walked around water to raise money for ACWW's water projects, starting at 8.30am at the Traffic Bridge, crossing Lake Mulwala and the Murray River, into New South Wales, and crossing the Weir Bridge over the Murray back into Victoria, finishing at their CWA Hall with a cuppa! Faye Glover sent us this love photo as the ladies took a well-earned rest!

### Templepatrick WI, Northern Ireland

Members of Templepatrick WI took part in Women Walk the World along the Lough Shore to Clotworthy and back. Thanks to Caroline Hamilton who sent this in on behalf of President of Templepatrick WI, Gloria Wallace and the ladies involved. Such a lovely bright photo showing everyone in fine form - thank you for your support.

### Leckpatrick WI, Northern Ireland

On a bright Saturday morning 21 ladies from the area set off on the walk and once again raised the amazing sum of £822.75. Betty Brace says *"My thanks to all who saved their 20p's, sponsored or gave a donation, also Angela and Ivy for the welcome cup tea on our return"*. A superb effort from these ladies, and thanks go to all involved!

### Aylesbeare WI, Devon FWI, UK

Aylesbeare WI invited the villagers and friends of Aylesbeare to join them in the ACWW Women Walk the World Fundraiser on the chilly afternoon of Sunday 29 April 2018. Jackie Browning, President of Aylesbeare WI, says: *"We started and finished the walk at the Village Hall, walking down towards Aylesbeare Church and then across a couple of fields, complete with some friendly cows and their calves. As a reward at the end of the two mile walk we provided tea and cakes in the Village Hall. From the thirty or so people there (walkers and non walkers) we raised the magnificent sum of £175.00. Everyone enjoyed their afternoon very much"*.



### Samford Branch, Queensland Country Women's Association, Australia

Stepping out under clear blue skies in the small village of Samford in Queensland, a group of energetic supporters celebrated 29 April by completing a combined distance of some 115kms - well over 150,000 steps in support of the ACWW's global causes. While located some 30kms from Brisbane, the Queensland State capital, Samford Valley was once a major banana growing and dairying area, but has now become a popular living space for those seeking a gentler pace of life away from the hustle and bustle of the city. The Branch has a growing membership of women (several being from long-established local farming families) who enjoy social interaction, companionship, shared interests in home-making and an opportunity to undertake charitable service to benefit other women and families, especially in the small island nations of the Pacific.

We loved the photo collage so much that we put it on the back cover of this issue - congratulations to all involved!



### Springville-Island WI, Canada

On April 29 in the little village of Millstream, Nova Scotia, the Springville-Island Women's Institute planned to meet for their annual walk at 4pm. The rain poured all day but at 3:45 as the ladies assembled, the rain stopped, making a walk around the lake possible. Here they are on the deck just before enjoying a fabulous evening meal together. Back row L-R: Ruth MacLeod, Debbie White, Jackie Ross, Rose Gillis, Gloria Fraser, Diane MacLeod. Front L-R: Diane Wright, Joanne Smith, Ellen McLean (former World President of ACWW). Thanks to Rose Gillis for sending this in!



### Nannup Branch, CWA Western Australia

Members and friends of Nannup branch of the Country Women's Association of Western Australia met for their walk on a beautiful day. After their walk, they enjoyed a morning tea and social activities. ACWW UN Committee member Pat Twiss gave a presentation on ACWW and encouraged women to take part in the Global Survey of the Living Conditions of Rural Women. Generous donations were received, and we send our thanks to all involved.

**Thank you to all who took part in Women Walk the World 2018!**

Don't forget that ACWW Day is 29 April every year, but you can organise your walks and other activities for any day that suits you. The most important thing is to tell people about ACWW, raise funds for PFF, and have fun!

### ▼ Lochaber WAB, South Australia

South Australian Lochaber WAB Branch raised \$107 for ACWW Women Walk the World Funds. Fourteen members travelled to the seaside town of Robe and visited the site of the Chinese Memorial. Between 1856-1858, around 16,500 Chinese people landed at Robe and walked 200 miles to the Victorian Goldfields in search of gold. All ladies had an enjoyable day but decided that walking the 200 miles was a bit too ambitious! Thanks to Jannette Boord for sending this in.



### ▲ Wig & District WI, Ceredigion, Wales

Bethan Williams, Secretary of Wig & District WI in Ceredigion, Wales describes a "stroll along the coastline under a cloudless blue sky. The impressive Llangrannog Peninsula formed the background with the waves breaking on the dramatic rock formations below creating a soundtrack. We were given a description of the current Ceredigion Project to support the Kanikkar Tribal Women in Tamil Nadu, India in garment making, batik and jewellery making, with 121 women benefiting. Our enjoyable afternoon ended with a cream tea in the Plwmp Tart Café (named after a local village) and a creditable collection for the Project was made".



### Risley WI, Derbyshire FWI, UK

On a cool and breezy but fine morning, eleven ladies plus one dog set out from The Risley Park Inn towards the north of Risley village. They walked across fields, up and down hills, over stiles, through a farm and a bluebell wood, for 4 miles, returning for a delicious and much needed lunch. A total of £227 was given in support of the walk to ACWW for Derbyshire's latest Project in Uganda (Rice and Maize Value Chains). Thanks to Kathleen Gooding for the photo.



### Morgan County Extension Homemakers, Indiana, USA

A group from the Extension Homemakers walked around the town of Martinsville, with beautiful, sunny weather. 20 people took part, along with and 2 dogs. We passed out water to others in town as we walked. A fact sheet about landmarks was passed out.



### Milne Bay Estates Women's Association, Papua New Guinea

We received a fantastic multi-page report detailing the participation of six groups, totally 90 women aged 18-60 from the Milne Bay Estates Women's Association. The groups were Mariawatte, Padipadi, Sagarai, Waigani, Magisibu, and Hagita. Ataata Village, and Giligili CWAS. Starting at 5am, they walked 9.8 Kms to the Hagita Community Hall to demonstrate their sewing, craft work and gardening skills. The groups managed to raise £415 for Pennies for Friendship. Congratulations to all those who took part in this first-time event!



### Cercle de Fermières Boucherville, Federation 17 Montérégie East, Canada

17 women walked to raise funds for ACWW, and show their solidarity with women all over the world. Thanks to Suzanne Loiselle for sending in this lovely photo.

## Thermonuclear Tests - 1959

"Noticing with feelings of genuine fear the increase of nuclear tests destructive to humanity, and the potential dangers of total annihilation to which the world today stands exposed; seeing the incalculable damage that these nuclear tests destructive to humanity have already done to the peaceful population of the places near which such tests are being carried out; This Ninth Triennial Conference of the ACWW pleads in all humility with all the nations of the world in the interests of the great civilizations that they have evolved, in the interests of safeguarding the human race from extinction, in the name of millions of innocent women and children of the world, to suspend voluntarily all nuclear tests destructive to humanity and in doing so earn the gratitude of an ailing humanity revitalised with the hope of possible survival."

## Environmental Pollution - 1971

That in view of the ever-increasing danger from pollution of man's whole environment, the members of ACWW undertake to do all they can to prevent further damage in their own neighbourhood and to urge their Governments to take immediate preventative and remedial action.

