WOMEN'S FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE

NEWSLETTER
OCEANIA & S.E. ASIA





ISSUE 2 | 2024

OCEANIA / S.E. ASIA WFWP NEWSLETTER



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WFWP is committed to:

- Serving communities – Service projects within Australia & the Pacific Islands.
- Strengthening the family – Workshops, forums, seminars, and conferences.
- Bridge of Peace - Reconciling differences and healing wounds of the past.
- Global Women's Peace Network (GWPN) – A network of women leaders and organisations dedicated to solving pressing social issues and securing an environment for human development.

Australia



Theme: Managing our Relationships and Self-Actualisation

April 6 | Melbourne, Australia

Written by Dr John Bellavance
Vice-President, UPF Australia

OVERVIEW

- THE SEMINAR SERIES FOCUSES ON THE THREE PILLARS OF FINDING MEANING AND CONNECTION BY:
  - MANAGING ONESELF WELL, AND MIND AND BODY UNITY.
  - MANAGING OUR RELATIONSHIPS WELL.
  - MANAGING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT WELL.
- THE PROGRAM USES A HOLISTIC LIFE EDUCATION APPROACH TO FOSTER GOOD PEOPLE, GOOD EDUCATION, GOOD GLOBAL CITIZENS, PROMOTING COMMON BENEFIT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.



RANDALL APPS
HEAD OF GEELONG INTERFAITH NETWORK AND CHAPTER PRESIDENT OF UPF GEELONG WAS MASTER OF CEREMONY

The first in a series of four seminars for 2024, the workshop focused on the importance of forming good relationships: particularly the family being the basis for a good and peaceful society.

Thirty-five participants attended face to face, while three joined online from Adelaide. Attendees included several leaders of the Melbourne based Beit Jala Palestinian Association, which is a humanitarian organisation.

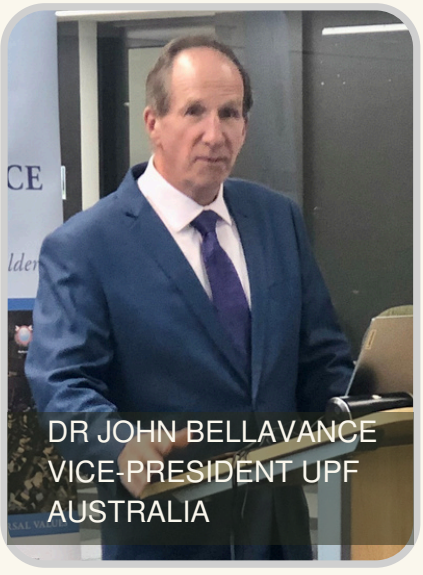
Each twenty-minute presentation was followed by fifteen minutes of group discussion and Q&A with the speaker. The interactive program enabled participants to share insights about each topic.

PRESENTER

Dr John Bellavance
Topic: Subject and Object Relations, and Giving and Receiving

Dr Bellavance is a Global Vice-President of Sun Moon University (SMU), Oceania Coordinator for the International Association of Academicians for Peace, Vice-President of UPF Australia, and Chair of UPF Victoria.

During his presentations, John explained the importance of Dr Moon's understanding about the 'Principles of Subject and Object and Giving and



DR JOHN BELLAVANCE
VICE-PRESIDENT UPF AUSTRALIA

Receiving' for creating a peaceful world. These two principles exemplify the importance of the interconnectedness of life, namely, Systems Thinking. For example, the body is maintained through the giving and receiving between cells and organs. Systems exhibit the following characteristics:

- All elements are required and are integrated with the broader purpose.
- Smaller systems can form bigger systems. For example, the smaller family system is also part of the larger social system.

Systems thinking is vital for us to see connections with others and our natural environment. Through our giving and receiving actions, we raise our consciousness and understanding of the world and change the world when we interact with it. The failure to understand this principle of interconnectedness underlies some of the current misconceptions of science, politics, economics, philosophy, and spirituality. Lastly, John spoke about the importance of the family in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



ANNE BELLAVANCE
PRESIDENT OF WFWP AUSTRALIA AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF WFWP INTERNATIONAL, REPRESENTING OCEANIA AND S.E. ASIA

Anne Bellavance
Topic: Conjugal Love

Anne is President of WFWP Australia and an International Vice-President of WFWP International, representing Oceania and S.E. Asia.

Continuing the theme of giving and receiving, Anne shared that the most important criteria for a successful relationship with one's partner is how we respond to each other and change ourselves for the other, because the number one cause for breakdown in a relationship is turning away from the needs of the other.

Additionally, happy couples make happy families. Families are the basic training ground for both parents and children to develop good character, good citizenship, and learning to live for the sake of others.

The emotional, physical, and economic benefits that marriage brings to both individuals and society cannot be overstated. We now have ample data demonstrating how family breakdown affects the stability of communities in terms of the increased poverty, crime, drug, and alcohol abuse.

Finally, Anne spoke shared that the complexity of our modern culture has made the simple endeavours of building successful marriages and families more complicated and more challenging than ever before.

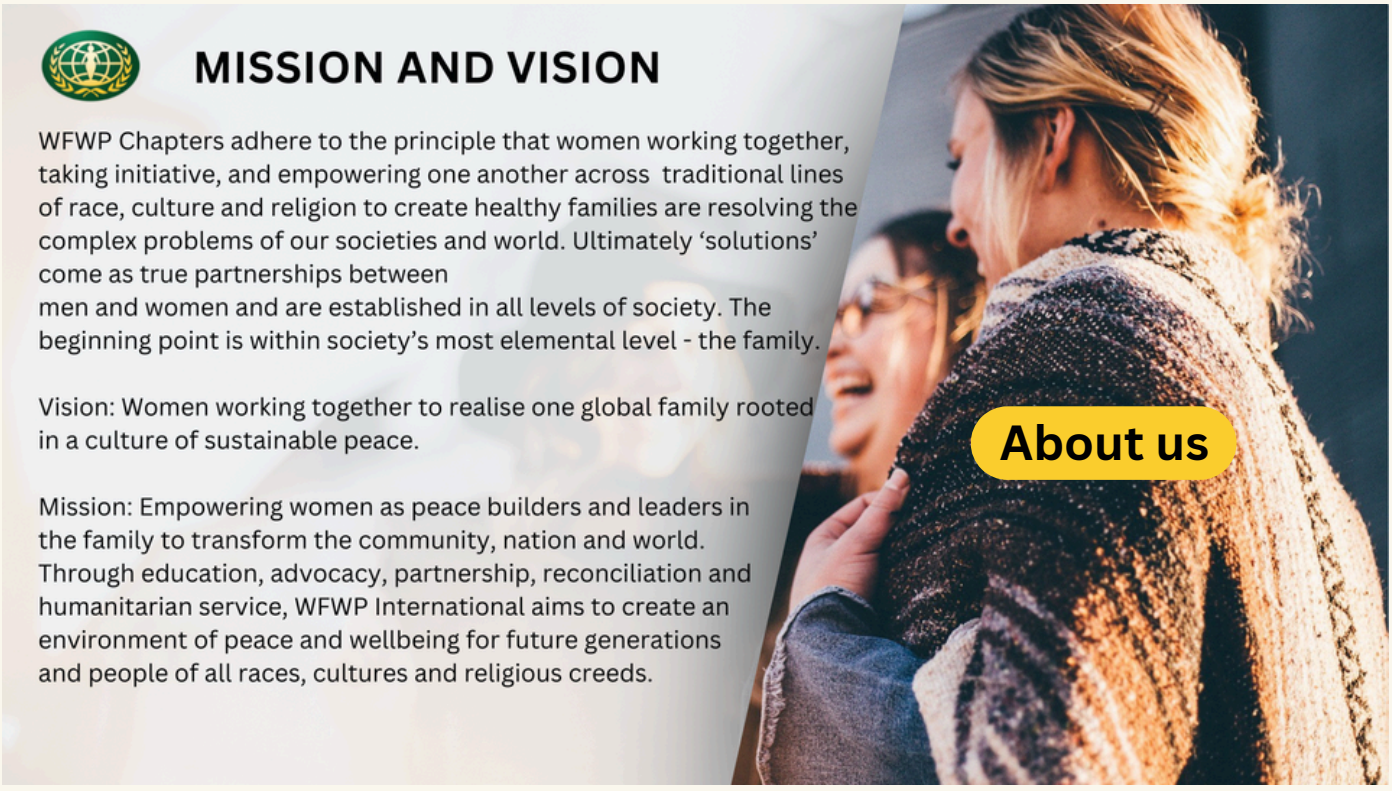
Dr Bellavance is a Global Vice-President of Sun Moon University (SMU), Oceania Coordinator for the International Association of Academicians for Peace, Vice-President of UPF Australia, and Chair of UPF Victoria.

