

AUGUST 2022 GUEST SPEAKER - CATRIONA STANDFIELD

Our August meeting was supposed to be Soup and Dessert night, but with COVID still around, we decided to move to an online meeting. In a lovely moment of synergy, former member Catriona Standfield was visiting Adelaide and wanted to catch up. Of course, we said yes of course and she became our speaker for the meeting.

In 2011, Catriona won our Esther Bright Travel Award, as the UNIFEM Youth delegate for Australia, for Commission on Status for Women in New York 2012. She subsequently became a member of our club. Later in her studying life, we supported Catriona to travel to Cyprus, in a delegation with Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, to observe women's participation in the peace keeping process. Catriona left Adelaide some years ago to do her PhD in International Politics at Syracuse Uni in USA. Her topic was around gender equality (women's contribution) in world peacekeeping. She outlined that the UN has now implemented that women must be involved in this process, that decisions around peace and security must be gender blind. She pointed out that this edict was enacted 10 years ago (& not much has changed.) PhD thus completed, she moved to Assistant Professor at Worcester University, west of Boston. This is a small university & her students tend to be like her, first in the family to go to uni.

She teaches 4 courses a semester, a heavy teaching load.

The book she has written on women in peace & security keeping is currently under peer review at Cambridge Uni Press and she has promised to write something for us on her "real" work because she was speaking too quickly for me to get half down.

When her paper arrives, it will be posted on both our facebook page and our club website.

One of our greatest joys as members of SI Adelaide is to see these young women we've supported early in their careers, grow in knowledge and confidence, on their way to reaching their fullest potential.

SI Adelaide.....Changemakers for Women.