



National Manager Bindi Lea spoke at Opening celebration 16 April 2018

We want to thank all those who have been involved in this journey. What started as a very small seed of thought several years ago has now become a reality thanks to each and every person that has so generously given their time, energy and skills to The Trading Circle and Four Brave Women.

Firstly, a thank you to the Sisters for without whom we would not be standing here right now. They have handed us an incredible legacy which we feel honoured to carry forward and we hope that by the opening of Four Brave Women we will be able to continue their mission and The Trading Circle's work that first began 24 years ago by Sister Anne and Sister Helen.

We would also like to thank:

- Lindy, Alanna and Katie, our staff, who have worked incredibly hard to see this get off the ground. There is no way to express how grateful we are for your enormous dedication, generosity, energy and support. Each of you were asked to do tasks beyond your normal realm of duties and you have risen to the challenge and done an incredible job in getting TTC moved and open for business in such a tight turn around time. You are all so passionate and skilled and none of this would have been possible without you.
- Our incredible team of volunteers who have spent countless hours running errands, cleaning, moving, packing, painting, putting furniture together, gardening, spreading the word and so much more. Without every single hour so generously given by all of you, we would not be open right now. Our volunteer team is unique and we feel blessed to be surrounded and supported by such an extraordinary group of people.
- The SSI and Ignite team who have worked so hard with Zara, her family, Adi and many other refugees to get them to a place to be ready to operate their own business. In particular Merenia and Dina who have believed in this idea since the start and who have partnered with us and provided funding, support, advice and more.
- The TTC Board who have supported this idea and who have had continued faith in the whole TTC team as we moved, built and began a new project. Thank you to John, our Chair who has been on the phone constantly offering advice and who has flown up twice to help install the shop fittings and move us from across the road into the new shop.
- John and Sandra, our new landlords. John, you have been a wonderful support – giving advice, donating equipment, fixing things, building, demolishing, ensuring that the building we were coming into was perfect. You have gone above and beyond and we appreciate every hour you have spent getting our shop ready to open.

- Kate who has been an amazing mentor to Adi, Zara and her family. We are incredibly fortunate to have you volunteer with us and to share your vast amount of experience and skills. You have put in so many hours and been so proactive. This project has been a success largely thanks to you and the time you have given to us all.

- Carmen who helped us move our DA forward and our local Mayor who gave us his full support in getting our DA through as quickly as possible.

- Heather who volunteered her time to write our DA and gave her ongoing support and advice throughout the entire process.

- Hector and Tonia who also volunteered and worked on the DA and who wrote our Heritage Impact Statement, without which we could not have completed our DA.

- Martha, our amazing volunteer graphic designer, who worked countless hours on top of her normal job to create the beautiful Four Brave Women logo and to also create all of the marketing materials that we now see around the shop.

- Christina, who worked alongside us through the funding of SSI, to create a three year financial forecast and without which we would not have been able to see this as a viable project and moved forward with it.

- Kate and Damien who have so generously given their time and skills to creating a spectacular garden out the back of our store.

- The Sacred Grounds crew who have given free barista training, come to the rescue with equipment, provided advice and have gone out of their way to make Adi feel supported and taken care of.

- Jonny who was able to create the beautiful shop you see using his skills and creativity and who was able to take some very different design ideas and make them a reality.

- Joel who volunteered many hours unseen in the shop patching floors, capping tiles, fixing doors and doing all of the fiddly, last minute jobs that had to be done to get the shop safe and ready to open.

- Anne, Rosa and Sveta who have so generously given their time working on our lease over the past few months.

- Will and Beau who have volunteered over the past few months fixing all of our tech issues, changing our website to reflect the changes we have made in the past 12 months and for getting us tech ready in the new shop.

- Emma, Zoe and Katie who are all volunteers and have worked so hard on media and events. Zoe and Katie your advice and experience has been incredibly valuable. Emma, you have been an incredible support to the whole team and have worked so hard to make tonight, the public grand opening and FBW a success. You have stepped up and fulfilled so many different roles to get us to where we are today.

- Michael, Sam and Alicia who have so generously given their skills helping us both on the public grand opening tonight and also tonight.
- Susie and her Earthbeats crew who were so generous with their time and music skills for our grand opening weekend.
- Tony and Richard next door who we count as family and who have kept all of us going with their fresh juices and fruit and given help wherever needed. A special thanks to Tony for making sure Bindi is well fed by cooking her delicious meals and handing her fruit as she races through the door each day.
- Steph who put her hand up to give her advice and support around PR and marketing when media started contacting us.
- Rachel from SBS who wrote the first story about FBW which rapidly put TTC and FBW out into the public eye and which was the start of the amazing media attention and support we have received since then.
- Kit and Ash who have been following us around with their cameras and who have been so generous with their time in creating a video which will reflect our journey, TTC and FBW.
- Will and Russell who have been taking photos and helped with ensuring that our journey was captured visually.
- And finally to Adi, Adi's family and friends, Zara, Hasan, Hassein, Amir, Mohadese and their family who have been brave enough to be the first participants of Four Brave Women. It has been so wonderful working alongside you all and learning about your culture, food and lives. We feel humbled to work with you and to share this journey with all of you. You are all so creative, talented and hard working and we wish you every success as we venture forward together.

