



Ode Cologne
The news journal of WIPAN



E-bulletin Volume#2 Issue 15

Advancing the human rights of women caught up in the criminal justice system.

WELCOME to the 15th edition of the WIPAN e-news bulletin

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CONGRATULATIONS TO KAT ARMSTRONG " WINNER OF LAW & JUSTICE AWARD!!

With great admiration and pride, all of us here at WIPAN would like to extend our warmest congratulations to our very special Director/Treasurer Kat Armstrong for winning the Law and Justice Volunteer Award for 2011.

The Law and Justice Volunteer Award is presented to an individual (or group), who, in a voluntary capacity, has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to improving access to justice, particularly for socially and economically disadvantaged people.

Kat was one of 9 nominees, all of whom are outstanding in their own right, including Dr Frank Ainsworth of the Association of Children's Welfare, Ms Janice Daisley of People with Disability Australia, Court Support Volunteers of the Community Restorative Centre, Gamarada Leaders Group of the AIDS Council of NSW, Ms Margaret Jones of the Redfern Legal Centre, Court Support Volunteers of the Sisters of Charity Outreach, Mr Graham Symes of the Centre for Volunteering and Ms Ann Symonds & Ms Helen Wiseman of SHINE for Kids.

We would like to extend our congratulations to all of the aforementioned nominees for their outstanding contribution to the community. It is because of these wonderfully dedicated and passionate individuals and all of those that they inspire that such incredible work is achieved every year in the community sector.

WIPAN Housing Consultations in full swing!!

WIPAN released a discussion paper on the housing and support needs of women existing prison. Submissions are welcome until the end of November. Consultations with the community housing sector, post release services and women needing housing have started. Thank you to everyone who has participated so far. Please contact Brenda (Brenda@ncoss.org.au) if you would like to meet to discuss the issues raised in the paper.

Next stage is to consider all the comments and draft recommendations. The draft will then go out for further comment before we complete a final report early next year.

The discussion paper in question can be downloaded from the following link:
http://www.wipan.net.au/publications/WIPAN_Housing_Discussion_Paper.pdf

Deadline for comments and/or submissions is 25 November 2011.

MENTOR & MENTEE XMAS DINNER 2011

It's getting close to party season. Last year we held a party for the WIPAN mentor and mentees

to celebrate successful partnerships. With the help of donations we provided small but fun gifts to everyone who attended. If you would like to donate something for our pamper packs for this year, to say thank you to our volunteer Mentors, please contact Brenda (Brenda@piac.asn.au) to arrange collection.

Vincent Fairfax FAMILY FOUNDATION Grant Approval to WIPAN!!!

WIPAN would like to offer our sincere gratitude to the [Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation](#) for granting us some funding to assist with the operation of our mentoring program. This comes as a great relief and whilst it does not cover the entire budget required to operate our mentoring project, it certainly assists it. We are incredibly delighted to be supported by such a honourable organisation and for what WIPAN believe to be a very deserving and worthy mentoring program.

"The founder of the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation (VFFF), Sir Vincent Charles Fairfax, was a fourth generation Australian who served his country in war and peace.

A man of Christian principle and integrity, Vincent Fairfax had a sense of purpose and responsibility in the way he lived his life. This was reflected in his work in a number of major Australian companies, his rural interests and his many charitable and voluntary commitments, as well as his family life.

In 1962, Vincent Fairfax became the first Fairfax in Australia to establish a family charitable trust, which would later become the VFFF. In a note to his family on Christmas Eve 1973, explaining his motivation for establishing the trust, Vincent Fairfax wrote:

'This action was taken on the basis that my children are well provided for, and hopefully, in their turn will contribute further assets to this Family pot of gratitude for all the benefits we have received since landing in Australia in 1838.' Now one of the largest family foundations in Australia, the VFFF, like its Founder, has always been low-key and non-publicity seeking.

The imprint of Vincent Fairfax on the VFFF continues to be felt today. He believed that wealth and position brought responsibility and an obligation to serve the community, as epitomised by the oft-quoted verse in Luke 12:48:

'When a man has been given much, much will be expected of him; and the more a man has had entrusted to him, the more he will be required to repay.'

BOOK DONATIONS TO DILLWYNIA AND EMU PLAINS PRISON LIBRARIES

WIPAN have recently donated another car load of books to both Dillwynia and Emu Plains Correctional Centres for women. The books are very welcomed by the Managers, Education Officers and women prisoners alike. We would like to say a huge thank you to all of the women who continue to donate books through WIPAN to women prisoners. They really are considered to be an incredibly precious resource that is greatly appreciated by all the women in prison.

If you would like to donate books please call the Programs Coordinator on 0415 454 770 to arrange delivery.

WIPAN's NEW WEBSITE

The [WIPAN website](#) and promotional material has had a complete overhaul thanks to the very hard work of Breakout Media Communications. We are very pleased with the results so please take a moment to view our newest edition. Of course, we welcome any and all constructive comments, so if there are any glitches identified please feel free to contact us here at [WIPAN](#) so that we can iron those out.

SERVICE OF THE MONTH " NETWORK OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG AGENCIES

We would like to thank Heider Becker, Programs Manager at [NADA](#) for volunteering her time to address our mentors at our most recent monthly mentoring meeting. Heidi joined NADA in late 2007 where her role includes management of the NADA Workforce Development Program and other related projects.

The Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies (NADA) is the peak organisation for the non-government drug and alcohol sector in NSW. Their goal is to support non-government drug and alcohol agencies in NSW to reduce the alcohol and drug related harm to individuals, families and the community. They do this through advocacy, representing the sector and developing partnerships with government, funding bodies, other community services sectors, quality improvement service providers, education, training and advisory bodies, research bodies and the media. They also manage a range of projects that strengthen agencies to be sustainable,

appropriately resourced and able to deliver quality services to those affected by drugs and alcohol. The Board of Directors acts as the overarching governing body while the NADA staff are responsible for member services, organisational management, leading and implementing projects, contributing to policy, and advocating on behalf of the sector. NADA has two subcommittees that support the work we do - Health Promotion and Policy and Advocacy. For further information please visit their [website](#)

Annual WIPAN Membership Subscription Renewal Due

All 2011-2012 memberships are now due for renewal (August/September annually).

Among other activities, your membership fee goes towards the training and catering for our mentors monthly meetings. Without it WIPAN could not achieve the excellent mentoring results with the women being released from prison. WIPAN has no recurrent funding and therefore rely heavily on the good will of its members and the community.

Please click for a renewal membership form that also constitutes as an invoice once paid.

Could members please complete this form and send together with the fee to WIPAN at your very earliest convenience.

If you would prefer to submit your renewal online, please visit the membership page on our website www.wipan.net.au/membership.html and then do an EFT transfer to the WIPAN bank Account. Please remember to write your name as the reference if making payment via an EFT.

BSB No: 082-024
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A/C Name: WIPAN
Bank: National Aust Bank

CONTACT WIPAN

For further information about WIPAN including our executive members, general members, our funding bodies, strategic plan or WIPAN's vision & aims, please contact us.

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