During his presentations, John explained the importance of Dr Moon's understanding about the 'Principles of Subject and Object and Giving and Receiving' for creating a peaceful world. These two principles exemplify the importance of the interconnectedness of life, namely, Systems Thinking.
For example, the body is maintained through the giving and receiving between cells and organs. Systems exhibit the following characteristics:

PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

Days For Girls Wandin East Chapter Lorena Hayes is the Team leader for Days for Girls Wandin East Vic. The team work tirelessly sewing to create the kits and fill the demand. Organisations such as WFWP ship them to communities. https://www.daysforgirls.org/australia/

Doug's Mini Movers has been supporting WFWP Victoria's Global Development & Aid projects since 2015. Thank you, Doug, for your friendly, reliable, and efficient team. We could not support our WFWP Chapters as well without you. https://dougsminimover.com.au/





Seminar 2 Theme: The Foundation of a Good Family is the Relationship Between Husband and Wife

May 4 | Melbourne, Australia

Written by Dr John Bellavance
Vice-President, UPF Australia

OVERVIEW

- THE SEMINAR SERIES FOCUSES ON THE THREE PILLARS OF FINDING MEANING AND CONNECTION BY:
  - MANAGING ONESELF WELL, AND MIND AND BODY UNITY.
  - MANAGING OUR RELATIONSHIPS WELL.
  - MANAGING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT WELL.
- THE PROGRAM USES A HOLISTIC LIFE EDUCATION APPROACH TO FOSTER GOOD PEOPLE, GOOD EDUCATION, GOOD GLOBAL CITIZENS, PROMOTING COMMON BENEFIT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

The second in a series of four seminars for 2024, the workshop focused on the importance of the relationship between husband and wife as the foundation of a good and happy family. Twenty participants attended face to face. Attendees included several community leaders.

Each twenty-minute presentation was followed by fifteen minutes of group discussion and Q&A with the speaker. The interactive program enabled participants to share insights about each topic.

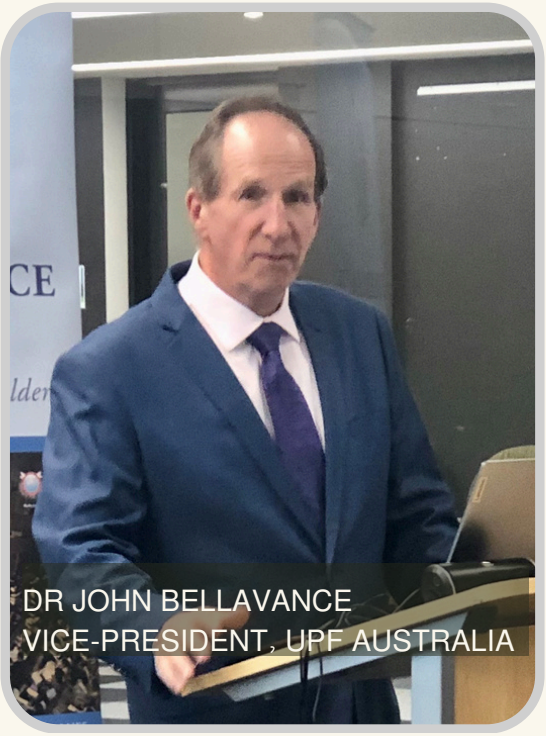


ANNE BELLAVANCE, PRESIDENT OF WFWP AUSTRALIA, WAS MASTER OF CEREMONY



PRESENTER

Topic: The Foundations of a Good Marriage – Part 1


DR JOHN BELLAVANCE
VICE-PRESIDENT, UPF AUSTRALIA

Dr John Bellavance is a Global Vice-President of Sun Moon University (SMU), Oceania Coordinator for the International Association of Academicians for Peace, Vice-President of UPF Australia, and Chair of UPF Victoria.

During his presentations, John explained that once we understand that love is the central value of life, then we need to find out how to realise the ideal love in our relationships. This presentation covered: 1. On the foundation of love, the values of truth, beauty and goodness are formed. 2. Giving and receiving love is a vital practice that underpins happiness and well-being. 3. Joy remains dormant until we exchange love.


DR JOHN BELLAVANCE
VICE-PRESIDENT, UPF AUSTRALIA

Topic: Social Challenges to Family Life and the Four Spheres of Love

Pastor Daniel Meadows is the Victorian Director of FFWPU Australia. He discussed the challenges faced by modern families and positive ways to deal with these. He covered:

1. The change that has had the most far-reaching consequences on family life is separation and divorce.

2. It is interesting to note that economists are the ones suggesting that we need to foster and support strong families.
3. The Family – An Integrative Whole and the Four Spheres of Love.



Topic: The Foundations of a Good Marriage – Part 2

John covered three topics in this presentation:
1. The first value and practice that underpins a relationship is living for the sake of the others, otherwise known as altruism. The essence of moral authority is service, namely subordinating oneself for the sake of a higher purpose or showing love for another.
2. The simple principle is that genuine and sustainable love is realised by giving first, while false love is self-serving.
3. Both self-centred and changing love, and genuine and unchanging love exist. Changing love fluctuates according to the interests of the moment. Because it is self-centred, it changes.

INTERCULTURAL, INTERFAITH MARRIAGE RENEWAL AND BLESSING, COMMEMORATING THE UNITED NATIONS DAY OF FAMILIES.

Strengthening relationships through the marriage renewal rededication and interfaith blessing was the final part of the program.



A family starts with a couple. The love and commitment in the couple is the beginning and foundation for the family. Recommitment to marriage and family is an ongoing activity that fosters the renewal and development of families.



The marriage renewal involved opening remarks, a toast, a water blessing, interfaith benedictions and vows of marriage renewal.

OFFICIATORS AND THEIR MARRIAGE RENEWAL AND BLESSING

Unification Blessing officiated by Rev. Daniel Meadows and Chizuru Ihara

Pastor Daniel Meadows is the Victorian Director of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU). He has volunteered in the NFP sector in Japan, Korea, and Australia for the past 15 years, including a leading role as the Director of the Oceania Leadership Team.



Buddhist Benediction
officiated by Venerable Bodhicitta

Venerable Bhikkhuni Bodhicitta is a Sri Lankan Theravada Buddhist nun based in Melbourne with over 25 years' experience in meditation.
She is the Spiritual Director of International Centre for Inner Peace and Happiness. She conducts meditation retreats, lectures, Dhamma talks, and discussions in Australia, Malaysia, and Sri Lanka.



Christian Benediction
by Pastor Nikki Shaw

Pastor Nikki has been involved in Worship Ministry for 38 years and pastoral ministry for 15 years, experiencing every aspect of church ministry.
Currently, she is the associate pastor at Heart Focus Church in Traralgon and Morwell based

in the Gippsland region.Pastor Nikki regularly speaks the Word of God for revival to come to all Christian churches and reaches out to the lost and addicted.

AMBASSADOR FOR PEACE PRESENTATIONS



The program concluded with the Presentation of the Ambassador for Peace Award, presented to Awes Amin. He has a Bachelor of Environmental Health Management from Swinburne University, a Post Graduate Diploma in Low-Cost Infrastructure from the Institute of Housing Studies in the Netherlands, a Bachelor of Environmental Sciences from King Abdul-Aziz University in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and a Diploma of Animal Production and Processing from the Institute of Animal Sciences in Somalia.

He has worked on refugee Settlement for the Australia Red Cross. His current position is the CEO ASMA Environmental Services, Melbourne, Australia. In the 1990s, Awes worked with as a Senior Administrative Assistant for the United Nations in Somalia and assisted UN political and humanitarian officers and UN troops,

and coordinated international organisations, community leaders and local authorities to provide assistance in relief management, political stability, and security restoration. As a team leader of Somalian NGO, he managed relief programs and assisted international organizations in the implementation of relief operations.

In Australia, Awes has served the Somali community and other East African communities as Chairperson of Committee Management Ethnic Communities

Council Inc., and as Chairperson of Committee Management of Somali Inter-Riverine Community Development Association. He worked to establish a community centre that provides various services to the community, to operate as a resource centre for the community, to offer guidance and information, including cultural backgrounds to service providers about the community, to enable youth participation in sports and recreational activities and empower young people, to encourage and empower women to engage in social life in Australia, and to provide support and assistance to new arrivals, migrants, and refugees.

PARTNERS

HOSTED BY

The **Women's Federation for World Peace** is an international NGO in General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. WFWP adheres to the principle that women working together, taking initiative, and empowering one another across traditional lines of race, culture, and religion to create healthy families can resolve the complex problems of our societies and world - www.wfwpaustralia.org

Universal Peace Federation (UPF) is an NGO in General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. We support and promote the work of the United Nations and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals www.upf.org

Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) is comprised of families from around the world striving to establish a world of peace and unity among all peoples, races, and religions as envisioned by Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon and to embody the ideal of true love, which is to live for the sake of others. FFWPU champions three ideals: family, peace, and unification.



