

Newsletter

August 2021

Quote: *'I have a firm belief in equal opportunity for both sexes. I have always worked to raise the status of women, and towards social justice in this society.'* Diane Alley OBE (see VALE below).

From the President, Ronniel Milliken

Talent, Tenacity and Time

We are approaching our 118th AGM and the second by Zoom. Our thanks to the talented and tenacious women on our 2020/21 Committee and Standing Committee – volunteers giving their 'leisure' hours to the service of the women and girls of Victoria. For 2020/21, we were fortunate that many advisers and committee members were continuing - familiar with the NCWV principles and practices - joined by inquisitive new members with different knowledge and skills. At this AGM, both our Immediate Past President, Elisabeth Newman AM; and our Communication Adviser, Mass Media (also National Co-ordinator Communications) May Hu OAM JP, will step aside, leaving a *considerable* gap for us to fill – along with the vacant role of Honorary Secretary.

The census on August 10th will ask about aspects of our work/life balance, domestic duties, paid employment and volunteering. We are keen to identify and welcome women interested to join NCWV and contribute to our *consideration* of social reforms and *advocacy* on major issues affecting women. She may be a student in a 'gap' year; a woman in the community or commerce sector; parent whose children have flown the nest; a retiree - **essentially a woman keen to make a difference.**

How might you, or a woman of your acquaintance contribute to the ongoing work of NCWV as an adviser, committee member or honorary secretary?

Please contact Elida, Deborah or me to discuss how you might assist or introduce a new contributor.

Students in Parliament NEW DATE due to mercurial COVID situation and one person per 4sq metres limit.

The NCWV student event ***My Vote My Voice*** will be held in the Legislative Council Chamber of Parliament House on **Monday November 8th, 9:00-12:30pm.**

Secondary students will address the topic: ***My Vote My Voice: Democracy - Past; Present; Future. Is politics structured to benefit society in the future?***

We will also celebrate the Centenary of the Australian Federation of Women Voters, and 75th+1 of League of Women Voters Victoria (LWVV). **Keynote speaker will be distinguished Professor Marilyn Lake AO, sharing the history of voting and the part LWVV played.**

NCWV Annual General Meeting, 2nd September



Dr. Lois Peeler AM, of Yorta Yorta and Wiradjuri heritage through her mother and Wurundjeri heritage through her father, will speak prior to the AGM at 12:15pm. She is Executive Director and Principal of Worawa Aboriginal College, the only boarding school in Australia catering specifically for young Aboriginal women. She was one of the members of *The Sapphires*, and is Australia's first Aboriginal model and TV presenter.

She is committed to the education and preservation of Victorian Aboriginal history and culture. As Principal of Victoria's only Aboriginal school, the pedagogy is based on learning from the land and Aboriginal Ways of Knowing, Doing and Being. She is currently involved in developing an Aboriginal Resource Centre focused on Victorian Aboriginal history, culture and achievements.

Individual Members Annual Meeting

This was conducted at 11:00 am prior to the Council meeting, on August 5th, followed by Individual member Wendy Le Get talking about the sale of the family property in Western Australia which her Grandparents took up as virgin country in 1906. There was a large collection of old machinery and household items as well as buildings, all well preserved. The local Heritage group and Local Council have set up the "Koobabbie Precinct" in Coorow W.A. where a collection of these items are displayed, including three of the smaller original farm buildings that could be moved. To learn more Wendy says google "Koobabbie". This was a most fascinating talk, with members being amazed at the work Wendy put in to finally complete this project, highly respecting the family legacy and donating part of the property for conservation.

At the election Elisabeth Newman AM was elected as Convenor; Beverley Kannegiesser as Book keeper and IM representative on Committee; Carol Robertson as Notetaker; Deputy Convenor position is vacant.



August Speaker



Sandra Buckley, CEO of Women in Super, a national not-for-profit networking and advocacy organisation for women employed in superannuation and the aligned financial services industry. Founded in 1994, WIS has a long history of advocating for better retirement outcomes for women.

