



**Women's International
League for Peace and Freedom
in Australia**

100 years

1915



WILPF Australia

An International Vision during the Trauma of War

25 March 1915

During World War I, 30 women meet at the Australian Church in Melbourne and form the **Sisterhood of International Peace** with the motto 'Justice, Friendship and Arbitration'.

As Australian white women, they have the right to vote. They are confident that they have an important role to play in working for peace through negotiation.



The Sisterhood of International Peace Committee. Source: State Library of Victoria

28 April 1915



The International Congress of Women in The Hague. Source: WILPF Archive: Geneva

As the British army, including Anzacs, is invading Turkey more than 1000 women from both warring and neutral nations meet in The Hague for the **International Congress of Women**. They set out **resolutions for ending all war** and resolve to take them immediately to all heads of state in Europe and the USA. They name themselves the **International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace**.

"I know that the idea that lasting peace can be gained through war is nonsense"

Eleanor Moore

15 July 1915

The Women's Peace Army (WPA) is established in Melbourne to mobilise the women in Australia who oppose all war. Vida Goldstein, a fearless pacifist, is its driving force.

As the far-sighted resolutions of the International Congress become known, both the women of the Sisterhood and the WPA affiliate with the International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace. Eleanor Moore, as international secretary

of the Sisterhood, joins the International Committee as it plans the second Congress.

There is much common ground between these two women's peace organisations. The WPA is activist and outspoken taking on almost every cause that affects women during the war. The Sisterhood places great emphasis on educating themselves on the causes of war, and on the education of the young for peace.

1916-1925

WILPF Australia



Stop War - Negotiate Peace

1916-1917

Anti-conscription Campaigns. Both the Sisterhood of International Peace and the Women's Peace Army campaign vigorously against conscription for overseas service, in two referenda that divide the nation. They speak out publicly, write and distribute their own pamphlets. Both referenda are lost. Conscription is not introduced in Australia.



Eleanor Moore
Source: State Library of NSW

May 1919

Three delegates from Australia attend the second congress in Zurich: Eleanor Moore from the Sisterhood, and Vida Goldstein and Cecilia John of the Women's Peace Army. The International Committee adopts a constitution and the name the **Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)**.



Vida Goldstein
Source: National Library of Australia

***"We must oppose war
because it is based on
fear and hate and lies"***

Vida Goldstein

1919



Disarmament Sunday, 6 November 1921. Source: State Library of Victoria

WILPF denounces the Treaty of Versailles as one of 'revenge sowing the seeds of another world war'.

Eleanor Moore remains in Europe helping Emily Greene Balch, WILPF's first International Secretary, set up the International Secretariat. Later, she chronicles her lifelong commitment to peace and foundational work for WILPF in **'The Quest for Peace as I have known it in Australia' (1949)**.

1920

The Sisterhood becomes the **Australian Section of WILPF** and is based in Melbourne. The WPA disbands in early 1920 and many of its members join WILPF. During the 1920s WILPF branches form in Hobart, Newcastle, Perth, and Rockhampton.

1924

1924 Charter of Peace - Safeguards Against Tyranny. WILPF Australia helps compile a Charter of Peace affirming principles of individual liberty. Edith Whitworth, WILPF Tas, presents this charter at the WILPF International Congress in Washington.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom working for Peace, Disarmament and Human Rights for 100 years



Campaigning against Conscription

Conscription

and Woman's Loyalty.

By ELEANOR M. MOORE.

I AM A WOMAN. I can only be loyal in a woman's way. I cannot give to the State what is not mine. Giving away other people's money is not generosity; it is theft. Voting away other people's liberty is not patriotism; it is persecution. Forcing other people to risk their lives for me is not courage; it is cowardice.

I AM A WOMAN. I was given a vote that I might impress my womanly feeling and point of view on public life. If I use that vote to strengthen men's faith in violence and revenge as against intelligence and moral force, my influence is worse than wasted.

I AM A WOMAN. I deny the right of any man or State to force me to produce life against my will. On the same principle, I recognise that I have no right to force any man to take life against his will.

