



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR WOMEN

women *space*

in partnership with THE PREMIER'S COUNCIL FOR WOMEN

issue 17 ♦ March 2002

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2002

Celebrating
a Centenary
of Suffrage
Women Gain
the Vote



**SPECIAL
IWD
EDITION**

IWD Week for Women Calendar of Events inside

MESSAGE FROM THE **DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

A hundred years ago women in NSW were unable to vote in elections or stand for office. All this changed with the passing of two pieces of legislation in 1902. So in recognition of these historic milestones, the theme for this year's International Women's Day Week for Women is A Centenary of Suffrage – Women Gain the Vote.

Although women in South Australia had won the right to vote in 1894, it was not until 1902 that their sisters in NSW were given this privilege. In the same year, the *Commonwealth Franchise Act* made it possible for all women (with the exception of Aboriginal women in some states) to vote in federal elections and to become members of Federal Parliament.

However, it was another 41 years before women were actually elected to Federal Parliament—when Dame Enid Lyons and Senator Dorothy Tangney made it to Canberra. And it was 1925 before a woman became a member of State Parliament.

Another 60 years passed before Aboriginal women gained their right to vote.

The situation has improved greatly since then, but gender inequality still exists in the corridors of power. In January 2002 there were 28 women in the NSW Parliament (compared with 107 men) and 61 women in Federal Parliament, somewhat outnumbered by their 166 male counterparts.

On this International Women's Day the Department encourages more women to become active in politics. Please enjoy this edition of *Womenspace* and find out more about the events that will be on this year to celebrate International Women's Day Week for Women beginning on March 4.



Robyn Henderson
Director-General

Carol Kendall AO

The Department for Women wishes to express its sorrow in the passing of Carol Kendall.

She was a strong Aboriginal woman who was committed to working for the recognition of the struggles and strengths of Aboriginal women. She continued to work with our Department, attending functions and showing her support, even throughout her illness.

Carol Kendall was honoured as an Officer in the Order of Australia on 26 January 2002, only a week after her death. The award is for her involvement in recording Aboriginal women's history and her work with the National Sorry Day Movement and Link-up, which brought families of the stolen generations together. Her tireless efforts to reunite families will always be remembered.

THE UNIFEM BREAKFAST

The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) is the only women's fund within the United Nations that is dedicated solely to the support of women and children.

All funds raised in Australia during 2002 will be directed to leadership training for women in East Timor. These funds will enable them to take a pro-active role in the development of their country.

UNIFEM celebrates International Women's Day again this year with their annual fundraising breakfast. The Sydney breakfast will be held on Friday, 8 March 2002 in the Grand Ballroom of the Wentworth Hotel from 7:00 am to 8:30 am. The guest speaker will be Suzette Mitchell, who has just returned from her role as the External Relations Specialist for the UNIFEM head office in New York. UNIFEM is also organising breakfasts in Armidale, Grafton, Maitland, Newcastle and Parramatta, and a luncheon on Sydney's North Shore.

The Department for Women is proud to be supporting the 2002 UNIFEM Breakfast in

Sydney and the very important work that UNIFEM is doing with women and children in East Timor. The breakfast is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate International Women's Day and help UNIFEM raise funds for their projects.

For further information about these UNIFEM events, please contact Robinette Emerson, National Program Director, at robemo@zipworld.com.au.

To keep up with all of the latest online information about International Women's Day events, check the Women's Gateway at www.womens.gateway.nsw.gov.au.

Paula Lawrence, Project Officer



Women of East Timor weave Tais, traditional ceremonial textiles. Visit the Virtual Museum at www.etimortais.org



International Women's Day Week for Women

Celebrating a centenary of suffrage – women gain the vote

Celebrating International Women's Day is nothing new for the Department.

We have been singing the praises of women's achievements for many years and this year is no exception as we celebrate a centenary of suffrage—a hundred years since women gained the vote.

In 2002 the Department for Women is encouraging women to recognise the significance of 1902. This was the year following Federation that the *Commonwealth Franchise Act* gave women the right to vote and to stand for Federal Parliament. Through the work of the

Womanhood Suffrage League, women gained suffrage and began the first significant steps toward equality between men and women. This also helped our Aboriginal sisters to achieve the right to vote in the 1960s.

The celebration of suffrage is an occasion for us to reflect on the impact of women's achievements and acknowledge the history that shaped our nation. In 2002 we recognise the many women through the generations who paved the way for just and equitable conditions for women and families in society. During the Week for Women—from 4 to 10 March—many

activities are planned to assist women around NSW celebrate.

