



THE WEST AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL WORKER

ISSN 1325-2534

LOCAL AND GLOBAL PRACTICE: RELOCATING SOCIAL WORK AS A HUMAN RIGHTS PROFESSION IN THE NEW GLOBAL ORDER BY PROFESSOR JIM IFE

Professor Jim Ife is the Head of Department of Social Work at Curtin University of Technology and is also the IFSW Commissioner for Human Rights. For space reasons the text of the address has been edited. The following is an excerpt of Jim's Eileen Younghusband Memorial Lecture presented at the IFSW/IASSW Biennial Conference in Montreal on 31 July 2000: 'Local and Global Practice: Relocating Social Work as a Human Rights Profession in the New Global Order'.

I would like at the outset to acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we are meeting, the Mohawk People. The indigenous peoples of the world are victims of the colonising and oppressive practices of so-called "development" which have culminated in economic globalisation, and their stories and their wisdom remind us of the need to reconstruct our ideas of what it means to live in one world in a more inclusive and non-colonialist way. My comments today are intended in that spirit.

I also wish to express my regret that I am only able to speak in English, the language of globalisation, and to acknowledge that all three conference languages — English, French and Spanish — are languages of colonial domination. Our language effectively perpetuates the colonisation of the indigenous peoples of the world.

It is a great honour and privilege to have been invited to deliver the Younghusband Lecture; indeed I can think of no higher honour for a social work educator, and I would like to thank IASSW for the invitation.

However I must also admit to being a little embarrassed because it is the usual story; a white English-speaking man acknowledging two white English-speaking men. I cannot help that, and it is true that white male privilege is still an issue within our profession. This emphasises the importance of continuing to work for inclusion; it is heartening to note the vigour with which

An online version of this newsletter can be found at
<http://westausaasw.highway1.com.au/>

these issues are now being addressed within social work, and it is encouraging to note that it is quite some years since the Younghusband Lecture was last given by a white English-speaking man.

Historical reflections and acknowledging our origins are important, as we look at the rapidly changing context of practice in this year 2000, a year suspended between two centuries. We need not only to be looking forward, to the challenges we will face in the coming years, but we also need to look back at where we have come from, at the struggles of social workers in the past as they worked towards a better world, and at the many achievements of the international social work profession. It is often in the wisdom of the past that we can find the answers to the problems of the future.

This is significant when we come to look at globalisation, the theme of this conference. While there is much about globalisation that is new, brought about by the revolution in communications and information technology, there is also much about globalisation

IN THIS ISSUE

Articles

Professor Jim Ife

Eileen Younghusband Memorial Lecture 1

Notices

National Conference

Extension of call for papers 3

New members 7

State Conference Planning Committee 8

Branch activities

Walk for reconciliation 7

December 2000 CPE event 7

Other

WA Branch

Contact details & office bearers 2

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL WORKER

Editor: Greg Swensen ☎ 9483 8212 (W)

Email: g.swensen@student.murdoch.edu.au

WA BRANCH HOME PAGE

<http://westausaasw.highway1.com.au/>

Printing by On Printing

Advertising rates (GST included)

Full page	\$195
Half page	\$110
Quarter page	\$66
Eighth page	\$50
Pre printed A4 insert	\$88

WA BRANCH OFFICE

PO Box 198, West Perth, Western Australia 6872

☎ 9420 7240 Fax: 9310 3936

Email: aaswwa@aasw.asn.au

Executive Officer: Meredith Doyle-Hafid

NATIONAL OFFICE

PO Box 4956, Kingston ACT 2604

☎ 02 6273 0199 Fax: 02 6273 5020

Membership inquiries only (Freecall): ☎ 1800 630 124

<http://www.aasw.asn.au/>

The West Australian Social Worker is published monthly by the WA Branch of the Australian Association of Social Workers (ACN 008 576 010). Articles, letters, opinions, enclosures or any other materials published in or included with the newsletter do not represent AASW policy. The Branch does not endorse or favour any service or organisation appearing in or included with this publication. Contributions are accepted on the understanding they may be subject to editorial revision.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS - WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

President

Barbara Meddin ☎ 9350 7221 (W)

Secretary

Richard Wilkins ☎ 9371 0473 (W)

Treasurer

Dawn Mielins ☎ 9022 0714 (W)

Vice President (Ethics & Professional Practice)

Brian Dodds ☎ 9301 3648 (W)

Vice President (Finance)

Norma Welsh ☎ 9881 0123 (W)

Vice President (Social Policy)