I AM A WOMAN. Australia has given me the rights of citizenship. In return I must do my part to save Australia from becoming a prey to the militarism which has brought Europe to ruin. I see that, but for conscription, the present war would have been impossible. I must keep Australia free from that curse while yet there is time.

I AM A WOMAN. I have an obligation to the men at the Front, but I know I cannot relieve them by swelling the number of sufferers. I believe the glory of man is not in his brute strength and violence, but in his powers of intellect and spirit. For the relief of the agonised youth of all nations, our own included, I demand that he use these powers to bring the present war to an end.

I AM A WOMAN. I know that the idea that lasting peace can be gained by war is nonsense. I know that no war, however victorious, has ever produced lasting peace. I know that a just and honourable peace, such as the people of all belligerent nations are thirsting for and ready for, has a far greater chance of being permanent if arranged by negotiation than if brought about in any other way. I know that, however long the fight continues, in the end it **MUST** be settled by negotiation.

I AM A WOMAN. I know that everywhere and always, when men make war on men, the sufferings of such as myself are indescribably horrible. I know that as long as war continues such suffering cannot be prevented or mitigated. For this reason I will not sanction the war system by forcing any man to be a soldier.

I AM A WOMAN. For the honour of womanhood, for the glory of Australia, and for the encouragement of men to be true to the highest in them, I mean to record a vote of **WANT OF CONFIDENCE IN WAR,**
and

Vote NO!!!



Printed and Published, Perth,
227-3 Green St., Perth

Authorised by T. J. Miller,
Leas Street, Southport.

Source: State Library of Victoria

1926-1930

WILPF Australia



Building Peaceful Relationships

1927

After foreign tax gatherers are murdered in the Solomon Islands, British authorities plan a punitive action involving an Australian destroyer to attack a whole village as collective punishment. WILPF Australia alerts WILPF UK about this, and the two branches cause the issue to be raised in the Australian Parliament and in the House of Commons. The punitive expedition is cancelled.



Australian Delegates and accredited visitors to the First International Women's Conference of the Pan-Pacific Union, Honolulu, August 1928.

Source: Bert Covell, National Library of Australia

WILPF is able to build strong relationships with women of other Pacific countries

1928

Eleanor Moore joins the executive of the newly formed branch of the **World Disarmament Committee** in Melbourne. Their aim is to gain the support of the people of Australia for worldwide action for disarmament.

Eleanor Moore attends the **Pan-Pacific Union Conference** in Honolulu as a WILPF representative together with two other Australian WILPF women.

A **WILPF Regional Conference** chaired by WILPF International President Jane Addams follows. WILPF Australia continues to build strong and significant relationships with women of other Pacific countries, far in advance of anything attempted by governments.

In Perth, WILPF women organise Armistice Day celebrations that are held annually for five years and attract a thousand people, including the Premier and dignitaries.



WILPF Regional Conference in Honolulu 1928. Source: State Library of NSW

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom working for Peace, Disarmament and Human Rights for 100 years

1931-1935



WILPF Australia

Campaigning for World Disarmament



WILPF women with Disarmament Petitions.
Source: State Library of Victoria

1931

WILPF Australia enthusiastically collects signatures for a worldwide disarmament declaration **initiated by WILPF International**. The Section collects 117,740 signatures across Australia.

WILPF Australia collects over 100,000 signatures for World Disarmament

30 November 1931

At a memorable meeting in the Melbourne Town Hall convened by the **League of Nations' Union** and the **World Disarmament Movement**, a procession of WILPF members presents bundles of signatures to the Prime Minister in the presence of politicians, leading churchmen and other prominent citizens. The speeches made recognise the magnitude and significance of their achievement. A similar accolade is given to WILPF women around the world when a total of **8 million** signatures from 56 countries are presented in Geneva, 6 million gathered by WILPF women. Australia's contribution is the highest percentage per head of population in the world.



Source: State Library of Victoria



Parading the WILPF petitions to the World Disarmament Conference in Geneva. Source: Records of WILPF, Swarthmore College Peace Collection

1932

The **Geneva Conference on Reduction and Limitation of Armaments** fails to achieve what the people of the world had hoped for. Eleanor Moore later writes in 'The Quest for Peace': 'No peace aspiration of our time had held out so bright a prospect of fulfilment; none led to such utter disappointment.' She looks with greater optimism toward Australia's region of the world.

