



## Women learning to be savvy about saving for the future

**Erica Thompson**

THERE'S never been a better time for women to take control of their finances, yet many still fall far behind men when it comes to financial planning.

"Women are afraid of money matters," says Brisbane property consultant Alysia Hamilton and co-founder of GLAM (Girls Learning About Money).

"But we're realising now that we have to get through this fear because the consequences of

not doing anything are significant. Women live longer than men, so they need 20 per cent more for retirement. Yet they save less because, on average, they still earn less than men and take time off to raise kids.

"All of a sudden their husband passes away and they're left not knowing how to manage their finances. Or they get divorced and they go for the emotional things like the home and the furniture, while men go for the superannuation and

investments. As women, we need to think more about things that will provide a financial platform for the future."

That's why Alysia, together with business owner Corinna Reeves, established GLAM — a monthly information session featuring guest speakers on a range of financial topics.

"We found there was a common curiosity among women about taking their money and making it grow but just not knowing how to go about doing

it," Alysia says. "The women who attend are from all walks of life. Students, mothers, home-makers, single professionals, directors of companies."

Topics for this year include property versus shares, mortgages demystified and planning your financial future.

"The budget is the most fundamental tool available to anyone," says Corinna.

**For more information about GLAM contact Tina McElligott on 3836 1389.**



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Corinna  
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