

# Matrix Guild of Victoria Inc.

Newsletter - September 2016

## The aims and objectives of Matrix are to:

- Promote appropriate care and support for older lesbians
- Provide some accommodation that caters to the needs of ageing lesbians who experience financial disadvantage
- Support ageing lesbians' accommodation choices
- Challenge ageism and oppose discrimination against older lesbians
- Advocate on behalf of older lesbians to governments and other relevant bodies
- Promote social contact and support among older lesbians
- Research lesbians' experience of aged care

Hello Everyone!

Spring is in the air, so kick up your heels at the Matrix Spring Tea Dance. The Matrix AGM is also fast coming up, so here's your chance to learn more about the work of Matrix and get involved. Details of both events are in this edition. As usual, we tell you about other events and resources that may be of interest, so read on.....

## Annual General Meeting



It's time.....for the Matrix AGM!

**When:** Saturday 12th November 2016

**Where:** Clyde St. Community Centre, 64 Clyde St., Thornbury

2.00 pm	Afternoon tea (come early to chat and socialise over a cuppa)
2.30 pm	Dyke Divas Choir
3.00 pm	AGM
4.00 - 5:00 pm	Time to socialise over another cuppa & nibbles

We encourage all members to come along and support Matrix. It's an opportunity to have your say, get involved, and meet up with friends.

## Matrix Tea Dance



The poster for the Lesbian Tea Dance event has a vibrant pink-to-purple gradient background. At the top, logos for 'CITY OF DAREBIN', 'Matrix Guild VICTORIA INC', and 'VICTORIAN SENIORS Festival' are displayed. The main title 'Lesbian Tea Dance' is written in large, white, bold letters, curving across the top. Below the title, the event details are listed: 'Sat 15 October 2016 2pm - 6pm' and 'Preston City Hall, 284 Gower St, Preston'. The central image shows silhouettes of several women dancing joyfully against a bright pink light. In the foreground, a black and white portrait of a smiling woman with short dark hair is shown. To the right of the portrait, text reads: 'Live music by Kerry Fields &amp; Rosie Burgess. DJ Kerry. Scrumptious afternoon tea included.' Below this, ticket prices are listed: 'Tix at the door: \$5 members, \$7 concession, \$10 full'. At the bottom right, the website 'Matrixguildvic.org.au' is provided. The name 'KERRYN FIELDS' is written vertically in white text next to the portrait.

This is a not-to-be-missed celebration of lesbian life and love! An afternoon of uplifting DJ dance tracks, including all your old favourites. There will be live music by **Kerry Fields & Rosie Burgess**: Fields' warm personality and striking voice (reminiscent of Toni Childs) meld perfectly with her alt-country and roots stylings. Her songs are laced with rockabilly and soul. Rosie Burgess' folk and blues sensibilities and energetic bass rounds out the sound.

Everyone welcome – you may just come to socialise and listen to some great music!

## Matrix Volunteer Visitors Program

Our next training day for visitors for Matrix Volunteer Visitor Program is on October 8th 2016 and will be held at Clyde Street Community Centre, 64 Clyde Street, Thornbury, from 9.30am till 3.00pm.

If you would like to become a volunteer visitor with Matrix please contact Anna Cook at [inquiries@matrixguildvic.org.au](mailto:inquiries@matrixguildvic.org.au) or 0448002870

Matrix' next social get together for volunteer visitors is on November 12th 2016 at Clyde Street Community Centre, 64 Clyde Street Thornbury, from 12md till 2.00pm. There will be an opportunity for volunteers to socialise with other members of Matrix after lunch and to attend the AGM later in the day if they wish.

Cheers

**Anna Cook**



## Matrix Coffee Afternoons

***Over the Road Cafe is the place to be on Thursdays***

Come along to the Matrix coffee afternoons for good company, good conversation and good food. Meet your mates, or someone new. Have lunch, or just a cuppa. Play games or just chat. Bring a friend along. It's a friendly and relaxed atmosphere and everyone is made welcome.

It's every Thursday, from 12 noon to 3.00 pm at **Over the Road Café**, on the corner of Victoria Rd and South Crescent, Northcote.

The café is opposite Northcote Nursery and only 3 minutes' walk from the Dennis railway station, on the Hurstbridge line. (*Melways Ref Map 30, H10*)

If you want more information phone **Carole 0437 891 981**



**A VOICE  
FOR OLDER  
LESBIANS**



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



## **Matrix Raffle!**

Get your tickets to the Matrix raffle now! First prize is a two-night, midweek stay at Millduck Strawbale B&B, a lesbian operated 'Hideaway in the Hills', rated in the top 10 B&B's in Victoria. We thank Ada and Prue for their very generous donation. (See attached ad for more detail).