Global Women's Peace Network

Empower - Collaborate - Impact

Leadership Advancing a Culture of Heart

WFWP AUSTRALIA

Theme: Fostering Trust and Open Communication

June 1st | Victoria, Australia
Video Link: https://youtu.be/y6V_xIqFuOM

Written by Anne Bellavance
President, WFWP Australia

OVERVIEW

- A FORUM OF TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERSHIP FOR ESTABLISHED AND EMERGING LEADERS, WITH A FOCUS ON LEADERSHIP OF THE HEART.
- THE GLOBAL WOMEN PEACE AMBASSADOR AWARD HONOURS LEADERS WHO PROMOTE RECONCILIATION, OVERCOME BARRIERS, AND BUILD PEACEFUL COMMUNITIES BASED ON UNIVERSAL MORAL PRINCIPLES.
- THE GLOBAL PARTNER AWARD HONOURS ORGANISATIONS COLLABORATING WITH WFWP TO ACHIEVE THE UN GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS, ESPECIALLY GOAL 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS.
- PETITION LAUNCH TO IMPLEMENT CLARE'S LAW NATIONWIDE.



The day was full of energy, laughter, tears, and triumphs. We embarked on a journey together—a journey of fearless leadership, deep human connections, and the kind of effective communication that builds unshakable trust. Door prizes, awards, table talk, great food and great people – our mentors and mentees in the Leading into the Future mentor program, our fabulous volunteers, and of course our inspiring participants!

Each moment was a golden nugget of wisdom: we learned that leadership is an action, not merely a title. It's about showing up, reaching out, and creating spaces where everyone feels valued and heard. It’s about embracing our roles as leaders, even when we're tempted to succumb to imposter syndrome.
We laughed, we cried, and we connected on a level that reminds us we are human beings, not human doings. Today reinforced the beautiful Japanese concept of 'Yutori'—the power of pause. It reminded us to breathe, to reflect, and to embrace the spaces between our actions where life truly happens.



Today was a testament to what we can achieve when we come together, share our truths, and support each other's growth. Thank you to every participant, speaker, and volunteers for bringing your authenticity and heart to this gathering. Your contributions today have not just filled this space with energy but have sown seeds of change that will grow beyond today. It was a day of unforgettable memories and transformative experiences learning, of celebration, and most importantly, of coming together as a community committed to making a difference.



MODERATOR

Dr Shwetha Shankar – Co-Founder, Essor Business Hub
www.essorbusinesshub.com



Dedicated to empowering women and making a positive impact in their lives, Shwetha works to improve business and leadership experiences across different sectors and platforms, bringing clarity and strategic approaches to achieve specific outcomes. Shwetha has over a decade of experience delivering workshops and fostering experiential learning. She possesses a strong business background and strives to equip business owners and teams with professional skills and tools for success.

OPENING ADDRESS

Sylvia Coombe - Multi-Cultural Commissioner

Sylvia explained the importance of connecting with the multi-cultural communities and connected us together with her embracing smile.

WFWP is a special multi-cultural community bringing everyone together!



PRESENTERS

Anne Bellavance - President, WFWP Australia | WFWPI Vice-President, rep. Oceania & SE Asia.



TOPIC: Great Leaders are catalysts for rewriting futures and transforming how situations occur.

A not-for-profit pioneer and volunteer for 43 years across Australia, Canada, and the USA, Anne is committed to fostering a 'culture of heart' rooted in the motto, 'Living for the Sake of Others', the soul and values of Women's Federation for World Peace International.

Passionate about advancing women through 'leadership of the heart', Anne mentors' women, supports community organisations, and advocates for those they serve.

Why do some people become masters at things while other don't achieve their potential greatness? Winston Churchill was a great speaker, yet he stuttered from childhood. Helen Keller became a great writer yet lost her hearing and sight as an infant. What is this special 'X' Factor that creates master's and can take your performance to a whole new level? For the Master, the 'X' factor is how situations occur to them. The master can imagine creating a new future of possibilities and heightened performance.

Anne elaborated on the three 'X' factors that enable master's to do things others can't do and wouldn't imagine doing. Firstly, altering the way situations are perceived is key. When achieved, the future shifts, revealing opportunities where others see chaos. Secondly, masters excel in managing conversations that empower others to re-shape their future instead of living into a default future driven by past experiences. Thirdly, masters facilitate a collaborative approach, allowing others to contribute to, and shape the future. A great leader creates the space for that future to occur.

Corrinne Armour CSP Author of ‘Leaders Who Ask: Building Fearless Cultures by telling less and asking more, and ‘Developing Direct Reports: Taking the Guesswork Out of Leading Leaders.



TOPIC: Fearless Leadership - Untapped potential. Taking action in times of challenge.

Entertaining, provocative, and inspiring. With Certified Speaking Professional (CSP), Corrinne is industry recognised for her experience and professional capability amongst Australia’s leading speakers. Underpinned by 20 years in and out of board rooms working with senior leaders, Corrinne brings Fearless Leadership® to life.

We were truly inspired by Corrinne’s energy, wisdom, and courage. On her first night in a refugee camp on the Thai Myanmar border, Corrinne was filled with fear. Yet, a transformative moment occurred when a 4-year-old girl, who didn’t speak English, reached out to her with an outstretched hand and eye contact. This simple gesture transcended language barriers and connected them on a deeply human level, stripped of modern society's pretences.

Corrinne asked, "Who can lead you out of fear and give you connection?" It's in these moments of connection that we find our best selves. A fearless leader, she explained, needs "weapons of mass connection." It starts with connection; trust holds it together and generates better outcomes. Fearless leadership is about having conversations that build trust and connection.

Heather Yelland – President and Founder, The Elevation Company



TOPIC: Elevating Leadership - leading by heart.

With formal training in arts, psychology, family, systems theory and business, Heather has been a ‘people’ specialist for over 30 years. She is a leading authority in Values Based Leadership and is a respected thought leader in the international arena of consulting, business and corporate innovation, and coaching.

We loved Heather’s humour, energy, and insightful inspiration. As an intuitive and concise speaker and facilitator, she has a unique ability to engage with individuals in a large group, using stories to drive her message home. Heather emphasised that the human experience is the ‘why’ for connection.

Despite having four degrees, Heather shared that raising eight children taught her more than any academic achievement. She reminded us that there is always time for what we value, stressing that we are human beings, not human doers. While we can approach business and leadership with our heads, our hearts won't be satisfied. The longest distance is between our brain and our heart! People want to know, be loved, seen, heard and got!

Heather's closing remarks were powerful: "Trust the universe (the Divine), trust yourself, and trust those around you. Trust begins with trusting myself. Energy from the heart makes you want to learn it. Be vulnerable and create space for others to do the same. Be an authentic leader, living the life you were born to make. Be all of you!"

Lydia Tesema – Conversationalist, Moderator, Youth Programs Developer and Facilitator, Community Engagement Consultant, and founder of the creative media agency, 'Below The Surface'.



TOPIC: Heart-Driven Leadership: Cultivating Trust and Unity Across Diverse Communities.

Lydia is dedicated to carving out a unique and versatile career as a global Thought Leader. She is a Conversationalist and Entrepreneur, balancing community work with her love for presenting, hosting, speaking, and moderating panels. Passionate about inspiring the next generation to be purpose-driven, Lydia uses the power of connection, communication, and education to make a unique impact on the world.

Lydia emphasised that emerging leaders often don’t see themselves as leaders and shared her own experience of overcoming fear standing before us.
As a first generation Australian, she highlighted the importance of established leaders creating opportunities for others. She stressed the need for safe spaces where new Australians feel accepted, fostering collaboration and allowing them to gain experience.

Lydia believes sincerity resonates with people and that leaders should cultivate trust through transparency, integrity, and empathy. Being a bridge means recognising your privilege and creating access for others. Be sincere and be the bridge!

GLOBAL AWARDS

One of the most heartfelt moments was our awards ceremony, where we celebrated those who have dared to lead without fear, those who have shown us that trust and love are the foundations of true leadership. Congratulations to all the awardees, your courage and dedication inspire us all.



Left to Right - Back: Preetah Bolaky, Sylvia Coombe, Patricia Vaz, Katie Edwards, Anne Bellavance, Samantha Bing.
Left to Right - Front: Dr Catherine Norton, Gianna Lucas.

GLOBAL WOMEN PEACE AMBASSADOR AWARDS

Four, outstanding leaders received the prestigious Global Women Peace Ambassador award for their exemplary peace-building and values-focused leadership. These ambassadors, from diverse sectors and walks of life, are dedicated to creating a global community of peace through WFWP's principle of 'living for the sake of others.' The award honours their leadership, achievements, and service, recognising their efforts to promote reconciliation, overcome barriers, and build peaceful communities.

