



National
Council of
Women GB

For a fair and
inclusive society

Since 1895

March 2024

Changemakers!

Empowering young women,
one voice at a time



connect

challenge

change

This month's edition shares details of our Network 18-30 campaign to raise awareness of a particular form of sexual violence against women. The campaign was initiated by one of our Network 18-30 members, Maisie, with support from Management Committee Member, Gail Bishop, who is our Vice-President: Parliamentary Affairs, and Leader of our Current Affairs steering group.

Read on to find out what has been achieved so far, and how you too can get involved !



Hi! I'm Maisie - another NCW 18-30 member, and I am working on a campaign with NCW which is about non-fatal sexual strangulation and suffocation.

The idea is to try and implement greater awareness through universities, and consequently protection for women who may be affected by this issue. I would like to know if you would be happy to support the campaign - this might mean communicating with your university, helping NCW, or anything else that you think could be useful!

If you are interested, please email ruth@ncw.org, and she will put us in contact.
Maisie B



Maisie's campaign highlights the increase of sexual violence against women students in UK Universities, which is worrying. Gail has some positive news though; Gail reports

"A new statutory aggravating factor will be brought in for offenders who cause death through abusive, degrading or dangerous sexual behaviour meaning perpetrators will receive longer sentences. This builds upon action taken in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 to clarify in law that there is no such thing as the 'rough sex defence'. The government has appointed leading academic Professor Katrin Hohl as the new Independent Advisor to the Rape Review. Professor Hohl led the ground-breaking and successful scheme to overhaul the way in which the police investigate rape - Operation Soteria."

Maisie has sent a letter on behalf of Network 18-30 to Universities UK and the Office for Students, outlining concerns about the lack of research into non-fatal strangulation and suffocation.

If you would like to see a copy please email: ruth@ncwgb.org

If you have been the victim of a sexual assault, check out these

<https://mind.org.uk/information-support/guides-to-support-and-services/abuse/>

organisations:

<https://survivorstrust.org>

<https://revoltsexualassault.com>

<https://rapecrisiscentre.org.uk/gethelp/support-for-children-and-young-people/>

<https://childline.org.uk>

Young Women's Steering Group

This month we will be holding a free online debate on non fatal strangulation or suffocation, and the increase of violence against women students in UK Universities

Network 18-30 member, Maisie, feels deep concern about the level of sexual violence and harassment faced by women students at UK universities. Disturbing ONS Crime statistics for England and Wales show that sexual assault is higher among full-time students than any other occupation; and women of all ages are significantly more likely to be victims of sexual assault than men. Maisie is particularly disturbed by the rising incidence of non-fatal strangulation and suffocation, which has been linked to children's increased exposure to porn. Yet there is a distinct lack of authoritative and quantitative data, meaning that the problem cannot be addressed.

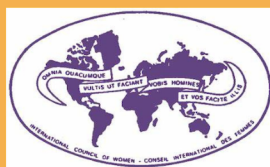


Join our open and confidential discussion to add your experiences, share your views, and support NCW's Network 18-30 campaign plans, for inclusion of uninvited non-fatal strangulation and suffocation in relevant research and appropriate policy making.

Book your place here

<https://ncwgb.org/ncw-network-18-30-campaign-on-non-fatal-strangulation-and-suffocation/>

International Council of Women Fund



NCWGB is delighted to have received funds from ICW to help us engage with more young women in Great Britain. We have 12 months to use the funds for promotion, events and activities, decided by Network and NWYC members. Steering group meetings are held monthly on Zoom. No need to register, just use the link on this page.



Have you got ideas for campaigns and issues we need to get behind?

Please send your social media post ideas to andy@crackingsocialmedia.com

NCYW News



Hello from NCW, we hope that your term is going well and you all enjoyed the half term break.

We really want this newsletter to include some content from you. Please get involved by sending your book, film, theatre, TV, podcast, Youtube, recommendations and we can feature them in our next edition.

Send to Penny or Ruth
penny.bennett@talktalk.net
ruth@ncwgb.org

Come and join us

Come along to our next online event on Thursday 21st March at 7pm

A debate led by one of our younger members. You can book via the link on page 3 of this newsletter. It's open to all NCYW students and teachers. Your opportunity to be an active part of the National Council of Women and helping us to:
Connect Challenge Change
See page 3 for joining details

NCW National
Conference April 26th
2024

Save the date!
More details to follow by
email next week.

