

# Ballarat White Ribbon Day Newsletter

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Update from the Ballarat White Ribbon Day

August 2009

Hi Ambassadors,

A lot has happen since our last newsletter!

First of all we have had to change the date for the information session. It will now be on the 6 October 2009. It will still be held at CAFS at 5.30pm.

The education session will be run again and we invite all ambassadors to attend. This session provides all ambassadors with a chance to meet and network and exchange ideas, while meeting the members of the BWRDC. It is also an opportunity to learn more about the background of WRD. The session will not run for the full 2 hours but this allows time for discussion. Drinks and Nibbles will also be provided.

2008 was the first time we had held a formal education session for ambassadors. It was well attended and gave all ambassadors the opportunity to meet each other and also members of the committee.

## Senior Ambassadors

The committee is currently going through the selection process of 2009 senior ambassadors. Names were put forward for nomination by committee members and by existing senior ambassadors. This year we will again ask ambassadors for feedback and also provide the opportunity to nominate people for the 2010 campaign. The names of new ambassadors will be in the next newsletter.

For 2009 we are again aiming for 10 new ambassadors that will be inducted on 25 November. There is also an update on the young ambassadors on the next page.

## White Ribbon Day Launch

Another major event is the White Ribbon Day Launch. We will again be holding a launch on the 25 November but this year it will have a more family friendly and community feel with a picnic theme. We will be encouraging guests to bring along blankets, rugs, chairs and even BYO food and non-alcoholic drinks. The committee will also provide a BBQ and entertainment. We hope to have a focus on the ambassadors this year with them showcasing what they have done in their community to promote the message of White Ribbon Day.

If you would like to be a speaker at the launch please contact Nikki on 5322 4100 or via email [nikki@whg.org.au](mailto:nikki@whg.org.au)

Hope to see you all at the education session.

Cheers

## IMPORTANT DATE 6 OCTOBER 2009

Date: Tuesday 6 October  
Time: 5.30-7.30pm  
Place - CAFS 2nd Floor  
Conference room

All ambassadors will receive formal invitations soon so please put it in your diary. Please RSVP

[mbrandenburg@cafs.org.au](mailto:mbrandenburg@cafs.org.au)

## GOODBYE & THANKYOU TO BRIDGET!!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bridget from WRISC for all her hard work and time put into the Ballarat White Ribbon Campaign. We will miss her drive, passion and enthusiasm that has placed Ballarat as the profile campaign in Australia. Safe travelling Bridget and we look forward to seeing you back for the launch on the 25 November.

## Purchasing ribbons and bands for 2009

There are a small amount of ribbons left over from the 2008 campaign and they can be purchased for \$2 each. If you are interested please contact Graham Hoad at CAFS [GHoad@cafs.org.au](mailto:GHoad@cafs.org.au)

Or alternatively ribbons and bands can be purchased directly from the White Ribbon Day website [www.whiteribbonday.org.au](http://www.whiteribbonday.org.au)



## East Point Football and Netball Club Presidential Luncheon

The East Point Football Netball Club recognised the importance of White Ribbon Day at its President's Luncheon on Saturday 22 August.



The Club played host to three White Ribbon Ambassadors, Kevin Zibell, Rod Ward, and Chris Carpenter. East Point President, Alan Dennis, acknowledged that the luncheon was a huge success, with the 50+ guests all wearing white ribbons and wristbands. Kevin Zibell spoke about the growing involvement throughout the community in support of Ballarat White Ribbon and the committee's target of 100 ambassadors in 10 years. He also spoke about the importance and role of ambassadors in local communities.

The great work of the East Point Football Netball Club was also highlighted by BFL President Rod Ward. Rod told attendees that he is looking forward to increasing the number of football teams getting on board this great cause during the 2010 season. East Point Football players also donned their support by wearing white armbands during Saturday's game. The Courier attended and photos put in People and Place on Thursday 26 August.



All in all this was a great event and yet another example of the growing commitment across the region to eliminate violence towards women.

Article - Chris Carpenter

Photo Courtesy of the Courier, Ballarat

## Ballarat Young Ambassador Program

Ballarat High School and Daylesford Secondary College have again embraced the 'Young Ambassador, White Ribbon Day Program'. Ballarat High School 2008 young ambassadors inducted and awarded white ribbons to this year's Yr 11 ambassador group at a whole school assembly. This was a privilege to witness and we are very proud of both last year & this year's groups.