Awardees:

- Gianna Lucas - Co-Founder and CEO at Happow
- Katie Edwards - Best-selling author of SOCIAL IMPACT and is currently working on her 2nd book release.
- Samantha Bing - Manager of Program and Community Engagement at Cerebral Palsy Alliance, a Board Member of Saving Animals from Euthanasia, volunteers at St Vincent de Paul Society, and is Co-Founder at Homeless Christmas Drive.
- Dr Catherine Norton – CEO and Founder of Heal with Laser, a medical supply company of high-powered laser therapy devices for pain management.

GLOBAL PARTNER AWARDS

Global Partners, united by shared values, are committed to promoting reconciliation, overcoming barriers, and building peace. This year, three organisations received the award. The Global Partner award honours the achievements and efforts of organisation for working alongside WFWP in realising the United Nations Global Development Goals, particularly Goal 17: Partnership for the Goals.

Awardees:

- Fijian Community Association Victoria (FCAV) – partnering with WFWP for the Melbourne Pasifika Festival.
- Kickass Buddy Coaching – partnering with WFWP in the GWPN Planning Committee, the VIC Advisory Committee, and the WFWPI UN Regional Office.
- New World Leaders Institute – partnering with WFWP in the GWPN Planning Committee, and as a mentor in the Leading into the Future mentor program.

GWPN PLANNING COMMITTEE

Anne shared, “I am deeply honoured to work with an incredible team of dedicated women in WFWP's Global Women's Peace Network planning committee.”



Thank you:
Dr. Shwetha Shankar, for being the most engaging Master of Ceremonies, setting a tone of care and love throughout the day. Your energy permeates all that we do. 🌟

Patricia Vaz, for your organisation, loving heart, and desire to share your leadership skills with everyone. “I’ll never forget your words, Anne, we got this!" 🌟

Preetah Bolaky, for your drive, heart, and determination to empower women wherever you go. 🌟

Odri Fernandes, for your humour, tenacious spirit, and coaching skills that keep us on the right path. We missed you on the day. 🌟

During events, our faces are towards the front. However, it's the volunteers at the back who create the beauty that is felt by everyone. A big thank you to the incredible volunteers of WFWP Australia, you make us shine!

PETITION LAUNCH TO IMPLEMENT CLARE'S LAW NATIONWIDE

As we continue to push boundaries and advocate for meaningful changes, we invite you to join the movement to advocate for Clare's Law by signing the petition found in the link below. Your support is crucial as we work towards safer communities and empower individuals against domestic violence. To find out the why and the how, follow the link below. Together, we make a difference!
Petition Link: https://www.change.org/Clares_Law

REFLECTION FROM PARTICIPANTS



Absolutely loved the atmosphere, connecting with all the lovely leaders that were there. It really was a wonderful day filled with tears laughter and triumphs. Look forward to many more – Tua

Such a truly fantastic day and wow I'm still in ore at all the beautiful women in the room who were so kind and driven to GO HIGH with their passions 💜✨🦄 *thank you for a magical experience!!!! Let's do it again xx* – Katie

A day filled with courage, deep connection and heartfelt sharing. – Helen

Such a phenomenal day celebrating women leaders and leading with love ❤️ Thank you for bringing us all together 😍 – Shwetha

A phenomenal experience, with a room of likeminded incredible women and men, all with the same values, passion and heart for WFWP. Come and join a community that will inspire, motivate and teach you.





iThe Global Women's Peace Network Assembly is great for any leader wanting to learn strategies in an ever-changing world whilst connecting with like-minded women.

A diverse range of speakers and workshops, this empowering event really encapsulates the essence of what it means to lead fearlessly, with an open heart and mind. It's truly a transformative event that activates meaningful discussions and connections.

PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

HOSTED BY

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WITH SUPPORT FROM:

City of Monash
https://www.monash.vic.gov.au/

CITY OF MONASH

GWPN ASSEMBLY

Global Women's Peace Network

A network of women leaders and organisations dedicated to solving pressing social issues and securing an environment for human development. It seeks to ensure mutual prosperity and lasting peace through feminine peace leadership rooted in a culture of care, responsibility and education in family values.

GWPN inaugural assembly: the founders of WFWPI, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and her husband Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon called for a new era of women's leadership in peace building. The assembly highlighted the need for a body of NGO leaders, whose collective wisdom and judgment can complement the deliberations of the United Nations; which as a body of government representatives is overwhelmingly male. GWPN is a project of WFWP international.





Book Donations

April 26 | Sydney, Australia

Written By Satomi Terasaka
President, WFWP New South Wales

OVERVIEW

- **FUELLED BY EMPATHY AND DEDICATION, THE WOMEN'S FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE NEW SOUTH WALES CHAPTER EMBARKED ON A JOURNEY TO FILL PRISON LIBRARIES WITH DONATED BOOKS, INCLUDING CHILDREN'S LITERATURE.**

The New South Wales Chapter of the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP NSW) embarked on a mission of compassion and a commitment to education. Their initiative? To enrich the lives of women by stocking the shelves of prison libraries with an array of donated books.

With the enthusiastic participation of volunteers, WFWP NSW undertook the noble task of gathering literary treasures to be shared within the confines of the facility. Among the collected volumes were not only works of fiction and non-fiction but also

children's books. This thoughtful inclusion recognized the profound connection between mothers and their children, even when separated by prison walls. By providing access to children's literature, WFWP NSW sought to facilitate the continuation of nurturing bonds between these women and their children through online platforms.

Navigating the complex web of regulations and guidelines governing prison libraries proved to be a challenge, but WFWP NSW persevered. Through diligent adherence to protocol, they successfully delivered their contributions to the Brush Farm Corrective Services Academy in April, a testament to their unwavering dedication.

In the absence of internet access, books serve as indispensable conduits of knowledge and inspiration. By infusing prison libraries with diverse reading materials, WFWP NSW aimed to ignite intellectual curiosity and spark new interests among the women. Beyond the confines of the prison walls, this initiative resonated with broader societal issues, particularly those concerning women's education. Research indicates that access to literature can significantly reduce recidivism rates, offering individuals a pathway to rehabilitation and redemption. Moreover, a well-stocked library fosters a sense of community within the correctional facility, fostering dialogue and solidarity among inmates.

In donating books to women's prison libraries, WFWP NSW champions the inherent dignity and potential of every individual, regardless of circumstance. Their generosity serves as a beacon of hope, illuminating the path towards a more equitable and compassionate future for all.

Philippines



Gift Giving Activity

January 22| Honiara, Solomon Islands

Written by Ma. Helena Asuncion
Chair of Digital Media and IT Relations WFWP-NCR

OVERVIEW

- OTHIS WHOLESOME EVENT PROVIDED ESSENTIAL HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES AND FOSTERED A SENSE OF JOY AMONG CHILDREN, AIMING TO UPLIFT THE TADYAWAN MANGYAN COMMUNITY MEMBERS.
- THE INITIATIVE ALSO EMPOWERED MOTHERS IN THEIR DOMESTIC AND AGRICULTURAL ENDEAVOURS, REFLECTING WFWP-NCR'S COMMITMENT TO HOLISTIC WELL-BEING.



In an endeavour to support the Tadyawan Mangyan community in Barangay Villa Cerveza, Victoria, Oriental Mindoro, WFWP-NCR orchestrated a heartwarming Gift Giving Activity. This thoughtful initiative aimed to enhance the daily lives and agricultural endeavours of the community's mothers, who often grapple with significant challenges. Graced by the presence of 30 dedicated participants, including the esteemed Barangay Chairman Honorary Aaron L. Villareal and his wife, the event resonated with warmth and solidarity. Essential household supplies, ranging from sturdy pails and basins to indispensable rubber boots, were distributed, embodying a tangible gesture of support. These provisions not only alleviate immediate needs but also empower the recipients in their domestic and agricultural pursuits.

Honorary Allan L. Villareal, in his address during the event, eloquently praised the significance of community support and collaborative efforts in driving sustainable development. His poignant words resonated deeply, highlighting the pivotal role of localized interventions in uplifting marginalised communities, and advancing broader national welfare objectives. Acknowledging the pivotal role played by the WFWP-NCR officers, Honorary Villareal expressed heartfelt gratitude for their dedication and initiative in addressing the needs of the marginalised. Their commendable efforts not only bolster home management capabilities but also provide crucial support for livelihood activities, particularly in the mountainous terrains and farmlands.



Beyond the material provisions, the distribution of snacks for all attendees further encapsulated the spirit of togetherness and communal joy that permeated the event. It served as a poignant reminder of the transformative power of collective action and compassion.

Ultimately, the Gift Giving Activity orchestrated by WFWP-NCR stands as a testament to the profound impact that localized initiatives can have in fostering resilience, dignity, and unity within vulnerable communities. As we continue the path towards a more equitable and compassionate society, let us draw inspiration from such endeavours and strive to amplify their impact, one heartfelt gesture at a time.

