

## **2017 WAW conference, 'BREXIT really is a Women's Issue.'**

***Press release: What does Brexit mean for women?***

Will Brexit be positive or negative for Welsh women? This is the question that Baroness Eluned Morgan will be tackling at the Wales Assembly of Women annual conference in March.

Baroness Morgan, Assembly Member for Mid & West Wales, is currently a member of the National Assembly's External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee that is examining the implications for Wales of Britain's withdrawal from the EU.

Back in 1994, at the age of 27 Baroness Morgan was the youngest person elected to the European Parliament and only the fifth woman elected to a full-time political position in the history of Wales.

Baroness Morgan will be joined by Julie Morgan AM and academic researcher Dr Rachel Minto to turn the spotlight on what Britain's exit from the EU means for women in Wales at *Brexit Really is a Women's Issue!*

Julie Morgan, Assembly Member for Cardiff North, will discuss The future for women in Wales post Brexit. Julie is currently Chair of the Wales Programme Monitoring Committee that monitors the delivery of EU investments in Wales and will be key in deciding what happens to EU funded projects in Wales after Brexit.

Dr Rachel Minto who has recently joined Wales Governance Centre at Cardiff University will examine, The future of women's rights and gender equality in Europe. She will highlight the role of the EU in promoting gender equality and the new international forces that challenge further promotion of gender equality.

The Wales Assembly of Women is an independent organisation for women in Wales. It is an NGO accredited to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Its representatives have attended every major U.N. world conference for women since Nairobi in 1985.

Membership is open to all women in Wales and to women living elsewhere who have connections with Wales. It is a campaigning organisation for women's rights and receives no public money. It is funded by the membership and charity grants.

*Brexit really is a Women's Issue!* The annual conference of Wales Assembly of Women will be held on Saturday 11 March at 10am in Cardiff University School of Social Sciences, Glamorgan Building, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3WT. Find out more at [Wales Assembly of Women](http://www.walesassemblyofwomen.co.uk/) web page: [www.walesassemblyofwomen.co.uk/](http://www.walesassemblyofwomen.co.uk/)

***Press release: Work by women scholars in Wales recognised in annual research awards***

Work by two post graduate researchers at Cardiff University is being recognised in annual research awards presented in memory of a Welsh woman who campaigned for women's rights across the world.

The Audrey Jones Memorial Awards for Research by Women – now in their second year – will be presented at the Wales Assembly of Women annual conference in Cardiff in March.

Audrey Jones, who represented Wales on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and contributed to UN consultations and debates on women's rights across the world, died in 2015 aged 84. Up until she retired in 1990 she was deputy head of St Cyres Comprehensive school in Penarth, where she had taught since 1960.

Co-ordinator of the Audrey Jones Memorial Awards Dr Jane Salisbury said: “We were delighted with the quality of entries we received this year. Audrey always felt too many research findings remained hidden away from public view. She would be thrilled to know a new platform for female scholars had been established in her name.”

The theme for the annual Wales Assembly of Women conference is: *Brexit really is a Women's Issue!* The morning session will hear from Baroness Eluned Morgan AM and Julie Morgan AM. Both AMs are members of National Assembly committees looking at EU issues. The role of the EU in gender equality will be tackled by Cardiff University academic Dr Rachel Minto.

The 2017 Audrey Jones Memorial Awards will be presented in the afternoon:

- *Welsh Women's attitudes towards a different form of cervical screening: human papilloma virus (HPV) self-sampling:* Dr Denitza Williams, Division of Population Medicine, College of Biomedical & Life Sciences, School of Medicine, Cardiff University
- *E cigarettes – a new route into tobacco use? Implications for girls in Wales:* Elen de Lacey, Decipher Research Centre [Development & Evaluation of Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement] Cardiff University

The Wales Assembly of Women conference is being held on Saturday 11 March at Cardiff University, School of Social Sciences, Glamorgan Building, from 10am until 3.30pm. The conference costs £12 to include lunch and refreshments. For booking form and further information email: [info@walesassemblyofwomen.co.uk](mailto:info@walesassemblyofwomen.co.uk)

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# WAW Conference News 2017

Wales Assembly of Women – an independent campaigning organisation for women in Wales

## Women must make their voices heard – WAW annual conference told

Women and women’s organisations must make their voices heard in the run up to Brexit, Julie Morgan AM for Cardiff North told the Annual Conference of the Wales Assembly of Women.

Julie, one of the key speakers at WAW’s *Brexit really is a Women’s Issue* conference at Cardiff University, said that as



Wales and the UK negotiated a more regional arrangement it was vital women spoke up to preserve the hard-earned gains won through the EU. Women’s organisations, she said, should draw up a list of rights they wanted to preserve from Europe.

As Chair of the National Assembly’s Wales Programme Monitoring Committee that

monitors the delivery of EU investments in Wales, Julie said she had seen how EU money had enabled people in Wales to grow in confidence, learn new skills and to get jobs. She feared Brexit would impact most on vulnerable people – many of them women.

