



*Professor Shirley Randall with Glenda Hecksher (Story p19)*

# AFUW(WA)

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Address: PO Box 48 Nedlands 6909  
Ph: (08) 9386 3570  
Email: [afuwwa@westnet.com.au](mailto:afuwwa@westnet.com.au)  
Editor: Susan Dunn

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## AFUW(WA) COMMITTEE 2010

### Committee

President	Margaret Giles
Vice-Presidents	Jenni Antulov, Felicity Farrelly
Honorary Treasurer	Alison Hayden
Committee Members	Wendy McCallum, Lalani Weddikkara, Dorothy Ransom, Mary Dinneen, Evelyne Deplazes
Newsletter Editor	Susan Dunn
Immediate Past-President	Lynda Roberts-Hall

### Conveners

International Relations	Kathy Mumford
Peace and Human Security	Lalani Weddikkara
Status of Women	Barbara Taylor
Education (Bursary Coordinator)	Liz Flatters
Education (Advocacy)	Judy Eastham

### Representatives, Coordinators & Other Roles

Education Trust Chair	Robyn Carroll
Events Organiser	Hilary Silbert
St Catherine's College Council AFUWWA Representative	Hilary Silbert
National Council of Women AFUWWA Representatives	Lesley Cala and Margaret Giles
Centenary Trust for Women Representative	Lynda Roberts-Hall

## AFUW(WA) Inc

### AGM 2010 BUFFET

**Tues 26<sup>th</sup> October 6pm**

**M.E. Wood Room,  
St Catherine's College, Crawley**

**\$20 pp**

***Cold meat, salads and rolls  
with a glass of wine!***



**RSVP by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October to**

**Karen Bothwell: [afuwwa@westnet.com.au](mailto:afuwwa@westnet.com.au); or Tel: (08) 9386 3570**

**AFUW(WA) Inc**  
**Annual General Meeting**

**6pm Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2010**

M.E. Wood Room, St Catherine's College, Crawley

*Join us @ 6pm  
for a light buffet meal-  
cold meat, salads and rolls  
with a glass of wine!(\$20 pp)  
RSVP 22<sup>nd</sup> October  
Karen: Tel: 93863570*

**7.30 pm** Presentation of cheques to the 2010 Bursary  
Winners

**Annual General Meeting of the AFUW(WA) Inc.  
Education Trust**

followed by **General Meeting of AFUW(WA)**

RSVP to Karen on 9386 3570 or by email to  
[afuwwa@westnet.com.au](mailto:afuwwa@westnet.com.au)

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* **Reminder** \*\*\*\*\*

All committee positions fall vacant at the AGM.

A Nomination Form is enclosed.

A complete form should be returned to the office  
by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010 via

PO Box 48 Nedlands 6909 or Fax: 9386 3570

**AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (WA) INC**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**6pm Tuesday 26 October 2010**  
**Order of Proceedings**

**AFUW(WA) Inc Annual General Meeting 2010**  
**Agenda**

1. Constitution of Meeting and apologies
2. Confirmation of the Minutes of 2009 Annual General Meeting
3. Business Arising
4. Reports
  - 4.1 President – to be tabled at the meeting
  - 4.2 Secretary
  - 4.3 Treasurer’s report and acceptance of Audited Financial Statement –  
to be tabled at the meeting
  - 4.4 CIR
5. Other Reports
6. Election of Officers and Committee for 2010/2011
7. Appointment of Auditors
8. Other matters
9. Thanks and close

**PRESENTATIONS**

Presentations to Scholarship Winners, 2010

**AFUW(WA) Inc Education Trust Annual General Meeting 2010**  
**Agenda**

1. Welcome
2. Minutes of 2009 Annual General Meeting
3. Confirmation of Minutes
  - 3.1 Business Arising from Minutes
4. Reports
  - 4.1 Education Trust Report – to be tabled at the AGM
  - 4.2 Auditor’s Report - to be tabled at the AGM
5. Other Trust Matters
6. Thanks and Close

**AFUW(WA) Inc General Meeting 2010**  
**Agenda**

1. Confirmation of Minutes of General Meeting held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2010
2. Business arising
3. Thanks and close

## **AFUWWA Inc Notes of the Inquorate Annual General Meeting**

### **AFUW(WA) Inc Notes of the Inquorate Annual General Meeting called for 7pm on Tuesday 27 October 2009 in the Roberta Jull Common Room, St Catherine's College**

The President, who was unable to attend because of work commitments interstate, had requested Alison Hayden, Vice-President, to chair the Meeting. At 7.38 pm a quorum had not been achieved.

Present: A. Hayden (Chair), M. Giles, K. Wright, B. M. Hale, H. Alexander, D.W. Collin, L. Cala, R. Carroll, J. Antulov, W. McCallum, K. Evans, L. Gillon, W. Grace, S. Watt, A. Tyler, S. Morris, F. Farrelly, M. Sakalidis (18).

Apologies: R. Adamson, A. Dyson, L. Roberts-Hall, A. Kinnear, A. Bartlett, K. Mumford, A. Silla, K. Berry, B. Taylor, H. Silbert, J. Ryan, M. Brown, A. Syddall, F. Power, D. Ransom.

In attendance: K. Bothwell.

The Chair welcomed the eighteen members present and noted that no business could be conducted.

Members present agreed with the suggestion of L.Cala that current committee members remain as caretakers until a quorate AGM.

The Chair adjourned meeting at 7.52 pm to be re-convened at a later date.

## **Minutes of the Australian Federation of University Women (WA) Inc Reconvened Annual General Meeting**

### **Minutes of the AFUW(WA) Inc Reconvened Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009 in the M.E.Wood Room, St Catherine's College.**

#### 1. Constitution of Meeting

Lynda Roberts-Hall, President, welcomed members present and opened the meeting at 6.11pm.

Present: L. Roberts-Hall (in the chair), D. W. Collin, J. Mills, J. Boujos, R. Carroll, A. Hayden, J. Antulov, H. Alexander, L. Flatters, D. Ransom, J. Jones, L. Weddikkara, K. Wood, F. Farrelly, K. Shellabear, S. Watt, L. Gillon, B. Taylor, M. Ellis, R. Carter, R. Chance, K. Evans, E. Deplazes, K. Wright, S. Dunn, H. Charlesworth, M. Dinneen, W. Grace (28)

Apologies: M. Giles, L. Cala, F. Power, W. McCallum, A. Ciffolilli, K. Berry, S. Morris, S. Male, R. Riley, L. Ewing, P. Thomson, A. Kinnear, J. Wardrop, K. Mumford, B. Hale, A. Kennedy

Guests: Felicity Bradshaw, Virginia Scott, Jen Bradley

In attendance: K. Bothwell (minuting)

#### 2. Minutes of 2008 Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2008 were confirmed, subject to the addition of a call for nominations for the position of Assistant Secretary (Item 6).

Moved from the Chair.  
Motion carried.

### 3. Business Arising

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

### 4. Reports

#### 4.1 President's Report

The President tabled her Report as published in the November 2009 Newsletter.

#### 4.2 Secretary's Report

The position had been vacant during the year 08-09; no report was submitted.

#### 4.3 Treasurer's Report

In the absence of M. Giles, Honorary Treasurer, Alison Hayden, Vice-President, tabled a draft budget for the year 2009-2010.