The 2009 Daylesford Yr 10 young ambassador group was recently inducted and have met to discuss the expectations and responsibilities of being a young ambassador within the school. Again we thank the 2008 Young Ambassadors and their support female group for the work that they achieved last year and for providing this year's group with ongoing mentoring and Contact.

The young ambassador program aims to equip young men in standing up against violence against women within their spheres of influence in the school and community. Young ambassadors are given the opportunity to speak to the school community through a number of mediums such as parent information nights, student leadership groups, school assemblies and as guest speakers at staff meetings on building respectful relationships. They are also supported to stand up and provide their peers with a strong role model in developing positive relationships between males & females within the community. All of the young ambassador teams did a fantastic job last year and it is anticipated this year's groups will take the project further within their schools.

Article - Jenny Jones

If you would like more information about anything contained in this newsletter please contact Nikki Greenway [nikki@whg.org.au](mailto:nikki@whg.org.au) or 5322 4100

## Ballarat White Ribbon Design Project

Since the last newsletter members of the committee have met with Lecturer Gavin Nash and students from the Bachelor of Visual Arts (Graphic Design/Multimedia). Through out the semester the 2nd year students have 4 major projects to complete and we are lucky enough to have Ballarat White Ribbon as one of those projects. The students were given a detailed design brief including a website, postcard, A3 poster promoting the launch, and also digital letter heads. This is a very exciting project for all involved. Not only will Ballarat White Ribbon have their own website but we have also spread the message of no to violence to another audience that might not be targeted otherwise.

The committee was then presented with 5 different design concepts. The committee and anyone who has seen the concepts has been completely blown away by the originality, professionalism and the sheer amount of work and thought that the students have put in! It is absolutely fantastic and above and beyond what we had imagined! All 5 designs will be on show at the launch on the 25 November.

After much discussion the committee chose a concept. We provided feedback to the group and now the students will go away and finalise the designs and also provide the committee with a costing of each component.

Part of the project included the website. The group had a great idea of including ambassadors faces on the webpage with a small sentence about stopping violence.

**If any ambassadors would like to have there photo taken for the website please let us know. We will then pass your details onto the students and they will contact you and organise a time at your convenience to take a photo.**

## OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A MENTOR

The introduction of youth ambassadors in the 2008 campaign was extremely successful and Ballarat High School and Daylesford High are continuing the program in 2009.

The youth ambassadors are extremely proactive and many have expressed interest in being part of a mentor program with senior ambassadors.

If any senior ambassadors are interested in being a mentor please RSVP to Jenny Jones  
[jjones@cafs.org.au](mailto:jjones@cafs.org.au) or 5337 3369

### Committee members

#### 2009 BWRDC:

Chairperson - Michael Brandenburg - CAFS

Treasurer - Graham Hoad - CAFS

Secretary - Nikki Greenway - WHG

#### Members:

- Belinda Coates - CASA
- Jenny Jones - SFYS
- Hannah Coad - student
- Jeannine Le Vaillant - CAFS
- Gillian Canavan - ZONTA
- Chris Carpenter - Office of Catherine King
- Warrick Davison - Uniting Care
- Bob Maika - CAFS
- Sally Carmody - WRISC

If you are interested in becoming a committee member in 2010 please contact Nikki [nikki@whg.org.au](mailto:nikki@whg.org.au)

or

Michael

[MBrandenburg@cafs.org.au](mailto:MBrandenburg@cafs.org.au)

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[nikki@whg.org.au](mailto:nikki@whg.org.au) or 5322 4100

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## SERVICES INVOLVED IN BWRDC



**Women's Recourses Information and Support Centre - WRSIC**

PHONE: 53 333 666

After hours: Women's Domestic Violence Crisis Service: 1800 015 188

<http://wrisc.ballarat.net.au/>

WRISC offers a free, confidential support and information service to women and children in the Central Highlands Region. Interpreter services are available if required. WRISC workers use a strengths based approach when working with women and children, the basis of this is respecting women's opinions, culture and customs. Workers will provide information and support to help women make their own decisions about safety planning, finances, housing, legal issues, children's needs and health issues.



**Women's Health Grampians - WHG**

PHONE: 53 224 100

[www.whg.org.au](http://www.whg.org.au)

WHG is one of nine regional and two state wide women's services in Victoria .WHG operates from offices in Ballarat and Horsham and is funded to provide health promotion activities within a social model of health, through the Grampians region. We provide women with information, support and access to services and health practitioners, to assist them in making informed decisions about their health. This service is confidential. Members of the public can drop in at any time and browse in our libraries, chat to staff about health issues or other issues affecting women and remember, you don't have to have a health issue to contact us. Our friendly staff will make you feel welcome.