1936-1945

Ponder the Waste of War – Unite for Peace

WILPF Australia



In the context of growing militarism, WILPF women restate their pacifist position and protest against large increases in and profit from armament expenditure. They call on women to unite for peace, to ponder the waste and tragedy of war and to insist that alternative and sane methods be used for settling disputes in an effort to save civilisation from disaster.



Mabel Drummond
Source: Janet Morice

1939

Mabel Drummond becomes WILPF President as Australia enters the war. A pacifist, she has lived through the First World War and was in close communication with her brother fighting overseas. In 1939, her son joins up and she has to face the horror of war all over again.

WILPF women campaign against conscription of men, call for negotiations between the warring powers, oppose conscription of women for military service, support conscientious objectors, raise questions about the presence of US troops in Australia, and propose sending surplus Australian wheat to feed the hungry in fascist-occupied European countries.

October 1939

WILPF women write to the Prime Minister, asking him to press for peace negotiations.

1942

Peacewards, the journal of both WILPF and The Peace Society, ceases publication when its founder and editor Dr Charles Strong dies. From 1915 to 1942, it was the principal forum and means of keeping all members of WILPF across Australia informed.



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM, 1934-1935.

1. War, the systematic mass killing of human beings, sanctioned and directed by responsible rulers, is the Supreme atrocity of the modern world.
2. International war and civil war both come under the same condemnation.
3. The W.I.L.P.F. exists as a living protest against the assumption that in the nature of things wars are bound to recur and that preparation for them is necessary.
4. War is a preventable evil and can be brought to an end whenever human beings make up their minds that they will tolerate no more of it.
5. Other and superior means are available for the solution of every problem that can possibly arise. Abolition of the military system would compel statesmen to have recourse to these more humane and intelligent methods.
6. To all chivalric, patriotic, picturesque and sentimental sanctions for war the W.I.L.P.F. opposes the experience of womanhood wherever war occurs. The miseries of want and destitution, and the unnameable outrages on women which accompany all war, completely falsify its claim to be an effective defender of the home and the family.

Eleanor M. Moore *The Quest for Peace* p188



Ban Nuclear Weapons



Doris Blackburn (R) with her secretary Gloria Canet, at work in her Melbourne office c1940s.
Source: National Library of Australia

1946

WILPF Australia wants to ensure that the horrors of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are never repeated and vigorously campaigns for the banning of nuclear weapons.

Doris Blackburn, WILPF member and the first Victorian woman elected to Federal Parliament, chairs the **Ban the Bomb** meeting in Melbourne on the first anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing. The meeting asks that all major weapons of mass destruction be outlawed and that scientific research be free from military and political control.

Doris Blackburn forces debate in parliament on a Bill to establish the **Woomera Rocket Range** in central Australia on Aboriginal land, a Bill which would violate Aboriginal human rights.



Source: Blackburn papers, State Library of Victoria



Source: Hansard, House of Representatives, 6 March 1947

1947

Doris Blackburn is the only MP to speak against the Labor government's **Defence Projects Protection Act**, which imposes heavy penalties for public criticism of these projects.

1948

The WA branch, with support of the Australian Section, urges the government to use Western Australian wheat supplies that lie unused in silos across the state, to feed the hungry in China, Greece and other countries in need.

1952

With Anna Vroland as secretary of the Australian Section, WILPF becomes the first organisation in Australia to protest publicly against **nuclear testing** at Monte Bello and at the Woomera Rocket Range, as well as campaigning for **full citizenship rights for Aboriginal people**.

The WA branch is re-established by Nancy Wilkinson.

Human Rights in Australia and Abroad

25 February 1960

Margaret Holmes forms a WILPF NSW branch from her Sydney home.



Margaret Holmes

1962

WILPF campaigns against **US bases** in Australia.



Arguing against Church approval of Australian involvement, Margaret Holmes (far right) and WILPF women picket Sydney Airport as Anglican Archbishop, Dr Gough, departs to visit Australian troops in Vietnam. November 1965. Source: Michele Cavanagh

1964-1965

Both the Queensland and the Tasmania branches actively **campaign against war toys**. In Brisbane, a Tram Ride for Peace for children is organised prior to Christmas in 1965. WILPF women decorate a tram with posters and balloons bearing the message No War Toys please and many children enjoy a fun ride through the streets of Brisbane.



