

Women's Federation for World Peace Australia

SPRING 2013

Newsletter



From the National Office

Dear Readers,

This newsletter marks the beginning of a new era in WFWP Australia, with the baton of WFWP leadership passed on yet again.



On behalf of all the WFWP members in Oceania and Australia, I want to thank Tracy DeGeer (our passing National President) for all her investment, heart, encouragement and most of all her leadership over the past 6 years. She has made us proud and we all wish her the best as she pursues the development of her business in Sydney. She will be continuing in WFWP activities in NSW.

We also welcome our new chairperson for the NSW chapter, Aila Willitts. Aila has had extensive experience working with not-for-profit organisations while working in Australia and Vanuatu; where she established WFWP as a charity organisation. We look forward to witnessing her guiding strength within the NSW chapter in the new year.

I wish to thank the members of the Victorian chapter for all their support and efforts in developing WFWP activities throughout the year. The national office has now moved to Victoria, as has the title of national president of WFWP.

Lets us prepare for a victorious and prosperous new year.

Warmest wishes, Anne Bellavance

News from Victoria

Her Story - WFWP in the City

The third week of October saw the start of 'WFWP in the City' at the Multicultural Hub. After breaking bread together, three women shared their deep and moving 'stories' with us, followed by Shillar Sibanda giving a presentation on the WFWP International Conference.

New Membership packages were given out and we concluded with laughs and commitment to develop our city program so that more women can easily participate at the central location.

Empowering women with knowledge, skills and a supportive community to discover their unique value and bring lasting peace.

WFWP In the City 'Her Story'

3rd Sunday of January, April, July, October,
(2:00 – 4:00pm)

Multicultural Hub, 506 Elizabeth Street
(opposite the Queen Victoria Market)

Walking distance from Melbourne Central Train Station



Contents

Local Chapter News

Victoria	1
N.S.W.	3
Queensland	4

National News	6
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International News	7
--------------------	---

Annual AGM



During September we conducted our AGM. We discussed the 'welcome package' for new WFWP members and outreach activities. Shillar Sibanda had just returned home from Seoul, Korea two days earlier and gave a report on the WFWP International Conference that she attended on behalf of all our WFWP members in Victoria. She reported that the 'bridge of peace' events around the world moved her deeply and was happy to hear that an event was being planned for next February. Read on page 7 for more details.

Conclusion of the WFWP - UPF seminars for the year

November concluded the series of 'Peace Studies' seminars held at Monash University, held over a 6 month period. Topics covered were: *An introduction to UPF and WFWP; Creating a Culture of Peace - Determining Positive Relationships; The Role of Morality in Leadership and Community Building; Leadership in the New Age; The World to Come* –



Can we Build an Ideal Society?

During the concluding seminar, we were very fortunate to have in attendance Mr. Greg Stone (National UPF president) and Dr. Chun Run Kim (Oceania director of UPF International).

Dr. Kim concluded the afternoon with a heart warming presentation on his personal experiences with Dr. Sun Myung Moon (founder of UPF International) and the vision of Dr. Moon towards building 'one family under God'.

We have made many new friends over the course of the seminars and are very grateful for the commitment and efforts of our Ambassadors for Peace.



News from Sydney

New Sydney Team

Congratulations to Aila Willitts on taking up the position of WFWP president in NSW from November this year. Aila will be working with a new team. Our hearts and prayers are with them.

Silverbelles Choir

The Silverbelles Choir started in 2012 when a group of women joined together to sing Christmas Carols for the elderly in the Sydney area.



The response was so positive, that we have continued throughout the year, practicing weekly and performing usually once a month. Some of us have worked in aged care for many years and some are still involved with aged care.

We all have a passion for singing and love sharing our passion with others, especially the elderly.

We believe that women can make a difference in this world by spreading love and peace.

It is a wonderful hobby and for those who have never experienced the joy of singing to others, especially the elderly, you don't know what you are missing.

We hope to continue for years to come and for those who are interested in who we are, you can visit our website at, www.silverbelleschoir.com We are always looking for new members.

Women's Circle

On Sundays twice a month the 'Women's Circle' meets in WFWP member's homes. Ladies bring some goodies to share with a cuppa and listened to 'her story'.



Discussions and activities vary; for instance, participants may learn about the benefits of foot reflexology and after the instruction give self-treatments. Everyone is welcome.



Aims & Activities

WFWP Chapters adhere to the principle that women, working together, taking initiative and empowering one another across traditional lines of race, culture and religion to create healthy families, are resolving the complex problems of our societies and world.

Ultimately "solutions" come as true partnerships between men and women are established in all levels of society. The beginning point is within society's most elemental level - the family. Therefore, **WFWP works to provide women worldwide with: the knowledge, tools and support needed to create peace at home, peace in our communities and our nation.**

News from Brisbane

United Nations International Day of Peace, “Education for Peace”

Griffith University Multi-Faith Centre, Nathan Campus, Brisbane,
(Saturday, 21st September)

WFWP Queensland co-sponsored with Universal Peace Federation (UPF) an event to celebrate the UN International Day of Peace. The main segment of the program was a panel discussion of this year’s theme, and the four panelists included: Freya Ostapovitch MP, Dr Brian Adams (Dir of Multi Faith Centre), Dr Niau Gitu (Dir of ASCOF), and Mr John Adamedes (UPF Qld Chair).

The consensus was that moral and ethical education for peace needs to happen in every sector of society, but foremost is the need for it to begin at home while children are growing up. The program was interspersed with beautiful songs performed by Kaleidoscope, and there was time for guests to network and share ideas. The event closed with the group singing “Let There Be Peace on Earth.