Inside this special edition of *Womenspace* is a Calendar of IWD events for women in NSW. More information about IWD events can be found on the Women's Gateway at www.womens.gateway.nsw.gov.au. You can add your own events to the online calendar until 1 March 2002. Just log onto the Women's Gateway, click on Events and 'Add an Event'.

Have a happy International Women's Day and a great Week for Women.

Amanda J. Garland,
Project Manager, Events



HIGHLIGHTS

The Sydney **UNIFEM Breakfast**, presented by the Department for Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) will be held in the Grand Ballroom at the Wentworth Sydney hotel, Phillip Street, from 7.00–8.30am. The event will feature Suzette Mitchell, and the Minister for Women will address the audience.

The Department is pleased to support the Mudginjal Aboriginal Corporation Women's Centre with the Inaugural **Aboriginal Women Awards Ceremony**. The dinner will be held on Friday, 8 March in the Doncaster Room, AJC Convention Centre, Randwick. This event will recognise the outstanding contributions made by local women in the community.

The **International Women's Day March and Rally** is traditionally on the Saturday following

IWD. This year the Sydney IWD Collective has adopted the theme 'women against war and racism'. The march starts at 10.30am on Saturday, 9 March in Town Hall Square and will make its way through the CBD to Hyde Park where there will be stalls and entertainment.

The 10th Annual **IWDA Breakfast** held by International Women's Development Agency invites you and your friends to celebrate International Women's Day at its annual IWD breakfast on Saturday, 9 March at the Convention Centre, Darling Harbour at 8:00am. The event finishes in time to take part in the Sydney march and rally.

The South Sydney IWD organising committee is holding a day of entertainment, stalls, and refreshments at the Redfern Aboriginal Dance Theatre on Saturday 9 March from 11.00am. The highlight of the day is the **World of Women Film Festival** featuring films produced and directed by women.

See inside for more International Women's Day events.

IWD

WEEK FOR WOMEN MARCH 4-10

International Women's Day



MONDAY

IWD Art Exhibition

Open all day, Bankstown Hospital, Eldridge R.d, **Bankstown** **Contact** Sue McClelland
phone 9790 1378, fax 9790 1456, email bwhc@swahs.nsw.gov.au

Moving Together Multiculturally

Launch of the Bilingual Fitness Leaders Project, 10.00am to 12.00 noon, Level 9, Wollongong City Council, Burelli St, **Wollongong** **Contact** Sue Brittain phone 4229 7566

Solo, married with children, single or still thinking about it?

Motherinc. media launch and luncheon, 12.00pm to 2.00pm, Cost \$39.50 non-members, \$34.50 members, Menzies Hotel, George St, **Sydney** **Contact** Shelly Horne phone 9948 3655

Women in Politics - Has Anything Changed?

Discussion afternoon with local women politicians, Liverpool Library, George St, **Liverpool**
Contact Margaret Hickie phone 9601 3555

Defensive Driving for Women

8.00am to 5.00pm (two days, 4 and 5 March), cost \$40, Taree Racecourse, **Taree**
Contact Mary Poole phone 6592 9632



TUESDAY

Women's Nurturing Day

9.30am to 2.00pm, W.I.L.M.A. Women's Health Centre, 22 Budgen Pl, **Campbelltown**
Contact Nelly, Silvia or Samantha phone 4627 2955, fax 4628 6725

Women Shaping our Community Art Exhibition

Open daily - runs to 11 March, 10.00am to 4.00pm Westpoint Shopping Centre, 17 Patrick St, **Blacktown**
Contact Sue Sagewood phone 9881 8724, fax 9881 7443, email sue.sagewood@wsahs.nsw.gov.au

South Coast IWD Morning Tea

Theme - Women and Globalism, 10.30am to 12.30pm Cost \$8, Corrimal Community Centre, 15 Short St, **Corrimal**
Contact Doreen Gillam phone 4284 0192

Looking on the Bright Side - a Laughter Workshop

10.00am to 12.30pm, Liverpool Women's Health Centre, 26 Bathurst St, **Liverpool** **Contact** Rana Qummah or Lorna Schot phone 9601 3555, fax 9824 0448

IWD Brunch

To be held in **Villawood** **Contact** Annabel Murray phone 9724 3807 or Judy Laws phone 9205 4214



WEDNESDAY

IWD UNIFEM Luncheon

Guest speaker Naomi Steer, National Director, UN High Commission for Refugees
12.00 noon, cost \$30, 10B The Bulwark, **Castlecrag**
Contact email jelliston@bigpond.com