REFLECTION FROM PARTICIPANTS

"We were really grateful for the gifts we received. Most especially, we were happy to receive the rubber boots because it is our essential need to work in the mountains or the farmlands. Our gratitude radiates from our hearts to support our families." - Attendees



Mothers, Sisterhood, and Hope Theme: Sustainable Peace in Action

May 21 | Cagayan De Oro City, Philippines

Written by Almera Grace Mayo
President, WFWP Philippines

OVERVIEW

- WFWP PHILIPPINES ORGANISED A PIVOTAL PEACE FORUM, GATHERING AND UNITING INFLUENTIAL KEY FIGURES. THE EVENT HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPORTANCE OF COLLECTIVE ACTION, NOTABLY IN CONFRONTING ISSUES LIKE TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND DRUG ADDICTION, WITH A FOCUS ON WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT.



Led by the illustrious Women's Federation National President, Mrs. Almera Grace P. Mayo, an unprecedented peace forum convened under the resonant theme "Sustainable Peace in Action". The distinguished gathering unfolded its deliberations within the esteemed confines of the De Luxe Hotel, situated on the Captain Vicente Roa Street in Cagayan de Oro City. Drawing luminaries and dignitaries deeply vested in the pursuit of peace from across the region, the event stood as a beacon of hope and collaboration.

Among the notable luminaries gracing the occasion were Mr. Angelito Cainday, the National IAYSP Philippine President, and Honorary Greceille Matalines, a revered board member hailing from Lanao del Norte. Their presence lent an aura of significance to the proceedings. Additionally, the former Municipal Mayor of Balingasag and current Provincial Hospital Administrator, Honorary Marieta Roa-Abogado, the University Research Department Head Dr. Israel Talili, and the diligent student leaders from the University of Southern Philippines for Science and Technology, contributed their invaluable insights, enriching the discourse.

Furthermore, the forum welcomed distinguished personalities and groups dedicated to the noble cause of peacebuilding, including the recently retired DSWD Regional Department Head for Program and Operation, Mrs. Gloria Mosqueda, the retired City DSWD Officer of El Salvador, Mrs. Anunciacion Prospero, and the Honorary Joyce Daang, presently serving as the Chairman on Gender and Development Committee of Barangay Bulua. The unified support of these influential figures and organisations underscored a shared commitment to fostering harmony and tranquillity at all levels of society, resonating with the collective aspiration for a peaceful coexistence, both locally and globally.



The profound impact of the event was not confined to rhetoric alone. Amidst the discussions, a significant declaration was announced, heralding a sisterhood and collaborative partnership between WFWP and the provincial Government of Lanao del Norte, represented by the Board Member Honorary Matalines. This alliance, forged in the crucible of shared purpose, epitomized a steadfast resolve to address pressing societal challenges, notably the rise of teenage pregnancy and drug addiction, often rooted in familial discords. It is envisaged that this partnership will serve as a conduit for solutions, engaging the collective energies of all stakeholders, with a particular emphasis on empowering women in their multifaceted roles as mothers, decision-makers, and agents of positive change.ople drive by. Garbage bags falling off utility trucks, and people using ‘pull in’ spaces to dump their garbage is also a problem on these fast-paced and busy arterial roads.

In essence, the peace forum served as a poignant reminder of the transformative potential inherent in collective action and collaborative endeavours. By harnessing the synergy of diverse voices and perspectives, it illuminated a path towards a more peaceful and inclusive society, one where the empowerment of women stands as a cornerstone of progress and resilience. As the echoes of the event reverberate far and wide, it is incumbent upon all stakeholders to translate words into deeds, forging ahead with renewed hope and determination, towards the noble goal of sustainable peace for generations to come.

PRESENTER

Dr. Israel Talili

Dr. Israel Talili, Ph.D., stands as a beacon of positivity and dedication in the pursuit of sustainable peace. As a distinguished member of the Research Department at USPT, his passionate response to the call for action underscores his unwavering commitment to addressing societal issues through research and collaboration. He was particularly inspired by a quote from the presentation: "The current problems of the world cannot be solved by the masculine logic of power but can only be solved by the feminine logic of love." Dr. Talili resonated deeply with the notion that the challenges of today's world necessitate a shift from traditional power dynamics to the transformative force of love. This insight ignited a fervent determination within him to explore research topics that offer solutions to pressing social problems.

Describing the peace forum as a transformative experience, Dr. Talili expressed genuine admiration for its impact, noting that the outcomes exceeded even his expectations. Encouraged by this momentum, he encouraged student leaders to embark on a ground-breaking project focused on teenage pregnancy in Barangay Bulua, a testament to his proactive approach and unwavering belief in effecting positive change. For Dr. Talili, the essence of addressing social issues lies in embracing the feminine logic of love, a philosophy that he champions with zeal and conviction. His steadfast commitment to reshaping the trajectory of history underscores his belief in the power of compassion and collaboration to forge a more harmonious and inclusive society.

REFLECTIONS

“I, like many others, unanimously agreed with the founder's words that the current world needs peace, reconciliation, compassion, love, service, and sacrifice.” – Attendee.

Malaysia



Community Service Project: Giving Back

April 20 | Selangor, Malaysia

Written by Jenisse
Report Writer, WFWP Malaysia

OVERVIEW

- STUDENTS FROM THE TAMIL SCHOOL AND YOUTH VOLUNTEERS FROM LOCAL UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES, WORKED TOGETHER ON VARIOUS BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF SCHOOL TEACHERS AND STAFF
- THE INITIATIVE DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTED TO IMPROVING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY'S ENVIRONMENT AND WELL-BEING THROUGH SUPPORT FOR DISADVANTAGED FAMILIES, AS WELL AS EMPOWERING YOUTH BY DEVELOPING TEAMWORK, LEADERSHIP, AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS

WFWP Malaysia takes great pride in supporting the "Giving Back" community service project, organized by Ajar-ajar Malaysia at Sungai Manggis Tamil School, Selangor. Amidst the 70 youths and students participating in the program, 16 were beneficiaries of WFWP's "Give Me a Chance" Refurbished Laptop and Education Assistance Fund Project from 2020. Their eagerness to contribute to society through volunteer service was palpable. The project garnered additional support from esteemed organizations such as the Parliamentary Service Centre of Kuala Langat, State Assembly of Banting, Universal Peace Federation (UPF) Malaysia, and Kuala Langat Community Development and Education Organization. Notably, Mr. Haridass Ramasamy, Kuala Langat Parliamentary Coordinator and State Assemblyman of Banting, and Honorary Papparaidu Veraman represented by Councillor Mr. Tan Wee King, were among the distinguished guests at this one-day event.



Mr. Haridass, in his opening remarks, praised the organizers for providing a meaningful platform for young students to engage in community service while honing their leadership skills. Participants, including students from the Tamil school and youth volunteers from local universities and colleges, worked collaboratively under the guidance of school teachers and staff. They dedicated their morning to beautifying the school premises, planting mulberry saplings, creatively decorating used tires, and repainting the school fence.

The program's second phase featured an inspiring session by youth trainer

Ms. Goh Ping In. Through engaging group discussions, participants identified pressing social issues such as vandalism, cyberbullying, and flash floods, proposing innovative solutions. Notably, a college student, an alumni of the school, found the program both enjoyable and rewarding, expressing a keen interest in encouraging more friends to participate in volunteer activities.

The event concluded on a high note with Councillor Mr. Tan Wee King distributing certificates to all participants, accompanied by words of encouragement. Moreover, Dato' Gopi Nathan Arunachalam, President of



PPPMDKL and Ambassador for Peace of UPF, Madam Lina Cheng, President of WFWP Malaysia, and Mr. Joachim Ng, Vice President of UPF Malaysia, extended their support by distributing food baskets to 20 disadvantaged families in the Banting area.

Through beautification efforts and support for disadvantaged families, the event made a significant impact on enhancing the local community's environment and well-being. It provided a valuable platform for youths to actively engage in community service, fostering a sense of responsibility and leadership. Moreover, it enabled them to develop practical skills while addressing pressing social issues. The collaborative efforts involving various organizations and community members underscored the importance of unity, dialogue, and empathy within the community, fostering mutual understanding and solidarity among participants from diverse backgrounds.