## Peace - 1950

That freedom from want, freedom of thought, freedom of expression, and freedom of conscience for all individuals be accepted as the fundamental concept of peace by the ACWW.

# WOMEN LEAD THE WORLD

Ahead of their time, these 6 Resolutions from ACWW members remain as relevant and important today as when first passed

## Rural Areas 1974

That societies of ACWW study means of promoting projects to encourage rural residents to remain in rural areas by increasing educational opportunities and helping to create jobs.

## Population - 1974

That ACWW through its Member Societies be recommended to take effective steps to promote information and education on the responsibilities of planning families and urge their governments to provide family planning education and facilities for all women and men.

## Citizenship - 1953 Women's Responsibilities

Whereas orderly world government depends upon good and informed citizenry in the community, the state (or its equivalent), and the nation, as well as internationally, and an understanding of how governments affects the family unit, it is recommended that ACWW work towards interesting women to assume their responsibilities as informed and active citizens of their own countries and of the world and that they:

- a. be informed on major legislation, which affects the home and the family;
- b. be prepared to accept local, state (or its equivalent) and national offices, and to serve the UN and its Specialised Agencies in any way possible;
- c. vote in all elections wherever that opportunity is given to women and work for that privilege wherever it has been denied;
- d. study the qualifications and programmes of candidates who seek to represent the people;
- e. encourage the training of leaders in citizenship and foster citizenship training for all.

# RESUMES OF NOMINEES TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2019-2022

The following have been duly and properly nominated to stand for election at the 29th Triennial World Conference, 4-10 April 2019

## Position and Name of Nominee

### World President

HRH Princess Azizah of Pahang, Malaysia

Mrs Magdie De Kock, South Africa

Mrs Henrietta Schoeman, South Africa

### Deputy World President & Chairman of Agriculture Committee

Mrs Jo Ellen Almond, United States of America

Mrs Alison Burnett, Scotland, UK

### Honorary Treasurer & Chairman of Finance & Membership Committee

Miss Ruth Cargill, Australia

### Honorary Secretary & Chairman of Triennial Conference Committee

Ms Marie Bradbery, Australia

Mrs Janice Langley, England

Mrs Christine Reaburn, Canada

Mrs Christine Trewick, England

### Chairman of the United Nations Committee

Mrs Anna Boshoff, South Africa

Miss Nicky Enderby, England

Mrs Suzanne Garrett, Australia

Mrs Marie Kenny, Canada

Mrs Lauren Winter, Australia

### Chairman of the Communications & Marketing Committee

Mrs Sheila Needham, Canada

### Chairman of the Projects Committee

Mrs Hazel Armstrong, England

Mrs Mabel Moyo, Zimbabwe

## Nominee's Member Society

Women's Institute of Pahang

Women's Agricultural Union Mpumalanga

Women's Agricultural Union Mpumalanga

Indiana Extension Homemakers Association

Scottish Women's Institutes

Country Women's Association of New South Wales

Country Women's Association of New South Wales

West Sussex Federation of Women's Institutes

Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario

Herefordshire Federation Women's Institutes

Overaal Women's Agricultural Union

Gloucestershire Federation of Women's Institutes

Country Women's Association of New South Wales

Federated Women's Institutes of Prince Edward Island

Country Women's Association of the Northern Territory

Quebec Women's Institutes

East Yorkshire Federation of Women's Institutes

Jekesa Pfungwa Vulingqondo

## Position and Name of Nominee

### Area President: Canada

Ms Linda Hoy, Canada

### Area President: Caribbean, Central & South America

Ms Irene Hinds, Trinidad and Tobago

Miss Donna Miller, Jamaica

### Area President: Central & South Asia

Sister Lucas Arul Seeli, India

### Area President: East, West & Central Africa

Ms Irene Chinje, Cameroon

### Area President: Europe

Mrs Afrodita Roman, Romania

### Area President: South East Asia & The Far East

Mrs Maria Abdul Karim, Indonesia

Mrs Norjanah Binti Razali, Malaysia

### Area President: Southern Africa

Mrs Anphia Grobler, South Africa

Dr Marina Muller, Namibia

### Area President: South Pacific

Mrs Gail Commens, Australia

### Area President: United States of America

Ms Marilyn Daughetee, United States of America

Mrs Bonnie Teeples, United States of America

Mrs Patricia Weitzmann, United States of America

## Nominee's Member Society

Federated Women's Institutes of Canada

Trinidad and Tobago Federation of Women's Institutes

Jamaica Federation of Women

Society of Daughters of Mary Immaculate

Women's Empowerment Enterprise Network

Asociata Femeia Mileniului III

Persatuan Wanita Republik

Sarawak Federation of Women's Institutes

Women's Agricultural Union Mpumalanga

Namibian Women's Society

Country Women's Association of New South Wales

Illinois Association for Home and Community Education

Oregon Association for Family and Community Education

Illinois Association for Home and Community Education

## World President



**HRH Princess Azizah of Pahang, Malasia**

Women's Institute of Pahang, MALAYSIA

**Nominated by:** Country Women's Association of New South Wales

Currently ACWW United Nations representative in Geneva, President of Women's Institute of Pahang, from 1986. Formerly ACWW Area President for South East Asia & the Far East 2010-2016. Vice-Chairman ACWW United Nations Committee 2007-2010. Attended Commission on Status of Women in New York 2018 & 2010. Attended 5 ACWW Triennial and 6 Area Conferences. An active member serving as President of the WI of Pahang since 1986 and sits in the Consultative Committee of the National WI of Malaysia. Has held, and still holds office, in Malaysian Girl Guides Society at State Level as President, National Level as Deputy Vice-President; Fund Ambassador at the International level and as Board Member of the Olave Baden-Powell Society and Co-Founder and Royal Patron of the Asia Pacific World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. *'My passion for cooking, sewing, preservation of heritage for textiles, music and the arts and the advancement of them have been the driving force of all my work to empower girls and women in the Asian region.'*



**Mrs Magdie de Kock**

Women's Agricultural Union Mpumalanga, SOUTH AFRICA

**Nominated by:** Cape Women's Agricultural Association, Women's Empowerment Enterprise Network, Jekesa Pfungwa Vulingqondo.

A member of the Women's Agricultural Union Mpumalanga, Die Dameskring and an Individual member of ACWW. She held National positions as Deputy President and CEO of Die Dameskring, Trustee of the SA National Education Fund, Deputy President of SAWAU, Founder President of WAU Mpumalanga and Trustee of various South African organizations. Member of ACWW Publications & Promotion Committee from 2010-2013 and currently in her second term as Chairman of the Communications & Marketing Committee. She is also a member of the Executive Committee of ACWW. Attended five ACWW Triennial Conferences and six Southern Africa Area Conferences where she often presented workshops on leadership. As an invited speaker she attended the European Area Conference in Norway in 2015 and the South Pacific Area Conference in New Zealand in 2017. She has qualifications in public relations, project managing, leadership and International meeting procedures. Magdie was previously a school principal and is now a housewife and volunteer worker.



