



# YNEWS

FIRST EDITION 2015

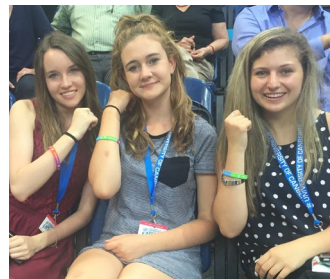
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YWCA  
CANBERRA



## WELCOME TO YNEWS FIRST EDITION 2015

IN THIS EDITION OF YNEWS WE EXPLORE:

Who's going to be at our 2015 She Leads Conference, how to get involved in our upcoming Respect NOW campaign, how to bring your Great Ydea to life, introducing the Winyu Early Childhood Service, and more!

# WELCOME TO YNEWS

YWCA CANBERRA, FIRST EDITION 2015.



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Welcome to our first edition of Ynews for 2015, which is already shaping up to be a big year!

YWCA Canberra is making bold strides in all of our portfolio areas. Our Education and Training Unit will be delivering the *She Leads* Diploma of Management to two more cohorts this year, with enrolments for the April class now open.

Tickets for our *She Leads* Conference went on sale last week, and are already selling fast! With a very exciting line-up of distinguished women leaders, we know that

this will be an amazing day of learning and collaborating.

We've also expanded the *She Leads* program to include our inaugural *She Leads* College Conference, which will see 130 girls representing a range of colleges in the ACT attending, to kick-start their leadership journeys.

In our Community Services portfolio, we are very proud to have achieved registration as a community housing provider under the National Regulatory System for Community Housing. This will enable us to continue providing safe, affordable housing to women in need in the Canberra community.

Our Children's Services team is preparing for the grand opening of our third Early Childhood Education and Care Service, Winyu, on Thursday 30 April. With the Government currently reviewing its childcare policies, it's important that we continue to demonstrate that YWCA Canberra is a leading provider of children's services in the ACT.

We're also thrilled to be able to once again offer members the opportunity to accelerate their personal and professional development through our Great Ydeas small grants program. Applications are

now open, so don't miss out on this unique opportunity.

Our Corporate Relations and Communications team are gearing up for the launch of our *Respect NOW* campaign on International Women's Day. The campaign aims to raise awareness about violence against women, and calls on the ACT Government to fund the delivery of our respectful relationships program, *Respect, Communicate, Choose*.

We are committed to creating a world free from violence against women through primary prevention - so keep an eye on our website and social media channels to find out how you can support the campaign.

Finally I would like to say thank you everyone who contributed to the *Frugal Feast* Appeal. Your support and generosity supported many Canberrans during the festive season. In particular, we received a very generous donation from the Soroptomists International of Canberra, of \$2,500 to make 80 Christmas hampers for Food Hub clients - thank you for your amazing contribution.

Kind regards,

Frances Crimmins

**Acknowledgement of Country.** YWCA Canberra proudly recognises the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to own and control their cultures, and pays respect around these rights. YWCA Canberra acknowledges the need to respect and encourage the diversity of Indigenous cultures and aims to respect Indigenous worldviews, lifestyles and customary laws.

# PRESIDENT REPORT



Welcome to the first edition of Ynews for 2015.

The opening of the Winyu Early Childhood Service in Gungahlin is an incredible achievement for YWCA Canberra, as we venture into new markets in the Canberra childcare sector.

Recently, the Board met at our Annual Board Planning Day to discuss and consider our work over the coming year, and to help shape the development of the new strategic directions for the organisation for 2015 - 17.

This new plan will map out our work, and includes a greater focus on building and leveraging our position as a leading organisation within the community services sector.

Importantly, the plan underscores the importance of YWCA Canberra's training and advocacy work to break through structural and social barriers, to ensure the equality of opportunity for women in our community.

I'm pleased to let you know that the 2015 YWCA World Council will be held in Bangkok from 11-16 October.

The YWCA World Council brings the movement together every four years to deliberate, make decisions and bond.

This year's theme is 'Bold and Transformational Leadership Towards 2035'.