REFLECTION FROM PARTICIPANTS

“I found the social service programme to be fun and rewarding. I would like to encourage friends to participate in volunteering activities.” - Janani, school alumni attendee

Written by Jenisse
WFWP Malaysia Executive



Orphanage Outreach
Theme: Building Bonds of Hope

May 4 | Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

Written by Choong Wan Yee
Staff Writer, WFWP Malaysia

OVERVIEW

- **WFWP MALAYSIA, ALONGSIDE ALSA, UKM AND UN UKM, ORCHESTRATED A ONE-DAY VISIT TO PUSAT JAGAAN KANAK-KANAK OPENHANDS FELLOWSHIP, PROVIDING SHELTER FOR 13 ORPHANED CHILDREN IN KAJANG, SELANGOR.**

- **ACTIVITIES INCLUDED STORYTELLING SESSIONS PROMOTING SELF-ACTUALIZATION, COLLABORATIVE CRAFTS, AND A COLLECTIVE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, FOSTERING BONDS OF JOY AND LEARNING BETWEEN VOLUNTEERS AND CHILDREN.**

In a heartwarming collaboration, WFWP Malaysia joined forces with the Asian Law Students' Association (ALSA) of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and the United Nations Youth Chapter (UN UKM) to orchestrate a meaningful one-day visit to the Pusat Jagaan Kanak-Kanak Openhands Fellowship in Kajang, Selangor. This sanctuary currently serves as a home for 13 children from orphaned backgrounds, offering them shelter and support. As the volunteers, numbering 32 in total, were welcomed by the esteemed principal, Madam Rajeswari, affectionately known as Aunty Rajesh, the atmosphere buzzed with anticipation and goodwill.

Gratitude permeated the air as Madam Lina Cheng, President of WFWP Malaysia, expressed heartfelt appreciation to ALSA for extending the invitation to participate in this noble initiative. In her address, she underscored the significance of volunteerism in nurturing a sense of community responsibility, while also bolstering individual self-esteem and purpose.





The day unfolded with enriching activities designed to inspire and uplift the young minds under the guidance of Mr. Simon Teo, a seasoned counsellor. Through an engaging storytelling session titled "I'm the Best," Mr. Teo steered the children towards self-actualization, igniting their imaginations and instilling confidence. Further activities encouraged collaborative creativity and teamwork, as children paired with volunteers to embark on craft projects such as painting brick bears and crafting magic beads. Laughter echoed through the halls as participants immersed themselves in the joy of creation,

fostering bonds that transcended age and background.

The culmination of the day saw a collective celebration of birthdays, honoring the children born in May with heartfelt wishes and gifts generously provided by the organizers. As the sun set on this memorable day, gratitude filled the hearts of all involved, encapsulating the spirit of unity and compassion that defines such collaborative endeavours.



WFWP Malaysia extends profound gratitude to ALSA and UKM for their invaluable partnership, enriching the lives of both volunteers and children alike with a day brimming with joy, learning, and meaningful connections.

PRESENTER

NAME - SIMON TEO



Speaker, Mr. Simon Teo

Simon is a certified counsellor specializing in psychological well-being counselling, mental health counselling, individual coaching for personal growth, and career exploration. During his presentations, he leads children on a journey towards self-actualization, affirming their inherent value through engaging storytelling. Through interactive sessions, he encourages children to express their strengths and appreciation for each other through artistic expression, fostering a positive and empowering environment for growth and self-discovery.

REFLECTION FROM PARTICIPANTS

The atmosphere of the event is very warm. It feels like we are one big family and I enjoy the time spent together with the children. The speaker tells a story in an interesting and fascinating way. I hope I can visit the orphanage again in future." - Lim.



Raya Celebration with Sentuhan Budi Children's Home

May 5 | Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

Written by Choong Wan Yee
Staff Writer, WFWP Malaysia

OVERVIEW

- WFWP MALAYSIA ARRANGED A VISIT TO SENTUHAN BUDI CHILDREN'S HOME, WHERE THEY INFUSED THE ATMOSPHERE WITH JOY AND CULTIVATED A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY SPIRIT TO MARK THE CELEBRATION OF HARI RAYA.
- ACTIVITIES INCLUDED A COLOURING COMPETITION, DISTRIBUTION OF DUIT RAYA, MUSICAL PERFORMANCES, ENERGETIC DANCING, AND A DELICIOUS LUNCH, ALL AIMED AT BRINGING SMILES TO THE CHILDREN'S FACES AND CREATING LASTING MEMORIES OF TOGETHERNESS.

WFWP Malaysia recently orchestrated a heartening visit to Sentuhan Budi Children's Home, infusing the ambiance with the spirit of joy and togetherness in honour of Hari Raya. The event, brimming with engaging activities, was designed not only to elicit smiles from the young residents but also to nurture a sense of community and compassion. Ms. Fateha, the manager of the home, extended a warm reception, expressing her delight at witnessing volunteers from diverse faiths and backgrounds converging to celebrate the festive season as one Malaysian family.



The day commenced with a spirited mini colouring competition. Paired with volunteers, the 18 young children showcased their creativity by designing and colouring their own ketupat, a traditional rice cake adorned with woven young coconut leaves in a diamond shape. The top five winners were duly rewarded for their imaginative flair and colouring prowess. President Madame Lina Cheng and Deputy President Dr. Wellens Mimi personally distributed Duit Raya (money packets) and goodie bags to both the children and the home staff, spreading festive cheer.



One poignant moment saw youth guitarist Ms. Lim Xin Ying serenading the gathering with a cheerful rendition of "Count on Me," accompanied by Mr. Tan Ren Sheng. Reflecting on the experience, Ms. Lim expressed optimism for the children's future, believing that given the opportunity, they would thrive and shine.

The volunteers then led the exuberant children in a lively dance, grooving to the infectious beats of the viral hit "Alamak Raya Lagi," igniting an atmosphere brimming with energy and enthusiasm. The children themselves took centre stage, showcasing their zest through a lively dance routine.



Guiding the proceedings with grace and warmth was Emcee Ms. Wong Hui Zhi, who found immense joy in interacting with the children, remarking on the experience as both novel and unforgettable. The culmination of the three-hour program was marked by a sumptuous lunch, providing a fitting conclusion to a day filled with laughter, camaraderie, and shared joy. Heartfelt gratitude is extended to all sponsors and volunteers whose love and generosity made this visit not only meaningful but also profoundly memorable.

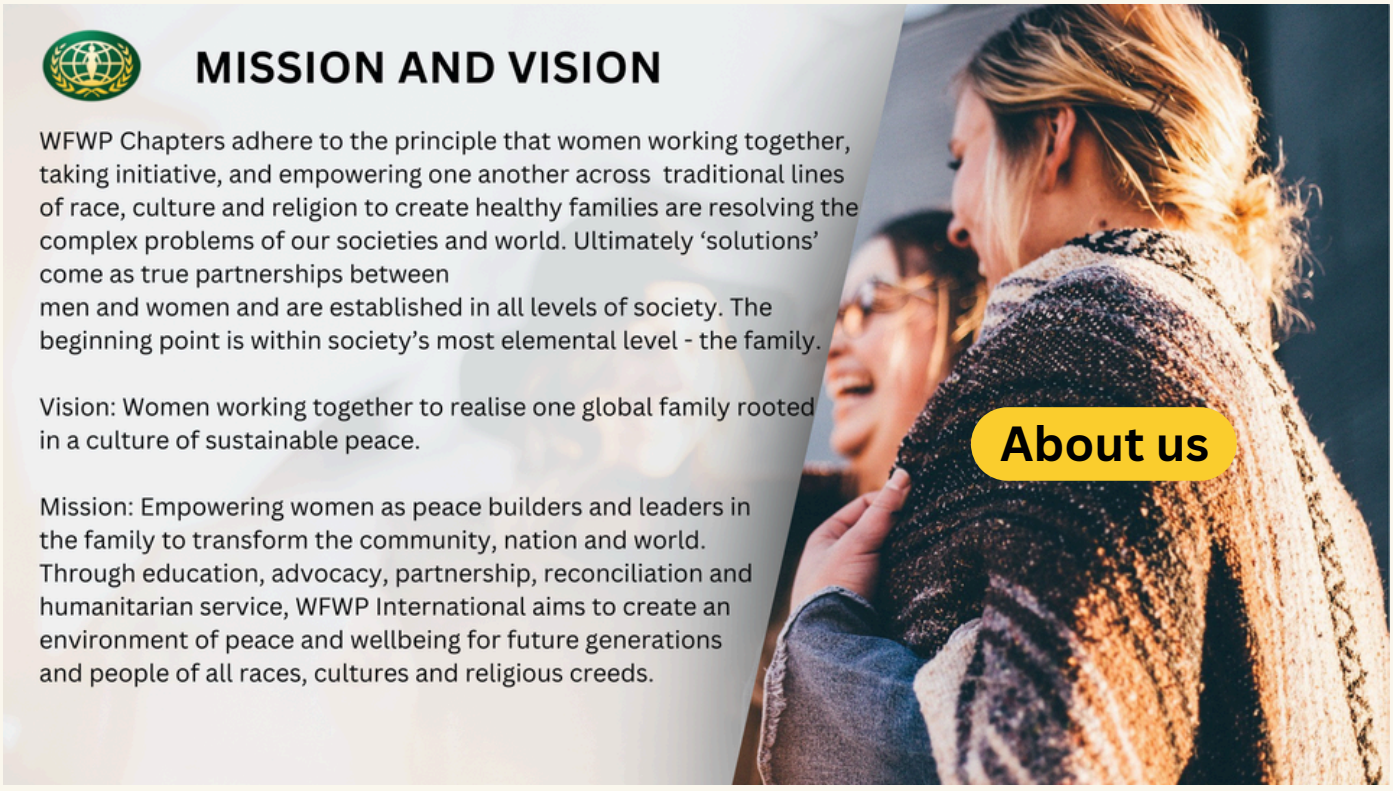


REFLECTION FROM PARTICIPANTS

"Through this visit, I felt warm hearted when I saw the faces of the person in charge of the home. Although the children were shy, I could feel that they are curious and interested in learning new things. When I was holding the guitar, the children couldn't wait to try to pluck the guitar. I wish to spend more time teaching them about learning new skills or developing their hobbies. I believe the nurturing

of new skills will brighten their future. After this visit, I feel that what I have done so far is more insufficient in helping the children, and I must put in more effort and time bringing valuable support to them. I also appreciate what I have and feel blessed. This makes me wish to bring more happiness and hope to more people next time." - Lim.