A tram ride for Peace, organised by WILPF QLD.

1963

WILPF begins opposition to **French nuclear tests** in the Pacific. WILPF NSW member Jean Richards travels to Paris to plead with President de Gaulle to stop the tests.

The Queensland Branch reopens, taking up the issue of **equal rights for Indigenous Australians**. Indigenous poet Kath Walker (later known as Oodgeroo Noonuccal) accepts honorary Life Membership.

In Tasmania, Dr. Mildred Thynne, a Quaker from England, organises a meeting of 30 women and as a result the Tasmania branch is re-established.

1964

WILPF NSW hangs a huge banner with the wording "You Go To An Unjust War" over the cliff at the North Head of Sydney Harbour when the first troopship of conscripts sails for Vietnam.

WILPF SA is revitalised by Margaret Forte and Maud McBriar, and organises a nation-wide Anti-war Song Competition.

WILPF's 50th Anniversary Congress at The Hague launches a drive for signatures from the world's leading women, asking women of the US to help stop the Vietnam War. A member of WILPF NSW, Lorraine Moseley, coordinates this appeal.

1966-1974

WILPF Australia



Protesting against the Vietnam War

WILPF opposes Australia's participation in the Vietnam war, with militant non-violent action, including dissemination of facts about the causes of the war, support for conscientious objectors to military service and draft resisters.

WILPF women join with other organisations to hold regular **silent vigils** in most capital cities. Victorian women hold a weekly lunchtime vigil outside the Victorian State Library for five years. The Women in Mourning in Sydney stand in silence, dressed in black, and distribute leaflets to passers-by.



SA anti Vietnam rally - one of the many such marches over ten years.
Source: The Adelaide Advertiser

1966

WILPF SA organise the **first anti-Vietnam War march** held in South Australia.

WILPF VIC secretary Fran Boyd coordinates an 'Appeal to Help Stop the War in Vietnam' to State and Federal Members of Parliament and a 'Woman's Appeal' to the Australian Government.

1968

WILPF QLD women picket the premises of Dow Chemicals, the manufacturers of napalm being used in Vietnam.



WILPF women join weekly Sydney Peace Vigil, Wynyard Park. 1967.
Margaret Holmes third from left.

Source: Tribute/Search Foundation/State Library of NSW

1969

Margaret Holmes of WILPF NSW convenes a **WILPF Chemical and Biological Warfare (CBW)** sub-committee. 20,000 copies of the leaflet 'What is CBW?' are published and distributed to Federal MPs, the medical profession and the general public. Their booklet '**New Perversions of Science**' warns of further dangers of chemical and biological weapons.

Shirley Abraham from WILPF VIC represents WILPF at the Federal Council of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (FCAATSI) Conference.

1970

WILPF women around Australia participate in Australian Vietnam Moratorium campaigns.

1973

WILPF SA publishes the booklet '**American Bases in Australia**' for the Australian Section.



1975

WILPF Australia



Equality, Development and Peace

International Women's Year (IWY) sets 'Equality, Development and Peace' as goals for the **UN Decade for Women**. WILPF continues to stress the prime importance of peace if equality and development are to be achieved.

Three Australian WILPF women attend the **UN World Conference** and the NGO Tribune in Mexico.

Eight Australian Women are featured in the WILPF International 60th anniversary publication 'Listen to Women for a Change,' including, Irene Greenwood, Margaret Holmes, Elizabeth Reid and Kath Walker.

Australian WILPF women attend the **IWY Women and Politics Conference** in Canberra and lead sessions on 'Can Women Provide the Peacemakers?' and 'Peace Games.'

WILPF SA convenes the local IWY Peace Sub-Committee, organises a well-attended seminar on 'Handling Aggression' and publishes the papers.

WILPF VIC and WILPF TAS each establish a **peace library** in their state.

Evelyn Rothfield attends the WILPF International Executive Meeting in Hamburg and the International Women's Congress in Berlin chaired by Australian Freda Brown.

