

SOUTHERN WOMEN'S ACTION NETWORK



Newsletter September 2025

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 Women's+ Action Network

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

SWAN aspires to be a supportive community for all women, including ethnically diverse, differently abled, and those self-identifying as transgender or non-binary. We are committed to encompassing greater gender diversity in our membership, practices, social justice actions and in the terminology that we use.

SWAN NEWS Notice

CONTRIBUTION END DATES for 2025:

So you receive the NEWS on the first day of each month, the deadline date for 2025 will be the 25th of the month. For example, January 25 for February's newsletter, February 25 for March's newsletter, and so on - through to November 25 for December's newsletter.

DIARY DATES:

To keep you informed on what's happening in our area, check out Diary Dates near the end of this newsletter.

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 photographer's name and/or source is included).

SWAN Speaker Event



**Ann
URCH**

SOUTHERN WOMEN'S ACTION NETWORK



**SWAN's Next
Guest Speaker**

Ann Urch, formerly Albert Knowles, a transgender woman, will tell us her story and the tribulations and trials of her journey. For most of his life Albert, a baby boomer and gay man, believed his gender did not match his body - that he was a woman - a condition known as gender dysphoria. Albert began the transition to become Ann in 2009 and has lived experience of being a gay man at a time when the social and legal consequences could result in harassment, violence and loss of employment.

Ann's passion is to inform the broader community "who trans-people are, our history and how we integrated into the community", as well as providing support and advocacy for people who are transitioning. In 2016, Ann founded a LGBTIQ+ Facebook group on the Mornington Peninsula comprising 350 members. Ann affirms, "If I can assist an individual through a difficult period in their journey to transition, I will do so."

Ann's employment has ranged from working in manufacturing to senior management for a multinational company to being Mayor of Frankston (1985/86).

Venue
Mt Martha House
466 Esplanade
(Cnr Dominion Rd)
Mt Martha

For women interested in deepening their knowledge of community issues and promoting action for social justice.

SWAN thanks our generous raffle sponsors:

Farrells Bookshop -
Mornington
Miller's Bread Kitchen -
Dromana

**SWAN'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WILL TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO THE
PRESENTATION**

Gratefully accepting donations:
www.trybooking.com/au/donate/swan

9:30 AM | SUNDAY 21 | SEP | 2025



Thanks to Secret Garden for donating the beautiful flowers for our guest speaker



southernwomensactionnetwork



www.swanwomen.org.au



spwswan

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME MEETING

Saturday 4th October, 2.30 - 4.00pm

Mt Martha Community House, 466 Esplanade (cnr Dominion Rd), Mt Martha
Room No 5

The Welcome Meeting is open to all, especially those new to SWAN and those who may have joined in recent times. The meeting will provide an opportunity to connect with like-minded women and hear about the type of learning and advocacy SWAN has undertaken and is currently involved in. There will be time for any questions you may have about SWAN's work and we will share afternoon tea.

If you would like to attend RSVP: swanwomen@outlook.com

SWAN Coffee Catch-Up: The Blue Mini Café, Rosebud Sunday 17 August



Celebrating Two Years of SWAN Coffee Catch-Ups! Photo: Supplied

Attended by 13 SWAN women, we gathered around a recycled oval dining table on the floor of what once was the Rosebud Ten Pin Bowling Alley, surrounded by nostalgia and local craftware, with some of us indulging in a delicious brunch. We welcomed return member Claire and a new member Xanthe. Lively discussion included AI and the pros and cons of ChatGPT, hip problems as we age, the ongoing issue of attracting younger women to SWAN's membership, and most importantly, celebrating 2 years of SWAN Coffee Catch-Ups. When 11.30am came around, many of us left reluctantly. We could have kept going but our table was reserved for an early lunch party!

Come along and see what all the fun and connection is about!
Next Coffee Catch Up: Sunday 19 October, 10-11.30am in Dromana.
Details to come in October SWAN NEWS.