"After joining the Raya Visit at Rumah Sentuhan Budi, I felt happy to have been able to bring joy and fun to the children there. Although our time spent there was not long, I hope that the children enjoyed spending time with us. I felt happy to be given the opportunity to be the emcee and to interact with the children. It was a new experience and was definitely memorable." - Wong.



South Korea

WFWP Overseas Volunteers 30th Anniversary Commemorative Visit to South Korea

June 19 - 23 | Seoul, South Korea

Written by Jenisse
Report Writer, WFWP Malaysia

OVERVIEW

- COMMEMORATION OF WFWPI JAPANESE VOLUNTEERS WHO ESTABLISHED A GLOBAL FOUNDATION FOR WFWP ACTIVITIES OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS.
- WFWPI VICE-PRESIDENTS JOINED THE WFWPI PRESIDENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY GENERAL TO HONOUR THESE JAPANESE VOLUNTEERS AND ENGAGE IN STRATEGIC PLANNING.

In 1994, WFWP Japan embarked on a groundbreaking initiative by dispatching 1600 women volunteers to 160 countries. This year commemorates the 30th anniversary of this remarkable endeavour, which played a pivotal role in laying the foundation for WFWP activities worldwide. The dedicated volunteers contributed to diverse community projects and initiatives, fostering peace and empowerment on a global scale.

To commemorate this milestone, the WFWP global Vice-Presidents (IVPs), the WFWP International President, Moriko Hori, and WFWPI Secretary General joined with 110 Japanese volunteers in a visit to South Korea to reflect on the significance of this achievement, express their gratitude, and celebrated together during the historic event.



IVPs and Japanese Volunteers were warmly welcomed by WFWP Korea Co-Presidents, Mrs. Chae and Mrs. Kim, along with staff and members as they entered the WFWP Korea conference hall for the afternoon celebration.

Opening remarks were delivered by our President Emeritus, Professor Yeon Ah, and Julia Moon. WFWPI President Moriko Hori gave the keynote address and introduced the remarkable Japanese volunteers.



Julia Moon (centre)



Prof. Yeon Ah

Representing the 55 nations engaged in Global Development & Aid projects coordinated by the WFWP Japan Volunteer Office, eight women showcased their impactful work, including schools and training centres, and shared best practices from Africa, South America, and Asia.



The evening concluded with a delightful dinner at a Korean restaurant.

The following day, participants had the honour of meeting with WFWPI Co-Founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. At 82 years old, Mother Moon continues to pioneer the path for peace-building. She emphasised that education for peace-making should remain at the heart of our mission.



It has been four years since the IVPs representing all regions of the globe and the International Secretary General met in person with WFWP's International President to discuss strategic planning, policies, and shared goals. This gathering provided an invaluable opportunity to collaborate, address challenges, and deepen connections beyond what is possible in online meetings.

IVPs from Europe, Africa, Asia Pacific 1 (North Asia), and Asia Pacific 2 (Oceania & SE Asia), along with WFWP International Secretary General Paris Moon and WFWP Korea President Mrs. Chae, participated in a networking meeting with KangWon State Women NGO group leaders and the Chuncheon City WFWP Chapter President and members.



These networking opportunities clearly demonstrate the power of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17: Partnerships for the Goals.

By collaborating and looking beyond personal interests, we can collectively achieve all 16 SDGs.



A visit to the Chuncheon City Korean war memorial, and the Ethiopian museum followed. Both events were covered by two local newspapers.



On the final day of our visit, the IVPs had the honour of speaking during the Sunday Service at a church in Chuncheon City. The day concluded with some enjoyable sightseeing.



Given South Korea's mountainous landscape, the views were absolutely breathtaking.



Solomon Islands



WFWP Solomon Islands launches the GWPN

May 25th | Honiara, Solomon Islands

Written by Monica longanimala Ilala,
President, WFWP Solomon Islands

OVERVIEW

- SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF THE GLOBAL WOMEN'S PEACE NETWORK (GWPN)
- WFWP JAPAN GLOBAL VOLUNTEERS VISIT THE SOLOMON ISLANDS, PARTICIPATING IN THE LAUNCH.
- T-SHIRT MAKING UNIFORMS CREATED PRIOR TO THE LAUNCH.

Prior to the GWPN-SI launch, WFWP members and two WFWP Japanese Global volunteers engaged in T-shirt printing to create uniforms for the WFWP leadership team. This activity provided an excellent opportunity for members to develop practical skills and knowledge in T-shirt printing, potentially opening income streams for those interested in selling printed T-shirts to support their families..

This collaborative effort highlights the belief that wearing WFWP uniforms enhances the organisation's branding and professionalism.



WFWP-SI successfully launched the Global Women's Peace Network (GWPN), attracting around 30 women leaders, including WFWP Japanese Global Volunteers, WFWP-SI members, and invited guests.

GWPN focuses on Women’s Leadership, Family, and the Environment, uniting leaders from various sectors to address social issues and promote equitable human development for lasting peace and prosperity.

During the event, the WFWP-SI chapter honoured five outstanding women with the Global Women Peace Ambassador award for their extraordinary peacebuilding efforts, leadership, and commitment to ethical conduct, integrity, and social responsibility.



The event's significance was underscored by the presence of pioneering WFWP Japanese Global volunteers, who have supported WFWP-SI since its inception.



Chinami San, delivered a memorable presentation on the history of their volunteering efforts in the Solomon Islands, offering eye-opening insights into the impact of WFWP's work in the region. Participants expressed deep gratitude for the volunteers' extraordinary peace-building contributions.

WFWP-SI President Monica Longanimala Ilala encouraged the awardees, emphasising that a leader’s value comes from serving others, not just leading. She stressed the importance of the principle "Living for the Sake of Others" in achieving lasting success and becoming leaders who advance a "Culture of Heart." She reminded participants that their networking efforts are bridges of peace, making them global friends from now on.



The event's significance was underscored by the presence of pioneering WFWP Japanese Global volunteers, who have supported WFWP-SI since its inception.

One awardee, Dr. Leeanne, Head of Gynaecology and Community Services, expressed pride and gratitude for the recognition, acknowledging the impact of her work within her field and community.

WFWPI Vice President and WFWP Australia President, Anne Bellavance, expressed her gratitude to the GWP Awardees and congratulated WFWP-SI on their successful launch of the GWPN event through a virtual message at the end of the event.



Left to right:
Japanese Global Volunteer - Chinami, President Monica, Awardees Dr Leeanne, and Jocelyn.

REFLECTION FROM PARTICIPANTS

“I feel proud and privileged to receive an award from such a recognised international organisation. I never realised the impact of my efforts and contributions within the community. Thank you deeply for being acknowledged by WFWP-SI as an exemplary woman leader.” – Dr Leeanne



WFWP SI Leadership Team in their T-shirts.

PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

WITH SUPPORT FROM:

WFWP Japan
https://www.wfwp.org/japan

Guadalcanal Women Counci
https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1039680293361784&id=1435086316509353&_rdr



Japanese Global Volunteers' Contributions in the Solomon Islands

May 17 – 30 | Honiara, Solomon Islands

Written by Monica Ilala,
President, WFWP Solomon Islands

OVERVIEW

- JAPANESE GLOBAL VOLUNTEERS VISIT WFWP-SI, HOLDING WORKSHOPS WITH WFWP-SI TEAMS AND MEETING WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS.

In 1994, WFWP Japan embarked on a groundbreaking initiative by dispatching 1600 women volunteers to 160 countries. One of these nations was the Solomon Islands. This year commemorates the 30th anniversary of this remarkable endeavour, which played a pivotal role in laying the foundation for WFWP activities worldwide.