**Mrs Henrietta Schoeman**

Women's Agricultural Union Mpumalanga, SOUTH AFRICA

**Nominated by:** South African Homemakers Organisation, Kwazulu-Natal FWI, Kent-West Kent Women's Institute

Currently ACWW Secretary & Chairman Triennial Conference Committee (2013-2019); as ACWW Secretary had responsibility for 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Triennial World Conferences. Joined ACWW in 1988. Formerly member of ACWW Finance Committee (2007-2013), being Vice-Chair for the second term. Previously WAU Mpumalanga branch liaisons officer, branch Chair for six years, regional Chair for six years, WAU Mpumalanga President for 6 years; at national level South African Women's Agricultural Union (SAWAU) was Treasurer, Secretary and then National President (2009-2015). Attended 6 ACWW Triennial and 12 Area Conferences in four Areas. Attended Commission on Status of Women in New York 2018 & 2017. *'I am married to a farmer, have 2 children and 3 grandchildren. I enjoy travel, reading, gardening, crochet and crafts.'*

## Deputy World President & Chairman of the Agriculture Committee



**Mrs Jo Ellen Almond**

Indiana Extension Homemakers Association, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**Nominated by:** Indiana Extension Homemakers Association

Currently ACWW Area President USA (2016-2019). Previously ACWW Secretary (2010-2013), member of ACWW Projects Committee for two triennials. Served as the ACWW liaison for the 2013 India Triennial. Formerly President Indiana Extension Homemakers Association (IEHA); Vice-President National Volunteer Outreach Network and Treasurer Country Women's Council. Previous Representative, Purdue University's Council of Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Board (PCARET). Held various local, state and national positions. Founder of First Books for Kids state programme providing books for underprivileged preschool aged children. The programme continues today across the state of Indiana. *'In 2015 I was instrumental in assisting the IEHA Leadership Committee in launching the "I Can" educational program; developed to teach basic home and life skills to community members in need of these skills. I developed materials for leadership training and continue to assist this successful program by continuing to develop new materials.'*



**Mrs Alison Burnett**

Scottish Women's Institutes, Scotland, UNITED KINGDOM

**Nominated by:** Scottish Women's Institutes, Women's Institute of Pahang

ACWW Treasurer (2010-2016), previously member of ACWW United Nations Committee (2004-2007) and ACWW Finance Committee (2007-2010). Organised 3-day workshop for Board Nominees prior to 2016 Triennial Conference. Attended 5 Triennial, 3 European and 5 other Area Conferences; and 2 US state conferences. Represented the World President at the first Eurasian Women's Forum in Russia in 2015. Visited ACWW Projects in India, Indonesia, Southern Africa, Lesotho and Jamaica. Attended Commission on Status of Women in New York 2018 & 2007. Formerly ACWW representative for Gwent Federation WI (9 years) also, Board of Trustees Gwent FWI (9 years). Currently Convenor of Arran Federation of SWIS' contribution to Arran Agricultural Show. *'I live in a rural area, have knowledge of farming and rural life, including a detailed knowledge of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation. I believe my enthusiasm and understanding of all things ACWW, along with my business knowledge (MSc in Entrepreneurial Studies and over 20 years teaching Business Studies) will enable me to support the World President. I feel we can work well together to raise ACWW to become the leading charity working to improve the lives of women and families worldwide.'*

# Honorary Secretary & Chairman of the Triennial Conference Committee



**Ms Marie Bradbery**

Country Women's Association of New South Wales, Terrigal Evening Branch, AUSTRALIA

**Nominated by:** Country Women's Association of New South Wales

Member of Country Women's Association of New South Wales for 20 years. Held various branch positions- Vice President (3 years), Treasurer (4 years)\*, International Officer (6 years)\*, Cookery Officer (6 years)\*, Branch Conference Representative (2 years) (\*not always consecutive). Group – currently Vice President (3 years), Publicity Officer (1 year). Attended 2 ACWW Triennial and 2 Area Conferences; was teller at 27th Triennial. Member of organising committee of CWA of NSW State Conference (2017), responsible for ecumenical church service. Currently on organising committee Sydney Royal Easter Show (10 years)\*. Cookery Judge (Group and State). Four children and 6 grandchildren. Established school uniform manufacturing & retail business and managed family instant print shop. Has Certificate in Book-keeping & Financial Skills, Certificate III in Dispensary Technicians Training and Certificate IV in Business (Frontline Management); on retirement was Manager of a retail pharmacy. A Justice of the Peace. Travelled to Singapore, Malaysia and Timor Leste with church groups visiting volunteers working with locals. *'These trips, together with the trip to India for the ACWW Triennial, gave me an insight into some of the difficulties faced by people and the efforts of volunteers to share, help and educate.'*



**Mrs Janice Langley**

West Sussex Federation of Women's Institutes, England, UNITED KINGDOM

**Nominated by:** Hampshire County Federation of WI's

Joined the WI in 1970, *'confirming my belief in how important the role of women is and how education and supporting initiatives can make a huge difference to the way they can live their lives.'* Joined ACWW about 40 years ago. Attended Triennial and European Area and Conferences as delegate for Federation and the National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI). Served on ACWW Projects Committee (2001-2007) and Promotions and Publications Committee (2007-2010) and helped with presentations and workshops. Joined the NFWI Board in 2002. Was involved with launch of WI membership magazine, WI Life and was Chair of the Membership Committee when WI introduced the new logo "the WI Inspiring Women". Elected NFWI Chair June 2013- June 2017, *'a challenging and exciting experience, one of my proudest moments was to welcome her Majesty the Queen to the Centenary Annual meeting in 2015 at the Royal Albert Hall, London.'* Since retiring become more involved with local WI. Now co-ordinating events to celebrate the West Sussex FWI Centenary in 2019. *'I was born in the North East of England and moved to Sussex when I married in 1968. I have three children all married and four beautiful grandchildren.'*

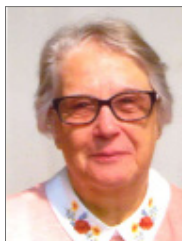


**Mrs Christine Reaburn**

Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, Zion Line - Beachburg Branch, CANADA

**Nominated by:** Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario

Currently on the ACWW United Nations Committee (2016-2019), previously ACWW Agriculture Committee (2010-2016) and its Vice-Chair (2013-2016). Attended the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations 2012. Co-Chair Hostess Society Organising Committee 23rd Triennial 2001, Hamilton, Ontario; representative on ACWW Triennial Conference Committee (1998-2001). Attended 10 Triennial and 7 Canada Area Conferences since 1983. Member of 2017 Canada Area Conference Organising Committee. Vice-Chair of Organising Committee for WI 100th Celebration & Federated WI's of Canada Convention (1997), and Chair FWI of Ontario Conferences 2004 and 2017. President FWI of Ontario 1999-2002; International Officer 2002-2005 and Executive Officer FWI of Canada 2009-2012. In FWI of Ontario held Executive positions at all levels, including Provincial; President 1999-2002, International officer 2002-2005, Board Secretary 2008 and helped to organise & Chair Conferences 2004 and 2017. While Ontario's Executive Officer on the National Board 2009-2012 chaired the Citizenship, Legislation, Extension and Membership Committees. *'I am a partner in a family farm with my husband and two daughters.'*



