

MEDIA RELEASE

SAME DANCE, DIFFERENT TUNE - Lessons of a Barefoot Childhood by Trish Rechichi

A remarkable autobiography published this month, tells of the struggle of the daughter of Italian migrants to build a life in rural Western Australia.

Now a successful businesswoman, community worker and lecturer, Trish Rechichi was this month nominated for an inaugural 'List Inspire' Award - awards which celebrate the achievements of WA business-women.

Her book "Same Dance, Different Tune" describes an intensely personal battle against poverty, fear and ignorance towards success, self-acceptance and happiness.

One of 8 children, Trish grew up on a Bindoon farm without electricity, television or the English language, sharing her bed with her sister and her aging 'Nonna'.

Her parents had fled from hunger and poverty in post war Italy to start a new life in Western Australia. Her father was a railways 'ganger' by day before toiling on his farm long into each night. Her mother cared for 8 children, while picking, cleaning and drying the grapes from the family's vines.

They were loving, but fiercely protective parents and Trish felt like an outcast in her own country. But the yearning for a larger, better life burned inside her like the stars she saw through the hole in her bedroom wall.

By the late 1990's Trish had realized all the dreams of her childhood – a loving husband, beautiful house, successful career and a shiny, new BMW.

But life and her Italian heritage had a special lesson for Trish. During a trip to visit the Italian villages, aunts and cousins Trish had never met, Trish reconnected with values she had left behind in her struggle to break free from her origins. Here was a community that valued time together more than material success, laughter more than designer labels.

The visit was turning point for Trish and her husband. Returning to Perth Trish replaced her BMW and corporate salary with time for family, personal growth and sharing her life experience with others. As well as supporting a range of community causes Trish took the position of Sales, Development and Retailer Relationships Manager at Lotterywest – a job she selected because she knew that her efforts would ultimately benefit the community.

In boom-time WA "Same Dance, Different Tune" is a uniquely Western Australian story. It is a reminder that 'success' can be defined in many ways and a challenge to review the priorities that drive us.

"She shines above the ordinary ... Trish is an example of what can be achieved in balancing business goals with one's personal life." Keith Venning, CEO, WA Symphony Orchestra

Contact Details:	Trish is taking a philanthropic approach to this
Phone: 0413 705 003	9 year initiative.
Email: trishang@wa.globaldial.com	All proceeds and profits from the book will go
Website: www.trishrechichi.com	to programs that support the Aged Care/Mental
Postal: PO BOX 3222	Health and that profile young talent in WA.
Yokine WA 6060	