Chris Coopes ☎ 9432 3522 (W)

Vice President (Education)

Anne Pickard ☎ 9464 7062 (W)

Committee Members

Pattie Benjamin ☎ 9381 9496 (W)

John de Jongh ☎ 9431 8800 (W)

Jennifer Hannan ☎ 9489 6363 (W)

Mary Joyce ☎ 9346 4666 (W)

Sarah Kemp ☎ 0408 944 188 (W)

Francis Lynch ☎ 9442 3444 (W)

Rosina Pruiti ☎ 9344 9614 (W)

Michelle Speed ☎ 9432 3333 (W)

Representatives on External Bodies

Combined Health Professions Association

Representative: Mary Joyce ☎ 9346 4666 (W)

WA Council of Social Services

Representative: Chris Coopes ☎ 9497 6562 (W)

Student Representatives

UWA: Lynne Ridgeway ☎ 9380 2295 (W); Curtin: Celine Coyne ☎ 9448 4613 (H); ECU: Vacancy

Convenors of Subcommittees

Administrators in Health Care

Convenor: Vere Berger ☎ 9346 4666 (W)

Aged Care

Co-Convenors: Phyllis Costello ☎ 9448 4773 (W)

Ivy Vukovich ☎ 9334 3782 (W)

Childrens' Interests

Convenor: Beverley Woods ☎ 9382 0757 (W)

Continuing Professional Education

Convenor: Anne Pickard ☎ 9464 7062 (W)

Ethics

Convenor: John de Jongh ☎ 9431 8800 (W)

Health

Convenor: Wendy Butler ☎ 9347 5244 (W)

Kimberley/Pilbara Regional

Convenor: Lanie Pianta ☎ 08 9144 1111 (W)

Mental Health

Co-Convenors: Anthony Collier ☎ 9531 8080 (W)

Michele Speed ☎ 9431 3400 (W)

Professional Practice

Convenor: Mike Clare ☎ 9380 2998 (W)

South West Regional

Convenor: Rebecca Jury ☎ 08 9721 9788 (W)

State Conference

Convenor: Sarah Kemp ☎ 9527 8536 (W)

Project Officer: Marian Maughan ☎ 9330 2585 (W),
9317 3891 (fax)

that is not new, but that is merely a continuation of some trends with which we have been familiar for a long time. If we lose our historical perspective, we lose many of the insights and conceptual understandings which help us in coming to terms with the opportunities and challenges of the present.

Globalisation, as currently understood, is defined largely in economic, and to some extent political, terms. Older forms of the internationalist ideal, concerned with peace, justice, human rights, health, education, housing and the environment, are frequently pushed off the agenda, as economic globalisation has marginalised social and environmental concerns, defining them as secondary to perceived economic imperatives (Brecher & Costello 1994). There is, however, nothing particularly new in this.

The idea that everything must be subservient to the needs of the economy, and that people may need to suffer so that the economy can prosper, has been a recurring theme of capitalism, and reached its most virulent form with the policies of the Thatcher and Reagan administrations, and those who slavishly copied them. Its impact for social work was the subject of David Woodworth's Younghusband lecture in 1986 (Woodworth 1986), in his critique of the negative impact on human welfare of blind faith in markets and the pursuit of profits. Economic globalisation is in many ways simply a new manifestation of an old, and largely discredited, market liberalism, only this time on a global rather than a national scale. Just as social workers, among others, had to struggle to preserve human values from the assault of economic rationalist dogmas at national policy level, now the arena for that struggle has moved to the global.

Currently we are experiencing the rapid globalisation of the economy, but not a corresponding globalisation of citizenship. Yet we know that economic development needs to be accompanied by citizenship rights if the goals of social justice are to be realised. This is clearly illustrated in the case of personal mobility. On the one hand, the more advantaged of the world's population are more mobile than ever before; all of us here, from all over the world, at a conference in Montreal, are testimony to that.

Travel has never been easier, or cheaper, than it is now. The leaders of the globalised economy move from country to country, and are eagerly sought after through international recruitment firms; they owe loyalty to no nation, and will change their nationality to suit their own convenience. By contrast, refugees, asylum seekers and migrant workers, who are either fleeing persecution or simply seeking a better life for themselves and their families, are discriminated against, coerced, moved on, denied basic human rights, punished and incarcerated.

