



New Horizons for Women

supporting education, innovation and research for women

Celebrating 20 years

MARCH 2012

www.newhorizonsforwomen.org.nz

From the Chair

33 awards - WOW! To be honest we could scarcely believe it as the number of confirmed awards mounted up. They came from long term sponsors as well as new sponsors and donors. It seemed as if there was an out pouring of recognition that in these tough times women striving for a better life for themselves and their families are finding the struggle even harder.

September 2011 was the 20th Anniversary of the signing of our Trust Deed. It was a fantastic feeling to be honouring the vision of the founders of NHWT with a record number of awards.

The award ceremonies are all about stories. Those from our Second Chance awardees are inspiring and often very touching while Research Awardees told us about the long term and wide ranging benefits of their research for NZ women and girls.

The stories from award sponsors are often equally inspiring. Hours and hours are spent in academic gown rooms, in sorting and selling pre-loved clothes, and running raffles, high teas and other fundraising events. Other sponsors focus on managing Trust funds well in order to support the community and several honour the memory of a loved one. We thank you all.

Patricia Sivertsen

Pat will step down as Chair at the AGM and take up the role of Executive Officer. The Trust thanks Pat for her dedication and enthusiasm in her role as Chair and looks forward to her continued support.

Looking to the past to improve the future

Iho - a Cord Between Two Worlds

Kelly Tikao - Ria McBride Research Award 2011.
Master of Science Communication, Otago University.

The aims of Iho (umbilical cord) - a Cord Between Two Worlds research/film project - is to document traditional Maori birthing practices and explore how they could be integrated into a modern medical model of maternity care.

Kelly's research indicates that spiritual and practical aspects of traditional Maori birthing practices led to good outcomes for infant and maternal health and for the wellbeing of the whanau. A key question Kelly would like to answer is, "Could the adoption of some traditional Maori birthing practices play a positive role in the wellbeing of whanau and pepi (baby), today?"

With five children of her own, Kelly (Waitaha, Kāti Mamoe, Kāi Tahu), has a deeply personal interest in her research. She emphasises that traditional practices are there for everyone - to take up what feels right for them.

Kelly's documented her project in a 25-minute film. She is now completing the research for her Master of Science Communication thesis at Otago University.

Kelly will be the Guest Speaker at the 20th Birthday Dinner following the AGM

Sponsor Spotlight: New Zealand Federation Graduate Women (Wellington Branch)

The hire of academic regalia by NZFGW (Wellington Branch) is a win, win situation. Students need to hire regalia and the money raised supports education and research.

Over the past 20 years NZFGW(Wellington Branch) Charitable Trust has given NHWT \$133,800 - initially fundraising for the NHWT Endowment fund, then funding 36 Second Chance Education Awards, 12 Research Awards, and contributing to three Sonja Davies Peace Awards.

Research topics, which must be research that benefits NZ women and girls have ranged from the lives of women rest home residents to physical activity among New Zealand's Muslim women. Awards sponsored by Graduate Women Wellington have benefited women across New Zealand. Only 35% of the award funding went to Wellington or Wellington region women.

A truly great effort and New Horizons for Women appreciate all the time, effort and sponsorship NZFGW provide.

Thoughts from our 2011 Award Recipients

Nargis Ali, NZFGW (Wellington) Research Award
- *The NHWT award gave me a much-needed emotional, and of course financial, boost and spurred me along to resign from full-time work and focus exclusively on study.*

Adriana Yiancou, NHW Second Chance Education and Training Award - *Winning the award was such a fantastic experience. Having people listening to your story and recognising your hard work is a privilege. The award has been a real lift knowing that there are women supporting women like myself and it has helped me to keep focused.*

Rachel Rowe, Second Chance Award -

I did it, I'm a teacher. I love being in the classroom and NHW helped get me there!

Kirsty Barber, NHW Research Award - *I am extremely supportive of the NHW Awards and love the fact that the award allow people who have taken a divergent life journey to enrich the paths of their chosen academic study.*

PLEASE NOTE:

**2012 Award applications now open
Annual Report will be available on the
website after the AGM 23 March.**

Friends of New Horizons for Women - a new Initiative

The 20th Birthday will see the beginning a new funding stream for New Horizons with the launching of **Friends of NHW** - a new brochure has been printed and will also be available on the website. It is hoped that our supporters will see the worth of an annual donation through the **Friends of NHW**, to allow the Trust to keep moving forward and fulfilling our aim to administer a variety of awards for New Zealand women.

With the new Contact Management system now operating along with the website, NHW will be able to supply up to date reports, news and upcoming events to all.