

SOUTHERN WOMEN'S ACTION NETWORK



Newsletter

March 2024

SWAN acknowledges the Bunurong / Boon Wurrung people, the Traditional Custodians of these lands and waters where we meet, work and live. We pay our respects to Elders, past and present. In line with our commitment to social justice, SWAN unequivocally supports First Nations People in their campaigns for sovereignty, self-determination, treaties and truth-telling.

Southern Womens+ Action Network

Women of the Mornington Peninsula and across the Southern Metropolitan suburbs of Melbourne striving for social justice.

Continuing to Foster SWAN's Future

GETTING TOGETHER AND FORWARD PLANNING

In February, each of the 'SWAN's FUTURE' workshop groups met up to commence forward planning to strengthen promotion and broaden diversity of our membership and community engagement. So far, seventeen SWAN members have put their hand up to prioritise and progress the action strategies identified in last November's workshop. Their input and 'can do' attitude is inspiring and motivating.

Some great ideas for follow-up action have been proposed including:

- Enhancing SWAN's promotional material, including updating our membership flyer and creating an eye-catching A5 leaflet with a QR code to our website, that can be distributed more broadly to community organisations and media etc.
- Proactively circulating SWAN NEWS to targeted local community organisations.
- Developing a short list of priority 'talking points' that members can refer to when speaking with people who want 'to know a bit about SWAN and what we do.'

- Enabling people who want to join SWAN to register their interest via our website.
- Securing inspiring guest speakers to speak at SWAN bi-monthly meetings on issues of current concern to younger women, as well as women 40+ - particularly those of retirement age.
- Increasing our media exposure, including: improved distribution of the flyer advertising SWAN guest speaker meetings and other public events; and regular inclusion of brief articles and in the 'What's On' section of local newspapers about SWAN activities, meetings and events.
- Holding a 'skills development' workshop for members who want to improve their ability to write 'powerful letters' to the media; and also to learn social media capabilities.
- Canvassing members to determine their interest in us creating a SWAN T-shirt and possibly some action-oriented badges (eg. SWAN supports climate action etc) to wear at public events and rallies, SWAN Speaker Meetings, SWAN Coffee Catch-Ups, etc.
- Making some corflutes to advertise SWAN and making better use of the SWAN banner.
- Promoting SWAN in school communities in greater Frankston and across the Mornington Peninsula with the aim of reaching parents, teachers and senior student bodies.
- Reorienting the annual SWAN bursaries to provide small grants of around \$300-\$400 each to support the education of a small number of senior students at local State Secondary Schools in greater Frankston and across the MP. These students would be invited as a group to attend at one of the SWAN meetings and to join a panel discussion to speak about their social justice concerns.

THREE WORKING GROUPS

The two Promotion groups of 'Networking' and 'Publicity' have combined forces to be renamed '**SWAN PROMOTION GROUP**'. The two Broadening Diversity groups are meeting separately under '**SWAN DIVERSITY GROUP**' and '**SWAN & YOUNGER WOMEN**'. The Diversity Group's focus encompasses engaging with women and social justice issues around multiculturalism, disability and/or gender-diversity, whilst SWAN's Supporting First Nations engagement established in 2020 is ongoing. For the Younger Women's Group, members are keen to progress social justice topics of concern to younger women and future generations, as well as engage with recently retired, semi-retired or about-to-be retired women to become members. Obviously, there are strategy overlaps between the groups, and relevant groups aim to pool resources and combine actions as the need arises.

Further information will be provided at our March Speaker Meeting where each of the three groups will update members and invite you to join them. Or contact:

SWAN PROMOTION GROUP

Sarah Russell: sarahrussell@comcen.com.au

SWAN DIVERSITY GROUP

Viv Daniels: vivcdaniels@gmail.com

SWAN & YOUNGER WOMEN GROUP

Bonnie Einsiedel: bonnie.einsiedel@gmail.com

Gender Diversity & Inclusion

Those who regularly check the SWAN website may have noticed an important addition to our Home page, and also to the front page of this newsletter. In recent months, Committee members have been discussing the need for us to publicly express our commitment to respecting gender diversity and to ensure that SWAN is a gender inclusive organisation. In line with this, we have included the statement below.

