

NEWS RELEASE
7 March 2025



TODAY WE CELEBRATE TWENTY INSPIRING WESTERN AUSTRALIAN WOMEN

Last night at a special Ceremony in Government House Ballroom, in the presence of the His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson APM Governor of Western Australia, and The Honourable Sue Ellery MLC, Minister for Women's Interests sixteen 'inspiring' women were inducted to the WA Women's Hall of Fame, and a further four women acknowledged posthumously in the 'Roll of Honour'.

Established in 2011 in recognition of the Centenary of International Women's Day, 2025 marks the 15th Anniversary year of celebrating the achievements of inspiring Western Australian women, cementing a resolve to continue to tell the stories of women's significant contributions to our community, fostering greater respect for women, and progressing gender equity.

The Hall of Fame inductees have been selected from one of eight categories: Arts, Business, Community, Culture, Education, Health, Sport, and STEM & Technical Trades.

And the 2025 WA Women's Hall of Fame Inductees are...

ARTS category

Dr. Dorothy Erickson AM, PhD

Jeweller, Historian & Writer

Internationally celebrated artist-jeweller and award-winning writer Dr Erickson AM is a State Cultural Treasure, inducted into the Design Institute of Australia Hall of Fame and with other awards, has held over forty solo exhibitions internationally, has work in prestigious international art collections, and published substantial books on Western Australian designer-makers.

Lesley Murray

Anaiwan Artist and Lecturer

Lesley is an Anaiwan woman from Uralla NSW. Living in WA for 30 years, she has dedicated her life to nurturing cultural pride, and emotional well-being through artistic expression. Lesley strives to walk alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, drawing upon her Aboriginality, creativity and skills to support, mentor, and develop strong connections.

BUSINESS category proudly presented by Cornerstone Legal.

Kim Farmer

Magistrate of the Children's Court

Kim is a Noongar woman who has worked in multiple industries, including law (as a Barrister and Solicitor for the Aboriginal Legal Service and as a Sole Legal Practitioner); Native Title and Land Heritage; government; and not-for-profit organisations. She was appointed a Magistrate of the Children's Court in WA in 2024.

Julie Adams OAM

Co-Director and Co-Founder chemo@home

Julie realised the potential for home-based chemotherapy in 1994 when her Dad died of emphysema. Working as a Cancer Services Pharmacist, she was determined to find a solution and in 2000 established, then managed a home chemotherapy service in the public sector. In 2013, she co-founded the business, chemo@home.

COMMUNITY category proudly sponsored by Family Access Services

Dr Hannah McGlade LLB, LL.M, Ph.D.

Human rights advocate, researcher, and community leader

Dr. McGlade was the first Aboriginal woman to complete a law degree in Western Australia, she is dedicated to advocating for Aboriginal rights and supporting Aboriginal women and children impacted by violence. Her advocacy informed the first separate action plan on violence to Aboriginal women and extends to the United Nations Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues.

COMMUNITY category proudly sponsored by Family Access Services

Alison Scott

Co-chair National DFSV Lived Experience Advisory Council

Alison is a proud Noongar woman from Boorloo (Perth). She is a fiercely passionate advocate for victim-survivors of FDSV with her own experience of intimate partner violence and homicide with the murder of her sister Jessica in 2019. Alison speaks publicly about her personal and professional experiences to educate community and advocate for systemic change.

CULTURE category proudly sponsored by IGO Limited.

Maria Osman

Advocate for Multiculturalism

Maria has 40+ years advocating for gender equity, diversity, anti-racism and inter-cultural communication as a senior government policy adviser, and community activist. A former executive director of WA's Office of Multicultural Interests and Office for Women's Policy, Ms. Osman led the development and implementation of policies and programs, advocating for migrant and refugee women.

Glenys Collard

Advocate for Aboriginal English

Glenys is a Nyungar yorga from the southwest who is renowned for her contributions to Aboriginal education, language preservation, and cultural advocacy. She is a leading figure in the study of Aboriginal English, used by First Nations people in Australia, and is credited for her significant role in the "ABC of Two-Way Literacy and Learning" project.

EDUCATION category proudly sponsored by Edith Cowan University

Professor Linley Lord

Gender Equity Advocate

Professor Lord has been a trailblazer advocating for gender equity in leadership roles. Through her efforts, there has been a significant shift in the way women are supported and afforded opportunities to develop their career paths, particularly in STEM. Linley is committed to the transformational power of education and the need for it to be accessible.

Marie-Anne Keeffe

Community Educator and Storyteller

Changing lives through community education is the hallmark of Marie-Anne's career as a dynamic public storyteller and dedicated board member. From driving awareness of critical health conditions to spearheading communication at the Department of Education WA she believes education has the power to inspire and transform people of all ages.

HEALTH category proudly sponsored by St John of God Health Care

Lorna Cook

Registered Nurse and Co-Founder chemo@home

Lorna has been a Registered Nurse in WA for over 40 years, and in that time has profoundly impacted her profession, and the community. Amongst other work, she co-founded chemo@home, a national award-winning company that changed the model of care for patients receiving cancer treatment.

