



## Issue No. 100 | November 2023

Above: Hon. Linda Burney MP speaking at the podium at Women for Yes. Centre top: Attendees standing with a Women for Yes sign. Centre middle 1: Volunteers holding Women for Yes booklets. Centre middle 2: Cr Emily Dimitriadis, Maree Overall, Mary Crooks AO, Tanja Kovak, Alana Johnson AM and Maria Dimopoulos AM holding the signed Open Letter. Centre bottom: Alana Johnson and Belinda Duarte on stage at Women for Yes. Photographs by Breeana Dunbar at the Women for Yes event in August.

### We came together for Yes.

A large part of our work as advocates for equality is learning how to sit with, and learn from discomfort.

It is clear from the results of the referendum that our nation needs to face some uncomfortable and ugly truths as to who we are when it comes to matters of Indigenous justice, entrenched racism and political and public discourse.

But in times like these, it is important to remember that some 6 million Australians voted 'yes'. That's 4 out of every 10.

Through the Together, Yes campaign, we were privileged to meet many of them.

From the inspirational Indigenous leaders we have worked directly with over the past year, to our thousands of Conversation Hosts around Australia, to our generous donors, our wonderful project partners, and our truly magnificent volunteers – we offer our sincerest thanks.



It has truly been an honour to engage with you by phone, over email, on social media, around kitchen tables, at the Athenaeum back in August, and in community centres and halls across the country.

For now, we must continue to stand with First Nations people, and walk with them on their journey towards justice.

### Bringing in the New Year

How is it almost the end of the year already?

The Trust office will close for the New Year on Friday 22nd of Dec and we will open back up again on Tuesday 2 Jan.

We wish you a safe and enjoyable break, and will be back here with you to continue the work in 2024.

A huge thanks to you all for your support through what was a challenging but powerful year. Special thanks to all of the volunteers who gave their time, energy, and intellect in the pursuit of First Nations recognition and gender equality.



## Women\* Now: QVWC calendar & exhibition

The Queen Victoria Women's Centre (QVWC) have just released their WOMEN\* NOW 2024 art calendar, featuring 13 Victorian-based women and gender diverse artists.

Flip to July, and you will see the stunning work of Laura Morellon (Studio Morellon) depicting three Indigenous leaders: Dr. Jackie Huggins AO, Marcia Langton AO, and Emily Carter.

QVWC originally commissioned Laura to create this piece for our annual report and are absolutely thrilled that it will be up in people's homes around the country next year.

The calendar also features the talented Alkina Edwards, whose previously commissioned work takes pride of place in our Clifton Hill office.

Laura's work has also been selected as part of the QVWC's WOMEN\* NOW Exhibition. Held in the Birnbeal Exhibition space at the QVWC, WOMEN\* NOW runs from Tuesday 15 November 2022 until Friday 13 January 2023.

→ To pick up a calendar for yourself, visit:  
[www.shop.qvwc.org.au](http://www.shop.qvwc.org.au)



## New Club Respect partnership with SportWest

Club Respect, a national harm-prevention initiative by the Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls, of which the Victorian Women's Trust is Trustee, is thrilled to announce a partnership with SportWest, the peak industry body for sport in Western Australia.

Club Respect and SportWest are deeply committed to fostering cultures of respect and inclusivity within sports clubs, making this collaboration a natural fit.

The partnership is also a significant opportunity to raise awareness of Club Respect's important resources within Western Australia and on a broader scale, empowering more clubs across the country and beyond to promote respect in sport.