We are also hopeful that one of our guest speakers for 2024 will help us to better understand the challenges that face gender diverse people and the role that we can play in advocating for gender justice.

SWAN has an open and inclusive approach to addressing the challenges facing the diversity of women in our community. We recognise that the genderscape is under continual construction.

SWAN aspires to be a supportive community for all self-identified cis or transgender women and for those who self-identify as non-binary or gender non-conforming. We are committed to encompassing greater gender diversity in our membership, practices, social justice actions and in the terminology that we use.*

* cis: a person whose sense of personal identity and gender corresponds with the sex assigned to them at birth.

<https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms>

Many of us feel that we have much to learn with respect to this important justice and equity issue. Here are some links to research that may be of interest to you:

Australian Human Rights Commission:

<https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/lgbti/terminology>

National Centre for Transgender Equality:

<https://transequality.org/issues/resources/understanding-nonbinary-people-how-to-be-respectful-and-supportive>

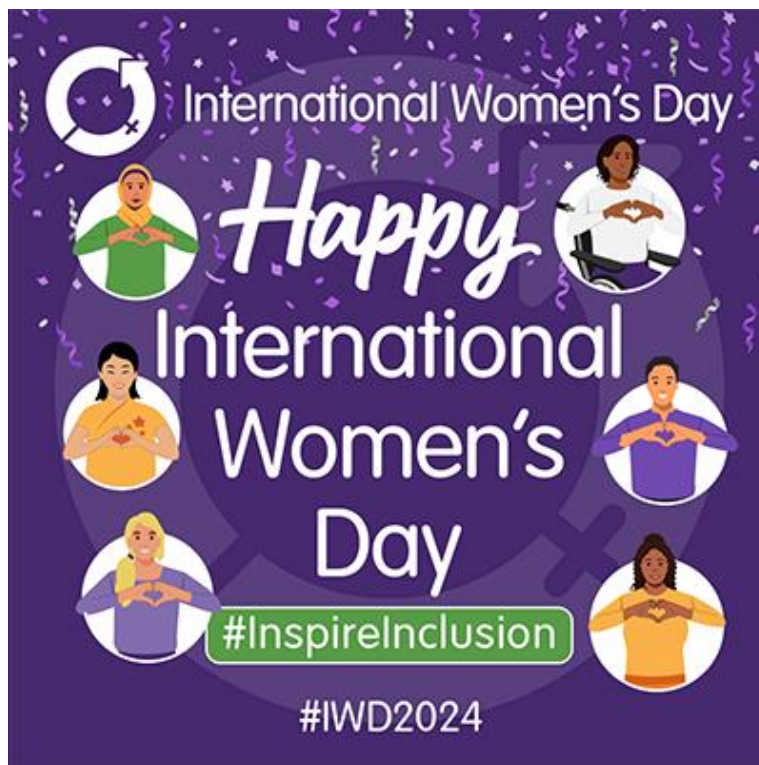
Human Rights Campaign USA:

<https://www.hrc.org/resources/transgender-and-non-binary-faq>

Next SWAN Speaker Meeting

International Women’s Day 2024: ‘Inspire Inclusion’

Our Speaker Meeting on Sunday 17 March acknowledges and celebrates International Women’s Day (IWD). The theme for this year is ‘Inspire Inclusion’. **Our SWAN flyer detailing the Speaker for March will be emailed to you in the next few days. Make sure you look out for it in your inbox!** Members are encouraged to invite a younger woman such as a relative, friend, neighbour or colleague. Remember to come a little earlier for a 9.30am delicious Morning Tea and have time to say hello to fellow members.



To see what else is happening in March for IWD, both here in Australia and around the world, go to internationalwomensday.com or the poster above, click on MENU, then GET INVOLVED, then IWD EVENTS, then SEARCH EVENTS, then select the Country eg. 'Australia' and the City eg. 'Melbourne'. There's lots on!

