

GRADUATE WOMEN OTAGO SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Next Branch Meeting

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When: Thursday, 24 September, 2020.

Where: Benham Seminar Room, 2nd floor in the Zoology Department, 340 Great King Street.

Time: 7:15 pm - Please join us for a cuppa and casual catch-up before the meeting, which will formally begin at 7:30 pm

Guest Speaker: Tony Binns

Topic: Progress with the children's day care centre in Kayima, Sierra Leone.

Details: Members may use the car park in front of the Zoology Building and the elevator inside and will be welcomed by a member 'personing' the locked main entry door between 7.15 - 7.35pm.

Apologies: If you are unable to attend a branch meeting, please email your apology to: info@nzfgwotago.org.nz



A Message from GWO's Co-Vice-President:

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Kia ora GW Otago members,

Have you noticed the beautiful spring flowers blooming? We had a lovely winter luncheon last month, with a thoughtful speech about Dunedin's waterfront vision, and a sweet thank you speech from one of our Jeanette Scott awardees.

If you missed that, don't worry! We have an exciting October coming up! We look forward to welcoming members from all around New Zealand to attend the national executive AGM (9/10th October). The sub-committee involved in planning this event is hard at work! A public event consisting of a high-level panel on the theme of "justice" on the 9th, and the AGM, catered lunch, exciting workshops, and an organised dinner on the 10th.

We look forward to having many of our Otago members present at the AGM. Look forward to seeing you there!

Stay healthy and happy!

Claudia (Co-vice president)



Notice of AGM

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The Graduate Women of Otago Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, 22 October 2020 at 7.30pm. The constitutional changes to better align the membership categories with those of the GWNZ that we previously indicated are to be delayed, as we believe that GWNZ is looking to change their constitution in this area. Members are reminded that if they wish to make any recommendations for constitutional changes that these must be made in writing to the President before the 24th of September. We encourage all members to consider serving on the Committee. Nominations for positions on the Committee must be made in writing to the President at least 24 hours before the AGM.

Joanne Rogers

International Day of the Girl

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This year marks the ninth anniversary of the International Day of the Girl (IDG 2020) and NGO CSW/NY is sponsoring Day 3 of the 11 Days of Action!

Every year, there is a free event held at the United Nations Headquarters in NYC that is completely run by girls! This year looks a bit different as a result of COVID-19, but the event will still be held virtually. **The Day of the Girl Summit Team needs YOU to help make this year's performance just as great! They are looking for creative work by girls to be featured during this program.** They want to hear from girls about:

- What does being bold mean to you?
- What stands in the way of girls in your community experiencing equity?
- What is it like being a girl where you are?
- What do girls need to have to build equity in their lives, education, communities, families, and so forth?

Here's how:

If you are 18 years of age or younger, send them your inspirational video! You can share with us a video of your stories, poetry, art, music, or declarations of boldness. Your submission could be chosen to be included in the Virtual Girls Speak Out 2020: an annual celebratory event developed in partnership with the United Nations! **The deadline for submissions is 18 September.**

For more details check out the IDG Summit website - <https://dayofthegirlsummit.org/>. If you have any questions, email jdgsuggestions@gmail.com.

Shirley Gillett



National Council of Women Dunedin

The September Branch meeting was held on Wednesday 2 September. Our Speaker was June Ludemann, an optometrist who has worked in Canada and other countries and now New Zealand. She has run marathons. But, after years of difficulty in getting diagnosed, in 2017 she was found to have ovarian cancer and given between 5 -15 years to live. She had always been told that she was too young - she was 34 years old! With present treatments, 85% of women have their cancer come back. There is no screening for this disease low-grade serous ovarian cancer, but it can be confirmed with a blood test (about \$20) and an ultrasound (about \$200). There is very little research on this cancer, so together with others in the same situation she has set up a charity (Cure our Ovarian Cancer) to raise money for life saving research. You can find out more from: cureouvariancancer.org

The notice for the Candidates meeting's new date (because of the change of date of the General Election) is elsewhere in the Newsletter. The format remains the same, with Professor Nicola Peart presiding.

Elisabeth Cunningham reported on the 'Inspiring Young Women's Breakfast' which was attended by 71 people, mostly school students. They heard from six young women who have succeeded in their chosen profession. It was voted a great success.

The Dunedin Branch has prepared two documents to be sent to the National Board - one in reply to the sale of Brandon street proposal and the other a response to the Sustainability report sent out for members to comment on. If you want more information about either of these, please get in touch with me or Correen Rodger - b.s.cathro@xtra.co.nz or correenrodger@xtra.co.nz.

Sue Cathro

Congratulations Editors-in-Chief!

Sian Halcrow, Professor in the Anatomy Department, who has been appointed one of two new co-editors-in-chief of a leading global quarterly journal *Bioarchaeology International*.

Sian is an internationally respected palaeopathologist specialising in interpreting child remains. She has recently co-edited a book titled *The Mother-Infant Nexus in Anthropology*.

We send our best wishes and congratulations to Sian.

GW Otago Committee

GWNZ AGM to be Hosted by GWO in Dunedin 9/10th October - Update

Graduate Women Otago are thrilled to be hosting the national AGM and associated events for 2020.

The planning committee has a programme (see below).