**Mrs Christine Trewick**

Herefordshire Federation Women's Institutes, England, UNITED KINGDOM

**Nominated by:** Herefordshire Federation Women's Institutes

Currently member of ACWW United Nations Committee (2016-2019); previously ACWW Triennial Conference Committee (2010-2016) and its Vice-Chairman 2013-2016. Member of organising committee for ACWW Triennial in Warwick. Attended the Commission on the Status of Women Conference in New York (2018). Joined Sedgeberrow WI in 1986, President 1994-1996. Gloucestershire Federation WI Executive (1998-2004). 2 years ACWW representative for Gloucestershire. Represented all women's groups in Gloucestershire at a conference in Sweden. *'In 2004 I joined the local branch of Mencap which is a charity for people born with physical or mental disabilities (made Chairman in 2007). I live in a village about 100 miles from London, I have been married for 45 years and we have 2 children and 3 grandchildren. I enjoy gardening, I belong to our WI Book Group and I work out in the gym twice a week.'*

## Honorary Treasurer & Chairman of the Finance & Membership Committee



**Miss Ruth Cargill**

Country Women's Association of New South Wales, Dubbo Evening Branch, AUSTRALIA

**Nominated by:** Country Women's Association of New South Wales

An Individual Member of ACWW since 2010. Joined Country Women's Association of NSW (Australia) in 2001. Held various branch, group and state positions. Member of the State Executive Committee for CWA of NSW for 7 years (2011-2018) holding the position of State Honorary Treasurer for the last 3 years. During this time members have commented on her ability to make the finances understandable to everyone. Attended 2 Triennial and 3 Area Conferences. Was Treasurer of the Conference Organising Committee for the South Pacific Area Conference held in Dubbo, NSW in 2014. Has an Electrical Engineering Degree and a Graduate Diploma of Education (Mathematics); while at University also studied first year accounting and economics. Has worked as an engineering journalist and a Mathematics teacher and currently works full time at an independent Christian School in regional NSW working in the areas of IT support, data management, timetabling and reporting. The School is supportive of her involvement in CWA and ACWW. Ruth grew up on a beef cattle/prime lamb property in rural NSW, that is still run by her brother's family.

## Chairman of the Communications & Marketing Committee



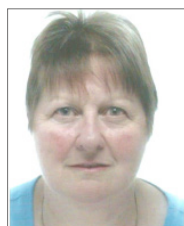
**Mrs Sheila Needham**

Quebec Women's Institutes, CANADA

**Nominated by:** Quebec Women's Institutes

Currently ACWW Canada Area President (2013-2019). *'These two terms as Area President have challenged me and they have broadened my knowledge and understanding of ACWW.'* Attended her first ACWW Triennial Conference in 1992 and every one since. *'Women's institutes have been an important part of my life since 1974 when I became a member of the South Bolton Branch of the Quebec Women's Institutes. During the 44 years since, I have served several times as Branch and County President as well as Publicity Chair. These years of experience with Quebec WI and as Provincial President have led me to serve as President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada. During the last 6 years I have served as Chair of Publicity and Editor of our QWI newsletter and I value being familiar with social media. I would like to share my experience and expand on my knowledge of ACWW further if given the opportunity to act as Chair of Communications and Marketing Committee.'*

## Chairman of the Projects Committee

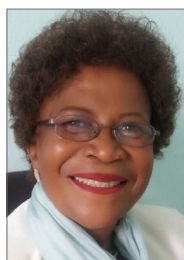


**Mrs Hazel Armstrong**

East Yorkshire Federation of Women's Institutes, England, UNITED KINGDOM

**Nominated by:** East Yorkshire Federation of Women's Institutes

Currently member of ACWW Projects Committee (2013-2019). Attended 1 Triennial and 4 Area Conferences. Has monitored 30+ projects, an ACWW Projects Resource Person. *'I have participated and enjoyed the last six years as a member of the Projects committee. As well as monitoring in India, Bangladesh and Mongolia I understand the needs of the women as I also meet many in need during my expeditions to Latin America (Peru and Colombia). I feel I have the time, energy and commitment to serve as Chair of Projects for the next triennium.'*



**Mrs Mabel Moyo**

Jekesa Pfungwa Vulingqondo, ZIMBABWE

**Nominated by:** Jekesa Pfungwa Vulingqondo, South African Homemakers Organisation, Zimbabwe Farmers' Union, Women's Empowerment Enterprise Network

Currently ACWW Southern Africa Area President (2013-2019). Joined ACWW in 1983. Joined what is now Jekesa Pfungwa Vulingqondo, in 1975; currently National Deputy Director (from 1983). Advocacy and Programmes for Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe since 1983. Also projects consultant for young women within Business Entrepreneurship, International Youth Foundation (USAID), projects monitoring and evaluation within Enterprise Business Development Programme, WE Effect (Sweden); locally, Women's Network access to documentation. Attended 5 ACWW Triennial and 4 Area Conferences. Has University BA degree in Community Development; Diplomas in Project Organization & Management and Women in Development. Also certificates in: Food and Nutrition Education; Management of Agricultural and Other Income Generating Projects; Projects Management for Women in Sub-Saharan Africa; Food and Nutrition; Nutrition Programme Planning and Nutrition in Emergencies. 35 years' experience in team building, implementation of management plans for projects, motivation, risk management, managing change, project monitoring and evaluation, for ACWW and others, including Zero Hunger and challenge projects. *'Born in rural Zimbabwe, the amplification of the voice of rural women has always been my passion. I am a confident woman with leadership skills nurtured by ACWW and JPV. I use my authority and platform to give voice for the women who are silent.'*



# Chairman of the United Nations Committee



**Mrs Anna Boshoff**

Overaal Women's Agricultural Union, SOUTH AFRICA

**Nominated by:** Bagokeng Women's Club

ACWW Area President (1998-2004); ACWW UN Committee (2004-2007), Triennial Conference Committee (1995-1998); Promotions & Publications Committee (1992-1995). Attended 11 Triennials, Coordinator Triennial Conference South Africa (1998). WAU National President (2 terms), Provincial President (2 Terms), Local Institute/Branch (various capacities). Founded South African Homemakers' Organisation (1993) a society for rural domestic workers seeking jobs who are trained and educated to become empowered. Bid-writer and Coordinator for successful UNESCO Southern African 5-day Workshop (2003) "Educate to Empower" for 20 women from different Southern African countries. While on the UN committee, proposed ACWW's attendance at UN Commission on the Status of Women to become acquainted with the UN and what it offers rural women. *'It is my belief and vision that ACWW should extend its relationship with the UN. I am delighted that decisions such as the IFRW, the planned global survey, and making more of ACWW's consultative status with the UN are in the offing.'* University BA courses/diplomas: Marketing & Fundraising, Project Management, Meeting Procedures. *'I am committed to education and empowerment of disadvantaged and rural women to generate income, become self-sustainable and financially independent, through various voluntary organisations; currently concentrating on Sexual and Reproductive Health for Girls.'* Currently business owner.