Yoga for Women's Health and Relaxation

A gentle introduction, 10.00am to 12.30pm
Cost \$20 waged, \$10 unwaged
Contact Sue Brittain phone 4283 4126



Maiden Mother Crone

A forum on the changing roles of women, 9.30am to 12.45pm
Glenniger Brae, Botanical Gardens, Foleys Rd, **Gwynneville**
Contact Brenna Smith phone 4227 7246 or Sand Hall phone 4227 7017

Movie festival

Lightning Ridge Bowling Club, **Lightning Ridge**
Contact Belinda Davis phone 6829 1022

women's
GATEWAY IN SW

More information available online at
www.womens.gateway.nsw.gov.au

23 February – 21 April**Meroogal Women's Art Prize Exhibition**

Runs from 23 February to 21 April, Gallery 11, Wollongong City Art Gallery, **Wollongong** *Contact* Vivian Vidulich *phone* 4228 7500

1 March**Girls Night Out Women's Festival**

4.00pm to 10.00pm, northern end of Cronulla Plaza, **Cronulla**
Contact Joy Goodsell *phone* 9710 0525, *email* jgoodsell@ssc.nsw.gov.au,
or Kristy Owen *phone* 9710 0152, *email* kowen@ssc.nsw.gov.au

1–2 March**Reach for the Stars – A beginners guide to women's circus**

With **Wollongong's** own women's circus, open to all women
No experience necessary, 9.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 4.30pm
both days, cost \$20 f/t, \$15 p/t, \$12 concession
Contact Penny Lowther *phone* 0403 294615

12 March**Women on Boards 2002**

Aspiring women directors network with existing directors, 6.00pm to
9.00pm, cost \$85, Westpac Conference Centre, 60 Martin Pl, **Sydney**
Contact Ruth Medd *phone* 9331 8851, *email* ruth.medd@bigpond.com

Women Leading in Australia

A one-day conference with keynote speaker Geraldine Doogue,
journalist and broadcaster
Other speakers include Robyn Henderson, Director-General of the
Department for Women, Le Meridian Hotel, **Sydney**
Contact Sue *phone* 9282 6973, *email* sue@synergyplustraining.com

15 March**International Day of Tibetan Women**

Hosted by the Australia Tibet Council *Contact* Julie Smith
phone 9283 3466, *website* www.atc.org.au

21–24 March**NSW State Australian Local Government Women's Association Conference**

Theme – The Trapeze Artist: It's all a balancing act, to be held in **Parkes**
Contact Tracy Lister or Julie Connor *phone* 6861 2379

11–13 June**Suffrage Centenary Conference**

Celebrates 100 years of women's suffrage and 40 years of indigenous
suffrage and promotes continuing involvement in constitutional
change and political action, Rydges Lakeside Hotel, **Canberra**
Contact Marian Sawyer *email* msawyer@coombs.anu.edu.au

More information available online at
www.womens.gateway.nsw.gov.au

**THURSDAY****Young Women's Festival**

3.00pm to 7.30pm, PCYC Blacktown,
2nd Ave, **Blacktown**

Contact Sonya Parker *phone* 9671 1798, *fax* 9671 6712
Jo *phone* 9831 8274 or Lisa *phone* 9839 6578

Celebrating Women from Many Cultures Forum

9.30am to 2.30pm, Parramatta Town Hall, **Parramatta**
Contact Christine Daujoti, *phone* 9843 3222, *fax* 9891 2825
email Christine_daujotis@wsahs.nsw.gov.au

Women Taking Control

A six-week program, 9.30am to 12.45pm, cost \$6 waged,
unwaged free, Bulli Community Health Centre, **Bulli**
Contact *phone* 4284 0355

Crossing Cultures 2002

A multicultural women's day, 10.30am to 2.30pm,
Cringila Community Hall, 32–40 Lake Ave, **Cringila**
Contact Therese Quinn or Annette Hodgins
phone 4228 1499

Open Day at the Drug and Alcohol Women's Network (D.A.W.N)

11.00am to 2.00pm, 78 Lithgow St, **Campbelltown**
Contact Faith Cunningham or Liz McFadden
phone 4625 5513, *fax* 4626 3163
email dawninc@bocnet.com.au