YWCA Canberra will again be present as a large delegation of members and staff at this important event.

Participation is open to all members including scholarships available to support six members to attend through funding support of \$2500 per person.

We have an exciting year ahead of us, and with the dedication of the wonderful staff and our members, we are going to make it our best year yet.

I look forward to meeting many of you throughout the year.

Kind regards,

Kate Chipperfield

# ADD ***SHE LEADS 2015*** TO YOUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



**THE SHE LEADS DIPLOMA OF MANAGEMENT IS NOW TAKING ENROLMENTS FOR APRIL 2015.**

Develop your leadership skills, gain a nationally recognised qualification, and learn directly from inspiring women leaders with YWCA Canberra's *She Leads* Diploma of Management.

For our April intake only, we are offering the cost of your 2015 *She Leads* Conference ticket as a deduction from your course fees!

*The She Leads Diploma of management* is a gender responsive Diploma of Management course for emerging women leaders.

The course supports women to develop their own leadership identity, and addresses the unique challenges facing women in their career or returning to the workforce.

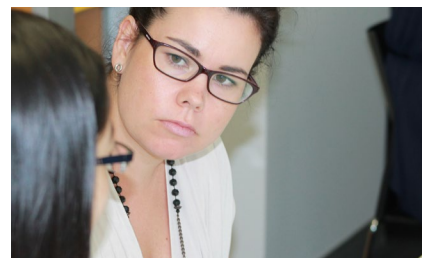
The course will equip students with the skills and confidence to take on leadership roles in their workplace and community.

Our first round of panellists for the April 2015 course include:

- **Kerrie Tim**, Special Advisor Indigenous Engagement, Australian Public Service Commission
- **Samantha Kourtis**, 2014 ACT Telstra Business Woman of the Year
- **Carmel McGregor**, Director at Carmel McGregor Consulting
- **Anne Fulwood**, journalist, writer and television presenter

Classes begin on 28 April 2015.

**To download an enrolment pack or for more information, visit our website or contact Janine Yokom, She Leads Coordinator at: [Janine.yokom@ywca-canberra.org.au](mailto:Janine.yokom@ywca-canberra.org.au).**



# 2015 SHE LEADS CONFERENCE

WE'RE VERY EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE 2015 SHE LEADS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON 18-19 MAY 2015 AT HOTEL REALM.



Join our MC, Tracey Spicer, and more than 200 aspiring women leaders at Hotel Realm for this inspirational and original women's leadership event.

The *She Leads* Conference combines education and skills development, an abundance of networking opportunities, and a mix of stimulating talks and hands-on workshops with some of Australia's most renowned women leaders.

We're delighted to announce our first confirmed speakers:

- **Kate Carnell AO**, CEO, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- **Stephanie Foster**, Deputy Australian Public Service Commissioner
- **Yamini Naidu**, Director & Chief Storyteller, Yamini Naidu Consulting
- **Michelle Deshong**, Managing Consultant, Michelle Deshong & Associates
- **Emma Bennison**, CEO, Arts Access Australia
- **Stephanie Lorenzo**, Founder & CEO, Project Futures
- **Rebecca Skinner**, Deputy Secretary, Defence People
- **Dai Le**, Founder & CEO, Diverse Australasian Women's Network
- **Hala Batainah**, Federal Director, Microsoft

## SHE LEADS MASTER CLASSES

This year the Conference will also include exciting *She Leads* Master Classes, which will be held in the evening of 18 May at Hotel Realm. The Master Classes will be run concurrently, so delegates will need to choose only one to participate in.

Tickets for Master Classes cost \$99 (inc GST), in addition to your conference ticket.

