



NATIONAL COUNCIL of WOMEN of WESTERN AUSTRALIA Inc.

Dedicated to the Advancement of Women and their Families

PATRON: Hon Kerry Sanderson AC **VICE PATRON:** Janet Davidson OAM JP **PRESIDENT:** Robyn Nolan **SECRETARY:** Helen McDonagh **TREASURER:** Sally Warner

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President's Message April 2017



Dear Members

Thank you to all who attended and made donations to RUAH at the NCWWA March meeting. Emma Jarvis from RUAH was a very informative and interesting guest speaker. Members also heard from one of NCWWA new Affiliate members Knitted Knockers. Therese Waller gave a great presentation about Knitted Knockers. If anyone can help with knitting please let me know and I will pass your details onto Therese.



Vice Patron of NCWWA Janet Davidson OAM JP pictured with NCWWA President Robyn Nolan

NCWWA has welcomed a number of new Affiliate members in the last few months including Aboriginal Family Law Service, Australian Asian Association and Health Consumers' Council.

It is great to have Australian Asian Association back as members of NCWWA. I will continue to try to grow the NCWWA membership so that NCWWA can provide a link between the many not-for-profit and community organisations where matters of common interest arise.

The anniversary birthday of NCWWA was 21 April. The first meeting of NCWWA was held at Government House on 21 April 2011. Lady Edeline Strickland was elected President and remained President for two years. She was followed by Edith Cowan as President. It is a special date in the calendar.

The NCWA Mid-term conference - "Future Directions Our Council Our Voice-Driving Cultural Change" is fast approaching - 14,15,16 June at Rydges Capital Hill in Canberra. Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning will be private NCWA members business. A breakfast will also be held on Thursday morning in Parliament House to launch the young NCWA. Lady Cosgrove Patron of NCWA, will open the conference on Thursday afternoon.

In This Edition

Page 1:	President's Message
Page 2:	NCWA conference
Page 3:	Affiliate History
Page 4-6:	Standing Committee reports
Page 7:	NCYWWA Luncheon
Page 8:	Date of next General Meeting

Speakers will include Libby Lyons, Director of the Workplace Gender Equality Agency, Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, Minister for Women, Linda Burney MP, Kate Jenkins Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Ken Morrison Executive Officer Property Council of Australia and a member of Male Champions of Change.

I hope WA will be well represented at the conference - if you are planning to attend please let me know.

A reminder that NCWWA membership fees are overdue. Thank you to all who have renewed however if you have not done so as yet I would be grateful if the fees could be paid as soon as

possible. A renewal form is also required to be completed to ensure the NCWWA membership data base is accurate with correct information. Thank you for your patience in the matter.

Please try and support the NCWWA lunch which is being held on Wednesday 17 May to help fund two young delegates to attend the launch of the Young NCWA and mid-term conference in Canberra. The Hon Simone McGurk MLA has been invited to attend the lunch and launch the young NCWWA. Payment is required in advance to confirm your attendance.

Robyn Nolan
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 0417 917 294

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF AUSTRALIA



MID TERM CONFERENCE

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 14,15,16 June.
 RYDGES Capital Hill, 17 Canberra Ave, Forrest ACT



**The conference commences with a Breakfast at Parliament House
 and the formal launch of the
 National Council of Young Women of Australia**

The Conference Theme

"Future Directions Our Council Our Voice- Driving Cultural Change"



Lady Cosgrove Patron of NCWA will open the conference on Thursday afternoon.

Guest Speakers Include

Libby Lyons, Director of the Workplace Gender Equality Agency
Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, Minister for Women
Linda Burney MP
Kate Jenkins Sex Discrimination Commissioner
Ken Morrison Executive Officer Property Council of Australia and
 a member of Male Champions of Change.

Please contact Robyn Nolan if you wish to attend
robymn@bigpond.net.au 0417 917 294

AFFILIATE HISTORY: NO 4

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN (WA SECTION)



The National Council of Jewish Women of Australia was founded in Sydney in 1923. **The WA Section was formed in 1929.**

NCJWA (WA) projects and programmes include community service, health seminars, outreach, status of women, interfaith and education in the Jewish and non Jewish community. In addition, maintain an important connection with Israel by supporting youth at risk, children with disabilities, a rape crisis centre and educational scholarships for Ethiopian women living in Israel.

Currently in Perth, there are three groups who meet monthly for a variety of social, educational and fundraising activities. In addition there is a State Committee.

Major events include a biennial NCJWA (WA) Women Achievers evening . Four WA Women are recognized, who have been an inspiration to others including Lyn Beazley AO FTSE (WA Chief Scientist 2006-2013). Fundraising assists organizations including Orana Women's Refuge, Breast Cancer Network, PMH, Rotary and the Maurice Zeffert Home (Jewish Aged Care).