Coffs Harbour Family Violence Conference

A comprehensive two-day conference, 8.30am to 5.00pm
Thursday, 9.00am to 4.00pm on Friday
Cost \$85 if booked before 22 February, \$185 for all
bookings after 22 February, \$80 for one day only
The Rainbow Room, Level 1, Coffs Ex-Services Club,
Vernon St, **Coffs Harbour**
Contact Julia Atkinson or Jane Howarth *phone* 6650 9800
or 1300 368 783, *fax* 6650 9700

Speak Out and Film Night

Guest speaker Jill Hickson from Art Resistance, Speak Out –
4.00pm, Parramatta Church St Mall outside Town Hall,
Parramatta, Film Night – 6.30pm to 9.00pm
Contact Barbara *phone* 9630 3187

Surprise IWD Event

Contact *phone* 4721 8520

Open Day

Wagga Women's Health Centre, 8 Morrow St, **Wagga Wagga**
Contact Pauline Bev *phone* 6921 3333





FRIDAY MARCH 8 International Women's Day

UNIFEM IWD Breakfast – Sydney

Guest speaker Suzette Mitchell, recent External Relations Specialist for UNIFEM Head Office, New York, over 500 people attend, 7.00 to 8.30am, Cost \$40, corporate table of ten \$1000, high school students \$30, Grand Ballroom, Wentworth Sydney Hotel, Phillip St, **Sydney** **Contact** Ellen Elzey *phone* 9262 7300, *email* sydneymsa@nextcentury.com.au or Amanda Garland *phone* 9287 1902 *email* amanda.garland@women.nsw.gov.au

UNIFEM IWD Breakfast – Western Sydney

7.00am for 7.15am, Cost \$35 adults, \$22 students, Parramatta Leagues Club, O'Connell St, **Parramatta** **Contact** Shirley *phone* 9634 2161

UNIFEM Breakfast – Armidale, Grafton, Maitland, Manly, Newcastle, North Arm Cove

Contact Robinette Emonson *email* robemo@zipworld.com.au

Aboriginal Women Awards Ceremony

Inaugural awards dinner hosted by the Mudgin-gal Aboriginal Corporation Women's Centre, Doncaster Room, AJC Convention Centre, **Randwick** **Contact** *phone* 9319 2613 *fax* 9319 6053

Women and Words

Write your story or that of a matriarchal ancestor 1.00pm to 5.00pm, Macleay Valley Community Education, 3 John St, **Kempsey** **Contact** Marguerite Gray *phone* 6562 2755

The Snowy Conference for Women

9.00am to 4.00pm, cost \$99, NPWS Cinema, Kosciuszko Rd, **Jindabyne** **Contact** Cathi Peters *phone/fax* 6450 5112 *email* srsfinance@acr.net.au

IWD Concert

From 6.30pm, Bankstown Town Hall, The Mall, **Bankstown** **Contact** Sue McClelland *phone* 9790 1378 *fax* 9790 1456, *email* bwhc@swsahs.nsw.gov.au

Strong Women in Every Culture Festival

11.30am to 2.00pm, Anzac Mall, Anglo Rd, **Campsie** **Contact** Pei-shan Wu *phone* 9789 9441 or Camilla Kanaan *phone* 9789 9404

A Light IWD Breakfast

With Jennie George MP, Organised by the Illawarra Older Women's Network, 8.00am to 10.00am, cost \$10 Anchorage Restaurant, Boat Harbour Motel, Cnr Campbell and Wilson Sts, **Wollongong** **Contact** Wollongong Women's Centre *phone* 4228 1499

IWD March, Rally and Concert

Women Against War and Racism, Assemble at 6.00pm Amphitheatre in Crown Street Mall, **Wollongong** **Contact** Margaret Perrott *phone* 4226 2010 for the rally and march, or Mignon Lee-Warden *phone* 4268 3393 for the concert

What's an E-Card?

A chance to demystify the Internet

Free one-hour sessions, 9.30am to 3.30pm Canada Bay Council, Concord Office, **Concord** **Contact** Ros Lance *phone* 9911 6555, *fax* 9819 6116, *email* dccinc@ozemail.com.au

Time out for you – Have fun playing Bingo

10.00am to 1.00pm, 26 Bathurst St, **Liverpool** **Contact** Maria Sifuentes *phone* 9601 3555, *fax* 9824 0448

Healthy Living for Women Day

Hosted by the Women's Activities Self-Help House (WASH House), 10.00am to 2.00pm, Lot 5, Kelly Cl, **Mt Druitt** **Contact** Mary or Kylie *phone* 9677 1962

