



NCW NEWS Issue 35 – SEPT 2011

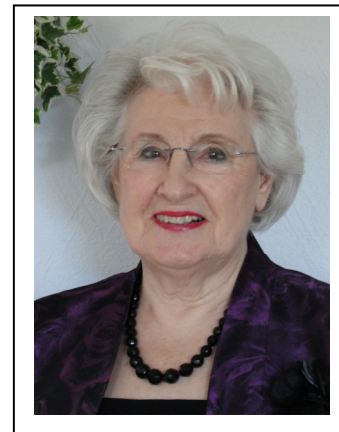
FROM THE PRESIDENT. . . .

I am pleased to report the Opt In Internet pornography campaign has made progress. Letters to MPs and Internet service providers (ISPs) produced an increase in MPs supporting the campaign from 19 to over 70, which led to ISPs taking the issue seriously. I attended the ISP Association discussion meeting in June and was quoted in the media; report circulated and on the NCW website. The Government has given the industry until the autumn to introduce safeguards; otherwise they will bring in legislation. They have also set up a review of child protection on the Internet. NCW has circulated new letters for you to send to MPs and ISPs to keep up the pressure -- hopefully you, your family and friends have responded.

The Home Affairs Select Committee (HASC) review of Forced Marriage, published in May 2011, revealed an increase in the practice and said it was a serious concern affecting thousands of young people. The committee called for Forced Marriage to be made a criminal offence, to send out a stronger message against it. An earlier report on forced marriage recorded that 'the decision was taken not to criminalise it, as black and minority ethnic communities may feel targeted'. However a lawyer said recently 'I cannot think of another criminal offence that has been considered and rejected on the basis that the perpetrators might feel got at'. In view of our work on Forced Marriage the Management Committee agreed to have a Topical Resolution on the subject at our Conference, in support of the HASC recommendation.

Coincidentally in June I was invited by a new organisation called Freedom Charity to a reception to launch a book for school children and also a 24/7 helpline for possible victims of forced marriage. Its founder and life President, Aneeta Prem, is a magistrate, chairing adult, family and youth courts. The charity has the support of HASC Chairman the Right Honourable Keith Vaz MP and Lynne Featherstone MP, Minister for Equalities and Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office. (more on Freedom Charity on page 6)

I was most impressed with the charity and following Management Committee discussion and further meetings with Freedom Charity it has been agreed that NCW will work with them as partners. **Forced marriage is child abuse -- a criminal offence. It is against the law and there are no exceptions.**



Sheila Eaton

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THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF GREAT BRITAIN

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EDITORIAL

With our annual conference in Nottingham next month in mind, this issue focuses on a number of topics which will be raised there including forced marriage (pages 1, 7) and equal opportunity for women (page 2,3). It is good to know that there are useful exchanges with our international organisations who are also working on similar issues (page 6). Our NCYW Link groups (page 5) have much to look forward to with more intergenerational seminars and debates in their schools and colleges on current topics, reporting back their views to NCW, who will be better informed to take these issues forward to Government. Our contact with Government is not only through our resolutions; we also respond to government consultations, an example being the extract from one on Modern Workplaces (page 3). The recent seminar in Birmingham, an annual joint event organised by the NCW Health committee and Birmingham City University, provided significant information in our continuing work on Substance Misuse, as those of you who didn't make it to the seminar will see by reading the published report. Reading NEWS and a lively Work and Policy Matters will arm you for some enjoyable participation in Conference. And between now and then it will be worth keeping an eye on our website for the latest information! I look forward to seeing you in October!

Gwenda Nicholas

PAYMENT BY CHEQUE

The UK Payments Council was set up in March 2007 to ensure that UK payments and services meet the need of payment providers, users and the wider economy. Their website, www.paymentscouncil.org.uk has details of their remit, strategy and structure. They have agreed, following consultation that cheques will continue after 2018, the date they were to be scrapped, however the cheque guarantee card would no longer apply, since it was rarely used correctly. Various forums and consultations are listed on this website which members may find interesting.