Our generous **Raffle Sponsors** for March’s Speaker Meeting are:

<p><u>SiSCo Pizza Restaurant</u></p> <p>2113 Pt Nepean Rd Rye Open: 5.30 pm Wed-Sun Ph: 5985 3967 Website: siscopizza.com.au Insta: siscopizza</p>	<p><u>Cape Merchants</u></p> <p>96 Ocean Beach Rd Sorrento 3943 Ph: 5984 4641 Website: capemerchants.com.au Insta: cape_merchants</p>
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Call in and support these local businesses and leave a comment on Instagram!

SWAN Committee 2023-2024

MEET OUR MEMBERS

Diane Johnstone, our newest Committee Member

"I grew up in Mentone, became a primary school teacher, married, became a mother and a grandmother. My passion for education and for social justice saw me volunteer with the Childbirth Education Association and the Australian Breastfeeding Association. My hobbies include golf and book club. As a retiree, I was a volunteer in several local primary schools and I'm now in Grandmothers for Refugees and joined SWAN in 2018."



Moz Lucas, Minutes Secretary, SWAN News Editor

"Having grown up in Melbourne's SE suburbs, I moved to Northern NSW and SE QLD in my twenties for warmer climates and an alternative lifestyle for 25 years. My professional background is in early childhood development and education, social welfare, fine art and the university sector. Now retired, I enjoy creative pursuits like amateur theatre and Popchoir. I joined SWAN in 2021 and the Committee in 2022."

Despi O'Connor, Speaker Coordinator

"I am a descendent of a convict and refugees. My parents grew their own business to raise their family of four. My young life, although filled with opportunities, was not easy. Social justice has been part of my DNA due to my life experiences, work with the YMCA and in Public Education. I, like my mother, her sisters and my late grandmother, continue to give back to the community any way I can. I joined SWAN in 2021. In my downtime I run marathons, float in the sea, garden and read." Photo: Floss Butterworth



SWAN Support Needed

Committee Position: URGENT!!!

SWAN CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY

The tasks below are already in place, and retiring Correspondence Secretary Vivienne Daniels will help you transition into the role.

1. Maintain and update our Register of SWAN Members on the Excel spreadsheet.
2. Maintain a Record of Correspondence inwards and outwards.
3. Respond to mail/email in a timely manner, with input from SWAN's Facilitator or Committee.
4. Inform the SWAN NEWS Editor about upcoming meetings and community events.

**More info, contact Diane McDonald via email, leave your phone number, and she will call you:
dianemcdonald.consult@gmail.com**

Donations instead of Gifts

Are you celebrating a special birthday this year? All birthdays are special, I hear you say and I agree! **Have you thought about suggesting a donation to SWAN in lieu of gifts?** This is a way to support our work and actions and especially to ensure the continuation of our Education Bursaries to women who are studying and experiencing hardship or disadvantage.

If this interests you, please direct gift-givers to our website: swanwomen.org.au They should then click on the 'Donate to SWAN' tab and follow the instructions. In order to keep track of donations, it would be helpful if the gift-giver could forward an email to: swanwomen@outlook.com and in the subject heading enter 'Birthday Donation'. In the body of the email, record date and amount of donation. Alternatively cash donations can be given to SWAN Treasurer Erica Churchill.

*Please note donations made to SWAN are not tax deductible.



The poster features a light blue background with a watercolor-style texture. At the top, the text 'lived experience' is written in a cursive font, followed by 'Disability Awareness' in a large, bold, dark blue sans-serif font, and 'discussion-based seminar' in a cursive font below it. The event details 'THURSDAY 14 MARCH 1.30PM-2.30PM' and 'FREE - REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL' are centered. Below this, it says 'PRESENTED BY' followed by the logos for '50 focus INDIVIDUALISED SUPPORT SERVICES' and 'MOUNT MARTHA HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE'. An illustration of five diverse people with various disabilities (one in a wheelchair, one with a cane, one with a prosthetic leg, one with a hearing aid, and one with a white cane) is shown. At the bottom, there is a QR code, contact information for Mount Martha House Community Centre, and logos for Mornington Peninsula Shire and Victoria.

lived experience
Disability Awareness
discussion-based seminar

THURSDAY 14 MARCH 1.30PM-2.30PM
FREE - REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL
PRESENTED BY

50 focus INDIVIDUALISED SUPPORT SERVICES & MOUNT MARTHA HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE

