

President's Message August 2020

Dear Members

Sadly, since I wrote my last President's report for the July NCWWA Newsletter COVID-19 cases have increased dramatically in some parts of Australia especially in Victoria. I wrote in July that the number of cases were over 7500. Unfortunately, today the Australian numbers have significantly increased and the number of cases are over 24,800 with over 19,200 cases recovered. Unfortunately, the death toll has also increased dramatically with over 500 deaths, many from residential aged care.



Most State borders remain closed, many businesses and livelihoods are struggling with record unemployment rates especially in WA and QLD. Next month's unemployment figures will reveal terrible figures in Victoria. To date the Phase 4 restrictions in Western Australia are still in place, having been put back two months to late October 2020.

As a result of the current situation with the

COVID -19 pandemic the NCWA Executive has made the difficult decision to cancel the NCWA Mid-Term conference which was to be held in October in Adelaide after a rescheduling from May 2020. Given the NCWA Triennial Conference is scheduled for October 2021 organising a Mid-Term conference in the intervening twelve months is just not possible. It will be disappointing for many however there really was no other choice. There may be an opportunity to hold a Zoom NCWA meeting on the 16 October 2020. At this stage initial work is being undertaken to look at some of the logistical details. The meeting could be held over two hours and would include some of the already confirmed guest speakers. The NCWA Board will make a final decision at its next meeting



A reminder that last Saturday was the 75th Anniversary of the Victory in the Pacific. World War 11 was the greatest national effort in Australia's history. One million Australians put on the uniform out of a population of seven million. Almost 40,000 people lost their lives. In Australia the war effort was bolstered by the 200,000 women who joined the workforce. Many more joined the services. Unfortunately, today only a fraction of that generation remain. They will however never be forgotten. They helped win a war and secure peace!

In This Edition

- Page 1-2. **President's Message**
- Page 3. **NCWWA Membership renewal**
- Page 3. **NCWWA Advocacy Action**
- Page 4. **McGrath Foundation Fact Sheet**
- Page 5. **Women's Health Week**
- Page 5. **Entertainment Book**
- Page 6. **National Children's Protection Week**

Australian childhood immunisation rates have risen to record levels with coverage for all five year olds. Immunisation rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children have also increased. All six categories made positive gains. However Western Australian children five years of age still sit at the bottom of the table (93.5%) and below the national average (94.77%).

The Financy Women's Index recently released its June quarter results. The results provide an indication of what happened to women's financial progress in light of COVID-19 by looking at the performance of women compared to men across education, employment, participation, underemployment, wages, unpaid work, ASX 200 boards and superannuation. The largest change to the Index during June quarter was in the underemployment rate with the gender gap narrowing as male underemployment rose more sharply than female. In terms of job cuts in the June quarter, the most significant were in female dominated sectors such as accommodation, food services, the Arts and recreation. The volume of cuts to female full-time employment in 2020 has reversed two years of female employment growth and has derailed a multi-decade trend which saw female workforce participation steadily increase.

Each year the Workplace gender Equality Agency (WGEA) calculates the national gender pay gap and the date of Equal Pay Day based on Australian Bureau of Statistics data. This year, Equal Pay Day will be Friday 28 August 2020, making the 59 additional days from the end of the previous financial year that women must work, on average, to earn the same amount as men earned in that year.



NCWWA is currently working with the McGrath Foundation seeking financial support for nine additional Breast Care nurses in Western Australia. Currently the McGrath Foundation has sixteen Breast Care nurses in Western Australia. The greatest need for the additional Breast Care nurses is in the North Metropolitan Local hospital network area. NCWWA understands the McGrath Foundation is seeking an additional

\$1.44 million each year for the next four years. This is a relatively small amount of money from the State Budget which will ensure that all families receive an equal opportunity to critical and necessary support for all breast cancer patients in Western Australia.

The impact on patient outcomes is proven for both the patient and health services in which the breast cancer patients are located. As the



population ages the number of people with breast cancer and the incidence will certainly increase. The

cost to the health care system will also certainly increase. Critical and ongoing support from the McGrath Foundation is vital. Letters have been written to the Health Minister, the Treasurer and the Shadow Health Minister on the issue.

Multi-coloured pregnancy warning labels on alcoholic beverages will be mandatory in Australia after the Ministerial Forum on Food Regulation accepted new standards proposed by Food Standards Australia and New Zealand. The alcohol industry will have to ensure pregnancy health warning labels are placed on all bottles and cans within three years. The Minister responsible for food regulation and Chair of the Ministerial Forum on Food regulation stated the changes were an important step forward protecting the health of pregnant women and infants.