Members have been extremely concerned that cheques would be scrapped as it is an essential method of payment for our own membership as well as being of grave concern to the most elderly members of our society, for whom remembering pin numbers and working online is not possible. Many charities and small businesses would find it difficult to operate without cheques, which are also relied upon by those living in isolated rural situations.

NCW took up this cause with a resolution at Conference last October and this was subsequently forwarded to Government departments (see Reports and Submissions to Government, Issue 45)

It's good that these organisations do listen to commonsense sometimes!

Hilary Sillars, Past President, NCW

This victory for common sense is noted on the News page of our website www.ncwgb.org. See also page 2 of Work and Policy Matters

PROGRESS FOLLOWING THE LORD DAVIES REPORT

The Government appointed Lord Davies of Abersoch, former Chair of Standard Chartered PLC, to lead a review into the barriers to increasing gender diversity on boards. **NCW** responded in favour of increasing the number and contribution of well qualified women to Boards of public companies.

Lord Davies presented his recommendations in February this year, which include urging listed companies to set and report on targets, improving practice in recruitment and strengthening corporate governance rules. The Government Equalities Office (GEO) has been working with business and others to ensure the recommendations are implemented effectively. New figures suggest there has already been a strong improvement for FTSE 100 companies in particular. As of 1st July

13.9% women directors (up from 12.5% in October 2010);

14 all-male boards (down from 21 in October 2010);

21% of board appointments since 1 March 2011 have been women, up from just 13% last year.

The GEO is now part of the Home Office – the website can be accessed at <http://homeoffice.gov.uk/equalities/>

WOMEN AND THE RECESSION

Two years ago NCWGB passed a Resolution calling for HMG to be especially aware of policies affecting Women in this time of Recession as they were **MORE LIKELY THAN MEN** to be adversely affected. Our predictions have proved correct. The Office for National Statistics has just reported that **MORE WOMEN THAN MEN** have lost full-time jobs in the last two years and that they are 'facing a disproportionate threat' as HMG cuts back the state workforce by an expected 400,000 jobs in the next 5 years.

Again, we know the vast majority of part-time workers are women and part-time jobs are the first to go. In other words, in full or part-time employment and in the state workforce, women face a very real threat of losing their job.

It is important to be aware that women no longer work for 'pin money' (if they ever did) but to support themselves and their children and to contribute to the family finances, including keeping a roof over the family's head. As far as older women are concerned, losing their job will affect not only their earnings but their pensions (and getting another job in the future may prove very difficult).

This Resolution will be submitted for reaffirmation at conference.

Monica Tolman, Immediate Past President

Modern Workplaces

NCW Response to a Consultation from the Department of Business Innovation and Skills

This Government consultation is on changes to employment law designed to encourage a more fair and flexible approach at work. The consultation seeks views on a new system of flexible parental leave which will allow mothers and fathers to share leave, giving parents and employers greater choice about how leave is taken; on how to extend the right to flexible working to all employees; on changes to the Working Time Regulations as a result of European cases about the interaction of annual leave and sick leave; and on tackling unequal pay through requiring employers who lose an employment tribunal case on equal pay, to carry out a pay audit.

NCW has responded to those areas of the consultation which are within the areas of our policy. Readers are advised to look at the whole consultation which can be accessed at: www.bis.gov.uk

NCW's response will be included in the next edition of the NCW publication **Reports Submitted to Government**.

These are some brief extracts from our response.