BOOK YOUR PLACE VIA OUR WEBSITE OR SCAN HERE

Mount Martha House Community Centre
466 Esplanade, Mount Martha VIC 3934
Office Hours: Mon-Thur 09:00am - 4.00pm
03 5974 2297 www.mountmarthahouse.com.au

MORNINGTON PENINSULA Shire
Neighbourhood Houses for most of our community
VICTORIA

Mt Martha House, corner Dominion Rd & The Esplanade, Mt Martha.
Free – registration essential: scan the QR code or phone 5974 2297

SWAN NEWS Notice

NEW DEADLINE DATE

Starting with next month's April newsletter, the new deadline for SWAN NEWS contributions is being brought forward to the last Wednesday of each month – prior to publication for the start of the next month.

CONTRIBUTION END DATES

March 27, April 24, May 29, June 26, July 31, August 28, September 25, October 23, November 27.

We appreciate all contributions to SWAN NEWS and encourage members to provide information about events, activities and causes, including photos (as long as those photographed have given permission, and the photograph's author and/or source is included).

WOMEN'S HOMELESSNESS on the Mornington Peninsula

By Judith Graley and Susan Blackburn

'Women over 50 are the fastest growing demographic of homeless in the developed world and are increasingly referred to as the hidden homeless. These women live in their cars, stay on friend's couches or sofa beds, or live in short-term accommodation.'

'UNDER COVER' narrated by Margot Robbie

In late 2023, a large audience attended a screening in Rosebud of **UNDER COVER** a documentary about older women experiencing homelessness. It was a provocative and moving piece of filmmaking that showed in all guises the plight of an increasing number of older women finding themselves without a home in which to live. The Q&A session and discussion that ensued laid out in an alarming way that this predicament is happening everyday across the place we call home: the Mornington Peninsula.

The Mornington Peninsula is a beautiful environment in which to live. Its attractiveness and reputation as a seaside playground often masks the fact that the Peninsula has many social problems, some of which are deeply entrenched due to a further number of factors including lack of service provision and an 'out-of-sight, out-of-mind' attitude at all levels of government. The responsibility for community care is mainly left to churches and charity organisations, including the three Community Support Centres across the Shire. Based on research, it is clear that the current model is inadequate to tackle the housing and homelessness crisis now happening.

It is unacceptable that this problem exists and will likely worsen in our local community. SWAN has designated this as a priority issue for us in 2024. Several members have expressed their commitment to publicly advocate for immediate social and political action to address this rapidly escalating crisis. They have formed a small working group to discuss how best to proceed. This will include liaising closely with other community organisations that are working for change on this matter.

If you are interested to join this working group please contact Judith Galey at judith.graley@gmail.com

Further information about SWAN activities concerning Women and Homelessness will be included in the April edition of SWAN NEWS. In the meantime, we encourage you to do what you can to assist the good work being done 'at the coal-face' by local community support agencies.

TO WATCH THE TRAILER FOR 'UNDER COVER' OR
BOOK A COMMUNITY SCREENING GO TO: undercoverdocumentary.com



'More and more women are realising that only collective strength and action will allow us to be free to fight for the kind of society that meets basic human needs.'

ROXANNE DUNBAR, Social Justice Activist



PLEASE HELP

With the cost of living continuing to be an issue for people living on the Peninsula, **Southern Peninsula Community Centre in Rosebud** is in need of pantry items and toiletries to support people who are doing it tough.

There will be a DONATION BOX at SWAN's Member Meeting on 17th March and all meetings for the rest of the year.

Your donations of the following items would be very much appreciated:

- >> Long Life Milk
- >> Baked Beans & Spaghetti
- >> Soup
- >> Full sized Shampoo & Conditioner
- >> Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- >> Deodorant
- >> Toilet paper

Or take your donations to Southern Peninsula Community Support 878 Point Nepean Rd. Rosebud.


NB: Tampons and pads are not needed as these are provided by 'Share the Dignity'.



FRIENDS OF FUSION
GARDEN PARTY

BROUGHT TO YOU BY **COMMUNITY BANK MOUNT MARTHA**

Together There's Life

 **fusion** SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024 | FUSION MORNINGTON PENINSULA

FUNDRAISER FOR HOMELESSNESS

Fusion Mornington Peninsula is a local organisation supporting at-risk young people and families through housing and support for those experiencing at-risk of homelessness.