#### 4.4 Auditor's Report

The Audited Financial Statements prepared by Somes & Cooke, Chartered Accountants, for the financial year ending 30 June 2009 were received.

There being no questions on financial matters, it was moved by A. Hayden, seconded F. Farrelly: that the auditors' Report be received.

Carried.

#### 4.5 CIR: No report presented.

#### 4.6 Reports on other activities:

These had been printed in the AGM Newsletter and circulated to members.

Moved from the Chair that Reports listed at items 4.1 and 4.6 be received. Carried.

### 5. Election of Officers and Committee for 2009/2010

The President declared all positions vacant, presented written nominations received to date and called for further nominations from the floor.

The following were elected by acclamation:

President: Margaret Giles

Vice-Presidents: Jenni Antulov and Felicity Farrelly

Honorary Treasurer: Alison Hayden

Committee Members: Wendy McCallum, Lalani Weddikkara, Dorothy Ransom, Mary Dinneen, Evelyne Deplazes (graduated within past ten years)

Newsletter Editor: Susan Dunn

Immediate Past-President: Lynda Roberts-Hall

The positions of Honorary Secretary and Honorary Assistant Treasurer remained vacant.

#### 6. Appointment of Auditor

Moved by A. Hayden, seconded by L. Gillon:  
that Somes and Cooke, Chartered Accountants, West Perth, be appointed Auditor to the Association for the year 2009/2010.  
Carried.

#### 7. Election of Trustees of the AFUW(WA) Inc Education Trust

The following members were nominated for election as Trustees of the AFUW(WA) Inc Education Trust:

Kerry Evans, B.A., .M.I.R., nominated by W. McCallum (*in absentia*);  
Professor Lyn Abbott, nominated by R. Carroll;  
Loreena Gillon, C.A., nominated by D.W. Collin.

Elected, *nem.con.*

#### 8. Vote of thanks

A. Hayden proposed a vote of thanks to Lynda Roberts-Hall for her work at President of AFUW(WA) for two years.

Meeting closed: 6.27pm

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## **PRESENTATIONS**

Following the close of AGM the following presentations were made.

Cheques were presented to:

*Evelyne Deplazes* who has been awarded the AFUW Beryl Henderson Award for 2009 and *Jen Bradley*, representing the Western Australian Science & Engineering Summer School (WASESS), received a \$600 cheque donation from AFUW(WA). WASESS will celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010.

Certificates were presented to members of AFUW(WA) who have been members for longer than 20 years:

Dorothy Ransom – 1939

Dorothy Collin – 1954

Margaret Ellis – 1956

Rose Carter – 1988 (following long membership of BFUW)

Jenny Mills – 1988

The following members were also acknowledged and will be presented with certificates at a later date:

Mary Pusenjak – 1947

Margaret Medcalf - 1961

Barbara Hale – 1961

Cheryl Praeger – 1977

Alison Kennedy – 1978

Lyn Abbott – 1982

Wendy McCallum – 1988

## **Minutes of the AFUW(WA) Inc Education Trust Annual General Meeting 2009**

**Minutes of the AFUW(WA) Inc Education Trust Annual General Meeting** held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009 in the Jull Common Room, St Catherine's College.

1. Present: R. Carroll (Chair), A. Hayden, M. Giles, K. Wright, B. Hale, H. Alexander, D.W. Collin, L. Cala, J. Antulov, W. McCallum, K. Evans, L. Gillon, S. Watt, F. Farrelly, S. Morris, A. Tyler, W. Grace, M. Sakalidis

Apologies: R. Adamson, A. Dyson, L. Roberts-Hall, A. Kinnear, A. Bartlett, K. Mumford, A. Silla, K. Berry, B. Taylor, H. Silbert, J. Ryan, M. Brown, A. Syddall, F. Power, D. Ransom

Meeting opened 7.14pm

Robyn Carroll, Secretary of the Education Trust, and representing the President Dr Jenny Mills, who sent her apologies, thanked everyone for attending.

2. Minutes of 2008 Annual General Meeting held on 28th October 2008 were confirmed.

Moved B. Hale

Seconded D. W. Collin

Carried

3. Confirmation of Minutes

3.1 Business Arising from Minutes – no business arising

4. Reports

4.1 The Education Trust Report as printed in AFUW (WA) October Newsletter.

Robyn presented this report to the meeting and commented on the good communication between the Trust and AFUW(WA) via the AFUW(WA) Treasurer Dr Margaret Giles.

The trustees have given thought to future trustees and there are three new trustees to be nominated for the Trust tonight.

New scholarship fund may be able to present a scholarship in 2010.

Procedures in place for donations to the new fund and legal advice will be taken.

Trustees would like to encourage members to donate to the Education Trust funds.

Moved to adopt the report: M. Giles

Seconded: A. Hayden

Carried

4.2 The Auditor's Report was presented at the meeting by D. W. Collin – full copy of the 14 page report is available. Copies of some pages were available for members at the meeting.

- Profit \$5,486 for 2008/2009
- Bequest of \$20,000 received from the estate of the late Dulcie Armstrong for the Jill Bradshaw Bursary (Term Deposit at Uni Credit)
- Short term pool we may get 3% this year and up to 14.5% for the Long Term Pool

Moved from the Chair that the auditor's report be accepted.  
Carried.

#### 5. Other Trust Matters

The following members of AFUW(WA) have agreed to be nominated as Trustees - Kerry Evans, Lyn Abbott and Loreena Gillon. They will be nominated in the General Meeting to take place after the AFUW(WA) Annual General Meeting.

6. Thanks and Close at 7.37pm.

### **SUMMARY of REPORTS for the AFUW(WA) Inc. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010**

*The following summary indicates which reports are published in this newsletter and those which will be tabled at the AGM on 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2010.*

#### **4. REPORTS**

**4.1 PRESIDENT** – to be tabled at the meeting

**4.2 SECRETARY** – Position vacant

**4.3 TREASURER** – Treasurer's Report, including Auditor's Report - to be tabled at the meeting.

**4.4 CONVENOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS** – Report published (see p. 11)

#### **5. OTHER REPORTS**

**5.1 BURSARY CONVENER** – AFUW(WA) Scholarship Winners 2010 – will be announced at the meeting.

**5.2 ACADEMIC DRESS CONVENER** – Report published – (see p. 12)

**5.3 HOUSE COMMITTEE** – Report published – (see p. 12)

**5.4 REPRESENTATIVE TO ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE COUNCIL** – Report published – (see p.13)

#### **5.5 BOOK CLUBS**

- Saturday Afternoon Book Club – Report published –( see p.13)
- Thursday Book Club – Report published (see p.14)

**5.6 PARK ROAD POETRY GROUP** – to be tabled at the meeting.

**5.7 PEACE AND SECURITY REPORT** –to be tabled at the meeting.

**AFUW(WA) AGM 2010 – CONVENOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (CIR)  
ANNUAL REPORT**

The AFUW(WA) CIR – Coordinator of International Relations – interacts with the national CIR, Dalma Jacobs, and the WA Committee on national and international issues. Generally, this is an informational and support role in gathering or responding to requests or circulating information. As I do not reside in West Australia, it has been an experiment having the CIR as a ‘virtual officer’ without reasonable technology interface of Skype or other meeting ‘attendance’. Therefore, my interaction has been limited to reports to the monthly committee meetings. A special thank you is expressed to WA President Margaret Giles for reporting back to AFGW CIR on various requests.