Reservations: Moz Lucas maureenfrances21@gmail.com

SWAN Women for Housing Justice: the latest



Making a Statement: SWAN Women for Housing Justice reps (L-R) Judith Graley, Susan Blackburn and Beck Cridland outside Parliament House, Spring St. Melbourne, 27 August 2025 Photo: Diane McDonald

Members of SWAN's Women for Housing Justice group spent a full day in the Parliament of Victoria on 27 August, meeting with Members of Parliament to spread the word about the Housing and Homelessness crisis on the Mornington Peninsula.

The group had good meetings with the Minister for Local Government and Consumer Affairs **Nick Staikos** and staff from his department, pressing the case for funding for financial counselling services as more people than ever seek help with mortgage and cost of living stress. Minister for Carers and

Volunteers **Ros Spence** and her staff were also told about the desperate need for food-aid funding as our local support services report a record demand for food assistance. **Repeatedly, we told our elected representatives that the Mornington Peninsula has the highest rate of homelessness in Victoria, yet we do not receive our fair share of funding to adequately deal with the problem.**

The group also met with the Opposition Shadow Minister for Housing **Richard Riordan**, our local MP **Chris Crewther**, The Hon **Harriet Shing** Minister for Housing, and **Brad Battin** Leader of the Opposition. We look forward to them raising this issue again in the Parliament. It was great to see our local upper house MP **Tom McIntosh** Member for Eastern Victoria make a Members Statement (*available on the public record via Hansard*) about SWAN and our advocacy concerning Mornington Peninsula's significant housing crisis. The day after our visit, Chris Crewther Shadow Assistant Minister for Housing and Rental Affordability raised the housing crisis issue in the Legislative Assembly, available to view at: <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/19hbdSnxUb/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

It was a big day but very worthwhile and another step in our advocacy campaign.



**Reps from SW4HJ met with Ros Spence (centre), Minister for Carers and Volunteers.
L-R: Beck Cridland, Susan Blackburn, Diane McDonald, Judith Graley. Photo: Supplied.**



**L: SWAN Facilitator Diane McDonald with Brad Battin, Leader of the Opposition
Photo: Judith Graley**

**R: The Hon. Harriet Shing, Minister for Housing of Victoria with Beck Cridland,
a SWAN member experiencing rental stress, and her dog Bryn. Photo: Diane McDonald**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

On Tuesday 9 September, SW4HJ are hosting 'HOUSING ROUNDTABLE 2' with Josh Burns MP, Special Envoy for Housing and Homelessness committed to attend. **We need volunteers to help please with this daytime event.** Contact: Susan Blackburn: sbmhome@hotmail.com

SWAN WOMEN FOR HOUSING JUSTICE

You are most welcome to attend our next SW4HJ meeting – Tuesday 2 September at 9.45am

Room 7, Mt Martha Community House, 466 Esplanade, Mt Martha.

Contact: Susan Blackburn: sbmhome@hotmail.com

SWAN SUPPORTS IMMEDIATE ACTION TO ADDRESS HOUSING CRISIS

*Over the last 18 months in particular, SWAN members have advocated strongly with all levels of government to demand practical and immediate support and funding to address the social housing and homelessness crisis here on the Mornington Peninsula. **SWAN is one of the community organisations represented on the MPSC Triple A Housing Committee**, chaired by Cr David Gill, through which several important initiatives are being undertaken to tackle this emergency.*

*We acknowledge the ongoing efforts made by several Shire councillors, including Cr Max Patton, to highlight the escalating crisis and the need for urgent action. In case you missed it, **the Council Meeting on 2 September will vote on a motion put by Cr Patton to declare a Homelessness Emergency across the Mornington Peninsula.** Several SWAN members will attend this meeting to show their support for this declaration. **Read his motion attached to SWAN NEWS cover email.***

CHECK OUT

- **Australian Story: 'Small Wonders - Eden Tiny House Project'**, tiny houses empowering vulnerable women, ABC iview, 25/8/2025
- **Four Corners: 'Empty Promises – hundreds of homes for people with disabilities sit empty'** ABC iview, 25/8/2025
- **Mornington Peninsula News: 'New homes for women and children'** article, 26/8/2025, and **'Social Housing Needed on the Peninsula'**, letter to the editor from SWAN member Susan Blackburn, 26/8/2025. See: mpnews.com.au

HOUSING RESEARCH PROJECT: Can You Help?