It is fine, apparently, for the rich to move countries in pursuit of wealth, but it is not so fine for the poor to do so. Strident calls to "send them back to their own country" are reminiscent of the old British poor laws, when to be poor meant to have one's freedom of movement severely curtailed, at the risk of draconian punishment, and when the generosity of the parish was strictly limited to its own people, and denied to strangers, who, if they were poor, would be whipped and sent home (de Schweinitz 1943). Now, in place of the workhouse, we have the refugee camp and the detention centre. It took centuries for the British poor laws to be

URGENT STOP PRESS

National Conference Think/Act/Local/Global

**Deadline for conference abstracts
extended to 16 March 2001**

The deadline has been extended for the submission of abstracts for papers and workshops to be considered for the AASW National Conference being held in Melbourne in September 2001.

Full details are available in the first announcement and call for abstracts which was sent out with the October 2000 National Bulletin. These details can be obtained from ICMS, the conference organisers.

This is your opportunity to showcase your work. Also, please bring this information to the attention of any of your non AASW member colleagues who are working in innovative ways which can be shared with the profession.

Abstracts may be submitted by email, on disk, hard copy or by using the online form on the ICMS web site. Contact details: Ms Lynne John, ICMS. Tel: 03 9682 0244. Fax: 03 9682 0288. Email: aasw@icms.com.au.



Web site: <http://www.icms.au/aasw>

Alternatively you may wish to call either of the WA members on the National Conference Committee:

**Brian Wooller 08 9421 1199
Marian Maughan 08 9330 2585**

reformed, and new universal provisions established, as a right, for all people in Britain, wherever they lived. We can only ask whether it will also take centuries for some idea of global citizenship to emerge which will see the poor, as well as the rich, able to call themselves “citizens of the world”, which will see strangers accorded generosity and understanding, and which will see people treated on the basis of their human rights, rather than on the basis of artificial national boundaries, or the stereotypes of race, tribe and creed.

There are other ways in which globalisation may be seen as the return of some familiar demons in new clothing. The forces of globalisation can be seen as a reflection of a patriarchal system of control and domination, and so they demand a strong feminist critique. Globalisation might also be described as the ultimate form of capitalism, as the final expression of western rationality, as the latest manifestation of colonialism, or as the modernist quest for certainty and scientific control. Certainly various critical traditions — such as feminism, Marxism, environmentalism, postcolonialism and postmodernism — all have roles to play in the critique of globalisation and the development of an alternative.

To deny the contributions of these critical traditions is to deny the very tools for understanding and successfully critiquing globalisation. We need to be wary of those who claim that the “new world order” is so new and different that the past is irrelevant; we have been led to believe that we must seek “new solutions to new problems”, but we also need to recognise that the new problems are really old problems — to do with poverty, race, gender and oppression — in new disguises, and that we need to be learning from the past, rather than ignoring it.

One of the consequences of globalisation has been a resurgence of its antithesis, localisation. In many parts of the world, people are reacting to the forces of globalisation by attempting to reinvest new meaning into the local. This is shown in many different forms: the emergence of community banks, as globalised banks close branches in rural areas and fail to meet community needs, local currency and trading schemes, co-operative movements, attempts to establish community schools and other facilities, and the resurgence of interest in community development. But localisation can also be dangerous. The reaction against globalisation has resulted in some very alarming trends arising from tribalism and insecurity: the rise of street gangs and motor cycle gangs, armed citizen militia and vigilante groups in the USA, religious fundamentalism, and a resurgence of parochial racism as clever politicians prey on people’s insecurity by provoking reaction against convenient scapegoats from minority groups. Localisation is a two-edged sword; it can provide a positive community development experience, or it can strengthen the forces of exclusion, prejudice and oppression.

It is important therefore to emphasise that both globalisation

and localisation are of themselves neither good nor bad. Just as localisation can be liberating or oppressive, so globalisation, despite its problems, has the potential for many positive benefits. Globalisation does not have to be exclusively economic; the same communication systems that make possible economic globalisation can also be used to seek the goals of a broader internationalism: the consciousness that we live in one world, that national boundaries do not automatically classify some people as inferior to others, that world peace, universal human rights and a sustainable global environment are indeed possible, and so on. As social workers, operating from a clear value base of social justice and human rights, we should be looking to how we can practise both globally and locally in order to support such a form of globalisation.

With these dual trends towards globalisation and localisation, the global and the local become the important sites for seeking to effect change, and we no longer should be thinking of national government as the only major arena for policy intervention. This is because it is at the local and the global levels that there is more

room to manoeuvre, while national policy is increasingly constrained by the inability of governments to defy global market forces. And if we think of the key contests of the present, we can see that they are not bound by national political boundaries; indeed the government of Austria is finding that its apparently internal affairs are seen as a major concern by many people elsewhere in Europe, and beyond. The protest in Seattle was not confined within national boundaries; it was a protest by the people of the world. Bosnia, Kosovo and East Timor became

issues for the world, and international “interference” was overwhelmingly endorsed by the global community.

