

Girls Rock Bios

VIPs

Aunty Joy

Aunty Joy Wandin Murphy is a Senior Wurundjeri Elder of the Kulin Nation.

She is a recipient of the Victorian Aboriginal Women's Award, an Officer of the Order of Australia, and the University Elder for La Trobe University. She has been a member of the Equal Opportunity Commission of Victoria and the Anti-Discrimination Tribunal.

The Honorable Minister Kelly O'Dwyer MP

The Hon Kelly O'Dwyer MP is the Minister for Women and the Minister for Jobs and Industrial Relations.

She is the Member for Higgins, and is the Ambassador of Ovarian Cancer Australia. She is the co-founder and Chairperson of the Parliamentary Friends of Women in Science, Maths, and Engineering.

Minister Gabrielle Williams MP

Gabrielle Williams is the State Member for Dandenong. She is the Minister for Prevention of Family Violence, the Minister for Women, and the Minister for Youth.

She was appointed the Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Council for Volunteers, and previously served as a director of a non-profit disability sport organisation.

Speakers

Gwenda Freeman

Gwenda is a member of the Girl Guides Victoria Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group.

Gwenda is of Yorta Yorta descent. She lectures in Aboriginal Health Education at the University of Melbourne's Department of Rural Health. She is a Mental Health First Aid instructor, both for Standard and Aboriginal courses.

Dalal Smilie

Dalal is the CEO of Wellsprings – a non-profit support service that provides programs and pathways for isolated and vulnerable women in Greater Dandenong, Casey and Cardinia.

Dalal has over 35 years of experience working in local government, the community services sector, and emergency services. Through her work with Wellsprings, Dalal helps communities to challenge inequality and injustice.

Workshop presenters

Mel Reoch – Talking it up! What Is This Thing Called Guiding?

Mel is the Community Development Officer at Girl Guides Victoria. For the past 3.5 years, she has worked with diverse communities developing Girl Guide programs in a range of settings to reach new members, such as the Guides in Schools and community programs.

Mel was part of the team that developed the Girl-Led resource and training for Victoria, and has facilitated both at a local and international level. It is her dream to see the rich diversity of our community reflected in the membership of Girl Guides.

Anne Hubbard – The Power of Mindfulness

Anne is an emotional intelligence coach who provides training and resources to help adults and children with core issues including assertiveness, procrastination, and self-esteem.

Anne is a qualified coach with Beyond Success, with a background in operations management in the corporate sector. She facilitates the *Tuning in to kids* and *Tuning in to teens* parenting programs, and has facilitated the LIVE ONLINE programs.

Michele Sampson - Why won't they do as they're told?

Michele is a Berry Street Education Model team leader at the Berry Street Institute.

Her skills in instructional design has been built over 30 years working in schools, both as a classroom teacher and in positions of leadership. She brings extensive experience working with leadership teams.

Orville Gardener - Why won't they do as they're told?

Orville is the Business Development Consultant for the Berry Street Education Model at the Berry Street Childhood Institute.

He has over a decade of experience as a senior education leader in the United Kingdom. As an Assistant Principal and Vice Principal, he has initiated and developed a range of support strategies to enable student success.

Sally Brooks - Engaging CALD Communities in Guiding

Sally works in project coordination at the Migrant Information Centre. She has experience in community development and social work. Sally has also applied her skills to volunteer management, youth work, and humanitarian services.

Hazel Maynard - The 2 R's of Volunteering – Recruitment and Retention

Hazel has held roles on the board of Volunteering Victoria and is a recipient of the Volunteering Victoria Lifetime Achievement Award. She has spent over 25 years contributing to the volunteer

sector, and has worked with organisations such as the Australian Red Cross, the Cancer Council, and St Vincent de Paul.

Nerida and Rebekah Thurbon – Creating Curiosity: An Introduction to STEM

Nerida is a qualified microbiologist. She works as a university demonstrator/tutor in microbiology at RMIT University. She also works in quality control for a company that tests microbiological media supplies.

A Unit Leader since 2004, Nerida runs STEM activities in her Region and is part of the State STEM Project.

Rebekah is Nerida's daughter and is also passionate about STEM. She is an Olave, and a Unit Leader Not Yet Qualified.

Em Meades – Youth Workshops

Em has been a Unit Leader since 2010, and has sat on various state teams including State Program teams and event committees.

In 2016, she was the program intern at Pax Lodge and has been involved in the WAGGGS Leadership Development Program. Em was on the writing team for the 2019 World Thinking Day Activity Pack, and has received training in both the WAGGGS Educational Model and WAGGGS Leadership Method.