



vwlist

Welcome to the first edition of VWList for 2022.

We cannot wait to show you what we have in store for the year. We hope to see you at our events and invite you to participate in our projects.

This year, VWL's theme is leading. We have chosen this theme as it aligns with one of our key objectives for the year; enhancing the advancement of women in the legal profession. We remain focused on exploring the structural and social barriers faced by women in reaching and maintaining leadership roles. We are committed to ensuring that VWL remains a leading organisation in promoting the understanding of women issues in law and in the legal system by way of our law reform initiatives and social justice projects.

VWL thanks each of you and sponsors for continuing to support and engage with VWL. We invite you to keep up to date with our activities via our [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) page. Don't forget to tag your posts with #victorianwomenlawyers!

EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BOOK GIVEAWAY

This International Women's Day, VWL wants to celebrate women in law who lift each other up. To enter our giveaway, head to our [Instagram](#), tag a friend, and include why she inspires you, how she helps you to be a better lawyer or why the legal

NEWS

PORTIA 2021

We are proud to have recently released our 2021 edition of Portia.

Portia is VWL's annual journal produced by the Publications Committee. We encourage you to reach out to our co-chairs if you would like to contribute a feature article for

SPONSOR NEWS



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT - FEBRUARY & MARCH

VWL thanks our sponsors for their ongoing support.

Each month we celebrate the achievements and people of our sponsor firms by

profession would not be the same without her.

VWL will select 3 winners who will each receive two inspirational books celebrating women - one for you and one for your tagged friend. The winners will be picked on 9 March 2022 after International Women's Day. [#BreakTheBias](#)

Enter [here](#) for a chance for you and your friend to win a copy of:

- *Empowering Women From Murder & Misogyny to High Court Victory* by Dr Susie Allanson and Lizzie O'Shea
- *Women and Leadership* by Julia Gillard & Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala
- *Emotional Female* by Yumiko Kadota
- *Who Gets to Be Smart* by Bri Lee

**DAME ROMA MITCHELL
MEMORIAL LUNCH
28 APRIL 2022 -
SAVE THE DATE**

We are delighted to confirm that our annual Dame Roma Mitchell Memorial Lunch will be held on Thursday, 28 April 2022 from 12:30pm-2pm.

Event registrations will open this week. We encourage you to keep an eye out - tickets

the 2022 edition. You can find their contact details on our website [here](#).

Members should have now received their copy by post. An electronic version will be available on our website [here](#) shortly.

PUBLICATONS

ACCORDING TO MERIT:

In February 2022, VWL's Law Reform Committee made a 16-page submission to the Australian Human Rights Commission's consultation on the development of a National Anti-Racism Framework (NARF). As an organisation of Victorian women lawyers, the submission focused on legal mechanisms for anti-racism frameworks and protections for women, noting present protections in Victoria.

VWL's submission advocated for a wide definition of 'racism' that acknowledges racism occurs on an individual and systemic level. VWL also identified the importance of applying an intersectional approach, recognising that racism and racial inequity are experienced differently by different people, depending on other factors and characteristics, such as *ethnicity sexuality disability*

spotlighting their leading female lawyers.



MAGDA MARCINIAK

For the month of February, we spotlight Magda Marciniak, Partner at Justitia Lawyers and Consultants.

Read Magda's interview [here](#)



BONNIE PHILLIPS

For the month of March, we spotlight Bonnie Phillips, Principal Lawyer at Coulter Legal.

Read Bonnie's spotlight [here](#).

are limited and will sell out fast!



VWL RUN CLUB

VWL Run Club will resume after the Labour Day weekend 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.

community, equality, diversity and gender.

VWL encouraged the Commission to develop a NARF that proactively collects and shares relevant data to identify structural racism and aid future planning and consultation with the community to address identified issues.

Additionally, the submission provided information on the following topics:

- The need to raise awareness of racism as a first step, noting racism is not always a mainstream issue for many Anglo-Australians, who may not identify micro-aggressions or systemic racism.
- Racism in the workplace, including during recruitment processes. The submission drew on examples from the legal profession, and intersectional challenges for women.
- The benefits of identifying systemic racism in the operation of existing laws.
- Ways of leveraging existing laws as anti-racism tools, with an emphasis on Victorian laws.

If you are interested in



THINK FOLEY'S CPD PODCAST

VWL congratulates Foley's List for their podcast *Think Foley's* recently reaching 40k downloads.

The podcast provides on-the-go informative content for legal professionals looking to fulfil their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements.

Interested in listening in? Click [here](#) to listen on Apple Podcasts.

SUMMER MATERIAL

AUTUMN READS

- *Let Go* by Hugh van Cuylenburg;
- *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Picoult;
- *Love Marriage* by Monica Ali;
- *Mabu Mabu* by Nornie Bero;
- *Three Birds Renovations: Dream Home How-To* by Bonnie Hindmarsh, Erin Cayless and Lana Taylor;
- *Death On the Nile* by Agatha Christie

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

assisting VWL draft future submissions on issues relevant to women lawyers, please email our Law Reform Committee Co-chairs. You can find their contact details on our website [here](#).

ACCORDING TO MERIT: LANGUAGE STILL MATTERS

This month, VWL Diversity & Inclusion committee member Maria Korakas contributed an article to the Law Institute Journal on why language matters.

Maria discusses how the public sector, private firms and the bar have implemented inclusive language policies.

Interested in learning more? You can read the article [here](#).

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

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



helping women in law and through law

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.

FOLEY'S LIST

JUSTITIA
LAWYERS AND CONSULTANTS

K&L GATES



Maddocks

Maurice
Blackburn
Lawyers
Since 1919

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