We cannot be accurate regarding the year NCJWWA affiliated with NCWWA.

However the Hebrew Women's Society is listed in the 1917 affiliates.

The Jewish girl guides affiliated in 1920

NCJWA(WA) was founded in 1929.

It seems there has been a mutual respect with Jewish women from the early days of NCWWA

NCJWA (WA) delegates have always been great supporters of NCWWA. In particular, Rene Silver contributed for a number of years as vice president of NCWWA

In 1981 NCWWA actively supported the **International Year of the Disabled Person.**

Nearly all the organisations affiliated to NCWWA made a contribution to mark the IYDP

As a result Click lights were installed at road crossings frequently used by the vision impaired.

Ida Lloyd who was president at the time was most concerned about privacy issues.

NCJWA(WA) took on the responsibility of the distribution for the ongoing NCWWA project The Capsule of Life, a tube containing a person's medical record. Unfortunately this scheme never eventuated as a sponsor could not be found. It was a valiant attempt for privacy of the individual!

1999 was the year that marked the centenary of Women's Suffrage in Western Australia.

Noreen Sher one of the delegates of National Council of Jewish Women to the NCWWA, completed writing the history of the National Council of Women of Western Australia, and her book "The Spirit Lives On 1911-1999" was published.

In 2011, Noreen updated the book to mark the 100th anniversary of the National Council of Women of Western Australia.

In November 2007 NCWWA was entering into partnerships with other organisations. It was through the partnership with NCJWA the Australian film “Jammed” was shown to the general public at the Jewish centre in Yokine.

The film is a story about human trafficking and the sex slave trade in Melbourne, and the search for three girls trapped by a trafficking syndicate. The event raised awareness of a major issue in society then and now.

NCWWA thanks NCJWA (WA) for their contributions in the past and looks forward to an ongoing relationship in the future. Many thanks to Joan Motta, Noreen Sher and her book, *The Spirit Lives On*, for help in writing this article.

Merrill Cole
Editor



STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

From February 2017

The following reports on Disability and Consumer Affairs were tabled at the first Standing Committee meeting in February 2017, prior to the recent Western Australian State election.

DISABILITY



Adviser: Janni Goss

NDIS in WA

The Commonwealth and Western Australian governments have finalised negotiations on a nationally consistent, WA-delivered NDIS, formalised in the signing of a bilateral agreement. Western Australians with disability now have absolute certainty they will be able to access vital support through the National Disability Insurance Scheme from July 2017. Both governments are committed to the key NDIS principles of choice and control, giving people with disability access to the support they need no matter where they live. The agreement confirms that Western Australians with severe and permanent disability will have access to the reasonable and necessary supports they need and now sees all of the Australian population covered by full bi-lateral agreements, according to Commonwealth Minister for Social Services, Christian Porter. There is now complete national consistency around key elements such as eligibility and access to supports provided through the NDIS. The Agreement also details that funding for the administration and operating costs will be the responsibility of the WA Government, and governance responsibilities will be shared. State legislation will be introduced as soon as practicable.

PSYCHOSOCIAL DISABILITY, RECOVERY AND THE NDIS

People with a significant psychosocial disability due to a mental health issue that is likely to be permanent may qualify for NDIS support, as they can experience severe effects and social disadvantage. At a recent forum conducted by the WA Association for Mental Health (WAAMH) – Make Mental Health Count – several politicians spoke about their parties’ views on supporting mental health services in WA.

The Hon. Jacqui Boydell, National’s Member for Mining and Pastoral Region – states that there needs to be a focus on mental health with education for parents through schools and for children to recognise when they may need assistance. She highlighted the regional development programs which created regional services, employment, training, meaning and hope, and working with Aboriginal people on the ground. There is an ongoing balancing act as to whether people in regional areas with mental health issues receive treatment in Perth, away from their home, family and support network.

The panel was then available for questions and a need was identified for the Housing Authority to proactively work with the Mental Health Sector. There is an urgent need for safe, stable and sustainable housing for people with mental health issues.

WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES WA (WWDWA)

Concern has been expressed by people with disabilities that the newly formed WA NDIS Scheme will not provide adequate coverage of services in WA compared to the NDIS Scheme in other states. Apparently there has been little consultation and the evaluations comparing the NDIS and My Way WA have not been published. WA has also agreed to pay the administration costs instead of accepting money from the Commonwealth. They are concerned that the scheme is unsustainable.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS



Adviser: Robyn Nolan

WA CONSUMERS BEING MISLED ABOUT FREE SHOWERHEADS

Consumer protection and Water Corporation are warning householders about a telemarketing business and a solar panel company that could be misleading consumers by claiming to promote a water saving initiative.