### She Leads Master Classes topics:

- Resilience at work: three keys to thriving in the face of challenges with Jacqueline Jago
- Innovation leadership with Sarah Pearson
- How to build your profile online with Angela Priestley



**TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE – EARLYBIRD PRICES CLOSE ON 10 APRIL 2015. VISIT [WWW.YWCA-CANBERRA.ORG.AU](http://WWW.YWCA-CANBERRA.ORG.AU) TO REGISTER TODAY**

For event and ticketing enquires contact **Clare Conroy, She Leads Conference Producer** at: [clare.conroy@ywca-canberra.org.au](mailto:clare.conroy@ywca-canberra.org.au)

Ticket prices	(earlybird / standard - inc GST)
Corporate/Government	\$550 / \$748
Corporate/Government Group Rate	\$5500 for 10 tickets
NGO/Individual	\$440 / \$561
Member	\$385 / \$506
Concession	\$149.60 / \$187
Master Classes (evening - 18 May)	\$99

# RESPECT NOW BE A RESPECT CHAMPION!

**YWCA CANBERRA IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A WORLD FREE FROM VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.**

We know that it's crucial to educate young people on respectful relationships, so that we can enact a cultural change to ultimately eliminate violence in our community.

That's why we're launching a new campaign, Respect NOW, this International Women's Day to raise awareness of the need for primary prevention of violence against women.

Respect NOW is calling on the ACT Government to fund the delivery of our respectful relationships program, 'Respect, Communicate, Choose' in all public primary schools in the ACT.

We're excited to have the University of Canberra Capitals basketball team on board as our Respect Champions for the campaign.

In the coming weeks, you'll see more information about RespectNOW on our website and through social media, including details on how you can get involved.

Let's work together to build a world where everyone is safe, respected and free from violence.



# CALLING MEMBERS WITH INNOVATIVE IDEAS!

**APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2015 GREAT YDEAS PROGRAM!**

YWCA Canberra members are invited to follow their dreams and aspirations by applying for a Great Ydeas grant.

The Great Ydeas small grants program provides grants of up to \$2000 to local women and girls, so that they can pursue a professional development opportunity, pilot a project or business idea, or address a need in the community.

The program is open to YWCA Canberra members, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and young women under 30 are particularly encouraged to apply.

Applications close Friday 27 March 2015.

Find out more on our website:

**[www.ywca-canberra.org.au/get-involved/great-ydeas-small-grants-program/](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au/get-involved/great-ydeas-small-grants-program/)**



2014 Great Ydeas grant recipients chat with Zoya Patel at a Changemaker's Festival event at Smith's Alternative.

# AND THE WINNER IS... SHAVE!

## AJ'S CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT THE LANYON FOOD HUB.

We were delighted when we recently received a call from Adrian Vella (AJ), a local Canberran, who was looking for a worthy cause to support as part of his community fundraising campaign.

As soon as we told AJ about the recent funding cuts to our emergency food relief service, the Lanyon Food Hub, AJ was sold!

AJ's renowned beard was to be the centre of his fundraising efforts. So as part of his campaign he asked friends to donate to one of two Everyday Hero teams to either 'Save the beard' or 'Shave the beard'.

It was a close call, but the results were tallied and AJ's beard is now gone! 'Shave the beard' took the lead raising \$1,581.85, while 'Save the beard' ran a close second, raising a solid \$1,155.10!

The result was a massive donation of \$2736.95 for our Food Hub. On behalf of the families and kids accessing the Food Hub, we want to send a huge thank you to AJ and this colleagues at Functional Fitness Australia for their generosity and support.

We had a chance to chat to AJ and find out a little more about him and what inspired him to create the campaign.

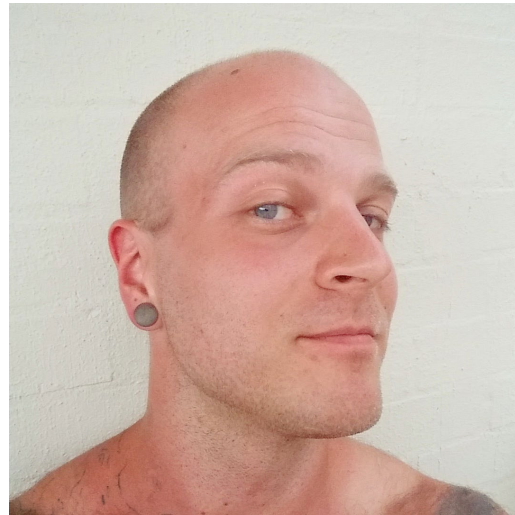
### Tell us about yourself ?