National issue highlights of the past year circulated through the AFGW CIR (other national issues were circulated through the AFGW President Jane Barker directly to the AFUW WA President for action): These were (a) a request for members to participate in National Volunteering Survey and (ii) the passage of Paid Parental Leave Bill

International issue highlights of the past year:

- With the IFUW International Triennial Conference held in Mexico City in August 2010, most of this year’s activities were in preparation for the conference:
  - Informing and seeking WA members to stand for international offices, seminar and workshop presentation, and conference attendance.
  - Circulating through the WA Committee, conference resolutions that were discussed by the WA Committee and comment to the Federal Council forwarded and/or presented by the WA President, Margaret Giles.
  - IFUW Program Survey

Outcomes of the conference, ie Council members and resolutions, are on the ifuw.org website. Most Australians standing were elected. Dues will remain the same for Australian members.

- Regional reports from the 2010 NGO Global Forum for Women are at <http://www.beijing15.org/>
- CEDAW Concluding Observations and NGO observations can be found at <http://ywca.org.au/policy-and-campaigns/our-policy-advocacy-work/womens-human-rights-policy-advocacy>. AFGW participated in writing the NGO Report that can be found at <http://ywca.org.au/policy-and-campaigns/our-policy-advocacy-work/womens-human-rights-policy-advocacy/>
- Creation of UN Women to replace various agencies responsible for women’s issues at the United Nations – too soon to tell how this will affect IFUW advocacy and related issues
- The PGWNet (Pacific Graduate Women’s Network) Council met at the IFUW Conference in Mexico City. Currently Australia is Council Secretariat with Jenny Strauss as President. All state/territory associations are encouraged to make contact with students of the Pacific and assist and mentor as appropriate to enable them to become IFUW members on receipt of their degrees or in support as they progress in higher degrees. How can this be achieved in WA? Do we have the capacity to identify these students and befriend them? If you have ideas and/or time to contribute to this project, please discuss with the President or the in-coming CIR.

May I encourage you as an individual IFUW member to access the IFUW website, [www.ifuw.org](http://www.ifuw.org) and:

- Review international issues and comment
- Read other national affiliate actions and reports
- Participate in international advocacy requests and reports
- Read United Nation representative reports
- Join discussion and networking groups

Please plan to attend the IFUW International Conference in 2013 in Istanbul, Turkey. The international conferences are such a great time to meet members from other countries, discuss personal interest issues as well as international issues, pursue peace by gaining understanding of other cultures, and meet IFUW officers and committee members, project leaders, scholarship winners and UN advocates.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you this past year.

*Kathleen (Kathy) Mumford, Convenor International Relations*

## AFUW(WA) AGM 2010 - ACADEMIC DRESS CONVENER ANNUAL REPORT

Due to the hard work of Karen Bothwell and all the volunteer helpers, Academic Dress Hire has once again proved to be a very profitable undertaking. We provided regalia for 13 Graduation Ceremonies, 9 in April and 4 in September. This involved 1457 bookings. Thank you to everyone who helped the students to dress and made each person feel special. Our feedback was very positive and all the graduands were appreciative of our care and interest in their studies.

We continue to refine aspects of the organization. Credit card facilities have lessened the time spent at the bank and enabled money to be placed promptly into our account. Email has meant that a lot of receipt mailing is no longer necessary and this has saved time and money spent on stamps. The hoods are now stored appropriately in flat boxes and this has cut down considerably on the ironing – not totally alleviated it, but made the task more manageable. A stock take of all the hoods took place in March and they were sorted and stored as to those that are fine and those that can only be used for either a pass or honours degree. Despite constant reminders to our students, we do find that occasionally the silk gets damaged with pins. With the University changing the structure of degrees in 2012, we have been reluctant to purchase many new hoods until we know what colours are going to be used. The University has undertaken to advise us of the new regulations once the decision has been made.

We were appreciative of some gowns that were donated during the year. We have a good supply of basic degree gowns but as there is a growing number of students doing Master's degrees we are never able to fulfil all orders. However, we were able to take advantage of the Government offering tax relief to small businesses who purchased materials necessary for their business and we now have 10 new Master's gowns and mortar boards and 5 PhD gowns, hoods and mortar boards.

It has been my pleasure to be the Convenor and I would be very happy for any member who has not yet done so, to volunteer to help for an hour or two during the Graduation Ceremonies period. I know you would thoroughly enjoy the experience. I look forward to hearing from you!

*Wendy McCallum, Hon. Convenor, Academic Dress*

## AFUW(WA) AGM 2010 - HOUSE ANNUAL REPORT

We have been fortunate this year to have the unit upstairs rented to very satisfactory tenants. The bad hail storms in March caused quite a lot of damage to both the unit upstairs and our office downstairs. Windows were broken which caused immediate concern. The tenants were able to get on to our property managers Shellabears in the middle of the night and the glass was replaced immediately. Unfortunately by the time Karen Bothwell and Wendy McCallum arrived to prepare the gowns, the extent of the devastation of the storm was realised and many claims have been made. The broken windows downstairs were patched up with plastic which remained for 4 weeks before the glass was finally replaced. Thanks to Robin Adamson for being there when the glaziers arrived. Fortunately despite the rain coming in and wetting the carpet, the gowns were not damaged. Noel Bothwell came immediately to help and we thank him very much for cleaning up all the broken glass and sweeping the front courtyard of a huge amount of debris. The University had to change the venue of the Graduation, but we were able to fulfil all our orders. Other problems have surfaced as a result of the storm and we are very fortunate that our insurance company "Wesfarmers" has been most cooperative. The roof has needed some new tiles and capping fixed and a curtain linings is to be replaced due to cuts from the broken glass. Insurance has covered all this. Some curtain linings that are worn out are also to be replaced at the same time at our expense.

Shellabears is the estate agent that manages the unit for the Association and the weekly rent is \$400.

*Wendy McCallum on behalf of Dorothy Ransom, Chair of House Committee*

## AFUW(WA) AGM 2010- ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE ANNUAL REPORT

It was decided in 2009 that Council meetings would be every two months after a tradition of quarterly meetings.

The Council Meeting dates for 2010 were held on Tuesdays as follows:  
2<sup>nd</sup> February, 6<sup>th</sup> April, 1<sup>st</sup> June and 3<sup>rd</sup> August with 5<sup>th</sup> October and 7<sup>th</sup> December still to occur.

I am honoured to have served as the AFUW representative since 2006, following a long tradition of AFUW members being involved with the College since its inception. To quote from the history:

Within a few months of the formation of the Western Australian Association of University Women the possibility of establishing a women's college was being discussed. The original suggestion in 1923 came from the President, Dr Roberta Jull, who was aware that claims for university land were being made for the establishment of other residential colleges. Today she is commemorated at the College by the naming of a room. In 1927 the W.A Association of University Women donated 25 pounds as the nucleus for a scholarship fund for the new Women's College. A representative of the Graduate Women's Association was appointed to Council in 1933 and to this day, there has been continuous representation serving two consecutive terms of three years on the College Council. 1987 saw the commencement of the AFUW(WA) bursary as one of only three scholarships and worth \$450.