Calling all creative NCYW members

It would be amazing if we could find a couple of schools to help us to put together a PowerPoint or Canva presentation about NCW that would be used for schools wanting to know more about our organisation. As you know, we have a long and interesting history and we would like to have something that looks lively and engaging for your age group. If you are interested in helping, please get in touch with Penny at
penny.bennett@talktalk.net

What's on?



Join our inquisitive heroine Jade as she breaks away from her class to take a peek behind the scenes at the not yet open Gallery of Greatness in the local museum. Along her journey she is surprised to meet the incredible wonder women: Frida Kahlo, Rosa Parks, Amelia Earhart, Mary Seacole, Marie Curie and Emmeline Pankhurst to name just a few.

From explorers to artists, scientists to secret agents, hear the stories of some of history's strongest mothers, sisters and daughters; all independent icons who really did change the world.

From the producers of 'Six', look out for this touring production in your local theatre.

My thoughts on International Women's Day 2024 by Jasmina, member of NCYW



"International Women's Day is a time for us all to appreciate the sacrifices that were made for us to acquire the privileges we have today and also to reflect on how we can tackle prejudices and barriers that still exist around the world.

Personally, I am particularly grateful for the availability of female education that allows us to grow intellectually. The prevalence of outstanding successes by women in the educational field is perhaps best demonstrated by a record year in which the highest proportion of women won the Nobel Prize, such as Claudia Goldin for economics and Katalin Kariko in medicine. However, around the world there are still attempts to limit female education which must be tackled in order to allow women to build independent futures.

One of the main themes of this year's International Women's Day is to inspire inclusion, in a collective effort to achieve intersectional equity. In order to truly include women of all races, ages, abilities must be embraced and platformed in all fields of endeavour.

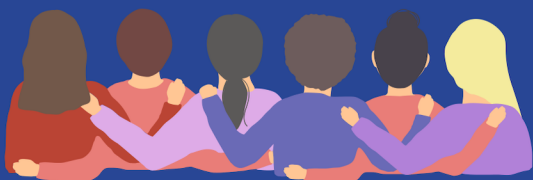
Despite the societal prejudice that still exists to this day, female accomplishment and unity in the face of injustice is clear. Women are powerful leaders worldwide, setting an example for the new generation. I am particularly inspired by activists such as Nazanin Boniadi and Olena Zelenska, who both use their platforms to speak out against the suppression of women's rights in Iran and Ukraine.

Raising global awareness and providing educational resources is key to empowering women and tackling the existence of glass ceilings and socio-economic discrimination. The NCWGB is an organisation that uplifts and champions womanhood, not only providing a network of like-minded voices but a true community that makes me proud to be a woman."

Thank you to Jasmina for sharing her thoughts ahead of International Women Day on March 8th.

**If you would like to contribute an article please email:
ruth@ncwgb.org or penny.bennett@talktalk.net**

Network 18 - 30



**Greetings to all members of our group.
Announcing the Network 18-30 call for action!**

I hope you're finding time to look at these new newsletters, where you will find growing developments to interest you. Thank you for your patience staying with us as paid up members - now we need as many of you as possible to give your attention to Maisie Burgess's campaign about non-fatal strangulation. It will need very little of your time as the work has been done, mostly by Maisie and Gail Bishop and others, but what is now needed for this to progress is the urgent support of - You!

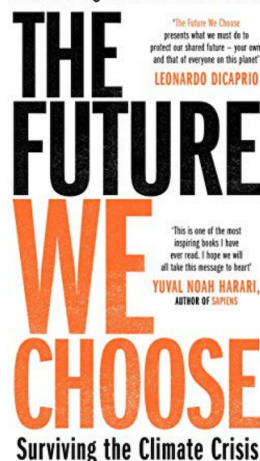
Check out Maisie's talk on Thursday 21 March at 7pm (booking link on page 3).

I fully support Maisie and I'm sure I can count on you too!

Gwenda



Christiana Figueres Tom Rivett-Carnac



book suggestion

An inspirational book which Gwenda suggested some time ago is very relevant now to NCW's climate change debate on 19th March (see page 7).

There are important messages from two expert authors (UN Executive Sec for Climate Change, Christiana Figueres, and Tom Rivett-Carnac, senior political strategist of the Paris Agreement). It is also supported by some very well known commentators. It's a warning, but also a hopeful book.

