

*vwl*ist

Welcome to the September 2022 edition of VWList.

Victorian Women Lawyers is excited to announce that registrations for our biennial **Lesbia Harford Oration** are open. This event will be held at the State Library of Victoria this Thursday, 8 September 2022. We are looking forward to catching up with VWL members over a gourmet breakfast at one of our largest events of the year. Register [here](#).

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!

UPCOMING EVENTS

LESBIA HARFORD ORATION

Join VWL for the biennial Lesbia Harford Oration, which honours its namesake with a presentation by an eminent speaker on issues of importance to women.

We are delighted to announce this year's speaker, **Antoinette Lattouf**, multi-award winning journalist, author and co-founder of Media Diversity Australia.

This event will take place on

OPPORTUNITIES

GET INVOLVED IN A VWL COMMITTEE

We are looking for passionate volunteers to join VWL's **Outreach Committee**. The Outreach Committee aims to strengthen VWL's engagement with regional, suburban and other members that have limited access to Melbourne CBD, as well as to strengthen VWL's online offering. We welcome members from across Victoria to join the Committee.

Email vwl@vwl.asn.au with "Outreach Committee" in the

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: KHQ LAWYERS

VWL thanks our sponsors for their ongoing support. Each month we celebrate the achievements and people of

This event will take place on Thursday, 8 September 2022 from 7:30am - 9am at the State Library of Victoria. Tickets are \$40 for VWL members, \$70 for non-members and \$20 for students. Read further information [here](#) and register [here](#).



THE FUNDING NETWORK

We are excited to be partnering with The Funding Network on their next live crowdfunding event in Melbourne on 11 October 2022. Three inspiring changemakers will take the stage to share their stories – and you'll have the chance to support their incredible projects. Pitching for funding support will be:

- **Prison Network** - providing support to women and their families in Victorian prisons
- **HerSpace** - offering free wellbeing and mental health recovery services to women survivors of modern slavery in Australia
- **Fitzroy Learning Network** - working to

subject line and a short description about yourself.

PAST EVENTS



WOMEN IN LAW DOING LAW DIFFERENTLY

Last week, VWL held our Women in the Law Doing Law Differently panel discussion and networking event.

In a panel discussion moderated by **Sounita Viravout**, we heard from four women leaders in law who have founded and designed their own NewLaw practices - **Laura Vickers, Dr Maree Livermore, Fionn Bowd** and **Marianne Marchesi**. They are legal innovators and disrupters in law, who have dared to do law outside the traditional model, and by doing so they have paved the way for many other lawyers to also do law differently.

It was incredible to hear these women in law as they all openly and candidly shared their experiences and insights into doing law differently. We thank all of the panellists for their time and contribution to

our sponsor firms by spotlighting their leading women lawyers.

For the month of September, we spotlight Monica Blizzard, Director at KHQ Lawyers.

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

PUBLICATIONS

ACCORDING TO MERIT: ADDRESSING WORKPLACE INEQUALITY

This month **Dr Andrea de Silva** and **Stephanie Koumbarakos**, co-chairs of VWL's Law Reform Committee, contributed an article to the Law Institute Journal on the enactment of the *Gender Equality Act 2020* (Vic). The Act aims to improve workplace gender equality in the Victorian public sector, universities and local councils.

You can read the full article [here](#), as well as past articles contributed to the LIJ by VWL members [here](#).

NEWS

WORKPLACE SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION PROJECT

JobWatch Employment Rights Community Legal

reduce inequality and promote social cohesion in their local community in Melbourne.

Come along and discover the joy of giving! Register for your free tickets [here](#).

HOW PREGNANCY DISCRIMINATION AFFECTS WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE

JobWatch Employment Rights Community Legal Centre invites VWL members to the launch of a new research report by legal researchers from Monash University in collaboration with JobWatch.

The launch event will include an address by **Attorney-General Jaclyn Symes MP**, a review of research findings by **Associate Professor Dominique Allen** and **Adriana Orifici** of Monash University, and a call to advocacy and law reform action by **Zana Bytheway**, Executive Director of JobWatch.

The launch will be held on 7 September 2022 at 12:30pm - 2:30pm at the Monash Conference Centre, Melbourne CBD. Register [here](#).

this very important topic.

We thank Clarence Workplace for Professionals for hosting the event. A recording of the panel discussion will be available on VWL's website shortly.



WOMEN'S BARRISTERS NETWORKING LUNCH

On Wednesday 3 August, VWL, in conjunction with Women's Barristers Association, held the second Barrister's Networking Lunch for the year, with family lawyers and barristers attending. The lunch was moderated by **Sounita Viravout**, Principal and Founder at Onside Family Lawyers.

Guests heard introductory remarks from **Her Honour Alison Burt** on Her Honour's career, tips on making appearances, and challenges women face at the bar.

Centre has recently commenced the free and confidential Workplace Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Project.

This Project follows a dramatic increase in calls to their Telephone Information Service in 2021 on the issue, with a 43% increase on calls in the previous years.

If your or your firm are interested in supporting JobWatch with secondee lawyers to work on this Project, or other pro-bono assistance, please contact JobWatch [here](#).

Casework through the Project includes:

- Once-off legal advice after initial consultation
- Assisting with discrimination claims through federal or state jurisdiction
- Assisting orders to Stop Sexual Harassment through the Fair Work Commission
- Ongoing representation through hearings and proceedings, through to case conclusion.

Find out more about the Project [here](#).

SPRING

MATERIAL

VWL thanks Svenson Barristers for sponsoring this lunch series.

SPRING READS

- *Isaac and the Egg* by Bobby Palmer;
- *COOK* by Karen Martini;
- *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley;
- *Wrong Place, Wrong Time* by Gillian McAllister



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.

Allens < Linklaters

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