This year the relationship between the College and AFUW (WA) will be published in their Alumni magazine "The Aikaterine".

A major focus continues to be building more accommodation with consultants on board and a range of options for funding. The College was badly affected by the hailstorms in March and is still involved with restoration.

I have attended the following events at St Catherine's: St Catherine's Day Dinner on the 25th of November, the Commencement Dinner on Thursday 25th of February and the Faculty Dinner on Monday May 10th. At the Commencement Dinner I presented the 2010 winner Lauren Kelly with the AFUW WA scholarship, now worth \$4000. Both Lauren Kelly and Selina Metternick Jones (the 2009 winner) were invited, along with all the other prize winners, to the May Presentation night and were able to meet members. I have been on the scholarship assessment panel for three years.

*Hilary Silbert - AFUW(WA) delegate*

## AFUW(WA) AGM 2010 – SATURDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB ANNUAL REPORT

The AFUW Saturday Afternoon Bookclub meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every calendar month from February to November, with a Christmas lunch instead of a meeting in December. Meetings are held at the Park Rd offices of the Federation between 2 pm and 4pm.

We now have eight regular readers – Beth Bake, Rose Carter, Rhoda Chance, Helen Charlesworth, Trish Hashim, Jenny Jones, Marjan Oxley and Mary Pusenjak. Unfortunately one of our long-time members, Margaret Ellis, has had to leave the group. She is a great book-lover and will certainly still be doing a lot of reading. We look forward to her joining us for our Christmas lunch.

Usually the presenter will give the group background information about the author, the 'background' of the book or novel, a summary of different reviews and a closer look at some passages that highlight the flavour of the month's reading. Everyone has an opportunity to give their opinion of the way the book was written, and how they responded to it.

Our reading list for 2010 is :

***The Leopard: Revised and with New Material*** by Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa

***The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency (book1)*** by Alexander McCall Smith

***Wolf Hall*** by Hilary Mantel

***Breath*** by Tim Winton

***Cloud Atlas*** by David Mitchell

*The Idiot* by Fyodor Dostoyevsky

*The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

*Byron in Love* by Edna O'Brien

*My Name is Asher Lev* by Chaim Potok

*The Hamilton Case* by Michelle de Kretser

During the last half hour we enjoy the afternoon tea which is provided by a different member in rotation.

We would like to emphasise that the club is open to any member of AFUW who would like to attend. We would like to have some new members so please feel free to come along and meet us, even if you would just like to see what we do. All of the group are 50+, so if you are looking for a new intellectual and social experience you can telephone or email me, Jenny Jones, 9386 3053, [jonesfam2@yahoo.com](mailto:jonesfam2@yahoo.com) and I can give you more details.

Jenny Jones

## AFUW(WA) AGM 2010- THURSDAY BOOK CLUB ANNUAL REPORT

As we complete a very successful 19 years of meetings, the Thursday Book Club members have continued to enjoy reading a range of books. Our discussions continue to concentrate on that month's book and only revert to other topics during supper. Many members comment that they like our group because we do talk for at least an hour and a half and often longer on the chosen book. Each member takes a turn in being the leader and selecting and preparing questions on a book that has interested them. Our meetings are full of lively discussions on the topic and often very varying viewpoints are expressed. Fortunately everyone appreciates others points of views and no hard feelings are felt, even if there is disagreement on the topic. Each meeting is very stimulating. A light supper concludes the evening and this is when the world's problems are solved and we hear about the activities of our members.

We discuss ten books each year, with no meeting in January and a social Christmas Dinner in December. For the past two years we have held our dinner at Park Road and this has proved to be a very happy and delicious event with each member contributing a Christmas delicacy.

For those who are interested, the books we have read this year are: *The Slap* by Chris Tsiolkas, *Homecoming* by Bernhard Schlink, *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery, *Lustrum* by Robert Harris, *The House Gun* by Nadine Gordimer, *Home* by Marilynne Robinson, *Burnt Shadows* by Kamila Shamsie, *Remarkable Creatures* by Tracy Chavaliar, *Gilgamesh* by Joan London, and *The Mayor Casterbridge* by Thomas Hardy.

We meet at 7.30 pm on the third Thursday of each month at 4 Park Rd. We are very happy to welcome new members and information can be obtained from the office or from the convenor.

Wendy McCallum, Convenor, Thursday Book Club, Ph 9446 4470 Email: [wmccallum@inet.net.au](mailto:wmccallum@inet.net.au)

## COMMITTEE MEETING DATES 2010

**October**      Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>      6:00pm

**November**      Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>      6:00pm



Acknowledgment: [www.womenpower.com](http://www.womenpower.com)

## AFUW(WA) NEWS

### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Hope Alexander whose abstract has been accepted for a poster presentation at the Australian Public Health Association (WA) State conference “**Global Issues, Local solutions – Thinking outside the box**” in Fremantle on 18,19 November.



**Hope Alexander**  
(Photograph Courtesy of sallydexter.com)

The title of her presentation is "**Customised exercise enhances quality of life in chronic conditions**".

**Hope will also be presenting at the Australian National Conference on Clinical Leadership in Adelaide on 20, 21 November. The title of this presentation is "Chasing the rainbow ... "**.

Web site: [www.hopealexander.com](http://www.hopealexander.com)  
Email: [hope@hopealexander.com](mailto:hope@hopealexander.com)

### ACADEMIC GOWN HIRE - A THANK YOU AFTERNOON TEA

AFUW(WA) would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers who have helped over the past month with the hire of the gowns for the University of Western Australia graduations. It has been a busy time with 430 bookings, and it was made much easier with all the help received from the following members and non-members:

Wendy McCallum, Robin Adamson, Joy Anderson, Felicity Bradshaw, Jenny Van Bockxmeer Marcelle Brown, Rose Carter, Rhoda Chance, Evelyne Deplazes, Jenny Dunlop, Kerry Evans, Louise Ewing, Margaret Giles, Alison Hayden, Jenny Jones, Hilary Silbert, Ann Sydall, Lin Tunks, Shirley Watt and Lalani Weddikkara, Karen Wood.

I would also like to say a special thank you to Hilary Silbert, Alison Hayden and Margaret Giles for taking on the role of night manager for the 9pm-11pm shift at UWA for the four nights, enabling me to go home at 7pm. I really appreciate it.

*Karen Bothwell, AFUW(A) Executive Officer*

**A thank you afternoon tea will be held on**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm**

**in the office at 4 Park Road.**

**to thank all the ladies who assisted with the  
gown hire.**



## In memory of Karin Margolius 1949 - 2010

Members may remember a truly amazing panel presentation in August 2006 when we had an evening entitled "Women of Achievement: Our Amazing Members". On that occasion we heard an insight into Karin's incredible life and career.



She, her husband and two sons moved from South Africa twenty one years ago for the freedom and security of Australia. Karin became the first female to become a forensic pathologist in Western Australia. She always claimed that she entered the field by default. When she arrived in Australia as a genuine routine pathologist there was a position available to her in forensic pathology. Her employers asked if she would do the job and she accepted. She believed that the W.A. medical industry was both open and welcoming to doctors from across the world, particularly women. While studying forensic pathology Karin also did a law degree at Murdoch University, studying at the same time as her son.

