

WOMEN'S FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE

NEWSLETTER OCEANIA & S.E. ASIA



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OCEANIA / S.E. ASIA WFWP NEWSLETTER

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The Hope for Humanity Comes from Mothers



“History is calling for
reconciliation, compassion,
love, service and sacrifice.
Today’s problems cannot be
solved by the logic of power. ...
Our present
problems can only be solved by
the logic of love.”

Dr. Hak Jan Han Moon
Founder, WFWP International

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WFWP is committed to:

- Serving communities – Service projects within Australia & the Pacific Islands.
- Strengthening the family – Workshops, forums, seminars, and conferences.
- Bridge of Peace - Reconciling differences and healing wounds of the past.
- Global Women’s Peace Network (GWPN) – A network of women leaders and organisations dedicated to solving pressing social issues and securing an environment for human development.

Australia



Clean Up Australia Day

March 1 | Victoria, Australia

Written by Anne Bellavance
President, WPWF Australia

OVERVIEW

- WFWP AUSTRALIA VICTORIA CHAPTER, AND UPF VICTORIA VOLUNTEERS JOINED TOGETHER FOR CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, WHILE ALSO PROMOTING EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION.
- SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:
 - GOAL 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
 - GOAL 15: LIFE ON LAND
 - GOAL 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



WFWP Victoria and UPF Victoria volunteers, along with family and friends, gathered at Apex Park, Belgrave, to connect with the local community and champion sustainability. Clean Up Australia Day was more than just an opportunity to restore the environment—it was a meaningful way to bring people together, strengthen community bonds, and promote collective responsibility for a cleaner, greener future.



Under the WFWP marquee, enthusiastic volunteers formed teams and set out to clean up the community. They collected rubbish and recyclable items along the Puffing Billy and Belgrave Station walkways, behind the township's shops, and along major arterial roads. This year, WFWP partnered with Yarra Ranges Council, which generously collected the bags of waste at no charge, further supporting our shared commitment to a cleaner, greener environment.

This year Clean Up Australia marked its 35th year of beautifying Australia. Clean Up Australia Day, established

in 1990, has grown into the nation's largest community-based environmental event, with over 22 million Australians participating since its inception. In 2024, more than 750,000 volunteers engaged in over 10,000 clean-up sites nationwide, demonstrating a robust commitment to environmental stewardship.

Australians produce approximately 540 kilograms of household waste per person annually, equating to over 10 kilograms each week. Of the estimated 67 million tonnes of waste generated in 2017, only 37 million tonnes were recycled, leaving 21.7 million tonnes disposed of in landfill. Additionally, about 130,000 tonnes of Australian plastic end up in waterways and oceans each year. [www.cleanup.org.au]

These statistics underscore the significant waste challenges faced in Australia and highlight the critical role of community initiatives like Clean Up Australia Day in addressing environmental pollution.

Unfortunately, single-use plastic water bottles, soft drink cans, fast-food containers, and plastic wrappers are often discarded out of car windows by passing drivers. Train station pathways, underpasses, and stairways tend to accumulate significant litter, as people carelessly leave their waste behind rather than disposing of it responsibly.

As the day progressed, it was truly inspiring to see everyone step up and take action to make a difference.

Volunteers returned for a well-earned break, enjoying a complimentary BBQ lunch while reflecting on their efforts. A rewarding day with a meaningful impact!



REFLECTION FROM PARTICIPANTS

“Clean Up Australia is the second clean-up event I joined with WFWP. The event once again reminded me of the power of collective action to protect the environment. We collected over 20 big bags of various types of waste, including heaps of broken glass.

It was inspiring and motivating to see people of all ages cleaning up and making spaces become nicer together.”

- Tuoi, Volunteer.

PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS



The Women's Federation for World Peace is an international NGO in General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. WFWP adheres to the principle that women working together, taking initiative, and empowering one another across traditional lines of race, culture, and religion to create healthy families can resolve the complex problems of our societies and world – www.wfwpaustralia.org



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Clean Up Australia is a not-for-profit Australian organisation promoting environmental conservation. Clean Up Australia Day empowers communities to address environmental problems and supports local action to make a difference in the world. <https://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/>



Yarra Ranges Council is a local government area in Victoria, Australia, located in the outer eastern and northeastern suburbs of Melbourne extending into the Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges. It has an area of 2,468 square kilometres, of which 3% is classified as urban. <https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au>

Malaysia



Chinese New Year Elderly Home Visit

February 8 | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Written by Jenisse
WFWP Malaysia

OVERVIEW

- TWENTY VOLUNTEERS VISITED AN ELDERLY HOME TO FOSTER INTERGENERATIONAL CONNECTION AND BRING DONATIONS AND JOY TO THE RESIDENTS FOR CHINESE NEW YEAR.

Twenty volunteers gathered for a Chinese New Year celebration at Hati Mesra Elderly Care Centre on 8 February 2025. The visit, organised by Women's Federation for World Peace Malaysia (WFWP) and supported by Universal Peace Federation Malaysia, brought festive joy and fostered intergenerational bonding. The home also received a wheelchair, disability equipment, groceries, and necessities for its 20 elderly residents.

Mdm. Ng, who runs the home, provided an overview of its operations, challenges faced by the residents, and the importance of community involvement. A brief tour of the facility allowed volunteers to better understand the living environment and needs of the elderly.

WFWP Malaysia president Mdm. Lina Cheng, who kickstarted the event with a speech, expressed her gratitude to the volunteers, donors, and supporters. She emphasised the importance of showing care and respect for the elderly and encouraged participants to continue fostering a spirit of love and service in their daily lives.



The visit was filled with interactive activities that created a lively and warm atmosphere. Volunteers engaged the elderly in fun games, including a gift-passing activity and an action-based game. The laughter and joy were evident as residents actively participated. Music brought everyone together as volunteers and residents sang nostalgic songs that lifted their spirits and created a heart-warming ambience. A special highlight was the distribution of angpows to the residents.

Volunteers and residents also shared a meal together, strengthening the bond between generations. Volunteers as well as residents found the visit enriching and rewarding, successfully embodying the Chinese New Year festive mood — unity, kindness, and gratitude.

The Chinese New Year Elderly Home Visit was a fulfilling initiative that strengthened intergenerational connections and promoted the values of love and care for the elderly. Moving forward, WFWP Malaysia remains committed to organising more community outreach programmes that bring joy and support to those in need.



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The Multicultural Youth Service Project

January 10 | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Written by Jenisse
WFWP Malaysia

OVERVIEW

- A GROUP OF 50 PARTICIPANTS—including teachers, special needs students, parents, local community volunteers, and university students—gathered to clean and paint five classrooms designated for special needs education.
- CENTRAL TO THE DAY'S ACTIVITIES WAS A HEARTFELT SHARING SESSION, WHERE WFWP BOHOL MEMBERS SHARED STORIES ABOUT THEIR LOCAL CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS.

The Women's Federation for World Peace Malaysia played a pivotal role in the success of the event. Beyond supporting the initiative, WFWP also prepared thoughtful gifts for teachers, children, and volunteers, adding a personal touch to the program and expressing appreciation for everyone's efforts.

The program began with a heart-warming opening, led by special needs students under their teachers' guidance. This included greetings from the emcee, a prayer recital, welcoming remarks by Mdm. Buvaneswary (Senior Assistant for Special Education), a speech from Mdm. Tan Wan (UPF representative), and opening remarks by Mdm. Norlia, the Principal of SMK Bukit Tinggi. During the opening ceremony, a significant moment took place with the exchange of certificates of collaboration between Mdm. Lina Cheng, President of WFWP Malaysia, and Mdm. Norlia, symbolising their shared commitment to the project.



The project aimed to create a brighter and more welcoming environment for special needs students while promoting inclusivity, teamwork, and a sense of community. Volunteers worked together to refresh and beautify the classrooms, demonstrating compassion and unity.

Through this initiative, WFWP Malaysia emphasised its mission to foster mutual respect, understanding, and care among individuals from diverse cultural and social backgrounds. The gifts prepared by WFWP not only brought smiles to the participants but also reinforced the importance of gratitude and community spirit.

This collaborative effort enhanced the physical learning space and strengthened bonds among the students, teachers, and volunteers. The event showcased how collective action can create positive change and inspire a more compassionate society.