Enquiries: Paula Creek paula@functioningtogether.com.au

Tickets: morningtonpeninsula.fusion.org.au/gardenparty

SWAN Coffee Catch-Up

FEBRUARY 2024

Celebrating SWAN can be not only inspirational and motivating, but also fun! This is the general feeling at our Coffee Catch Ups. Our latest was at Laneway Café in Dromana, organised by Moz. Again, we had a high attendance - 13 women this time. To make it a little easier to get to know one another, many suggested we wear our SWAN badges, and that this is a good way to promote SWAN too!



Out of the 13 that attended, a few of us stayed on for more discussion!
SWAN members at Laneway Cafe, Dromana, February 2024

This year we'll continue to meet at cafés on the **3rd Sunday of these months – April, June, August, October, December** – the alternative months to SWAN's Speaker Meetings. And for each Coffee Catch Up we'll be moving around to a different café on the Mornington Peninsula, to invite participation by members living in different Peninsula locations – preferably cafés with large tables! Please let Moz know of your café suggestions.

NEXT COFFEE CATCH UP: SUNDAY 21 APRIL 10am

In April, come along to **Sages Café** a social enterprise café **in the Baxter Barn at Sages Cottage, 85 Sages Rd, Baxter**, and even better, bring a friend or relative - especially if they're younger! - for them to get an idea of what SWAN is about. The purpose of these meetings is for us to get to know other SWAN members in a less formal setting than our Sunday Speaker Meetings. **RSVP Moz Lucas by Friday 12 April: maureenfrances21@gmail.com**

REMEMBER: There is no Coffee Catch Up in March!

Something New!

MEDITATION GROUP

Anyone who has had any experience of meditation will know about the many benefits of meditation practice over time ... Scientifically proven to dampen an

overly active nervous system, we notice improvements in our reactivity, mood and resilience amongst other things. Especially during these challenging times there is comfort and strength to be gained from sitting and meditating in a group with others. Ruth, Jan and Lynn met at the recent SWAN Coffee Catch Up and discovered a shared interest in regular meditation and are keen to find other SWAN members who are already practicing or interested in exploring meditation. As this is a very recent idea, nothing has been decided yet other than a wish to set up a regular group to encourage and support each other's practice and to collectively help to make the world a more positive and pleasant place.

If you are interested please contact Lynn Carpenter 0402 499 639 (text or leave a message and I will ring you back). We look forward to hearing from you.

NB: This is not a SWAN run activity.



SWAN BOOK CLUB

Anyone interested in joining a book club? Then look no further ... We could read/listen to books exploring aspects of social justice, then meet up and share our opinions and ideas. Currently, this is just an idea, with no book list or format – we can work out all that when we get together for the first time over a cuppa.

**Please contact Lynn Carpenter 0402 499 639
(text or leave a message and I will ring you back)**

Supporting First Nations



Around fifteen SWAN Members participated in the event at Rye Community House.
Photo: Marg Darcy

CONVERSATION on TREATY, being a POST-REFERENDUM ALLY, and the UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION of RIGHTS of INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

The central focus of this meeting provided an update on the Victorian Treaty process, an historic initiative empowering local communities to engage in negotiations with the State. It was also an opportunity for audience members to hear about the valuable work being done by First Nations community organisations on the Mornington Peninsula, and to discuss the challenges they face.

Importantly, meeting participants were challenged to discuss how they could support the many local-level initiatives currently undertaken by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to achieve self-determination and to strengthen the sustainability of their organisations.

Participants were also asked to suggest ways in which they could support the Treaty process.

Guest speakers at this 'conversation' event were:

- **Aunty Deb Mellett**, a proud Gurindji woman from the Northern Territory who grew up on Larrakeyah land (Darwin) and is the General Manager of Nairm Marr Djambana Aboriginal Gathering Place.

- **Nerita Waight**, a proud Yorta Yorta and Narrandjeri woman with Taungurung connections, CEO of the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service and Co-Convenor of the First People's Assembly of Victoria.
- **James Thompson**, a proud Yorta Yorta man and Senior Engagement Officer at the First People's Assembly of Victoria.

