
VICTORIAN WOMEN'S TRUST

Annual Report

2013/14



THE VICTORIAN WOMEN'S TRUST

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COVER PHOTO: PONCH HAWKES

Who we are

We are an independent advocate for women and grant maker dedicated to improving the status of women and girls.

We are now among the world's oldest women's funds, and pride ourselves on a thirty-year tradition of progressive philanthropy, strategically targeted to maximise our impact across the range of issues we seek to address – violence against women and girls, gendered discrimination and disadvantage, the quest for due recognition of the value of women's paid and unpaid work, and towards equal representation in the decision making processes that shape our lives.

We're inspired by a vision of a world where women and girls stand equally with men and boys, and take up all life's opportunities without fear, harm, discrimination or disadvantage. We believe that the achievement of equality for women holds the key to the advancement of all humanity.

Our philanthropic grants are made via the **Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust**; our advocacy via the **Victorian Women's Trust Limited**; and a new national charitable entity, the **Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls** allows for circuit-breaking solutions to violence against Australian women and girls.



Welcome

Executive Director Mary Crooks

This latest Annual Report for 2013/14 brings us to the eve of the 30th Birthday of the Victorian Women's Trust.

The story of the Trust is a great one by any measure. The approaching sesqui-centenary of European settlement in Victoria saw many activities planned in celebration. It was suggested that there should be acknowledgment of the role played by women in the colonial and post-colonial development of the State. The decision to make a gift of \$1 million resulted in the creation of the Victorian Women's Trust.

Almost three decades on, close to one-third of this early and very modest amount has effectively been preserved. Apart from approximately \$750,000 in government grants (almost completely given over to running for eight years our very successful business incubator for women, Business Matrix), the Trust has managed to work for women and girls across the State entirely from the financial support of our many backers – large and small donations and membership of the Trust. It is a story unrivalled anywhere else in Australia, and for that matter, relatively unmatched globally. How many organisations do you know that started with one million in the bank, raised and distributed over five million in grants, spent almost thirty years in the service of women and girls – in advocacy, research, program initiatives and public events and are still alive to tell the tale (!) as well as having big plans for the next thirty years?

It would be great to be able to say that the three decades of work could close off on the deep issues affecting the status of women and girls. Yes, there is real progress on many fronts but the quest for gender equality is far from being realised. We need to do more and we need to work harder and strategically on wider scales with greater reach.

This is why we have put so much effort into creating The Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls, providing us with the structure and the tax deductibility to create initiatives with national purpose and practical application. Already, and within only one year of Dugdale in operation since it was launched in 2013, we have been able to develop and operationalise significant initiatives such as our website for 12-20 year old girls, Rosie, a film documentary on family separation, called *Torn Apart*, as well as creating *The Iramoo Zone*, *Club Respect* and *The Waratah Project*. Each of these is a path-breaking initiative in their own right and they are all able to come into being because of the financial support of growing numbers of donors from across the country.

As we move closer to our significant anniversary, I want to make a huge vote of thanks to everyone who has played a role in the important story of the Victorian Women's Trust – the original architects, the politicians of the day, past and present Directors, staff and volunteers, members and supporters, business partners, pro bono supporters and to everyone who has given us the financial means to be a unique and independent voice for women and girls and to help press the political, policy and practical case for gender equality in Australia.



How many organisations do you know that started with one million in the bank, raised and distributed over five million in grants, and spent almost thirty years in the service of women and girls?

From the Convenor Dur-e Dara



Securing the Trust,
as an independent
advocate for women
and force for good,
forevermore, is now
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With thirty years of
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finish this job is now.

As we enter our thirtieth year of existence, it seems timely to reflect not only on the progress of the Trust over three decades, but that of women more generally. It's an exercise that is at once gratifying and sobering. The Trust's long term impact and effectiveness as an agent of social change is cause for celebration. There's something almost miraculous about an organisation that started with a gift of one million dollars that manages – with more than a little help from many, many friends – to turn this initial capital into more than five million dollars in progressive grant making, numerous major initiatives, countless events, an authoritative voice on behalf of women and girls, a champion of society's most vulnerable and staunch defender of democracy and human rights. It is a magnificent story and it's our job this year to share it far and wide. After all, it is our independence that sits at the heart of our effectiveness, agility, and bravery. Securing the Trust, as an independent advocate for women and force for good, forevermore, is now within our sights. With thirty years of achievement under our belt, the time to finish this job is now.

At the same time, reflecting on the lot of women – nationally and internationally, thirty years ago and today – can elicit quite a different set of emotions. It's difficult not to be cynical! Nowadays, we have the rhetoric of equality but not the reality. At the time of writing, the number of women in our federal cabinet has just doubled. But an increase from one to two is scarcely a coup. Women remain chronically under-represented in positions of power and influence in government and corporate Australia, and chronically over-represented amongst our most disadvantaged citizens. The quiet, ongoing epidemic which is violence against women continues unabated, despite increasing media attention and political currency. In a trend that is no doubt related, female homelessness appears to be on the rise. In a country as affluent and attributed as our own, how is it tenable that women and children are living in cars? How is it right that women continue to earn significantly less than men for work of equal value? That the gargantuan

contribution to our national economy which is women's unpaid work continues to be ignored? That we remain so very far from achieving parity in political representation? It is not.

At the Trust, we have greater expectations. The long march towards equality is far from over, and complacency at this stage – in these times – would be ill-advised. We cannot conclude that gains made by good women and men, and fine organisations such as the Trust, will roll on under their own momentum. They will not. There are too many with vested interests in an outmoded past or inequitable status quo and too much yet to be done.

In this context, the work of the Trust has never been more important. Thirty years in, with a visionary, fearless and indefatigable leader in Executive Director Mary Crooks; a talented, hard working staff team; a judicious Board; and crucially, committed friends and supporters staying the course with the Trust, we are now uniquely and perfectly positioned to act on these greater expectations. It is our fervent belief that in their realisation is the key to a better future for all of us – women and girls, boys and men. We have exciting plans afoot and the utmost confidence in our ability to deliver on an ambitious change agenda. Please join with us as we strive to make a difference, today, and for all the many years to come.



Credit Where Credit is Due

In late June 2013, Australia's first woman Prime Minister, Julia Gillard was defeated by Kevin Rudd in a leadership ballot. Rudd and his supporters had agitated covertly and not so covertly for the preceding three years for his return to the leadership – a campaign of destabilisation that added significantly to the attacks on the democratically-formed minority government that had been carried across large sections of mainstream media, in particular through News Ltd media outlets.

On 5 July 2013, thanks to the support of five women donors making non tax-deductible donations, the Victorian Women's Trust placed full-page ads in four major metropolitan newspapers – the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Age*, the *Herald Sun* and *The Australian*, reaching an estimated readership of over three and a half million people. Entitled 'Credit Where Credit is Due', the advertorial paid tribute to the minority government led by Julia Gillard, arguing that this term of federal government was a productive and relatively successful period, with more than 500 pieces of legislation including landmark bills on disability care, climate change, education reform, the Murray-Darling River Basin plan, and the National Broadband Network.

The advertisement generated an extraordinary and overwhelmingly positive response from women and men all over the country – suggesting a huge reservoir of Australians who had formed their own view of this period of government despite the line-up of forces that decried its 'legitimacy' and that of the country's first female Prime Minister.

In response to the advertisement placed in July 2013, and with the deep and profound sentiment in mind of acknowledging the contribution of Gillard's valuable leadership, the Victorian Women's Trust hosted a Melbourne Town Hall event on Sunday 10th November 2013, also entitled 'Credit Where Credit is Due'. At this event, Former Prime Minister Julia Gillard and former federal Independent Tony Windsor delivered landmark national addresses at the Town Hall, streamed live to venues nationally and overseas.

Two and a half thousand people packed into the Melbourne Town Hall for the event. As VWT Executive Director Mary Crooks AO led the former Prime Minister into the main doors of the Town Hall, she was met with a long standing ovation from the audience.

The event began with the 'Welcome to Country' by Graham Briggs from the Yorta Yorta clan, VWT Board Members Leanne Miller (also of the Dhulanyagen Ulupna Clan, Yorta Yorta nation, and Executive Director of Koorie Women Mean

Business) and Dur-e Dara. It was followed by a spectacular rendition performance by a 260-women strong choir of the Women's Anthem *Love & Justice*, an anthem commissioned by the Victorian Women's Trust by long-time friend and supporter of the Trust, Kavisha Mazzella AM, for the Centenary of Women's Suffrage in Victoria (in 2008).

Acting as MC for the event, Executive Director Mary Crooks then provided the context for our initiative of the event – the July advertisements placed by the Trust in four mainstream media newspapers.

The ads held that the leadership of Julia Gillard was a productive period of government (more than 500 pieces of legislation including landmark bills supporting disability care, climate change, education reform, the NBN, the mining tax), despite much jaundiced media treatment, a relentlessly negative Opposition and a treacherous internal campaign of destabilisation. Their publication – funded without tax deductibility by a handful of women donors, some who were at the event – generated an extraordinary and positive response from women and men all over the country, suggesting there is a huge reservoir of Australians who had formed their own, evidenced view on this period of government despite the line-up of forces that decried its 'legitimacy' and that of the country's first female prime minister. This was also confirmed with the sell-out of the Town Hall event in just over a few hours.

Mary introduced fellow staff member and Sheilas Editor Sarah Capper to introduce former Independent Member Tony Windsor who, along with Rob Oakeshott, swung their balance of power support behind the Gillard Government in 2010.

Former independent MP Tony Windsor paid tribute to the character of Julia Gillard and her ability to remain calm, collected and kind at all times, even under the most stressful of conditions. He acknowledged her accomplishments and that of the Labor government under her leadership – and in

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ADVERTISEMENT

Credit where credit is due

WE HAVE all witnessed something extraordinary in Australian politics over the past three years.

The 42nd parliament came to a close with the removal of Julia Gillard as the nation's first female Prime Minister: the first woman ever to hold the position after one hundred and ten years of federal political leadership that saw 26 male Prime Ministers elevated to the highest office.

The frenzy of the forthcoming federal election campaign will change the nation's focus. Before it's too late, we want to pay public tribute to three who made this period of democratic minority government a successful one - against the odds.

The federal election of 2010 delivered a hung parliament. Prime Minister Gillard successfully negotiated and formed a minority government, the fourteenth in our history. This coalition of the ALP, Independents and the Greens, opted to provide careful, thoughtful, stable government for a full term, so that our national government could get on with the business of governing in the national interest. And it did just that.

However, from the outset, and despite its democratic legitimacy, the Gillard-led minority government sparked an unrelenting series of hostile reactions from different quarters across the country.

An Opposition Leader, stung by being denied what he saw as his due, proceeded to launch a 'seek and destroy' mission centred on opportunistic appeals to people's prejudices and fears. A deposed Prime Minister, stung from being removed so decisively by a Caucus that had lost faith in his capacity, spent the next three years carrying allies in a parallel 'treacherous seek and destroy' mission - with Prime Minister Gillard squarely in his sights.

Significant sections of the mainstream media fuelled these separate but powerful agendas by refusing to accept the legitimacy of the minority government with Julia Gillard at the helm. Her many achievements went largely unacknowledged while her mistakes were amplified - and continually referenced. Instead of delivering dispassionate reporting, seasoned journalists and broadcasters became players in the game.

Low showing in opinion polls was attributed to her poor communication and her government's performance, without factoring in the damaging impact of the on-going duplicity within her own party. The very day in March this year that Prime Minister Gillard delivered a majestic Sorry speech on forced adoptions, a speech that belongs to the store of great national orators, she had to contend with yet another destabilising leadership meeting at which her opponent failed to declare himself.

Authored by Mary Crooks AO
Victorian Women's Trust
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The ensuing toxic political discourse surrounding the Prime Minister and the minority government gave public licence across the community, online and elsewhere, for an unprecedented campaign of sexist and chauvinist abuse, denigration, double standards, gross disrespect for the office of Prime Minister and gross disrespect for her as a person.

It has been a fraught political environment and we remain baffled by several of the Gillard government's policies - on immigration and asylum seekers, reducing economic support for single parents and the Prime Minister's position on same-sex marriage. By and large, however, she has displayed an enormous capacity and style of effective leadership rarely seen in parliamentary leaders across the political spectrum. She oversaw the introduction of a raft of impressive and far-reaching legislation, showing high-order negotiation skill, sharp intelligence and a great ability to command strategy and detail across complex issues.

Much of this legislation is nation building, addressing our common future as Australians - the introduction of a carbon price, the roll out of a National Broadband Network, The Murray-Darling Basin Plan, a ground-breaking National Disability Insurance Scheme, a much more equitable model for funding primary and secondary education, a national paid parental leave scheme, and the establishment of the Royal Commission into Child Sexual Abuse. There were many more reforms. Achievements in foreign policy, including Prime Minister Gillard negotiating the basis for future high level discussions with China, were notable and more far-reaching than those of her recent predecessors.

On her watch as the nation's Prime Minister, our growing economy has been the envy of the world - low unemployment, low interest rates, low inflation and triple A credit ratings.

We salute former Prime Minister Julia Gillard for getting on with the business of governing for us, the people; for the skilled negotiation, resolve and the leadership required to maintain the confidence of the Lower House; for steering the government through a full term; for enabling close to 500 pieces of legislation to be passed; for introducing significant and visionary reforms that will deliver great benefit to the Australian people in the time to come; and for remaining strong and poised when everything her the kitchen sink was thrown at her.

We pay tribute to those male and female colleagues who worked with her on the nation's behalf, respected her capacity and gave her the loyalty she deserved.