Social work, then, needs to be able to operate effectively at both the local and the global levels. Social workers have a good deal of experience at working locally, but international social work has been seen as a minor specialisation, with little relevance for mainstream practice (Midgley 1997). Many social workers have an interest in international issues — they may support Amnesty International or an aid agency, for example — but in their role as private citizen rather than in their role as social worker, and they may not see that internationalism has much if anything to do with their day to day practice.

Linking the personal and the political lies at the core of social work, and hence social workers have sought, often with considerable success, to have an impact on policy making and program development at national level. The challenge now is to apply the same analysis at the global level, and to seek to influence the policy agenda globally as well as nationally, because that is where we can be most effective. Such internationalism, of course, is not new for social work; indeed this lecture is named in honour of one of the great internationalist social workers, Eileen Youngusband.

"We need to be wary of those who claim that the “new world order” is so new and different that the past is irrelevant; we have been led to believe that we must seek “new solutions to new problems”, but we also need to recognise that the new problems are really old problems to do with poverty, race, gender and oppression in new disguises, and that we need to be learning from the past, rather than ignoring it."

From Jane Addams onwards, some social workers have had a long and distinguished tradition of working globally, and we must value that tradition and continue to work within it.

International work must no longer be regarded as peripheral to the apparently core task of social workers, but needs to be made central in our construction of the social work task and in our definition of fields of practice. International social work can no longer simply be an interesting but slightly off-beat option in education programs. All social work practice, wherever it occurs, must now be regarded as working at the global/local interface, at the point where global forces impinge on the human experience. All social work is therefore international social work. It is located in a world where international forces affect people's lives, and where if we are genuine about working at both individual and structural levels, we need to be internationalist in our outlook. Unless the global perspective is taken into account and specifically addressed, across the full spectrum of social work practice, we will fail both our profession and those whom we seek to serve.

This is a somewhat different view of international social work from the traditional comparative approach which compares the policy and practice experiences of different countries (Mayadas, Watts & Elliott 1997). It also goes beyond the traditional concerns of international social work, such as refugees, inter-country adoptions and migration, though these of course remain critical issues of concern. Rather, it looks at social work as it is practised in a globalised world where global factors affect everybody, as suggested in the recent work of writers such as Bob Deacon (1997, 1999), Ramesh Mishra (1999), and James Midgley (1997).

This is also a different understanding of international social work from that which seeks commonality, and aims to define a single set of social work knowledge, values and skills for a single international profession (Harris 1997). Such a goal, I believe, is unattainable, and indeed it would remove social work from its important concern with the local, with context, and with its grounding in different social and cultural traditions. Saying that all social work is international is not equivalent to saying all social work is the same. Rather it is saying that all social work must be concerned with the international, and that the task of linking the global and the local becomes a part of the practice of every social worker, in whatever country or field of practice they may work. Indeed, social workers are ideally placed to make such links.

The global/local divide closely parallels the political/personal divide; the political has become increasingly global, while human needs and human suffering remain firmly local. Social workers have for many years been grappling with the complexities of linking the personal and the political, and so they have considerable wisdom on which to draw in facing up to the task of global and local practice.

Beyond this, however, there is another level at which international social work skills are critically important. As I have already suggested, the elitist nature of globalisation, and of the debate about globalisation and human rights, needs to be challenged, and ways need to be found to include the voices of the marginalised, the disadvantaged, the oppressed and the excluded. Social workers have skills at facilitating such inclusion. The recognition that



Introduction to Cognitive Therapy

5th, 12th, 19th & 26th May 2001

The *Introduction to Cognitive Therapy* course is an intensive 4 day training program in the core competencies essential to practising as a Cognitive Therapist.

The skills acquired can be applied to mental health practice, general practice, behavioural medicine and health promotion.

Cost (incl GST) \$880. Early bird registration (before 1 March 2001) \$770. Venue: Hollywood Hospital, Nedlands.

For more information

Tel 08 9389 5155 or Fax 08 9389 5166.

such voices not only have a right to be heard, but also that they have some important things to say, has yet to be fully realised. In my own country, after over 200 years of European colonisation and often brutal oppression and dispossession, it is only now slowly being realised by non-Indigenous Australians not only that Indigenous Australians have rights and needs which are not being met, but also that their wisdom and experience are vital for the future development of all Australians.