Women's Property Initiatives (WPI) are currently seeking support for their research into the housing needs of older single women (over 55yrs) in Frankston, the Mornington Peninsula and Western Port region who are financially 'caught in the middle' ie. assets up to \$300,000 and on Centrelink - **a particularly vulnerable group increasingly at risk of homelessness.** WPI is a not-for-profit community housing organisation dedicated to providing long-term, affordable housing solutions for women. The goal of the project is to understand the type of accommodation and financial arrangements best suited to these women's long-term housing needs. **WPI project staff welcome an opportunity to meet with any interested groups during October to offer more information about the project.** If you would like WPI to attend an existing meeting or if any members would like an invitation to an Information Session or if you know of women who may want to participate in this study, please email research@wpi.org.au or call Darina Seal Project Manager 0478 417 987.



IT'S HAPPENING! 'Rosebud Women's Community Housing Project: Crisis and Transitional Housing' is underway. As Triple A Housing Committee members, SWAN has been passionately and actively involved in the push for this encouraging outcome. MPSC's Housing Project Manager Petrina Dodds Buckley stated, "As we now enter the funding stage ... I would like to personally thank you all for your advice and guidance at our Stakeholder Briefing and your overwhelming support of the project. Our extensive community engagement program saw an 84% approval rate for the project."

Rosebud Women's Community Housing



Crisis and Transitional Housing

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, Housing Choices Australia and Good Shepherd have partnered to develop social housing, on four Council-owned parcels of land on the southern Peninsula.

KEY POINTS

- Development of 19-22 self-contained modern apartments and townhouses
- One and two-bedrooms dwellings, delivering 30 bedrooms and over 40 beds
- Accommodation for women and children impacted by family violence and women over the age of 50 years.
- Specialised support services
- Communal gardens



Design

Dwellings will minimise street exposure with discreet pedestrian entry alcoves integrated into fencing, secure and accessible entry points to monitor access and increase privacy for residents, positioned so that living spaces, balconies, and bedrooms face the street, providing opportunities for social connection.

Ground level apartments are buffered from the street by raised floor levels, planted embankments, solid spandrels and balustrades, ensuring privacy and connection to the environment. This setup offers residents, namely women and children experiencing family violence, a sense of safety and community surveillance.

Secure, on-grade off-street parking is provided at sites, including accessible spaces behind automatic gates and fencing.

Safety is addressed through both physical and

cultural design elements which follows trauma-informed principles, with secure communal areas such as gardens and playgrounds providing safe spaces for women and children to socialise. Each unit has a private outdoor area, either a garden terrace or balcony.

Location and Surroundings

The proposed development is in an established suburb where need is acute and growing. A shopping precinct is a short walk away and provides access to essential services such as transport, medical facilities, and schools.

The surrounding area includes parks, sporting facilities, and green spaces, promoting a healthy lifestyle for residents. The locations proximity to community resources ensures that the development is well-integrated into the wider neighbourhood while providing a sense of seclusion and security for residents.

BUDGET

The estimated cost of development is \$10.4M. Funding is sought from the state and federal governments and local philanthropic organisations.

KEY EVIDENCE

Social research commissioned by the Shire in 2025 found:

- In the past year alone, over 900 people have experienced homelessness in our community.
- The population most in need of housing includes women aged 30-39, who suffer the highest rates of abuse.
- More than 30 per cent of women seeking homelessness support or food relief had dependants/children.
- Transitional accommodation is our greatest unmet need, along with one-bedroom units to address a rise in lone households in the years to come.
- Women over 50 represent the fastest-growing population group requiring housing support.
- Rental stress affects 35 per cent of private renters, who spend more than a third of their income on housing.
- The last year, saw a 33 per cent surge in individuals seeking crisis support for homelessness.
- The rate of family violence has increased by 16 per cent from 2024 to 2025, per 100,000 population.
- In 2025, 74 per cent of those affected by family violence were female.
- There are over 2,600 current applications for social housing on the Victorian Housing Register - half are categorised as priority.