Aunty Deb Mellett spoke about the need to support critical work undertaken by *Nairm Marr Djambana Aboriginal Gathering Place* towards improving the health and wellbeing outcomes of the local First Nations community, and encouraged allies to take part in the review and updating of the *Mornington Peninsula Shire Council's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2024-2026*. To stay informed and see Council's timeline, go to Council's RAP page: shape.mornpen.vic.au

In addition, **Aunty Yvonne Luke** spoke about *Baluk Arts Aboriginal Art Gallery*, the Peninsula's prized Indigenous Art and Culture resource located in Mt Eliza and their quest for finance to purchase permanent premises. Aunty Yvonne is a respected Elder of the local First Nations community whose personal journey of reconnecting to Alyawarr country after several generations of removal is recounted in the recently published book: *'Telling: Stories of Resilience from Nairm Marr Djambana'*. More information, visit: <https://www.djambana.org.au/yvonne-luke-my-story/>

Concerning the Treaty process, both Nerita and James urged allies to become familiar with it and get ahead of a potential repeat of the misinformation surrounding the *Voice Referendum*, so they can talk to family, friends and colleagues in an informed way.

'We've got a bold and positive agenda, but self-determination isn't just the destination – it's also how we get there! That's why we need mob to get involved, have a say and show support for Treaty by enrolling with us' Source: [firstpeoplesvic.org](https://www.firstpeoplesvic.org)

The Victorian Treaty process needs volunteers and community advocacy in the face of the Victorian Liberals and Nationals retraction of support. SWAN members can volunteer with the First People's Assembly and familiarise themselves with information via:

- **First People's Assembly:**
<https://www.firstpeoplesvic.org>
- **UN Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People:**
<https://www.humanrights.gov.au/our-work/un-declaration-rights-indigenous-peoples-1>

Sincere thanks must go to Marg Darcy, Rye Community House Coordinator and SWAN Member, for organising this important event.



On again in 2024
Women's Weaving Workshop
at
WILLUM WARRAIN
ABORIGINAL GATHERING
PLACE

welcomes all SWAN members
and other women to their
interactive cultural experience.

Next Workshop:
Saturday 9th March, 9.30am to
12noon
Details: 0403 528 034



These beautiful Indigenous artist-designed t-shirts can be purchased from **Nairm Marr Djambana Aboriginal Gathering Place**.

VISIT THEIR WEBSITE: <https://www.djambana.org.au>



**CONNECTION
TO COUNTRY
EXHIBITION**
15/02

Join us for the opening launch of our group photography exhibition, honouring our artists deep connection to country and harnessing imagery as a form of rich storytelling.

OPENING 15 FEBRUARY, 2024
11AM - 1PM
MORNING TEA PROVIDED
BALUK ARTS
5 DAVIES AVE, MT ELIZA

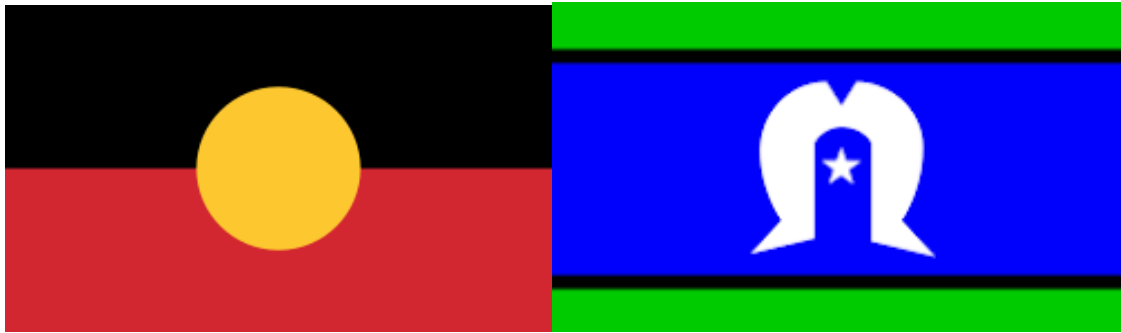
'Connection to Country Exhibition' at BALUK ARTS is still on!!!