We pay tribute to retiring Independents Tony Windsor and Rob Oakeshott for their true independence, their courage and hard work in upholding democratic values and for enduring with dignity, the threatening abuse aimed at them, their partners and staff.

The success of this minority government has come at a significant cost.

The past three years have led to a great loss of civility and common decency, a poisonous political discourse and a downturn in respect for our leaders. We now have a climate in which people willingly and disrespectfully attack one another in anonymous and often vitriolic commentary that is no substitute for mature democratic debate. There is a jaded cynicism and a sense of deep despair and powerlessness across much of the community.

With men now back in their perceived 'rightful place' as political leaders of both the government and Opposition there will be little gendered attack in political circles. But the scars of aggressive contentment and sexist abuse that lay beneath everyday life and which surfaced with Julia Gillard's elevation to Prime Minister, have not gone away.

We have just lost our very first woman Prime Minister - a woman with a great sense of purpose and skill, a true reformer. Julia Gillard's final observation, in a speech of supreme grace, was that her experience as the country's first female Prime Minister will make it easier for the next woman, and the next and the next. If this proves to be the case, she will deserve further recognition and gratitude.

Smoother passage for the generations of younger women coming through the ranks will only come about with more commitment - changes within political parties themselves, a greater focus on the benefits to be gained from gender equality, cultural change that reduces violent abuse and sexism and social action at many levels of our society.

The truly ugly aspect of our national life revealed by the past three years should give cause for us all to reflect on what else is required to ensure and maintain respect, civility, common decency and a fair go for women - in our society and in our democratic politics.

Mary Crooks AO Diana Battzias
Executive Director Acting Convener
Victorian Women's Trust Victorian Women's Trust
Author of *A Switch in Time*
www.vwt.org.au

The Board and staff of the Victorian Women's Trust wish to thank the generous and thoughtful women who provided us with the funds to place this statement on the public record - without the privilege of tax deductibility.



And for any woman
who has warily
watched my
experience and is
wondering whether
the highs and lows of
politics are for her,
I would urge – jump
right in – provided
you are clear about
your purpose,
about what you want
to achieve for
our nation.

JULIA GILLARD, 2013

their government's commitment to improving conditions for regional Australia, citing the NBN as one such achievement. He also stressed the need for participation in public life, declaring "The world is run by those who show up".

It was a great segue to the former PM – but not before a surprise performance by Melbourne ukulele player Bronwyn Calcutt, who played her rendition of Julia Gillard's famous misogyny speech to Tony Abbott; transformed into a catchy song to the tune of Gloria Gaynor's *I Will Survive*. You can watch this both on *YouTube* and on our website.

In introducing Julia Gillard, Mary Crooks was joined by former Victorian Attorney General Rob Hulls. He stressed the need for societal attitudes to change to enable women to properly break through the glass ceiling – reflecting on his time as AG with the comparison of promoting women into the judiciary (and some of the outdated responses and jibes he received in doing so).

Former Prime Minister Julia Gillard then took to the stage, providing a moving and dynamic speech about her time in leadership and the gender equality issues that Australia must learn to acknowledge. She thanked many members of parliament for their outstanding contribution during her time in government and for their loyalty – including Rob Oakeshott, Jenny Macklin and Wayne Swan.

Gillard described the accomplishments that she had set out in the beginning to achieve and what she had accomplished. She emphasised the importance of introducing policies to help those locked into social and economic exclusion from the workforce and her joy that ensued after passing policies that were set to improve the education in state schools for the next generation.

Addressing the vitriol she faced during her time in government, Gillard posed a question which she was uncertain she could answer – what was it about Australia accepting a woman as Prime Minister that bought into the open such unpleasantness?

"In doing that sophisticated thinking, we must face the fact that what has been brought to our society by the gender revolution of the last fifty years is not as deeply embedded as we hoped. In too many ways, that change has done no more than create a brittle veneer and when the veneer cracks what lies beneath is deeply held cultural stereotyping, anger and misogyny. Our nation has nothing to fear and much to gain by having the most frank conversation about achieving genuine gender equality."

Gillard also admitting to having "some regrets" about her time as leader – like the way the Party's message to replace Kevin Rudd was not articulated initially on his replacement, as well as having regrets in managing asylum seeker policies. She also admitted regrets in the way in which the government could have better countered the media's response to pricing carbon (and debate over whether it was a tax). She did however stress that the new Abbott Government should not replace a progressive policy to price carbon with policies that could not meet Australia's obligations to reducing our carbon emission output levels.

Although Gillard acknowledged the difficulties she faced during her term, she took strength and support from the courageous men and women she met during her time in office: "And for any woman who has warily watched my experience and is wondering whether the highs and lows of politics are for her, I would urge - jump right in - provided you are clear about your purpose, about what you want to achieve for our nation," she said.

To end the event, Mary Crooks encouraged the crowd not to lose faith in our political system, and to keep on fighting the good fight.

"The quest for equality for women and girls is unstoppable. It may seem to falter, to go backwards even, to crumple, and to be too slow. Tony Abbott's cabinet of eighteen men and one woman is a subliminal message to the white alpha males in senior positions in institutions that he's got their backs. But in the medium to longer-term, these last

bastions of masculine privilege and dominance will be scaled, mounted and power will be shared, and all of us, including men, will be the beneficiaries."

The Victorian Women's Trust would like to thank with upmost gratitude all of the speakers and audience whom attended this event, and everyone who made this momentous affair possible.

A full recording of the event is available to purchase on DVD from the Trust (\$20 for general public, \$15 for Trust Friends). For more information please email women@vwt.org.au or phone (03) 9642 0422.

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE DONORS

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Sheilas

Free from the constraints of a knee-jerk 24 hour news cycle, Sheilas digs deeper, bravely going where others fear to tread.

Sheilas is a national, monthly e-publication by the Victorian Women's Trust. Sheilas provides high quality commentary on the hottest issues of the day, with a focus on those which matter most to women, and that mainstream media outlets often ignore. Free from the constraints of a knee-jerk 24 hour news cycle, Sheilas digs deeper, bravely going where others fear to tread.

Launched in July 2012, Sheilas moved into its second year during the 2013/2014 financial year, with a growing readership base edging close to 3,000 subscribers via its email distribution and many more accessing articles on Sheilas website.

Since its inception, Sheilas has covered a wide array of social issues—ranging from stories covering child sex abuse in church institutions, to the carbon price package, to articles looking at how rape myths are perpetuated in the mainstream media—just to name a few. It has published stellar Australian women writers, journalists, thinkers, lawyers, and academics, including Clementine Ford, Margo Kingston, Emily-Lee Ack, Viv Waller, Sarah Charlesworth, Danielle Tyson, Monica Dux and Anna Krien.

Sheilas now features regular contributions from writers and thinkers like Amy Gray, Clementine Ford, Tanja Kovac and Karen Pickering, and monthly artworks by world renowned cartoonist and author Judy Horacek.

In late 2013 Sheilas released a publication celebrating the first year of 'Bonza Sheilas' – an interview with a prominent Australian woman and what has become a much-loved feature in each edition of Sheilas. 'Bonza Sheilas' include comedians Nelly Thomas and Denise Scott, business leaders Ita Buttrose and Eve Mahlab, and writers Annabel Crabb and Julia Baird.

While Sheilas is subscriber based, it's also free. Sign up at www.sheilas.org.au. And help us spread the word by forwarding Sheilas to your friends, family and colleagues – bonza sheilas and bonza blokes – and encouraging them to subscribe themselves.

Why 'Sheilas'?

We wanted to choose a word that was synonymous with 'Australian women' and one that complemented other online independent media with their colloquial references.

Paradox of Service

In 2009, the Victorian Women's Trust prepared a world-first research and discussion paper that exposed the treatment of former religious women upon leaving Orders. Entitled the Paradox of Service, the research focused on the lives of ex-nuns and the challenges they face, especially the financial toll of their departure. The persistent theme, affecting many of the nuns who were granted dispensation, is a lack of appropriate and just welfare support from the Catholic Church at the time of exit, or subsequently.

The Paradox of Service (POS) Independent Advocacy Program arose from this research. The POS team, led by the Trust's Executive Director Mary Crooks and comprising volunteers Susan Powell and Hilary Irwin, advocates on behalf of ex-nuns in negotiations with their Orders. In 2013/14 the POS team completed several successful advocacies for women who had yet to receive any meaningful assistance from the Church, several decades post departure. These women have had to struggle to make their way in life, and now, reaching their seventies and eighties, are in dire need of restitution.

In a number of cases POS has requested apologies be issued, as a formal acknowledgement of the treatment they received. These apologies are hugely significant. They have resulted the women involved being able to belatedly process pain and hurt that they've carried through all the years and decades since making the difficult decision to leave the Church.

POS understands that present day Orders are not personally responsible for how badly these nuns were treated when they left, or for a lack of appropriate policies and practices at the time. Pleasingly, in the vast majority of cases the current leaders of Orders are prepared to take responsibility for what happened in the past, and to provide the assistance that these women now need, and which the POS Independent Advocacy Program has been able to negotiate on their behalf.

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Here She Is!

Here She Is! is designed to address the absence of female keynote speakers at major conferences, women presenters at events, the lack of women in leadership positions and a media environment notable for the absence of women's voices.

Launched on International Women's Day 2013, Here She Is! is a web-based initiative to grow broader recognition of the prodigious talents and leadership capacity of Australian women.

Designed for workplaces, organisations and the broader community, it has two crucial dimensions:

1. A directory of successful and capable women that can be readily accessed by people and organisations across the community – schools, universities, media, conference organisers and businesses.
2. Practical and effective resources for workplaces detailing how workplaces benefit when they harness the skills and talents of their female staff.

Here She Is! is designed to address the absence of female keynote speakers at major conferences, women presenters at events, the lack of women in leadership positions and a media environment notable for the absence of women's voices. It is one of the largest, most diverse and up-to-date directories of professional women in Australia.

And it seems that even at this early stage, Here She Is! is working. Women listed in the directory tell us of requests for media interviews, offers of speaking engagements, invitations to join boards, mentor and mentee connections made, job offers, the provision of pro bono professional advice, and much more.

Here She Is! is supported by a Federal Assistance Award from the United States Department of State. We acknowledge the U.S. Government's strong support of women's rights and the advancement of women and girls.

I met my mentor for the first time in May 2013. I was working as a lawyer with Allens law firm. I was seeking a mentor as someone I had never met before, someone with a strong social conscience and someone who was not practicing law. I was struggling to find the resources to locate a mentor that encapsulated all of this. Fortunately, I stumbled across the Here She Is! Directory.

Our relationship has flourished organically. My mentor offers me guidance and direction by asking me thought-provoking questions, sharing her resources and connecting me to people in her network. I have also been able to offer my assistance and networks to help with a project she is running.

MENTEE, 2013

Advocacy & Policy

Homicide Law Reform

In September 2013, the Department of Justice released a Consultation Paper outlining proposals to reform Defensive Homicide, a partial defense that was introduced in 2005 as part of sweeping changes to homicide law implemented by the former Labor Government.

The current Government has aired concerns about the use of the partial defense, particularly by men (mostly in cases against other men), given that the intention of the reforms were as a safety net for women responding to family violence.

The Victorian Women's Trust made a joint submission with Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria's Dr Debbie Kirkwood and Mandy MacKenzie, along with Monash University's Dr Danielle Tyson, and the Federation of Community Legal Centre's Dr Chris Atmore. It argued against the removal of defensive homicide at this stage, and that the law still requires a safety net for women in such circumstances.

While it is felt that the full defence of self-defence should be available to such women to utilise, there remain problems within the judicial system and community at large (which make up juries) in understanding the nuances of family violence. Until the law catches up with such complexities, the partial defense law should be retained.

This submission was also informed by research undertaken by DVRCV and Monash University (and the researchers named above), who with a grant from the Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust were able to examine cases of women in family violence situations who have been killed since the 2005 reforms were introduced. This research backed our submission in concluding that a safety net for women in such circumstances was still needed.

Abortion Law Reform

In May 2014, the Victorian Women's Trust released a paper on 'Safeguarding our Abortion Law Reforms'. The Trust had been part of the community campaign involved in advocating for the 2008 reforms, in which the Victorian Parliament legislated for a woman's right to choose access to safe abortion.

This reform followed a thorough examination by the Victorian Law Reform Commission, in conjunction with lengthy community consultation, and which required political leadership and a vigorous bipartisan effort across the political spectrum. Five years on, we found ourselves with a situation of political intent to wind back some of these hard won rights, driven by a small but vocal minority.

In response, we released a paper outlining the importance of safeguarding the 2008 reforms, as well as encouraging others to take up the issue with their local state representative. A huge vote of thanks is due to volunteer Angelique Renieris, who played a critical writing and co-ordination role. Access the publication via the Trust's website www.vwt.org.au

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Get Involved!

Everything we do at the Trust is made possible via the generous support of women and men who share our commitment to creating real and lasting change in the lives of women and girls. The Victorian Women's Trust (VWT) Ltd is the engine room that drives our research, policy and advocacy agenda. Unlike our grant making arm, the Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust, and the new national Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls, the VWT does not have tax deductibility. We understand that this means your donation is effectively doubled, but if you're passionate about supporting social change, it's still worth considering! Ways to support the VWT include:

Become a Trust Friend

Trust Friends form a lively community around the VWT. They're our frontline ambassadors and among our staunchest allies. A modest annual subscription covers invitations to all our events, including an exclusive annual Trust Friends networking night, newsletters, discounts and giveaways. Sign up online and enjoy the fabulous connections and warm inner glow being a Trust friend brings.