Alright! My name is AJ Vella, Canberra born and raised, director and weightlifting coach at Func. Fitness Australia. Avid lover of astronomy, the universe and internet cats.

### What inspired you to create the 'Shave or save the beard' campaign?

The lion's mane was reaching it's second birthday so I decided it may be time for a change. It would've been a shame to 'just shave it' so I put the old thinking cap on and started looking in-to charitable ideas.

The go-to major charities seem to have a lot of funding coming in so a small-time fundraiser would've been a drop in the ocean, so to speak. Keeping it local was the clear choice with the money making a significant difference in helping everyone involved.



AJ's new look!

### Do you think ordinary people can play a bigger part in fundraising for social change?

Oh totally. Just look at the Kickstarter initiative making waves online. When everyday people group together things happen. Just the same as the everyday hero program. Case in point!

### If you could make an impact on one thing in the world, what would it be?

Getting rid of the beard was simply letting go, something many people find challenging. You asked me previously if people can play a bigger part in fundraising.

People can play a bigger part in so much more, it's a matter of communication, grouping together for a greater cause. Awareness, as a whole. There is a lot of misinformation, inept education and lack of communication.

It'd be nice to open a few more people's eyes and minds to what is really going on in our world, so we can separate from the system and really begin to live.

### Last of all, do you miss the lion beard?

Haha, know what I miss? The nods from fellow-bearded gentlemen. There is some unspoken bond between 'bearded brethren' that can only be appreciated with.. well, with a beard. You'll have to grow one to find out!

“ People can play a bigger part in so much more, it's a matter of communication, grouping together for a greater cause. ”

# GREAT YDEA BRINGS THE COUNTRY TO CANBERRA

**HOW DID THREE TEENS FROM RURAL AUSTRALIA MANAGE TO DINE WITH THE CHIEF MINISTER, JOKE WITH JULIE BISHOP AND SWING PAST THE CABINET ROOM IN JUST ONE DAY? THE ANSWER: COUNTRY TO CANBERRA. FOUNDER HANNAH WANDEL TELLS ALL.**

Launched in July 2014 and funded by a YWCA Canberra Great Ydeas grant, Country to Canberra is a national initiative that empowers rural girls to reach their leadership potential.

To achieve this, we ran a nationwide essay competition about gender equality and awarded our Year 11 winners with an all-expenses paid 'power trip' to Canberra to meet inspirational leaders on December 3, 2014.

As the founder (and lucky essay assessor), I was thrilled to meet the inaugural winners as they touched down at Canberra Airport. The enthusiasm beaming from Hannah Worsley (Nullamanna, NSW), Libby O'Brien (Beaudesert, QLD) and Vesna Clark (Mittagong, NSW) was contagious, and elucidated the demand for mentorship programs in rural communities.

The girls were soon ferried to their first event: the 'Powerful Women's Breakfast' at Farmer's Daughter in Yarralumla. Then ACT Chief Minister Katy Gallagher, Member for Canberra Gai Brodtmann, Deputy Secretary Defence People Group Rebecca Skinner, Deputy Australian Public Service Commissioner Stephanie Foster and YWCA Canberra Executive Director Frances Crimmins were special attendees, and spent time recounting their impressive career histories, answering questions and providing advice.

Katy Gallagher encouraged risk-taking, while Gai Brodtmann highlighted the importance of financial independence. The intimate event was enjoyed by all, and was even showcased on WIN News later that night.

Following the breakfast, Hannah, Libby and Vesna were interviewed live on ABC 666 with Genevieve Jacobs. This gave the girls an opportunity to practice their public speaking skills and provided a platform to discuss their essay topics.

