Wellington Branch Report for WILPF Aotearoa 2024 AGM

Over the past year Wellington Branch members have been involved in a range of activities, keeping in touch with each other and in phone contact with our older members.

For our public event, we co-hosted an online forum on 5 March to mark International Women's Day. The forum - 'Refusing to support the troops': Researching public discourse on militarism - was with Ellen Martin, PhD candidate, University of Bristol, England, speaking about her research on public discourse about militarism; and is one in Peace Movement Aotearoa's regular online forum series on the women, peace and security (WPS) agenda, which Branch members always participate in.

Sheryn Elborn, one of our Branch members who started a vigil for Ukraine at the Russian embassy in Wellington which has been held every Wednesday for the past two years, spoke and sang with the regular vigil team at the two years' invasion commemoration event in Civic Suare on 24 February 2024 (below left). Branch members have supported a range of activities and online events organised by other peace and women's groups based in Wellington, including the annual West Papua solidarity gathering at parliament (below right), UN Day events, vigils and rallies for Palestine (lower row), and the annual ANZAC Day peace vigil.

We produced the February WILPF Aotearoa newsletter (pages 1 and 2 of 6 below, centre / right).

Joy Davies-Payne and Edwina Hughes, 5 March 2024