Featuring work by Aunty Patsy, Aunty Yvonne, Kylie Clarke, N'Dene Riley, Kevin Williams, Ceberio Johnson, Eliza Mango.

Limited edition prints available

5 Davies St, Mt. Eliza <https://balukarts.org.au/>

OPEN: Tuesday – Friday, 10am-5pm
Saturday 10am-3pm



Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee Annual Event 2024

Held on Boon Wurrung Country at Emu Plains Reserve, Balnarring, this wonderful family-friendly community festival welcomes all to walk alongside First Peoples, join in the celebrations of song, dance and workshops, and become more informed about Indigenous culture and caring for Country. The annual festival was presented by Balnarring Preschool.

Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee (festival) Vision Statement

For the Womindjeka Balnarring Ngargee (Festival) to be an event where the community can gather to share, begin conversations and walk with First Peoples.

The festival will:

- * Honour and celebrate First Peoples cultures
- * Involve the whole community caring for and learning with Country
- * Demonstrate a commitment to reconciliation

More information: <https://www.balnarringfestival.com.au>

Womin Djeka – Welcome! Held on Saturday 2 March under a beautiful canopy of stringybark trees, Emu Plains buzzed with a gentle excitement of gathering together, of deep culture, of children running around laughing and exploring, of the healing presence of performance. Overhead, a wedge-tailed eagle circled as festival goers enjoyed a Smoking Ceremony, followed by a Welcome to Country with Boon Wurrung elder N’Arwee’t Dr Caroline Briggs. A highlight of the Festival Stage that got many dancing and singing with gusto was proud Gamilaraay and Birri Gubba man Mitch Tambo’s stirring performance in both language and English. Workshops for children and adults included First Nations-led jewellery making and weaving, and interactive events included guided walks and a Yidaki Meditation. An array of stalls covered everything from Indigenous food and craft to Ecological projects to local First Nations organisations offering information, friendship and culture.

Don’t miss out ... put it in your diary for next year!



FESTIVAL MOMENTS

ABOVE (L-R):

The festival crowd sings along under Mitch Tambo's charismatic conducting;

Mitch Tambo performs with his sister-in-law and his wife Lele.

BELOW (L-R):

Guided walk with the Habitat Restoration Fund to support local wildlife;

SWAN Members Maureen Donnelly and Moz Lucas at the Festival entrance.

BALHARRING PRESCHOOL PRESENTS
Womin Djeka.
 Balharring Ngargee

THIS IS AN ALCOHOL & DOG FREE EVENT

SATURDAY 2ND MARCH 10AM - 5PM
 ENTRY BY DONATION • COMMUNITY FESTIVAL • FAMILY FRIENDLY
 HONOURING AND CELEBRATING FIRST PEOPLES CULTURES

EMU PLAINS RESERVE, COOLART ROAD BALHARRING

ENTERTAINMENT • FOOD STALLS • CRAFT STALLS • CULTURAL WORKSHOPS
 CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES • CARING FOR COUNTRY • LOCAL GATHERING PLACES

WELCOME TO COUNTRY 12 NOON

MITCH TAMBO
 CHARLIE NEEDS BRACES • PLUS MORE TBA

WORKSHOPS STARTING FROM 10AM • YIDAKI MEDITATION
 • CREATE A DILLY BAG • WAYAPA • OCHRE PAINTING
 WEAVING • STORY TELLING • INDIGENOUS GAMES
 MAKING BUSH ANIMALS • GRASS AND STRING DOLLS • GUIDED WALKS

ONSITE PARKING \$5 AND ENTRY BY DONATION
 FESTIVAL WILL BE RUN IN LINE WITH PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS // ACCESSIBLE EVENT

Logos for Australian Government, Balharring Preschool, Womin Djeka, and Swinburn Bank.

We acknowledge Been Warring people as the traditional custodians of the land on which the festival is being held and recognise the continuous relationships they have with the land, waters, sky, ancestors and plants. We recognise the strength of First Peoples in maintaining their cultures over thousands of years. We pay our respects to Elders past and present. We welcome and acknowledge all First Peoples from across Australia.