A **Peace Studies** program, long campaigned for by WILPF WA is introduced at Murdoch University. WA member Betty King becomes registrar of Perth-based **Peace Institute of Australia**.

WILPF Australia prepares a submission against **uranium mining** and testifies before the Ranger Uranium Enquiry.

WILPF writes to the Prime Minister expressing alarm at developments in East Timor, supporting East Timorese self-determination, opposing military intervention and supporting a UN peacekeeping force.





A Nuclear - Free Pacific



Thousands of Sydneysiders, amongst them WILPF women March on Sunday 7 April 1979, against uranium mining.
Source: Green Left Weekly

1978

The United Nations holds a **Special Session on Disarmament**. WILPF branches promote seminars and conferences in their own states and participate in Peoples Disarmament Conferences in Melbourne and Sydney.

WILPF urges the Australian Government to provide stronger incentives for scientists working on non-nuclear alternative energy.



1979

During the International Year of the Child, WILPF SA coordinates a national submission to the Prime Minister on the health, education and housing of Aboriginal children.

WILPF NSW member Stella Cornelius works with the United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA) to establish the UNAA **Media Peace Prize** that recognises the vital role the media can play for peace.

The Section continues to campaign against uranium mining in Australia.

1980

WILPF branches support action for Aboriginal land rights. They campaign for the Pitjantjatjara Land Rights Bill (SA) and support Aboriginal opposition to mining on Aboriginal land at Noonkanbah (WA).

WILPF branches are involved in the **Nuclear Free Pacific Forum** in Sydney, the first held in Australia, and the **Indian Ocean Zone of Peace** conference in Fremantle.

WILPF Australia and the UNAA establish the **Junior Media Peace Prize (JUMPP)**, to encourage children to prepare material for publication in the media.

WILPF Australia is a member of the committee proposing an **Australian Peace Research Institute** to be funded by the Defence budget.



JUMPP - an initiative of WILPF and UNAA

1981-1985



WILPF Australia

Protesting for a Peaceful and Independent Australia

1981

The Australian government offers the US military bases for nuclear-capable B52 bombers, and increases arms expenditure. Alarmed, WILPF urges the Prime Minister to work for an independent foreign policy instead.

WILPF publishes *Alternatives to War - The Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes* by Dr Keith Suter.



Source: Canberra Women for Survival

1982

WILPF Australia holds its biennial meeting in Canberra for the first time. An ACT branch is formed and sends Nancy Shelley to the **Second UN Special Session on Disarmament** in New York. WILPF members participate in Palm Sunday peace rallies.

1983

WILPF women participate in the **Women for Survival Peace Camp** at Pine Gap near Alice Springs. It is the first significant protest against

the location of an American military base on Australian soil. A supporting peace camp is held simultaneously at the American War Memorial in Canberra.



Irene Greenwood

Veteran WA WILPF member, **Irene Greenwood**, is honoured by having a Stateline flagship named after her.

1984

WILPF women take part in the Cockburn **Sound Women's Peace Camp** near Stirling Naval Base in WA to protest against visits of nuclear capable US warships.

1985



Report of Australian Pacific Women's Peace Conference.



Pacific women in the WILPF Peace Tent at the UN Forum for Women in Nairobi.

WILPF Australia organises the **Australian Pacific Women's Peace Conference** in Sydney for delegates en route to the NGO Forum in Nairobi held in association with the UN World Conference at the end of the Decade for Women. Many Australian WILPF women attend. WILPF inaugurates the **Peace Tent**.



Messengers of World Peace

1986

During the **International Year of Peace (IYP)**, WILPF Vice President Stella Cornelius is appointed Executive Director of Australia's IYP Secretariat.

