

## International Women's Day Celebration held on Thursday March 8, 2018 together with Women's Health Grampians

WRISC together with Women's Health Grampians held their highly successful celebration of International Women's Day with the screening of the movie "Finding Your Feet". An enjoyable evening was had by all with lots of laughter to be heard. A total of \$1,339 was raised which will go towards supporting women and children in our own community who have experienced family violence. Congratulations to long time WRISC supporter Di for winning the raffle. Thank you to Regent Cinemas Ballarat for their continued and ongoing support, and for providing the very generous raffle prize.

And most importantly, WRISC would like to thank those who attended the evening and/or bought tickets in the raffle. We are grateful for your support in monetary terms, and also for helping us raise awareness about the level of family violence in our community and how we can go about preventing it. The #PressforProgress theme is about how we can all foster awareness and go about increasing gender equality in all areas of our lives - whether at home, at work, at school, playing sport, in community groups and so on. Why is this important? Because it is gender inequality and the resultant lack of status of women and girls which underpins family violence and violence against women in general.

***WRISC would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge our raffle winner, Di, who generously donated her prize back to WRISC for use by the Aboriginal Program to enable a group of children to attend a private screening of a film at the Regent Cinemas. Our sincerest thanks go to Di.***



## ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION FORUM

On Monday February 26, WRISC attended the Ballarat and Region Elder Abuse Prevention Forum coordinated by Ballarat Community Health. One of the main aims of the forum was to facilitate the establishment of an Elder Abuse Prevention Network. Speakers included Sharon Knight MP, and Alexia Huxley and Gary Ferguson from Seniors Rights Victoria.



## Hepburn Family Well-being Day held in Clunes



*Thank you to Mandy and Hilary for representing WRISC at the Hepburn Family Well-being Day.*



On Sunday March 25, WRISC participated in the Hepburn Family Well-being Day held in Clunes. Many community groups and organisations came together on this day to provide both a fun and informative event for families in the Clunes area. WRISC provides an outreach service to the Daylesford/Hepburn Shire community. Please ring WRISC on 5333 3666 for more details.

*Thank you to Roger, owner of 205 Dana St, for the beautiful flowers.*

*In celebration of Easter and Passover, and in appreciation of the work WRISC does in supporting women and children experiencing family violence in our community, WRISC staff were presented with beautiful flowers by Roger, owner of the building where WRISC is now located.*



*The photo shows Hilary and Astrid in Reception enjoying the flowers.*

**SPECKLE**

WRISC Family Violence Support is proud to be an agent for **NILS** (no interest loans) specifically catering for women who have experienced family violence. More information about family violence NILS loans is on page 4 of this newsletter. The NILS scheme is administered by Good Shepherd Microfinance.

Good Shepherd has also recently launched a new online product called **Speckle** which offers a better alternative for people seeking small amounts of cash at around half the cost of other products on the market, such as payday loans. Find out more about Speckle loans here: <https://www.speckle.com.au>

# WEAVE

A therapeutic educational group for women who have experienced or are currently experiencing family violence.



Margaret  
WRISC  
Dana St  
Ballarat

PH: 5333 3666



Liz  
Ballarat Community Health  
12 Lilburne St  
Lucas

PH: 5338 4500



Starting May 2018

**Where:** TBA (free of charge)

**When:** Term 2 (May 2—June 20)

**Time:** 10 -12 Wednesday mornings

**Facilitators:** Liz & Margaret

**Information session:** 18th April 10-11am

**Morning Tea provided**





# NILS Loans available at WRISC

WRISC is the contact agency for NILS (No Interest Loans Scheme) for women in the Central Highlands region who have experienced family violence. Please see the poster below for eligibility and contact details. *Please note: the upper limit for NILS Family Violence related loans has now been increased to \$2,000 (subject to assessment of client's financial capacity).*

THE  
NO  
INTEREST  
LOAN



wrisc  
Family Violence Support

**WANT MORE  
information?**



205 Dana Street, Ballarat, VIC 3350  
Ph: (03) 5333 3666  
Fax: (03) 5332 7778  
alisonc@wrisc.org.au  
www.wrisc.org.au  
PO Box 92, Ballarat, VIC 3353



**NILS**  
No Interest Loan Scheme  
Good Shepherd Microfinance

Information for women on  
how to obtain a loan for essential  
household goods and services.

**WRISC Family Violence Support is now offering women who have experienced family violence access to NILS (No Interest Loan Scheme).**

**What is NILS?** The No Interest Loans Scheme (NILS) provides women on low incomes access to safe, fair and affordable loans for up to \$1,200.

**Are you eligible?** Any woman who has a health care or pension card, is living in the Central Highlands and has experienced domestic/family violence in the past twelve months may be eligible.

**What are the loans for?** Loans are generally available for the purchase of essential goods and services. These may include:

- Household items like fridges, washing machines, stoves, freezers and some furniture
- Some medical and dental services
- Educational essentials such as computers, course fees and text books
- Some other items as requested

**Please ring Alison at WRISC on 5333 3666 for more information.**

# Have you thought about volunteering at WRISC?

- ♦ Would you like to become more involved in the work of WRISC?
- ♦ Would you like to contribute to WRISC in a more meaningful way?
- ♦ Do you have skills and expertise which you would like to share with WRISC and support women and children in your community?

WRISC is currently recruiting enthusiastic and committed female\* volunteers to fill the:

## Reception/Administration role

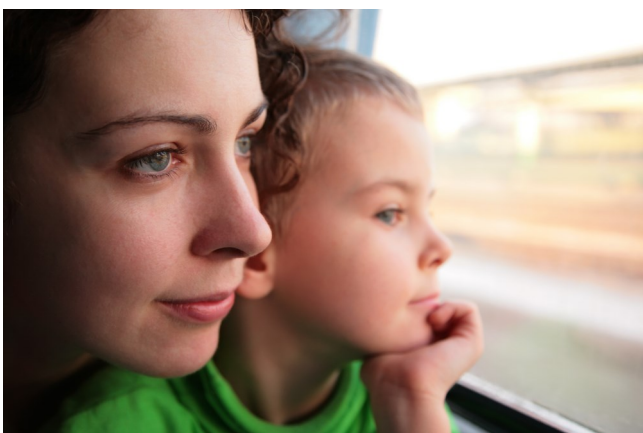
- 1pm—5pm shifts available
- Knowledge of Microsoft Outlook essential
- Reception experience welcomed
- Working With Children Check (WWCC) required
- *WRISC is looking for volunteers who are able to commit on a medium to long term basis*

***For further information please contact Sandra on 5333 3666 Monday—Thursday.***

\*Equal Opportunity Act (2010) Exemption A75/2013

## Thank you to all our donors/ sponsors

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.



## Can you help?

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

BSB: 063-507 Acct: 10042491

Name: WRISC Family Violence Support

**OR**

Donate online via PayPal [here](#).

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

### ***What do you think?***

WRISC appreciates communication and feedback regarding the content of this newsletter. If you would like to make contact, please email the Communications Officer:

[alisonc@wrisc.org.au](mailto:alisonc@wrisc.org.au)



*WRISC exists to change the lives of women and children affected by family violence. We promote safe homes, strong families and respectful relationships.*

205 Dana St, Ballarat  
[www.wrisc.org.au](http://www.wrisc.org.au)

(03) 5333 3666 [wrisc@wrisc.org.au](mailto:wrisc@wrisc.org.au)  
Facebook: [@wriscfamilyviolencesupport](https://www.facebook.com/wriscfamilyviolencesupport)