



# SWAN Newsletter

Women striving for  
**Social Justice**

**Volume 14 Issue 2**

Southern Women's Action Network Inc.  
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**May 2014**

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**ADMINISTRATIVE  
COMMITTEE  
2013-2014**

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Correspondence Secretary

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**Speaker Co-Ordinator**

Sue Weber

**Minutes Secretary**

June Jay

**Newsletter Co-ordinator**

Gwen White

**Website Co-ordinator**

Rosemarie Draper

**Purchasing Officer**

Pauline Young

**Committee Member and**

**Raffle**

Claire Chandler

Wendy Barnes

Members are  
welcome to  
attend Committee meetings.

## **Natalie Collard Winner of the 2013 Telstra Victorian Women's Business - Community & Government Award**



Apart from her Telstra Community and Government award, in March 2013, the National Australia Bank (NAB) Women's Agenda Leadership Awards announced Natalie as a national finalist in its Emerging Leader in the Public or Not for Profit category. The NAB sponsored women's leadership award recognises women that are agenda-setters, leaders in their field and celebrating the valuable contribution women make to Australian business.

Natalie Collard was appointed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) in June 2011. Prior to joining ADF in November 2008 as the Deputy CEO/General Manager, Natalie was the Manager-Rural Affairs for the National Farmers' Federation (NFF), Australia's peak agricultural lobby group. (Continued page 3)

# **SUNDAY 18th MAY**

# Kylee Bates—States Director of Mission Australia

March Speaker

## What do young people value? What are their educational aspirations? How important is family?

Kylee Bates, State Director of Mission Australia, talked about the results of their recent National Youth Survey in Australia. Mission Australia focusses particularly on supporting young people who are disadvantaged, disengaged or transitioning from the Juvenile Justice services. In order to understand youth concerns, Mission Australia conducts an annual National Survey of youth aged 15-19 years. In 2013, 15,000 young people responded.

According to the COAG Reform Council of 2012 a quarter of Australians aged between 18 -24 were unlikely to be studying, learning new skills or working. In that same year teenagers were three time more likely to be unemployed. Kylee Bates, stated that Mission Australia believes there should be more school-based programmes to prepare teenagers for work and on-going support once they gain employment

More young men than young school women felt they would not finish secondary education. Mission Australia offers support to teenagers through Community Groups to provide reassurance, and information regarding schooling, relationships and their future and lead them away from drugs and alcohol.

SWAN members learnt of the wide range of services Mission Australia has established from social enterprises such as “Charcoal Lane Restaurant, which provides training for Indigenous youth in hospitality, also 14 Early Learning Centres and they are providers of affordable housing. Results from their Youth Survey indicated young people’s overwhelming desire to complete their Secondary Education, young people’s high level of participation in sport and a high level of valuing of family.



Mission Australia’s  
Kylie Bates (above).  
Kylie with Sue Weber,  
Speaker co-ordinator,



## SWAN Dates for 2014

Make sure you have written these SWAN dates on your calendar for 2014. Again SWAN intends to have dynamic, socially conscious women to challenge our thinking.

**SUNDAY**  
**20th JULY**  
**Lois Peeler**  
Executive Director  
Worawa Aboriginal  
School for Girls  
Past singer with  
“The Sapphires”  
NAIDOC Speaker

**SUNDAY**  
**21st SEPTEMBER**  
**AGM**  
**Kirsty Rosie**  
Ovarian Cancer  
Council

**SUNDAY**  
**16th NOVEMBER**  
**Karen Hayes**  
CEO  
Guide Dogs  
Victoria

## May Speaker - Natalie Collard

(Continued from Page 1)

Natalie was previously a Director of Agsafe Limited and played a key role in driving improved environmental stewardship and training outcomes for the agriculture sector, including founding AgStewardship Australia to deliver the DrumMUSTER and ChemClear agricultural recycling programs.

Natalie's non-agricultural career highlights include two stints in Minister's offices, managing an emergency post-September 11 arms control meeting of the Australia Group (32 countries, chaired by Australia) and addressing the United Nations in Geneva on the Optional protocol to the Biological Weapons Convention also in 2001.

She has managed two \$600 million corporate contracts and, as Defence's lead negotiator on security treaties, delivered Australia's first treaty with an organisation, NATO.

Natalie is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has a Bachelor of Arts (Social Sciences) from La Trobe University for which she was awarded membership of the Golden Key Honour Society. Natalie is currently undertaking a Graduate Diploma of Management.

### This and That

#### Asylum Seeker Centre—

##### Dandenong

Can you help? David Spitteler does an amazing job of providing some food and basic needs for Asylum Seekers and Refugees. Contact him on :- 0409416744. He is also available to speak to interested groups.

#### Thanks to

**Judith Graley** for printing and facilitating distribution of the newsletters

and, **Mornington Peninsula Shire Council** for provision a convenient space for our meetings.

### SWAN Scholarship 2014

On behalf of Graduate Women Victoria, thank you to all those generous SWAN members for your donations to the SWAN Scholarship. So far we have raised \$960 towards a scholarship for a student who can demonstrate that they have been disadvantaged in their pursuit of their studies. Again, SWAN is focussing on social justice in the very important area of education!!

This year's scholarship will be presented on May 31st at Cabrini Hospital Auditorium. If you would like to attend, please contact Gwen White on 97871487

**If you are still wish to make a donation, see our website for details or contact Gwen White on 97871487**

I hope that  
you will  
remove the  
weeds that  
obstruct my  
mind.

*Traditional  
Chinese  
request for  
instruction or  
guidance*

#### SHARE TABLE

If you would like to speak to any item you have placed on our Share Table please speak with The Facilitator before the meeting.

# News

## Goodbye to Rosemary Race

Rosemary has been on the SWAN Committee for over 2 years working in various roles. We thank her for her commitment and efforts and wish her well in her new job in Queensland as a governess. Good Luck Rosemary.

## Committee Vacancy

As a result, we now have a vacancy on the Committee for the role of Correspondence Secretary. If you are interested in being part of a friendly team, we certainly need your help. Please contact Pam on 5986-8960

## Would you like to be involved in English conversation with Hazara Women?

Georgie Stubbs has made contact with the Australian and Hazara Women's Fellowship Network, who conduct English Conversation classes in Dandenong. If you are interested in participating, ring Georgie for details on 0438597421 Check on the SWAN website using the "Refugee" tab at: [www.SWANwomen.org.au](http://www.SWANwomen.org.au)



## LETTER FROM PAM

Dear Members

The future growth of our membership was discussed at the last Committee meeting. After ideas were shared, it was decided that we would ask you to contribute to this aim. So if you have any ideas, could you please speak to a member of the Committee after our next meeting, or in writing should that be what you would prefer.

And surprise, surprise I.T. does have its rewards and we are going on to Facebook!! If there is an expert out there amongst our members, could you please contact a member of Committee and we will look forward to your advice. My phone number is:-5986-8960

I'm now issuing a challenge to us all, at the next meeting or the following one let us "call a friend" and invite them to a meeting.

PAM BLAZSANYIK



Many thanks to  
**SECRET  
GARDEN**  
who supply us with our  
beautiful flowers

**Venue: Meeting Room  
Shire Offices,  
Queen Street,  
Mornington**

**9.30AM — cost \$8**

**Bookings no longer required.  
Please feel free to arrive at future meetings  
without confirming your attendance.  
Pauline Young, our Purchasing Officer, will  
provide delicious goodies for us all.**