Using the law degree, in 2003 Karin worked with the University of Western Australia to initiate the first course in Australia for the teaching of medical law to medical students. It was her belief that the course helped better equip doctors for a changing world. She believed it a good idea if there was a course about the legal requirements of contracts, advance directives or going to court.

Karin was diagnosed with advanced ovarian cancer in October 2004. Her first thought was family – not only her own, but also those who were waiting on forensic pathology reports. She continued to work for most of those six years, often travelling and on call whilst undergoing treatment. Her own sister was also diagnosed last year.

Karin travelled to Melbourne to her son's wedding only a fortnight before her death.

### Other achievements included:

Author and co-author of a range of medical articles and publications since 1970

Medical Practitioner, since 1975

Fellow, Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia; Member since 1989;

Clinical Forensic Pathologist, WA Centre for Pathology and Medical Research, Department of Forensic Pathology, PathWest Laboratory, Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, since 1990

Member, Australian College of Biomedical Scientists, since 1990

Member, Australian College of Legal Medicine; since 1998; Councillor, 2001-2007

Member, Forensic Advisory Committee, since 2002

Clinical Associate Professor, Pathology and Legal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Western Australia; initiated the first course in Australia for the teaching of medical law to medical students, since 2003.

Member, Law Reform Commission, WA, since 2007

Member, Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine, Royal College of Physicians UK, 2009

### Other organisations:

Member, Ovarian Cancer Australia

Member, Rotary Club of Heirisson, WA; current Honorary Member; Vocational Director, 1992; developed the Principal of the Year Award; involved in the re-creation and restoration of the Jewish Cemetery in East Perth.

Member, SIDS and KIDS Scientific Advisory Committee, since 2003.

Member AFUW WA since 2005

Awards/recognition include:

Awarded Excellence in Forensic Pathology, Celebrating Excellence Awards, 2004

Awarded Woman Achiever Western Australia, 1998

Finalist, WA Citizen of the Year for Community Service, 2008 and 2009

In January this year Karin was awarded the OAM in the Australia Day Honours List for service to clinical forensic medicine, to education, and through support for people with cancer.

*Hilary Silbert*

**30<sup>th</sup> TRIENNIAL IFUW CONFERENCE, FEMU MEXICO, 2010**

The theme for the 30<sup>th</sup> Triennial IFUW Conference in Mexico City was “Education, Empowerment, Development.” It was fitting we the Conference in Mexico city, as they celebrate their 200<sup>th</sup> year of Independence. Mexico was the first country to include social rights in its constitution of 1917 which is in effect today. It’s a very colourful city with a long history. The people were very friendly and helpful. I got up early each day to watch the people bustling with their work or children going to school.

The IFUW President Louise Croot opened the sessions, with a very warm welcome to all and said this would be a challenging and stimulating time where we can exchange ideas, where memories and connections will be made and it certainly was.

The welcome by the FEMU founding President Dr. Patricia Galeana & the address by Olga Sanchez Cordero, Minister of the Mexican Supreme Court and the keynote speaker for the opening session, a very notable speaker from Mexico, Dr. Kyung-Wha Kang the Deputy High Commissioner from the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva spoke on Peace & Security, with a goal to achieve peace in our daily lives.

The Business session had the opening formalities and the introduction of candidates for the IFUW Board of Officers 2010-2013. I attended this session as an observer and learnt how the IFUW operates.

The Conference participants were asked to choose one of two themes to follow throughout the day, each with an opening session, interdisciplinary seminars, workshops and a closing session. Theme 1 was “Advancing women through lifelong learning” and “Challenges to women’s empowerment in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” which I attended. The keynote address was given by Ana Guezmes Garcia UNIFEM programme director for Mexico. I attended the Interdisciplinary seminar titled” Moving women into decision making: Achieving equality” the convener was Kathy Mumford. Shaila Rao (USA) spoke on “Steering our economy to health.” Kagabe Mukabagema & Dr. Shirley Randall (Rwanda) spoke on “Women as political and Economic agents in Rwanda: Achieving sustainable development through women’s Empowerment” and Professor Chin-Yi Yang and Wan-Ying Yang of Taiwan prepared a documentary based on gender and social customs from the Taiwan Gender Equity Education Association, titled “Women’s light shines on.” The workshop I attended was titled “The second life: women take chances” A debating format was used, which was very interesting. I felt very comfortable with this since I finished my M.A after my 4 children finished their University studies. The closing session finished by 6p.m.

My theme for the next day was “Education for Sustainable Development” the convener was Ranjana Banerjee from India. She spoke of a sustainable future, socio cultural influences, the power of education and how different countries/cultures have different levels of education. Therefore, women’s issues will be different, and to apply the knowledge gained from the conference. The convener for “Education for Sustainable Development” was Ayden Birerdinc. I attended this session for Interdisciplinary seminars and the workshop I chose was “Women, lifestyle and climate change: Compromise for planetary survival” given by Martine Cashell-Smith and Sian Halcrow, of New Zealand. They used the World Café style conversational process and linked it to ideas of ‘eco-friendly’ changes that women can make in their daily lifestyle. This was quite different to any other workshop that I had attended before. We had to speak on what each country was doing to support the environment, and make our own ‘eco friendly’ carry bag, and also draw on it.

“Towards a Just Society” was theme 4. The convener was Sheila Buemi-Moore of Switzerland. The keynote address by Eileen Fegan, specialist in Gender, Legal and Women’s Human Rights Education was “Understanding Human Rights: Exploring their role in Society.” I attended this session as I was very interested in the topic. The Interdisciplinary seminar I attended was “Human Rights and Corporate Social Responsibility: The Role of Multinational Corporations in the Protection of Women’s Rights –the case of Malawi” was introduced by Margaret Nkhoma of Malawi. Gender Officer United Nations Mission, Liberia. She discussed how the foreign Multinational Corporations direct investment has become the cornerstone of social and economic development aspirations of most developing countries, including Malawi. At the Plenary Session 4 the discussions were on “Building a sustainable IFUW: Meeting Member’s Needs and Expectations” gave us an opportunity to share our views and ideas on a range of topics related to the sustainability of IFUW. The IFUW representatives to the United Nations and national affiliates with CEDAW reported their experiences and shared insights, on how the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and the human rights council’s universal periodic review process work, and how do members at the national and local levels work?

Business session 3 was to debate and vote on Resolutions and Constitutional Amendments. This session was most interesting to me as I had worked on Resolutions at AFUW (WA). Most of the Resolutions at Mexico City were passed after discussion while one was withdrawn.

I learnt more about the work of IFUW’s four teams of representatives to the United Nations and UNESCO. What were the key issues? How can members at the national and local level get involved? These were some of the questions we discussed.

It was certainly not all work. We had fun and much laughter. At lunch time we managed to catch up with friends and plan what we would do after our sessions finished at 7pm. We would go out to dinner, just walk down the street until we found a place where we liked. The Mexican evening was a highlight of the Conference. We enjoyed the evening of traditional music, dance and Mexican food. The Gala dinner at the Vizcainas School was really fantastic. The entertainment by the Mexican choir was just excellent. The music, food, dancing and the entertainment was great and we had so much fun that evening. Thanks to the Mexican Federation (FEMU) and the Local arrangements committee.