- Women represent over 50 % of the population in the United Kingdom, and 46% of the economically active workforce. Yet they are still seriously under-represented at senior management levels and in Board Rooms. It is therefore unlikely that their views are taken into full consideration in employers' attitudes to flexible working, parental leave and maternity leave. **NCW** therefore supports the Government's aim to develop a culture which is supportive of parents. Employers may too easily forget that the children of today are the workforce of tomorrow, and that it is in Britain's longer-term interests to encourage the development of a good family/work/life balance, with provision for flexible working patterns.
- It is recognised that women also make a substantial contribution to the national economy, and the country cannot afford for them to be economically inactive for several years while their children are young. It is therefore imperative that Britain has in place a system which both supports women's contribution to the future of their country by providing it with the next generation, whilst enabling them to return to an economically active life to the benefit of both their family and the country. The introduction of a system which is more supportive of parents is therefore clearly in the national interest.
- **NCW** welcomes the Government's aim to introduce a system of flexible parental leave. This is an innovative scheme which may help fathers who wish to do so, to play a greater part in the upbringing of the child, and may allow both parents to pursue their careers with greater ease than at present. However we believe that the wellbeing of both mother and child in the child's early years, should be paramount, and in difficult cases where dissension may arise between mother and father, or where the father does not live with the mother, the mother's natural right to care for her child should be accepted without question.
- **NCW** accepts the Government view that the extension of rights to request flexible working can be of benefit to lone carers, older people, low income households, single parent households and disabled people. Provided that the necessary jobs can be made available, flexible working could be the answer to the difficulties many of these people, of whom the majority are women, face in seeking work
- **NCW** welcomes the Government proposals to tackle the question of Equal Pay and the Gender Pay Gap. Since 1975 Equal Pay has been law in Britain, and yet the Gender Pay Gap continues to widen. The proposals for greater transparency together with work to promote voluntary equality reporting, to tighten guide-lines for Tribunals and for pay audit requirements should assist in modernising existing attitudes towards equal pay and the gender pay gap.
- However in the view of **NCW**, these proposals alone are not sufficient to remove the gender pay gap. More action is urgently needed by Government to remove the penalties which women suffer as a result of having taken time out to care for families, and which can have repercussions even on the amount of their pensions. The period in which women may have a dual responsibility both to their employer and to their children is a relatively small part of their anticipated working life, and action should be taken to ensure that on their return to full-time working, with the possibility of flexible hours, a return to the status and earnings which they enjoyed before maternity leave should be fully re-instated. Women cannot remain second-class employees, with second-class remuneration simply because they have taken on the additional responsibility of providing the country with the next generation of workers and citizens

*Response prepared by Grace Wedekind with contributions from others
August 2011*

STOP PRESS! Speaker at Gala Dinner Saturday 15th October – NCW Annual Conference

Barrister of the year - 2008

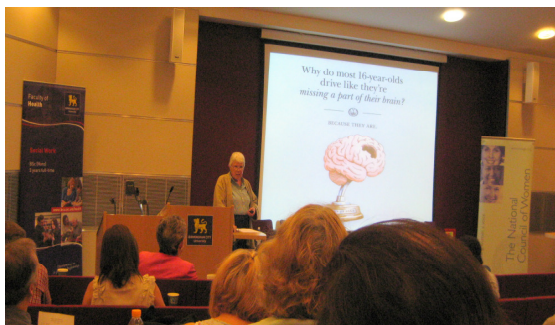
Parosha Chandran is an award-winning human rights barrister whose work has led to several advances in the law governing victims of human trafficking. She also provides expert legal training to numerous organisations and works closely with many key Non-Governmental Organisations to promote and protect the rights of victims of human trafficking and victims of forced labour in the UK. Parosha is married and they have a two-year old son. We look forward to hearing of her life's journey.

SUBSTANCE MISUSE. Birmingham City University, Edgbaston.....8th July 201

A joint conference between the NCW Health Committee and Birmingham City University, exploring substance misuse from birth onwards, attended by students and NCW members.

In outlining Government policy, The Department of Health has said: "Drug misuse matters to the whole of society, as all people feel the profound and negative impact on communities, families and individuals." **Gisela Stuart, MP**, opened this now annual event and spoke wisely; substance misuse, she said, is a difficult job for Government as caffeine and alcohol and smoking are all legal drugs, yet can have harmful effects.

