

SWAN

INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S DAY

FRIDAY 8 MARCH 2024

Zaneta  
**Mascarenhas** MP  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR SWAN



HALL & PRIOR  
*Health & Aged Care Group*



Jacaranda  
Community Centre

We acknowledge that Swan and our meeting today is upon Whadjuk Noongar Boodjar.

We wish to pay our respects to Elders past and present.

We acknowledge and respect the continuing culture and contributions Whadjuk Noongar people make to the life of this city and this region.

We extend this respect to all First Nations peoples present today.

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# MESSAGE FROM ZANETA & LYNDSEY



## **Welcome to the inaugural Swan International Women's Day Awards & Community Breakfast!**

As many of you are aware, International Women's Day serves as a global celebration of the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women.

We are thrilled to be hosting this celebration here in Swan. For us, this event signifies a coming together of our community to acknowledge and honour the remarkable women among us.

It's not just about recognising the winners or nominees; it's about celebrating the diverse contributions and achievements of women in our community. This includes those who are driving change, aiding others, and leading the path for others to follow.

We are delighted by the response we've received and the diverse attendance today, representing various sectors including sports, corporate, education, government, and non-profit. Bringing people together from different walks of life enriches our community and makes us stronger.

We encourage you to connect with one another, relish in the celebration, and embrace the theme of International Women's Day: to Count Her In.

Our goal is for you to leave here feeling proud, inspired and connected to the multitude of incredible women surrounding you!

Thank you for celebrating with us.

Happy International Women's Day!

# HISTORY

Born into poverty in Germany, Clara Zetkin was an advocate for women's rights, worker's rights, equal opportunity and suffrage. In 1910, Clara was the leader of the German Social Democratic Party's Women's Office.



At the Second International Conference of Working Women, Clara Zetkin proposed that an International Women's Day be held. Over 100 women from 17 countries voted in unanimous support.

## 1910



The first International Women's Day was held on 19 March 1911. Across Europe, millions joined meetings and protests. One street demonstration saw 30,000 women march.

## 1911

International Women's Day was moved to its current date of 8 March.

## 1913

Australia's first International Women's Day march was held in Sydney. Organisers called for equal pay for equal work, an 8 hour working day and paid leave.

## 1928

The United Nations adopts 8 March as International Women's Day.

## 1975

# EVENT PROGRAM

- 6:45am** Event opens & breakfast served
- 7:10am** Live music from Chordial Tones
- 7:20am** Welcome to Country from Freda Ogilvie
- 7:30am** Professor Colleen Hayward AM
- 7:40am** Zaneta Mascarenhas MP
- BREAK --
- 8:00am** Award Presentations  
Sports Award  
Young Woman of the Year  
Senior Woman of the Year  
Social Cohesion Award  
Scientist of the Year  
Woman of the Year
- 8:30am** Photos & interviews
- 9:15am** Event closes

# THE AWARDS



## 01. SPORTS AWARD

Presented by Bella Lewis, Vice Captain of the West Coast Eagles

Recognising an individual or team's significant contributions to Swan as an athlete, coach or match official in local organised competition.

## 02. YOUNG WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Presented by Hon. Hannah Beazley MLA

Celebrating the achievements and significant contributions of an inspirational woman aged 21 and under in the Swan community.

## 03. SENIOR WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Presented by Cassie Rowe MLA for Belmont

Celebrating the achievements and significant contributions of an inspirational woman aged 60+ in the Swan community.

## 04. SOCIAL COHESION AWARD

Presented by Professor Colleen Hayward AM

In recognition of an individual or group's outstanding contribution to social cohesion based on the impact, sustainability, innovation and replicability of their activities.

## 05. SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR

Presented by Geoff Baker MLA for South Perth

Celebrating the achievements and significant contributions of a STEM educator, student, volunteer and/or researcher in the Swan community.

## 06. WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Presented by Zaneta Mascarenhas MP

Celebrating the achievements and significant contributions of an inspirational woman in the Swan community.

# SPORTS AWARD

# THE NOMINEES

## **Chloe Perez, High Wycombe**

Chloe has excelled in the sport of Taekwondo. Chloe's leadership skills and work ethic far exceed her young age of 16. As a young Filipino woman, Chloe is a role model for many other of her peers, particularly those new to Australia or from a culturally diverse background.

