



VICTORIAN  
WOMEN  
LAWYERS

## VICTORIAN WOMEN LAWYERS PRESENTS

# The Lesbia Harford Oration 2015

VWL's biennial Lesbia Harford Oration honours its name sake with a presentation by an eminent speaker on issues of importance to women.



The 2015 oration coincides with the publication of a new collection of the poet's work – *Collected Poems: Lesbia Harford*, edited by Oliver Dennis (UWA Publishing).

This year Clementine Ford will orate on how the mission for gender equality fits within the broader diversity agenda, and what the focus on diversity means for women.

#### DATE

Wednesday 9 September 2015

#### TIME

12:00pm: registration  
12.30-2.30pm: lunch

#### LOCATION

Melbourne Town Hall  
Supper Room  
90-120 Swanston Street, Melbourne

#### COST

Members \$60  
Non-members \$90  
Ticket price includes two course meal and drinks, plus a copy of *Collected Poems: Lesbia Harford*

#### RSVP

1 September 2015

#### REGISTRATION & ENQUIRIES

[www.vwl.asn.au/events](http://www.vwl.asn.au/events)  
Telephone: 9607 9390  
Email: [vwl@liv.asn.au](mailto:vwl@liv.asn.au)

Lesbia Harford – poet, novelist, law student, articled clerk and famously bisexual – is recognised as a pioneer of women in the legal profession.

Born in Brighton, Melbourne in 1891 Lesbia was a champion of workers' rights, and at the same time a woman of her time. A time of world war, suffrage, the challenging of religious ideals and social upheaval – all of which contributed to the lyric voice discovered in the three notebooks of poems left behind after her early death in 1927.

Although forgotten for decades, Lesbia Harford is now seen as one of the first truly modern, urban figures in Australian poetry.

## Clementine Ford

orates on

### What the broader diversity agenda means for gender equality

Clementine Ford is a Melbourne based writer, speaker and feminist thinker.

She is a columnist for Fairfax's *Daily Life* and is a regular contributor to *The Age* and the *Sydney Morning Herald*. Clementine's work has also appeared in *The Guardian*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Girlfriend*, *CLEO*, *Sunday Life* and *The Big Issue*. She has been a guest on ABC's Q&A and Channel Nine's *Mornings*, and is a frequent contributor to Channel Ten's *The Project*.

In 2012, Clementine was voted one of Australia's most influential female voices by *Daily Life* readers. In 2013 and 2014, those same readers selected her as one of *Daily Life*'s 20 Women of the Year.

Clementine's goal is to speak openly and honestly about the state of the world as we live in it. She aspires to give other women the language and confidence to articulate their own experience.