Jeff Wilday of Turning Point described the work of supporting misusers and addicts through the difficult return to non-using. Long-term interaction has become the strategy, rather than recording numbers passing through the books. The dependent user may well feel overwhelmed by all the professionals involved, so the approach has to be to reduce the harm: create stability: enable the client to feel safe to speak his mind: move towards autonomy.



The projection reads: 'Why do most sixteen year olds drive like they're missing a part of their brain? Because they are!'

This caught the attention of the audience when **Mary Stewart Ph.D.** used it to illustrate the damaging effect of alcohol on the developing brain and how important it is that adolescents should not have easy access to mind-altering chemicals. It is not the drug, the quantity or the scene that is the problem; it is the effect on the brain that is the problem. Denial of the problems prevents recognition of the disease until fairly advanced. Parents need to understand the symptoms. The take home message of Doctor Stewart's talk was 'start talking before they start drinking'

Marco Carbone, from the Liver Unit at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, described the deleterious effect of alcohol on all the organs of the body, warning against over-use, particularly by young women. Female livers become cirrhotic more easily than male. There is a significant rise in the numbers needing liver transplant. Patients are asked to abstain for 6 months prior to operation to allow other organs to recover sufficiently to withstand the procedure.

Delegates each attended two of a possible six afternoon workshops (mental health and substance misuse; foetal alcohol syndrome; drug counselling with adolescents; a mock case conference; substance misuse and child protection; domestic violence and mental health), from which salient points were brought back to plenary session.

NCW members admired the input from the student midwives, health visitors and social workers, and welcomed the invitation from the Head of Schools to work on a Conference for next year.

Dr Maureen Beauchamp, Secretary NCW Health Committee

This short report can only include a small number of the points made to the interested audience of students about to continue their studies before becoming health professionals and which also provided first class information to the NCW members many of whom had travelled some distance to attend. Everyone concerned about these important issues is recommended to read the full report, which will be available for sale at Conference and by post from the NCW Administrative office.

British Dietetic Association - Gillian Poole, Vice President Affiliates is pleased to welcome the British Dietetic Association as an NCW Affiliate.

Valerie Alasia, Chair of NCW's Health Committee was honoured to be invited to attend their 75th anniversary celebration dinner. Not only was she seated at the top table but was also delighted to win a raffle prize – a handsome Fair Trade hamper!

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YOUNG WOMEN

A Young Woman's Viewpoint

MAKING YOUR MARK

The next intergenerational event to look forward to is at the Royal Masonic School for girls, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, on Thursday 10th November. There are two speakers:

Marie Birkenhead, who is a Past President of the National Council of Women, will consider some of the ways in which you can 'make your mark'

Jane Drapkin, Consultant at the Hay Group will tell you the story of how she set about it!

As always, a key feature is the round table discussions between students and NCW members, we can anticipate some lively feedback from participants after that.

Cost per person includes buffet lunch: £7.00 for NCYW Link group students and staff, £15.00 for adults. The seminar is from 10.45 am to 3pm. More details from:
NCW Admin office – for address see last page

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And there are two more scheduled for 2012:

Keeping Your Balance is the title for the one at **Nottingham Girls High School** on Tuesday 6th March

Cheltenham is the venue for an intergenerational on Tuesday 20th March in the Municipal offices. Organised by NCW's South West Midland Region, the general theme will be **citizenship**

More details to follow on both of these

Sixth formers in discussion with members of NCW's Education Committee

Life in the sixth form was the topic for the Education Committee's AGM afternoon session on 28 June. Four articulate senior students - Sahar, Chanelle, Libby and Sarah - together with Mrs Nicole Wade, Head of Sixth Form, spoke about life at the Royal Masonic School for Girls, Rickmansworth. The girls appreciate the excellent opportunities for academic learning, personal development and interesting extra-curricular activities available at this independent school, which was founded 76 years ago, originally as a boarding school for girls in difficult family circumstances. Sixth form numbers have almost reached 200 and in June 2010 an NCYW Link was formed with the school. The students praised their teachers for their support and understanding. Cooperation, friendship and respect are strong features of the school, Barbara Maddison Co-ordinator of this Committee and of the NCYW Committee took the opportunity to talk about the scope and activities of the National Council of Women in which the girls showed a great deal of interest. Members thought these girls are just the kind we need to carry on NCW's work in the future.