**Miss Nicky Enderby**

Gloucestershire Federation of Women's Institutes, England, UNITED KINGDOM

**Nominated by:** Women's Empowerment Enterprise Network

Assistant Conference Manager for ACWW Triennial 2016. Worked and volunteered at ACWW Central Office 2015-2016 in preparation for the Triennial and, with Amade Players, assisted in organising several fundraisers for ACWW. Engagement officer for Anglo-Indian Music Productions. Has worked internationally as performer and educator and teaches students of all ages. *'I am impressed with the role ACWW takes in advocating for the women of the world, using its position as an NGO with consultative status to UN Agencies to play a major role in advancing UN goals and objectives as well as helping to raise public awareness of rural women's issues. I grew up in a village, now my work with girls and young women from various socio-economic, ethnic and religious backgrounds, spurs my interest in advocacy. Future generations of young women are very aware of the inequalities they face and are unwilling to accept that. I feel passionately that ACWW is a vital part of the civil society mechanism and crucial to ensuring that the Sustainable Development Goals are strived for, assisted by results from the Global Survey.'* A musician by training, she increasingly focuses on cross-curriculum education, preparing young people for the challenges of the modern world.



**Mrs Suzanne Garrett**

Country Women's Association of New South Wales, AUSTRALIA

**Nominated by:** Country Women's Association of New South Wales

Past State Vice-President of CWA of NSW, also Executive member, Group President, Group Executive rep, Branch President, Secretary, Publicity officer Chairman and committee member of the CWA of NSW Social issues Committee. Attended ACWW Triennial and Area Conferences. ACWW Projects Committee (2010-2013), ACWW United Nations Committee (2013-2016), briefly Deputy Chairman. Monitored ACWW Projects in India. ACWW representative to UN event in Australia. Attended UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York. *'I have 23- years hands on experience working with the Hill Tribes Women of Northern Thailand. I have regular opportunities to speak about ACWW in UK and Australia. Currently active member of the multicultural congregation in my local Church.'* Has an Associated Diploma in Applied Linguistics to teach English as a second language; advanced certificates in Computing, Secretarial studies and Communication; Diplomas in Counselling for Suicide Prevention, Advocacy, Conflict resolution. Qualified Church consultant to ensure good health in congregations. Trained Vocalist and Choir consultant. Married to a retired solicitor and has 5 children and 15 grand-children. Retired small holding farmer of alpacas and breeder of dogs.



**Mrs Marie Kenny**

Federated Women's Institutes of Prince Edward Island, CANADA

**Nominated by:** Prince Edward Island Women's Institute

Marie grew up on a rural family farm having a deep appreciation of rural life and the WI as *'the backbone of rural communities across our country'*. Life member of PEIWI and FWIC Canada, having held numerous positions including: National President of FWIC Canada, Branch, District and Provincial Presidents; National Finance Chair, Provincial Chair of Citizenship & Legislation. Attended numerous ACWW Triennial Conferences and was an ACWW project monitor. Leadership experience includes PEI Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention, Ministerial Committee on Buying Local, WI Legacy Bike Tour and Canadian delegate at the UN Commission on the Status of Women. She has led numerous outreach teams to different regions of the world assisting in disaster relief, compassion ministries, homelessness and poverty. Accolades include: Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, Canadian Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers, Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Canadian Woman of the Year, Senate Sesquicentennial Medal for valuable service to the nation; nominated one of Canada's most influential and aspiring women leaders 2014. *"I am a strong team player, striving to bring out the best in others. I believe in dealing with issues through discussion and deliberation, working to achieving a unified vision and seeing it to fruition."*

1 further nomination is on the following page



**Mrs Lauren Winter**

Country Women's Association of the Northern Territory Inc., AUSTRALIA

**Nominated by:** Country Women's Association of the Northern Territory Inc.

CWA of NT positions include Branch International officer, Vice President and President; Territory International Officer. Girl Guide leader in Alice Springs and Girl Guide Contingent leader for the NT. National Rural Women's Coalition E-Leader participant 2017. Neighbourhood Watch NT Southern Region Coordinator. Primary school Councillor (20 years), currently Chairman. Previously St. Philips College P&FA secretary (10 years) and Kinderym Instructor for 15 years. *'My involvement with CWA began as a need to be with like-minded women but very quickly grew into a passion to help on a world scale.'* Attended 1 ACWW Triennial Conference *'which inspired me to seek a role that would allow me to become more involved in helping to find solutions to broader women's issues. The many roles I have undertaken as a volunteer in various charitable organisations have equipped me with the skills and knowledge to embrace and successfully fulfil the position of Chairman of the UN Committee.'* Spent the last 26 years raising her 6 children. Previous career in travel and hospitality industries. Currently a librarian. Volunteer experience includes writing policies and implementing positive changes such as healthy canteen, sunsafe policy and bully-free schools; has championed children's needs.

## Area President: Canada



**Mrs Linda Hoy**

Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, CANADA

**Nominated by:** Federated Women's Institutes of Canada

President of Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (to 2015-July 2018); has served 18 years on the FWIC board on the Finance Committee (two terms) and Citizenship & Legislation, Education & Culture Committees and co-chaired the FWIC Conference in 2003. Has held many offices at national, provincial, county and branch level of WI. President of Quebec Women's Institutes (2003-2006) then Secretary for two years. Attended 5 ACWW Triennial and many Area Conferences. Other activities include being Treasurer of her WI branch & county and church and Communications & Publicity Chair of the Compton County Historical Society. She is an avid photographer and gardener.

## Area President: Caribbean, Central & South America



**Ms Irene Hinds**

Trinidad and Tobago Federation of Women's Institutes, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**Nominated by:** Guyana Federation of Women's Institutes, Trinidad and Tobago Women's Institutes

Currently President of Trinidad & Tobago WI Executive (2017-2020), previously served as Youth Officer, Treasurer and Secretary. Joined the St George District of TTFWI in 1994, participated in many activities and held the position of Secretary, Treasurer and Vice-President of the Federation. Attended 2 ACWW Triennial and 4 Area Conferences.