Second prize is a beautifully framed (76x42cm) herstoric piece of memorabilia- Julia Gillard's famous misogyny speech. Valued at \$150. Special thanks Harry Grrl for donating this.

Tickets: \$5 each: limited number of tickets sold, so your chances of winning are high! Raffle drawn at our Tea Dance on 15th October.

To get your tickets now, deposit into our Bendigo Bank account:

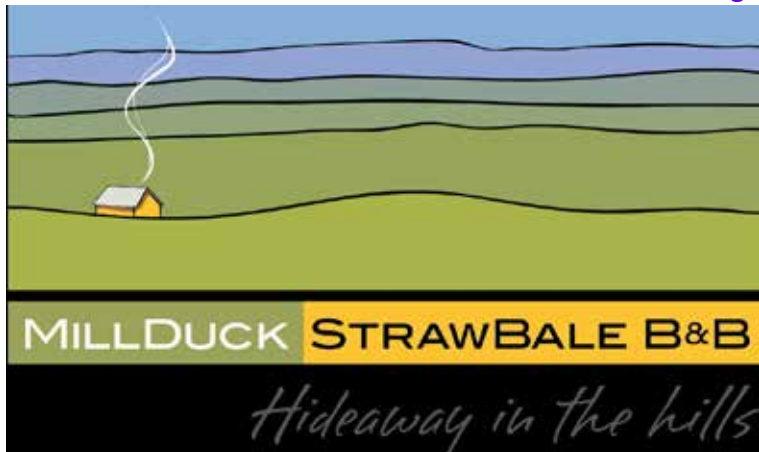
ACCT NAME: Matrix Guild of Victoria Inc.

BSB: 633 000

ACCOUNT NO: 144 565 546

REF: Your name & phone Number

Call, text or email Harry Grrl on 0450 813 784 or [harrygrrl@gmail.com](mailto:harrygrrl@gmail.com) when you make your deposit and she'll send you your ticket numbers. All proceeds go to fund Matrix community events and services such as our free Volunteer Visitor Program.



### **First Prize 2-day stay at B & B**

Two, fully self-contained, STRAWBALE units provide a secluded & peaceful retreat with views of the Sedgwick ranges that take your breath away.

This picturesque 35-acre property offers guests the opportunity to cuddle an alpaca, wander through the gardens, stroll in the granite hills, and explore the nearby goldfields towns of Castlemaine, Maldon, & Bendigo. At the end of the day, a relaxing spa, crackling fire and glass of local wine will top off your experience.

- Centrally located - 20 mins to Bendigo, Castlemaine & Maldon, (40 mins - Daylesford / Heathcote)
- Quiet, peaceful & private retreat with views (from your unit) stretching to the distant mountain range
- Double spa / wood fire / late noon checkout / Free Wifi / DVDs, etc.
- Suitable for one couple in each unit – no extra people & no pets, thanks
- Cooking facilities: microwave / convection oven, electric frypan, hotplate, BBQ

- Gardens – browse or wander to the lookout; enjoy a snooze under the willows
- Wheelchair accessible in one unit – including mobile shower chair available
- Henry’s Cidery; Bress Wine, Cider & Produce; Mt Alexander Fruit Gardens; Victorian Goldfields Railway, Bendigo Attractions & Events, The Great Stupa; Maldon & Castlemaine Attractions & Events, Bendigo Art Gallery, Goldfields Track; Tread Harcourt (Cafe/Restaurant);
- StrawBale House Tours & talk on passive solar design features, free if staying 2+ nights (pre book)
- Alpacas: mingle with ... pat .... or enjoy a picnic in the paddock with them
- For Sale - Fleece & Alpacas – Pets, breeding stock & Show animals: MillDuck Alpaca Stud

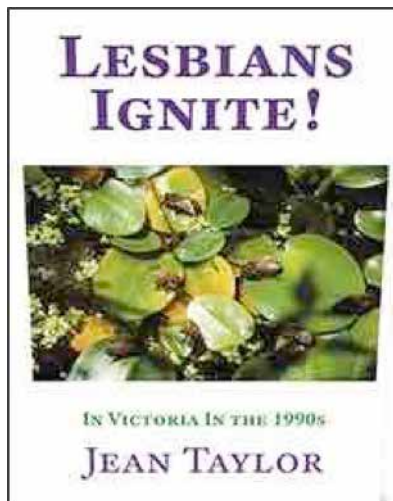
**Your Hosts: Ada Milley & Prue Walduck**

Ph. +61 3 5439 6451 Mob. 0449 643 721 bandb@millduck.com.au

[www.millduck.com.au](http://www.millduck.com.au)

Note: If you make a booking at Millduck, please mention Matrix, as your hosts are interested to know how you heard about their B & B.

