

*"As one person I cannot change the world, but I can change the world of one person."*

*Paul Shane Spear*



**Edition 1, November 2013**

## WRISC News

### Launch of the new Children's Room

**On Thursday 19th September, with much excitement WRISC launched the new Children's Therapy room. It's no mean feat to convert what once was a storage shed into a warm, friendly and inviting space for children.**

Attended by staff, several sponsors & corporate friends, some clients, and lots of enthusiastic children, the launch was an opportunity to thank those who have helped make the new room a reality and share what it means to have this space available for the Children's Counselling Program.

Executive Officer, Jacinta Wainwright, thanked the generous funders and supporters of the Children's Room Project (called "Space & Time") for their contributions. Jacinta also took the opportunity to share some information and statistics about the increase in demand for WRISC's Children's Counselling services - growing from seeing 83 clients in 2011/12 to 186 clients in 2012/13. This increase in demand has seen WRISC employ a second Children's Counsellor in March 2013.

Children's Counsellor Ruth shared with those present at the launch how excited she was that the room was now available. Ruth said "Having a dedicated Children's Therapy space has always been my dream, and I'm so excited to finally have it available. It opens up so many more opportunities for the program, for the kids."

The children enjoyed lots of creative activities during the launch, including painting decorations for the outside of the new building, painting pots and cubbies, creating calico dolls, and having a go at 'Drumbeat' with the brand new African Drums.

We would like to thank the following individuals and organisations for their help and support of this project:

- Department of Human Services (represented by Tony Lynch) - primary funder of the shed to room conversion
- City of Ballarat (Community Impact Grant program) - funds to furnish the new space
- Rob from Rob Stewart Construction - for his many hours of work, his "nothing is too much trouble" attitude and for going absolutely above and beyond.
- Andrew from Andrew Plews Plumbing - for great, friendly and helpful service.
- The Carpet Gallery (Chris and team) - for always being prompt, reliable & supportive.
- Haymes Paint - for great service and advice and helping with the cost of paint for the launch activities.



### Facts about Family Violence

- Violence in family and intimate relationships is mostly committed by men against women
- Violence and abuse is about power and control. The person using the violence is seeking to control their partner or family member's behaviour or choices. Using violence is always a choice made by the person using violence.
- Violence and abuse of any form is unacceptable and a breach of human rights.

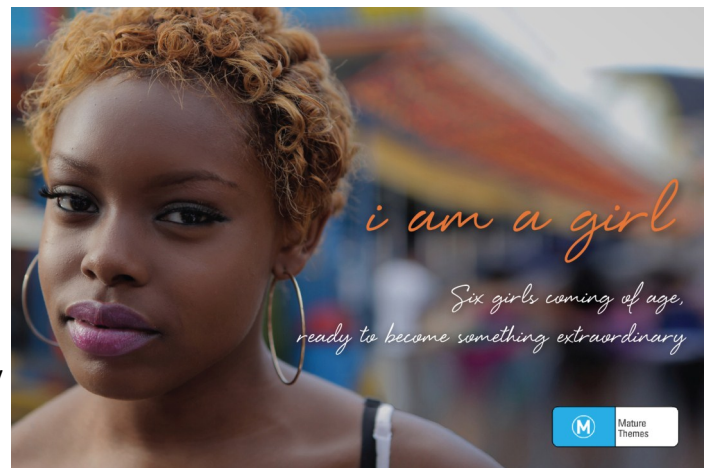
## Screening of *I AM A GIRL*

*I AM A GIRL* is an inspirational feature-length documentary that paints a clear picture of the reality of what it means to be a girl in the 21st century. As a day on earth transpires from dawn to dusk and into the night, we meet Katie, Habiba, Manu, Aziza, Breani and Kimsey - each on the brink of womanhood and dealing with the realities of what it means to grow up female in their world today.

The film will be shown at the Mechanics Institute on Tuesday 26th November at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online (via the WRISC website [www.wrisc.org.au](http://www.wrisc.org.au)).

We are also excited to have the Producer and Director of *I AM A GIRL*, Rebecca Barry, attending the event. WRISC will facilitate a Question & Answer session with Rebecca, following the screening.

We also have an amazing trip to Cambodia to give away on the night, thanks to Intrepid Travel!  
The event is a fundraiser for the work of WRISC Family Violence Support.



## Annual Celebration and AGM

**Tuesday 12th November**

**Ballarat Mechanics Institute**

**11:30-1:00 followed by a light lunch**

Our guest speaker is Christine Kotur, the Leader in Residence of Leadership Victoria. Christine will be speaking on "Leadership, change and resilience"

RSVP by 8th November to 5333 3666 or [wrisc@wrisc.org.au](mailto:wrisc@wrisc.org.au)

## The Courier "It's Up to Us" Campaign

The Courier Ballarat commenced a new campaign on July 1st called "It's Up To Us". The campaign was to raise awareness of the issue of family violence in the Ballarat community.

WRISC, and our clients, have been involved in providing information, statistics and stories to The Courier throughout the campaign.

The Courier will continue to include articles in the newspaper until White Ribbon Day on 25th Nov 2013.

WRISC-related articles can be viewed via the WRISC website: <http://www.wrisc.org.au/news.php>

## Can you help?

Kind and generous donations from organisations, private philanthropists and various grants enable us to continue to service the increasing number of requests for help. We sincerely thank our loyal and generous supporters.

If you would like to make a contribution, our bank details are:

BSB: 063-507 Acct: 10042491 Name: Central Highlands Women's Collective

OR send a cheque (payable to Central Highlands Women's Collective Inc) to: PO Box 1044, Bakery Hill Vic 3354

Donations of \$2 or more to WRISC Family Violence Support are tax deductible.