Professor Michaela Lucas, MD, Dr. Med FRACP, FRCPA

Clinical Immunologist / Allergist

German born Professor Lucas is an adult and paediatric Clinical Immunologist and Immunopathologist at two tertiary hospitals and Pathwest. She leads a research team at The University of Western Australia and is passionate about improving the lives of people with immune disorders and allergies and understanding the health impacts of plastics.

SPORT category proudly sponsored by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Sally Pilbeam PLY

Para Triathlete and Paralympian

Sally is a remarkably accomplished athlete, and Paralympian, who portrays personal resilience, and positive influence. Following a diagnosis of a rare form of cancer requiring an amputation, Sally was inspired by the Sydney Paralympics to embrace sport. She excelled at every level, representing Australia at World Championships, and the 2024 Paris Paralympics.

Professor Juli Coffin

Creator Yawardani Jan-ga Equine Assisted Learning

Professor Coffin is an Aboriginal mirtawa (woman), with traditional ties to her grandparents' Nyangumarta country in the Pilbara region. As a former elite water polo player who was the first Aboriginal player to represent Australia nationally, she leads Yawardani Jan-ga, an innovative research project and Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) program based in the Kimberley.

STEM & TECHNICAL TRADES category proudly sponsored by IGO Limited.

Dr. Renu Sharma PhD, GAICD

COO International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research

As Chief Operating Officer and Director of Translation and Impact at the International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research, Renu with her team has enabled translation of radio astronomy skills and technology to space, defence, and agriculture. She has fostered a culture of collaboration, inclusivity, and innovation, helping position WA as a global hub for radio astronomy.

Jawaria Mahmood

Engineer and Founder Tech Aware

Born in Pakistan Jawaria has a rich portfolio of contributions driving positive change, which has had a profound impact on diverse communities. Her work as a founder of Tech Aware, and as a committee member of multiple organizations is shaping the future of STEM in WA and the wellbeing of diverse communities.

ROLL OF HONOUR is proudly sponsored by the Metropolitan Cemeteries Board

Valma Frances Doherty APM, Chief Superintendent WA Police Force

(1934 – 2022)

Valma joined the WA Police Force in 1960, when only 12 women served. It took her 10 years to obtain the rank of Sergeant then 15 more years to become the first female officer to be promoted to the rank Chief Superintendent (1989). She is also the first female officer to receive an Australian Police Medal.

Professor Barbara York Main OAM, The Spider Lady

(1929 - 2019)

Born in Kellerberrin, Barbara grew up with an interest in insects. She became the first woman to earn a PhD in UWA's Zoology Department, later becoming a world-renowned expert in the genus Mygalomorph (trapdoor spiders), and other arachnids. Professor Main was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for her extensive work in Zoology.

Janet Oobagooma, Teacher of Country and Culture

(1942 - 2022)

JO (Eewaambood) was a senior Elder of the Worrorra tribe, who fought hard for native title rights, as a strong leader for the Dambimangari Native Title group. She was a speaker of three Aboriginal languages (Woddordda and Wunambal and Ngarinyin), who spent her life teaching about country and culture.

Christine Sewell, Land and Real Estate Trailblazer

(1882 – 1971)

Christina became Western Australia's first woman sworn valuator, and Commissioner for Declarations. She was the first President of the Silver Chain Nursing League, and President of the National Travellers' Aid Society of Australia which was founded in 1916 to support women and girls arriving in Australia from overseas, interstate, and rural areas.

We give thanks to all our valued supporters and partners; Lotterywest – Major Supporter, the Department of Communities – Government Partner, category sponsors; IGO Ltd., Edith Cowan University, Family Access Services, Cornerstone Legal, St John of God Health Care, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Metropolitan Cemeteries Board, and other partners; WALGA, One The Esplanade, Yagan Tower, Karen Wheatland Photographer, Stir Films, Park House Studios, Minuteman Press Perth, and Gage Roads Brew Co.

**2025 WA WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME TOURING PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION
PROUDLY PRESENTED BY DR. ANH.**

In celebration of our 'inspiring' 2025 Inductees, and the 15th Anniversary, the annual portrait exhibition featuring a collection of stunning photographs taken by Karen Wheatland, with one by Vero Photography, and Goolarri Media, has moved to a new opening location in the City of Perth, thanks to One The Esplanade management team. Entry is FREE.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION:

**One The Esplanade, Elizabeth Quay
7 – 21 March, (weekdays only), 7am – 6pm**

DIGITAL EXHIBITION:

**Yagan Tower, Yagan Square
7 – 14 March, daily, times vary**

15th ANNIVERSARY ROLL OF HONOUR RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBITION

A collaboration with the State Library of Western Australia with support from the City of Perth. Entry is FREE.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION:

**State Library of Western Australia
6 March – 6 July, daily, times vary**

For further information about the exhibitions and other 15th Anniversary activities: wawomenshof.com.au

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