This is paralleled in other countries, but it is a relatively recent realisation. It is an important move from an implicitly colonialist philosophy based on the definition of problems and the meeting of need, to one that recognises the positive contributions and the important wisdom, not only of Indigenous People, but of all oppressed groups. Social work's concern that the voices of the excluded be heard and validated requires that we use our social work skills to ensure that their wisdom is reflected in the establishment of a new globalised world order.

In conclusion, it seems to me that the key to understanding our role as social workers in a globalised world lies in the promotion of ideas of global citizenship, expressed through an articulation of human rights. This approach reaches across the entire range of social work practice in any context. And because human rights are universal, it firmly locates social work as internationalist practice, requiring us to link the personal to the political in the very widest sense. And the value base of social work requires that our internationalist human rights practice be inclusive, and that we work in solidarity with the marginalised in order to achieve the ideal of globalisation from below. This ideal is perhaps best described by the Czech President, playwright and former dissident, Václav Havel:



Jim Ife chats with Daphne Cross and Patti Benjamin after presenting the Eileen Younghusband Memorial Lecture in November 2000 at a WA Branch sponsored CPE event

Does not the perspective of a better future depend on something like an international community of the shaken which, ignoring state boundaries, political systems and power blocs, starting outside the high game of traditional politics, aspiring to no titles and appointments, will seek to make a real political force out of a phenomenon so ridiculed by the technicians of power — the phenomenon of human conscience? (Havel 1991, p. 271)

Such a task is daunting, in a world ruled by greed, individualism, and profit. But to return to my starting point, we must remember history, and a historical perspective tells us that things can, and do, change. What may seem impossible today can become feasible tomorrow. Havel wrote those visionary words in 1984, five years before the “velvet revolution”, when the future must have seemed bleak indeed. His words are an example of the importance, and the imperative, of hope. And as a symbol of hope, I would like to close with the words of Eileen Younghusband, whose writing from 1962 is equally applicable today:

Let us be quite clear that social workers are no more able than any other profession to wave a magic wand and perform miracles. Let us be equally clear that we live in an age of miracles. (Younghusband 1964 p. 103)

References

- Bauer, J. & Bell, D. (eds), 1999 *The East Asian Challenge for Human Rights*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge
- Bauman, Z., 1998 *Globalization: the Human Consequences*, Polity Press, Cambridge
- Beck, U., 2000 *What is Globalization?* Polity Press, Cambridge
- Brecher, J. & Costello, T., 1994 *Global Village or Global Pillage: Economic Reconstruction from the Bottom Up*, South End Press, Boston
- Deacon, B. 1999 “Social Policy in a Global Context” in Hurrell, A. & Woods, N. (eds), *Inequality, Globalization and World Politics*, Oxford University Press, Oxford
- De Schweinitz, K., 1943 *England’s Road to Social Security*, Barnes & Co., New York