Become a community/corporate partner

Partnering with the Women's Trust is about joining forces to make an even bigger difference in the lives of Australian women and girls. Partnerships may include financial support, introductions to your networks, staff volunteering, sharing your resources and expertise, or collaborating with us through other means.

Make a donation

Your donation, no matter how large or small, will help us in our quest to deliver circuit-breaking projects towards greater equality for women and girls. Donate online via our website

Become a monthly donor

Becoming a monthly donor is simple, convenient and adds up to a major contribution over time. Regular donations provide a reliable, regular income to the Trust, and enable us to invest more back into the community. The Trust is thirty this year. Why not sign up for a monthly \$30 gift to show your support?

Leave a gift in your Will

Leaving a gift in your Will is a powerful and long-lasting way of supporting Victorian women of generations to come. Every bequest, whatever the size, helps sustain our ongoing work to improve the lives of women and girls well into the future.

Become a volunteer

Becoming a volunteer is all about value adding. You help us carry out our work and share your expertise. In return, we share our resources and provide you with new skills and experiences.

VICTORIAN WOMEN'S TRUST DONORS

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Frank Ward OAM
Maureen Watson
Wilma Western
Sue Willis
Chris Winter
Nadia Wright





The Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust

The Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust is our philanthropic entity. It works to support Victorian women and girls via our annual grants program and partnerships with other philanthropic organisations.

While the word benevolent conjures up old-world notions of 'alms-giving' and institutional charity, our grant-making is firmly situated within a context of progressive social change and innovation.

This includes tackling difficult issues that are unlikely to find support elsewhere, and addressing newly emerging issues, as well as a relentless determination to support new ways of preventing and addressing violence and abuse against women, girls and families. Many of our grants have and continue to focus on strategies to prevent violence and advance systemic change, as well as providing support to address its consequences.

These and other grants are made possible through the generosity of donors, along with interest earned on accrued capital. Our capacity has grown considerably since 1985 and now encompasses an annual grants program, sub-fund grants and special grant initiatives.



Welcome

VWBT Manager Anne Paul

The well known song "From little things big things grow" by Paul Kelly says much about the journey of the Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust. Our inaugural granting round in 1985/86 supported ten projects adding up to just over \$70,000. Since then, we have made grants totalling close to six million dollars across almost 500 projects.

Many of these grants have had significant influence, impact and/or long-term ripple effects; some widely recognised and others more under the radar. We take a great sense of pride from this achievement and share it with our donors and partners. We value the special relationships we have formed with many generous people, who have shown great faith in our work. We sincerely thank them for their support.

We also wish to acknowledge the high level of continuing support from the Grosvenor Foundation and extend our sincere thanks for its generosity.

Successful grant making requires a lot of behind the scenes activity and we are fortunate to have the support of an experienced Board of Trustees, under the leadership of Acting Convenor Diana Batzias. In particular our Executive Director, Mary Crooks AO and Trustee Grants Advisory Committee Members Teresa Tjia, Diana Batzias, Padmini Sebastian, Nicky Friedman and Alana Johnson, have provided great assistance and guidance.

At a staff level, Dur-e Dara OAM has continued in her executive role on our capital campaign team, working with Mary Crooks AO on strategies to build our long-term sustainability. Bryony Green, our Grants Program and Project Officer has maintained her focus on sub-funds, while providing invaluable broader support, along with that of Wilfredo Zelada, our Finance Manager.

We're honoured to once again enjoy the photographic talents of Ponch Hawkes. As always Ponch has provided a set of stellar images that beautifully capture the essence of this year's grants program.

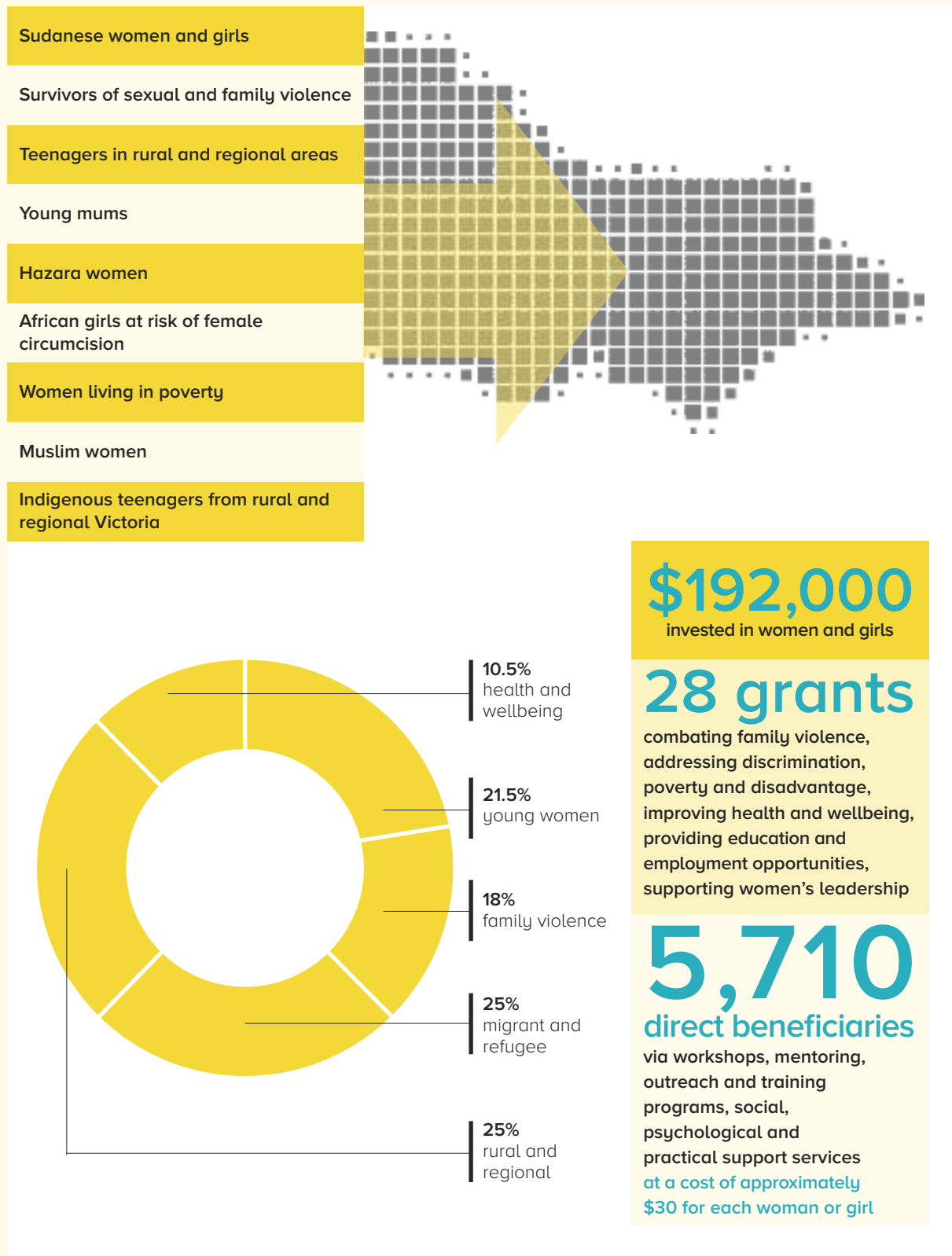
In closing, it is timely to reflect on the value of team effort and the assistance that is generously given by staff across our three entities. We extend our thanks for this as well as to the many other people including donors and volunteers, who have assisted over the year and contributed to our work on behalf of Victorian women and girls.



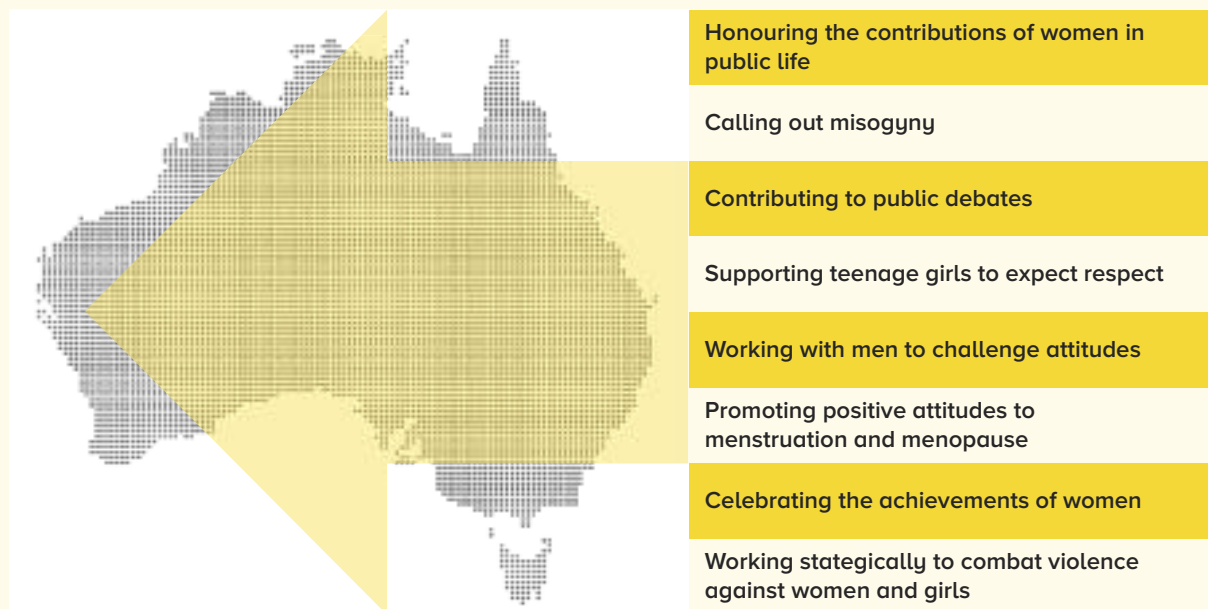
Our inaugural granting round in 1985/86 supported ten projects adding up to just over \$70,000. Since then, we have made grants totalling close to six million dollars across almost 500 projects.

Our Impact 2013/14

Grant Making in Victoria



Advocacy Across Australia



Australia-wide harm prevention initiative the Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls launched in June 2013. Work begins on flagship initiatives:

- The **Waratah Project** – research and consultation with **3,500 women and girls** about attitudes to menstruation and menopause
- **Rosie** – a ‘safe place in cyberspace’ and information portal for Australian girls aged 12 to 20

Credit Where Credit is Due – full page advertisements in major daily newspapers and ethnic media around the country acknowledging Julia Gillard’s record of achievement as Prime Minister, reaching over **3.5 million readers**

Gillard addresses a 2,500 strong crowd at the Melbourne Town Hall for the Credit Where Credit is Due event

Our monthly e-publication ‘Sheilas’ attracts **3,000+** readers and contributors from across Australia

Here She Is! online directory of Australian women leaders in business and public life

The Joyce Thorpe Nicholson Fund

I shall live happily
knowing that after
I'm gone the Victorian
Women's Trust will
have become a
permanent institution.

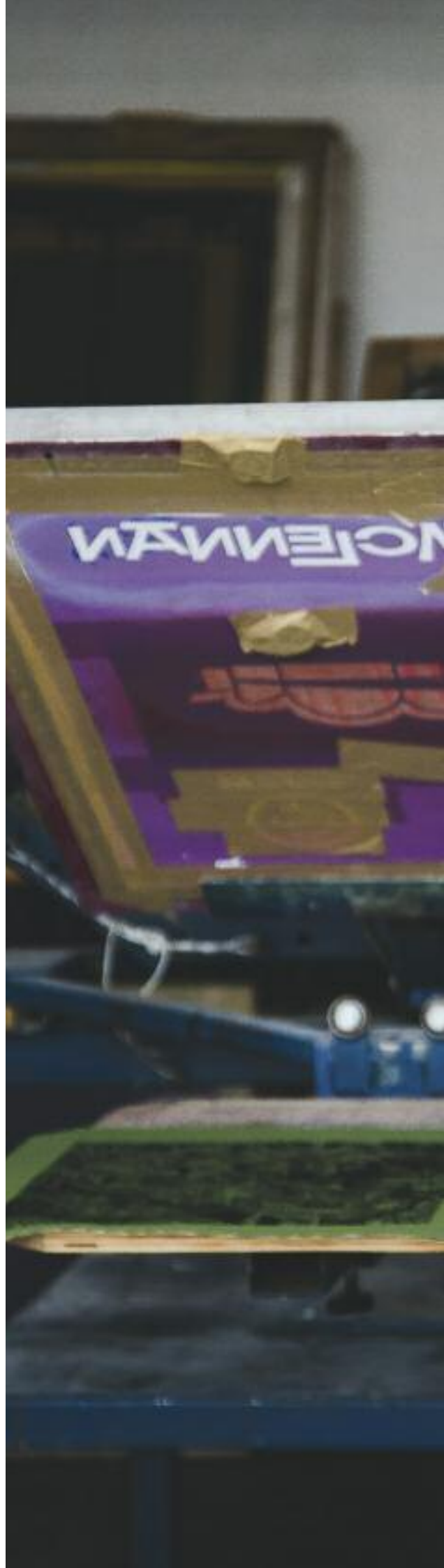
Joyce Thorpe Nicholson

Joyce Thorpe Nicholson (1919 – 2011) was a respected publisher, successful businesswoman, prolific author and inspirational feminist, who through her work and philanthropy did much to advance the status of women and girls.

Her vision saw the launch of the successful *One Million Dollar Appeal* in 1988, which helped build the profile and capacity of the Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust. Named in her honour, The Joyce Thorpe Nicholson Fund supports our general grants program and allows the Trust to make grants each year.