Marilyn Jacob

NCYW at the National Council of Women's Annual Conference, Nottingham, October

For the first time delegates from all over the country coming to Nottingham will be able to see NCYW in action! There is to be a 'mini' intergenerational event on Friday 14th October and there will certainly be a report about this to share with you.

Earlier this year Michelle Obama, America's First Lady spoke to the girls from the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, who were on a special visit to Oxford University, being mentored for the day by Oxford students. She spoke frankly of her own life experiences and encouraged students, saying that by overcoming challenges in your lives you gain strength and courage and that these qualities help you to succeed in school and in life. Michelle Obama said that she told her own daughters 'Don't be afraid to fail. Don't be afraid to take risks. Ask questions. Be laughed at. Get it wrong. Trip, fall, and then get right back up.' Perhaps something to think about there. The National Council of Women would like to wish you an interesting and challenging time as you begin your new year of studies. We look forward to hearing your views on the issues which concern you and from our contact with you we find that they are very often those which concern us too.

NCYW Link groups have responded well to issues raised including the sexualisation of children in the media and in marketing. Reports can be sent to the Editor by e-mail at:- info@ncwgb.org

ICW and ECICW – Barcelona May 2011

Grace Wedekind, Vice President of ICW and retiring President of ECICW sent this report

International Council of Women - The ICW mid-term Executive Meeting took place in Barcelona, Spain at the end of May. Sheila Eaton, Monica Tolman and Grace Wedekind attended and many other National Councils world-wide were represented. Madagascar and Bangladesh have recently affiliated and negotiations are in progress with Nepal. The very full agenda included discussion on ICW work at the 2011 session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women where the main theme was education for women and girls, with special reference to science and technology. Monica Tolman gave a report on the workshop on this subject organised at the UN by ICW, with support from the National Councils of South Korea and Britain. Coming topics for discussion at the UN Commission on the Status of Women, including problems affecting rural women in the developing world, and continued stereotyping of women and girls world-wide, were also reviewed. Sheila Eaton presented the report from NCWGB, and Grace Wedekind spoke about the ECICW programme of action during the previous year.

The main seminar in Barcelona was on the subject of “Women helping Women” under the current ICW theme of “Progress for Women is progress for all”. Speakers emphasised the importance of women as a resource both in public and political life, and it was hoped that the appointment of Michelle Bachelet as Head of UN WOMEN would lead to more progress for women. In the developing world, entrepreneurship among women, often with the aid of micro-credits, could take whole villages out of poverty, while elsewhere increased participation of women and girls in education, employment and the democratic process was a necessary part of economic recovery. Continued stereotyping of women and girls in the media should be challenged, and wider education, with the involvement of men, should be undertaken in schools and places of employment towards zero tolerance of violence. Reports were also given on practical work being undertaken in developing countries under the ICW “Small Projects” Development Scheme. Lydie Rossini, the recently deceased Vice President of ICW had left a substantial legacy towards this scheme.

ECICW – A short meeting of ECICW (the European Centre of the International Council of Women) was held in Barcelona at the close of the ICW meeting, chaired for the last time by Grace Wedekind, who has now been appointed Vice President of ICW. Members from many European Councils were present to continue discussions on the effects on women of the economic recession. Work in connection with the Council of Europe campaign against sexualisation and commercial manipulation of young people and children was also considered. ECICW has been invited by the Council of Europe to be a partner in this work and many National Councils, including our own NCW are already engaged in this.

A gala dinner to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of ECICW was held, at which the Vice President of the Catalonian Government spoke on the importance of women politicians retaining at least partly their role as mothers. Meeting the female electorate at the school gate occasionally could be very beneficial to political thinking. Griselda Kenyon, European President of Women Graduates proposed a toast to the work of ECICW, and a presentation was made to Grace Wedekind from the European Women’s Lobby in recognition of her work with EWL.