- Donnelly, J., 1999 “The Social Construction of International Human Rights” in Dunne, T. & Wheeler, N. (eds), *Human Rights in Global Politics*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge
- Ekins, P., 1992 *A New World Order: Grassroots Movements for Global Change*, Routledge, London
- Harris, R., 1997 “Internationalizing Social Work: Some Themes and Issues” in Mayadas, N., Watts, T. & Elliott, D. (eds), *International Handbook on Social Work Theory and Practice*, Greenwood Press, Westport Conn.
- Havel, V., 1991 “Politics and Conscience” (1984) in Vaclav Havel, *Open Letters*, Faber & Faber, London
- Held, D, McGrew, A., Goldblatt, D. & Perraton, J., 1999 *Global Transformations*, Polity Press, Cambridge
- Hutton, W. & Giddens, A. (eds), 2000 *On the Edge: Living with Global Capitalism*, Jonathan Cape, London
- Hurrell, A. & Woods, N. (eds), 1999 *Inequality, Globalization and World Politics*, Oxford University Press, Oxford
- Ife, J., 1997 *Rethinking Social Work: Towards Critical Practice*, Longman, Melbourne
- Ife, J., 1999 “Postmodernism, Critical Theory and Social Work” in Pease, R. & Fook J. (eds), *Transforming Social Work: Postmodern Critical Perspectives*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney
- Keck, M. & Sikkink, K., 1998 *Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics*, Cornell University Press, Ithaca NY
- Lawrence, J., 1984 “Human Survival and Development: Our Urgent Need for a Reflective Universal Morality” *Younghusband Memorial Lecture*, IFSW/IASSW Conference, Montreal
- Leonard, P., 1997 *Postmodern Welfare: Reconstructing an Emancipatory Project*, Sage, London
- Mander, J., 1991 *In the Absence of the Sacred: The Failure of Technology and the Survival of the Indian Nations*, Sierra Club, San Francisco
- Mayadas, N., Watts, T. & Elliott, D. (eds), 1997 *International Handbook on Social Work Theory and Practice*, Greenwood Press, Westport Conn.
- Midgley, J., 1997 *Social Welfare in Global Context*, Sage, Thousand Oaks Calif.
- Mishra, R. 1999, *Globalization and the Welfare State*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham
- Mittelman, J., 2000 *The Globalization Syndrome: Transformation and Resistance*, Princeton University Press, Princeton NJ
- Parekh, B., 1999 “Non ethnocentric Universalism” in Dunne, T. & Wheeler, N. (eds), *Human Rights in Global Politics*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge
- Pease, R. & Fook J. (eds), 1999 *Transforming Social Work: Postmodern Critical Perspectives*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney
- Postman, N., 1993 *Technopoly: The Surrender of Culture to Technology*, Random House, New York
- Rorty, R. 1999 *Philosophy and Social Hope*, Penguin, London
- Woodsworth, D., 1986 “Welfare, Social Work and Peace” *Eileen Younghusband Memorial Lecture*, IFSW/IASSW Conference, Tokyo
- Yasuaki, O., 1999 “Towards an Intercivilizational Approach to Human Rights” in Bauer, J. & Bell, D., *The East Asian Challenge for Human Rights*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge
- Younghusband, E., 1964 *Social Work and Social Change*, George Allen & Unwin, London

EDITING & PROOF READING AVAILABLE

Experience in revision of health, policy, women's services/violence against women, youth and academic publications.

Qualifications in arts (humanities), social work and advanced setting.

Contact Josephine Bartley
08 9445 1451

New Members

The WA Branch welcomes the following new members:

- Karen Girardin (Anglicare)
- Maria Ivanov-Atkinson (Student Associate)
- Teresa King (Student Associate)
- Daphne Middleton
- Arthur Mortley (Student Associate)
- Jeswant Saini (Student Associate)
- Vicki Tyler

A substantial group of social workers from the WA Branch, their partners and children joined nearly 50,000 West Australians on the 3 km Walk for Reconciliation on Sunday 3 December 2000.

The occasion was inspiring and reassuring that so many like minded citizens would demonstrate their solidarity with the promotion of new relationships between Aboriginal people and other Australians. Social workers are encouraged to join the local reconciliation groups or start one up to keep the momentum going. For details of these groups contact 08 9325 3377.



Professor Nigel Parton is seen here with our departing Branch Executive Officer Liz Retamal and her successor, Meredith Doyle. Nigel is a social worker, Professor in Child Care and Director of the Centre for Applied Childhood Studies at the University of Huddersfield, England. Nigel was a co presenter with Andrew Turnell (WA) and Julie Boffa (Victoria) for a CPE event in December 2000, *Constructive social work in child protection*. The workshop was well attended and provided an opportunity for WA social workers to explore theory, policy and practice frameworks to apply to their engagement in the field of child protection.

OPEN INVITATION

For all country and metro members to observe Branch Committee of Management Meetings.

- Coffee
- Networking
- Professional Development
- You're Welcome!

Lotteries House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth
on the 2nd Tuesday of each month

Phone Meredith 9420 7240

South West Subcommittee

Meeting dates for 2001

4 pm, Boardroom, Edith Cowan University (Bunbury campus)
All members welcome

13th February
13th March
10th April
8th May
12th June
10th July

14th August
11th September
9th October
13th November
11th December

STATE CONFERENCE 2000 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Are you imaginative and looking for an outlet to demonstrate your organisational skills and knowledge of the social work field?

Then why not consider becoming a part of the State Conference Planning Committee? We are also looking for members to join a Sponsorship Sub Committee to assist with marketing and promotion of the conference.

Meetings have commenced and any interested persons are welcome to attend, at Lotteries House, City West.

If you are interested or would like more information please contact either Sarah Kemp (Convenor) on 9527 8536 or 0408 944 188, or by email: sarah_kemp@hotmail.com, or Marian Maughan (Project Officer) on 9330 2585 or by email: mmaughan@telstra.easymail.com.au.