**Miss Donna Miller**

Jamaica Federation of Women, JAMAICA

**Nominated by:** Jamaica Federation of Women

Treasurer of Jamaica Federation of Women, preparing monthly and annual financial reports for the Board and Annual Report for Island Council Meeting. Member of Fundraising Committee, with two successful events to fund building renovation. Assisted with Island Council Meeting (2016); strategic review of JFW (2016) and branch review (2017). Attended 2 ACWW Area Conferences. Professional Training & Education includes: Train the Trainer, People Skills & Respect at Work; Leadership Standards & Coaching Leaders; Harvard Manage Mentor – Leading & Motivating Advanced Team Facilitation Skills Communicating & Presenting Effectively. University of Manchester (2015) Post Grad Diploma Business Administration, MBA- Finance (Taught Elements). University of Technology (2000) BBA – HRM (Taught Elements). Diploma – Business Administration, Certificate in Personnel Management (1993). Currently working as a freelancer (2014 to date); previously Citibank, N.A Jamaica Branch (1997 – 2013) Country Human Resources Officer – Vice President; Norconsult International A.S. (1996) Office Manager/Project Officer; Procter & Gamble Inc. (1988 – 1995) Administrative Coordinator. Other experience includes coaching and mentoring people at all levels; project & risk assessment; data analysis; conference and events planning. *'I am passionate about Agricultural research, agronomy, horticulture, apiculture and animal Science. I believe I am an effective negotiator and facilitator, establishing and maintaining lasting relationships.'*

## Area President: Central and South Asia



**Sister Lucas Arul Seeli**

Society of Daughters of Mary Immaculate, INDIA

**Nominated by:** Society of Daughters of Mary Immaculate

Currently active member of DMI. A religious nun since 1994 involved with projects and financial management programme for DMI (from 2017). Attended 3 ACWW Triennial and 2 Area Conferences. Working for DMI, was involved with socio-pastoral development activities (1994-2015); the women's development programme (1994-1997); office maintenance and assisting the Project desk with documents (1997-2000); children and women empowerment programme and sponsorship programme outside the country (2010-2015); women leaders promotion in African country (2015); involved with promoting health and medical programme in Africa among women and children, especially school and college students (2016). University Bachelor Degree, Diploma in Child Development and Women Empowerment, Master's Degree in social work; Masters in Philosophy; Certificate course in Management.

## Area President: East, West and Central Africa



**Ms Irene Chinje**  
Women's Empowerment Enterprise Network, CAMEROON

**Nominated by:** Vocational Agency of Wisdom, Reach Out

Currently Area President East, West & Central Africa (2016-2019). Has been involved with women and women's organisations as President of Women's Empowerment Enterprise Network; and consultancies with local councils 'have given me much understanding in empowering women and standing for them. Working with women is quite a challenge. As Area President, meeting and working with member societies has increased my skills in leadership. I have stood as a voice of the voiceless and developed the voice through training, education, advocacy and media debates. Monitoring and evaluation of projects has helped me get more involved with community outreach and a big understanding of the efforts of the rural woman, the need for their empowerment and improved family life. My long experience as a nutrition teacher puts me in a better position to advance the Sustainable Development Goals, their importance to family nutrition and health, and value to family sustainability – which is a plus to any society.' Professional expertise: BSC Women Studies, Sociology and Anthropology. HND in Project Management and Evaluation. Diploma in Education and Teacher's Certificate.

## Area President: Europe



**Mrs Afrodita Roman**  
Asociatia Femeia Mileniului III, ROMANIA

**Nominated by:** Asociatia Femeia Mileniului III, Federation of Women's Institutes of Northern Ireland

Currently President and founder member of the Woman of the Third Millennium Association (Asociatia Femeia Mileniului III). An individual member of ACWW 1996-2000 and 2016 to present. Was awarded an Elsie Zimmern scholarship in 2006 and studied Social Work Management for 2 years. Currently a member of ACWW Triennial Conference Committee (since 2013) and a resource person for monitoring projects. Worked on organising the 2017 European Area Conference, held in Tirgu Mures, Romania. Attended 3 ACWW Triennial and 6 Area Conferences. 'I enjoyed learning things about ACWW and making friendships all over Europe and around the world.' Wrote, submitted, coordinated and implemented projects between 2006-2016; organised events, attracted members and visited projects. Has a full-time job, as Clients Relations Specialist in an important private company in Romania, 'so I know what good relationships and communication means.'

## Area President: South East Asia & The Far East



**Mrs Maria Abdul Karim**  
Persatuan Wanita Republik, INDONESIA

**Nominated by:** Persatuan Wanita Republik Indonesia

Currently ACWW Area President for South East Asia and the Far East (2016-2019). Former National President of PERWARI for six years, represented PERWARI in the national level. Ten years in the umbrella organization and on film and television. Head of foreign affairs of PERWARI organization. Chair of two Foundations of PERWARI, Foundation for the schools in Jakarta and Foundation for PERWARI Headquarters. At local level, was Secretary and Chair. Represented PERWARI to the League of Women Voters in the USA (1972). Lecturer at Hasanuddin University in Criminal Law for over 30 years. Post graduate at Indonesia University. Attended 3 ACWW Triennial and 4 Area Conferences.



**Mrs Norjanah Binti Razali**  
Sarawak Federation of Women's Institutes, MALAYSIA

**Nominated by:** Sarawak Federation of Women's Institutes, Women's Institute of Pahang

Currently, State Chairperson of Sarawak Federation of Women's Institutes (2015-2018) and simultaneously Chairman of Women Institute Sarawak Cooperative Berhad. Also a Board member of Angkatan Zaman Mansang (since 2004); Deputy Chairperson of MAKSAK Wanita Sarawak; Advisor to Dewanita Dubs; Vice President of National Council Women Organisation for Sarawak Zone and Secretary to The Kampung Patingan (Kuching) Charitable Trust Board. Life Member SFWI since 2010. Honours Bachelor's degree from University Pertanian (1985) in Human Development Science (Honours). Master's degree in Rural Social Development from Reading University, UK (1998). Employed by State Civil Service was as Rural Sociologist in Sarawak Agriculture Department (1989 to 2004); after serving 12 years was seconded to Sarawak Women's Bureau, under the Ministry of Social Development, as the Director until December 2013. 2014 to 2016 was posted to the Chief Minister's Department as Principal Assistant Director to Entrepreneur Development Unit. Retired in 2016, but currently re-engaged as a contract officer as Principal Assistant Secretary to the Ministry of Industrial and Entrepreneur Development Sarawak. Currently actively involved in Non-Governmental Organisations, at State and National levels. Have attended 1 ACWW Triennial World Conference.

## Area President: Southern Africa



**Mrs Anphia Grobler**

Women's Agricultural Union Mpumalanga, SOUTH AFRICA

**Nominated by:** Women's Agricultural Union Mpumalanga

Currently Board member of Middleburg Care Village – home for orphans. Assists at Thandanani old Age home in township; Consulting Dietician (Eskom – food service facilities); reusable sanitary towel project – job creation and distribution of sanitary wear. Formerly ACWW Deputy President (2010-2013) and Treasurer (2007-2010). Represented the World President at 2 ACWW Area Conferences. Previously National President South African Women's Agricultural Union; President WAU Mpumalanga, Chairperson Oukilip branch, Chairperson Kosmos Region. Joined WAU Mpumalanga 1982. Informally involved with upliftment and development skills (sewing, embroidery, vegetable gardens); sponsor of day care centres and nursery schools; sponsor of World Aids Awareness (2017). *'Having grown up in an agricultural environment, being educated in food and nutrition, and having a passion for upliftment and education of those in need, I will be an asset to the societies in the Southern Africa Area.'* BSc Home Economics; Diplomas in Hospital Dietetics, Higher Education and Teaching of the Gifted.



