



MAY LAMONT
2005

PAM GILBERT AWARD FOR GENDER EQUITY

**THE PAM GILBERT AWARD FOR GENDER EQUITY 2005
WAS PRESENTED TO MAY LAMONT AT THE BRISBANE
BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER.**

The *Pam Gilbert Award* was first given in 2003. In both 2003 and 2004 the Award went to women who worked in the schooling sector. This year we were pleased to present the Award to May Lamont, a woman who works tirelessly for women in the community, particularly in the international community.

May is a classroom teacher and a member of AWE known to many for her organisation of the huge UNIFEM breakfast each year at the Brisbane Convention Centre.

May has been a member of two international women's organisations since the 1980s—UNIFEM and Soroptimist International.

She started UNIFEM in Australia, was its first secretary and subsequently Vice-President and President, was a member of the National Australia Board, and is still a member of the UNIFEM Brisbane Committee.

In the Soroptimists, May has held many positions at club and regional levels and been President at both. She has also held many positions at Federation level (a South West Pacific federation of 13 countries) and was the inaugural Australian representative of Soroptimist Australia on the South West Pacific Federation Board.

May's great skills are her strategic lobbying and her persistence:

- She lobbied to have the first women's round table meeting in Queensland in the 90s;
- After the last Queensland state election she instigated a lobbying effort when it looked like Queensland wasn't going to have a Minister for Women;
- She has made many submissions to state and federal governments, and appeared before Senate committees;
- She has been a member of many women's national round table

meetings;

- She was a co-ordinator of all the training and lobbying leading up to the Beijing women's conference;
- She was a delegate to the Beijing UN World Conference on Women;
- She was appointed an NGO adviser on the Australian Government delegation to the UN General Assembly in New York a couple of times.

And she does all this while being a classroom teacher!!