Government Equalities office – international news

The UK announced a commitment to provide £10million per year to the UN Women over the next two years. This will place the UK as the second largest donor to the new agency, allowing the UK to show clear leadership in this field, while ensuring a fair burden share amongst contributing nations. Link to DFID press release:
<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/News-Stories/2011/Mitchell-Investing-in-girls-can-stop-poverty/>

NCW website.....www.ncwgb.org

Information which you can access on our website includes:

Affiliates: Details of the 40 or so organisations affiliated to NCW have recently been checked; new ones added as they join us. (see page 4)

Publications: The latest NEWS, Work and Policy Matters can be read – earlier editions on an Archive page

News page; follow ‘click here’ on the website page to access full reports; limited space in NEWS means that often only extracts can be included

Broadband

Rural areas in England and Scotland have been allocated £363 million to improve their broadband connection - part of a drive to see that superfast broadband is widely available by 2015. The grants are not enough on their own, some rural areas have no or very slow broadband, but the government says local authorities and businesses need to work together to fill in the funding gap. Computer users will doubtless want to monitor progress locally.

FREEDOM CHARITY

Freedom charity was established to save the lives of vulnerable children and young people who are at risk of, or are subjected to violent crimes, dishonour based violence and forced marriages throughout the UK. Their aims are to raise awareness on the issues of violent crimes against children and forced marriages throughout the UK. They want to engage with young people and empower them, offering advice, information, and guidance. And also to support victims of violent crimes against children with a range of intervention and support programmes, identifying young people at risk and supporting them. Freedom also works in partnership with specialist agencies and organisations, communities and families.

On Wednesday, 29 June 2011 at the House of Lords, Lord Toby Harris, chair of trustees of Freedom charity hosted the introduction of the country's first 24 seven telephone helpline for victims of forced marriage and their friends. The event also saw the release of the book **But It's Not Fair** written by founder and president of Freedom charity Aneeta Prem, who stressed her ambition to get a copy of the book into every school in the UK, something welcomed and supported by the Right Honourable Keith Vaz MP. The novel is aimed at teenagers, to help potential victims of forced marriage look out for the warning signs and also to help them find out what they can do if they suspect their friend is being forced into marriage. Mr Vaz gave his support to the project and said "This book in a very simple and straightforward way provides the message better than anything that I have seen. I think it is very important that every school in England, Wales and Scotland should have a copy of this book so children and young people can understand exactly what is going on"

Friends of freedom held a reception the night before, hosted by Nina Nannar of ITV's London tonight, attended by over 100 people. Those in attendance spoke warmly about the book and the work that Freedom charity is doing. Eminent speakers and guests included the former Home Secretary David Blunkett MP, Cressida Dick, Asst Commissioner of the Metropolitan police, Don Randall MD, patron of Freedom charity, Lynda Bellingham actor and TV star.

Freedom plans to achieve its aims include offering help to potential victims and their friends through the only 24/7 helpline in the UK. It will establish a schools awareness program offering workshops and educational resources across all schools in the UK. Freedom intends to recruit and train a team of community volunteers in every region in the UK and create greater awareness through case study talks with victims of child violence or abuse.

Based on copy provided by Aneeta Prem

Website www.freedomcharity.org.uk

24/7 Helpline 0845 607 0133

NCW is working with this charity. Sheila Eaton, NCW President attended the launch noted above. A Resolution on forced marriage is being presented at the NCW Conference in October.

But It's Not Fair – Aneeta Prem's book providing information on forced marriage in an easily accessed style...

Your Editor noted that this book was a non-judgmental, fictional account of different perspectives on forced marriages, giving the background to the views of the traditional family and the families arriving to settle in this country. At the same time it showed the horrors of girls of 14- 16 being taken against their will to India/Pakistan, forced to marry and often being beaten and badly treated by the new husband's family and with little prospect of any contact with their families here. The repercussions on families and school-friends are described, together with ways in which fellow pupils and adults can be alert and know what action they could take. It is a complex situation which requires careful handling. I think the book is essential reading for school children, teachers and all those involved in dealing with the wider situation – for example, better integration of immigrants - and for anyone who wants a reliable understanding of this issue.