In 2011, Joyce was posthumously awarded the *Changing the Face of Philanthropy Award* by the Women's Funding Network in New York, in recognition of her contribution to social change and feminist philanthropy.

We sincerely thank all who have made a donation to the Joyce Thorpe Nicholson Fund, helping build on Joyce's leadership, dedication and vision.



The Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust

General Grants



General Grants

This year our general grants have a broad focus – some target young women or migrant and refugee women and girls, others address domestic violence, and a number reach out to rural and regional Victoria. We congratulate the eighteen successful organisations and thank all applicants for their dedicated work across the community. A summary of each grant is provided in the following pages.

The only thing I disliked about Deadly Sista was that it only ran for 10 weeks, it would have been nice to get to know everyone longer!

JESSICA, participant

It was an excellent way for Indigenous students to form friendships with each other plus they all benefited from seeing two young Indigenous mentors who have achieved so much in their lives.

CHLOE, teacher

Wirrpanda Foundation: Deadly Sista Girlz Bendigo – \$10,000

A culturally appropriate healthy lifestyles program at Weeroona College Bendigo, for Indigenous girls aged 11-17 years. Delivered by Indigenous women mentors, this project aims to engage, educate and empower at-risk or disadvantaged girls to make informed decisions about their health, education and futures.



We wish to sincerely thank the Grosvenor Foundation for its support in funding this project.

Bendigo Regional Institute of TAFE: Tarrengower Chapters Book Club – \$2,000

Extending and enhancing existing TAFE literacy classes, this new initiative at Tarrengower Women's Prison adopts a creative approach to addressing the personal, social and educational disadvantage of the women prisoners who take part in classes. It includes a monthly gathering where participants may explore life themes and their expression in various literary works.

This project has been fully funded via a partnership grant from the Australian Communities Foundation.

Women's Health West: Caught Between Two Cultures – \$10,000

A two year pilot project to enhance the capacity of young African women in Melbourne's Western region to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing. The core goal of this work is to prevent female genital mutilation/circumcision among African-Australian women, as well as to build participants' confidence, leadership skills and pride in their African-Australian culture.

We wish to thank a private donor for her generous support of this project.

North East Support and Action for Youth: Don't Go There Girlfriend – \$7,500

An early intervention anger management program for teenage women in North East Victoria, aiming to reduce incidents of anger related violence by identifying triggers and learning anger management strategies.



We wish to sincerely thank the Grosvenor Foundation for its support in funding this project.

South West Healthcare: The Heart of Corangamite Breastfeeding Project – \$10,000

Using new communication technologies, this project aims to develop and deliver a new model of support and guidance on breastfeeding for mothers living in the Corangamite Shire, targeting isolated rural women in particular.

Our sincere thanks to Anne Miller for her generous gift to support new mothers.

Doncaster Community Care & Counselling Centre: iMatter Phone Application and Website – \$10,000

An innovative project to develop an interactive mobile phone application and website designed to enhance the safety of young women who are experiencing or at risk of intimate partner violence. The project builds on the *iMatter* leadership workshop program for secondary school students and will provide an interactive resource to build awareness and self-esteem.



We wish to sincerely thank the Grosvenor Foundation for its support in funding this project.



PHOTO: PONCH HAWKES

Victorian Immigrant and Refugee Women's Coalition: Hazara Women's Friendship Network – \$10,000

This project will establish a friendship network for the Hazara women of Victoria, to assist them to connect better to the mainstream community, as well as supporting a core group of Hazara women to develop new skills that will enable them to act as spokespeople and community leaders. The group will also assist women and girls to deal with the suffering and persecution they have experienced before coming to Australia, as well as the prejudice they encountered since they arrived.



We wish to sincerely thank the Grosvenor Foundation for its support in funding this project.

Southern Health / South East Centre Against Sexual Assault: Trauma Focussed Women's Fitness Program – \$6,300

Instructor-led and therapist-supported exercise program for women who have been traumatised by sexual or family violence, that provides a new and creative approach to helping address the dislocation and alienation from their bodies that many survivors of sexual assault experience.

Our deepest thanks are extended to a private donor for supporting this project.

Wyndham Legal Service: Restoring Financial Safety – \$13,000

This project will contribute to the understanding and prevention of economic abuse, by looking specifically at women presenting at the Family Violence Intervention Order Court at Werribee Magistrates' Court. It aims to find out to what extent ancillary legal and/or financial problems exist and what can be done to resolve them. For this project, Wyndham Legal Service will form a research partnership with Good Shepherd Youth & Family Service. It builds on the project *Addressing Economic Abuse*, funded by VWBT in 2012.

Many thanks to a private donor for her support of this project.



General Grants

Australian Community Support Organisation: Girls on the Go – \$6,000

Based in the Southern Metropolitan region, this new program provides structured sessions to improve the personal and social skills of disenfranchised women with complex issues – such as mental illness in combination with intellectual disability, and/or with a criminal justice history.

We extend our thanks to Sandra Hart for her generous support of this project.

Whitelion: Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies – \$9,000

Utilising role models, creativity and body movement, this project aims to inspire and activate change for young women in youth detention. As well as providing support and encouraging physical activity, it will assist the young women participants to set goals for social, emotional and physical change in their post-release lives.

Our sincere thanks to Neilma Gantner for her support of this project.

Espod Geelong: Sharing Post-abortion Recovery – \$6,000

This project involves the development of post-abortion resource materials. Based on Espod's post-abortion recovery program, these materials will be shared with other not-for-profit organisations that provide post-abortion services. In this way, it will contribute to wider availability of secular recovery services for women in Victoria.

This project has been funded with support from Elisabeth Scott and we extend to her our sincere thanks.

VICSEG New Futures: Sudanese Mothers and Daughters Project – \$7,000

This project will promote intergenerational understanding between recently arrived South Sudanese mothers and their teenage daughters living in Melton, who are at risk of family and/or school disengagement and homelessness.

The Social Studio: Women's Small Business Incubation – \$7,600

This project delivers small business skills to young women from refugee communities via financial management training, professional development, mentoring and work experience. Building on prior work by Collingwood's Social Studio, it harnesses the wealth of craft, design and culinary skills of its community of refugee women, incubating their small businesses and providing income-generation opportunities, as well as the chance to connect to the wider community.

We feel very fortunate to spend time with our daughters, learning from each other in our new country. **Mother**

I learnt a lot about my mum and how important it is for us to talk and communicate. **Daughter**

We loved doing activities together, thank you for this time together.

Mother and daughter – participants in project

General Grants

You have indeed ignited a spark of interest in me.

Student

Thank you for opening my eyes to the things around me and showing me another aspect of science.

Student

I've been seeing a bit in the media about labioplasty which actually got me wondering for the first time about whether or not I'm 'normal' – this website really helped, it's a fabulous resource and very reassuring.

I was coming close to considering surgery until I saw this website. I am so grateful – I don't feel ashamed now.

Merri Creek Management Committee: Women's Cross-cultural Exchange – \$7,000

An environment-focused project to promote cross-cultural opportunities for young Muslim women. This will include working with senior girls at Darul Ulum Muslim College in Fawkner to build on a 2012 pilot in the Merri Creek Parklands. The project will develop educational materials and work with women botanists in the field, while providing enrichment for the young women by exploring natural areas, otherwise unavailable due to gender-based cultural restraints.

Women's Health Victoria: Female Genital Cosmetic Surgery Stage 2 – \$10,000

The second stage of a project to address the growing issue of female genital cosmetic surgery, using research, media, a new website and advocacy activities to promote positive body image among women. Building on the success of Stage One, funded by the VWBT in 2012, it aims to improve understanding of the Australian context of this surgery and address the contributing individual, social and structural factors contributing to its growing incidence. See www.labialibrary.org.au

Meadow Heights Learning Shop: Meadow Heights Women's Project – \$3,000

Supporting migrant women in the Meadow Heights area to come together for a series of women's health information sessions. Sessions will cover issues including gynaecological and breast cancer, obesity, mental health awareness, dealing with family violence, and sexual health. As well as promoting key preventative health information, this project aims to build bridges between different cultures and encourage participants to take up leadership roles in their communities.

Weenthunga Health Network: Women in Health Stage 2 – \$5,000

This project involves the development of DVD and internet resources which will form the backbone of a new teacher/career counsellor's guide. It aims to encourage Indigenous girls to consider pursuing health careers. Building on the successful completion of earlier work funded by the VWBT, these materials will feature Indigenous women working in health professions, as role models for Indigenous girls.

This project has been supported by Judy-Ann Stewart and we are most grateful for her generosity. Weenthuga Health Network has also received \$5,200 partnership grant from Australian Communities Foundation and we extend our sincere thanks for this assistance.

Bendigo Regional Institute of TAFE: Tarrengower Chapters Book Club – \$2,000*

Extending and enhancing existing TAFE literacy classes, this new initiative at Tarrengower Women's Prison adopts a creative approach to addressing the personal, social and educational disadvantage of the women prisoners who take part in classes. It includes a monthly gathering where participants may explore life themes and their expression in various literary works.

*This project has been fully funded via a partnership grant from the Australian Communities Foundation.

Sub-Funds

Our successful sub-fund program continues to grow. With the addition of the Jean McCaughey Social Justice Sub-Fund and the Fay Marles Equal Opportunity Sub-Fund this year, we now have a total of seven specific-purpose sub-funds; providing extra scope for grant-making, as well as being an enduring legacy to the work of two outstanding women. In 2013/14 ten grants were made via sub-funds. They are an exciting mix of projects that address the specific purpose of each sub-fund and provide invaluable support to women and girls, and the great organisations which exist to advance their status.

Sub-funds may be established with a minimum contribution of \$100,000. Annual grants are made from interest on this initial investment, with twenty percent being held back to ensure capital growth. For more information about starting a sub-fund, please contact the Trust for an information pack, or call Executive Director Mary Crooks for a confidential conversation, on (03) 9642 0422.

Essie Burbridge Sub-Fund

... supports projects that provide leadership in cross-cultural understanding and strategies for combating racism.

Geelong Ethnic Community Council (Diversitat): Women's Craft Circle and Enterprise Initiative – \$8,000

Social entrepreneurship is a trend on the rise. This project brings this phenomenon to Geelong's ethnic women via the Diversitat Women's Craft Circle. It takes an existing craft group as the basis for a structured enterprise initiative, whilst at the same time maintaining its core purpose of supporting marginalised multicultural and refugee women with pre-vocational and cross-cultural support.

We sincerely thank a private donor for her endowment of the Essie Burbridge Sub-Fund, and for her ongoing involvement in its work. We would also like thank the following for their generous donations to help build the capacity of the Sub-Fund:

Valerie Briggs
Hatice Hussein
Michael Taylor

Con Irwin Sub-Fund

... supports innovative social justice projects that offer circuit breaking solutions to discrimination, violence and inequality of educational opportunity.

Mallee Family Care, Mildura: Together Inspiring Young Minds – \$4,700

This project provides opportunities for young mothers to re-engage with educational pathways, via a collaborative partnership that addresses barriers such as childcare, transport and financial support.

Brenda House / Safe Futures Foundation: Breaking the Mould – \$6,000

Building on the successful 2012 *Breaking the Mould* pilot, this project supports the continuation of a self-development program that helps women re-build their lives after the trauma of family violence.

THE ESSIE BURBRIDGE SUB-FUND DONORS:

Valerie Briggs
Hatice Hussein
Michael Taylor

THE CON IRWIN SUB-FUND DONORS:

Melanie Baker
Jackie Ballantyne
Annie Green
Emma Kelly
Anne Paul
North Brisbane Chiropractic
Pamela Sayers
Lisel Thomas
Laurel Thompson
Dr Nadia Wright

The biggest thing I saw was the participant's confidence in their own ability to learn and access resources to reach their full potential. It was so rewarding to see.

RHONDA SMITH, Learning Centre Coordinator



Sub-Funds

Emerge Women and Children's Support Network: Equal Relationships Empower Women – \$8,400

Support has been provided to establish outreach groups for women living in, or who have lived in, an abusive relationship in the Southern Metropolitan region, to gain a better understanding of what constitutes healthy relationships.

We extend our sincere thanks to Hilary Irwin for her endowment of the Sub-Fund, in honour of her mother Con Irwin, as well as her ongoing support and involvement in the work of the Con Irwin Sub-Fund. We would also like to thank the following for their generous donations to help build the capacity of the Sub-Fund:

Melanie Baker
Jackie Ballantyn
Annie Green
Emma Kelly
Anne Paul
North Brisbane Chiropractic
Pamela Sayers
Lisel Thomas
Laurel Thompson
Dr Nadia Wright

Johnstone Gumption Sub-Fund

... supports the participation and engagement of women as active citizens in community capacity building; the harnessing and sharing of women's experience and wisdom within and across generations; and Indigenous women's efforts to improve health literacy in their communities and at different life stages.

THE JOHNSON GUMPTION
SUB-FUND DONORS:

Joanne Wilson

The Reach Foundation: Birdcage – \$8,000

Grant monies will support work to redesign the content and format of Birdcage, a gender specific self-confidence and personal motivation program for young women aged 13-18 years. This will enable its delivery in schools by Reach's women facilitators, with the support of young women volunteers.

Our sincere thanks are extended to Val Johnstone for her endowment of the Johnstone Gumption Sub-Fund. We also thank Joanne Wilson for her ongoing support.

I learned about 'my rights' and gained a lot of information – I feel comfortable to use it and more confident now.

Participant in Emerge workshop

Sub-Funds

THE PRUE MYER SUB-FUND DONORS:

Myer Foundation
Bokhara Foundation
Kerry Adby
Neilma Gantner
Annie Green
Barbara Green
Muriel Mathers
Lin Oke
Rebecca Parke

Prue Myer Sub-Fund

... supports projects for immigrant, refugee and other disadvantaged girls and young women by providing positive mentoring opportunities, improving academic and educational outcomes and encouraging engagement and participation in political life.

