



JULY 2004 NEWSLETTER

Greetings colleagues and friends

With all the talk about an election and how soon it will be held and the reasons for the delay – ratings polls, baby bonuses given, withdrawn, double paid, don't give it back, do give it back – the environmental package, with the lack of forward thinking in introducing, maintaining, developing renewable energy resources in favour of the tried and true coal mining which is a bird in the hand earner – the national water sustainability project and the many other influencing interests which govern our lives, lifestyle, livelihood and life expectancy and enjoyment, - this month I want to focus on enfranchisement for women.

When Amelia Pankhurst and the suffragettes put their views and their demands forward, they were reviled, humiliated and treated with great disrespect both by men and women. They were fighting for something which each one of us readers has had a right since our birth – they were fighting for the right to vote, to have a say in the governing of their lives and not to leave it to the men in positions with business and industry and titular lands etc.

New Zealand women were the first women in the world with the right to vote, and South Australian women won the right in 1894 and West Australian women won that right hard on their heels. Women in this country also campaigned and fought for this right, and they suffered reviling and humiliating behaviour towards them too. At the same time, women won the right to take their place in Parliament, and that was a privilege that wasn't given to women in Great Britain until 1931. And we know it was to be another 40+ years before any woman was elected to represent the aspirations of men and women and family rights.

If our future is to be secured, we need to support those women who choose to take on an adversarial role in Parliament to strive for the betterment of us, the population in general, the hoi poloi, the enthusiastic as well as the lethargic voter. For too long, women have been barely tolerated in our parliaments, state and federal, and still receive more severe censure and criticism for a faux pas than male members of any persuasion receive. One woman who has taken the plunge is our guest speaker this month, Sharryn Jackson MHR, Member for Hasluck.

However, without a more reasonable voice our fate is in the hands of men who still think that the best way to resolve issues is to be combatants until someone or country is so bloody and battered that for self preservation they surrender. Our BPW World aim is for PEACE, and to do that we have to think for ourselves and vote for what we believe the future should be and not follow blindly in the wake of men. THE VOTE WAS WON FOR US WITH PAIN, SUFFERING AND THAT GUT RENCHING WORD SACRIFICE, NOW LET US USE IT FOR GOOD IN OUR COUNTRY AND THE WORLD.

Regards to all , *Judy*

JULY DINNER MEETING
Wednesday 14th July

Venue: Isadora's Cafe
147 James Street
Guildford

Time: 6.30 gather and chat
7.00pm meeting

Bold Political Women

Cost: \$23.00 members
\$25.00 non-members

Speaker: Sharryn Jackson MHR Member for Hasluck
One Woman One Vote

Attendance: Please ring Ellen on 9255 4393 with numbers no later than Monday 10th

June Meeting

Photos not developed yet, sorry. Our guest speaker was Jude Law, who began by saying that she didn't think she had anything to say about the glass ceiling or career that would be of any interest to us. That was quite an understatement, as Jude proceeded then to talk about the many things she has experienced in life and the different countries and varied roles she has undertaken. (You should come and hear our interesting speakers.)

THEME
CREATIVE WOMEN – HANDS ON

Come along and have some
fun, relaxation and friendship
– after all laughter is the best
medicine – we promise that.



Line Dancing

You may like to dabble with artistic things,
you may hate getting your hands dirty or sticky
you may like to discover new things or
you may like to do something again – whatever
it is, you will find something to interest you.

Learning the Recorder

Fireside Chats –
Maxine's slippers



Book with Lynne Oliver – 9295 1110
Cheque/MO \$80.00
To: BPW Guildford-on-Swan
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Newsletter & Welcoming

THOUGHTS THAT LAST

It is not necessarily difficult to know but it is certainly difficult to act. The most difficult then should be our preliminary preoccupation and this same preoccupation will be difficult at the outset. Knowledge depends on action for its fruits, but action does not necessarily depend on knowledge to be effective. Action, however, always leads to knowledge, whereas knowledge does not necessarily lead to action.

Wang Yang-Ming 1472-1528

*No wo/man is an island, entire of itself; Every wo/man is a piece of the continent
.... Any wo/man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in wo/mankind;
and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee.*

John Donne 1572-1631

To see the world in a grain of sand,
And a heaven in a wild flower;
Hold infinity in the palm of your hand,
And eternity in an hour.

William Blake 1757-1827

All work is empty save when there is love;
And when you work with love you bind yourself to yourself,
and to one another, and to God.
Work is love made visible.

Khalil Gibran 1883-1931 *The Prophet*

Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now: I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over, and I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the promised land. Memphis, Tennessee 3.4.1968

Martin Luther King 1928-1968

"The earth is ruled mainly by people out of touch with the young world. They know that men starve and die in millions. But they think it more important to make guns, bombs, warships, rockets, to send us to fight one another, than to provide seed and water, schools and hospitals, so that we might feed and serve one another. Let us make plain to the rulers that the division of the world into rich and poor must end and that we know that efforts equivalent to the many billions of dollars wasted on armaments are needed to develop the world. Let them know, too, that if political or financial systems prevent a just distribution of food and wealth, those systems must be replaced."

Manifesto of the Young World Assembly- Rome 1965

Democracy, just as a political concept, is meaningless for any society larger than a small city or rural commune. Our so-called democracies in the Western world are oligarchies subject more or less to periodical revision (which never changes their oligarchical structure), and in this they do not differ essentially from the oligarchies that rule the communist world. The people, in any human corporate sense, do not determine any policies outside their backyards. The world is governed by the representatives of industry, finance, technology, and by bureaucracies in the paid service of these powerful groups – governed, not in the interests of the people as a whole, not even of all the people in any one country, and not even nowadays for personal profit, but primarily for the self-satisfying exercise of power.

Sir Herbert Read 1893-1968