



Celebrating Women's Day

WA FASHION industry icon Liz Davenport threw her weight behind women's care agency Esther Foundation during an event celebrating International Women's Day last week.

Davenport was the guest speaker at a breakfast hosted by Landgate at Caversham House in Caversham on Wednesday.

The Esther Foundation was the beneficiary of fundraising at the event.

At the breakfast, Davenport reminisced about a career that has seen

her transition from training as a school teacher to becoming a fashion agent and then an award-winning designer, following a passion that started when she learned to sew at age six.

The Gnowangerup-bred Davenport had started making her own clothes by the time she was 11.

"I used to dress up the chooks on the farm – they hated it," she said.

"If character is an indication of where you end up in life – I was never a goody two shoes. I think naughtiness is part of leadership."

Attendees also heard Davenport's thoughts on being one of 50 women featured in new book *Women's Words of Wisdom, Power and Passion* that was launched this month, as well as receiving an Order of Australia Medal as part of this year's Australia Day celebrations.

"I can't quite describe the OAM. It says what I have done must be OK so now I must try harder," she said. "If I have had the wonderful life that I have and if I can inspire others, that is my responsibility."



Mandy Lawton, Milena Sheridan and Amy Blyth.



Mike Foley and Landgate CEO Mike Bradford.



Jack Dawson, Michelle Pritchard and Alex Tibbitt.



Marcia Phillips, Pat Kopusar and Beverley Rebbeck.



Guest speaker Liz Davenport... from school teacher to top fashion designer.

Pictures: Matthew Poon

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