Morning Tea

Hosted by the Older Women's Network, 10.00am to 12.30pm, cost \$8, The Hunter Room, Newcastle City Hall, King St, **Newcastle** **Contact** Gwenda Fulford *phone* 4961 2162

Coffs Harbour Breakfast

Guest speaker Dr Rebeca Spence, Coordinator of the Centre for Peace Studies at the University of New England, 7.00am to 9.00am, cost \$20, Coffs Harbour Ex Services Club, Vernon St, **Coffs Harbour** **Contact** Celia *phone* 6656 1653

Departmental Women's Breakfast

Open to all women in government agencies across the region, 7.30am to 9.30am, cost \$10, Lismore Turf Club, Woodlong Rd, **Lismore** **Contact** Jenny *phone* 6620 2257



Vvienne Ashcroft, Life Member of the YWCA, with her granddaughter, spoke of their special relationship at last year's lunch.

YWCA Mothers, Daughters, Mentors and Friends Lunch

With the Australian National Committee on Refugee Women, From 12.30pm, cost \$18, Mary Jane Barker Room, Level 4, YWCA of Sydney, 5-11 Wentworth Ave, **Sydney** **Contact** Christine *phone* 9285 6211

continued over page

FRIDAY MARCH 8

Continued from page 6

IWD in the Blue Mountains

In honour and celebration of refugee women, 10.00am to 3.00pm, Wentworth Falls School of Arts, **Wentworth Falls**
Contact phone 4782 5133, fax 4782 6450 or email bmwhc@pnc.com.au

'Her Story' and Lunch

Chinese speaking women share their stories, 10.00am to 12.00pm, Ashfield Town Hall, **Ashfield**
Contact Jennie Vien phone 9718 8350

Centenary of Suffrage in Outback

Dinner and entertainment from 6.30pm, cost \$30, Broken Hill Barrier Social Democratic Club, Argent St, **Broken Hill** **Contact** Eleanor Blows phone 8088 4742 email bhmcwc@hotmail.com

Women in Business Forum

IWD breakfast from 7.30am, cost \$22, The Coral Sea Room, Orange Ex-Services Club, **Orange**
Contact Sheree Stevens phone 6362 0488, fax 6362 1676

IWD Afternoon Tea

1.00pm to 3.30pm, St Martins Church Hall, Cnr Princess Hwy and Green St, **Ulladulla**
Contact Marie phone 4454 0477

IWD Luncheon

Featuring local women guest speakers, 12.00pm to 3.00pm, cost \$20, Aboriginal Culture Centre, Cnr Princess Hwy, **Nowra** **Contact** Sharon Millet phone 4421 0730 or Robyn Murphy phone 4422 8111

Women's Music Night

Featuring the Wandering Minstrels, cost \$6, Tomerong School of Arts, **Tomerong**
Contact Sandra Lee phone 4443 5020

Celebrating Local Women

Sponsored by SERTEC, 1.00pm to 3.00pm, cost \$10, \$5 concession, Merimbula Imlay Bowling Club, **Merimbula**, tickets available from SERTEC Bega/Eden/Merimbula offices
Contact Maria Molton phone 6492 3944

The Transfer of Knowledge

To be held in the **Newcastle** area **Contact** Brine Bland phone 4962 3675, email showpony@optusnet.com.au

Laughter for Life

A forum on how to see the fun in life, 9.30am to 2.30pm Baulkham Hills Shire Council Function Room, Cnr of Showground and Carrington Rds, **Castle Hill**
Contact Milica Milosevic phone 9843 0455, fax 9843 0412

IWD Breakfast

With Mrs Shirley Sinclair, wife of a previous NSW Governor General, 7.00am to 8.30am, cost \$15, Manning River Rowing Club, **Manning River**
Contact Sally Reed phone 6553 1221

IWD Dinner

Guest speakers Sharon Grierson MP and Kath Evans, 7.00pm, cost \$20, \$18 concession, Adamstown R.S.L and Community Club Co-op, 282 Bruncker Rd, **Adamstown**
Contact Betty Mawdsley phone 4971 3507 or Iris Andrews phone 4958 3704

IWD on 2 Bob Radio, Manning Valley

All female artists and presenters for the day, 5.00am to 9.00pm **Contact** Cathy Barnes phone 6552 6200

IWD Luncheon

From 12.00pm, cost \$7.50, Sea Food on Victoria, **Taree**
Contact Pam Hollebone phone 6553 9385