She said: ‘We don’t know what type of regional programme will replace EU funding but we must make sure the voices of women are heard. If our voices aren’t in the mix, whose will be?’

Dr Alison Parken of the Business School at Cardiff University, reinforced the need for women to speak up. ‘Despite women’s greater educational gains we are still over-represented in low paid, low skilled, part-time work. We take the wooden spoon. We need to add our voices to what we want to happen in Wales.’

**Email us your thoughts at: [info@assemblyofwomen.co.uk](mailto:info@assemblyofwomen.co.uk)**

## WAW Chair represents EU in South Korea

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Wales Assembly of Women chair Professor Jackie Jones, flew to South Korea the day after WAW’s annual conference to represent the EU in talking to the South Korean government about gender based violence. Jackie is recognized internationally as an expert in the human rights of women. She was asked by the European Commission to be part of a four-person expert team to talk about gender based violence with South Korean government officials. WAW Vice Chair Dr Eleri Evans said: ‘The invitation is tribute to Jackie’s judgement and experience. We are proud to have her as our chair.’

Jackie has more than 20 years’ experience of teaching, research and using the law to achieve change. She has recently provided training across Wales on the UN Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

## Gender equality story

The story of gender equality in the EU has grown from a narrow focus on the labour market to a much broader scope that has included equal treatment legislation (1970s), positive action measures (1980s), gender mainstreaming (1990s) and work in the area of gender-based violence (including trafficking) Dr Rachel Minto of the Wales Governance Centre, Cardiff University told WAW conference. ‘I find myself in the awkward position that having critiqued the EU for many years, we face losing these programmes. We must work with women’s lobbies across Europe to promote and protect women’s rights and gender equality.’

# WAW Conference News 2017

*Wales Assembly of Women – an independent campaigning organisation for women in Wales*

## AM to share research with chief medical officials

Vale of Glamorgan AM Jane Hutt, who presented the second annual Audrey Jones Award for Research by Women, is to share the research with the Chief Medical Officer of Wales and Vaughan Gething AM Cabinet Secretary for Health, Wellbeing & Sport. Jane said the research would be useful to Welsh Government policy.

The Audrey Jones Awards were won by Dr Denizta Williams Division of Population Medicine, College of Biomedical & Life Sciences, School of Medicine, Cardiff University who looked at *Welsh Women's attitudes towards a different form of cervical screening: human papilloma virus (HPV) self-sampling* and Elen de Lacey of Decipher Research Centre [Development & Evaluation of Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement] Cardiff University who examined *E cigarettes – a new route into tobacco use? Implications for girls in Wales.*



*Picture shows Elen de Lacey (left) and Dr Denizta Williams receiving AJ awards from Jane Hutt AM, Robert Jones, son of Audrey Jones, and Prof Jackie Jones WAW chair*

## Audrey Jones included in DWB

The news that the life and work of the late Audrey Jones has been recorded in the *Dictionary of Welsh Biography* was acknowledged at WAW conference. Author of the DWB biography Dr Jean Silvan Evans said: 'It was a privilege to be able to record Audrey's life and work for this important national database, where it will continue to inspire other women.' The *Dictionary of Welsh Biography* is a significant national archive that contains more than 5,000 concise biographies of Welsh people who have made a significant contribution to national life. Dr Jane Salisbury, who co-ordinates the Audrey Jones Awards, said: 'Audrey always stressed the importance of research in the struggle for women's rights and was keen to encourage young women. The Audrey Jones Awards for Research by Women brings these two aims together.'



*Picture shows Dr Jane Salisbury (left) Robert Jones, son of Audrey Jones, and Dr Jean Silvan Evans*

## Baroness Eluned Morgan AM pays tribute to Audrey Jones



*It is thanks to women like Audrey Jones and Julie Morgan AM that I am able to stand here today, Baroness Eluned Morgan AM told WAW conference. Baroness Morgan, who in 1994 at the age of 27 was only the fifth woman elected to a full-time political position in the history of Wales, said: 'It is important we underline the struggle these women have gone through to get where there are. Because of women like that, my own daughter does not question what she can or cannot do.'*



**New WAW Fundraising bags!**  
*Dr Jane Salisbury, co-ordinator of the Audrey Jones Awards for Research by Women and her daughter Anna, model the new WAW bags. Get one quick!*

## Wales Assembly of Women

*The Wales Assembly of Women is an independent campaigning organisation for women in Wales. It is an NGO accredited to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Its representatives have attended every major U.N. world conference for women since Nairobi in 1985 and every annual UN session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Membership is open to all women in Wales and to women living elsewhere who have connections with Wales. WAW is funded by membership and charity grants. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @WalesAWomen. Membership costs £10 a year. For more information or a membership form email: [info@walesassemblyofwomen](mailto:info@walesassemblyofwomen)*