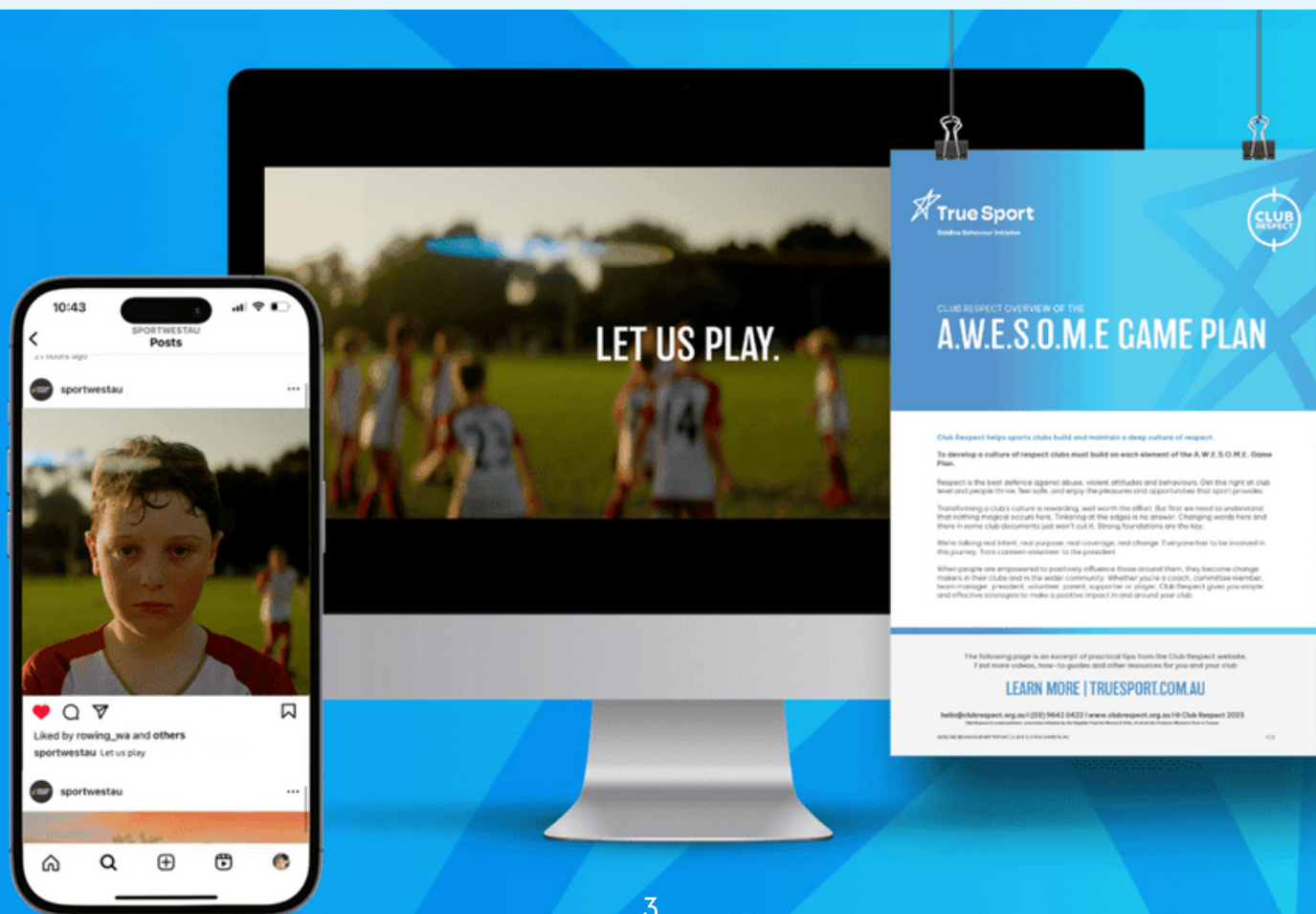
SportWest's Sideline Behaviour initiative will utilise Club Respect's "A.W.E.S.O.M.E." framework and resources to assist the sporting industry in Western Australia to build and maintain a deep culture of respect and provide tools to encourage behavioural change on the sidelines.

→ To learn more about Club Respect, visit:  
[www.clubrespect.org.au](http://www.clubrespect.org.au)

→ To learn more about SportWest, visit:  
[www.sportwest.com.au](http://www.sportwest.com.au)

Top: SportWest and Club Respect partnership logo.

Bottom: Digital mockup of the Club Respect resources with SportWest's 'True Sport' branding.