Three Global Volunteers spent almost two weeks in Honiara participating in various meetings, training, and workshops. They participated and supported the WFWP-SI team in launching the GWPN event on May 25. In partnership with WFWP-SI, the WFWP Japanese volunteers scheduled meetings and special visits to New Hope Academy School and St John Community High School.



3 Global Volunteers with Monica and her children

They also held intensive meetings with the WFWP-SI team to discuss the value and importance of Free Teens Education and proposed the Read Aloud projects for schools. Reading aloud to students, especially children from birth to age three, is vital as it marks the beginning of their learning growth.

As the world evolves into the technology age, it's crucial for the younger generation to understand the value of reading educational books rather than spending excessive time on cell phones or in front of screens.

The WFWP Japanese volunteers also visited the Honiara National Library and the Honiara City Council library.



They paid respects at the Japanese War Monument, the American War Monument, and the Solomon Islands Ports Authority Unity Square. Additionally, WFWP Japan proudly handed over a portable camera to WFWP-SI, along with reading books for the Read Aloud project at identified schools.

WFWP-SI was also fortunate to celebrate WFWP Japan's 30th Anniversary with the Japanese pioneer volunteers in recognition of their sincere dedication to peace in the Solomon Islands. The WFWP-SI President, Monica Ilala, expressed deep gratitude to WFWP Japan for the continued commitment to the development of WFWP SI over the past 30 years.

PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

WITH SUPPORT FROM:

WFWP Japan
https://www.wfwp.org/japan



Donated Goods Hand Over

June 9th | Honiara, Solomon Islands

Written by Monica Ilala,
President, WFWP Solomon Islands

OVERVIEW

- OWFWP-SI RECEIVED THE GOODS SHIPPED OVER FROM WFWP AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA CHAPTER.
- GOODS DONATED WERE - CHILDREN'S SCHOOL BOOKS FOR THE NEW HOPE ACADEMY SCHOOL; SPIRITUAL BOOKS FOR FFWPU-SI; SEWING MACHINES AND LAPTOPS FOR WFWP-SI TO SET UP PROGRAMS; AND, DAYS FOR GIRLS MENSTRUAL KITS TO BE DISTRIBUTED BY WFWP-SI.

Women's Federation for World Peace Solomon Islands (WFWP-SI), in partnership with WFWP Victoria Australia, is honored to announce the handover of donated books to the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU). Additionally, WFWP-SI is pleased to deliver donated books and a computer to New Hope Academy School. Furthermore, WFWP-SI has received generous donations from WFWP Victoria Australia, including laptops, an electric sewing machine, and Days for Girls kits.

Rev. Norman Pitabelama, the National Leader of FFWPU Solomon Islands, extends heartfelt thanks on behalf of FFWPU-SI to the WFWP Victoria Team and WFWP-SI for their continuous support.



The New Hope Academy School Principal, Mr. Christopher Bokabule, along with staff and students, gratefully received donated books and a computer from WFWP Victoria Australia and WFWP-SI. Mr. Bokabule expressed his appreciation, noting that these donations will significantly support the school.



WFWP-SI also received laptops, an electric sewing machine, and Days for Girls kits from WFWP Victoria Australia. The WFWP-SI President and her team extend sincere thanks to the WFWP Victoria, Australia team for their ongoing support. The sewing machine will empower women by enhancing their sewing and knitting skills, while the Days for Girls kits will improve hygiene for women and young girls.



WFWP-SI plans to visit identified schools during the second term of the academic year to distribute the Days for Girls kits and provide relevant awareness about their importance. These donations will greatly contribute to WFWP-SI's on-the-ground projects.



Tagio Tumas to the WFWP Victoria Australia team!

PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

WFWP Australia, Victoria Chapter
https://www.wfwpaustralia.org

John Galokaniki: Pasifika Scholarship Recipient Semester 1

June 26 | SINU, Solomon Islands



INTRODUCTION

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to WFWP Australia, for sponsoring my tuition fees for the first semester of 2024. Your support has been helpful in enabling me to pursue my academic goals and further my education. In this first semester, I undertook three major research projects on the following topics: 1. School Discipline, 2. Two Major Religions: Christianity and Islam, 3. Oral Tradition and Oral History. I would like to share my projects with you.

OVERVIEW OF STUDIES

During this semester, I enrolled in four units as part of my program:

Teaching Methods and Issues

In this unit, I have been exploring various teaching methodologies and the issues faced by educators in the contemporary classroom.

Key topics include classroom management, differentiated instruction, and the integration of technology in teaching. This course has provided me with practical skills and theoretical knowledge essential for effective teaching.

World Major Religions

This unit focuses on the study of major world religions, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam. I have been learning about the foundational beliefs, practices, and cultural significance of these religions. This course has broadened my understanding of global religious diversity and its impact on societies.

Introduction to History

In Introduction to History, I have been introduced to the fundamental concepts and methodologies of historical study. This unit covers a wide range of topics, from ancient civilizations to modern historical events. It emphasizes critical thinking and analysis of historical sources, which are crucial skills for any historian.

Pacific History

This unit delves into the rich and diverse history of the Pacific region. I have been studying the cultural, political, and social developments of Pacific Island nations, including the effects of colonization and imperialism. The course has given me valuable insights into the unique historical experiences of Pacific Islanders.

PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Throughout the semester, I have made significant progress in each of these units. I have completed various assignments, participated in class discussions, and engaged in group projects that have enhanced my learning experience. While my final grades have not yet been provided, I am confident that my hard work and dedication will be reflected in the results.



RESEARCH REPORTS

1. School Discipline: Bullying in the School: An in-depth analysis of bullying, its impact on students, and strategies for prevention and intervention.
2. Two Major Religions: Christianity and Islam: A comparative study highlighting the core beliefs, practices, and impacts of these two influential religions.
3. Oral Tradition and Oral History: A comprehensive exploration of the importance and impact of oral traditions and histories in preserving cultural heritage.

FUTURE PLANS

As I move forward, I am eager to apply the knowledge and skills I have gained this semester to my future academic and professional endeavors. I am committed to continuing my education with the same level of enthusiasm and determination.

CONCLUSION

Once again, I express my sincere appreciation to the Women Federation for World Peace, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, for your generous support. Your investment in my education has made a profound difference in my life, allowing me to delve deeply into my studies and produce meaningful research.

Thank you for believing in my potential and providing the support necessary for my academic journey. Your generosity has been a cornerstone of my success.

PASIFIKA SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

The Pasifika Scholarship Fund was initiated in 2017 by the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) Australia. WFWP Australia is committed to provide young adults living in the Pacific Islands an opportunity to access empowering education programs. The scholarship is for persons who do not have the financial means to attend university, but who have a driving desire for education.

The program supports young adults who are passionate about getting an education to become future leaders, and who align their beliefs and goals with the values of WFWP International: 'Living for the sake of others'.



Training Workshop
Theme: Food Safety, Hygiene, and Waste Management

June 27 - 28 | Honiara, Solomon Islands

Written by Monica Ilala,
President, WFWP Solomon Islands

OVERVIEW

- OWFWPSI, IN CONSULTATION WITH HONIARA CITY COUNCIL (HCC) HEALTH TEAM FACILITATED A TWO-DAY WORKSHOP.
- THE TRAINING FOCUSED ON THE BEST PRACTICES ON HOW TO HANDLE FOOD SAFELY AND HOW TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF WASTE.

WFWP-SI, in collaboration with the Honiara City Council (HCC) Health Team, facilitated a two-day workshop on Food Safety, Hygiene, and Waste Management.



Raising awareness about proper food handling and waste disposal is essential for the health of families and the public, especially for those selling food commercially.

The workshop attracted a diverse group of about 40 participants, including two males, high school girls, women, and around 12 facilitators. This training is mandatory for anyone seeking a permit to sell or cater food to schools or the public. The goal is to empower women aspiring to become food vendors or caterers. Upon completion, participants received certificates, and those interested in becoming food vendors will have their kitchens inspected by the HCC Health team to ensure they meet the necessary standards for legal operation.



It was the first time WFWP-SI members and guests received such training, adding substantial value by teaching best practices in food safety and waste management. As the population of the Solomon Islands grows, the demand for food vendors increases. This training empowers community members to create additional income streams, supporting their families and communities, and contributing to national development, safety, and peace.



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WITH SUPPORT FROM:

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Pasifika Scholarship Fund:
The full scholarship is for young adults living in the Pacific Islands who do not have the financial means to attend university, but who have a driving desire for education to become future leaders.
The program supports young adults who are passionate, and who align their beliefs and goals with the values of WFWP International: 'Living for the sake of others'.

Pasifika Micro-Credit: Taking a partnership approach between WFWP Australia and WFWP Chapters within Pacific Island Nations, Pasifika Micro-Credit aims to empower Island women by directly investing in their business idea, economic activity, or micro-enterprise. The program provides micro-business training and a low interest micro-loan.