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LIONS

Convention

Commander Kelly Haywood, Royal Australian Navy



Western Australian and National Telstra Young Business Woman of the Year in 2013 and in 2015, selected as the Navy Women Strategic Advisor in 2019.

In 2021 Kelly was awarded the ACT Women and Leadership Australia Women in Excellence Award and in 2022 was awarded a Conspicuous Service Cross in the Australia Day Honours for her efforts in the role.

Kelly will be talking frankly about her journey with depression and mental illness and how she has used it to help others.

The Honourable Ruth Forrest MLC, Parliament of Tasmania

Ruth was elected to the Tasmanian Legislative Council in the Parliament of Tasmania in 2005 to the seat of Murchison. She is the first woman to hold this seat. She has since been re-elected in 2011 (un-opposed) and in 2017. In 2017 she was elected to the position of Deputy President and Chair of Committees and has sat on and chaired a number of Parliamentary Committees over these years.

Ruth is currently Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Public Accounts, the Joint Sessional Committee on Gender and Equality, the Government Administration Committee A, Estimates Committee A and Government Business Scrutiny Committee A.

Ruth is a vocal advocate for North West Tasmania and regularly visits all parts of her large electorate. As a former nurse and midwife, she maintains a strong interest in health and access to health care. Ruth is also a strong advocate for women and supporting other women into and in leadership positions.



Sari-Elle Kraemer, Managing Director of Alpha Consult, MAICD | President of Bondi Squash Club and Coogee Lions Club



A highly experienced reputation strategist with a background in helping individuals, organisations, government departments and corporates successfully manage their reputation and navigate the most complex of challenges, meaning she is high demand.

Sari's experience includes strategic PR profiling campaigns, litigation PR, social media management, internal and stakeholder communications and media relations. Sari-Elle will be running a PR workshop as well as joining the ALF stand to talk about her recent marathon from Base Camp Mt. Everest to raise funds for the ALF.

David Hackett, Chief Executive Officer, Merricks Capital



A globally experienced CEO working for over 35 years in market leading financial services businesses who has deep experience in corporate finance transactions and digital transformation. Prior to Merricks Capital, from 2016 till early 2020 David was the inaugural Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of MLC Life Insurance as the business moved to become a stand-alone Australian Life Insurance company under the majority ownership of Nippon Life Insurance. David was CEO of the year in 2020.

The younger brother of DGE Victoria Cochrane, David is married to Louise and lives in Middle Park Victoria. They have 5 grown children and 2 grandchildren.

Kris Cochrane and Sharni Campbell

Kris is an Australian-based Sales Trainer and Business Sales Consultant with a decade-long proven track record in helping scaling companies generate predictably outstanding sales results. Beginning his working career as a policeman in Tasmania.

Growing up in Tasmania, Kris is the eldest son of Lions Victoria DGE and Richard Cochrane. Kris is an inspirational speaker who can give all Lions some tips on public speaking, promoting our clubs and recruiting new members.

Sharni Campbell is founder of SC People, based in Newcastle. With a wealth of knowledge in real estate and recruitment services, Sharni is highly experienced in creating highly functioning teams, high performance culture and creating outstanding recruitment partnerships that supports innovation and collaboration within the organisations of her clients.



Kris and Sharni live together in Palm Beach Queensland with their infant daughter Indigo. They will be running a workshop to assist members to refine membership recruiting strategies.

Ann Eldridge | Chelsea District Lions Club



Ann has been a Lion for 23 years, joining the Chelsea District Lions Club in Victoria. She was a District Governor of Lions in 2015 - 2016.

Ann recently finished as the Australian Global Membership National Co-Ordinator which was an extremely challenging role. It gave her the opportunity to see the great work that Lions are doing to help the community. Volunteerism is ever evolving, and we have embarked on a Big Audacious Mission to grow our membership which will allow us to further grow our service.

Ann was proud to be the Vice chairperson of the Lions International Melbourne Convention 2024 which was extremely successful.

Ann is a Melvin Jones Fellow, a member of the LCI Faculty Development Institute and LCIP (Lions Certified Instructor Program). Most of her Lions time now is spent training our future leaders, helping to devise strategy for the organisation and working with a wonderful team of people who deliver leadership opportunities and service to the wider community.