Source: Mornington Peninsula Shire



Draft images for Rosebud Women's Community Housing Project

SWAN Women Against Gender-based Violence

Currently, SWAGBV group are planning for this year's **16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence** (25 November to 10 December). The theme for 2025 is **'UNITE to End Digital Violence against All Women and Girls'**. SWAN's involvement will be detailed in October's SWAN NEWS, including a 'community walk' in Hastings for respectful relationships, plus SWAGBV is supporting Peninsula Community Legal Centre's theatre production on 'coercive control' at George Jenkins Theatre, Monash University, Frankston, Wednesday 26 November 7pm. Early Bird tickets available: **Maureen Donnelly** maurdone@gmail.com

Worthwhile Viewing:

'It Starts With Us': Rosie Batty AO with Big hART and young people from Frankston North in an anti-Domestic & Family Violence program, a unique music-based prevention program empowering young people for leadership and positive change.

Go to: ABC's Compass Program, ABC iview, 17/8/2025

Big hART's new documentary: www.itstartswithus.com.au

SWAN WOMEN AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

NEXT MEETING: Friday 26 September, 1.15pm

Come & join us

Mt Martha House Community Centre, Room 7, cnr Esplanade & Dominion Rd. Mt Martha.

Contact: Maureen Donnelly maurdone@gmail.com

STOP KILLING US CAMPAIGN are asking us to sign the petition:

<https://www.change.org/p/stop-killing-us-a-petition-from-the-women-of-australia-to-stop-violence-against-us>

SWAN members can access definitions and resources about 'Coercive control, non-physical violence and relationship red flags' from

RESPECT VICTORIA:

<https://www.respectvictoria.vic.gov.au/coercive-control-non-physical-violence-and-relationship-red-flags>

DROP-IN DONATIONS

Thank You!

Location:

Southern Peninsula Community Support Centre, 878 Point Nepean Rd, Rosebud. **Ph:** 03 5986 1285
Mon-Fri: 9.30am-3.30pm.

Toiletries:

Family-sized please (*not the small guest-size*) of shampoo, conditioner, men's & women's deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap.

Pantry:

Packaged and tinned soup, baked beans, rice, pasta, casserole-style sauces, tea, coffee, long-life milk.

Grandmothers For Refugees (GFR)

Flinders-Dunkley GFR are a community advocacy group for the welfare and recognition of refugees and asylum seekers. Their work includes liaising with local councils, promoting refugee welcome zones, setting up library displays, letter-writing, distributing postcards for change, and participating in the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre annual food drive. The group meets monthly in Frankston library.

NEXT MEETING

Friday 5 September, 10 – 11.30am, Frankston Library. All welcome.

ACTION FOR SEPTEMBER

Planned meeting with **Jodie Belyea MP** on **Tuesday 16th September** will focus on Papua New Guinea, Nauru and the failed 'Fast Track' program.

CHECK OUT

- **Australian Story: 'To Bilo and Back – the Nadesalingam Family'** (includes action by G4R), ABC iview, 11/8/2025
- **'TED Ed' Talks**
'What does it mean to be a refugee?' by Bernadetta Berti & Evelien Borgman
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=25bwiSikRsl>
'What is a refugee (or displaced person)?' from Save The Children
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CRk8eaW3X1Y>
- **End the Waiting Campaign:** an initiative of **Common Grace** and the **National Council of Churches**, seeking resolution to the situation for men stuck in Papua New Guinea and those in detention on Nauru: https://www.commongrace.org.au/end_the_waiting
- **Journeys Café** by Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC), **Southbank & Parkville**
<https://www.catering.asrc.org.au/journeys-cafe>



POSTCARDS FOR PERMANENT VISAS

For postcards to send to **Tony Burke** the Minister for Home Affairs, Immigration & Citizenship, contact:

Maryanne: 0400201689
maryannebarclay5@gmail.com

GRANDMOTHERS FOR REFUGEES (GFR) mailing list: to join, contact Maryanne 0400 201 689 or maryannebarclay5@gmail.com

Donating to SWAN

We are a registered not-for-profit organisation

Are you celebrating a special birthday or anniversary?
Have you thought about a donation to SWAN as a gift?