Next on the agenda was a behind-the-scenes tour of Parliament House, followed by a special 'Country to Canberra' lunch co-hosted by Minister Fiona Nash, Senator Anne Ruston, Senator Lee Rhiannon and Senator Jan McLucas. This bipartisan event afforded an opportunity to connect with some of Australia's



*Hannah Worsley (winner), Libby O'Brien (winner), Vesna Clark (winner) and Hannah Wandel (founder of Country to Canberra) were excited to meet Foreign Minister Julie Bishop (centre).*

most influential leaders, including Minister Barnaby Joyce and Shadow Minister Joel Fitzgibbon. In their speeches, the co-hosts shared their experiences as rurally-focussed politicians, providing tangible leadership inspiration.

Once the girls finished watching Question Time, they were ushered into the ministerial quarter to meet Julie Bishop. The Foreign Minister greeted us warmly, and took the time to chat about leadership and rural education (oh, and to show us pictures of her with Hugh Jackman!). A special moment surfaced when Ms Bishop read quotes from the winning essays, leaving the girls feeling honoured and determined as they boarded their flights home.

Reflecting on the 'power trips', we achieved our goal to help breakdown gender and geographical barriers to success. We helped young women overcome distance and funding pressures to access their nation's capital (one of the girls had never been on a plane before). We also armed female students with additional skills to lead in their local communities. Since the program, Libby was asked to speak at an International Women's Day event, Hannah starred on local radio and Vesna kick-started her own magazine. Approaching our second year, I am passionate about expanding Country to Canberra. Hopefully, this will give even more young women opportunities to realise their enormous potential.

**More photos from the event can be found at [www.countrytocanberra.com.au](http://www.countrytocanberra.com.au) or on our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/CountrytoCanberra](https://www.facebook.com/CountrytoCanberra)**

“Reflecting on the 'power trips', we achieved our goal to help breakdown gender and geographical barriers to success.”



# MEET A MEMBER: JACQUELINE JAGO

**THIS ARTICLE IS PART OF OUR MEMBER PROFILE SERIES. OUR MEMBERS TELL US THAT ONE OF THE THINGS THEY REALLY LOVE ABOUT BEING PART OF OUR COMMUNITY IS GETTING TO KNOW LIKEMINDED WOMEN.**

## **You in a nutshell?**

A patchwork quilt - warm, sewn by hand with love and error.

## **What was your highlight of 2014?**

Leaving the Australian Public Service and setting up my own coaching business - it doesn't feel like work and I can't believe I get paid to have conversations with people about how they can grow into their own greatness. And landing a work advice column (Coach at Work) in the Canberra Times. I've always wanted to be an agony aunt: as a small child I used to read Irma Kurtz in New Idea and want to be like her.

## **What's an achievement you're proud of?**

Not being so obsessed with achievements to be proud of, and more connected to being fully here. I'm a recovering over-achiever - I was a barrister with an LLM by the age of 27 and I had no sense that all that success would end up making me happy. Things that make me happy? Talking to people. Singing "Let it go" in Polish. Walking barefoot on green grass. Working at a good, steady pace. Tea drunk from a china cup my Polish mother-in-law gave me.

## **What's on your playlist?**

Lots of meditation tracks. At the moment I'm listening to an iAwake track that stimulates the heart chakra and makes you cry over the smallest thing. In a good sweet way, like when you see a baby, or a whale being freed from a net, or flowers being left in Martin Place by a Muslim bride.

## **Why did you join the Y?**

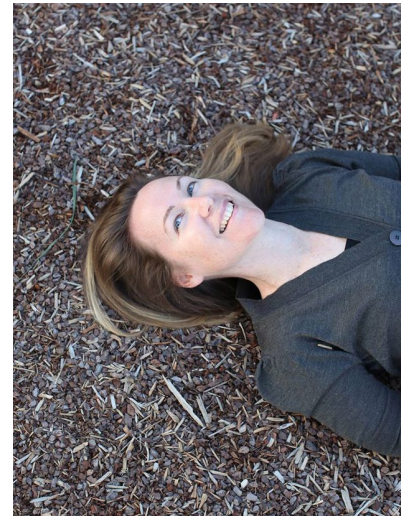
Because I wanted to get my old feminist stripes back on! And because for me the sense of wanting to give back grows every year like a happy magnolia tree.