Positive Self Talk

Your rights at work

Grief and loss

# Rosie

**A space for young feminists**  
**COMING SOON**

The Dugdale Trust for Women & Girls harm prevention platform for young women and gender diverse folk, Rosie, is a space where younger audiences can find engaging and informative resources to help them navigate the tricky questions that come with growing up.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Wood Foundation, Rosie is undergoing a major makeover to offer young women and gender diverse folk with the most up-to-date information on our six main topic areas: Body Talk, Mental Health, Activism, Career Prep, Relationships, and Sex & Sexuality.

These updated articles will sit in an entirely new website designed by Your Creative, who we've teamed up with to rebrand Rosie in line with Gen Z aesthetics.

The new Rosie website is projected to launch in early 2024, so keep your eyes peeled for further updates!

---

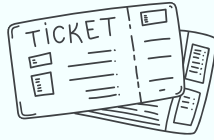
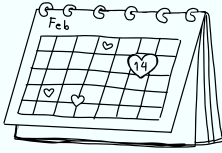
Follow Rosie on Instagram, at:  
[@rosierespect](#)

Sign up to the Rosie newsletter, at:  
[www.rosie.org.au](http://www.rosie.org.au)

Climate action

Relationships





# Events



## Nazanin Boniadi

### The 2023 Sydney Peace Prize Lecture

Over more than two decades, Nazanin Boniadi has worked tirelessly to elevate the voices and struggles of Iranian citizens and activists.

She has been selected as the recipient of the 2023 Sydney Peace Prize for 'lending a powerful voice to support Iranian women and girls and their #WomanLifeFreedom movement, and for using a high-profile platform to promote freedom and justice in Iran'.

Last month, Boniadi delivered a stirring keynote lecture on democracy and women's rights before speaking with Mahsa Hajjari at the Capitol Theatre in Melbourne. The Trust was proud to partner with the Sydney Peace Prize and others on Nazanin Boniadi's 2023 speaking tour.

→ To hear more about Nazanin and her work, read the latest Trust Journal by Shokoofeh Azar at: [www.vwt.org.au/blog](http://www.vwt.org.au/blog)

## Angela Saini: The Patriarchs

### In conversation with Karen Pickering

On Tuesday, August 15th Angela Saini, joined Karen Pickering for a bold conversation interrogating why, how and where patriarchy manifests and persists.

Diving deeply into her latest book 'The Patriarchs', Saini discussed the ways patriarchies are established and evolve over time, explored matrilineal systems that have been subverted by colonialism, and looked beyond old narratives to understand why the patriarchy persists today. This event was presented as a partnership between the Wheeler Centre and VWT.

Angela generously popped in to our Clifton Hill office before the event to have a chat about her life and work. It was a truly engaging and enlightening visit.

→ To listen to a recording of the conversation, visit: [www.wheelercentre.com/wlr-articles/angela-saini-the-patriarchs](http://www.wheelercentre.com/wlr-articles/angela-saini-the-patriarchs)



# Grants update

**A diverse range of grants have been made to support women, girls, and gender diverse individuals, addressing critical issues affecting their lives.**

In the July-August 2022 grant round, we received 91 grant applications. On October 18, 2022, the Trustees approved 16 grants that encompassed all Sub-Funds, with a total value of \$129,069.

These grants contribute to advancing gender equality, dealing with family violence, mental health initiatives, housing support initiatives aimed to ensure secure and accessible housing for those in need, skill development, support for individuals from multicultural backgrounds aimed at bridging cultural divides, sports and the arts encouraging participation, and promoting gender diversity and inclusion.

## Here are four exciting examples of our recent grants:

### Christine Friday and Kathleen Pooley Sub-Fund and Union of Australian Women (Victoria) Sub-Fund



**Applicant:** Nalderun Education Aboriginal Corporation

**Project:** Nalderun SBAT (School-based Apprenticeships & Traineeship) Program

**Amount:** \$9,959

Nalderun's program offers Indigenous students meaningful employment opportunities in different disciplines through an Indigenous lens.

The Grant backed a young student's role as a Community Services trainee within the First Nations Youth Mentor Team, fostering leadership and support for fellow students.

