



# Wellington Women Lawyers' Association

## July 2011

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The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the WWLA committee or any particular member of WWLA.

Contributions from members for this newsletter are welcome and can be sent to:

[nancy.watters@customs.govt.nz](mailto:nancy.watters@customs.govt.nz)

## Convenor's Letter

Wasn't Judge Carrie Wainwright, our 2011 AGM guest speaker, fabulous and inspiring? For those of you who were unable to attend, Judge Wainwright, delivering off the cuff, gave us an insight into both her professional and private life. It was fascinating to hear how unplanned her career has been, and how she came to be involved in the Maori Land Court/Waitangi Tribunal and finally being made a District Court Judge. It was certainly reassuring to hear that while things don't always turn out as you had hoped, by making the most of opportunities coming your way, you can achieve things that you never dreamed were possible!

I would now like to introduce the two new members of our Committee: Amanda Courtney and Annette Gray, who are both private practitioners with a wealth of experience. Thank you both for agreeing to join us, as I know you are busy women, especially as you have now been elected to the Wellington Branch Council. The other remaining members giving their time to Wellington Women Lawyers are: Stephanie Edwards, Tracey Peters, Hannah Stallard and our Lower Hutt representative, Katie Patterson. Thanks to you members too.

As you can see we are only a small committee. However we are open to co-opting other members so if you feel you could contribute and would like to join us please don't hesitate to contact me. It is not an onerous role. We meet once a month for about an hour and some members have responsibility for administrative functions. The hardest part of our job is coming up with new and exciting events to promote to you so we are open to suggestions!

On Tuesday 28 June, a number of us met for drinks at the Cookoo Cocktail Emporium, a quaint little bar on the waterfront where a lot of the retro furniture and fittings are for sale. It was nice to meet up with old friends and meet some of our newer members.

We have a busy time ahead with the UN Women NZ/WWLA fundraiser rapidly approaching on 24 July (see attached flyer) which is an event I would encourage you to attend as it will also launch the 2010 UN report on the status of Women. All money raised will go towards UN Women NZ's programmes for improving the position of women in the Solomon Islands.

Also, in collaboration with Women in Law there is the 28 July event: Effective Negotiation of Pay and Working Conditions for Women. I understand that there has been a tremendous response to this event and there is a waiting list so perhaps we can try and convince Stephanie Dyhrberg to do it again for WWLA members only.

Gender issues are very topical at the moment and I hope you were able to attend or watch the Court Report on TV 7 again featuring our member Stephanie Dyhrberg. If not you can watch it online at <http://tvnz.co.nz/the-court-report/s2011-e19-video-4291001> It is no surprise that there are still pay gaps and inequity when all the dinosaurs are not extinct, as we had been led to believe! While the following article is a little out of date it is still worth checking out: <http://www.professionelle.co.nz/our-themes/theme/flexibility-and-non-traditional-work-models/article/what-would-ethel-think>

I hope to see some of you at our events and remember if you have any suggestions or comments please contact me at [nancy.watters@customs.govt.nz](mailto:nancy.watters@customs.govt.nz)

## UPCOMING WWLA EVENTS

- **High tea and film afternoon – UN Women NZ & Wellington Womens Lawyers Association present a special screening of: "Precious Life" – Sunday July 24 2:15pm – Roxy Cinema, 5 Park Rd, Miramar (see poster in this newsletter)**

You are welcome to come to the monthly WWLA committee meetings. Alternatively, let us know if there are any issues you want discussed, or if you have ideas for functions or activities. We are here for you!

## THANK YOU NOTE FROM SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

19 May 2011

To the Donor,

I would like to take this opportunity to say a formal than you to the Wellington Women Lawyers' Association for the granting me a scholarship for 2011. I am so thankful, and the money will be a tremendous help to me as I pursue my legal studies. I had a wonderful night at the General Annual Meeting Dinner held by the WWLA, and I have been inspired by the strength of the powerful women involved in this association to pursue my own career with great confidence and commitment so I too can achieve similar successes within the legal profession. I look forward to becoming more involved with the WWLA in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Amy Dolden.

# High Tea & Film Afternoon

UN Women NZ & Wellington Women Lawyers Association present a special screening of:

## “Precious Life”



*Precious Life chronicles the struggle of an Israeli pediatrician and a Palestinian mother to get treatment for her baby. The film shows that even in the presence of conflict, some positive contact can be achieved. Maybe peace is not impossible?*

***The UNW Annual Report on the Status of Women 2010 will be launched at this event***

**Sunday 24 July / 2.15pm / Roxy Cinema**

5 Park Road, Miramar

**Tickets: \$30 per person, includes high tea**

Proceeds go toward UN Women projects in the Pacific

For tickets contact [unwomennz@xtra.co.nz](mailto:unwomennz@xtra.co.nz) or call Rae 04 934 3447 or **WWLA**  
(\$5 member subsidy) contact [nancy.watters@customs.govt.nz](mailto:nancy.watters@customs.govt.nz)