Telemarketing salespeople have reportedly cold – called potential customers in Perth metropolitan and WA regional areas claiming they are part of the “free Showerhead Swap program”. When representatives of the business visit the home of interested consumers, a solar panel system is also offered. The link to free showerheads seems to be a ploy to get a foot in the door and then the consumer is presented with an offer to purchase solar panels. Giving consumers the impression that you are part of a Water Corporation program when you are not is misleading and contravenes the Australian Consumer Law.

MOVING TO NBN FOR CONSUMERS:

Once your region/suburb is declared NBN ready you have 18 months to move your landline phone and internet services. NBN Co will notify you by direct mail and you then need to contact your current or preferred service provider about costs and contracts. After 18 months the majority of existing landlines and internet services will be disconnected. This includes services that are supplied by Telstra directly, as well as services that supplied by other service providers using Telstra's copper network. NBN Co provides an optional back-up battery for services using fibre to the premises technology. Before deciding whether or not to get a battery you should also check with your service provider whether their NBN service will be supported by the battery.

If you have equipment which uses landline and/or internet services to function (eg medical or security alarm) you will need to check with the supplier of the equipment as to whether the equipment will work on the NBN and which NBN services are best suited for the equipment to work. In most cases you can keep your phone number although confirm this with your service provider. To connect to the NBN you may need a modem and a router. Your current modem and router may be compatible with the NBN. However some consumers may need to upgrade these services. It is important to check with your service provider whether your existing modem/router is compatible with the NBN. If you are advised that it is not confirm this information with the manufacturer.

If you cannot resolve a problem with your provider, contact the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman on 1800 062 058.

INSURANCE SCAM CALLS

The Insurance Commission of WA is aware of an increase in unsolicited calls in connection with personal injury compensation claims. Claimant's personal details are provided to the Insurance Commission via its online Crash Reporting Facility and claim documentation, not via an unsolicited phone call from a third party.

FAMILY DAY CARE

Twelve months ago (December 2015) only 12 per cent of all family daycare centre providers in WA met or exceeded national quality standards. A further 62.5 per cent were yet to be assessed by the Department of Local Government and Communities. The National Quality framework rating is given if providers pass seven quality areas- education program and practice, health and safety, physical environment, staffing, child relationships, collaborative partnerships and leadership and service management.

The department stated at the time (December 2015) that it expected to have rated all existing services by mid-2017.

FOR ACTION: *Write to the Minister for Department of local Government and Communities asking what percentage of family daycare centres have been assessed and meet or exceed the national standards.*



**The President Robyn Nolan
&
National Council of Women of WA Inc**

Invite you to
The launch of the

NCYWWA Luncheon

Wednesday 17 May 2017

12 noon for 12.30pm

**East Perth Function Centre
21 Moore Street East Perth**

Cost \$35.00pp

Members of State Parliament in attendance

Great raffle prizes

*All funds raised go to assisting two young women attend NCWA Mid Term Conference
and the launch NCYWA in Canberra in June*

RSVP with payment essential to:

Robyn Nolan 0417 917 294 robymn@bigpond.net.au

Sally Warner 0418 951 162 wsally@iinet.net.au

Places are limited as seating is limited to 50 persons.

RSVP with payment by Mon 15 May 2017

BSB: 066 110

Acct No: 10157530

Account Name: National Council of Women WA Inc.



Cheques payable to:

National Council of Women of WA Inc

P O Box 6224 East Perth WA 6892

Date of next General Meeting



Monday 22 May 1.00pm
Rod Evans Community Centre
160 Hay St East Perth



Guest Speaker

Paddy Firstenberg Memorial Awardee

The PFMA is chosen from women in industry, business or community service who have demonstrated leadership, exemplary achievements and outstanding contribution to the advancement of women.

Sheridan Ingram

Sheridan is a finance manager at John Holland. She has 12 years experience in commercial and finance administration with over 9 years in construction. Sheridan has excelled in a male dominated industry, having led teams working on several multi million dollar project. She is highly motivated within her professional life and her service to the community through Rotary.

**STEM BURSARY winners, Venus Tran and Melinda Mees
 have been invited to speak.**

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS/ DIGITAL MEMBERSHIPS - EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT- HURRY!!

The NEW 2017 | 2018 Entertainment Memberships are almost here and will be available for Mother's day! Give a gift that can be used all year round. Receive hundreds of valuable offers and help fundraise for NCWWA at the same time.



Order the NEW Entertainment Book or Entertainment Digital Membership now. **Hurry! It's your last chance to get the Bonus Early Bird offers before they're gone!**

Contact Daphne Thacker Mob: 0411 705 056 or email: daphne016@bigpond.com

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 page for up to date
 NCWWA info →



www.ncwwa.org.au