Please contact us if you require any support to access the festival.

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT:
 @womindjeka.balharring-ngargee@gmail.com | Facebook.com/WominDjeka | Instagram.com/womindjekabalharring



Dates for your Diary



- **FRIDAY 8 MARCH IS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: check your local community noticeboards and media for events:** internationalwomensday.org
- **SATURDAY 9 MARCH, 9.30am - 12pm: 'Women's Weaving Workshop'**, Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association Gathering Place, 10c Pound Rd. Hastings. Details: Karsten 0403 528 034 or visit willumwarrain.org.au
- **THURSDAY 14 MARCH, 1.30 – 2.30pm: 'Lived Experience Disability Awareness Discussion-Based Seminar'**, Mt Martha House, cnr Dominion Rd & The Esplanade, Mt Martha. Free – registration essential: phone 5974 2297 or scan the QR code on p7.
- **SATURDAY 16 MARCH, 11am – 1pm: 'Willum Warrain's 10th Birthday Celebration'**, all welcome, Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association Gathering Place, 10c Pound Rd. Hastings. Details: Karsten 0403 528 034 or visit willumwarrain.org.au
- **SATURDAY 16 MARCH, 2 – 4.30pm: 'Friends of Fusion Garden Party'** fundraiser for homelessness, 2 Cumberland Drive, Mt Martha.
Enquiries: Event Manager Paula Creek paula@functioningtogether.com.au
Tickets: morningsonpeninsula.fusion.org.au/gardenparty
- **SUNDAY 17 MARCH, 9.30am - midday: 'SWAN General Meeting with Guest Speaker'** for International Women's Day, Mt Martha House, cnr Dominion Rd & The Esplanade, Mt Martha.
- **THROUGHOUT MARCH: 'Connection to Country'**, art exhibition, Baluk Arts, 5 Davies St. Mt. Eliza. Info: <https://balukarts.org.au/>
- **SUNDAY 19 APRIL, 10 – 11.30am: 'SWAN Coffee Catch-Up'**, Sages Cottage, 85 Sages Rd, Baxter. RSVP Moz Lucas by Friday 12 April: maureenfrances21@gmail.com

Contact Us

SWAN News Editor:
Moz Lucas

SOUTHERN WOMEN'S ACTION NETWORK



[OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER](#) aims to inform readers of current issues and matters of interest.

[NEWLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS](#) If you have information of interest to our members, please ensure you let the editor Moz Lucas know via the email below.

Deadline for our next issue Wednesday 27 March 2024

FACEBOOK AND WEBPAGE Recent events and photos may appear on both the SWAN Facebook page and the website, as well as details of future meetings.

PHOTO/VIDEO PERMISSION Please advise swanwomen@outlook.com or at the door at a meeting if you do not wish to be included in photographs or videos, otherwise we will take it that you are happy to have your photo included.

CONTACT

Postal: PO Box 72 BITTERN VIC 3918

Email: swanwomen@outlook.com

Website: <https://swanwomen.org.au/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/spwswan/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHua3ynobWOxAUEfOPLt1yQ>

Donations www.trybooking.com/au/donate/swan

Our Sponsors

- * Blackbird Café: 2D Empire St Mornington (03) 5976 8632 blackbird-café.edan.io
- * Bodhi & Me Florist: 5A Bay Rd Mt Martha (03) 5916 1270 bodhiandme.com.au
- * Cape Merchants: 96 Ocean Beach Rd Sorrento (03) 5984 4641 capemerchants.com.au
- * Farrells Bookshop: 143 Main Street Mornington (03) 5975 5034 farrells.com.au
- * Higher Ground Café: 5/5 Howey Rd Mt Martha (03) 5974 4733
- * Rosebud Book Barn: 891 Point Nepean Rd (03) 5986 6770 info@rosebudbookbarn.com.au
- * Secret Garden: 81 Main Street Mornington (03) 5975 0977 secretgardenflowers.com.au
- * SiSCo Pizza Restaurant: 2113 Point Nepean Rd Rye (03) 5985 3967 melgow3@gmail.com
- * Zen Living: 70 Main St Mornington (03) 5975 1013 zenlivingmornington.com.au

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