## **Michele Burton, Kensington**

Michele is influential, inclusive and inspirational in her involvement in the establishment and of the Women's Football Program at Perth Football Club. Michele goes above and beyond in everything she does. For Michele, nothing is too much trouble, and it is never someone else's job.

## **Susan Hillier, Como**

Sue Hillier is legend in Squash, not just within WA, but throughout Australia and on the world stage. She is a positive advocate for women's participation in sport and takes every opportunity to support female players and their families to participate in healthy activity.



# THE NOMINEES

## SENIOR WOMAN OF THE YEAR

### **Jan Mason, Redcliffe**

Jan has demonstrated a remarkable dedication to community building, empowerment and positive change on both local and global scales. She is commended for her professional and voluntary work across Mackie Street Singers, as a local government councillor and in partnership with Boronia Pre-Release Centre for Women.

### **Joan Sutherland, Redcliffe**

Joan is part of an amazing team who support people doing it tough. In the past 3 months, 45,000 meals have been provided to families and individuals. Her determination to overcome obstacles is transforming the Haven in Victoria Park into a stable community hub.

### **Kay Clark, Carlisle**

Kay has played an amazing role over many years for three important organisations in Swan and has assisted them to assist some of the most disadvantaged people in our community: unemployed people and youth and seniors that require secure and affordable housing. Kay has provided countless volunteer hours for Connect Victoria Park Inc for 28 years and keeps them on task!

### **Lynette Chandler, Lathlain**

Lyn has been devoted to volunteering her whole life. Lyn will help with any request from anyone in the community. Along with her sport and community roles and family commitments, Lyn has recently fixed up her caravan to enable a homeless person to temporarily live onsite with her in her back yard rent-free.

# THE NOMINEES

## SOCIAL COHESION AWARD

### **Alicia Curtis, Karawara**

She is a Speaker, Facilitator & Change-Maker working in the fields of Leadership, Diversity & Philanthropy and Inspiring Leaders and Igniting Revolutions. Alicia's work includes the Diverse Women in Leadership Program. Alicia is kind, generous, smart, socially aware and energetic.

### **Catherine Bentley, East Victoria Park**

Catherine is described as positive, energetic, willing to help and always looking to learn. She is a Board Member of The Essentials Collective, which addresses hygiene poverty and disadvantage in metropolitan WA. Catherine is a volunteer, singer, and a person who is committed to kindness in everything she does.

### **Filiz Shah, City of Canning**

Filiz uses her own lived experience and elevates the lived experiences of others to foster community cohesion. She is passionate about improving the present and future for all, particularly women and those from a multicultural background. Filiz has founded several organisations and projects, including Women of World Stage (WOWS), Voice of Work Ensemble, Multicultural Mini Movers and Our Stories Our Songs.

### **Hall and Prior - Jesusa Silverio, Natasha Bamber, Wendy Ashwin and Mina Pindolia**

Nominees from Hall and Prior represent diversity, leadership, and excellence that is providing inspiration for other people in the care industry. Wendy applies her experience to advocate for the future of Sister Kate's while helping people most disadvantaged in the community, particularly those who are marginalised or dispossessed. Natasha, Mina and Jesusa represent the professionalism and compassion of the aged care and palliative care industry, while adapting programs to suit specific client needs.

### **Make it Special – Mandy Fennell and Angelina Watson, Forrestfield**

Mandy and Ange run Make it Special which supports unpaid carers in our community through mental health support, advice and information. Their nominator stated that "I am indebted to MIS for improving my life and the lives of those who love me the most."

### **Reach Her – Maryann Tsai, Como**

Maryann used her lived experience to found Reach Her. The organisation empowers women from diverse backgrounds to gain entry into employment, education and training. Through community organising and her “heart of gold”, Maryann supports women’s confidence, well-being and health. She has a “ripple effect” of empowerment and leadership that creates a self-sustaining network across the community and between generations.