Westside Circus: Jump Start Pilot Program – \$5,000

This project provides opportunities for twelve to fifteen girls from West Heidelberg to participate in a ten week circus skills pilot project, to build confidence, resilience and social connectedness. In this way, Westside will help this group of girls prepare for a successful transition from primary to secondary school, and into the future.

Ardoch Youth Foundation: Caulfield Park Community School Girls' Group Camp – \$3,900

In partnership with Caulfield Park Community School, the Girls' Group Camp will support the education and personal development of a group of girl students from disadvantaged backgrounds, who have struggled in mainstream education.

The River Nile Learning Centre: The River Nile Dance Project – \$1,600

The River Nile Learning Centre was established in 2006 to support African women to re-engage with education and build literacy and numeracy skills. This project provides personal development and social connectedness to young refugee women through dance classes at the Centre.

We thank Jo Baevski for her initial endowment of the Sub-Fund, in honour of her mother Prue Myer, and for her continuing involvement and support. We would also like thank the following donors for their generous support of the Prue Myer Sub-Fund:

Myer Foundation
Bokhara Foundation Pty Ltd
Kerry Adby
Neilma Gantner
Annie Green
Barbara Green
Muriel Mathers
Lin Oke
Rebecca Parker

Joan Hudson Sub-Fund

... supports projects that provide positive and effective community assistance for mothers and their children, new and/or improved opportunities for respite care for mothers of children with high-need disabilities, and practical support for young women from less advantaged backgrounds to access educational and academic opportunities.

Dingley Village Community Advice Bureau: Parenting Made Easy Program – \$3,500

This project involves the delivery of an accredited parenting program for local families struggling with new babies or young children, to help identify what their issues are, and provide timely information and support strategies to overcome them, and make the job of child-raising a little easier.

Children don't come with an instruction manual – I learnt so much from the program and know they will be there to support me in the future.

Young mum

Lighthouse Foundation Richmond: Homeless Mothers and Babies Psychological Wellness Program – \$3,500

This project allows for the provision of a psychological wellness program involving one-on-one psychotherapy for disadvantaged, homeless young women who are pregnant or first-time mothers of young babies, and who are residing in the Lighthouse Foundation's Live-In Care Program in Heathmont.

We sincerely thank Rosemary Geer for her endowment of this Sub-Fund in honour of her mother Joan Hudson, as well as for her continuing support and ongoing involvement. We would also like to thank the following for their generous donations to help build the capacity of the Sub-Fund:

Robyn Boulter
Anonymous In honour of Joan Hudson
Anne Paul

THE JOAN HUDSON SUB-FUND DONORS:

Anonymous
Robyn Boulter
Anne Paul

I can only imagine... and it is hard to say this... that if I couldn't have come here I wouldn't be with my son today.

I had nobody. I was pretty desperate a few months ago. But just look at her – she's everything to me now. It's not easy, but we are going to be OK.

Comments by young mums

These girls have had extremely difficult life situations, and have been traumatised by abuse and neglect. They blossom as mothers when they have the experience of feeling supported and nurtured themselves.

Comment by a carer

Sub-Funds

THE JEAN McCAUGHEY SOCIAL JUSTICE SUB-FUND DONORS:

Anonymous
The Eirene Lucas Foundation
Amanda Bede
Maggie Cash
Moya Dickson
Wendy Fleming
Susan Nichola Flight
Barbara Green
Margaret Henderson
Margaret Kennedy
Lois Knox
Karen Large
Josephine MacKenzie
Jennifer Mansfield & Michael Henry
Brigid McCaughey
Ros McMillan (in honour of her mother Peggy McMillan)
Louise Merryweather
Rebecca Parker
Joan Pollock
Lynne Rolley
Natasha Smider
Sue Spence
Susan J. Taylor
Helen Thomas
Irene Wescott
Wilma Western
Ursula Whiteside
Kaye Wright
Margaret Elizabeth Young

Jean McCaughey Sub-Fund

... supports research projects for women in the areas of homelessness, poverty and family well-being and strengthening local communities.

Jean McCaughey AO (1917 – 2012) was a champion of social justice and widely respected for her pioneering social research and community advocacy. The Jean McCaughey Social Justice Sub-Fund was launched on 8th May 2013 at the Wheeler Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas, with an oration by Executive Director Mary Crooks AO, comments by Lisa Neville MP and a personal reflection by her son James McCaughey. The Jean McCaughey Sub-Fund recognises the significant contribution Jean made to the community – in both her working life and in retirement – and seeks to broaden and extend this work.

Fay Marles Equal Opportunity Sub-Fund

... supports projects that provide:

- leadership training to increase young women's working knowledge of equal opportunity legislation, structures and processes
- research that strengthens knowledge of loopholes and gaps in equal opportunity legislation, with a view to system improvement and policy change
- education and engagement on equal opportunity issues in workplaces, organisations and the broader community.

Fay Marles AM was a leading advocate for human rights and equal opportunity. She was appointed Victoria's first Equal Opportunity Commissioner in 1977 and held the position for 10 years. In 2001, after serving as Deputy Chancellor of the University of Melbourne for 14 years, Fay was elected Chancellor, the first woman to hold the position in its almost 150 year history.

The Fay Marles Equal Opportunity Sub-Fund was launched on 7th August 2013 at the Queen Victoria Women's Centre in Melbourne, with an inspiring oration by Australia's recently retired first female Attorney General, the Honorable Nicola Roxon. Fay was guest of honour and shared the occasion with family, friends, past colleagues and other well wishers.

It's actually wonderful, at the end of your life to have this sort of positive affirmation ... and I just want to thank you all very much indeed.

Fay Marles AM, 7th August 2013

THE FAY MARLES EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY SUB-FUND
DONORS:

Anonymous
Jennifer Bourke
Carol Butters
Maggie Cash
Julie & Ruben Figueroa
Barbara Hamer
Felicity Hampel
Ann Knight
Lois Knox
Alison Leslie
Pamela Lloyd
Victoria Marles
Richard Marles MP
Susan Miller
Asha Pahuja
Ian & Margaret Pasquill
Susan Shore
Jennifer Strauss AM
Irene Westcott (in honour of her
father Alfred Burkitt)
Ursula Whiteside (in honour of
her close friend Fay Marles)
Margaret Elizabeth Young

Special Grant Initiatives

Three projects have been funded as special grant initiatives this year.

Brophy Family and Youth Services: Reality and Risk - Pornography Young People and Sexuality, Education Film- \$30,000

This educative film forms a distinct component within the broader work of the VWBT funded *Reality and Risk* documentary film project, which aimed to respond to the social and personal implications of pornography and its impact on young people.

Utilising the research and activities of the earlier project, this new grant will assist in the production of a version of the film for use in educational contexts (schools, universities and government) for audiences of parents, teachers, youth workers and other professionals working in this area.



This grant is made possible through the generosity of the Grosvenor Foundation.
We extend our sincere thanks for its consideration and support of this important work.

Southern Health / South East Centre Against Sexual Assault: Reflexology and Massage Program – \$4,860

This project aims to assist women who have experienced abuse to deal with personal disconnection and social isolation by reconnecting them with their bodies through reflexology. It offers group reflexology sessions with qualified practitioner supervision, to introduce women to its techniques, while at the same time providing opportunities for social connection.

This project has been funded via the generosity of a private donor, with thanks.

Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls – Establishment Support Grant: \$500,000

The Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls is a harm prevention charity with the Victorian Women's Trust as Trustee. Its work focuses on the prevention and control of abusive behaviours experienced by women and girls. This grant will support its establishment and early efforts across Victoria in developing and delivering the first series of strategic harm prevention programs which can then be taken to a national level.

It is more rewarding to watch money change the world than watch it accumulate. Gloria Steinem

Gloria Steinem's wisdom succinctly captures the work of the Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust and the contribution of our many supporters. We sincerely thank all who have made donations, knowing these grants would not be possible without the support and confidence of donors.

We also acknowledge the dedication and commitment of those working in the community to implement these projects, and we look forward to further successes and ripple effects flowing from them.

Looking back

Past Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust grants

From local to the international stage: Educating medical students to respond to family violence

2012: Monash University – Champions of Change

Doctors and health professionals work at the frontlines of family violence. They see its tragic consequences and play a key role in supporting the women and children who have suffered as a result.

This project aims to help doctors and health professionals be better prepared to respond to family violence via the development of video resources that form a key component of an online learning module that will now be included in training for undergraduate medical students.

Since the initial grant was made in 2012, this project has gone from strength to strength. Outcomes include:

- securing additional government funding to expand the program
- national uptake of educational resources by other universities teaching future doctors
- international uptake as a tool to train health professionals globally, via a collaboration with World Organisation for Family Doctors, Medical Women International Organisation and World Health Organisation (WHO)
- interest from the Netherlands, UK, Egypt and Malaysia to use videos in training health professionals
- a new push to source funding to develop a virtual simulation of a health professional's encounter with a patient disclosing violence and capacity for trainee health professionals to hone their skills before a real world encounter with a patient reporting family violence.

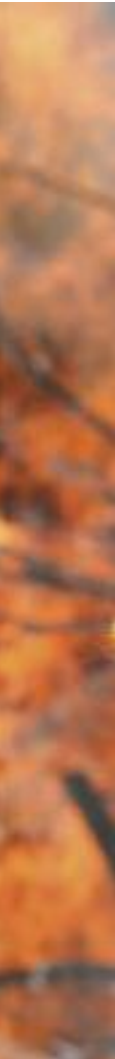
Increasing female participation in male dominated industries: Encouraging more women to join the Country Fire Authority (CFA)

2009: Country Fire Authority & Community Connections – Women in Fire

The aim of this project was to pilot a mentoring program for female volunteers to develop their participation, retention and leadership potential in CFA and broader community.

Key outcomes include:

- women are now taking on a broader range of roles
- the long term viability of brigades is strengthened via the expansion of volunteer numbers, especially in areas of shifting and declining populations
- with increasing numbers of female firefighters, young men are learning how to have healthy, working relationships with women
- the numbers of women volunteering with the CFA has increased by twenty percent in three years
- with greater participation of women, the volunteer-led, community-based CFA has also contributed to strengthening rural and regional communities in which it operates.





From one small grant to a multi-million dollar national government program: Assisting women to negotiate better work and family balance

2006: WIRE – Getting the Balance Right

This project aimed to address barriers to family friendly policies in the workplace and instigate important workplace conversations for practical strategies towards achieving better work-life balance.

This one modest project:

- led to a national multi-million dollar government program
- assisted 258 businesses across Australia to develop family-friendly work practices
- demonstrated the powerful outcomes that can be achieved when government and philanthropy work together, especially on groundbreaking initiatives with transformative capacity
- assisted thousands of businesses and families to negotiate fairer work-life balance conditions
- illustrated how the not-for-profit sector can inform Government policy in significant and constructive ways.

On being a donor

Hilary Irwin

My background in community services, my staunch values relating to social justice, my feminism, and my desire to keep giving to and working in the community sector, led to me become a donor.

Hilary Irwin

My background in community services, my staunch values relating to social justice, my feminism, and my desire to keep giving to and working in the community sector led to me become a donor.

I found it enormously helpful to have a well thought out plan for giving in place before I decided where and how I wished to direct resources. This has resulted in being able to target my giving to areas that reflect my priorities and where I feel I can make a difference.

An example of this was the *Ordinary Women, Extraordinary Lives* project by the Women's Trust, which resonated with me personally as it spoke directly of my late mother's ordinary but essential role in supporting her husband in his thriving business, as well as her family in the 1950s, while still finding time to give back to the community through voluntary work.

The cutting-edge and high quality work of the Women's Trust interested me immensely and around twelve years after my mother's death I decided to set up a sub-fund in her honour. This fund supports innovative social justice solutions to problems of discrimination, violence against women and children, and inequality of educational opportunity.

It has been immensely rewarding to be able to give back through these annual grants, and I feel very privileged to be able to honour my mother in this way. I feel a personal thrill in being able to contribute through a sub fund grant, and, down the track, see the great work that results. An example of this was the initial Con Irwin Sub-Fund grant, *Women and Fire*, which helped to establish a mentoring project designed to overcome barriers that women can face when joining the Country Fire Authority, and assist in increasing their participation. This has now become a model for similar mentoring projects operating in different states.

The Trust does much fine work, and not all of it can attract contributions that are tax-deductible. I regard some of this work as so significant that I have decided in some cases to make contributions that are non-tax deductible. Two examples of this is the groundbreaking document *A Switch in Time*, a national publication calling on the restoration of respect to Australia's democracy, and the advertisement *Credit Where Credit is Due*, which ran in major Australian newspapers, paying tribute to the highly effective leadership of former Prime Minister Julia Gillard and her minority government, despite a hostile political environment and discourse.

These women witnessed significant changes in the social conditions of women in their own lifetimes and recognised that they could contribute to this process. Their activism enhanced the lives of others and it is hoped that this donation will continue the capacity to improve social justice for all.

Max Watson

The Alice and Isabel Watson Essay Prize

In 2012, the Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust partnered with the Gender, Sexuality and Diversity Studies (GSDS) Program at La Trobe University to create an annual \$1,000 Essay Prize to be awarded to an undergraduate student majoring in GSDS each year.

In 2014, the prize was split between Bianca Plumley and Kate Jamma, for their essays on female genital mutilation and the increasing demand for labiaplasty.