Our thoughts are with NCWW members and all Victorians at this time during their lockdown and strict restrictions. Hopefully things are on the improve. Unfortunately, with the Phase 4 restrictions in Western Australia extended for two months NCWWA face-to-face meetings are still a way off. In the meantime the NCWWA Executive continues to meet by Zoom.

Robyn Nolan
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RENEWAL of NCWWA MEMBERSHIP FEES



NCWWA membership fees for the 2020-2021 period are now due. Payment may be made by Bank transfer or by cheque

Payment by direct transfer:

Account name: National Council of Women of WA Inc

BSB: 066 110

Account number: 1015 7530

Please ensure you identify your name in the “comments” field

Payment by cheque:

National Council of Women of WA Inc

P O Box 6224 East Perth WA 6892

If your details have changed in any way please complete

- 2020-2021 Associate Members Renewal Form on the NCWWA website
- 2020-2021 Affiliate Members Renewal Form on the NCWWA website

NCWWA ADVOCACY ACTION

Given the NCWA Executive made the difficult decision to cancel the NCWA Mid-Term Conference due to restrictions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the resolution component of the conference has been transferred to the October 2020 Board meeting. NCWWA has submitted two resolutions with a total of eight resolutions being received. The resolution committee has met with several needing to be reworked. Once the amended resolutions are received back all resolutions will be sent out to Constituent Council members for information. Following the NCWA Board meeting further information will be made available to constituent council members.

The two resolutions from NCWWA are as follows:

Waste:

'National Council of Women (NCWA) calls on the Federal Government to work with State, Territory and local governments to ensure recyclers improve the diversion rates of all materials from landfill including the disposal of solar panel waste.'

Childcare:

'National Council of Women Australia (NCWA) calls on the Federal Government to include child care reform as part of the Council of Federal financial Relations (CFFR) targeted reforms in areas such as job creation and taxation.'



**McGrath
Foundation**

The McGrath Foundation raises money to place specialist McGrath Breast Care Nurses wherever they're needed and seeks to increase breast health understanding

54 people

will be diagnosed with breast cancer in Australia **every day** in this year*

19,807 women

+ 167 men

are estimated to be diagnosed with breast cancer this year*

In Australia,

1 in 7 women

will be diagnosed with breast cancer by the age of 85**

Care where it's needed most

The McGrath Foundation funds 145 McGrath Breast Care Nurses in communities right across Australia, who have supported more than 86,000 families since 2005.

The free support of a McGrath Breast Care Nurse is available right across Australia regardless of whether you're in the private or public health system.

About the McGrath Foundation

The McGrath Foundation raises funds to support people with breast cancer by providing specialist McGrath Breast Care Nurses where they are most needed across Australia.

The Foundation currently funds 145 nurses who provide essential physical and emotional support free of charge to anyone experiencing breast cancer and their families from diagnosis and throughout their treatment.

Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Australia (1 in 7 women will be diagnosed in their lifetime) and as the rate of diagnoses increases, so too does the need for more McGrath Breast Care Nurses.

Ongoing funding is needed for our 145 McGrath Breast Care Nurses to ensure they can continue to provide support to families experiencing breast cancer across Australia.

To find out more and to donate go to:
www.mcgrathfoundation.com.au



We rely on the heartfelt support we receive from all over Australia – including individuals, communities, corporate partners and government. They help by donating, hosting or attending events, or purchasing McGrath Foundation products, which helps us continue Jane's legacy and achieve our mission.

Together, we can make a difference.

* Cancer data in Australia. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 02 June 2020, <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/cancer/cancer-data-in-australia>

** From Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's "Cancer in Australia 2019" report, <https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/8c9fc52-0055-41a0-96d9-f81b0feb98cf/aihw-can-123.pdf.aspx?inline=true>

WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK


**Women's
Health Week**

Jean Hailes
FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH


 Sept
7 – 11
2020


 Women's health.
Powerful stuff.
 

NCWWA NATIONAL COUNCIL
OF WOMEN
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

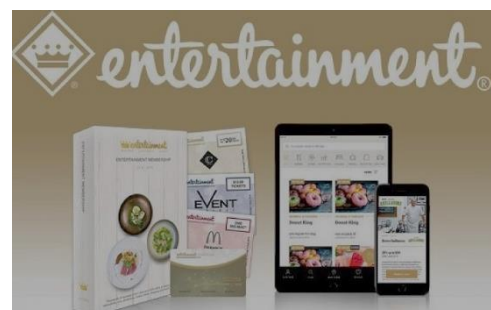
Entertainment Book Membership.
Support National Council of Women
Western Australia.