### **Sobia Shah, Victoria Park**

Sobia founded Professional Migrant Women's Network (PMWN) to provide equal work opportunities for professional women from culturally and linguistically diverse, refugee, asylum-seeking and/or marginalised backgrounds. She demonstrates dedication, compassion and leadership. As a Muslim woman, her journey serves as a beacon of hope, demonstrating that despite significant obstacles, positive change is achievable.

### **The REED Collective – Kristen Soon, City of Canning**

Kristen Soon founded The REED Collective to create a community space where women from different backgrounds can feel seen, heard and valued. Through partnerships and community organising, Kristen has created connections between 200+ women from a variety of cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Together, they have built cross-cultural understanding, enhanced solidarity, practiced creativity and enriched the fabric of the Swan community.

### **Amber Douglas, Lathlain**

Amber is a role model in the Swan community as her unwavering commitment to her position in science and the government health department kept us all safe during uncertain times, and continues to do so in her position with the health department. Amber is an amazing scientist in a predominantly male field.

### **Dr Parwinder Kaur, Queens Park**

As a proud Indian-Australian, Dr. Kaur has not only excelled in her field but has also made amazing contributions to the community. Through initiatives such as DNA Zoo Australia, Dr. Kaur leverages STEM to address pressing societal issues, encouraging fresh thinking and innovative solutions.

# **THE NOMINEES SCIENCE AWARD**

# THE NOMINEES

## WOMAN OF THE YEAR

### **Claire Anderson, Victoria Park**

Claire authored a book about her journey to motherhood - this is how she and her nominator first met. Claire uses her lived experience of severe illness in her work with the Disabilities Commission, Council of Victoria Park and life coaching. Her nominator described Claire as hard-working, dedicated and “an obvious inspiration and role-model for able bodied and disabled women.”

### **Fiona Van Heerwaarden, St James**

Fiona believes sport is for everyone and should be accessible for all. Her dedication, enthusiasm and work ethic has increased the number of locals involved in sport at all levels. Fiona is involved as a coach, official and administrator with the Carlisle-Rivervale Little Athletics Club, Belmont Little Athletics Centre, Athletics West, Table Tennis Association of WA and local hockey. She is a champion for race walking, hockey and table tennis.

### **Julie Clarke, Cannington/Midland**

Julie Clarke manages hundreds of pieces of crucial forensic evidence with rigorous processes and exceptional attention to detail. Her effectiveness enables her colleagues to devote more time to community outreach, crime prevention and investigations. Working in a majority male workplace, Julie displays strength of character and sound values, and never hesitates to ensure Officers abide by correct evidentiary procedures.

**Kim Maher, Bullsbrook**

Kim's nomination comes from her husband of 27 years who "believes she should be recognised for her supreme efforts apart from me saying thank you." Living together on 10 acres of bushland, Kim is her husband's carer, looks after their animals and maintains their home and land. Kim ensures that her husband can maintain his connections to Culture, Country and Ancestors. Kim loves life and the people in it – she gives her all to help others achieve their hopes and dreams.

**Mandy Mountfort, Bassendean**

For decades, Mandy has gone above and beyond to lift up those around her and ensure no-one gets left behind. She is a long-term foster carer, provides respite to people with disabilities in her own home and mentors the next generation of foster carers, disability support workers and community workers. In an entirely voluntary capacity outside of her other commitments, Mandy established and ran "lifelines" like the Ellenbrook Support Network and Plenty Project Vending Machine.

**Maryann Tsai, Como**

Maryann used her lived experience to found Reach Her. The organisation empowers women from diverse backgrounds to gain entry into employment, education and training. Through community organising and her "heart of gold", Maryann supports women's confidence, well-being and health. She has a "ripple effect" of empowerment and leadership that creates a self-sustaining network across the community and between generations.

**Ronhhda Potter, Lathlain**

Ronhhda is commended as a long-term and outstanding community organiser, friend and family member. Throughout her career and life, she has continually supported her family and friends to achieve beyond their own expectations and has worked to uplift the women around her, including young women she has employed and worked alongside.

**Tanya Maree Steers, Kensington**

Giving back and making a difference to people's lives makes Tanya more than just amazing, it makes her daughter very proud. Her mum, she says, is an inspiration who is providing pathways for more women in sport, encouraging teachers in STEM, and giving back to the community with her time, expertise and compassion.