**Dr Marina Muller**

Namibian Women's Society, NAMIBIA

**Nominated by:** Namibian Women's Society

Currently Board member of Middleburg Care Village – home for orphans. Assists at Thandanani old Age home in township; Consulting Dietician (Eskom – food service facilities); reusable sanitary towel project – job creation and distribution of sanitary wear. Formerly ACWW Deputy President (2010-2013) and Treasurer (2007-2010). Represented the World President at 2 ACWW Area Conferences. Previously National President South African Women's Agricultural Union; President WAU Mpumalanga, Chairperson Oukilip branch, Chairperson Kosmos Region. Joined WAU Mpumalanga 1982. Informally involved with upliftment Currently National President of the Namibian Women's Society (2014 – 2019) and member of Board of South Africa Women's Agricultural Union (SAWU); also, Editor of the NWS Newsletter Vonkel; Deputy Chair of the Namibian Agronomic Board (July 2017- June 2020) and is chair of the Financial Management Advisory Committee of this board. Past President of the South African WAU (2000 – 2003). Member of the Namibia Qualifications Authority Council (NQA) representing the Namibia Agricultural Union for 9 years (1999- 2007). Attended 3 ACWW Triennial and various Area Conferences. Trustee of Agri Securitas in South Africa since 2002, its main concern is rural safety of farmers and their employees. Education: University BSc- UNISA, majoring in Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics (1974); BSc Honours- UNISA in Mathematical Statistics (1978); H.E.D. (post-graduate) with distinction- UNISA (1981); MSc- UOFS, South Africa: Thesis: Bayesian Inferences on the Linear Model (1997); Ph.D.- University of Pretoria, South Africa- thesis: Probabilistic Analysis of Repairable Redundant Systems (Applied Statistics) (2006). Retired Statistics lecturer, University of Namibia (1987- 2017) with several publications. Married with two children. and development skills (sewing, embroidery, vegetable gardens); sponsor of day care centres and nursery schools; sponsor of World Aids Awareness (2017). *'Having grown up in an agricultural environment, being educated in food and nutrition, and having a passion for upliftment and education of those in need, I will be an asset to the societies in the Southern Africa Area.'* BSc Home Economics; Diplomas in Hospital Dietetics, Higher Education and Teaching of the Gifted.

## Area President: South Pacific



**Mrs Gail Commens**

Country Women's Association of New South Wales, AUSTRALIA

**Nominated by:** Country Women's Association of New South Wales, South Australian CWA

Currently ACWW South Pacific Area President (2016-2019) and I keep in contact with South Pacific societies. Was CWA NSW State International Officer (3 years), State Vice-President (3 years), Representative to State Executive (4 years). Held most positions in local Branch (currently President again) and Group CWA and attended 10 CWA of Australia Conferences. Attended 3 ACWW Triennial and 6 Area Conferences. *'Australia and New Zealand are very supportive financially of their Island sisters and through them I have been able to grant funding for a number of projects to the Islands over the past 2½ years as well as AU\$ 16,200 for earthquake relief in PNG and AU\$7,000 to Tonga following the Cyclone. I have visited 5 Island Societies and 4 Australian States & Territory. Our South Pacific Area Conference in New Zealand went well, and I met with Papua New Guinea Societies and the 2020 Conference Committee in July. I am a farmer, married with 2 children and 5 grandchildren. I volunteer at 2 museums and am involved with the Anglican church. I am enjoying the challenge of this position and would love to continue helping my sisters in need in the South Pacific and beyond.'*

## Area President: United States of America



**Ms Marilyn Daughhete**

Illinois Association for Home and Community Education, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**Nominated by:** Illinois Association for Home and Community Education

Joined Illinois Association for Home and Community Education forty-nine years ago. Has served in several offices at the local, county, and state levels. For Edgar County, was President, 2nd Vice-President, Ways & Means Chairman, and Secretary. For the State of Illinois, was District #5 Director, and President for two terms. During 6 years as State President, was the delegate to NVON and Chairman of the 2016 NVON Conference. *'I really began to understand the wide scope of how we can all come together to improve the lives of people throughout the world while attending NVON and CWC events.'* Attended 1 ACWW Triennial Conference and some USA Area meetings. *'The experience of meeting other women from around the world has inspired me to reach out to women everywhere. My goal as ACWW USA Area President is to generate more opportunities for other American women to reach out and help improve the lives of women around the globe.'*



**Mrs Bonnie Teeples**

Oregon Association for Family and Community Education, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**Nominated by:** Oregon Association for Family and Community Education

Joined National Association for Family and Community Education because their values and those of ACWW *'closely align with my personal values. I am first and foremost a wife and mother to six grown children and grandmother to eleven. I am very concerned about the issues that face families around the world. The work each organization does reflects what I think is important in life. I know that the family is under attack on all sides and it is important that those of us who have the ability to do so should be doing all we can to influence officials to make policy that can help families meet basic needs.'* Served in various leadership and organizational capacities in several organizations. Attended 2 ACWW Triennial Conferences. Runs own business with 140 vendors and oversees 9 employees. Study group Chairman and Secretary; County Council President, Secretary, Vice-President. Oregon FCE Membership Chairman, District Director 5, Vice President Public Policy, President. National FEC Public Policy Co-ordinator, Vice President Public Policy, President. National FCE Conference Chairman (4 years), Oregon FCE Conference Chair (3 conferences). Served on byelaws and hand book revision committees; written several educational pieces for National and Oregon FCE.



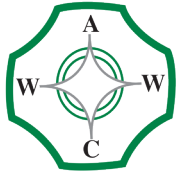
**Mrs Patricia Weitzmann**

Illinois Association for Home and Community Education, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**Nominated by:** Illinois Association for Home and Community Education

Currently ACWW Friendship Links Coordinator USA. Grew up on family farm until college. After graduation taught kindergarten for 2 years then had a career in corporate insurance, reaching vice president level. After early retirement began a vending business, earned an advanced college degree in business and started substitute teaching. Attended 1 ACWW Triennial Conference and USA Area meetings. Joined Illinois Association for Home and Community Education (IAHCE) in 2007; local Lake County AHCE International Director (2009-2012). Became Illinois AHCE International Director (2012-2018) – *'during which time their International Exchange Program was revitalised with Estonia and Australia, ACWW awareness heightened, Pennies for Friendship contributions increased and lessons I developed became a new educational tool. Volunteerism and lifelong learning are part of my life and I encourage others. I am married with 4 children and 13 grandchildren, a singer and homemaker.'*

**The election will be held at the 29<sup>th</sup> Triennial World Conference in Melbourne, Australia in April 2019.**



**CONFERENCE INFORMATION FOR THE  
29<sup>th</sup> 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 are available on the ACWW website.
- **ACCESSIBILITY** Participants must arrange their own assistance for accessibility requirements, details and advice are available on the ACWW website.