This includes to take on a leadership role in Warrarrak Business, a youth Cultural program for young female-identifying and non-binary students, and collaboration with All-Together Business and Young Kuli (Men's) Business across the region.

→ To learn more about the Nalderun SBAT Program, visit: [www.nalderun.net.au/programs](http://www.nalderun.net.au/programs)

### Supriya Singh Sub-Fund



**Applicant:** Carringbush Adult Education

**Project:** Women's Empowerment and Financial Freedom (WEFF)

**Amount:** \$7,597

The project addresses a crucial need in local service provision by enhancing the financial awareness and well-being of women impacted by family violence and those at risk of financial abuse.

It aims to empower women, families, and community groups to achieve greater financial resilience and access vital support services.

This initiative primarily targets women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds residing in the Collingwood and North Richmond public housing estates, particularly migrants and refugees facing systemic barriers, economic and social exclusion.

→ To learn more about Carringbush Adult Education, visit: [www.carringbush.org.au](http://www.carringbush.org.au)



## Fleur Spitzer Sub-Fund



**Applicant:** Discovery Science and Technology Centre Bendigo

**Project:** Girls in STEM

**Amount:** \$9,832

Girls in STEM is a program addressing the gender gap in STEM by nurturing STEM leadership in young girls. Partnering with 15 schools in Greater Bendigo, the Discovery Science and Technology Centre selects grade 6 girls from a diverse Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage schools to become STEM leaders and mentors to their peers.

These girls will return to their schools, running challenge workshops to showcase leadership, confidence, and STEM skills. This year-long program aims to foster cultural acceptance of girls and women as STEM leaders.

→ To learn more about the Girls in STEM program, visit: [www.discovery.asn.au](http://www.discovery.asn.au)

## Humanitas Sub-Fund



**Applicant:** School of Sunshine Limited

**Project:** Yiol Cultural Dance Group

**Amount:** \$7,254

Yiol Cultural Group falls under one of the subtribes of South Sudan and engages young girls through cultural dances on Weekends to provide cultural skills to them. The mothers want to teach their girls their culture and connect them to their roots to have knowledge of where their parents originated from.

This connectedness with community and culture has been one way that has seen a lot of girls develop higher self-esteem and able to learn well at school. School of Sunshine also engages mothers through this group by having guest speakers from different fields e.g. financial services, family violence workers, and legal services.

→ To learn more about the Yiol Cultural Dance Group, visit: [www.facebook.com/yiolcultureinvictoria](https://www.facebook.com/yiolcultureinvictoria)

# Staffing update – Goodbye Leah!

This month, we said farewell to Leah McPherson, our Major Projects & Initiatives Officer. Over the past few years, Leah has been instrumental to so many of the Trust's projects including (but in no way limited to) the Trust's civic engagement projects – Kitchen Table Conversations Guide, Matters that Count, and Together, Yes.

Our new office space is in large part thanks to Leah's efforts project managing everything from the initial contracting, to the gorgeous art installation by Alkina Edwards.

Leah is the kind of person who always jumps in to give a hand or help talk through a problem until a solution can be found. Her intelligence, energy and humour were an asset to the VWT team, and she will be greatly missed.

We wish her all the best in whatever she does next.



Left: Ivy Plembeck and Mollie Edwards exploring robotics at Discovery's Girls in STEM program, photographed by Darren Howe.  
Right: Members of the Yiol Cultural Dance Group, image supplied.  
Bottom: Leah McPherson at the opening of the VWT Clifton Hill office, photographed by Breeana Dunbar.



# Keep Safe Online

Play. Pause. Review. Learn.

**Take control of your own digital safety with  
our free eSafety video tutorials**

Identifying  
Scams



Password  
Protection



Digital Privacy



And more!



Rural Women Online is a program created by women for women to help make life easier in our increasingly digital world.

Scan the QR code to visit:  
[www.ruralwomenonline.org.au/keep-safe-online](http://www.ruralwomenonline.org.au/keep-safe-online)



Community  
Enterprise  
Foundation™