The Entertainment Book Memberships gives you access to hundreds of discounts and offers for the best local restaurants, cafes, attractions, entertainment, hotels, travel, fashion and more.

As of 2020, the Entertainment Book membership will now last a year from purchase, giving the chance to maximise its use!

Thousands of incredible offers on dining activities, travel and shopping.

Up to 50% off and 2 for 1 deals in WA and across Australia.
Offers instantly available and valid year-round
Order your membership from Daphne Thacker
mob: 0411 705 056, email: daphne016@bigpond.com


Cost \$69

www.entbook.com.au/843057

20% of every entertainment membership sold goes to the National Council of Women WA

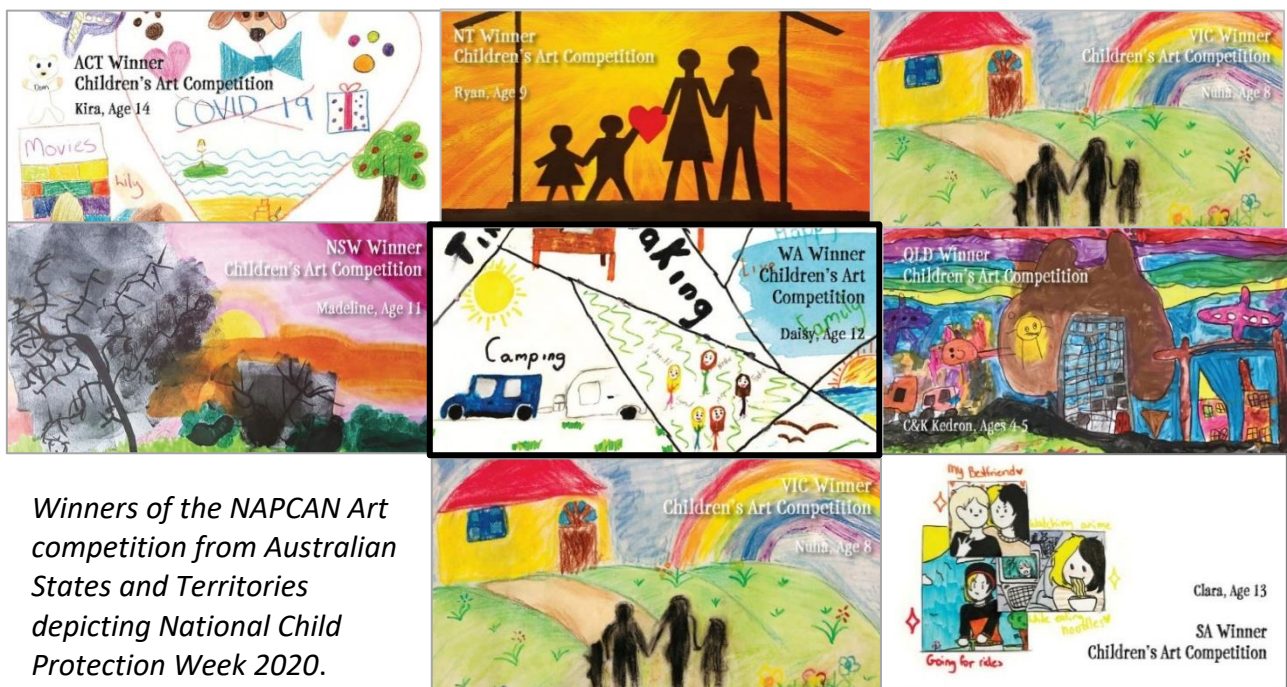
National Child Protection Week 6-12 September 2020

'Putting children first'

National Child Protection Week is a campaign held annually across Australia to raise awareness of child abuse prevention. The objectives of the week are to raise the profile of all issues connected with child protection.

'Putting children first' is as important now as it was when the first National Child Protection Week campaign was launched in 1990. Since then the need to put children first has been recognised time and time again.

Protecting children from sexual exploitation is a whole of community responsibility. The week is being officially launched by the Governor -General His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley ASD (Retd) and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley.



Winners of the NAPCAN Art competition from Australian States and Territories depicting National Child Protection Week 2020.

**NCWWA General Meetings
are postponed until further notice
due to the COVID-19 restrictions.**

WEB PAGE
www.ncwwa.org.au