*Lalani Weddikkara, Convenor - Peace and Security*

## AFUW(WA) EVENTS

# Sundowner

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

**6:00pm**

**ME Wood Room**

**St Catherine’s College Nedlands**

# BBQ



*Professor Shirley Randell, Director, Centre for Gender, Culture and Development Studies, Kigali Institute of Education (KIE) Rwanda wrote to AFUW(WA) on 6th September 2010.*

“I trust you are all well and am sending you my regular update along with dates of when I will next be in Australia. I am returning on 16 September to receive my AO from Governor General Quentin Bryce. I worked with Quentin in 1982 on the national women’s advisory council when she was its convener and I was executive officer, so it will be an additional joy, along with having my children Ellen, Andrew and granddaughter Emilia accompany me for the formalities. I will attend part of the Women Chiefs of Enterprise International annual conference while in Canberra on 17-18 September and on 21 September will be visiting with faculty and students at the University of Newcastle, with whom the Kigali Institute of Education is seeking a partnership agreement. Being guest speaker at a dinner to recognise donors and alumni of my alma mater, the University of New England, Armidale, on 23 September in Sydney will give me a chance to catch up with friends there, and of course with other friends and family while in Sydney and Dubai in transit. I would love to speak with you if you have time to call – 0419 005 936.

**Rwanda – Centre for Gender, Culture and Development.** The outgoing Cabinet of the Government of Rwanda finally approved the Masters degree in Gender, Culture and Development program, a year after it was validated by the Kigali Institute of Education Senate. This is wonderful news and means we can advertise for staff and students to begin study in January 2011. Other good outcomes this week have been the appointment of the long-awaited Academic Assistant and Secretary for the Centre. We continue to be blessed by and benefit from the generous contributions of volunteer staff and visiting academics.

**Presidential Elections.** The Rwandan elections in August were observed by teams from several countries, who monitored the campaign and the voting process in all 30 districts and declared the elections to be free and fair. They reported that the four presidential candidates focused their speeches on their manifesto and political agenda which was by and large dominated by socio-economic development issues, without hurling insults and provocative criticism on one another. Voter education was successfully conducted prior to election, with adequate voting information given through the media. All polling stations were accessible, well prepared and located near the voting population. Electoral materials were at the site on time, persons missing on the register did not vote and National Electoral Commission officials were present at polling centres to supervise the exercise effectively. There was widespread excitement and approval when President Paul Kagame was re-elected with a majority of 93 percent. We have a holiday today for the inauguration, which is being attended by 18 African heads of state and the international members of the President’s Advisory Council who, along with prominent Rwandans, offer him strategic advice and guidance. It has been wonderful to watch the colourful ceremony on TV, the display of African unity, the warmth of the crowd and the President’s colleagues, including President of Liberia, Ellen Sirleaf Johnson, and to hear a great speech from the President.

**Strong Economic Growth.** The International credit rating agency, Fitch Ratings, has upgraded Rwanda’s ranking from B- to B, after the country registered an uninterrupted period of strong economic growth and an improvement in its business environment following an impressive structural reform drive. Rwanda has more than doubled its income per person since the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi. Large planned investments in physical infrastructure and continued efforts to increase competitiveness keep growth robust and support creditworthiness. Government expects to see more improvement as it sustains economic growth, maintains macroeconomic stability and fiscal discipline, improves the narrow export base and mobilizes more domestic revenue to reduce heavy reliance on foreign aid. The Foreign Direct Investment has increased to RWF 600billion from RWF 18 billion since 2001.

**Performance Contracts.** In July all governors and mayors signed their annual performance contracts with President Kagame in what has now become an annual event aimed at accelerating development programs across the country. At these ceremonies, known as Imihigo, each of the local leaders reads out their province or district’s achievements over the past year, as well as the planned activities for the next fiscal year. Each of the five top performers was rewarded with a laptop and a certificate of appreciation and the best performing

district won a trophy. President Kagame observed that there are many developmental activities that have been achieved as a result of the performance contracts and that there is a significant change to the welfare of the people. He reminded the local leaders that performance contracts are in line with the government's policies of good governance, which have uniformly fostered national development.

**Interconnectivity.** A new global report on internet connectivity by Ookla has put Rwanda among the top three African countries with the fastest internet broadband connectivity and downloading speeds, ranking the country ahead of more developed African economies such as South Africa and Egypt. President Kagame has expressed his commitment to fast and efficient communication as solutions to fast track socio-economic transformation in societies: "This is why the link between Broadband and delivering on Millennium Development Goals is so important".

**Millennium Development Goals.** Rwanda ranks quite well in the achievement of the MDGs and that is certainly why President Kagame was selected as co-chair of the international UN MDG Advocacy group, along with the Spanish Prime Minister, Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero. Yesterday, ahead of his inauguration and taking the opportunity of African leaders' presence to hold an MDGs Africa Consultative Forum, President Kagame called on African states to pursue and achieve MDGs for the good of the African people. *"It is important that Africa owns the process to ensure that the MDGs are achieved in the next five years. It's our duty to ensure that the continent actively promotes the achievement of MDGs, -not because others appeal for it, but because it is in our national interest as well," Kagame said, adding that despite a UN report showing that MDG progress was off track globally, there are signs of success in Africa. "In fact, throughout the African continent we find inspiring success stories where MDGs have actively been taken up by local communities with demonstrable positive impact to their lives". He called on African states to have the loudest voice in the MDG general assembly to be held at the end of September and push for the support needed to tackle the remaining challenges. "I hope that we can all ensure that the African voice is heard loud and clear during the MDG summit. The MDGs are most relevant to Africa and other developing countries, and we want to lead from the front in such an important summit," Kagame said.*

**Reduction in Corruption.** A report on crime recently released by the Rwanda National Police (RNP) indicates that the number of corruption cases has reduced by 52.6 percent since 2005. The report indicates that only 91 cases were registered by June in 2010 compared to 192 cases recorded six years ago. Corruption was at a record high in 2007 where it increased by 138 percent from 145 cases the previous year to 345 cases. The reduction was mainly due to the establishment of a section within the Criminal Investigation Department specifically charged with investigating corruption-related crimes. The community has been sensitized in the fight against corruption through community policing and works hand-in-hand with law enforcement institutions and other stakeholders. This has contributed to Rwanda's ranking on the recent Transparency International Index as the least corrupt country in the region. The report stated that Rwanda's corruption prevalence is at 6.6 percent and that government's commitment to fight corruption is rated at 97.1 percent. The report warned that the level of corruption in East Africa threatens to hold back the recently launched common market's full potential and called on other EAC countries to learn from Rwanda and create strong Ombudsman offices capable of regularly exposing cases of fraud, malpractice and corruption at the top, middle and bottom levels of the public sector.

**Reduction in Rape Cases.** Another RNP report showed that the number of rape cases has reduced by over 95 percent within the past six years. Only 150 cases had been reported by June in 2010 compared with 2,999 registered in 2005, 2,962 in 2006 and 2,935 cases in 2007. The reduction is being attributed to the introduction of an active Gender Based Violence desk in RNP, the laws punishing such crimes, people's awareness, community policing and children's rights committees that are now in every village.