## Other People’s events



Dear Sisters

Dyke Books Inc. is pleased to announce that due to a last minute grant from the City of Melbourne, which was totally unexpected, there will be another book launch of *Lesbians Ignite! In Victoria in the 1990s*.

Not all the details are finalised as yet but the date is **Saturday 19 November, 2 - 4pm**, and the venue is the Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre, 251 Faraday Street Carlton.

Please put the date in your diaries and we will post more details as they come to hand.

With love,  
**Jean Taylor**

## A Night to Remember- Pandoras presents!

Pandoras presents Beccy Cole – Sweet Rebecca Tour supported by Libby O’Donovan, & hosted by The Retro Girls! Inclusive LGBTIQ ADULT-ONLY EVENT!!!!

Fri 2nd of September 2016. Doors open 8pm  
NEW VENUE! The Reverence Hotel, in the Band Room,  
28 Napier St, Footscray



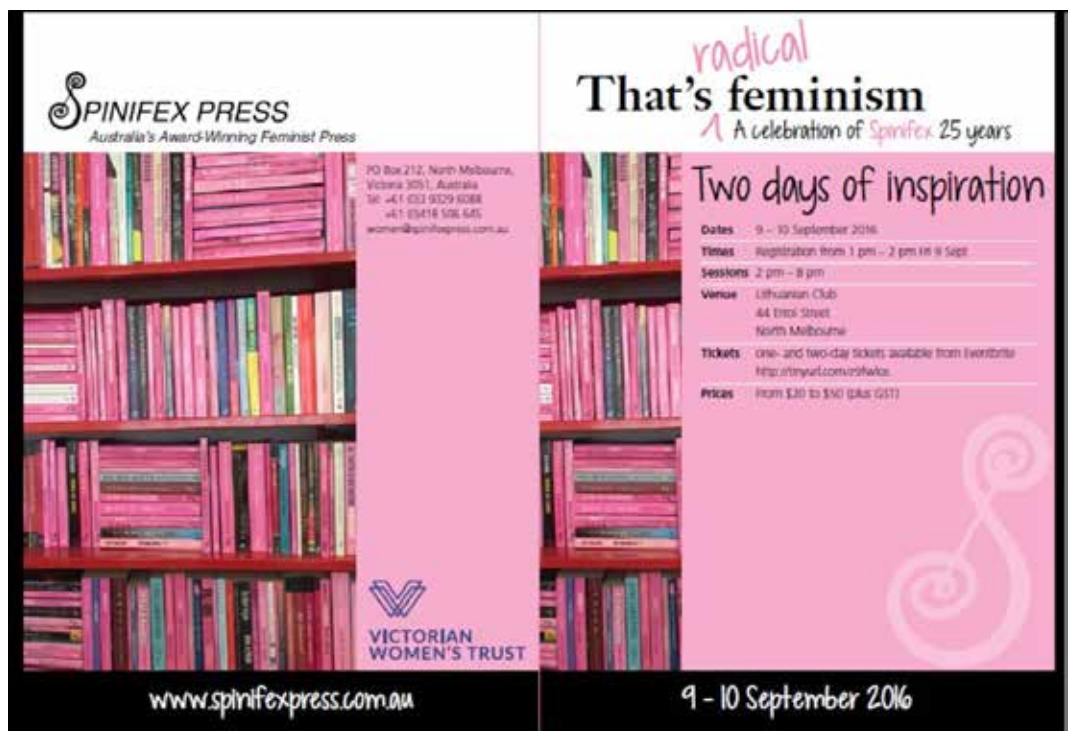
Book online, \$30/Adult! <https://www.trybooking.com/MBXW>  
 Book to eat before the show! 9687 2111

Barista coffee, full bar till 1am, and full menu from 5:30-9:30pm, come and eat before the show!

For more info SMS Rachel on 0417557011

## That's Radical Feminism: A celebration of Spinifex 25 years Melbourne, September 9-10

**Venue: The Lithuanian Club - 44 Errol St. North Melbourne**



Come and hear radical feminist writers and activists talk about their work, their politics and what keeps them going. The Friday evening concert will be hosted by comedian Sue Ingleton with a guest appearance by singer-songwriter Kavisha Mazzella as well as poets and the newly established lesbian choir, Dyke Divas, led by Rachel Morgan.