Cheese and Wine Evening

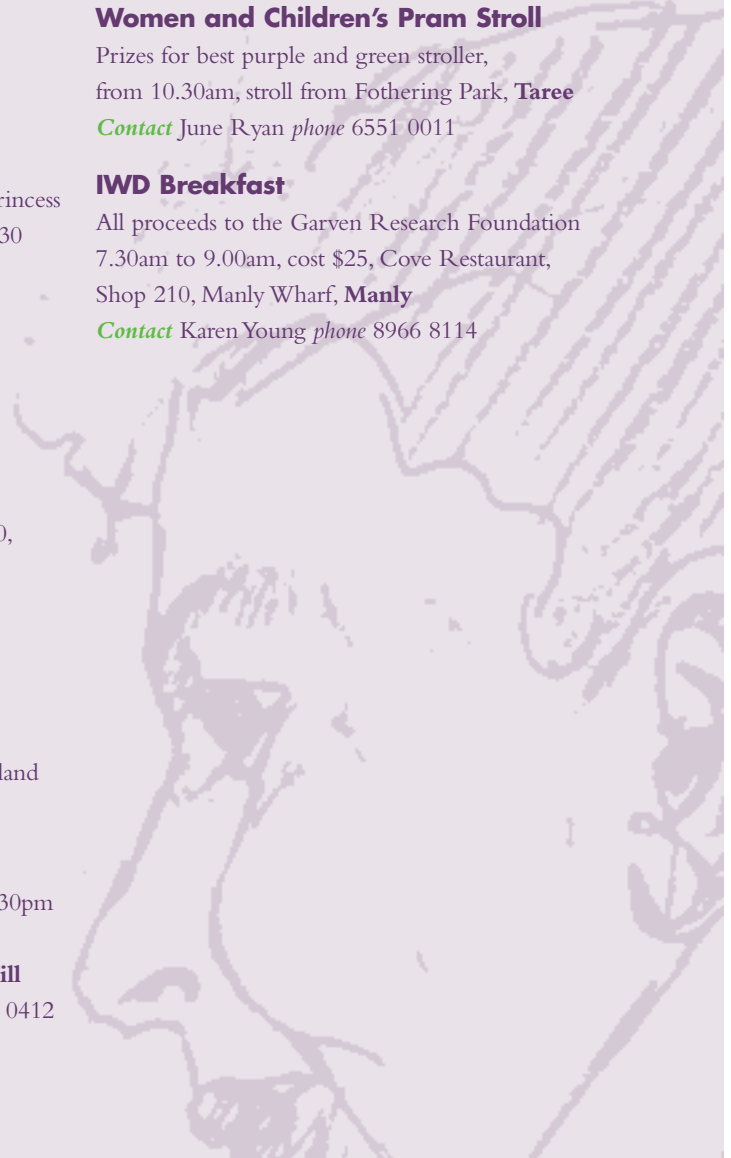
5.30pm to 10.00pm, cost \$5, Ormesby House
Contact Sue Scott phone 6551 6234

Women and Children's Pram Stroll

Prizes for best purple and green stroller, from 10.30am, stroll from Fothering Park, **Taree**
Contact June Ryan phone 6551 0011

IWD Breakfast

All proceeds to the Garven Research Foundation 7.30am to 9.00am, cost \$25, Cove Restaurant, Shop 210, Manly Wharf, **Manly**
Contact Karen Young phone 8966 8114





SATURDAY

10th Annual IWDA Breakfast

International Women's Development Agency breakfast featuring testimony of women who have lived and worked in East Timor, over 500 people attend, 8.00 to 10.30am, cost \$39, \$35 concession, \$350 table of ten The Ballroom, Level 2, Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, **Darling Harbour**

Contact Anne Stewart *phone* 9264 5399, *email* astewart@ihug.com.au

IWD March and Rally

Theme – Women Against War and Racism, information stands, entertainment and speakers in Hyde Park, over 500 attend, starts 11.30am, Town Hall Square, through CBD to Hyde Park, **Sydney**

Contact Kim Bullimore *phone* 0407 114 762 or Melissa *phone* 0409 655 922

IWD Festival and World of Women's Cinema Film Festival

Screening of short films and activities for adults/children 11.00am to 4.00pm, Aboriginal Dance Theatre, 88 Renwick St, **Redfern** **Contact** Adriana Zapata-Delgado *phone* 9699 9036 *email* theshop133@hotmail.com or Helen Kakakios *phone* 9332 2408, *fax* 9380 4311 *email* info@wift.org for film information