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International Women's Day



Theme: Empowering voices, uniting cultures in harmony

March 15 | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Written by Jenisse
WFWP Malaysia

OVERVIEW

- FLORENCE ANNE LILIU HAS COMPLETED A SEMESTER OF HER TEACHING DEGREE AT SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (SINU) WITH THE HELP OF THE PASIFIKA SCHOLARSHIP FUND.
- CENTRAL TO THE DAY'S ACTIVITIES WAS A HEARTFELT SHARING SESSION, WHERE WFWP BOHOL MEMBERS SHARED STORIES ABOUT THEIR LOCAL CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS.

On 15 March 2025, WFWP Malaysia, supported by UPF Malaysia, hosted a vibrant celebration for International Women's Day at the Peace Embassy. The event, attended by 80 participants, was a colourful gathering where attendees wore traditional costumes from various cultures, embracing the theme "Empowering Voices, Uniting Cultures in Harmony."



The event began with opening remarks by Mdm Lina Cheng, the President of WFWP Malaysia, who emphasized the importance of the role of women in the family, community and the nation. She also emphasised that women's participation will foster peace and harmony, strengthen society and makes economies more dynamic. The young and energetic emcees, Janany and Renee, engaged the crowd with a lively ice-breaking session that set a cheerful tone for the event.

Guests enjoyed a delightful array of international dishes, including sushi maki,

japchae, and mochi from Japan and Korea, along with a mix of Western and local delicacies prepared by WFWP members. The celebration continued with a series of cultural performances. IV Dance Studio showcased an Indian dance and a Chinese jazz dance, while TariMas dancers, part of an active aging programme, performed the graceful Joget Selayang, a traditional Malay dance.



A significant highlight of the event was the "Give Me A Chance Laptop Presentation", where Dr. Tan Ji, Assistant Professor from the University of Tunku Abdul Rahman, was invited to present refurbished laptops to five outstanding college students from disadvantaged families. This generous initiative aims to support students in need, ensuring they have the necessary tools to pursue their education and future careers.



Ms. Wong Tze Wei, a digital business entrepreneur, shared her inspiring thoughts on "Achieving Harmony: Balancing Family & Career Life." Additionally, Mdm Lim Mi Yoke offered a heartfelt testimony on her six-year journey with WFWP.

In recognition of long-standing dedication, members who had served for five to ten years were presented with long-service awards by Mdm Lina Cheng. A quiz session followed, where participants had the opportunity to showcase their knowledge of International Women's Day.

A traditional costumes booth also allowed attendees to try on a variety of cultural outfits, including the Kimono, Yukata, Korean Hanbok, as well as Malay, Indian, and Chinese attire, adding to the cultural richness of the event.

The event successfully highlighted the unity, strength, and cultural diversity of women, fostering a spirit of harmony among all attendees.



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Philippines



International Hijab Day and Interreligious Harmony Week

February 10 | Lanao del Norte, Philippines

Written by Jenisse
WFWP Malaysia

OVERVIEW

- THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF LANA DEL NORTE, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF GOVERNOR IMELDA "ANGGING" QUIBRANZA-DIMAPORO, SUCCESSFULLY ORGANISED THE INTERNATIONAL HIJAB DAY AND INTERRELIGIOUS HARMONY WEEK CELEBRATION.
- THE EVENT WAS A SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARD PROMOTING RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING, AS WELL AS ADVOCATING FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND INTERFAITH SOLIDARITY.

A key highlight of the program was the participation of the Women's Federation for World Peace Philippines (WFWP), represented by leader, Mrs. Almera Grace Mayo. She introduced the mission and vision of WFWP, emphasising its commitment to peacebuilding, family values, and women's leadership. She also introduced the Global Women for Peace Network (GWPN), an international initiative aimed at uniting women leaders to foster dialogue, understanding, and cooperation across different sectors and faith traditions.



As a gesture of appreciation for her unwavering support for peace and women's empowerment, Governor Imelda Quibranza-Dimaporo was honoured with a special Leadership Award from WFWP. Presenting the award alongside Mrs. Almera Grace Mayo was Mrs. Sylvia Deapera, the Regional Director of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) - Region 10, together with distinguished women leaders from Cagayan de Oro and key members of the WFWP staff.