Friday afternoon includes speakers on the subjects of peace activism, lesbian existence, love and violence against women, Amnesty and prostitution, modernist writers, globalisation and much more. Speakers include Kerryn Higgs, Isla MacGregor, Lavender and many others.

Saturday includes sessions on the 'radical' in radical feminism and sexual and medical violence. Speakers include Bronwyn Winter, Betty McLellan, Melinda Tankard Reist, Simone Watson, Caroline Norma, Renate Klein, Penny Mackieson, Mary Sullivan and Helen Lobato. Don't miss the Angry Sheilas.

In the afternoon writers including novelist Finola Moorhead, circus and theatre director Donna Jackson, novelist and playwright Hoa Pham and poet Susan Hawthorne will speak about their work. Biographers and autobiographers Lucy Sussex, Marou Izumo and Claire Maree, Jean Taylor and Judith Buckrich speak about their lives and their work.

Spinifex publishes a diverse range of voices from many backgrounds, cultures and countries. Come along and be inspired, change the world and yourself.

Tickets: \$21 - \$52.50

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/thats-radical-feminism-tick...>

### ***Liz Smith***

# A VOICE FOR OLDER LESBIANS

Sue Gee is an accomplished singer-songwriter who is launching her latest CD in Thornbury on Sunday, September 18 at 7.30pm. The entry fee is \$10.



Sue has completed two years of “Goddess Studies” which was her inspiration for several beautiful Goddess songs, including ‘Grandmother Moon’, ‘Ceridwen’ and ‘Pachamama’. Her recent foray into the environmental choir Ecopella has inspired quite a few new environmental songs and several political parodies. Described by one folk club organizer as ‘velvet tongue, sharp teeth’ she is a singer-songwriter with an “edge” who has long amused audiences with her acerbic lyrics on politics, society and women’s herstory.

Sue was recently placed in the John Dengate Memorial Parody-writing competition. Conservatives be warned! Her inspirations: songwriters Judy Small, Phyl Lobl, Peter Hicks, Bruce Watson, John Dengate. Sue accompanies herself on guitar, autoharp, ukelele and harmonica.

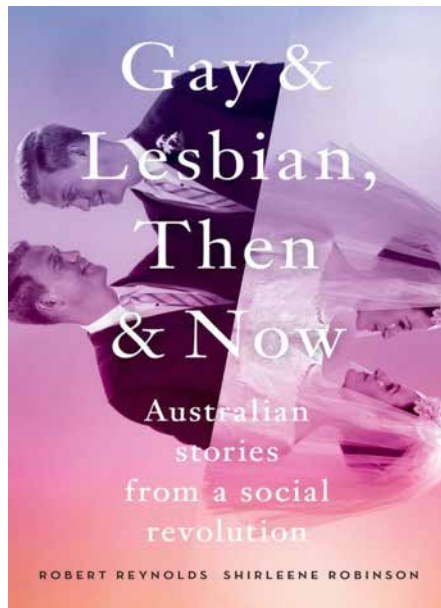
For more information, contact Jenny on 0408 438 194.

***(submitted for the Newsletter by Liz Smith)***



## In The Bookroom

A VOICE  
FOR OLDER  
LESBIANS



### ***Gay & Lesbian, Then and Now: Australian Stories from a Social Revolution***

By Robert Reynolds and Shirleene Robinson  
\$29.99 Penguin Books 2016

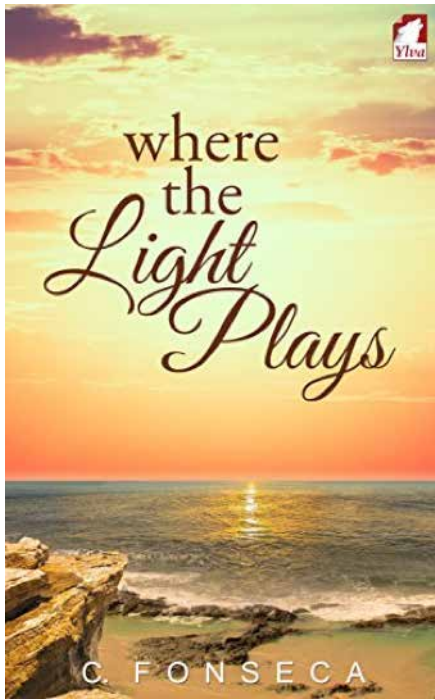
This collection of case studies charts the gay and lesbian experience in Australia from the “veterans” of the 1950s, to the Baby Boomers, Gen X and the Millennials.