NCW Annual Conference 2011 – Nottingham

Focus: Equality and the Empowerment of Women

The Conference is the highlight of the NCW year and an important event for members nationally to gather to discuss and debate issues, including the resolutions that, if passed, will become NCW policy. Following Conference, letters are sent to Government, Shadow Ministers and heads of departments on the issues raised. This year resolutions cover aspects of our life today: integration of child benefit into a universal welfare benefit: feeding future generations safely: sexual stereotyping in education: dangers of mass medication: transport problems: reform of women's justice: funding of library services: action on forced marriages. On the Friday afternoon the National Council of Young Women present a short intergenerational seminar, which will inform members of NCW's work with young women.

Our Conference Seminar this year will focus on Equality and the Empowerment of Women. Our speakers are **Anna Soubrey Conservative MP for Broxtowe and PPS to Rt. Hon. Simon Burns Minister of State for Department of Health.** She was a former Criminal Barrister working in Nottingham and a presenter/reporter on several regional and networked TV programmes.

Pauline Stewart JP, Leadership Navigator, Author, Entrepreneur and 2006 Bedfordshire Business Woman Of The Year

Maddi Sharma, Entrepreneur, Ambassador for Nottingham and the UK Representative in Brussels. I am sure we will be enlightened with stories of how they have reached their status in life as women within their own field and show how women can achieve Equality and Empowerment.

Again this year, we will be opening this seminar to the general public.

Gillian Weston, Conference Organiser

NCW ANNUAL CONFERENCE

14th, 15th, 16th October
Gateway Hotel, Nottingham

An enjoyable weekend! Your chance to have your say and help make NCW Policy!

Still time to book – details in June News and on the website

NCW/NCYW Intergenerational Seminar North London

Theme: **Making Your Mark.**

Speakers

Marie Birkenhead (Making Your Mark---the possibilities)

Jane Drapkin (Making Your Mark--my story)

Royal Masonic School for Girls, Ricksmansworth

Thursday November 10th. 10.45am-3pm

Bookings: contact NCW Admin office

NCW East Midlands Region seminar

“Where has the care gone from the caring professions?”

Nottingham.....Saturday 12th November

Tickets £17.00 includes lunch

More details to follow

2012.....

Nottingham intergenerational seminar – 6th March

Cheltenham Intergenerational Seminar – 20th March

More details to follow on both of these

DIARY DATES 2011

Sept	15	Management Committee
Oct	14)	NCW ANNUAL CONFERENCE
	15)	Nottingham
	16)	(see box & page 3,7)
Nov	1	Arts Committee
	2	Consumer Committee
	3	Foreign Affairs Committee
	3	Health Committee (Birmingham)
	10	NCYW Seminar (see box & page5) ‘Making Your Mark’
	16	Media Committee
	17	Management Committee
	22	Education Committee

Meetings at 36 Danbury Street unless otherwise shown

Last thought for the day.....

No Environment – Did You Know in this edition? – but see Work and Policy Matters, page 4 for an article about bees by our Office Administrator who, temporarily, stepped outside her office!

MEMBERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

If you have found some items of interest in this newsletter, and you are not already a member of NCW, you are invited to find out more about the benefits of membership from our Office Administrator. NCW can keep you better informed and enable you to participate in policy-making either through Branch or Individual Membership. Information about our Organisation is available on our website: www.ncwgb.org

For membership information, write or telephone:

Administrative Office at 72 Victoria Road, Darlington, DL1 5JG, telephone 01325 367375.

The Editor thanks all contributors and proof readers! The next NCW NEWS will be published in early December 2011

Please send all contributions for the next edition ** BY 22nd October 2011 ******

Gwenda Nicholas – email info@ncwgb.org

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the National Council of Women of Great Britain