

Shoalhaven Women in Business

Celebrate  International Women's Day 2014 *March 8*



Day of celebration and a day of action

EACH year around the world, International Women's Day is celebrated on March 8.

Thousands of events occur not just on this day but throughout March to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women.

Organisations, governments, charities, educational institutions, women's groups, corporations and the media celebrate the day.

Over time and distance, the equal rights of women have progressed.

International Women's Day celebrates the achievements of women while remaining vigilant and tenacious for further sustainable change.

There is global momentum for championing women's equality.

Many groups around the world choose different themes each year relevant to global and local gender issues.

The 2014 theme is inspiring change for the internationalwomensday.com global hub and encourages advocacy for women's advancement everywhere in every way.

It calls for challenging the status quo for women's equality and vigilance inspiring positive change.



PLANNING: Members of the Shoalhaven International Women's Day committee Lyn Wallin, Suzi Krawczyk, Cheryl Scowen, Moira Lawry, Mary Preece, Andrea Lofthouse and Marg McHugh meet at Meroogal House to discuss IWD events for the area.

Events to stir the spirit

AN International Women's Day art exhibition was launched on Friday, February 28 at 6pm. The month-long show will be held at the University of Wollongong Shoalhaven Campus and is free.

The theme is out and about. For details contact Marg McHugh on 4422 0103.

A poster exhibition, called A Personal Journey – political posters of the '70s, '80s and '90s will run from Tuesday, March 4 until Friday, April 4 (launch Friday, March 7 from 6-8pm) at Squid Studio, 12 Princes Highway.

Ulladulla and Districts Community Resource Centre will host a free IWD business breakfast and awards event on Friday, March 7 from 8.30 until 10.30am.

Contact Maria Mitchell on 4454 0477 for details.

Guest speaker Lesley Mackay will speak about the impact of IT on women at an IWD

high tea on Saturday, March 8 from 3-5pm at Nowra School of Arts.

The cost of \$10 covers a pot of tea and a range of cakes and delicacies.

Bookings are essential and can be made by contacting the Women's Health Centre on 4421 0730.

An event for girls in years 8, 9 and 10 will take place on Wednesday, March 12 at Nowra Showground.

For details contact Jodie Quinelle on 4429 3456.

A writers' night will be held at Our Bookshop and Cafe in Queen Street, Berry on Friday, March 14 at 6pm.

For details phone Andrea on 4465 1240.

The popular Women's Wellness Festival will take place at the Bomaderry TAFE campus on Friday, March 21 from 1-7pm.

The free, family-friendly event will feature stalls and workshops.

There will be a chance to shake things up on Saturday evening, March 22 from 7.30-11.30pm at a women's dance night.

The night will feature live music from Which Witch and Cider Jam.

The cost is \$15 (\$10 concession) and payment is at the door of the Nowra Showground pavilion.

For more information on this women's only event phone Marg on 4422 0103.

A women's performance night will cap off the celebrations on Friday, March 28 from 6pm.

This women's only event at Tomerong Hall will be a chance for women to perform for the first time.

The cost is \$10 (\$5 concession). Meals will be available for purchase or bring your own.

If you would like to sing, dance, read poetry, fire twirl or entertain in any way, phone Caz on 0413 466 430.

History of women taking a stand ...

INTERNATIONAL Women's Day has been observed since the early 1900s, a time of great expansion and turbulence in the industrialised world that saw booming population growth and the rise of radical ideology.

• **1908:** Great unrest and critical debate were occurring among women. Women's oppression and inequality was spurring women to become more vocal and active in campaigning for change. Then in 1908,

15,000 women marched through New York City demanding shorter hours, better pay and voting rights.

• **1909:** In accordance with a declaration by the Socialist Party of America, the first National Women's Day was observed across the US on February 28.

• **1910:** A second International Conference of Working Women was held in Copenhagen. Clara Zetkin (leader of the Women's Office for the Social Democratic

Party in Germany) tabled the idea of an International Women's Day. She proposed that every year in every country there be a celebration on the same day – a women's day – to press for their demands. There conference of over 100 women from 17 countries, greeted Zetkin's suggestion with unanimous approval.

• **1911:** International Women's Day was honoured for the first time in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland on

March 19. More than 1 million women and men attended rallies campaigning for women's rights to work, vote, be trained, to hold public office and end discrimination.

• **1913-14:** On the eve of World War I campaigning for peace, Russian women observed their first International Women's Day on the last Sunday in February. Following discussions, the day was transferred to March 8 and this day as remained the global date for celebration and action.

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