Women's Festival

10.00am to 4.00pm, Illawarra Women's Health Centre, 2-14 Belfast Ave, Warilla

Contact Marlene *phone* 4296 7077



2nd Annual Hastings Business Women's Awards

Entertainment provided by Women in Theatre, from 7.30pm, Cost \$40, Port Macquarie RSL

Club, **Port Macquarie** **Contact** Caron Dyball *phone* 6583 7544 or Kellie Mills *phone* 6586 3076

Purchase tickets from Snap Printing, 110 William St, Port Macquarie

Den for Daring Dames

A one-day seminar on confidence building, 8.45am to 5.00pm, Cost \$169, Mill Restaurant Vaux St, **Cowra**

Contact Merelyn Vazey *phone* 6342 3432, *fax* 6342 2510



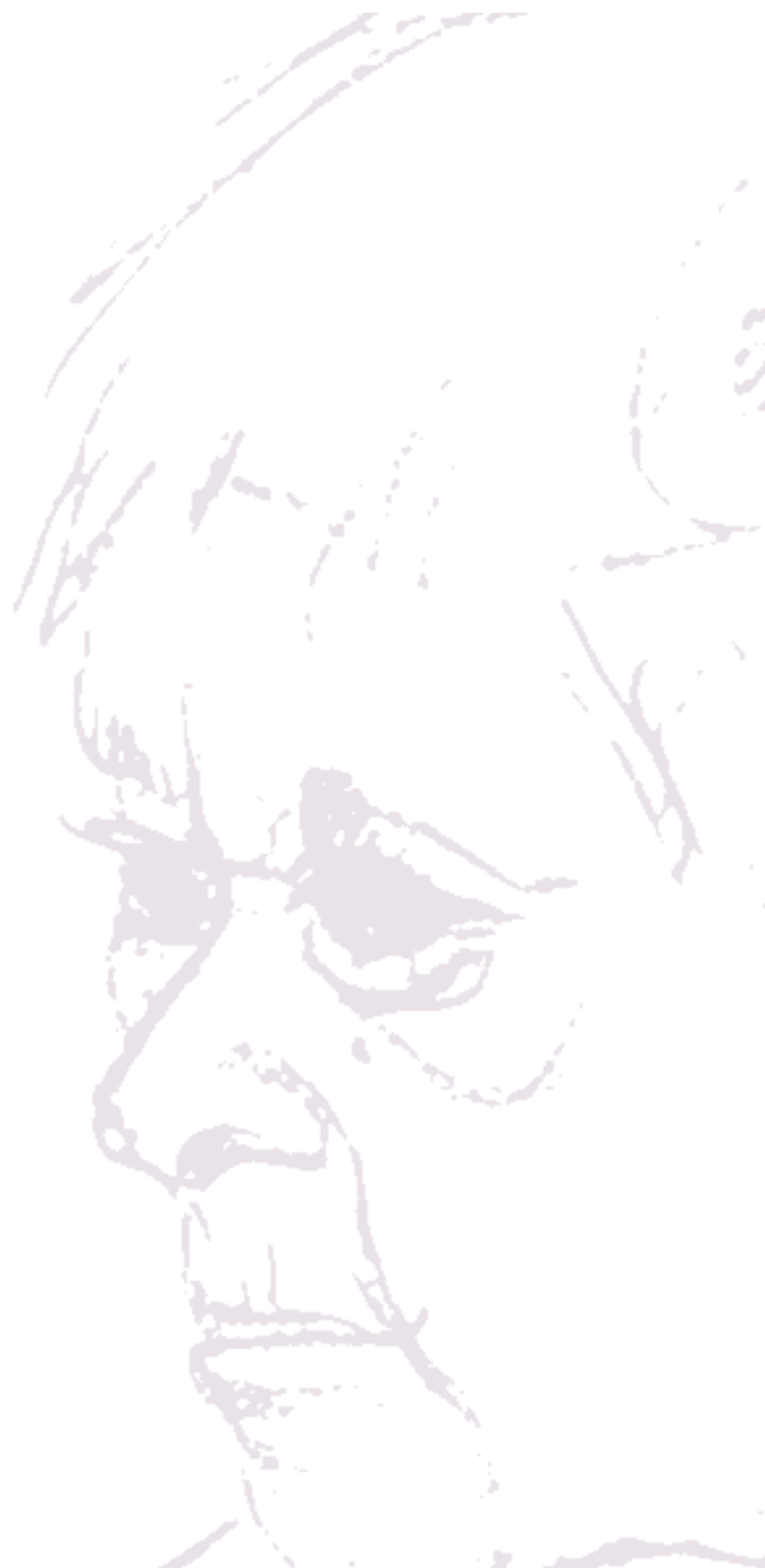
SUNDAY

Women's Spirituality Celebration

A non-denominational celebration, 3.00pm to 5.30pm, Hunter Women's Centre, Cnr Industrial

Dr and Avon St, **Mayfield**

Contact Josie Conway *phone* 4969 3545 or Asha Ramzan *phone* 4968 2511





e-Summer Schools a GREAT success

There were 18 e-Summer Schools held in 13 locations across NSW this summer.