General Donations

To make a general donation to support a wide range of SWAN initiatives:

<https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/swan>

Alternatively, cash donations can be given to SWAN Treasurer Erica Churchill

SWAN Bursary

‘The Val McKenna Young Women’s Advocacy Award’
supports our Education Bursaries for young women on their social justice journey

Information about the Bursary and instructions for making a donation:

<https://swanwomen.org.au/swan-donations-and-bursaries/>

Did You Know?

Donations for the Bursary are tax deductible

A donation of \$40 a month over a year equates to an annual Bursary for one student



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS!

Sunday 12 October, 3-6pm

Live Music! Cake! Prizes!

Bookings essential: 03 9642 0422

Tickets \$30

Supporting First Nations

Treaty for Victoria



TOGETHER FOR TREATY event on Sunday 25 August at Trades Hall saw a wide range of organisations and allies join in support of Victorian Treaty and local treaties. Joan Doyle, Julie Pittle and Maureen Donnelly were there to add SWAN's voice. Photo: Maureen Donnelly

SWAN members would be aware that the Victorian Government is the first in Australia to work towards legislating a treaty with Victoria's First Peoples. This is the result of 10 years negotiation work by the representative First Peoples Assembly. This bill is now in the final stages of drafting and is expected to be introduced into Parliament in the coming weeks.

The development of a Treaty has strong political support but unfortunately not with the Coalition Party. The Libs pulled out on flimsy reasons such as claiming that developers/builders were being held up because of the requirement and time taken to undertake onsite cultural heritage studies. They want a revision of the cultural heritage requirements.



How You Can Advocate to help pass the Treaty Bill

1. Join the mailing list of the two local First Nations Ally Groups who will keep you up to date with what is happening;

- Walking Together Mornington Peninsula (and subscribe to their Newsletter): walkingtogethormorningtonpen@gmail.com
- Southern Peninsula Allies for First Nations organise informative talks and activities: annimono321@gmail.com

2. Become a 'Friend' of Treaty by subscribing to the First Peoples Assembly of Victoria's mailing list. You will receive updates on Treaty progress, upcoming events, and opportunities to get involved: <https://firstpeoplesvic.org/friends-of-treaty/>

3. Subscribe to Common Threads mailing list. This First Nations led group is coordinating the Together for Treaty campaign and are running a number of events and webinars. They also produce resource materials: info@commonthreads.org.au

4. Share your support for Treaty by purchasing Treaty merchandise via website: <https://firstpeoplesvic.myshopify.com>

5. Contact local Members of Parliament. The critical starting point is letting Members of Parliament know how much Victorians support Treaty. It's now urgent that local Coalition members are made very aware of this public feeling as we don't want a repeat of the Referendum! Emails can be a simple single sentence that says "*I/We support Treaty because ... it's long overdue/it's the right thing to do*" or in your own words. Include your name and address, otherwise it will go into the virtual bin. *SWAN's letter to Opposition leader Brad Battin, also sent to Melinda Bath Shadow Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, is attached to SWAN NEWS cover email.*

Contact Details:

Brad Battin Leader of the Opposition and Liberal Party: brad.battin@parliament.vic.gov.au

Sam Groth Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Liberal Party and Member for Nepean: sam.groth@parliament.vic.gov.au

Chris Crewther Member of the Liberal Party and of the Mornington electorate: chris.crewther@parliament.vic.gov.au

Melinda Bath Shadow Minister for Aboriginal Affairs: melinda.bath@parliament.gov.au

Any questions contact Mechelle Cheers: macheers@gmail.com

A Path to Treaty & Truth Telling

The Yoorrook Justice Commission has released a series of reports and recommendations, including '*Yoorrook Truth Be Told*', a most moving Public Record, well worth reading: <https://www.yoorrook.org.au/reports-and-recommendations/reports>

Also available are candid new videos of a selection from the powerful evidence presented to the Commission: <https://www.yoorrook.org.au/videos>