With over 2,500 members across Australia, WIS was formally established in 1994 to provide networking opportunities for women working in the profit-to-member superannuation and associated financial services sector. Since then, it has developed into a national organisation with committees in every state and territory (except the Northern Territory) with a Mission to work towards a superannuation system without gender-based inequity. WIS works to

- make super fair by improving women's retirement outcomes through policy change;
- provide opportunities for members to develop their networks and professional development training;
- promote equal participation of women at all levels within superannuation and financial services industry;
- strengthen the WIS network through promotion of the Mother's Day Classic, initiated by WIS in 1998, raising \$33.2mill for the National Breast Cancer Foundation!

Since joining WIS in 2014 Sandra has led the strategy, advocacy, policy, research and campaign work that WIS undertakes to improve retirement outcomes for women. WIS led the campaign to 'Save the LISC' (Low Income Super Tax Offset) preventing negative impact on balances of 1 in 2 working women who earn \$40,000 or less. Sandra quoted data on women superannuation issues, including the gender pay gap which on average is 17%; more casual or part time work, so may not reach the \$450 threshold for super and if they do, may be in multiple super funds with fees, also super was voluntary until the 80s, so many women have insufficient (or no) super on retirement. COVID has exacerbated this. The release of super funds was taken up by many women aged 25-34 years, reducing their retirement funds.

Sandra believes that education on types of super funds, strategy/risk profiles, fees, contribution policies etc. essential, even included in the school curriculum. More women are now on Super Boards, as CEOs and CIOs.

WIS' vision is a superannuation system without gender bias, working with industry, government, employers and universities to affect policy change and raise awareness of issues facing women in accessing super.

Sandra Buckley was appointed to the Australian Gender Equity Council board in July 2019 and as Deputy Chair in November 2020.

VALE: Diane Berenice Alley (Duke) OBE (1927 - 2021)



Diane Alley has worked consistently for over five decades to promote the principles set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. She was Honorary Secretary of the NCWV 1968–1975, Vice-president 1976, President 1977–1980, then President NCWA 1982–1985 and Convenor of the Child and Family Committee at State, National and International Council levels.

In 1986 she became Honorary Life Member of NCWV; and Honorary Life Vice-President of NCWA.

Diane worked through Councils and other organisations, in order to ensure equal opportunity for women and achieve social justice for all members of the community, both in Australia and internationally, including the National Status of Women Committee, United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA). She received the UNAA Founders Award in recognition of her lifelong dedication to women's rights and social justice

She was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire, 1981 for community work and among the first women admitted to the Victorian Women's Honour Roll in 2001. Both state and national governments appointed her to advisory bodies: the Victorian Premier's Equal Opportunity Advisory Council 1978–1982 and the National Women's Consultative Council 1984–1986.

Dame Ada Norris selected Diane to succeed her as Chair of the National Status of Women Committee, United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA) 1980, becoming Vice-President in 1984. She convened the committee for the UN International Year of the Child 1979, and was Patron of the UN International Year of the Family 1994. She received the UNAA Founders Award in 2007.

Diane was Chair of the Victorian Consultative Council of Social Development (1985–1986), on its Family Policy Sub-committee from 1979 and National Advisory Council on Social Welfare (1983–1985). She was an honorary magistrate of the Children's Court 1972 - 1984, executive member of the Free Kindergarten Union 1960–1975 and Vice-president of the Children's Protection Society from 1980. She provided support for the Victorian Immigrant and Refugee Women's Coalition.

She served on the Fairlea Women's Prison Council 1979–1983, and was an official prison visitor to Pentridge and Fairlea. To equip herself for these roles, she undertook a Diploma of Criminology (Melb).

Women's Health Week, 6-10 September <https://www.womenshealthweek.com.au>

Jean Hales presents: Women's Health Week Comedy Gala

Starring Kitty Flanagan, Anne Edmonds, Bev Killick, Geraldine Hickey, Susie Youssef, Geraldine Quinn and Cassie Workman! Hosted by the fabulous Rachel Berger and featuring a line-up of Australia's funniest female comedians, there will be no topic off limits as these women tell it like it is!

Don't miss this night of rib-tickling, gut-busting belly laughs, 3rd annual [Women's Health Week Comedy Gala](#).