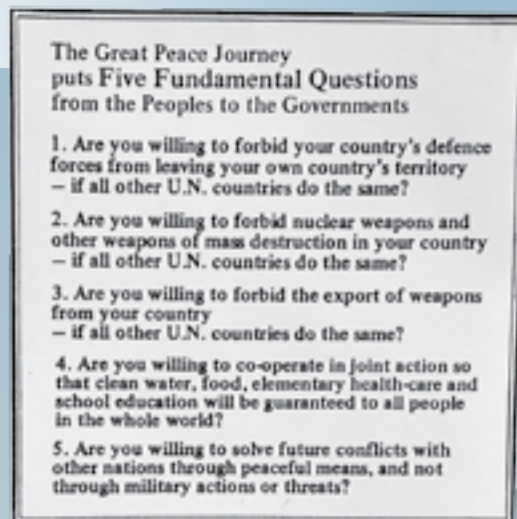
WILPF members serve on IYP Committees recommending construction of a **Peace Memorial** in Canberra, and undertake IYP projects, especially concerning Education for Peace.

WILPF WA organises the **Indian Ocean Zone of Peace** Conference.

WILPF SA initiates 'twinning' of Adelaide with the cities Minsk (USSR) and St Louis (USA).



Stella Cornelius



The 5 Questions put to the Heads of State of all UN member nations

The Great Peace Journey, originating in Scandinavia, is brought to Australia by Elisabeth Gerle (WILPF Sweden). WILPF Australia co-ordinates its deputations to Australia and Pacific UN member governments.

WILPF International receives a UN Peace Messenger award and WILPF Australia receives one of the nine awards that came to Australia.

1987

WILPF Australia sends Aboriginal member Kay Mundine to the World Congress of Women in Moscow.



Source: Colleen St Ledger

1988

WILPF joins in nation-wide opposition to visits of nuclear-armed and/or powered warships during the **Australian Bicentennial celebrations** and in Aboriginal non-violent protests at opening of the new Parliament House in Canberra.

WILPF continues to support Aboriginal claims for land rights and self-determination, and acknowledges Aboriginal sovereignty.



Elisabeth Gerle, WILPF Sweden, second L, leads the Great Peace Journey delegation.

1989

WILPF Australia hosts the **WILPF 24th International Triennial Congress** in Sydney, a first for the Southern hemisphere. It includes a seminar for **Indigenous Women and Women from Developing Countries**. More than 40 women from around the world participate in this seminar.



Peace Journeys

1990-1991

WILPF joins in worldwide efforts to prevent war in the Middle East.

1991

WILPF joins protests against the **AIDEX Arms Trade Fairs** in Canberra finally leading to a ban on such trade fairs in the capital. WILPF ACT women stand on street corners holding posters against the arms trade.



AIDEX protest poster held on street corners in Canberra Civic in 1991.

1993

WILPF Australia is involved in creating **CAPOW (Coalition of Participating Organisations of Women)**, a national NGO network, in preparation for the UN Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995.

1994

WILPF international sends a mission to monitor elections in South Africa that includes WILPF ACT member Ronis Chapman.

1995



Map of the Peace Train Journey.

WILPF Peace Train from Helsinki to Beijing

Ten Australian women join the WILPF Peace Train from Helsinki to Beijing for the **UN Fourth World Conference and Forum on Women**. WILPF hosts the **Peace Tent** at the Forum and WILPF Australia



Alison Cooke, Marilyn Clement, Hellen Cooke and Ruth Corrigan. Outside the WILPF Peace Tent at the UN NGO Forum, Huairou, held in association with UN Conference for Women, Beijing, 1995.

members are active in the Peace Caucus that drafts the Peace Statement later read by the Vice President of WILPF to the conference. The Peace Journey provides great inspiration and energy for WILPF in Australia through those who participate.



Women in the Peace Process

1997

WILPF Australia participates in the **Australian Reconciliation Convention**.

1998

WILPF Australia participates in the **Women's Constitutional Convention**, Canberra, and recommends the introduction of a non-belligerency clause similar to that in the Japanese Constitution.



Left to Right: Ruth Corrigan, Margot Pearson and Hellen Cooke at the Women's Constitutional Convention.

2000

WILPF takes a prominent role in organising the **World March of Women (WMW)** in Australia. Cathy Picone (SA) coordinates a nation-wide postcard campaign and Lyn Lane (ACT) takes part in the WMW delegation for international meetings in Washington and New York.

WILPF ACT initiates an NGO network for submissions to the Australian Defence White Paper 2000, prioritising the security of people and planet.

Historic first UN Resolution on Women and Peace.