**Genocide Ideology.** This week, a report compiled by the Parliamentary Commission on Human Rights and Fighting against Genocide revealed that genocide ideology is diminishing in terms of its influence across the country. It shows that cases of discrimination and divisionism in the country decreased from 50 in 2008, to 32 in 2009 and 17 cases so far in 2010. A parliamentary probe in December 2007 showed alarming instances of genocide ideology in schools but the report shows that such incidents have dropped. Rwanda's hard work at conflict mitigation and prevention, post-conflict resolution and peace-building, including the law fighting

the genocide ideology has clearly played a part in this change of mindset. Despite this, Amnesty International, initially invited to be part of a review of Rwanda genocide law and asked to give its ideas on preferred changes, has issued a premature damaging report demanding that the new government must urgently review their "vague 'genocide ideology' and 'sectarianism' laws" allegedly used to suppress political dissent. The Government announced in April that it would be reviewing the genocide ideology law, but not in response to outside pressure.

**Rwanda's Unjustified Bad Press.** Rwanda continues to get bad press from international journalists and some NGOs, despite outstanding progress, as part of a larger pattern that appears to be aimed at discrediting Rwanda's achievements. Rwanda's detractors have actively sought to create a narrative that seeks to undermine progress and to fragment a society that has achieved high levels of reconciliation in the aftermath of the genocide. A UN draft report incriminating the Rwanda Patriotic Army (RPA) in alleged mass killings of Rwandan refugees in the DRC from 1994-2003 was deliberately leaked in France. The report fundamentally misrepresents the episodes it describes by failing to explain the circumstances at play during a difficult period in Rwanda's history. After the defeat of the genocidal government in 1994, genocidaires fled to Zaire (now Democratic Republic of the Congo – DRC), herding millions of innocent Rwandans along as their hostages and human shields in a war they had lost. In 1996 the RPA moved in to heroically rescue and repatriate those Rwandans who had been held hostage by the former Rwandan army and Interahamwe militia. This week Hutu politicians and top military officers who lived in the camps of the eastern part of the DRC during the 1990s, have publicly set the record straight by telling the story of what actually happened - a story that those bent on manipulating the UN system to tarnish the image of Rwanda, do not want to hear. Rwanda's intervention in the DRC was a matter of survival and the direct consequence of the irresponsible and insensitive management of the refugee camps by the UN and the international community subsequent to the genocide. Rwanda, at great cost and sacrifice, managed to turn around a tragic situation and create a new era of regional collaboration and increasing prosperity. It would be a tragedy if an irresponsible document under the guise of human rights creates instability in the region and undermines ongoing stabilization efforts, particularly at a time when unprecedented progress is being made in establishing peace, security and economic collaboration.

The leaked UN report's Mapping Team failed to consult with Rwanda, showing complete disregard for fundamental fairness and using questionable methodology, sourcing and shockingly low standards of proof, admitting that it "was not concerned with pursuing in-depth investigations or gathering evidence of sufficient admissibility to stand in court". At the same time as the leaked UN report makes these extremely serious allegations of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, the UN wants this dedicated army to continue to protect people in peace missions around the world. Rwanda maintains the biggest contingent on the UN-backed peacekeeping mission in Sudan's troubled region of Darfur. The Minister of Foreign Affairs has announced that the Rwanda Defence Force has finalized a contingency withdrawal plan for its peacekeepers in Darfur and Sudan, in case the UN publishes this report that Rwanda has called "outrageous, damaging, malicious, offensive and ridiculous..." "If the UN labels us as a genocidal army, then they should be able to find another army to do this work," she said.

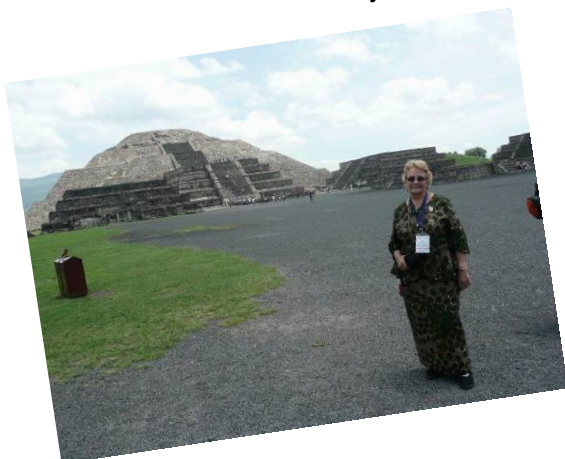
The timing of the leak appears to be connected to the UN trying to divert international attention from its latest failure in the Great Lakes Region. Between July 30 and August 3 the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) and Congolese Mai-Mai militias attacked and gang raped nearly 180 Congolese women and some children in a series of attacks in the Walikale region of eastern DRC's North Kivu Province. The UN peacekeeping mission in DRC did not know about these atrocities until more than a week after an aid group – International Medical Corps revealed the incident, even though a UN base was only 10 kms away. The Rwandan government has said that "It is immoral and unacceptable that the UN, an organization that failed outright to prevent genocide in Rwanda and the subsequent refugee crisis, a direct cause for so much suffering in Congo and Rwanda, now accuses the army that stopped the genocide of committing atrocities in the DRC." The formal release of the report has been delayed by the UN.

**Australia - Elections.** One of the hidden outcomes of the 2010 Federal Election is a sharp drop in the number of women in the House of Representatives to below 25 per cent, with just 36 women compared with 41 women (28 per cent) in the last Parliament. This is a disappointing outcome that may have consequences

for Government policies across all portfolios. Until the Government looks like the society it seeks to govern, there will be an imbalance in the decision making process. The Liberal National Party (LNP) of Queensland that won back the most seats from Labor has just two female members out of 21 (fewer than 10 per cent). The overwhelming male candidature of the LNP is something the party needs to address if it is to continue as a major force in Australian politics. The fact that few women stand for pre-selection has more to do with the culture of political parties than it does with a lack of interest in politics on behalf of women. None of the 10 seats won by the Nationals and country independents were held by a woman. The National Party has been a poor performer in relation to gender diversity in its elected representatives.

**Sexual and Reproductive Health.** The 63rd United Nations Department of Public Information/NGO conference brought together 1600 participants representing over 350 NGOs from all over the world last week to discuss progress on global health and the MDGs in Melbourne. Disappointingly, calls from sexual and reproductive health (SRH) NGO groups to include SRH in the final declaration were ignored. For Rwanda, SRH issues are critical. The population is growing rapidly with little sign of a decline. Only 27 percent of married women of reproductive age use a modern method of contraception and the maternal mortality rate remains high, even though there has been good progress in reducing it. Condom use amongst the at-risk population is still low and the reluctance to recognise the existence of homosexuality leaves many women vulnerable to HIV infection. Around the world, a woman dies every minute due to pregnancy or childbirth complications, and there are estimated to be 215 million women in developing countries who would like to use contraceptives, to plan their families, space their births and avoid sexually transmitted diseases, but do not have access to condoms. The omission is particularly difficult to understand when this year marks Fifty Years Of 'The Pill' - a revolutionary contraceptive technology that changed many women's lives forever, giving them the freedom to decide the size of their families, pursue an education, have a career, enjoy improved health, and take pleasure in their sexuality without fear of becoming pregnant. But millions in the developing world are still not using modern contraception and the pill remains controversial because it is about gender and women's self-determination. While we have to recognise cultural differences this should not mean that we fail to address the health issues of most concern to women. SRH issues are cross-cutting issues that affect reaching all MDGs: reducing poverty and pressure on the environment, and improving the health and well-being of women and children.

