

## MAY KENTISH



May Kentish was born in Townsville, and spent much of her early life in cane growing country. Her great grandparents were pioneers in the sugar industry. May had only one year of high school but she says 'I can't remember not reading history and being interested in political economy and politics, I looked for women in history and found very few. I joined a political party, and became an advocate for women's rights.'

From 1977, May worked in the University of Queensland Library. As a mature age student I gained an Arts degree at the University of Queensland in 1984, at a time when university education was free. I was elected to the Senate Standing Committee for the Status of Women, which she describes as 'A wonderful experience, that gave me skills and the confidence that comes from working with a group of diverse and talented women.' May was an active member of a union throughout her working life. She says that 'The skills I learned have served me well in retirement where I have continued advocacy for women, peace and human rights.'

May joined AFUW Vic when she relocated to the Mornington Peninsula and has served as secretary and as Coordinator of International Relations.