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# ZANETA MASCARENHAS MP

## Federal Member for Swan

Swan IWD Co-Organiser

Zaneta Mascarenhas was born in Kalgoorlie to Goan Indian parents. Her father, Joe, was a fitter, and her mother, Ethel, a cleaner and lollypop lady.

When Joe and Ethel first attempted to start their skilled migrant visa, they were told “You have the right skills, but you’re the wrong colour.” The dismantling of the White Australia Policy enabled the family to finally start their better future in Australia.

Zaneta grew up in Kambalda with her sister, Cleta. She then moved to Swan aged 18 to study chemistry and engineering at Curtin University. Whilst completing her studies, Zaneta held leadership positions in the Curtin Student Guild and National Union of Students.

After graduating, Zaneta worked as an engineer on mine and construction sites across regional WA and Victoria. The technical, interpersonal and policy skills she developed culminated in an engineering consultant role assisting ASX200 companies to decarbonise.

In 2022, Zaneta was elected as the federal Member for Swan. She is the first woman in the seat’s 101-year history to hold this role.

Zaneta continues to live in Swan with her husband, Sam. They are raising their two young children, Lincoln and Felicity.



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# LYNDSEY FITZGERALD

**CEO of Jacaranda Community Centre**  
Swan IWD Co-Organiser

Lyndsay Fitzgerald is a financial counsellor, welfare worker and CEO of Jacaranda Community Centre.

In March 2000, Lyndsay established Jacaranda Community Centre as a not-for-profit, grassroots community organisation with the help of the local Aboriginal and Belmont communities.

In the early days of Jacaranda, Lyndsay and her husband personally paid for the organisation's rent and operating costs.

Today, Jacaranda is a vibrant not-for-profit community hub with 16 employees, countless volunteers and a variety of social assistance and development programs.

Lyndsay and the Jacaranda team have won numerous awards for their holistic work supporting and building capacity of people on low incomes in the Belmont region.

As a Member of the National Coordination Group, Lyndsay provides evidence-based advice to the Minister for Social Services on demand, emerging issues and delivery of emergency relief, food relief and financial counselling services.





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# FREDA OGILVIE

**Whadjuk/Ballardong Elder | Educator | Policy Expert**

Swan IWD Welcome to Country

Freda Ogilvie is a Whadjuk/Ballardong Elder, retired teacher, board member and consultant with extensive experience in community and policy development.

For over three decades, she has promoted Indigenous rights and social justice, education, diversity and the empowerment of Indigenous communities whilst challenging prevailing stereotypes and prejudices.

Freda has educated students across WA as a teacher and deputy principal. She has been involved in the development and practice of strategies and programs for students from diverse linguistic, cultural, religious and socioeconomic backgrounds.

As a volunteer with Soroptimist International, Freda initiated an education scholarship in Broome, co-established the Aboriginal Nunga

Woman's Group and assisted in developing a mobile preschool for geographically remote Aboriginal communities.

Freda continues to challenge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to commence tertiary studies in education, and mentors them throughout their studies.

Freda contributed to Aboriginal early childhood programs in WA and NT, early childhood education and care policy, oral language development programs and national early childhood education forums.

Following her retirement from Ruah's Board, Freda was appointed to the Future of Fremantle Committee through the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.



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# PROFESSOR COLLEEN HAYWARD AM

**Senior Noongar Woman | Policy Expert**  
Swan IWD Speaker & Presenter

Colleen Hayward is a senior Noongar woman with extensive family links throughout the south-west of WA. She comes from a teaching family with her father having been the first Aboriginal teacher, and Principal, in WA.

For more than 35 years, Colleen has provided significant input to policies and programs on a wide range of issues, reflecting the needs of minority groups at community, state and national levels. She has an extensive background in a range of areas including health, education, training, employment, housing, child protection, family and domestic violence, and law and justice as well as significant experience in policy and management.

