

Dear Friends of the Trust,

Be sure to not miss out on two upcoming Trust events –

- (1) a forum coinciding with our International Women's Day celebration as part of Suffrage Centenary celebrations 'Rediscovering Women's Political History' on next Thursday, and,
- (2) this Thursday's book launch 'Cups With No Handles' MEMOIRS OF A GRASSROOTS ACTIVIST, By Carolyn Landon, & Bette, Gina and Les Boyanton.

Both events are FREE but you need to RSVP – by replying to this email or phoning (03) 9642 0422.

Also included in this E-Bulletin are details of WIRE's International Women's Day event, with proceeds going to the Victorian Women's Trust.

## **VICTORIAN WOMEN'S TRUST E-BULLETIN END FEBRUARY 2008:**

- ◆ Victorian Women's Trust Suffrage Event
- ◆ Cups Without Handles VWT Book Launch
- ◆ WIRE – International Women's Day Lunch with Anne Summers

### **DANGEROUS AND PERSUASIVE WOMEN: CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN VICTORIA**

#### **Forum One: Rediscovering Women's Political History**

In celebrating the Centenary of Women's Suffrage in Victoria, the Victorian Women's Trust will present three\*\* free thought-provoking public forums throughout 2008. The first, to coincide with International Women's Day celebrations, commemorates one hundred years of women's activism in Victoria.

**WHEN:** Thursday 6th March  
**TIME:** 7:00pm for a 7.30pm start  
**WHERE:** BMW Edge Theatre, Federation Square  
**SPEAKERS:** Leading historians Professor Patricia Grimshaw and Professor Marilyn Lake, and literary historian Dr Jennifer Strauss  
**ADMISSION:** FREE!

Victoria was the last Australian state to grant women the vote, after an incredibly lengthy struggle. Despite being granted the vote federally in 1902, it would be another six years before women were able to vote in their own state. Extensive lobbying and activism took place, including:

- ✿ The “Monster Petition” of 1891, which collected an amazing 30,000 signatures, the largest ever presented to the Victorian State Parliament.
- ✿ Eighteen women’s suffrage bills, which were rejected by the Victorian Parliament over a period of almost two decades before the Adult Suffrage Act was finally passed in 1908.

**Our distinguished keynote speakers will provide lively and insightful perspectives on women’s activism and the suffrage movement, exploring why it took so long to achieve women’s suffrage in Victoria, and why women’s political history tends to slip from public memory.**

**Following the presentations, there will be the opportunity for Q&A and discussion with our speakers, as well as a chance to mingle afterwards. Do not miss this important free event celebrating women’s history!**

**Please RSVP to confirm your attendance by contacting the Victorian Women’s Trust on (03) 9642 0422 or email [women@vwt.org.au](mailto:women@vwt.org.au).**

#### **SEE ATTACHMENT**

\*\*The other two Women’s Trust Suffrage events are scheduled for Monday June 16 (on Contemporary Issues and Challenges Across the Century) and Tuesday October 7<sup>th</sup> (the Future - Stronger and Evolving). Stay tuned for more details!

**CUPS WITH NO HANDLES BOOK LAUNCH - INVITATION TO BOOK LAUNCH - CUPS WITH NO HANDLES, MEMOIRS OF A GRASSROOTS ACTIVIST, By Carolyn Landon, & Bette, Gina and Les Boyanton, Presented by the Victorian Women's Trust**

*“Bette was one of the warriors whose campaign for social justice inspired women of my generation and, through this clearly written and compelling book, her life will now inspire women in the next generation” – The Honorable Joan Kirner.*

The Women's Trust is delighted to invite you to this important book launch - to be launched by Dur-e Dara, with MC Mary Crooks and special guest Clare Corbet:

**WHEN: 28 February 2008**  
**TIME: 10.30 am to midday**  
**WHERE: Victorian Women’s Trust, Level 1, 388 Bourke St., Melbourne**  
**PHONE: 03 9642 0422**  
**EMAIL: [women@vwt.org.au](mailto:women@vwt.org.au)**

#### **SEE ATTACHMENT**

### **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY – LUNCH WITH ANNE SUMMERS – MARCH 4**

#### **Women - connecting with our past, creating our future**

WIRE - Women’s Information and Queen Victoria Women’s Centre invite you to come and celebrate International Women’s Day by joining us for a light lunch and some inspiration from our guest speaker Anne Summers.

2008 is an important year to reflect on our struggles, gains and what we still need to achieve, now and in the future, as we mark 100 years since women won the right to vote in Victoria.

Anne Summers, is a bestselling author, journalist, business woman and insightful speaker on women's issues. Anne led the Office of the Status of Women 1983-86 and was advisor to Prime Ministers Paul Keating and Bob Hawke. Her book 'Damned Whores and God's Police' is still in print after 31 years, while more recently she has written 'The End of Equality: Work, babies and Women's Choices in 21st Century Australia' (2003).

This lunch is an opportunity for women to come together and reflect on how far we've come and what's ahead. **Proceeds from the lunch, plus a raffle and auction will go to the 'Women taking control' grant administered by the Victorian Women's Trust.**

**WHEN:** Tuesday 4th March 2008  
**TIME:** 12.30 - 2.00pm  
**WHERE:** The Victoria Room, Level 4, Queen Victoria Women's Centre  
210 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne  
**COST:** \$30 (cash or cheque made out to Queen Victoria Women's Centre)  
**PHONE:** 1300 134 130  
**EMAIL:** [info@wire.org.au](mailto:info@wire.org.au)

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