Tell us your favourite book:
ruth@ncwgb.org



The Hay Festival, like NCW, has done some rebranding!

The summer Festival will soon be here, 23 May - 2 June, with 500 events to choose from! Hay Festival is now titled **Hay Festival Global**. Attending the events in a

village of marquees on the outskirts of the second hand book town of Hay-on-Wye, and under the lea of the Black mountains, is an unforgettable experience. But if you can't make it this year you can access what was the Hay Player, but is now Hay Festival Anytime. A small increase to £20 enables you to access not only the online events but also the full archive of 10,000 hours from past years. A worthwhile bargain!

<https://www.hayfestival.com/home>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YzIpHbCA_tE

We value the opinions of our younger members, so please share this newsletter with your friends. For £15 per annum, you gain voting power and resources to join in NCWGB campaigns. You can attend international events as our elected representative, and become an active participant in changing policy to improve women's lives.

NOT A

MEMBER YET?

www.ncwgb.org/join-us



connect

challenge

change

upcoming days and events



women's engineering society

Jilly and Ruth recently met members of WES. Check out their online events <https://archive.wes.org.uk/events/wes-events>



<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/EventSearch>

SAVE THE DATE



Plans are well underway for NCW's Spring Conference on 26 April 2024

We have an exciting list of panel members and an exceptional keynote speaker. Watch out for further details on <https://www.ncwgb.org>

Network 18-30 and NCYW members can apply for financial assistance towards their travel costs. Please email info@ncw.org for more information on financial assistance. The Conference will take place in Grantham at Belton Woods Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort.

<https://www.beltonwoods.co.uk/>



Tuesday 19 March 2024

free online event

Time: 13.00 - 14.30

**Led by: Ann Davison,
NCW Vice President:
International Affairs**

At our 2023 AGM, NCW members called on the international community to co-operate to radically strengthen climate action plans. Most people are worried about climate change, but they feel frustrated and pessimistic about it. Forty-five percent of young people globally, say their feelings about climate change negatively affect their daily life and functioning: And the feeling that governments are not doing enough is linked to climate anxiety.

But there is plenty that can be done. Join us in a discussion about UK plans, how the government can improve wellbeing through nature and create green jobs, what other countries are doing and how NCW can add pressure internationally.

Book your free place on:

<https://ncwgb.org/changing-the-climate-for-climate-change/>

Each month we feature someone connected to NCWGB. This month it is the turn of Ruth, our new Director For Development

Ruth Batty

How long have you been involved with NCWGB?

I began working with NCWGB in Sept 2023



What inspired you to join?

I was really excited by the passion and motivation of NCW members.

What roles/work do you carry out for NCWGB?

My task is to work with the NCW Management Committee, to help the organisation grow and develop; so it is strong and resilient for the future.

What has been your favourite achievement so far?

We are doing a lot of groundwork at the moment. There are lots and lots of potential opportunities for us to follow! So it is hard to choose one. I enjoy all I do, but if I had to narrow it down, I am proud of helping to set up the new steering groups; and beginning the process of rebuilding links with other areas of Great Britain.

What would you like NCWGB to achieve in the future?

I would love NCWGB to be in the position to support the younger members' projects and our current affairs work with dedicated employees. This would mean that NCWGB had financial support from the big grant funders. We also have Management Committee members with phenomenal skills and knowledge, so it would be great to have a training programme for them to educate others. Finally, I truly believe that there is strength in numbers, so I would like to see more partnership and collaborations with other organisations, and an increase in our Associate Members.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Are you a budding IT designer, or do you have a way with words?

We are looking for NCYW and Network 18-30 members to help make our website more appealing to younger women. We would like to hear what content you would like to be included; and how you would like the content to be displayed? Would you like to see more videos, photos, images, links? And would you like to hear from current and past members and what they achieved? Would you like more interactive features such as surveys or quizzes? Our Media and Arts Steering Group would love to hear from you. We will set up a zoom meeting to hear your ideas. Please let Ruth know if you would like to take part: ruth@ncwgb.org

Check out the current pages at:

<https://ncwgb.org/network-18-30/>

<https://ncwgb.org/ncyw-under-18/>

Individual Membership of NCWGB is open to all women, and all who identify with that gender, who wish to support and further the aims of NCW



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