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The event provided a platform for meaningful dialogue and strengthened the commitment of women leaders and government officials to work together in promoting religious harmony, peace, and

gender equality. It was a day of unity, empowerment, and inspiration, reaffirming that when women and communities come together, they can create a lasting impact for the betterment of society.



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Solomon Islands




Pasifika Scholarship Recipient Induction and Briefing Meeting

March 2 | Honiara, Solomon Islands

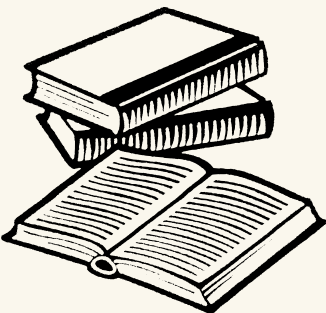
Written by Monica Longanimala
WFWP Solomon Islands


OVERVIEW

- MORE THAN 30 PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING 5 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES ATTENDED THIS BRIEFING MEETING.
- THE PASIFIKA SCHOLARSHIP IS A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN WFWP AUSTRALIA AND WFWP SOLOMON ISLANDS AIMED AT SUPPORTING YOUNG WOMEN IN THEIR EDUCATION.



WFWP-SI President, Monica Longanimala Ilala invited the 5 successful Pasifika scholarship recipients for a meet and greet Induction briefing lunch meeting. She congratulated the awardees and acknowledged their interest in seeking financial assistance from WFWP Pasifika Scholarship Fund to support their study at the University. The Pasifika Scholarship is a partnership program between WFWP Australia and WFWP Solomon Islands, where WFWP supports young girls and women through education.





WFWP Australia and WFWP SI was proud to sponsor 5 students in various field of studies from the SINU (Solomon Islands National University) for the first semester of academic year 2025:

- Two Students at the School of Education (Teacher)
- One Student at the School of Nursing
- One Student at the School of Business Studies
- One Student at the School of Agriculture

One of the scholarship recipients spoke on behalf of the students. In appreciation for the continuous support from WFWP Australia and WFWP SI and also to the supporters and sponsors for Pasifika Scholarship Fund for without their hearts and generous support in donating to the Pasifika Scholarship Fund, their studies would not be possible. They really valued the ongoing support.

WFWP Australia Pasifika Scholarship Fund empowers young women in the Pacific Islands by providing access to education, fostering leaderships and creating opportunities for a brighter future and a better standard of living.

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Solomon Islands International Women's Day

March 9 | Honiara, Solomon Islands

Written by Monica Longanimala
WFPW Solomon Islands

OVERVIEW

- MORE THAN 60 PARTICIPANTS CAME TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY IN HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS.
- A PURPLE VICTORY CAKE WAS CUT AND SHARED AMONGST ATTENDEES



The aim of this event is to honour the strength, resilience and leadership of women in various fields and empower women to create lasting peace with in themselves, their family, society, nation and world. It was attended by more than 60 participants, including WFWP SI members, networking friends and family members.



The women were proud to celebrate and accelerate action through fellowship and presentation of songs for entertainment. The event designated colour is purple, with a purple victory cake. WFWP SI President shared highlights to continue uplifting each other, break barriers and foster in to a culture of heart where partnership and equality thrive. Together we are stronger and can build more inclusive bright future for all.



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We thank all our members, sponsors and supporters.

Feel inspired?



Support our Pacific Islands Humanitarian Service Projects

Volunteer:

Get involved with one of our Regional Chapters.
Contact us to find out how.

Donate:

Make a financial contribution, where 100% of your donation supports Global Development and Aid projects. WFWP International is a volunteer based NGO and a NFP charitable organisation.

Pasifika Scholarship Fund:

The full scholarship is for young adults living in the Pacific Islands who do not have the financial means to attend university, but who have a driving desire for education to become future leaders.

The program supports young adults who are passionate, and who align their beliefs and goals with the values of WFWP International: 'Living for the sake of others'.

Pasifika Micro-Credit: Taking a partnership approach between WFWP Australia and WFWP Chapters within Pacific Island Nations, Pasifika Micro-Credit aims to empower Island women by directly investing in their business idea, economic activity, or micro-enterprise. The program provides micro-business training and a low interest micro-loan.