

## **Archive No. 64**

### **Women's Legal Resource Group**

The WLRG was set up in July 1982 to provide a free legal support service for women by women. The WLRG started operating a free phone information, referral and legal support service for women every Wednesday evening, 6.30 – 9.30pm utilising the Women's Liberation Switchboard phone based at the WL Building.

After WLRG received government funding from the Legal Aid Commission in 1984, the collective were able to rent a room at the WL Building, to produce the Young Women's Booklet and other publications and to participate in law reform campaigns.

The WLRG helped organised the Women and Law Conference in 1987. By the end of 1988, WLRG had moved out of the WL Building into premises in Fitzroy.

The WLRG received additional funding in 1996 which enabled the service to move to Hardware Lane, increase the telephone support service, do outreach work in the western suburbs and country Victoria, to facilitate community education programs and to offer free personal legal advice at their office as well as at the Melbourne Magistrates Court.

The WLRG was restructured in 2000 and the name changed to the Women's Legal Service Victoria. During 2001 and 2002 the WLSV decided to prioritise family law and domestic violence issues while continuing to ensure that women have access to legal advice that takes their rights and their financial, social and individual needs into account.