**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 (10<sup>th</sup> 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, and indicate your order of preference for the 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](http://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](mailto:worldconference@acww.org.uk)
3. Pay for registration online using the payment portal / make a bank transfer using the following details:

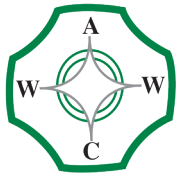
ACCOUNT NAME:	Associated Country Women of the World	BANK:	NatWest Bank, 57 Victoria Street,
BIC:	NWBK GB 2L		London United Kingdom,
IBAN:	GB67 NWBK 5600 3301 2441 08		SW1H 0HP
SORT CODE:	560033	BRANCH:	Westminster
ACCOUNT NO.:	01244108		

### 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](http://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](mailto:worldconference@acww.org.uk)**



# 29<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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.



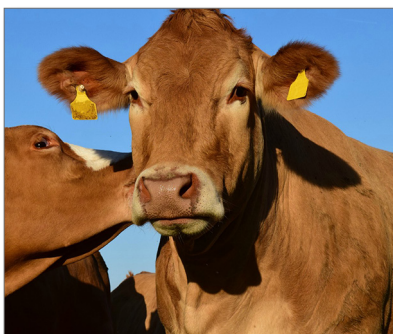
## TOUR C GREAT OCEAN ROAD ADVENTURE



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.

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## 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 - 5<sup>th</sup> 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 - 6<sup>th</sup> 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 - 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

# CONFERENCE CHARITY DRIVE 2019

## How you can make a difference when coming to Melbourne in April

By their very nature, ACWW members have always been keen to contribute to worthy causes, and make a difference at the international level. Traditionally, we also organise a major charity drive at each Triennial World Conference, collecting items which can have a positive impact and make a difference in the local community.

In 2016, the warm clothes, including hats, scarfs and coats, filled 6 packing containers and around 40 sacks. They were donated to a local women's shelter to help women who had suffered domestic violence and other issues which had forced them out of their homes. Hygeine packs, sweets and toys were also gathered and added to the donation, which we delivered by truck the day after the Conference ended.

For the 29<sup>th</sup> Triennial World Conference in Melbourne, Australia, we are asking attendees to donate items for babies which will be distributed around Australia, and to the neighbouring islands to support families in need. We have put together a list of ideas here, but please bring along whatever you think will be useful to a baby or new mother.

Items will be collected during Registration at the Conference Venue. Please ensure that if you are bringing multiple small items, they are in some kind of reusable (non plastic) bag to keep them together.

Thank you in advance for your support. It really makes a huge difference, and is a great way of thanking our host community for making us welcome during the Conference.

The Triennial Conference Committee

**Baby clothes like one-piece outfits, short or long-sleeved**

**Baby toiletries like gentle shampoo**

**Knitted caps and gloves**

**Cotton or towel clothes**

**Baby bottles (new)**

**Cotton swabs or cotton wool**

**Washclothes and towels**

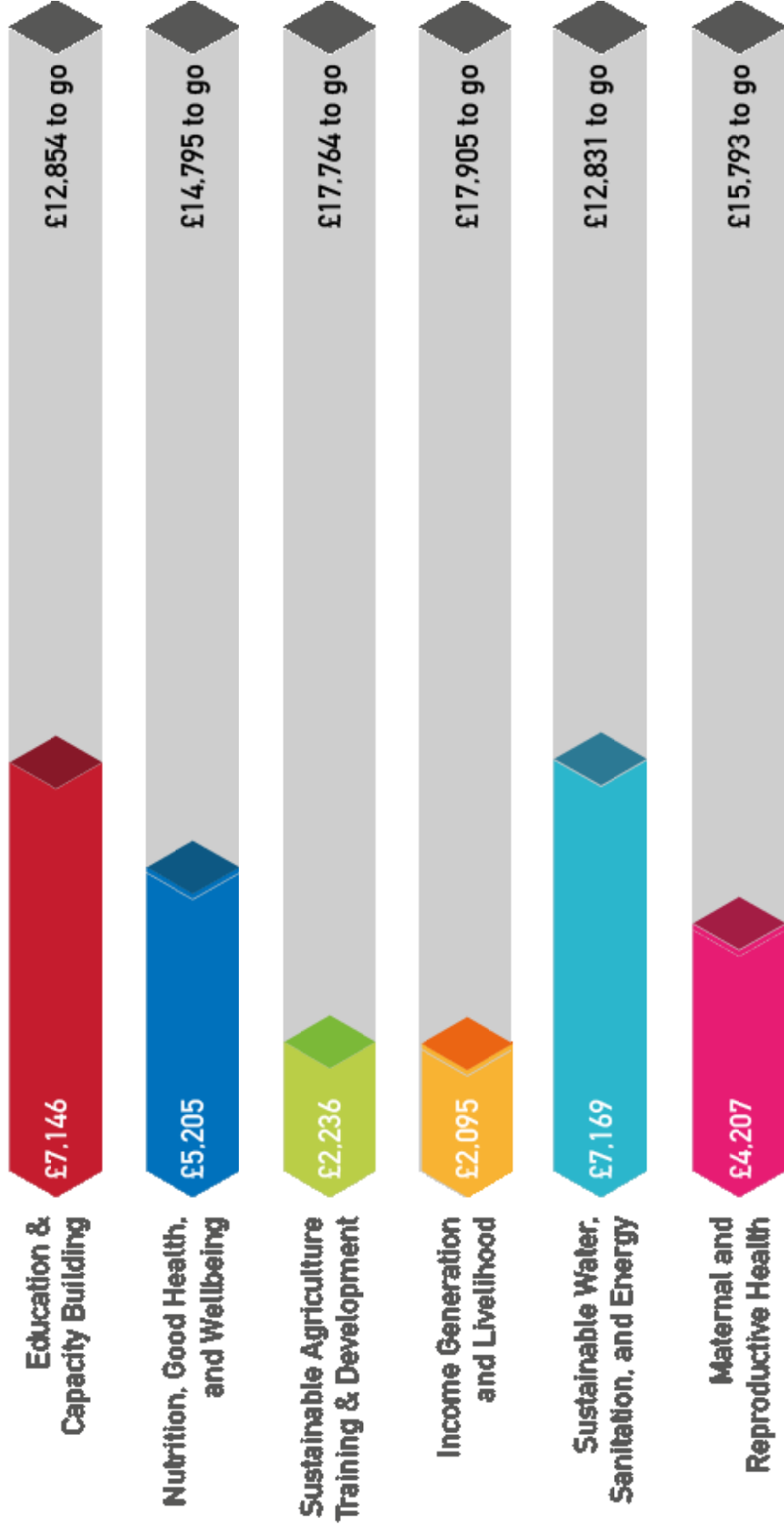
**Waterproof crib liners**

**Receiving blankets**





Thank you to everyone who has already helped us raise more than £28,000 since the launch of the WE Fund





## Aylesbeare WI celebrate Women Walk the World in Style!



*"More that 80 members, husbands, friends and dogs on leads put their best foot forward on a beautiful Cumbrian Spring morning for the scenic and interesting 4.5 mile walk was around the lovely village of Caldbeck. At the end of the walk everyone enjoyed soup made by Caldbeck WI and ham rolls for which ham was donated by Cranston's of Penrith and bread rolls by Greggs Bakers. This was followed by flapjack, the walkers' favourite treat which was provided by members. There was lots of chat, loads of fun and we raised £654 for ACWW. A huge thank you to everyone who made this event such a success"*

Sheila Hutchinson, Cumbria-Cumberland FWI, UK



## Cumbria-Cumberland FWI