Researching WEL’s History: short histories, memoirs, newsletters and university theses

When researching WEL’s history the project team was fortunate in being able to draw on the fine array of university theses about WEL, local histories of WEL groups, memoirs published by WEL members as well as the plethora of WEL newsletters and other publications. This paper lists university theses written about WEL in the years 1973–2007, selected publications by WEL members and WEL groups and discusses WEL newsletters.

1. University theses written about WEL.


Brankovich, Jasmina (2007). ‘Burning Down the House: Feminism, politics and women’s policy in Western Australia 1972–98.’ PhD, School of Humanities, University of Western Australia.


2. Selected publications only, for other publications consult the bibliography in Making women count: a history of the Women’s Electoral Lobby in Australia.


3. WEL newsletters.

WEL–National (later called WEL–Australia), State and regional WEL groups all published newsletters. Copies are in the National and State libraries. Newsletters were included in the WEL–Australia documents that the WEL history project team placed in the National Library of Australia in June 2010: for details see Gail Radford’s paper Archiving WEL’s history which is on this website.
In 2014 WEL-NSW was the only group still producing its own newsletter. *WEL-Informed The Newsletter of Women's Electoral Lobby NSW* has been published every year since the start of the group in 1972. The April 2014 newsletter, Issue No 418, states that it is an ‘occasional’ publication and ‘may be received in hard copy or by email’.

For historians it is sad to see the demise of so many newsletters, which have been such a rich source of information about WEL’s activities over the years. However, in this electronic age they have been largely replaced by websites, email, Facebook and Twitter.

Up-to-date information about WEL’s activities are on the WEL–Australia website at [www.wel.org.au](http://www.wel.org.au). WEL–NSW and WEL–Victoria also have websites but they have not been updated recently.

There is a regular WEL e-Update on WEL’s activities and other ‘feminist news’. This is a free service that is sent by email to WEL members and anyone else who is interested in receiving it. It is written by WEL–NSW for WEL–Australia. You can subscribe to the e-Update by putting your details on the WEL website at [http://wel.org.au/#sign-up](http://wel.org.au/#sign-up)

The e-Update encourages the reader to become a friend of the Women's Electoral Lobby, Australia on Facebook and follow the Women’s Electoral Lobby on Twitter (WELA @welaust)

Gail Radford
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