Developments are moving fast as the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria negotiates a First Nations Treaty for Victoria. Check out the latest and how you can be involved: www.firstpeoplesvic.org

Baluk Arts Open Day



Baluk Arts Open Day, 20 August 2025: Celebrating 3 years in Mt Eliza

L-R: Moz Lucas SWAN; Tabitha Glanville, Exhibition Curator; Aunty Patsy Smith, artist & Baluk Arts Board member; Gaynor Lawton, Baluk Arts Manager. Photo: Jann Hill, Baluk Arts volunteer

Under the dynamic and caring guidance of **Baluk Arts new manager Gaynor Lawton**, the Indigenous led and owned gallery and studio is undergoing a transformation. **Baluk is a local Bunurong and Boonwurrung word meaning 'many' or 'group of people', reflecting the diversity of the gallery's artists and work.** Gaynor's aim is to raise Baluk Arts' profile, particularly connecting with local businesses as well as residents. The Open Day offered a great opportunity to meet and mingle with the artists, view engaging artworks and explore 'behind the scenes' studio space. Help spread the word to grow this unique community enterprise:



BUSINESS SUPPORT

Are you a local business wanting to support Baluk Arts? Here are some ideas:

Make a \$ Donation – we are a registered not-for-profit organisation dependent on grants, philanthropy, fund raising and the generosity of individuals.

Donate Art Supplies – canvas, paints, tools, brushes, etc.

Sponsor an Exhibition Opening – our openings are to celebrate an artist (or 2) showcasing their work while welcoming art lovers into our space. Providing refreshments and warm hospitality.

Fund a Members' Workshop – we hold regular workshops for our members to learn new artistic skills so they can tell their stories through different mediums.

Please contact Gaynor Lawton, Manager at Baluk Arts, 5 Davies Ave Mt Eliza
manager@balukarts.org.au or 0415 429 626

Treaty Exhibition



Explore the past, present and future of
TREATY with Victoria's First Peoples

State Library of Victoria

328 Swanston St. City

Until 27 October 2025

10am – 6pm daily **Free**



'What does Treaty mean to you?', video recording, TREATY exhibition, 2025

L: Bonnie Dukakis,
Gunditjmara, CEO
Koorie Youth Council

R: Sue-Anne Hunter,
Wurundjeri, Ngural
Illum Wurrung, former
Deputy
Chair/Commissioner
Yoorook Justice
Commission



History Exhibition

'65,000 Years: A Short History of Australian Art'

First Nations exhibition at The Potter Museum of Art
cnr Swanston St and Masson Rd, Parkville

Exhibition Dates: 30 May – 22 Nov 2025

Gallery Times: Tues – Sat, 11am-5pm

Free Entry

Reveals 'the brilliance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art while confronting the dark heart of Australia's colonial history and proclaims the importance of Indigenous history and agency'.

Curated by Prof. Marcia Langton AO, Associate Provost
Melbourne University, Judith Ryan, Potter Museum of Art
Senior Curator, and Shanyssa McConville, Potter
Museum of Art Associate Curator



Meetings

Southern Peninsula Allies for Justice for First Nations

would like to thank SWAN members who have contacted Members of Parliament in support of the enactment of a **Victorian Treaty**. If you would like to help support this historic process, contact Maureen Donnelly maurdone@gmail.com There are also suggestions for ways allies can help on the First Peoples' of Victoria website: firstpeoplesvic.org

NEXT MEETING – ALL WELCOME: Friday 19 September, midday
at Rye Community House, 27 Nelson St, Rye.
Contact Marg Darcy: 0409 859 046

Aiming to amplify First Nations Voices, build community awareness, support Treaty and Truth-Telling and engage with First Nations communities locally.



Walking Together Mornington Peninsula is looking for more people to promote and support First Nations people, organisations, businesses and events.



