



vwl^{ist}



Welcome to the December and final edition for 2021 of VWList.

VWL thanks each of you for continuing to support and engage with VWL. By renewing your membership, attending our events and participating in our projects, you have kept our VWL community connected to continue to assist women in the legal profession.

We wish our members and sponsors a happy holidays and look forward to bringing you fresh events and projects in 2022.

Keep up to date with our activities via our [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) page. Don't forget to tag your posts with [#victorianwomenlawyers!](#)

EVENTS



PROFESSIONAL MENTORING LAUNCH AND CELEBRATION

On 22 November, the Work Practices Committee were proud to formally launch and celebrate VWL's Professional Mentoring Program, in a webinar hosted by our valued sponsor, the College of Law.

Program Patron, the Hon Associate Justice Mary-Jane Ierodiaconou of the Supreme

NEWS



to our 2022 Executive Committee!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT

On 24 November, members voted on VWL's Executive Committee at our AGM.

We warmly welcome our 2022 Executive Committee:

- **Stephanie Pasharis** as President;
- **Sophie Lefebvre** as Vice President;
- **Vanessa Shambrook** as Immediate Past President;

SPONSOR NEWS

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SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



VWL thanks our sponsors for their ongoing support.

Each month we celebrate the achievements and people of our sponsor firms by spotlighting their leading female lawyers.

For the month of November we spotlight Allison Shannon,

Court of Victoria, provided an opening address to formally launch the Program, which included a compelling recount of the ancient Greek history and etymology of the word 'mentor'.

The launch also featured an excellent panel discussion moderated by Fiona McLeod AO S.C., with panellists Rosannah Healy, a Partner at Allens, Iresha Herath, a Deputy General Counsel at the Department of Justice & Community Safety, and Julia Wang, a Barrister at the Victorian Bar. We were grateful to hear our moderator and panellists discuss their own personal mentoring experiences and offer their insights on how mentoring can benefit our careers at every stage.

Following the discussion, Fiona Turner, the Executive Director of the College of Law, provided some valuable reflections on the important role that mentoring can play in the continuing professional education of lawyers.

If you missed out - the event recording has been uploaded to our website [here](#).



VWL RUN CLUB

- **Elizabeth Cooper** as Treasurer;
- **Linda Hart** as Secretary;
- **Bronwyn Montgomery**, General Executive Member;
- **Erin Meeking**, General Executive Member;
- **Georgina Long**, General Executive Member;
- **Joanna Abraham**, General Executive Member;
- **Oriana Torcasio**, General Executive Member;
- **Roxanne Taylor**, General Executive Member;
- **Sounita Viravout**, General Executive Member; and
- Sub-committee co-chairs.



25th ANNIVERSARY KEYNOTE

As part of VWL's 25th anniversary celebrations, we were delighted to share our 25th Anniversary Keynote at our AGM. The message features inspiring messages from:

- The Honourable Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria, Anne Ferguson;

Special Counsel at Clayton Utz.

Her full interview can be read [here](#).



REGIONAL AND SUBURBAN TIP OF THE MONTH

VWL and the College of Law have partnered to bring you tips and advice each month from leading female regional and suburban lawyers. This month's tip comes from Anne O'Loughlin, Managing Principal at Coulter Roache:

While regional areas of Victoria have had additional freedoms to suburban lawyers, we all now find ourselves back to some sort of normality. With that normality comes the ability to move back into the office. We will have to enter the brave new world of getting out of our pyjamas or active wear and into our corporate wear. While that may have a downside, the positive is that we can socialise and actually speak in person to our clients and colleagues. For some that will take a bit of getting used to as we have spent time in our homes and shut away from society in general.

As we move to the brave new world we should all be conscious of how important it is to have a sense of belonging and how important it is that we take time to be inclusive and make sure we all feel safe in this new world we have not been a part of for over 18

VWL Run Club has resumed and will be held in line with current health guidelines.

To promote health and wellbeing, the VWL Networking Committee invites you to join our Run Club. Grab your running gear and join us every Monday at 6:00pm at Federation Square, just outside the Transport Hotel

All levels of running are welcome! Sign up on our website [here](#).

OPPORTUNITIES

VWL COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking for passionate volunteers to join our committees and help plan our 2022 events and projects.

You can find out more about our different committees on our website [here](#). Please email vwl@vwl.asn.au with a short description of your experience and the committee you are interested in joining.

VWL Patron, the Honourable Professor Marilyn Warren AC QC and former Chief Justice;

- VWL Law Student Mentoring Patron, the Honourable Justice Rita Incerti;
- VWL Professional Mentoring Patron, the Honourable Associate Justice Mary-Jane Ierodiaconou;
- VWL Founders Deanne Weir, Georgina Frost and Kriss Will; and
- 2021 VWL President, Vanessa Shambrook and 2021 Vice President, Stephanie Pasharis

You can view the video message on our website [here](#).

PORTIA 2021

We look forward to sharing our 2021 edition of VWL's annual journal, *Portia*, with you in the new year. We thank our Publications Committee co-chairs, Liz Main and Georgia Dobbyn, and our Publications Committee for their hard work in putting together another fantastic edition.

To ensure you receive your print copy, please make sure your postal details are up to date. You can update your details on the 'Member Details' section of our website [here](#).

VWL SURVEY PRIZE DRAW WINNERS

Thank you to everyone who

months. Take time out to have a coffee, have lunch together or just to take the time to catch up. Making sure we all feel that we belong will make for a positive working culture.

SUMMER MATERIAL

SUMMER READS

- *Tonight's Dinner* by Adam Liaw;
- *It Wasn't Meant to be Like This* by Lisa Wilkinson;
- *Love Stories* by Trent Dalton;
- *Over My Dead Body* by Jeffrey Archer;
- *The Travel Book* by Lonley Planet

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

- *Coronavirus Mental Wellbeing Support Service* [1800 512 348](tel:1800512348)
- *Smiling Mind* meditation app
- *Mind-spot* online free mental health clinic - 1800 614 434
- *Beyond Blue Coronavirus Mental Health Support Service* - 1800 512 348

participated in our survey. We would like to announce the winners who have each won a \$100 Visa gift card:

- Skye Cody;
- Stefanie Faubel;
- Tamsin Webster;
- Brianna Jackman; and
- Erika Reese.

Congratulations to our winners, and thank you again to everyone who participated.



Victorian Women Lawyers acknowledges the traditional Aboriginal owners of country, recognises their continuing connection to land, water and community and pays respect to Elders past and present.

Allens > Linklaters

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