Among her many achievements, she has been recognised for her long-standing work for and on behalf of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia by winning the 2008 National NAIDOC Aboriginal Person of the Year





Award. Colleen is also a recipient (2006) of the Premier of WA's prestigious Multicultural Ambassador's Award for advancing human rights and anti-racism in the community and is the 2009 inductee into the WA Department of Education's Hall of Fame for Achievement in Aboriginal Education.

In 2012, Colleen was inducted into the WA Women's Hall of Fame and was recognised as a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia.

In 2015, Colleen was a finalist in the Australian of the Year (WA) Awards and was awarded one of Murdoch University's Distinguished Alumni for her work in the areas of Equity and Social Justice and Leadership WA's Honourable Fellow Award. She was named as one of WA's 100 most influential West Australians in both 2015 and 2016.

Although now retired from her position as Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Equity & Indigenous issues at Edith Cowan University, Colleen remains active and involved through her membership of a range of boards and advisory committees. She is also one of the co-leaders of Danjoo Koorliny, an Aboriginal-led initiative working towards the respectful inclusion of Aboriginal people in WA's 2029 bicentenary.



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# HON. HANNAH BEAZLEY MLA

**Minister for Youth & Local Government |  
Assistant Minister for Training & Workforce  
Development | Member for Victoria Park  
Swan IWD Presenter**

Hannah Beazley was born and raised in Victoria Park and was elected to represent her community in the Western Australian State Parliament in 2021.

Hannah became the first female Member for Victoria Park since the electorate was established in 1930.

Hannah has over 20 years of experience in communications, community and stakeholder engagement, strategic planning, risk management, media relations, marketing, social policy and small business operations.

For the better part of a decade, Hannah held senior executive level communications, marketing and governance roles in the

not-for-profit, public, environmental and education sectors.

She has been Speechwriter and Senior Policy Advisor to two Western Australian Premiers and is a proud former small business owner.

Since her election in 2021, Hannah was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministers for Emergency Services, Innovation and the Digital Economy, Volunteering, Lands, Housing and Homelessness.

Hannah is currently the Minister for Youth; Local Government and Minister Assisting the Minister for Training and Workforce Development.

She continues to call the electorate home, and is raising her two young sons.



/CassieRoweMLA



@CassieRoweMLA



[www.belmont.walabor.org.au](http://www.belmont.walabor.org.au)

# CASSIE ROWE MLA

**Member for Belmont**  
Swan IWD Presenter

Ms Rowe was first elected to the seat of Belmont in March 2017, and re-elected in 2021.

Prior to her election, Cassie was a Financial Planner.

Cassie is currently the Government Whip, having been appointed to the role on the 17th of March 2021. Cassie was also the Secretary of the State Parliamentary Labor Party from 15 March 2017 to 29 April 2021.

Cassie was born and educated in the State of Victoria, arriving in Western Australia in 2005. Her qualifications include a Bachelor of Arts from Melbourne University, two Diplomas of Financial Services and a Diploma of Screenwriting.

Cassie is the first woman to sit in an Australian parliament with her sister, Samantha Rowe MLC.

Cassie is married with two daughters, and the family reside in her electorate. Cassie loves visiting local schools, local sports clubs, attending community events and being part of local community groups.



 /West Coast Eagles AFLW

 @eaglesaflw

 [www.westcoasteagles.com.au](http://www.westcoasteagles.com.au)

# BELLA LEWIS

Midfielder & Vice Captain of West Coast Eagles

Swan IWD Presenter

Taken with pick No.3 in the 2020 draft, Bella Lewis is a tough, quick and strong midfielder who has established herself as one of the most anticipated young midfielders in the entire competition.

The 20-year-old is already a key contributor in the Eagles' engine room and has built on her performances each season she's played.

In season seven Bella had a career year averaging 21.5 disposals, 5.5 clearances and 325.9 metres gained per match.

Alongside her rise on the park, Bella has also arisen as a key figurehead and leader off the field within the entire Eagles' organisation ultimately earning her season seven's Trademark Player award in 2022.

In 2021, the Claremont Tigers product made Eagles club history by being awarded the Club Champion and Best First Year Player in the same season making her one of the most decorated AFLW players at West Coast with only three seasons under her belt.

In that same year, Bella was an AFL Women's Rising Star nominee.