WILPF, through **Felicity Hill**, Director of the WILPF UN Office, plays a significant role in facilitating the adoption of the historic **UN Security Council Resolution 1325 'Women, Peace and Security'**, and in establishing the **Peacewomen Project**. The Resolution highlights the impact of war and conflict on women and the importance of women's involvement in peace building.



Felicity Hill, Director of the WILPF UN Office.

2002 Implementing Resolution 1325

From 2002 onwards, WILPF leads the way in working for the Australian implementation of 1325 through the development of a National Action Plan. WILPF ACT forms the national WILPF 1325 Working Group with Margaret Bearlin as convenor. WILPF women organise workshops for women's organisations, locally and nationally, and speak at international conferences within Australia.

1325 UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 (2000) "WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY"

- **Women's full and equal participation in every aspect of the peace process:** conflict prevention, negotiating peace agreements, peacekeeping operations, post-conflict reconstruction and reconciliation, and peace building.
- **The protection of women and girls and their human rights in conflict zones** with no impunity for those who violate these rights.
- The provision of **gender sensitive training in peace keeping operations**.
- **Gender mainstreaming** in the reporting and implementation systems of UN relating to conflict, peace and security: every decision to be scrutinised for its impact on women.

2003-2005

WILPF Australia



Standing for Peace and Against Violence

2003

All WILPF branches actively campaign against the war in Iraq, take part in protests, rallies and the largest world peace march on February 19. Ruth Russell, WILPF SA goes to Iraq as a Human Shield.

WILPF purchases **'The Children of the Gulf War'** photographic exhibition on the effects of depleted uranium on the children of Iraq. An initiative of Chris Henderson of WILPF QLD, it is shown in major centres and rural areas of Australia.



Safaa, an eight year-old girl is smiling because she is checking out of hospital to go home. When her shawl blows off in the wind her smile disappears for she has no hair, a side effect of the medication she has been given for her leukemia. She isn't aware that she is going home because the hospital has run out of medicine.

Source: Takashi Morizumi May, 1998.



Women in Black standing in Silent Vigil in Canberra.

2003 onwards

WILPF women in Adelaide, Canberra and Melbourne stand as **Women in Black** in silent vigil for peace with justice, and actively opposed to injustice and all forms of violence.

2004

WILPF launches the **www.1325australia website**, designed to further the implementation of SCR 1325.

Six Australian WILPF women attend the first WILPF **Asia-Pacific Regional meeting** in Christchurch, Aotearoa-NZ. Decolonisation and self-determination are the main focus.



2005

The WILPF ACT coordinates the Australian leg of the World Relay of the Women's Charter for Humanity and hosts the arrival of the **Women's Charter** in Australia.

WILPF ACT holds a week long **Festival of Peace**: celebrating WILPF's 90th Anniversary, together with **Women in Black** and **A Chorus of Women**, with displays, speakers and workshops.



WILPF ACT Festival of Peace celebrating WILPF's 90th Anniversary.

2006-2010



WILPF Australia

Resisting Militarism: Reclaiming our Peace History

2006



Performers for Peace in Brisbane "I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier".

WILPF QLD forms a street theatre group, **Performers for Peace**, which writes and performs skits about women and peace.

2007

WILPF opposes the joint military exercises of Australia and the US at Shoalwater Bay in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Members participate in the **Talisman Sabre 2007 Peace Convergence**

at Shoalwater Bay to protest against the military exercises. Inspired by Hellen Cooke, they write to the Mayor of Rockhampton proposing 'Peace Games' rather than 'War Games'.



Hellen Cooke

2008

WILPF TAS establishes the Eve Masterman **Peace Poetry Prize** on Eve Masterman's 100th birthday. It pays tribute to her tireless commitment to humanitarian and anti-war campaigning.

WILPF ACT prepares a national submission in response to the Defence White Paper 2009. Members from several branches speak at public consultations.



Three presidents: Dr Margot Roe, Eve Masterman and Audrey Moore, on Eve's 100th birthday.

April 2008

WILPF women attend the **Australia 2020 Summit**, proposing that Australia's commitment to gender equality be reflected in domestic and foreign policy.

September 2008

WILPF receives a grant to fund background research and consult with women's and human rights organisations to gauge community support for a **Women, Peace and Security National Action Plan (NAP)**.