It would be helpful to know those who are planning to attend from our branch; numbers for the Saturday evening dinner need to be RSVPd by Sunday evening 13th September. The dinner RSVP is shirleygillettnz@gmail.com

Programme

At 6 PM 9th October on the Friday evening there will be a public event consisting of a high-level panel on the theme of “justice”, prefaced by 5.30 drinks and nibbles. One of our panelists will be Saunoamaali’l Karanina Sumeo, the EEO Commissioner. The other panelists and MC will be named shortly. This will be held in the University of Otago Polytechnic Hub building, entrance on Forth Street. Following that you can head off for dinner at several restaurants/bars, with suggestions provided by us but informal groupings.

The AGM proper will take place Saturday morning, with a 10 AM start, the venue being University of Otago Block D. Entrance, Forth Street. The AGM space will include some time on the strategic plan.

Lunch for Saturday will be organized and provided by GWO - 1 PM depending on the length of the AGM.

The afternoon, with a 1.30 or 2 PM start, will consist of three back-to-back workshops (with one five-minute break and an afternoon tea) on the themes of diversity, the international, and a third topic to be finalized. These will be livestreamed for Australia and the Pacific Graduate Women members via ZOOM, and thus outward facing and inclusive of a wider context and persons. During the afternoon there will also be five-minute spots showcasing some of our GWO’s awards and projects.

For the Saturday evening there will be a group dinner. For this we need definite numbers by Sunday 13th September and there will be some light entertainment. Dress code smart/casual.

For Sunday there are no formal plans, however we will offer some guidance regarding the wonderful sightseeing possibilities of Dunedin, or you may like to socialize amongst yourselves informally.

GWNZ AGM Planning Committee



Electorate Candidate Forum – Change of Date

WHAT DO YOU WANT THE FUTURE OF NEW ZEALAND TO LOOK LIKE?

Come and hear from the local candidates for this year's General Election.

The National Council of Women Dunedin event -*What do you want the future of New Zealand to look like?* has a new date:

WHEN: Monday 28 September, at 7.00pm

WHERE: in the Salvation Auditorium, Crawford Street.

Chaired by Professor Nicola Peart.



Academic Dress Report

Another challenging month with graduation uncertainty. Both Town Hall graduation ceremonies were cancelled; instead students could collect their certificates in the Link, receive a gift from the Alumni and have their photo taken. Graduates were able to collect regalia from Academic Dress for photos; approximately 55% did the first weekend, with slightly more the second weekend. The Academic Dress helpers had sanitizer and face masks available and one-meter distancing encouraged.

Stocktake and evaluation of the MBCHB hoods has started.

Thank-you to the lady members who offered to help with the August graduations, we hope to see you again in December. Take care and be kind to yourselves.

Rhonda Schlaadt

Winter Luncheon August 2020

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The Winter/Spring Luncheon was held 23rd August at the Harbourside Grill with this year's speaker, Nicola Pinfold from the Dunedin City Council. Nicola is an Otago University graduate and has spent 18 years working in London before returning to Dunedin and becoming involved with the DCC Harbour Redevelopment project. Not everyone was up to speed regarding details of the project which, due to Covid, is on hold for now.

Harbour Redevelopment Background

With funding from the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) and private investment, the DCC, Port Otago, Otago Regional Council and Otago University land around the Dunedin harbour basin is to be redeveloped. Damien Van Brandenburg Architecture proposed the design to the DCC.

Project challenges include access, as the area is not easy to get to by land or sea. There are very special views down towards the Peninsula and to Dunedin from the harbour basin area. Recently the warehouse sheds along the wharf area were demolished making water access easier, but not attractive and with little to encourage people to be in the area. A bridge will cross the railway tracks down by the Chinese Gardens to give better access. A goal is to reconnect the harbour area to Dunedin city and provide amenities to attract people and new development to the harbour basin. The area is central city land with "low value use."

The transformational development plans include a rebuild of the wharfs to provide platforms for the projects, which include a marina, housing, and light industry/commerce – a mixed use area. Also included in the plans are a marine science centre, aquarium, ocean swimming pool, area for cruise ship tender boats to bring passengers from Port Chalmers, leisure facilities, eco-tourism centre, arts and cultural centre with exhibition space, education centre, museum space, and a 4-5 story hotel with two wings. Design considerations include the use of solar power and increased sea level. The Provincial Growth Fund has agreed to provide almost \$20 million towards the bridge cost. An application for a further \$850 million has been put on hold for now.

The DCC has in recent years given priority to the Vogel Street historic precinct redevelopment as the buildings and area were seen as being more at risk. There are now refurbished spaces for cafes, businesses have moved in, and there is some limited housing all co-existing together.

Jeanette Scott Award

Shirley Gillett spoke about Jeanette Scott Award bequest. Jeanette was a psychologist and teacher and member of the Federation of University Women. Unfortunately, Jeanette died suddenly. The scholarship is open to people from Otago and Southland. This year there were 10 applicants.

Sue Cathro presented the Jeanette Scott award certificate to recipient Claire Sullivan. Claire is from Hawkes Bay, coming to Otago University in 2016 to study Health Science. High school started her passion for science, and the idea of teaching developed with Claire graduating with a Bachelor of Arts and Science in physiology and history. Claire's last placement was SGHS teaching history and biology. She is also undertaking a Master of Teaching and Learning.

Rhonda Schlaadt

October Newsletter Deadline

The closing date for the September newsletter will be 6 October, 2020. Please contact Amy Dowdle, evalinedowdle@gmail.com

Contact Us

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