The Premier initiated the project for students from disadvantaged areas of the State. The students received cash scholarships to attend during the school holidays.

The schools aimed to provide the students with an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) learning experience that will hopefully encourage them to further their ICT studies, and show them that ICT is fun!

The Department for Women funded two e-Summer Schools—one in Mt Druitt and one in Walgett—as part of its commitment to improving career opportunities for young women.

The Minister for Women, Faye Lo Po' said, 'We hope that they encourage more girls to take on further study in this area and subsequently enter the male dominated ICT industry'.



Elaine and Antoinette, e-Summer School participants in Walgett.

The two schools were a great success, with students saying that they 'learned a lot'. Graduation ceremonies were held on 24 January in Mr Druitt and 1 February in Walgett.

At the Walgett ceremony, Sue Gorst, a Director at the Department for Women, said 'We are delighted with the positive feedback we have received from those involved. We hope that the school has been useful to all the students in planning their future careers and that it encourages more young women to consider a career in information and communication technology'.

Pioneer Women in IT

Ada Byron, Lady Lovelace (1815-1852), was acknowledged as the world's first programmer.

She was the assistant and patron of Charles Babbage, and wrote the program for his 'Analytical Engine'. This program is now regarded as the first computer program.

Computer pioneer **Grace Hopper** invented the computer language COBOL in 1959. This was the first user friendly business software program. Her work has changed the face of computing. In 1991 she was the first individual woman to receive the National Medal of Technology (USA).

The 1997 Augusta Ada Lovelace Award was presented to **Betty Snyder Holberton**. Fifty years ago, Betty Holberton was one of the six original

programmers of ENIAC. She was involved in the design of the hardware and software of the first UNIVAC. She also played an influential role in the design of both COBOL and FORTRAN languages. Grace Hopper described Betty as being the best programmer she had ever known.

Adele Mildred (Milly) Koss is a pioneer woman in computing and a member of the group that developed the first compilers. She received the 2000 Augusta Ada Lovelace Award. Milly has had a distinguished career over more than 47 years in all phases of computer technology, implementation and management.

Compiled by **Mirka Szyliczak**,
Website Project Officer, for the
e-Summer Schools



Augusta Ada Lovelace Award

The award is given to individuals who have excelled in either outstanding scientific and technical achievement and/or for extraordinary service to the computing community through their accomplishment and contributions on behalf of women in computing.

Women's Information and Referral Service

The Women's Information and Referral Service is operated by the Department for Women. It is a free and confidential telephone service that provides information and referrals on all issues affecting women and their families.

The service has access to speakers of 15 community languages and to an Aboriginal officer. There is also a telephone typewriter (TTY) contact for those who are hearing or speech impaired.

RING US! **Monday to Friday,**
9am to 5pm
1800 817 227
1800 673 304 (TTY)
The above are free calls
Translating and
Interpreting Service
13 1450

In Focus

A gender analysis of NSW Local Government Social Plans

All local councils are required to develop social or community plans in accordance with the *Social/Community Planning and Reporting Guidelines* published by the Department of Local Government (1998). In their plans they must include an assessment of seven mandatory target groups, including women.

This report analyses to what extent women's issues were separately considered and effectively integrated into the local government social/community plans. It includes suggestions about how social planning for women can be improved.

Copies will be distributed to all local government councils and their social planners. It is also available to read on the Department for Women's website at www.women.nsw.gov.au.

Department for Women, Level 4, Stockland House
181 Castlereagh Street, Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 02 9287 1860 Fax: 02 9287 1823
Email: dfw@women.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.women.nsw.gov.au

Women's Gateway: www.womens.gateway.nsw.gov.au
Womenspace is published by the Department for Women, in conjunction with the Premier's Council for Women.

Editor: Kathleen Phelps Design: Rebecca Crockett
Cover photo Cumberland Newspaper Group
ISSN 1329-6965

Printed and distributed by Mailing and Print Services, Frenchs Forest NSW.

NOTICEBOARD