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# ALICIA CURTIS

## Social Entrepreneur

Swan IWD Master of Ceremonies

Alicia Curtis is an award-winning speaker, leadership facilitator and inspiring community change maker with a dynamic purpose - to ignite leaders to positively transform the world.

Her impact continues to grow; Alicia founded Alyceum in 2002 developing and facilitating transformational programs impacting the personal leadership journeys of thousands of people over the last 20+ years.

In 2013, Alicia co-founded 100 Women, a collective giving circle which has granted over one million dollars and improved the lives of 36,400 women and girls in nine countries across the globe. She is also the co-author of *Difference Makers: A Leader's Guide to Championing Diversity on Boards*.

With a Masters in Business Leadership, Alicia has also been awarded several accolades

including Business News 40under40 List (top 4), EY Social Entrepreneur of the Year, Westpac's 200 Businesses of Tomorrow and the Westpac & Australian Financial Review's 100 Women of Influence List.

On top of this, Alicia proudly serves as Patron of Girl Guides WA, championing young women's leadership potential, and is a passionate supporter of Millennium Kids, a youth environment organisation empowering young people with a 'skills for life' approach to become leaders and change-agents in their communities today.



 /GeoffSouthPerth

 @GeoffBakerMLA

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# GEOFF BAKER MLA

## Member for South Perth

Swan IWD Presenter

Geoff Baker MLA grew up in Como before his family moved to the suburb of South Perth when he was a teenager.

The electorate of South Perth is where he learned to walk, how to ride a bike, and how to drive a car - and over 40 years Geoff would have walked, biked or driven along pretty much every street in the electorate. It's a community he cherishes.

Geoff holds a Bachelor of Science from Curtin University and Bachelor of Psychology from Murdoch University. As a university lecturer, he taught many cohorts of Social Science and Business students before going on to apply himself across the government, business and union sectors in research and policy roles.

His passion for music and the arts led him to music composition and production at a community and professional level.

In 2021, Geoff became the first Labor Member to represent his community in the WA Parliament. He uses his cross-sector policy expertise and deep community ties to get things done for his home.

He is the Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and Co-Convenor of the Parliamentary Friends of Clean Energy.

Geoff continues to call the electorate of South Perth home, proudly sending his two young daughters to one of the area's excellent local primary schools.

# AWARDS SELECTION PANEL

**ZANETA  
MASCARENHAS**

Federal Member for Swan

**LYNDSEY  
FITZGERALD**

CEO of Jacaranda Community Centre

**KATE LYON**

Principal of High Wycombe Primary School

**HON. KATE  
DOUST MLC**

State Member for South Metropolitan

**DR DAYNA  
POOL**

Clinical Lead & Founder of Healthy Strides Foundation  
(East Victoria Park)

**MAISARA  
MUZAFFAR**

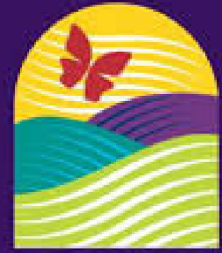
City of Canning Cultural Ambassador, Australian Islamic  
College (Kewdale) 2022 graduate, Ubuntu Australia  
Board Member & Volunteer, 2024 Auspire – Australia  
Day Council WA's Multicultural Leadership Program





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Patrick Boéré Photography



100 WOMEN



**Hannah Beazley** MLA  
STATE MEMBER FOR VICTORIA PARK

**Greater Good Collective**

**Cassie Rowe** MLA  
STATE MEMBER FOR BELMONT

**Geoff Baker** MLA  
STATE MEMBER FOR SOUTH PERTH

**Stephen Pratt** MLC  
STATE MEMBER FOR SOUTH METROPOLITAN

**Kate Doust** MLC  
STATE MEMBER FOR SOUTH METROPOLITAN



# *International* **WOMEN'S DAY**

**MARCH 8th**

**2024**

***#InspireInclusion***

Imagine a gender equal world. A world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and celebrated. Together we can forge women's equality.



Compassionate people, dedicated to care



**HALL & PRIOR**  
Health & Aged Care Group



*Jacaranda  
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Branching Out to Meet Community Needs  
with Free, Independent & Confidential Services

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