



THE SPRING BALL: THELMA & LOUISE

At the beautifully refurbished Fitzroy Town Hall The Matrix Guild Of Victoria Inc proudly Present our 2nd major fundraiser for 2011 "The Spring Ball" featuring Live performance from Thelma & Louise who will perform some of your favourites songs from 60's to today.....

As the name suggests this all female Melbourne duo is a dynamic entertaining twosome that has taken the club scene by storm featuring Janine Reed who is the star of "The Shirley Bassey Tribute Show" and June Newman of "Rock Steady" Fame. The girls take you on a musical journey through the classic hits of every era from the 60's to today.



http://www.matrixguildvic.org.au/docs/flyer_Spring-Ball_2011.pdf

The Matrix Guild Of Vic Inc sincerely thanks you for your ongoing support for our fundraising events and we trust that you can join us for this wonderful fundraising event. In turn your ongoing support will assist The Matrix Guild to continue our fundraising efforts with proceeds going to services for older Lesbians. Pop onto our web site to see the progress of the accommodation which will be provided for our older Lesbian Community. The web site also outlines certain research projects that have been completed for the community.

The wonderful talent of Thelma and Louise will have you up and dancing:

**"Janie Reed & June Newman performing as"Thelma & Louise"

** AND DJ Trish will be performing throughout the evening with genres from yesteryear to today....If you have a request that you would like played on the evening please email it through or feel free to give me a call and we will ensure that your request is played on the evening.

**Rosetta our Female Professional Photographer will be there from Happy Medium

Venue: Fitzroy Town Hall 201 Napier Street Fitzroy

Date: Saturday 15 October 2011

Time: 7pm – 12.30am

BYO Nibblies & Drinkies

Tea Coffee & Water Supplied

Tix: \$40/\$50

Bookings: Anna: 0448 002 870 Sharon: 0419 992 966

Email: matricevents@matrixguildvic.org.au

Our Sponsors: City of Port Phillip, City of Yarra, Bliss For Women, D Vice, Glass House Hotel, Happy Medium, Hares & Hyenas, Joy FM, MCV, Nari Thai (Bundoora), Pink Sofa, Rainbow Warehouse, SHEBAR, Southern Star

This is a women's only event

HEATHER'S FLATS

Heather Chapple's dream of providing affordable rental accommodation for older lesbians has become a reality. On 8th June 2011, Matrix officially opened the first such housing in Australia! We are very proud of our achievement and impressed that Heather decided to make her bequest to us BEFORE we had any track record in providing housing. She trusted that Matrix would rise to the challenge.

We now effectively own almost 25% of the 3 apartments in Brunswick. Three older lesbians who were in housing stress now have secure, long-term homes. They moved in last month, and all are very happy to have a comfortable place of their own, close to transport, shops, and medical facilities and near other lesbians.

Because of the growth in real estate value, the \$300,000 that Heather donated is now worth approximately \$426,300. The remaining 75% of the apartments is owned by our partners, the Victorian Women's Housing Association (VWHA). We have a contract with them which states that older lesbians, on low incomes, with assets less than \$30,000 will always be housed in these apartments. Preference will be given to lesbians who are over 65, homeless and/or have a disability. Matrix will always select tenants and the VWHA will manage the properties.

The flats are called after birds that Heather, a twitcher, loved. Her favourite bird, the Puffin is commemorated in one of the apartments shown in this picture. There is also a plaque in each flat which says: *"In memory of Heather Chapple 10 November 1944 - 5th October 2007"*



Sara Elkas (left) and Anneke Deutsch (centre) of Matrix with 2 of our new tenants installing the plaques to honour and remember Heather Chapple

With the rise in rental costs, there is an increasing feminisation of the face of homelessness. Over 70% of recent new referrals to a Housing action group for older homeless people were women. Statistically, about 5 to 10% of these will be lesbian.

Matrix was recently contacted by a housing worker at a large, secular homeless organisation because they had an elderly lesbian couple in their crisis accommodation unit. Our flats are now occupied, but we would love to be able to provide more accommodation for lesbians. So please, consider Matrix in your will, or make a donation to our Housing fund, so that we can house all older lesbians in need.

LESBIAN-INCLUSIVE PRACTICE IN AGED CARE

In June, at the Brunswick Town Hall, we also launched our new booklet which provides guidelines for Aged Care providers as to how to provide welcoming, lesbian inclusive services. "We Live Here Too: A Guide to Lesbian Inclusive Practice in Aged Care" can be downloaded from our website. Free hard copies can also be obtained by contacting Sara Elkas at Matrix.

We hope to distribute these to every Victorian aged care service – a mammoth task. So if you work in or visit an aged care facility (either one that provides in-home care, or an institution), please contact us and we'll send you as many copies as you need. We would really appreciate your help. By making personal contact with the director of Nursing, or whoever arranges staff in-services, this booklet is more likely to be used. We can also provide you with Matrix brochures, so that the service can display these in their foyer and in so doing, provide encouragement to lesbians who enter that this is a safe, inclusive place.

YOU ARE INVITED TO MATRIX GUILD OF VICTORIA INC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 20 September 2011

Venue: Betty Day Centre,
67 Argyle St, St Kilda

Time: 6.30PM

Light supper provided



SOCIAL EVENTS FOR OLDER LESBIANS

The Matrix committee is very aware of the need for social events specifically for older lesbians. From the beginning of next year we would like to offer a monthly social event catering for the needs of older lesbians. See below for our proposed calendar of events for 2012. We will provide more details later on this year.

February - Trip to Phillip Island

March - picnic / BBQ Fairfield Boathouse

April - Warrandyte Market

May - Trip to Convent Gallery in Daylesford

June - Chinatown Yum Cha

July - Melbourne International Film Festival

August - Montalto Art Gallery Mt Eliza / B artiste Frankston

September - free Tai Chi Fed square followed by breakfast in Market Lane / Arcades Melbourne

October - Seniors week event

November - Music recital - Botanical Gardens

Matrix Guild's Managing Committee

Meets 6.00pm the 3rd Tuesday of the month

To get venue details - 0419 992 966

SHEBAR - Women Only Events

2nd and 4th Saturday Every Month

Fun and friendly atmosphere with regular live acts, female DJs and special events.

"The Glass House Hotel" 51 Gipps Street COLLINGWOOD

www.shebar.org - Call Sharon & Andrea 0419 992 966

For photos and information about our fundraiser events, back copies of newsletters, Matrix research reports, lesbian inclusive practice guidelines booklet and updates of the Matrix Housing Project refer to

THE MATRIX WEB PAGE

www.matrixguildvic.org.au