**Office of Catherine King MP - Federal Member for Ballarat**

PHONE: 1300 131 743

[www.catherineking.com.au/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=5](http://www.catherineking.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=5)



**ZONTA**  
[www.zontaballarat.com](http://www.zontaballarat.com)

Zonta International is an organisation of executives and professionals working to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy.

#### 2009 ACTIVITIES:

- Local residents and visitors were able to visit our exhibition “Walking in Their Shoes” at the Gold Museum. This marked the Club’s thirty years of service and summarised our commitment to the community and beyond in service and advocacy.
- We marked International Women’s Day with a dinner which included the introduction of new nominees for inclusion in “Among Ballarat’s Finest”.
- Assisted The Courier on publication of Woman 2009.
- During the winter months the Club undertakes the collection of food, clothing and blankets for local families suffering hardship.
- Young Women in Public Affairs Award. The award recognises young women (16 - 20) for their commitment to the volunteer sector, volunteer leadership achievements and dedication to the advancement of the status of women.
- Actively involved in the Ballarat White Ribbon Day campaign which marks the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on 25 November.

If you would like to know more about our Club and Zonta International, please email [zontaballarat@yahoo.com.au](mailto:zontaballarat@yahoo.com.au)



**Uniting Care**  
 PHONE: 53 372 711  
[www.unitingcareballarat.com.au](http://www.unitingcareballarat.com.au)

Provide community services to individual, families and groups in the Ballarat, Grampians, Wimmera, Mallee and Central Highlands area, with priority to the most disadvantaged. Promote equity of opportunity and social justice through the provision of people-centred community service. Contribute towards building a just, compassionate and sustainable society.



**Child and Family Services - CAFS**  
 PHONE: 53 373 333  
<http://www.cafs.org.au/>

CAFS is a community service organisation whose task is to assist families and children at risk. We provide services such as family support, infants’ programs, financial counselling, men’s groups, foster care and homelessness programs. Our goal is to give parents, young people and children the optimal opportunity to live in safe and nurturing homes and families.

If you would like more information about anything contained in this newsletter please contact Nikki Greenway [nikki@whg.org.au](mailto:nikki@whg.org.au) or 5322 4100



**Centre Against Sexual Assault - CASA**  
 PHONE: 53 203 933  
[www.casa.org.au/ballarat/](http://www.casa.org.au/ballarat/)

CASA provides free and confidential counselling, advocacy and support to survivors of recent or past sexual assault. This service is provided for women, men, young people and children. Support is also available for non-offending family members and friends.

#### 10 Things Men Can Do To Prevent Sexual Assault & Violence Against Women

- 1) Understand what violence against women and sexual assault is
- 2) Challenge Myths with Reality
- 3) Take an ethical approach to sex
- 4) Confront sexual bullying
- 5) Support victim/survivors
- 6) If prone to violent behaviours, seek professional help
- 7) Be inclusive of women
- 8) Learn how larger social forces affect conflicts between men and women
- 9) Lead by example
- 10) Be confident, speak out



**School Focused Youth Services**  
 PHONE: 5337 3369  
[www.sfys.infoxchange.net.au](http://www.sfys.infoxchange.net.au)

School Focused Youth Service (SFYS) aims to assist schools and agencies to develop partnerships and enhance existing relationships which support young people 10 - 18 years old in continuing their education and reducing the risk factors associated with self harm, mental health issues and suicide, through developing integrated service responses and providing brokerage funding.

The SFYS is a joint initiative between the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) and the Department of Human Services (DHS) and complements the increase in support provided to schools in response to the recommendations of the Suicide Prevention Taskforce.

The focus of the initiative is the co-ordination of preventative and early intervention strategies for young people, to be delivered through school and community clusters. The SFYS is designed to support effective links between the primary prevention work done by school-based support services within the education sector and the early intervention provided by the community sector. The School Focused Youth Service will link closely to schools and relevant community agencies within each school cluster.

The SFYS is required to develop close linkages with school support personnel located within Government Schools as well as with Independent and Catholic schools, and community agencies in contact with young people who are no longer connected to the school system. Developing these linkages enables identification of service gaps, development of strategies to respond to those gaps and the provision of a continuum of service intervention.