This prize is made possible by a generous donation to the Women's Trust by Max Watson, who wished to honour Alice Watson and her daughter-in-law Isabel Watson for their contribution to the advancement of women in Victoria.

Both Max and his daughter Claire attended the award presentation night in June 2014, along with Anne Paul and Beth Nokes from the Victorian Women's Trust, who assisted in judging entries.

Engage in strategic, gender lens philanthropy

From making a modest one-off gift or a monthly donation, to setting up a sub-fund, the Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust provides people with the opportunity to engage in strategic, gender-savvy philanthropy. We work closely with donors and partners to identify the best way they can invest in women and girls, towards an optimal social impact. We offer expertise in identifying and researching worthwhile projects, and then track the progress and impact of these projects over time. When you invest in women and girls, the whole of society benefits. Ways to work with us to this noble end include:

Make a donation

All our grants are made possible through donations and interest earned on investments.

Your donation, no matter how large or small, will help build our capacity to give grants and enhance the lives of women and girls.

Donate online at vwt.org.au/vwbt

Become a monthly donor

Becoming a monthly donor is simple, convenient and makes a lasting impact. Your regular donations help us plan for the future, as well as save on administration costs, which enables us to invest more back into the community.

Fund a specific grant

If you're interested in supporting a specific initiative via our General Grants Program, please let us know and we will send you a copy of our grants shortlist each year in April.

Sign up to workplace giving

Workplace giving is an easy and tax-effective way to support our vital work. You can make a regular donation to us through your payroll, directly from your pre-tax pay. This means that you receive an immediate tax benefit, as the amount you donate appears on your annual PAYG payment summary.

Establish a Sub-Fund

Establishing a Sub-Fund is a practical and lasting way for you to strategically invest in the community without the administrative burden.

Your fund can make grants towards a special interest or charitable cause. Our sub-funds have no management fees and can be established with a minimum endowment of \$100,000.

Become a funding partner

We partner with other trusts and foundations in a collaborative effort to improve the lives of women and girls in Victoria. We do this by brokering funding for major initiatives and giving other foundations the opportunity to fund projects that have a gender focus.

Leave a gift in your Will

Leaving a gift in your Will is a powerful and long-lasting way of supporting Victorian women of generations to come. Every bequest, helps sustain our ongoing work on behalf of women and girls well into the future.

THE VICTORIAN WOMEN'S BENEVOLENT TRUST DONORS

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The Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls



Welcome

Executive Director Mary Crooks AO

It is very exciting to write about the first full year of the new Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls!

This Trust grows directly from all of the work of the Victorian Women's Trust and the Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust over the past two decades – through our grant making, research, advocacy, project initiatives and events.

With the Victorian Women's Trust Ltd as the trustee, the Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls (DTWG) is a national institution that aims to carry out strategic research initiatives and innovative projects which prevent and reduce harm to women and girls.

We launched the DTWG in June 2013.

In the time since, we have carved out a set of ambitious initiatives that will make a significant difference for women and girls in Australia, and potentially more widely. These include the *Rosie* website for young women. *Rosie* is very largely the product of two young DTWG staff, Ally Oliver-Perham and Georgie Proud, and is almost at launch stage. *The Waratah Project* has begun in earnest, with notable researcher and writer Lara Owen as project manager; ably assisted by Adrienne Bogard. We have also in place a fine Advisory Group for *Waratah*. We have almost completed a documentary film called *Torn Apart* which explores the impacts of family separation on adults and children and on women in particular. This work was carried out by three wonderful Trust volunteers – Rosemary Geer, Anne Strong and Julia Elcock – under the practical and supportive eye of Liz McAloon. We continue to fundraise for two further major initiatives around violence prevention and the building of a culture of respect for women – *The Iramoo Zone* and *Club Respect*.

We have some wonderful people to thank for their early support of this new national trust. We appreciated the critical advice and feedback from people associated with the Harm Prevention Register, and from Karen Schultze especially. We were also superbly supported on all the necessary legal work by Alice Macdougall from Herbert Smith Freehills and internally, from the VWT Board and staff, including Anne Paul and Wilfredo Zelada.

We reserve a special thank you to all the inaugural donors to the Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls. It is great to receive such support at a fledgling stage when people do not necessarily know how everything will pan out but who show their faith in our capacity to realise the outcomes we seek. We are particularly indebted to the support from Belinda Gross, who not only introduced us to the small group of amazing menstrual educators early in the life of the *Waratah project*, but who has also been its principal funder – underscoring how important it is to be prepared to take risks and seed change.

With almost a full year behind us, the stage is now set for some very promising delivery!



With the Victorian Women's Trust Ltd as the trustee, the Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls is a national institution that aims to carry out strategic research initiatives and innovative projects which prevent and reduce harm to women and girls.

Rosie

Not only did the site work well aesthetically but practically it was really easy to use... it felt like I was having a conversation with a friend.

High School Student

Rosie (RosieRespect.org.au) is an initiative of The Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls. It's an online space where young women can connect with the best web resources out there, helping them to navigate life's tricky situations.

In this increasingly complex world, teenage girls face an ever-growing array of social and emotional issues as they grow up. With the rise in availability of mobile technologies, young people are accessing and sharing information in ways different from ever before. With at least seventy-two percent of Australian teenagers exploring online content more than once a day, the range and quality of web content can be overwhelming, misleading and sometimes dangerous.

Rosie's inception began in October 2013, after it appeared that there was a lack of reliable and independent content, free from the pressures of advertising for girls online.

RosieRespect.org.au provides a range of resources, links and videos around the central theme of RESPECT – for your body and mind, in your relationships, work and study and for planet earth. It will be an online space where young girls can go for reliable and accurate information, that points them to support services, increases their self-confidence and engages them with the communities in which they live. Rosie covers everything from healthy relationships to study tips, from getting your first job to ethical fashion.

Rosie co-creators Ally Oliver-Perham and Georgie Proud have been visiting schools around Victoria and showing the Rosie website and its content to young women, incorporating their feedback as they create the website.

My mother understood deeply and cared about equality. In fact, both my parents wanted their children to have a good education and opportunities. This was reinforced at the school I went to, as there was never any issue about what girls can and cannot do. We assumed that we could achieve anything.

Ricci Swart

Dugdale Donor Story

6A Foundation Ricci Swart and Romy Katz

A mother and daughter supporting women and girls

Ricci is a long time supporter of our work and believes in “women doing something for women”. Her interest started when she was young, as she explains:

“My mother understood deeply and cared about equality. In fact, both my parents wanted their children to have a good education and opportunities. This was reinforced at the school I went to, as there was never any issue about what girls can and cannot do. We assumed that we could achieve anything”.

However, it distressed her to know that many women do not have the same opportunities. Moved to make a difference, Ricci explains that “becoming involved with the Victorian Women’s Trust was simply a no brainer – there is no question about the need to support other women and girls”.

Ricci established the 6A Foundation four years ago with her daughter Romy and daughter-in-law Naomi who both share her passion. Romy believes that “giving women and girls the chance to grow and develop with no constraints is so important to achieve real social change”.

Through the 6A Foundation they now support Rosie, a project of the Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls.

“When I saw the project proposal for Rosie, it really drew me in because it was about educating and informing girls which is one of my passions. It felt like a project that could make a real impact” said Romy.

Ricci and Romy both feel strongly about instilling the ethos of giving with their children, which is reinforced through their Jewish community where giving back is taught from kindergarten.

As Ricci explains, “for me there was no question that the family wouldn’t be involved in philanthropy. We have a responsibility to give back. My children get that.”

The Waratah Project

The Waratah Project works to positively influence how society frames menstruation and menopause, and to improve the ways women and girls experience these aspects of their lives. The project has conducted extensive research to find out what women and girls actually think and feel today about menstruation and menopause, and what they want and need in terms of education and support. This data will be analysed and used as the basis for a landmark document to be published in the first half of 2016, along with the launch of major new website. The project will be rolling out a raft of initiatives based on the research findings, including policy recommendations for public and private sector organisations, businesses, and institutions.

After a planning period from July to September 2013, work began officially in October 2013 with the appointment of Lara Owen as Project Leader, Lead Writer and Social Researcher, and Adrienne Bogard as Researcher and Administrator, along with a team of volunteers.

The research has used four main methods: a full review of existing research across all relevant disciplines; interviews with specialists; an international online questionnaire; and conversation groups with women and girls across the state of Victoria.

The online questionnaire gathered over 3,500 responses internationally, and the in-person groups and classes have engaged more than 600 women and girls (who filled out a paper version of the questionnaire). Audio recordings of the groups and interviews have been transcribed and form a unique record of women's feelings and experiences, supported by detailed field notes.

The project's Advisory Group meets for a day-long session every six months, to assess work to date and work planned. The Group also functions as a networking and outreach body, helping to publicise the project. *Waratah* also distributes a regular newsletter to a growing pool of subscribers. It has an active social media presence and a preliminary website. Lara Owen has done several radio interviews and public talks to promote the project, and recruit conversation group leaders and participants. This work is also helping to generate interest in the project prior to the launch of the landmark document.

The Waratah Project works to positively influence how society frames menstruation and menopause, and to improve the ways women and girls experience these aspects of their lives.

Torn Apart

The Family Separation Project was developed to explore and expose the harmful and potentially long-term effects of family separation on primary carers and their children. In 2013, filmmaker Helen Newman was engaged to produce a DVD, documenting a number of separated parent stories and survival strategies. Participants were chosen from volunteers who had self selected to be interviewed as part of the project's early research, which was developed with a team of Women's Trust volunteers Julia Elcock, Rosemary Geer, and Anne Strong working with DTWG Manager Liz McAloon.

The DVD, titled *Torn Apart – Rebuilding lives after family separation* highlights what happens when families break down, particularly for the primary carers of the children, most of whom are women, and who often experience the most

severe impacts. The film aims to raise community awareness of the harmful impacts and long term effects of family breakdown, and to provide practical strategies to support women to build resilience and avoid a downward spiral into poverty and hardship, an all too common consequence of family breakdown. It will also be used as a resource to trigger change – to assist policy makers and those in related fields such as the legal system to implement policies and practices to reduce the severe negative consequences of family breakdown for untold numbers of Australian families.

Fighting Friendships

It will showcase stories of powerful partnerships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous women, who have worked together to advance equality for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Fighting Friendships is an initiative of the Victorian Women's Trust in partnership with Koorie Women Mean Business, The Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls, Monash University and SW Productions. It will showcase stories of powerful partnerships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous women, who have worked together to advance equality for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. By sharing their stories, the project aims to raise awareness of the impact of these 'fighting friendships'.

Each *Fighting Friendships* story demonstrates how these women were leaders and pioneers, working together in true friendship, drawing from each other's strengths and learning from each other's experiences. The common ground of respect within the friendships made their contribution and activism stronger during a

time when racism and sexism were overt daily experiences and challenges. They demonstrated qualities of perseverance, courage and generosity – qualities that are equally pertinent today, with lessons for the contemporary reconciliation movement.

We would like to thank all the amazing contributors who generously shared their stories and the Project team – Leanne Miller (Executive Director, Koorie Women Mean Business), Historian Sue Taffe (Monash University), Director Simon Rose (SW Productions) and the donors who made the project possible, including Louise Dorrat, AndyInc and The Myer Foundation.

Be The Hero!

It demonstrates that anyone can 'be the hero' by choosing to live a life free of violence.

Be The Hero! is a groundbreaking web-based violence prevention program for young men. It was conceived, designed and produced by the Women's Trust in 2008.

The program encourages young men to build respectful relationships with women. It demonstrates that anyone can 'be the hero' by choosing to live a life free of violence. With the *Be The Hero!* website as a foundational tool, the program is designed for small groups of boys and young men – with a male group leader or teacher, and taking place over at least four sessions.

The *Be The Hero!* program maintained ongoing delivery in 2014 due largely to the partnership with Melbourne Storm Rugby League Club and funding from the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR). This enabled the program to be delivered to twelve schools across Victoria who have a significant Aboriginal population. We have now been successful in securing this funding for a further twelve month period.

Relationships are at the heart of *Be The Hero!*, especially via strong partnerships with participating schools. Highlights in this regard include an ongoing relationship with Parade College; delivering a seven week program at their Preston Campus and a four week program at the Bundoora Campus for two years in a row. We have also initiated work with Salesian College, delivering two sequential seven week programs to their Year 9 and 10 students. Most recently we delivered *Be The Hero!* at Peter Lalor Vocational College who took part in a four week program.

In 2014, Dr Nicole Kahhan undertook a formal evaluation of *Be The Hero!* As a result, we now have data that proves the effectiveness of the program and which we hope to use in discussions with prospective future funders.

Dr Nicole Kahhan and Paul Zappa are presenting the key findings at an Australian Psychological Society conference late in 2014.





The Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls

Help secure the safety and well-being of women and girls all over Australia. The Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls is just over a year old. We're keen to build on the exciting new work and strategic activity underway via the Dugdale Trust and are calling on the community to help secure its future.

Make a donation

Everything we do is made possible with the support of women and men who share our passion to create real and lasting change in the lives of Australian women and girls. Your donation, no matter how large or small, will help us carry out groundbreaking projects to advance our core agenda – to create safer, healthier, more robust and respectful Australian communities.

Donate online at vwt.org.au/dtwg

Become a monthly donor

Becoming a monthly donor is simple, convenient and adds up to substantial support over time. Your regular donations also help us plan for the future, as well as save on administration costs, which enables us to invest more back into the community.

Establish a sub-fund

Establishing a sub-fund is a practical and lasting way for you to strategically invest in the community, without the administrative burden. You can directly assist the day-to-day work of Dugdale Trust or specific projects. Our sub-funds have no management fees and can be established with a minimum endowment of \$100,000.