Inquiries and to receive their Newsletter: walkingtogethormorningtonpen@gmail.com

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/walkingtogether.morningtonpen/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MorningtonPeninsulaYes23>

Dates for your Diary



- **EVERY FRIDAY, 11am-1pm (except last Friday of the month): ‘Community Drop-In and Gardening – open to all’**, Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association, 10 Pound Rd. Hastings.
Contact: (03) 5979 1391 or 0403528034 or willumwarrain.org.au
- **TUESDAY 2 SEPT, 9.45-11.45am: ‘SWAN Women for Housing Justice meeting’**, Mt. Martha House Community Centre, Room 7, cnr. Dominion Rd. & Esplanade, Mt. Martha.
Contact: Susan Blackburn sbmhome@hotmail.com
- **FRIDAY 5 SEPT, 10-11.30am: ‘Grandmothers for Refugees Meeting: Dunkley & Flinders’**, Frankston Library, Playne St. Frankston – new members welcome.
More Info: Maryanne 0400 201 689 or maryannebarclay5@gmail.com
- **MONDAY 8 SEPT, 6-8pm: ‘Speaking Truth to Power – the Yoorrook Justice Commission and Truth-Telling’**, Reconciliation Victoria, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.
Register: <https://shorturl.at/EJEvE>
- **FRIDAY 19 SEPT, midday: ‘Southern Peninsula Allies for Justice for First Nations meeting’**, Rye Community House, 27 Nelson St. Rye.
Contact: Marg Darcy 0409 859 046
- **SUNDAY 21 SEPT, 9.30am-midday: ‘SWAN AGM and Speaker Event’**, Mt Martha Community House, 466 Esplanade (cnr Dominion Rd), Mt Martha, Room 49. [Details p.2](#)
- **FRIDAY 26 SEPT, 1.15pm: ‘SWAN Women Against Gender-Based Violence meeting’**, 27 Haig St. Mornington. *Note change of venue.* Contact: Maureen Donnelly maurdone@gmail.com
- **SATURDAY 4 OCT, 2.30-4pm: ‘SWAN New Members Welcome’**, Mt Martha Community House, 466 Esplanade (cnr Dominion Rd), Mt Martha, Room 5.
RSVP: swanwomen@outlook.com [Details p.3](#)
- **SUNDAY 12 OCT, 3-6pm: ‘Victoria Women’s Trust 40th Birthday Celebration’**, Tickets \$30, bookings essential. Information & Bookings: 03 9642 0422

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.

SWAN NEWS CONTRIBUTIONS If you have information of interest to our members, please ensure you let the editor Moz Lucas know via swanwomen@outlook.com **Next Deadline 25 September 2025**

PHOTO/VIDEO PERMISSION Recent events and photos may appear on SWAN's Facebook page, Youtube, Instagram and website, as well as in SWAN NEWS. Please advise at the door of a SWAN meeting (or when prompted) if you do not wish to be in photographs or videos, otherwise we will take it that you are happy to have your photo published.

PHOTOS NEEDED: PLEASE EMAIL US GOOD QUALITY PHOTOS OF EVENTS/OCCASIONS OF INTEREST TO SWAN MEMBERS. INCLUDE THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S NAME AND ENSURE PERMISSION FROM THOSE PHOTOGRAPHED. SEND TO: swanwomen@outlook.com

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>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/southernwomensactionnetwork/>

DONATIONS: <https://swanwomen.org.au/donate-to-swan/>

OUR SPONSORS

- * Farrells Bookshop: 143 Main Street Mornington (03) 5975 5034 farrells.com.au
- * Millers Bread Kitchen: 116 Point Nepean Road Dromana 0411166685 millersbread.squarespace.com
- * Nora's Pizza House: 2113 Point Nepean Road Rye (03) 5985 3967 noraspizzahouse.com.au
- * Secret Garden: 81 Main Street Mornington (03) 5975 0977 secretgardenflowers.com.au
- * Zen Living: 70 Main Street Mornington (03) 5975 1013 zenlivingmornington.com

PARKING

A request from Mt Martha House Community Centre - *Please do not park in Disabled Parking areas and, if parking is tight and you are fit, please park in the rear car park. The Reserved Parking spots in front of the building are now available for public use.*

Southern Women's Action Network Inc. Reg: A0038144Z, ABN. 50 089 314 052