When: Saturday 31 August - 7.30pm; Where: The National Theatre Melbourne

Producer: Janet McLeod

Tickets: A-Reserve \$85.00, B-Reserve \$75.00

All ticket holders receive a free Women's Health Week gift bag on the night. [Book now](#)

Soroptimist International

This Logo Garden celebrating 100 years of service which began in Oaklands California in 1921 is to be launched on 11th September postponed from 7th August due to to the COVID-19 lockdown. SI Melbourne is 73 years. I took the photo on the 4th August. There are only a few white/blue violas out, with the sun shining hopefully there will be more out soon. This garden is facing St Kilda Rd, just down from Government House and on the City side of the Shrine. It will be there until the end of September - early October. *Sue Whitehead, NCWV Delegate for Soroptimist.*

The Marquis of Linlithgow Memorial Garden.



OTHER NEWS

Ross House Workshops / training / webinars / self-help

- Financial and other support for COVID-19. Find out about the financial support available to people and businesses affected by COVID-19. For more information, please [click here](#).
- COVID-19 & people with intellectual disabilities webinar (Tuesday 10th August 2021, 5pm – 6pm). Whilst Victorian disability services have a responsibility to protect people with intellectual disabilities' human right to health, there is concern that other human rights have been diminished, leaving many people vulnerable to human rights abuses. This webinar will report upon research findings that examine this. To find out more information, please [click here](#).
- It's back! Phillip Island's successful penguin parade livestream is coming back to help get millions of Australians through lockdown. In 2020 people could tune in to watch a parade of little penguins waddle to their burrows after a day of fishing. The penguin parade will be streamed every night, from 6pm. To find out more information, please [click here](#). Have an ice day and enjoy your daily waddle!

Royal Historical Society Victoria <https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/rhsv-events/>

The August newsletter from RHSV is jam packed with fascinating articles. So if you are looking for a good read, this is the link: https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Digital-RHSV_News_August_2021.pdf.

October is History Month: Start Preparing There are great ideas for events on the RHSV website, here: <https://www.historyvictoria.org.au/societies/other-resources/>

RHSV would like a mixture of real events and Zoom events this year. If you'd like to host a Zoom event they can always help. Talk to Rosemary: 9326 9288 OR rosemary.cameron@historyvictoria.org.au

INVESTMENT BOOST FOR WOMEN'S STARTUPS

Women in the startup sector are a step closer to having their business dreams realised, with applications opened for a new fund which will drive early-stage investment. The Andrews Labor Government's Alice Anderson Fund will co-invest \$10 million in early-stage capital for up to 60 women-led startups. With every dollar of Government funding to be matched by three dollars of private investment, the Fund could unlock up to \$40 million to drive early-stage startups. Led by startup agency LaunchVic, the Fund will see the Government co-invest between \$50,000 and \$300,000 for new businesses.

The initiative will help women-led business overcome funding hurdles – a 2019 study revealed only 19 of 104 Victorian startups that received angel or venture capitalist investment had a woman as founder. The Fund is open to local and international angel networks, early-stage venture capitalists focused on seed investments, family offices and individuals.

Nominated startups for co-investment must be 50 per cent owned by at least one woman, or have a 30 per cent ownership stake by women, including one woman in an executive role. If there is a board, it must have representation of at least 30 per cent women. The Fund is named in honour of Alice Anderson, a pioneering Victorian mechanic and entrepreneur who founded Australia's first all-women motor garage in Kew in 1919. Review the application guidelines and apply to the Fund by visiting: <https://launchvic.org/general/angel-sidecar>

Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence

The following data shows progress since the Victorian Royal Commission handed down its findings in 2016.

- > Over 1,500 Victorian schools signed on to implement Respectful Relationships 2017-2020;
- > 25,000 information requests under Family Violence Information Sharing (by key areas of government);
- > 3,453 reports by Central Information Point;
- > Seven perpetrator interventions available for diverse cohorts; Men's Behaviour Change Programs available in Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, as well as English;
- > 10,553 workers trained using the Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Management (MARAM) Framework and the Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme in 2019-20.

