

# SWAN Newsletter

Volume 11 Issue 2

April 2011

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## ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE 2011

### Facilitator

Janice Rowland

### Secretary

Daphne Fergusson

Correspondence Secretary

-

### Treasurer

June Rance

### Speaker Co-Ordinator

Gwen Fletcher

### Membership Secretary

Heather Phillips

### Newsletter Co-ordinator

Gwen White

### Public Officer

Barb Godfrey

### Website Co-ordinator

Rosemarie

Draper

### Purchasing Officer

Pauline Young



Members are  
welcome to  
attend Committee meetings.

Southern Women's Action Network Inc.  
Reg No A0038144Z, ABN 84 41627 1331  
PO Box 392 Mt Martha 3934



## Fazila Hajeb Muslim Women in Australia



Fazila was born in Kabul Afghanistan. She is a graduate of the Faculty of Language and Literature at Kabul University. She has been living in Australia since 1986 and came here as a refugee.

After completing her education in Australia she has worked in many different public service organizations. Currently Fazila is teaching in a language school and working part time with SBS radio based in Melbourne as presenter and broadcaster.

Fazila is very passionate about helping widows and children of Afghanistan, particularly widows who lost everything during the past 30 years of civil war especially during the government of the Taliban. It is this passion that has led her to be involved with Tents4Peace International as the Deputy Chairperson.

For more details see [www.tents4peaceinternational.com/afghanistan.htm](http://www.tents4peaceinternational.com/afghanistan.htm)

In all her work, Fazila's strong and passionate support for those in need is obvious.

## Marlene Fox – February Speaker

“Refer often and refer early for the best results ” is the mantra of Biala.

Marlene Fox is a dedicated educator. In her role as Manager of Biala Peninsula Early Childhood Intervention Services (ECIS) in Mornington, she focuses on children aged 0 to 6 with delays in their learning and disabilities with the aim of maximizing their chances for living life to the full.

Marlene discussed the services provided for 117 funded places currently being supported. Her staff includes: Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Music Therapists, Early Childhood Teachers, Speech Pathologists and a lone male Graphic Designer. Biala depends also on strong volunteer support to deliver their vital range of services. She stressed the crucial role of family, particularly parents and grandparents in delivering an individual child's program.

Biala seeks philanthropic funding to augment other funding which helps in the expansion of the program.

Many of our members shared their positive experiences of Biala with stories of grandchildren and children's successes over the years.

Members also commented on how informative and interesting they found her presentation. We thank Marlene for sharing her experiences and expertise in such a lovely and warm manner.

Excerpt from

*Children live what  
they learn*

By Dorothy Law Nolte

*“If a child lives with  
encouragement,  
he learns to be  
confident.*

*If a child learns with  
tolerance,  
he learns to be  
patient.*

*If a child learns with  
praise,  
he learns to be  
appreciative.*

*If a child learns with  
acceptance,  
he learns to love. “*

## THIS and THAT

### SWAN Website

For information about SWAN or to read the latest newsletter and catch up with coming events, check out the SWAN website at <http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/home/swan1/index.html>

Thanks to Rosemarie Draper for looking after the website.

### Assistant Secretary

The SWAN Committee is looking to second a member who may be interested in joining us as Assistant Secretary. The role would basically be to look after the mail—collect mail as it comes in and reply to any letters requiring answers. There is also the occasional thank you to be written. It

does not involve minutes, or preparing agendas. If you feel you may be able to fulfil this role please contact

Jan Rowland on 59754487 or Gwen White on 97871487.

There are only 5 committee meetings per year so it is not an onerous task! Next committee meeting Wednesday 1st June. All welcome.

## SWAN Dates–2011

**Sunday May 15th**  
**Fazila Hajeb**  
Islamic Women's Welfare  
Council

**Sunday July 17th**  
**Marcia Langton**  
Aboriginal Issues

**Sunday September 18th**  
**Cordelia Fine**  
Gender Issues

**Sunday November 20th**  
**Speaker**  
To be confirmed

Next Committee Meeting  
Wednesday 1st June  
Mornington Library 6:30pm

**RSVP by Fri 13th May**  
**for all meetings to:**  
**Heather P—9787 8532**  
**Gwen W—97871487**

## February SWAN Meeting

Marlene Fox was another informed and passionate SWAN Guest Speaker as she explained the importance of early intervention in addressing disability in children.



Marlene Fox and  
Jan Rowland.



### Update on the AFUW Indigenous SWAN Bursary

The SWAN Indigenous student Bursary will be announced at the end of May, is the latest information from Margaret James, the Vice-President (Scholarships) from the Australian Federation of University Women. If you wish to follow the progress of the award and the other AFUW Scholarship Award winners, go to:

[www.afuwvic.org.au](http://www.afuwvic.org.au)

SWAN donated \$1565 and the Sonenberg family \$445 to make it up to \$2000!!

It's exciting to be able to help a deserving student.

**Aspire not to  
have more,  
but to be  
more.**

**Oscar  
Romero**

*from the  
tents4peace  
website*

### SHARE TABLE

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

*First say to  
yourself what  
you would be;  
and then do  
what you have to  
do.*

**Epictetus**

*Discourses*

**SWAN**



# SUNDAY 15 MAY FAZILA HAJEB

- Herself a refugee to Australia in 1986
- Involved in the Australian Muslim Women 's Centre for Human Rights
- Treasurer and Deputy Chairperson of Tents4peace
- Presenter and broadcaster with SBS radio
- Human rights advocate

## MANY THANKS TO-

- **The Secret Garden** for the beautiful flowers they continue to donate.
- Many thanks to **Judith Graley** for printing and facilitating distribution of the newsletters.
- We acknowledge **Mornington Council** for the provision of a comfortable and central venue for our bi-monthly meetings. We would also like to thank personally both **Elaine Hall-Foote** and **Helen Ridgeway**.
- **And .....** to **Claire Chandler** for volunteering to assist at our recent committee meeting.



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

**9.30AM — cost \$7**

**BOOKINGS PLEASE  
RSVP BY FRIDAY 13 May**

**Heather Phillips [bluerobin15@bigpond.com](mailto:bluerobin15@bigpond.com)  
OR  
Gwen White [gwennewwhite@hotmail.com](mailto:gwennewwhite@hotmail.com)**