2009

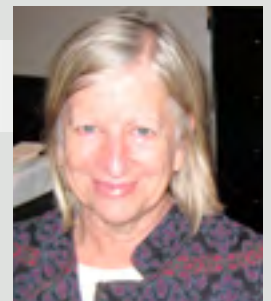


Concerned about increasing militarism, WILPF ACT members inaugurate a silent vigil on Anzac Day at the Canberra Peace Memorial. It becomes an annual event.

2010

For WILPF's 95th birthday, the Queensland branch establishes the WILPF **Peacewomen Awards** that recognise 'the talents and dedication of women whose activities have promoted peace'.

At WILPF ACT's celebration, Professor Marilyn Lake speaks on '**Rediscovering Australia's Peace History**', underlining the significance of WILPF women in Australia's peace history.



Professor Marilyn Lake



Women as Peace Builders

2011

WILPF participates in global campaign of 16 Days of Activism Against Violence Against Women on 'Blow the Whistle to Redefine Security.' Women meet in public and blow whistles to draw attention to this problem.



YWILPF, Sharna da Lacy and Cara Gleeson with other WILPF women at Commission for the Status of Women, New York 2014.

Young WILPF (YWILPF) begins in Australia.

YWILPF sets up a website, raises funds to bring young women from the Pacific to Australia for radio training, offers feminist courses, and participates in Women, Peace and Security (WPS) advocacy.

2012

The final **Australian National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) 2012-2018** is launched on International Women's Day.

April 2013

Barbara O'Dwyer, WILPF National Co-ordinator, organises a national **NGO Forum on 1325** in February 2013 and plays a key role in organising the first **Annual Civil Society Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security (WPS)** bringing together Government and civil society representatives to report on the first year of the implementation of the WPS NAP.

A WILPF representative attends consultations held by the Department of Foreign Affairs on Australia's seat on the UN Security Council.

21-25 April 2014

WILPF women attend the **IPAN (Independent and Peaceful Australia Network) Easter Convergence** in Canberra.

25-27 April 2014

The **WILPF Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting** is held in Auckland with the theme 'Militarism in the Pacific.' Ten Australian WILPF women attend.



WILPF Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting.

2014

Australian WILPF women prepare for the 2015 Centenary writing WILPF's history, organising exhibitions and events, and preparing to attend the **Centennial Congress** in The Hague in April 2015.

In the midst of the glorification of war that accompanies the commemoration of World War I and the Anzac Centenary in Australia, they reclaim the Principles of Permanent Peace and **Women's Power to Stop War**.



First Annual Civil Society Dialogue on the WPS National Action Plan 2013. Barbara O'Dwyer, third from right.

2015

WILPF Australia



Celebrating a Century



In 1915 over a thousand courageous women came together to stop a war and formed an international women's league for peace and freedom.

In 2015 WILPF will once again gather women from all over the world in an international movement to promote women's unique power to stop and prevent wars and establish the necessary foundations for permanent peace.

Join us at WILPF centenary celebrations in The Hague, in Canberra and in WILPF branches throughout Australia, to establish a new peace agenda for the 21st century.

International Celebrations

in The Hague, Netherlands

April 17 – 21

Peace Train from Istanbul to The Hague, Netherlands

April 22 – 25

WILPF Centennial Congress, The Peace Palace

April 27 – 29

WILPF 2015 International Conference, World Forum

www.womenstopwar.org

We know now what we knew then, that only when we analyse conflicts from a gender perspective, integrating disarmament, human rights, the environment, social justice and the women, peace and security agenda holistically, will we be able to eradicate the root causes of conflict.

Australian Celebrations

in Canberra

Feb 21 – May 31

WILPF Centenary Exhibition, *Women's Power to Stop War*, Canberra Museum and Gallery

April 11

PeaceKnits Pop Up Event, Queanbeyan

April 28 – May 2

A Passion for Peace Festival, Albert Hall

www.chorusofwomen.org

May 28

WILPF National Peacewomen Awards, ANU

May 29

WILPF Women's Power to Stop War Australian Conference, Australian National University

May 30

WILPF Triennial Congress, University House, Australian National University

www.wilpf.org.au/centenary