The authors interviewed 60 subjects, whittling them down to 13, and the result is something of a social history. We read about Merv doing the ‘50s homosexual beats in Brisbane, and Nola, whose disrupted childhood led to the army, lesbian relationships and, later, bass guitar in a band.

Tony, an Aboriginal growing up in Wagga, recalls the effect of watching Bohemian Rhapsody on Countdown; Liverpool-born Jennie, who saw the Quarrymen (aka the Beatles), describes landing in Western Australia and her first relationship, while Joshua and Kate provide contemporary tales: all of them the individual stories behind the broader cultural shift. Their stories reveal the legacy of homophobia, the personal struggles and triumphs involved in coming out. and the many different ways of being gay or lesbian in Australia.

(source: [olderdykes.org](http://olderdykes.org) newsletter)





## *'Where the Light Plays'*

*by C. Fonseca.*

Publishers: YLVA. Publishing women's literature with a focus on lesbian fiction. Published: May 2016.

Web: <https://www.ylva-publishing.com/product/where-the-light-plays-by-c-fonseca/>

Format: ebook and online excerpt. [http://www.ylva-verlag.de/excerpts/excerpt\\_where-the-light-plays-by-c-fonseca.pdf](http://www.ylva-verlag.de/excerpts/excerpt_where-the-light-plays-by-c-fonseca.pdf)

Andi Rey is an impassioned artist who lives on the glorious Surf Coast of Victoria, Australia. Grounded by her family and her surroundings, Andi is focused on her first solo exhibition. Until Caitlin Quinn, an alluring Irish art historian, drops into Andi's life and ignites a storm of longing.

A mutual love of art and the natural environment draws the two women together. But tension builds, and career expectations and cultural differences keep them apart. Can Caitlin and Andi overcome their individual challenges to negotiate their future together?

**Author:** As a small child, C. Fonseca had imaginary friends. She told these friends stories and her family set them places at the dinner table. When she grew up, she lost the imaginary friends but she continued writing stories and poetry. She lives in a small sea-side town on the Victorian Surf Coast with her Kiwi partner of fifteen years and their beloved Burmese cat. With its diverse coastal landscape of gorgeous golden beaches and towering limestone cliffs, lush ancient rainforests and national parks, it is the home of kangaroos, echidnas, koalas and amazing bird life. She lives and breathes this landscape every day; it provided a perfect backdrop for her first novel **Where the Light Plays**.

She was an executive chef for many years until a car accident stopped her in her tracks and forced her to change direction and become a tech geek. She is now known in her community as the "help-desk". She is an expressionist landscape painter and can often be found at a cliff-top platform overlooking the Southern Ocean, daydreaming, plotting and planning her next creative adventures.

*(Source: Amazon.com)*



## **RECLAMATION**

### ***An Exhibition by Ursula Dutkiewicz***

(Source: Gasworks Arts Park website; <http://www.gasworks.org.au/event/reclamation/> )



In her latest body of work, Melbourne ceramic artist Ursula Dutkiewicz explores the theme of “Reclamation” using clay, photography, mixed media and inspiration from her local environment.

Her studio is in the picturesque surrounds of a once-abandoned industrial gasworks’ site and the nearby restored wasteland of Westgate Park, where she has found an abundance of stimulation for her creativity.

Through her intimate connection with the earth through clay and her working environment, she has come to understand the need for human beings to be reclaimed as part of nature, for people to become responsible for returning environments to healthy ecosystems through recycling, and to restore and reuse as much as possible. Through such individual and social action, we can alleviate damage and contribute to a more positive outcome for our world.

### **Reclamation**

1. the conversion of desert, marsh, or other waste land into land suitable for cultivation
2. the recovery of useful substances from waste products
3. the act of reclaiming or state of being reclaimed

### **WHEN**

Tuesday 30 August to Sunday 18 September from 9.30am to 4pm. Free Entry.

### **OPENING NIGHT**

Wednesday 31 August from 6pm to 8pm: opened by Janet Bolitho

### **WHERE**

The Angela Roberts-Bird Gallery, Gasworks Art park, 21 Graham Street, Albert Park.



The deadline for the next Newsletter is 27th September, 2016.

Please send news items and short articles to:

**Rosemary Wealthy** at [r.wealthy@bigpond.com](mailto:r.wealthy@bigpond.com)  
0416 268 108

**Anneke Deutsch** Matrix Guild of Vic Inc. at [secretary@matrixguildvic.org.au](mailto:secretary@matrixguildvic.org.au)  
0427 482 976

**A VOICE  
FOR OLDER  
LESBIANS**



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