Major achievements during monitoring period:

- > 23 recommendations implemented (bringing the total implemented to 166);
- > delivery of multiple primary prevention campaigns, including Respect Each Other: 'Call It Out', May 2020
- > release of the first Gender Equality Baseline Report in November 2019
- > statewide rollout of the Family Violence Intervention Order online application form in the Magistrates' Court of Victoria in June 2020
- > opening of Ballarat Specialist Family Violence Court Nov. 2019
- > commencing Moorabbin Magistrates' Court as a Specialist Family Violence Court in 2020
- > opening of The Orange Door in the Central Highlands and Loddon areas in October 2020
- > enactment of the *Gender Equality Act 2020* in February 2020 and establishment of the Public Sector Gender Equality Commissioner
- > articulation of a whole of Victorian Government perpetrator accountability work program in October 2020, including a redeveloped perpetrator outcome domain of the Family Violence Outcomes Framework.

For more information: <https://www.fvrim.vic.gov.au/family-violence-reform-implementation-monitor>

Australian Piano Awards, Shepparton

Over a week of solo recitals at Riverlinks Eastbank, selected pianists will strive to win over \$65,000 in prize money and perform impressive classical masterpieces by Bach, Haydn, Schubert, Mozart, Beethoven and other composers. More information on website: australianpianoaward.com.au for the contestants and their biographies, also you can read about the three adjudicators chosen to judge the 2021 Award and other information.

Dates: 4th - 9th October 2021

4th - 7th Oct.2021 - Solo Recitals

8th Oct 2021 - Semi Final

9th Oct 2021 -Grand Final

Book at Riverlinks Eastbank: 03 5932 9511 or boxoffice@riverlinksvenues.com.au

NCWA Triennial Conference 25-26 November, 2021, Canberra—Save the Date

Accommodation bookings at the QT Hotel for the NCWA Triennial, special room only rates [QT King Room (1 x King Bed) **\$169.00**; QT Twin Room (2 x King Single Beds) \$169.00 use **discount code: NCWA2021** .

Contact Reservations Team Monday – Friday, 9am - 5pm: Phone: +61 2 6867 1205, or Email: reservations_qtcanberra@evt.com or visit: <https://www.qthotelsandresorts.com/canberra>



Program

Thursday 25 November morning: **NCWA Business – Resolutions**

Thursday 25 November afternoon: **Public Conference**

Thursday 25 November (tbc): **Reception – 5.30pm**

Hosted by Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley at Government House

Friday 26 November 2021 – **Public conference**

Our Purposes: *to provide a non-party political, non-sectarian, not-for-profit, umbrella organisation with broadly humanitarian and educational objectives, empowering women and girls; raising awareness of gender equality; act as a voice on issues and concerns of women and girls at State level; develop policies and responses on behalf of women and girls on a State-wide basis; maintain and strengthen the Association's relationship with all members; link with women in Australia and International Council of Women through the National Council of Women of Australia and contribute to the implementation of their plans of action and policies.*

Our motto: *The Preamble to the original ICW Constitution said "We, women of all Nations, in the conviction that the good of humanity will be best advanced by greater unity of thought, sympathy and purpose, and that an organised movement will serve to promote the highest good of the family and of the Nation, do hereby band ourselves together in a federation of women of all races, nations and creeds, to further the application of the Golden Rule to society, custom and law: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."*

NCWV Dates for 2021 – venue or online to be confirmed

August:	Monday 9th:	Standing Committee Meeting, 4:30-6:00pm, via ZOOM
	Thursday 19th:	Committee Meeting, 10am-12pm via ZOOM
September	Thursday 2nd:	Council Annual General Meeting , 12:15am, Dr Lois Peeler AM to speak
	Monday 14th:	Standing Committee Meeting, 4:30-6:00pm
	Thursday 16th:	Committee Meeting, RHSV, A'Beckett St
October:	Thursday 7th:	Mini Forum focusing on Aged Care prior to Individual Members and Council Meeting 12.00 noon
	Monday 11th:	Standing Committee Meeting, 4:00-6:00pm
	Thursday 21st:	Committee Meeting, RHSV, A'Beckett St
November:	Thursday 4th:	Council Meeting, 5:15-7:15pm. NOTE late time
	Monday 8th:	My Vote My Voice , Parliament of Victoria, 9:00am-12:30pm
	Thursday 18th:	Committee Meeting, RHSV, A'Beckett St
	Tuesday 23rd:	Annual Festive Luncheon , 12:00pm, William Angliss Restaurant
	Thursday 25 – Friday 26 November, NCWA Triennial Conference in Canberra 2021	