WFWP offers a program to promote a culture of peace: a lifestyle of living for others with empathy for all people by educating individuals and communities with an innovative values & character building program developed on universal values and principles.

In 2013 we presented this program to leaders of Logan Samoa Advisory Council and 4 of them received certificates of completion. We also gave the introductions to staff of ACCESS and leaders at the Logan Police & CALD community meeting.



4 leaders from the Logan Samoan Advisory Council

The Hope for Humanity Comes from Mothers



“History is calling for reconciliation, compassion, love, service and sacrifice. Today’s problems cannot be solved by the logic of power. ... Our present problems can only be solved by the logic of love.”

Dr. Hak Jan Han Moon
Founder, WFWP International

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Seminar: The Role of Morality in Leadership and Community Building

(Saturday, 16 November 2013, Brisbane, Queensland)

WFWP Queensland with UPF Queensland hosted a seminar, “The Role of Morality in Leadership and Community Building.” UPF Queensland chair John Adamedes welcomed the participants and presented a DVD to introduce UPF.

The morning sessions ‘The Need to Educate for Character’ were presented by Paul Saver. The afternoon sessions started with a PowerPoint introduction to WFWP by Mamiko Rattley, Queensland chair of WFWP. Then John Adamedes presented ‘Universal Principles and Life goals’.



Everyone agreed that morality is a key for good leadership and community building. Most guests expressed the desire to learn more from us.

Written by Mamiko Rattley, WFWP Queensland Chairperson

National News

Australia National Conference

Sydney, 5-6 October

Approximately 30 WFWP members and state chairs gathered in Sydney for a two day conference to discuss the vision of the organisation for the next seven years and ways to cooperate and network.

Delegates enjoying a coffee break on the 1st day of the conference



During the final day, the 3 national chapters presented reports on the many activities of 2012 so far. The new national website was launched.

Sadly, Tracy DeGeer stepped down as WFWP National President. Tracy has been working in the president position for the past 6 years. Tracy was presented with a beautifully engraved silver tray as a reminder of the gratitude we all shared for her efforts.

Jynene Hellend, Oceania WFWP International Vice-president also gave notice of stepping down in her role; a position she has been responsible for since WFWP commenced in Oceania.

A new national president was elected (Anne Bellavance) and the NSW branch re-formed to swear in a new chair-person and committee team in the upcoming month. Also voted on was the national president having a 3 year term of office. Dr. Kim closed the conference with encouraging remarks towards the WFWP delegates and the 3 chapter chair-persons.



Front row, left to right: Mrs. Rika Lim, Debby Bruce (NSW secretary), Mamiko Rattley (Qld. Chairperson), Tracy DeGeer (former National president), Anne Bellavance (new National president), Mrs. Kim, Jynene Hellend (International Vice-President), Reiko Stone.

Back row, left to right: Dr. Don Woo Kim, Ryoko An, Kana Choi, Mrs. Yu, Susi Evens, Margaret Johansson, Mary Camara, Beth Treacy, Mrs. Tanaka, Miti Tangianau, Jacinta Darbishire, Mrs. Hanson, Mrs. Abastos, Silvana Daly, Rev. Soon Teck Lim.

International News

International Leadership Conference 'Dawning of the Women's Era'

Seoul, South Korea, 21-23 August

WFWP International President Professor Lan Young Moon, spoke to encourage WFWP leaders from around the world to lead the life of peace makers in the 21st century which is called the 'Women's Era.'



WFWP Oceania delegates with Professor Moon

"I want to create new environments through you from now on. Do not seek only to get higher positions, but try to live for each other's sake, nurture each other and be proud of each other. If you can do that everyone can grow..."

(from the words of our founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon)

13th annual WFWP International Leader's Conference

London, 7th - 10th October

Approximately one hundred women travelled from all over the world to London, England, for the 13th annual WFWP International Leader's Conference. Held in the heart of London at the Royal National Hotel, Russell Square, from October 7th - 10th, WFWP leaders joined with representatives from other NGOs, government, and religious groups for two and a half days of intensive education and sharing. Far more important than information was the wisdom shared by these leaders through their efforts in various countries and cultures.

Coincidentally, the location of this conference was just a half-mile from the British Museum, where Karl Marx wrote his first volume of Das Kapital in the nineteenth century. Marxist ideology, while cloaked in seductive terminology about justice and redistribution of wealth, has nonetheless created great destruction and human mis-

ery. Mr. Marx did not understand, nor could he employ the revolutionary power of the hearts of women. WFWP asserts that this is the "Era of Women," and that the 21st century will see a groundswell for positive change which must be led by women. Rather than violent overthrow and destruction of one's enemies, WFWP enlists women in the march to world peace through love, service, and education. This conference offered clear evidence that peace is possible, but only when both men and women are equally invested and respected in the effort.

For two and a half days, information-packed sessions centered around the theme of **"Finding the vision and way forward to transform ourselves, protect our families, and build a culture of peace."** Never flinching from the harsh realities of extreme poverty or the pervasiveness of gender inequality throughout the world, representatives from various regions shared reports



Victorian Vice-president Dianne Simboro giving the Australian report

highlighting members' ongoing activities as well as goals for the coming years. The guiding slogan of the conference was "Vision 2020," formulated last year by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, WFWP co-founder, focusing WFWP toward the achievement of measurable levels of international peace and harmony by the year 2020.

WFWP has been a non-governmental organization (NGO) in general consultative status with the United Nations since 1997. As such, WFWP service projects have been aligned with the eight UN millenium development goals (MDGs), to alleviate the most extreme forms of human suffering by 2015.

Lan Young Moon, President of WFWP International, welcomed attendees and offered an overview of activities in Korea. WFWPI Regional Vice Presidents gave reports to the conference on the first day.