## **Who inspires you?**

My friend Anna, who just got herself a speaking gig at a rural leadership conference by being brave, persistent and willing to 'throw the hat over the wall' and climb after it.

## **What's the change you want to see in the world?**

Be the change you want to see in the world! Looking inside to see what you are bringing to any challenge, obstacle, relationship, failure, success - even to a social condition that seems bigger than you - that's the thing that's missing from our culture. But a powerful (and sometimes downright embarrassing) thing that any of us can do every day. Blame is like fast food - it tastes great but blights the life you were given.



*Find out more about Jacqueline's coaching business, Bloom Coaching and Consulting, and follow her on Twitter, @jackweazle!*

“Be the change you want to see in the world! Looking inside to see what you are bringing to any challenge, obstacle, relationship, failure, success.”

# YWCA ROUND THE WORLD BREAKFAST

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND YWCA CANBERRA'S ROUND THE WORLD BREAKFAST EVENT TO CELEBRATE WORLD YWCA DAY, ON TUESDAY 28 APRIL AT THE LOBBY RESTAURANT.

World YWCA Day is recognised every year across 120 countries. The Round the World Breakfast event provides an opportunity for YWCAs to come together to honour the contributions of women leaders in their communities.

YWCA Canberra's Round the World Breakfast is well attended each year by members, colleagues and friends, and raises funds for the Global Power to Change Fund, which invests in the leadership development of women and girls to advance social change around the world.

This year, the Honourable Kate Lundy, ACT Senator, will provide the keynote address. YWCA Canberra's President, Kate Chipperfield, will also announce the lucky recipients of our 2015 Great Ydeas Grants Program, which supports innovative projects led by local women, and there will be a silent auction and prizes to be won!

## BREAKFAST DETAILS

**When:** Tuesday 28 April, 7:00am - 8:30am

**Where:** The Lobby Restaurant, Parkes

**RSVP:** [www.ywca-canberra.org.au/event/ywca-round-the-world-breakfast](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au/event/ywca-round-the-world-breakfast). COB Wednesday 22 April, places are limited.

**Cost:** \$55 members\*, \$65 non members, \$650 corporate table of 10 guests

**Please note:** ticket prices include 2 raffle tickets for special prizes on the day. All funds raised through raffle tickets are donated to the Power to Change Fund.

*\*Become a member and receive this rate*



# INTRODUCING WINYU EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICE

**YWCA CANBERRA'S EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES TEAM IS EXCITED TO PRESENT TO YOU OUR BRAND NEW SERVICE IN GUNGAHLIN - OPENING MAY 2015.**

YWCA Canberra successfully won a tender process with the ACT Government to run the brand new service, and Children's Services has been working with the government on the design of the centre from the planning stage.

With a significant 90 places available, Winyu about be a one of a kind facility in the ACT.

Our team is passionate providing services that are innovative, research-based and provide the best possible start to children's learning.

Winyu will be unlike anywhere else; we'll have mixed-age formats, which means that children can develop relationships with a variety of children and adults.

The centre will be the largest service in the ACT that provides such an innovative and flexible format, with open plan spaces that are above the regulatory standard, the highest quality resources for children and educators, and an outdoor environment that stimulates the imagination.

Just like in life, we believe that providing opportunities for children to develop a sense of curiosity is the key to great developmental outcomes.

This is a wonderful beginning for a new phase in our Early Childhood Services. As an educator recently commented, "I know I can make a difference with YWCA Canberra!"



*The site of Winyu Early Childhood Service*

# I LOVE YWCA CANBERRA BECAUSE...

RECENTLY, EVERYDAY HERO RAN A SPECIAL CAMPAIGN FOR VALENTINE'S DAY, ASKING PEOPLE TO SHARE THEIR LOVE FOR THEIR FAVOURITE CHARITY. WE PARTICIPATED IN THE CAMPAIGN AND ASKED OUR MEMBERS AND STAFF TO LET US KNOW WHY THEY LOVE YWCA CANBERRA. CHECK OUT THE RESPONSES BELOW.