**Personal News.** House Move. After 18 months in my Kiyovu home I have moved to a house that shares its back fence with KIE. The rent is considerably cheaper and I don't have to fight traffic each day and pay for so much highly-priced petrol. It has been an expensive move though, having to pay double rent for two months overlap and painting the vacated house. One small disadvantage is that it is not so quiet in Remera/Kimironko and we have to tolerate some noisy worship services on both sides of the house on many days of the week. We also had an unfortunate break-in involving the guard I inherited here, despite his excellent references. My night guard Hyassin and day guard/gardener Andre have now joined me so I am more relaxed and I still have Yolande as my four-day a week housekeeper. Current housemates are two Yale graduate volunteers working with Global Grassroots, a Stanford university graduate mapping out her PhD, and dear friend Helen Leith and two of her volunteer musical therapists working with people with disability calling in again during transit from and to the UK. There is still room for visitors should you decide to come to Rwanda to volunteer or holiday.



### **International Federation of University Women (IFUW).**

In August I was in Mexico for the 90th IFUW triennial conference of– my first visit to Latin America. I found time to visit the world class Mexican Archaeological Museum and the National University of Mexico, and managed to see the third largest pyramid in the world, the pyramid of the sun at Teotihuacán, which I loved. My favourite time was an after-conference stay with my dear friend Glenda Hecksher, a renowned Mexican sculptor and to visit with her the Frida Kahlo art museum, Frida is another one of my long-standing heroes. I have thoroughly enjoyed my three years as vice president of IFUW and three of us from the Rwanda Association of University Women (RAUW) attended – we gave six papers, seminars and workshops between us.

**Rwanda Association of University Women.** One of the most exciting ventures for me in Rwanda has been founder/ first secretary general of RAUW. We recently enrolled our 615th member. Although the vast majority of members are Rwandan, RAUW has been a truly international association with many short and longer term overseas staff and volunteers joining to support and learn from the organisation, some choosing to continue their membership even after they have left the country. RAUW began in July 2006 when a group of senior women, consisting of representatives of the Ministries of Education and Gender & Family Promotion, SNV Rwanda, UNIFEM, FAWE Rwanda, the private sector and four national universities, came together to approve a constitution. Seven of our members were at IFUW's 89th Triennial Conference in Manchester UK in 2007 to see RAUW become affiliated as a member. The most valued initiative is the internet Dgroup which connects members daily and is usually listed as one of the top five most-used Dgroups in the international network. Members post on the network professional development information about jobs, scholarships, awards, conferences, workshop and seminar opportunities, congratulations on members' achievements, and news relating to women's rights, human rights and peace in Africa and around the world. International links with other associations have provided us with funding for projects such as keeping orphan-girls-heading-families in secondary schools, a career education booklet for girls, career education seminars for secondary students, a mentoring program for senior women, establishing a suburban women's centre for school dropouts, a Breaking the silence on menstruation campaign to improve girl's school attendance and achievement, and participation in international and continental conferences. RAUW is playing a major role in the advancement of women in Rwanda.

**Newsletter.** This Rwanda update on development issues and my activities is sent from time to time. Please feel free to forward it to anyone you think would be interested. You should let me know if you wish to be taken off the mailing list. If you receive this e-mail direct from me and you wish to keep receiving it, you need to say so once every three years, to avoid being taken off the list.

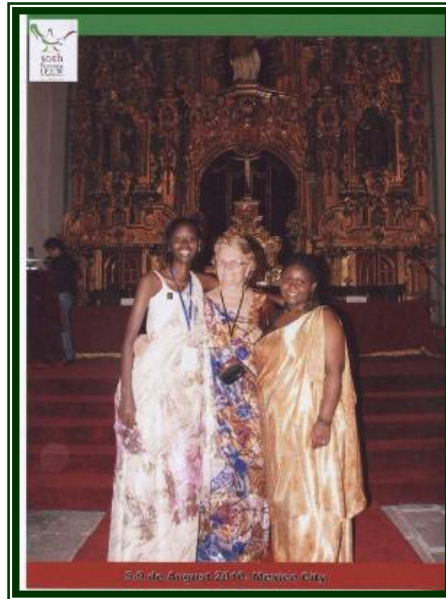
For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. (Ecclesiastes 3).

Loving greetings to all  
Shirley

*Professor Shirley Randell AO, PhD, FACE, FAIM, FAICD  
Director, Centre for Gender, Culture and Development Studies  
Kigali Institute of Education (KIE) Rwanda*

[mail@shirleyrandell.com.au](mailto:mail@shirleyrandell.com.au) [www.shirleyrandell.com](http://www.shirleyrandell.com) [aushirley.randell@kie.ac.rw](mailto:aushirley.randell@kie.ac.rw) [www.kie.ac.rw](http://www.kie.ac.rw)  
[www.ifuw.org/rwanda](http://www.ifuw.org/rwanda)

Photo:  
*Shirley Randall with  
 RAUW delegates  
 in Mexico*



### AFUW(WA) MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS REMINDER

**Members please note that renewals are now due.**

Please complete and send a renewal form to Karen by fax or email to ensure your membership details are up-to-date on our register.

**Email: [afuwwa@westnet.com.au](mailto:afuwwa@westnet.com.au)  
 Phone/Fax: (08)93863570**

### AFUW(WA) POETRY CLUB MEETING DATES 2010

**October** 10.30am Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>

**November** 10.30am Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>



*Acknowledgement: [\\_mozziestar.wordpress.com](http://_mozziestar.wordpress.com)*

### AFUW(WA) BOOK CLUB MEETING DATES 2010



*Acknowledgment: [www.gavilan.edu](http://www.gavilan.edu)*

**October** Thursday 21st and Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>

**November** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>

**NOMINATION  
FOR  
AFUW(WA) INC COMMITTEE 2010/2011**

Nominations or expressions of interest for persons interested in joining the AFUW(WA) Inc Committee are called for, with all positions being for a one year term.

The following positions are available for nomination: President, 2 Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and 5 General Committee Members (one of whom has graduated in the last 10 years). Existing members of Committee are eligible for re-election.

Ideally all committee members should have computer access.

Committee members can contribute by:

- attending Committee meetings that are held monthly and are usually 2 hours in length
- attending 3 General Meetings per year and the Annual General Meeting
- contributing on average 6-8 hours a month on AFUW(WA) matters

If you would like to be more involved and are interested in joining the Committee please fill out the nomination form below and return to the office by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010.

(You are welcome to email the nomination form to: [afuwwa@westnet.com.au](mailto:afuwwa@westnet.com.au); fax it to 9386 3570 or post it to - AFUW(WA) Office, P O Box 48, Nedlands 6909.)

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**NOMINATION FOR AFUW(WA) INC COMMITTEE 2010/2011**

I wish to nominate for the following position/s:

Please underline position you are willing to undertake.

**President / Vice-Presidents (2) / Secretary / Assistant Secretary / Treasurer /  
Newsletter Editor / General Committee Member (5 positions).**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone/fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

The AFUW(WA) Office is at  
4 Park Road, Nedlands 6009  
Ph/Fax: (08) 9386 3570  
Email: [afuwwa@westnet.com.au](mailto:afuwwa@westnet.com.au)  
Postal address: P O Box 48 NEDLANDS WA 6909