Donate through workplace giving

Workplace giving is an easy and tax-effective way to support our vital work. You can make a regular donation to us through your payroll, directly from your pre-tax pay. This means that you receive an immediate tax benefit, as the amount you donate appears on your annual PAYG payment summary.

Become a community/corporate partner

Partnering with us means that together we can make an even bigger difference in the lives of Australian women, men and children. You can partner with us by either providing financial support, introducing your networks, by sharing your resources and expertise, or collaborating with us through another means.

Leave a gift in your Will

Leaving a gift in your Will is a powerful and lasting way of supporting our work. Every bequest, no matter how large or small, helps sustain our ongoing work in advocating on behalf of and enhancing the lives of women and girls, into a distant future.

Become a volunteer

Becoming a volunteer is all about value adding. You help us carry out our work and share your expertise. In return we share our resources and provide you with new skills and experiences.

DUGDALE TRUST FOR WOMEN & GIRLS DONORS

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THE WARATAH PROJECT

Water Dragon Foundation
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Lara Owen

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FIGHTING FRIENDSHIPS

The Myer Foundation
Louise Dorrat
Muriel Mathers

IRAMOO ZONE

Susan Taylor
Yvonne Spielman

Koorie Women Mean Business

Koorie Women Mean Business activities in 2013/14 include:

Sisters Doing It For Themselves #3 Speed Mentoring

Koorie Women Mean Business (KWMB), in partnership with YWCA Vic, Emily's List and PEN hosted an evening to discuss the possible candidacy of Aboriginal women in local, state and national elections. Approximately thirty women gathered to explore ways to support Aboriginal women considering stepping into public leadership roles. Special guests included Linda Burney MP and Deputy Leader of the Opposition NSW, who shared her experiences as a parliamentarian with other guests.

At another event, twenty Aboriginal women mentees and ten mentors came together to identify and record their top leadership questions. Councillor Jenny Houlihan, Mayor of the City of Greater Shepparton, welcomed guests as well as staying with the group as a mentor. Participants were joined by a star line up of women from across the political, business, philanthropic, local government, legal and community sectors sharing experiences about the importance of mentoring for those with leadership aspirations.

Workshop participants 'takeaway' tips included:

- Women supporting women is so important, as is sticking to your values and persisting in the face of setbacks. Women need to remain alert of identifying sexist behaviour and confront (endlessly if needs be) so called 'merit' argument against quotas
- You can always learn, achieve and make a difference. Trials make or break you; it's your choice. Women have so much to give and contribute
- We need more Indigenous mentors
- Be open to new opportunities.

Fighting Friendships

A partnership with Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls, Fighting Friendships showcases inspirational partnerships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women. An associated aim is to generate a groundswell of support for constitutional recognition of Australia's Indigenous peoples.

Using stirring stories of collaborations between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women who have strived tirelessly for the advancement of Aboriginal human rights and to achieve justice for Aboriginal people, we mean to inspire others to take up the cause and continue to break down barriers.

Networked Communities for Sustainable Futures (NCSF)

A partnership with Yenbena Training Centre, Njernda Aboriginal Cooperative, Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation, Black Olive Catering and the Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations.

The Networked Communities for Sustainable Futures aims to support Indigenous organisations to leverage economic and employment outcomes from current and future assets, and towards employment, training and business opportunities for Indigenous people.

NCSF facilitated the following outcomes:

Yorta Yorta Whole of Country Employment Strategy

The strategy focuses on the development of employment opportunities in farming/natural resource management and hospitality/tourism. Significant investors have been identified in both areas.

Part of the strategy is to develop Indigenous small businesses which can in turn employ other Aboriginal people.

Training and Employment

Ten apprentices and four full time workers have now been placed, and CVGT Group Training has signed up ten apprentices from the Outback Academy pre-employment program. Four full time workers have also been placed – two with Blue Energy Group and two with Black Olive Catering.

Planning and creation of the NCSF entity

With assistance from Allen's Linklater and Neil Young Solicitors we have now identified the best legal structure for the NCSF.

Workshop Mentors

Workshop mentors in Echuca and Melbourne have been approached. We are currently waiting on their confirmation of availability.

Masterclass Curriculum

Masterclass curriculum development has begun with NCSF champion Mark Olive, and two curriculum writers from the TAFE Hospitality sector. Learning modules for the pilot program will soon be finalised.

RESISTANCE AND RENEWAL – Workshops

The KWMB Board continue to host annual 'Resistance and Renewal' workshops as part of its core activity. Planning is currently underway for an additional two workshops focussed on the Crimes Amendment Bill of 2014 regarding the protection of children.



Governance

Victorian Women's Trust

The Victorian Women's Trust is a generic term for three legal entities that each take on closely related but different activities to assist women and girls.

The Victorian Women's Trust Ltd is our company limited by guarantee, established in 1985. It is also a charity with no deductible gift recipient status. This is the engine room which oversees all operations, and undertakes research, advocates for reform, conducts public events, authors publications, sparks ideas, engagement and debate and supports a range of initiatives in-house and in partnership with other organisations.

The Victorian Women's Trust Ltd has a Board of Directors which meet six to seven times each year. It has a Constitution and a Trust Deed. It meets ACNC governance standards.

The Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust is our philanthropic grant-making entity that supports innovative projects to enhance conditions for Victorian women and girls. It is a Public Ancillary Fund with deductible gift recipient status. It also has a number of sub-funds established for specific purposes. It has given almost six million dollars in grants for women and girls in Victoria since its inception in 1985.

The Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust has a Board of Trustees which meet four times annually. It has a Constitution and it complies with Public Ancillary Funds Guidelines (2011).

The Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls is our new national institution. Launched in 2013, it aims to carry out strategic harm prevention initiatives that will make a lasting difference to women and girls. It is listed on the Australian Harm Prevention Charities register and is a charity with deductible gift recipient status.

The Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls has a Committee of Management which meets four times each year. The Victorian Women's Trust is the Trustee of the Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls. The Dugdale Trust has a Trust Deed. It reports annually to the Federal Department of Social Services that maintains the Harm Prevention register.

Governance

The Victorian Women's Trust strives to meet the highest standards of governance, transparency, accountability, ethics, effectiveness and stewardship.

An Executive Director oversees the operations of the three entities, and is a Board Member of the Victorian Women's Trust and a member of the Committee of Management of the Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls.

A leadership team consisting of the Executive Director, the Chair of the Dugdale Trust, the Chair of the Victorian Women's Trust Ltd and the Convenor of the Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust, meet between Board meetings for regular strategic reviews of the operations of these three entities.

Many of the Board members have been on the Board for a number of years, a deliberate decision by the Board during a growth phase. It has meant considerable stability which has allowed the entities to build on past achievements, build funds and direct the entities into the future in a consistent and cohesive way.

Governance Values

- Clear feminist vision and mission
- Strong and collegial Board culture
- Clearly demarcated roles and responsibilities of Board, Executive Director and staff
- Transparent
- Accountable culture
- Diligent
- Compliant
- Prudent financial management
- Strategic planning, monitoring and review
- Stewardship
- Careful archiving of knowledge capital
- Effective use and management of volunteers

Directors



Nicky Friedman

Nicky is the Head of Pro Bono and Community Programs at leading law firm, Allens. Nicky is focused on leveraging the resources of the private legal profession to enable disadvantaged people to gain greater access to justice. Nicky is also a director of *pro bono* clearinghouse Justice Connect. Nicky has a background in social justice work and law reform, particularly focused on women's rights. She has a long term association with the Victorian Women's Trust, having worked for the Trust as a volunteer and as an employee before joining the board.



Jacinda Dixon

Jacinda has worked in investment markets for fifteen years. Starting her career at a Melbourne-based boutique investment advisory firm, Jacinda has gained extensive experience working with private clients to develop and implement tax efficient wealth creation strategies. Now with JBWere for nine years, Jacinda has focused on advising a unique group of individuals, family groups and philanthropic organisations.



Alana Johnson

Alana is a farmer and rural consultant. She was the Victorian Rural Woman of the Year in 2010. A founding member of Australian Women in Agriculture, Alana has worked extensively on behalf of rural women, nationally and internationally. She has served on a number of government and NGO boards and is currently the President of Voice 4 Indi, which initiated a democracy project in the lead-up to the 2012 federal election.



Rosemary Vine

Rosemary has enjoyed a 25 year career in corporate communications. Specialising in issues management, corporate reputation protection and community engagement campaigns, she has worked in both the private sector and for government organisations. In recent years, Rosemary has focused her energies on social justice issues and notable community initiatives.



Diana Batzias

Diana originally trained as a social worker, and counts policy, casework and community development as career highlights over three decades working in youth and juvenile justice fields. She has experience in establishing major programs and both a state and federal level, including the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program for homeless youth and women's refugees. Diana is passionate about working with immigrants and refugees. She is also on the Board of Whitleion and International Social Services Australia.



Mary Crooks AO

After an extensive public policy career, Mary became the Executive Director of the Victorian Women's Trust in 1996. She has designed and led ground-breaking community engagement initiatives, such as the Purple Sage Project and Our Watermark Australia. In June 2012, Mary was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia, for her distinguished services to public policy and advocacy for the advancement of women.



Dur-e Dara OAM

Equality for women, indigenous people and environmental sustainability are issues high on Dur-e's agenda. Dur-e worked in youth welfare before focusing on music and developing restaurant ventures (she was the first woman president of the Victorian Restaurant and Caterers Association). She is the Vice President of Philanthropy Australia. Dur-e joined the VWT's staff in a fundraising capacity. She has been on the Board since 1991 (and Convenor from 1993, until joining the Trust's staff).



Leanne Miller

Leanne is a woman of the Dhulanyagen Ulupna Clan, Yorta Yorta nation. She is the Executive Director of the Koorie Women Mean Business. She has an extensive advocacy background working in indigenous, legal and women's sectors. She has represented Australian Indigenous Women at the United Nations, New York, as well as undertaking a UN Fellowship in Geneva.



Padmini Sebastian

Padmini is Manager of the Immigration Museum in Victoria, and is responsible for the strategic leadership and operational management of this multi-award-winning museum. She has worked extensively in the cultural and community sectors. Padmini contributes locally and internationally to forums on the value of cultural diversity in building cohesive societies.



Teresa Tjia

Teresa has extensive senior leadership experience in higher education. Originally from Indonesia and Perth, she has been involved in community organisations in Melbourne for over twenty years. Her community and professional involvements include president of a local primary school council; founding committee member of the Moving Galleries (public art and poetry on public transport); and the Committee of Melbourne's Future Focus Group.

Staff



Mary Crooks
Executive Director
(full time)



Dur-e Dara
Capital Campaign
– Executive Team
(part time)



Lieu Le
Personal Assistant to
Executive Director &
Administration Officer
(part time)



Wilfredo Zelada
Financial management
and reporting (full time)



Dianne Frey
Executive Services
(part time)



Paula Dunne
Executive Administrative
Assistant and Project
Officer (full time)



Sarah Capper
Manager, Policy, Advocacy,
Media and Communications
(full time)



Beth Nokes
Projects, Media and
Communications Officer
(part time)



Anne Paul
Manager, Victorian
Women's Benevolent Trust
(part time)



Bryony Green
Grants Program Officer
(part time)



Ally Oliver-Perham
Project Initiatives and
Design Officer (part time)



Georgie Proud
Project Initiatives and
Research Officer
(part time)



Lara Owen
Project Leader,
The Waratah Project
(part time)



Adrienne Bogard
Research & Administration,
The Waratah Project
(part time)

Volunteers

Victorian Women's Trust Limited Volunteers

Patricia Caswell, Alice Tudehope, Leonie Morgan and Kerry Moylan have been working at the Trust with Executive Director Mary Crooks on a gender equality framework document.

Hilary Irwin is co-ordinator of the *Paradox of Service* project along with the assistance of Susan Powell. Hilary and Susan have continued their work as independent advocates for women who have left religious orders without adequate or in some cases any assistance to make the transition to a new life.

Laura Myer volunteered at the Trust from May until December 2013, and undertook most of the preliminary research for the *Fighting Friendships* project.

Angelique Renieris utilised her background in law to prepare the paper 'Safeguarding Abortion Law Reform,' encouraging women and men around the state to voice their concerns over any proposed changes to the 2008 Abortion law reforms. The paper was released in May 2014.

Jan Browning commenced volunteer work with the Victorian Women's Trust in September 2013, working one day a week on a document investigating gender inequity in the arts sector with Executive Director Mary Crooks.

Beth Nokes worked with *Sheilas* editor Sarah Capper assisting her with the monthly e-publication and producing the 2013 edition of 'Bonza *Sheilas*'. In October 2013, Beth commenced part-time employment with the Women's Trust as part of its media and communications team.

Katherine Romei assisted with the *Waratah Project* from January 2013, as well as helping out on a major archiving exercise at the Trust.

Student Placements

Isabelle Lane is majoring in Journalism and Gender Studies at Monash University. She undertook an internship at the Trust, writing articles for our monthly e-publication *Sheilas*, as well as assisting Sarah Capper with editorial work.

Ruby Bell is majoring in Politics at The University of Melbourne. She completed an internship with the Trust in 2014, producing a paper on gender inequity in sports reporting.

Ruth Gale is studying Masters in Social Science (Policy and Human Services) at RMIT University. While at the Trust she completed a project titled 'Super Young Women,' investigating the financial literacy of young Australian women.

Lucy Morrison, a student from Northcote High School, undertook her work experience at the Trust, assisting *Sheilas* editor Sarah Capper with writing and editing.

The Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls Rosie

Lucy Quin volunteered with *Rosie* earlier in 2014, helping build its database, and with research and administration tasks in preparation for the *Rosie* launch.

Tatum Street generated content, edited posts and assisted with the website layout for the *Rosie* website once a week.

Sheree Rubenstein assisted in compiling content and writing posts for the *Rosie* website.

Ruth Gale undertook a student placement with the Trust, working on a project concerned with young women and superannuation. After completing that project, she joined *Rosie* and helped to generate content for the website.

Miriam Nowak came to the Women's Trust from a connection through Executive Director Mary Crooks. She has been researching website content and assisting with blog posts.

Julia Stuart came to the *Rosie* team through her connection with *Rosie* co-creator Georgie Proud. Julia created a database of contacts and communications for *Rosie*.

Lily Neilson wrote blog posts and generated content for the *Rosie* website.

Sammi Taylor spoke at a Mission Australia event in the 2014 and impressed *Rosie* creators Ally and Georgie so much that they contacted her to write content and special blog posts for *Rosie*. She is now *Rosie*'s youth ambassador.

The Waratah Project

Federica Marzari came to the project as a student intern from Melbourne University's School of Social and Political Sciences. She helped to gather academic research, especially anthropological and medical literature.

Lucy Fahey, an animator and artist, came to the Trust and created a beautiful one-minute animation *Celebrating Your First Period*, based on information in Lara Owen's book, *Her Blood Is Gold*. The animation has been viewed over 14,000 times on YouTube.

Emma Buckley Lennox, a journalism and media studies graduate, helped set up the social media presence and website, organised support for International Menstrual Hygiene Day, and arranged radio interviews for Lara Owen.

Pat Stragalinis has a background in human resources and worked with *Waratah* for six months, researching attitudes to menstrual leave, including interviewing CEOs and heads of human resources at major companies.

Janoel Liddy was a participant in a *Waratah* workshop in 2013, and works as a menstrual educator and as a TAFE instructor. She helped facilitate engagement and 'kitchen table' conversation processes with women's groups and in schools.

Melissa Gonella was also participant in the *Waratah* workshops, and now works as a menstrual educator and advocate in the greater Melbourne area. Like Janoel, she assists with the conversation process.

Rachel Etzion is a science graduate who intends to study medicine, Rachel helped organise conversation groups and interviews. She is also doing research into endometriosis.

Torn Apart

Julia Elcock, Anne Strong and Rosemary Geer worked with Mary Crooks and Nomad Film's Helen Newman to finalise themes and content for documentary *Torn Apart: Rebuilding Lives after family separation*.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Summary statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

for the year ended 30 June 2014

	2014 \$A	2013 \$A
Revenue	383,347	363,771
Employee benefits expense	(129,138)	(96,398)
Depreciation and amortisation	(32,787)	(31,348)
Grants expense	(1,000)	(1,000)
Occupancy expense	(17,851)	(18,617)
Other operating and program costs	(242,524)	(111,897)
Total comprehensive income for the year	(39,953)	104,511

Summary statement of financial position

as at 30 June 2014

	2014 \$A	2013 \$A
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	293,501	447,872
Trade and other receivables	127,310	148,804
Other receivables	5,292	5,357
Total current assets	426,103	602,033
Non current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	76,967	90,737
Other	–	5,292
Total non current assets	76,967	96,029
Total assets	503,070	698,062
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	36,942	200,605
Provisions for employee entitlements	133,114	112,614
Total current liabilities	170,056	313,219
Non-current liabilities		
Provisions for employee entitlements	16,887	28,763
Total non-current liabilities	16,887	28,763
Total liabilities	186,943	341,982
Net assets	316,127	356,080
Equity		
Issued capital	12	12
Reserves	295,185	334,138
Accumulated funds	20,930	21,930
Total equity	316,127	356,080

Summary statement of changes in equity

for the year ended 30 June 2014

	2014 \$A	2013 \$A
Contributed equity	12	12
Reserves		
Balance at beginning of financial year	334,138	228,627
Transfer (from)/to committed funds reserves from operations – net	(65,000)	53,356
Transfer to capital reserves from operations	26,047	52,155
Balance at end of financial year	295,185	334,138
Accumulated funds		
Balance at beginning of financial year	21,930	22,930
Total comprehensive income for the year	(39,953)	104,511
Transfer from/(to) committed funds reserves/operations – net	65,000	(53,356)
Transfer (to) capital reserves/operations – net	(26,047)	(52,155)
Balance at end of financial year	20,930	21,930
Equity at end of financial year	316,127	356,080

Summary statement of cash flows

for the year ended 30 June 2014

	2014 \$A	2013 \$A
Cash flows from operating activities		
Receipts from customers	12,182	128,594
Payments to suppliers and employees	(561,529)	(188,246)
Interest received	9,380	10,473
Other Income received	400,256	210,108
Grants paid	(1,000)	(1,000)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(140,711)	159,929
Cash flows from investing activities		
Net payments for property, plant and equipment	(19,017)	(1,656)
Repayments of loan due from other related parties	5,357	4,956
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(13,660)	3,300
Net (decrease)/increase in cash held	(154,371)	163,229
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	447,872	284,643
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	293,501	447,872

AUDITOR'S LETTER



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REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF VICTORIAN WOMEN'S TRUST LIMITED

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2014, the summary statement of comprehensive income, summary statement of changes in equity and summary cash flow statement for the year then ended are derived from the audited financial report of Victorian Women's Trust Limited for the year ended 30 June 2014. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on that financial report in our report dated 15 April 2015. That financial report, and the summary financial statements, do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on that financial report.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report of Victorian Women's Trust Limited.

Director's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial report.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial report of Victorian Women's Trust Limited for the year ended 30 June 2014 are consistent, in all material respects, with that audited financial report.

BDO East Coast Partnership

Richard Dean
Partner

Melbourne, 15 April 2015

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Summary statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

for the year ended 30 June 2014

	Consolidated		Trust	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	\$A	\$A	\$A	\$A
Revenue	951,921	1,072,630	651,963	785,831
Other income	254,962	109,917	246,574	107,945
Employee benefits expense	(524,539)	(439,316)	(395,401)	(342,919)
Depreciation and amortisation	(32,787)	(31,348)	–	–
Grants expense	(725,860)	(781,260)	(724,860)	(780,260)
Occupancy expense	(91,885)	(91,650)	(74,034)	(73,033)
Other operating and program costs	(324,498)	(181,598)	(156,974)	(144,700)
Total comprehensive income for the year	(492,686)	(342,625)	(452,732)	(447,136)

Summary statement of financial position

as at 30 June 2014

	Consolidated		Trust	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	\$A	\$A	\$A	\$A
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	2,221,871	5,917,711	1,928,370	5,469,840
Trade and other receivables	177,617	171,693	68,770	180,833
Other receivables	5,292	5,357	–	–
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	3,224,745	–	3,224,745	–
Total current assets	5,629,525	6,094,761	5,221,885	5,650,673
Non current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	76,967	90,737	–	–
Other	–	5,292	–	–
Total non current assets	76,967	96,029	–	–
Total assets	5,706,492	6,190,790	5,221,885	5,650,673
Current liabilities				
Trade and other payables	49,777	50,115	31,297	7,455
Provision for employee entitlements	155,822	135,220	22,708	22,606
Total current liabilities	205,599	185,335	54,005	30,061
Non-current liabilities				
Provision for employee entitlements	16,887	28,763	–	–
Total non-current liabilities	16,887	28,763	–	–
Total liabilities	222,486	214,098	54,005	30,061
Net assets	5,484,006	5,976,692	5,167,880	5,620,612
Equity				
Settled capital	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Reserves	295,196	334,150	–	–
Accumulated funds	5,187,810	5,641,542	5,166,880	5,619,612
Total equity	5,484,006	5,976,692	5,167,880	5,620,612

Summary statement of changes in equity

for the year ended 30 June 2014

	Consolidated		Trust	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Capital	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Reserves				
Balance at beginning of financial year	334,150	228,639	–	–
Transfer from committed funds reserves to capital reserves	65,000	11,644	–	–
Transfer (to) capital reserves from committed funds reserves	(65,000)	(11,644)	–	–
Transfer (to) committed funds reserves from capital reserves	–	(65,000)	–	–
Transfer from capital reserves to committed funds reserves	–	65,000	–	–
Transfer from accumulated funds to capital reserves	1,000	1,000	–	–
Transfer (to) operating fund from capital reserves	(39,954)	–	–	–
Transfer from operating fund to capital reserves	–	104,511	–	–
Balance at end of financial year	295,196	334,150	–	–
Accumulated funds				
Balance at beginning of financial year	5,641,542	6,089,678	5,619,612	6,066,748
Total comprehensive income for the year	(492,686)	(342,625)	(452,732)	(447,136)
Transfer (to) capital reserves from accumulated funds	(1,000)	(1,000)	–	–
Transfer (to) capital reserves from operating fund	–	(104,511)	–	–
Transfer from operating fund to capital reserves	39,954	–	–	–
Balance at end of financial year	5,187,810	5,641,542	5,166,880	5,619,612
Equity at end of financial year	5,484,006	5,976,692	5,167,880	5,620,612

Summary statement of cash flows

for the year ended 30 June 2014

	Consolidated		Trust	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities				
Receipts from customers	542,701	940,581	530,519	811,988
Payments to suppliers and employees	(931,049)	(655,263)	(444,520)	(542,050)
Interest received	126,551	258,948	117,171	248,508
Other income received	403,100	230,988	77,843	95,880
Grants paid	(725,860)	(781,260)	(724,860)	(780,260)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(584,557)	(6,006)	(443,847)	(165,934)
Cash flows from investing activities				
Net payments for property, plant and equipment	(19,017)	(1,656)	–	–
Net acquisitions of investment portfolio	(3,097,623)	–	(3,097,623)	–
Repayments of loan due from other related parties	5,357	4,956	–	–
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(3,111,283)	3,300	(3,097,623)	–
Net decrease in cash held	(3,695,840)	(2,706)	(3,541,470)	(165,934)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	5,917,711	5,920,417	5,469,840	5,635,774
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	2,221,871	5,917,711	1,928,370	5,469,840



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**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TO THE MEMBERS OF VICTORIAN WOMEN'S BENEVOLENT TRUST**

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2014, the summary statement of comprehensive income, summary statement of changes in equity and summary cash flow statement for the year then ended are derived from the audited financial report of Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust for the year ended 30 June 2014. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on that financial report in our report dated 15 April 2015. That financial report, and the summary financial statements, do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on that financial report.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report of Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust.

Trustee's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial report.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial report of Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust for the year ended 30 June 2014 are consistent, in all material respects, with that audited financial report.

BDO East Coast Partnership

Richard Dean
Partner

Melbourne, 15 April 2015

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Summary statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

for the year ended 30 June 2014

	2014 \$A	2013 \$A
Revenue	738,949	757,647
Employee benefits expense	(522,358)	(347,484)
Occupancy expense	(74,033)	(72,965)
Other operating and program costs	(275,550)	(138,982)
Total comprehensive income for the year	(132,992)	198,216

Summary statement of financial position

as at 30 June 2014

	2014 \$A	2013 \$A
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	89,386	238,153
Trade and other receivables	21,386	3,590
Total current assets	110,772	241,743
Total assets	110,772	241,743
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	45,448	43,427
Total current liabilities	45,448	43,427
Total liabilities	45,448	43,427
Net assets	65,324	198,316
Equity		
Settled capital	100	100
Capital reserve	65,224	4,063
Committed funds reserve	–	194,153
Total equity	65,324	198,316

Summary statement of changes in equity

for the year ended 30 June 2014

	Settled Capital \$A	Capital Reserve \$A	Committed Funds Reserve \$A	Public Fund \$A	Total Equity \$A
Opening balance at 7 February 2012	–	–	–	–	–
Settled capital	100	–	–	–	100
Comprehensive income for the period	–	–	–	198,216	198,216
Transfer to Committed Funds Reserve	–	–	194,153	(194,153)	–
Transfers to Capital Reserve	–	4,063	–	(4,063)	–
Balance at 30 June 2013	100	4,063	194,153	–	198,316
Comprehensive income for the period	–	–	–	(132,992)	(132,992)
Transfer from Committed Funds Reserve	–	–	(194,153)	194,153	–
Transfers to Capital Reserve – Public Fund	–	57,772	–	(57,772)	–
Transfers to Capital Reserve – General Fund	–	3,389	–	(3,389)	–
Balance at 30 June 2014	100	65,224	–	–	65,324

Summary statement of cash flows

for the year ended 30 June 2014

	2014 \$A	2013 \$A
Cash flows from operating activities		
Receipts from customers	720,549	757,647
Payments to suppliers and employees	(869,316)	(519,594)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(148,767)	238,053
Cash flows from financing activities		
Settled sum	–	100
Net cash provided by financing activities	–	100
Net (decrease)/ increase in cash held	(148,767)	238,153
Cash at beginning of financial period	238,153	–
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	89,386	238,153

AUDITOR'S LETTER



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**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TO THE MEMBERS OF DUGDALE TRUST FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS**

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2014, the summary statement of comprehensive income, summary statement of changes in equity and summary cash flow statement for the year then ended are derived from the audited financial report of Dugdale Trust for Women and Girls for the year ended 30 June 2014. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on that financial report in our report dated 17 February 2015. The financial report, and the summary financial statements, do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on that financial report.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report of Dugdale Trust for Women and Girls.

Trustee's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial report.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial report of Dugdale Trust for Women and Girls for the year ended 30 June 2014 are consistent, in all material respects, with that audited financial report.

BDO East Coast Partnership

Richard Dean
Partner

Melbourne, 15 April 2015

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