CELEBRATING AND SHARING STORIES OF THE RESOURCEFULNESS OF WOMEN IN THE MODERN WORLD

Following on from the inaugural evening in 2013, Circles of Life is hosting another Brisbane Women’s Forum. The MC, Kelly Higgins-Devine will share her stories and introduce speakers Suzy Wilson, Mary-Rose MacColl & Rhianna Patrick with acknowledgment of Country by Aunty Joan Hendriks. Courier Mail columnist, Kathleen Noonan, will give her ‘And Another Thing … ’ comments.

Kelly Higgins-Devine loves seeking out the extraordinary in the ordinary. The 2007 ABC Local Radio Broadcaster of the Year, started her ABC career with a stint in News Radio in 1999 and has achieved a highly accomplished career in local radio. Kelly can be heard on 612 ABC local radio from 1-3pm weekdays. Earlier this year Kelly hung up her microphones for a short stint to pen a writing project that has been on her mind.

‘I relish what I do because I’m able to explore the issues of the day with the major players, and then to open up discussion with an audience that is opinionated, insightful and intelligent.’

Suzy Wilson is the owner of Riverbend Books and Teahouse in Oxford St, Bulimba. Among a myriad of accolades, Riverbend Books has won the Australian Independent Bookshop of the Year Award twice. Suzy has received the Dromkeen Award for her efforts in ‘being a catalyst in changing children’s lives through literature’. In 2012 she was appointed as an Ambassador for the National Year of Reading. In this role she worked closely with local schools and parent groups, running workshops about literacy in the early childhood years. Suzy is the founder of, and sits on the board of the National Indigenous Literacy Foundation, which aims to improve literacy for children living in remote Indigenous communities.

Mary-Rose MacColl writes about women, families and life, in a weekly column in the Saturday Qweekend magazine of The Courier-Mail, and in her novels, the latest of which, ‘In Falling Snow’, tells the largely unknown story of the extraordinary women doctors who took a hospital to France in World War I.

Rhianna Patrick is a Torres Strait Islander, her family is of the Zagareb tribe on Mer in the eastern islands of the Torres Strait. Rhianna joined the Speaking Out program after a stint in television where she worked as an Associate Producer/Researcher for the ABC’s Indigenous program, Message Stick. Known to ABC listeners as the voice of Speaking Out, the ABC’s national Indigenous program on Local Radio. A former member of the Triple J News team, Rhianna hosted the afternoon program earlier this year can be heard on Dig and other national news and indigenous radio programs.

VENUE: LOURDES HILL COLLEGE, 86 HAWTHORNE ROAD, HAWTHORNE
DATE & TIME: Wednesday, 27 AUGUST, 6 pm for a 7pm start – 9.30pm Come early and enjoy a bowl of soup and a crusty roll $5 per serve
ENTRY: $10 each book at www.trybooking.com code FITA or 93782 or purchase at the door
RSVP: Friday, 22 August email:womensforumbrisbane@gmail.com or phone 0408 735 720

Circles of Life is a not-for-profit organisation and is proud to support a variety of charities. Profits from the Brisbane Women’s Forum 2014 will be donated to The Good Sams Foundation who raises funds for various ministries including the Kinder School in Bacolod City in the Philippines, the Early Childhood Centre in Kiribati in the Central Pacific and support for disadvantaged women and children in the Brisbane Community Housing project; Micah - Young Mothers for Young Women, and the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.