

President's Message August 2022

Dear Members

National Council of Women Western Australia (NCWWA) congratulates all participants at the recent Commonwealth Games. Special congratulations to those Western Australians who won twenty three (23) Gold, twenty four (24) Silver and two (2) Bronze Medals in a range of sports including Netball, Hockey, Athletics, Wheelchair Basketball, Swimming and Lawn Bowls. Very well done to all.



NCWWA continues to advocate for a range of important initiatives including supporting the push by National Seniors to have the Federal Government change the law to allow pensioners to work if they so choose (full -time, part- time or additional hours) and pay tax without losing their pension.

Currently there is a critical workforce shortage

for a range of jobs, in Perth city and in regional and rural locations Encouraging pensioners to take some of those vacant jobs will go some way to help solve the problem.



There is also a dire need to develop policies to build capability in workforce planning in conjunction with Universities, Vocational Training and Professional colleges to shape the skills and curriculum to develop the health and aged care workforce of the future. Older people or people living with chronic disease should be able to maintain independent lives in their own home whether that be in the city or regional communities. Provision of emergency care in hospital and nursing posts, hospital based acute services such as general medical, general surgery, obstetrics, renal dialysis, cancer services, maternal and child health, public health, health promotion, chronic condition services, mental health, drug and alcohol services and sub and post acute services such as palliative care and rehabilitation are all components of the health care system in Western Australia. As such future capacity in workforce capability and workforce planning must be addressed.

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Attachment: **NCWWA Movie Afternoon - flyer**

Recently it was National Stroke Week. In Australia a stroke occurs every nine minutes. That's more than 56,000 strokes every year across people of all ages and the impacts can last a lifetime. Recognising a Stroke-think FAST- Face, Arms, Speech and Time. NCWWA had a volunteer from Stroke Foundation speak at its last meeting where we discussed

- What stroke is and how to recognise the signs of stroke
- What to do if someone has a stroke
- How to prevent stroke



Red Nose Day was also celebrated recently. Funds raised over the last thirty years have resulted in an incredible 85 per cent reduction in sudden infant deaths. Red Nose Day sparked a

global movement and catalyzed research into the reasons why babies die suddenly in their sleep. However the fight must continue because more than 3,000 babies still die suddenly and unexpectedly each year in Australia to stillbirths, SIDS among other things.

The 2022 Women's Report Card- an indicator report of Western Australia women's progress was recently released by the Minister for Women Interests the Hon Simone McGurk MLA. The Report Card is a valuable tool as it identifies areas where progress and outcomes for women in Western Australia still need to improve quite dramatically. The Report Card provides a picture of what Western Australian Women are doing in the areas of health and wellbeing, safety and justice, economic independence and leadership. While it provides reliable information to drive discussion, debate and advocacy, more needs to be done to achieve better outcomes for women in Western Australia who still face inequalities, discrimination and disadvantage across various aspects of life. The gender pay gap in Western Australia is 21.2% which is still the worst in Australia. The National average is 13.8%. According to the Report Card 66% of adults accessing homelessness services in Western

Australia are women, 66% of women are overweight or obese and Western Australia continues to report some concerning statistics on family and domestic violence.

By state Western Australia displayed the highest overall rate of family and domestic violence-related assault with a female victim in 2021 sitting at 1,254 per 100,000 females. This compares to 720 per 100,000 females in South Australia and 506 per 100,000 females in New South Wales. Sadly this rate in Western Australia has increased over the last three years. Female victims of family and domestic violence-related sexual assault also increased in recent years and is up from 48.5 victims per 100,000 in 2019 to 61.6 victims per 100,000 females in 2021. These statistics are quite staggering. Beyond the home, women's safety and perception of safety in the broader community remains a concern too in Western Australia. Much more needs to be done to address these very damning statistics.

Many NCWWA members have expressed concern about the Federal Government's announcement of the abolition of the Cashless Debit Card (CDC). The abolition of the card was first announced prior to the recent federal election without any or little consultation with the community participants in both the East Kimberley and the Kalgoorlie/Goldfields trial



sites along with other trial sites around Australia. The legislation to abolish the card has now

passed through the House of Representatives and will proceed to the Senate when the Federal Parliament returns. In the meantime an inquiry is now being conducted into the Social Security (Administration) Amendment (Repeal of Cashless Debit Card and Other Measures) Bill 2022. Hearings were held in Bundaberg and Darwin. However the Committee did not see the importance of visiting the two trial sites in Western Australia. The East Kimberley site was introduced in April 2016 after significant

community interest. Elders saw it as a “circuit breaker” to stop harm occurring to vulnerable women and children caused by the increasing use of alcohol and illicit drug use. The CDC was to be part of a suite of recommendations from the 2014 'The Creating Parity Report' around empowering local communities to make decisions. The CDC has been able to help women and children and voices of the community and their concerns about the lack of consultation and information should have been fully explored before abolition of the card.

A number of important issues have been raised by members recently-these important issues include the significant wait lists and wait times for children to see a speech pathologist, even telehealth consults are continuing to grow in Western Australia and around Australia. Complicating the issue further is many



patients are not suitable for telehealth consults. Parents of approximately 25 per cent of children in Australia are concerned about their children's communication development. Not all of these children will have a communication disorder or need speech pathology services. However for those that do the pathway to accessing support services, especially those in rural and regional Australia can be particularly difficult in some cases it is almost impossible.

Communication difficulties can take many forms and have a number of consequences. While there continues to be a shortage of speech pathologists there needs to be a greater focus on providing educators with the knowledge, skills and resources to ensure greater inclusion of children with communication disorders into mainstream education.

Funding for initiatives that help prevent family, domestic and sexual violence is being made under the State Government's Family and Domestic Violence Primary Prevention Grants Program and is being made available for eligible organisations to deliver community programs that address the drivers of violence and prevent it before it occurs. A total of three million (3) dollars is available and applications close on 30 September 2022.

Robyn Nolan
0417 917 294

NCWWA MOVIE AFTERNOON

Movie Afternoon

Mrs Harris Goes to Paris

Sunday 30 October 2022 at 3.30 pm for 4.00 pm
Windsor Cinema – 98 Stirling Highway Nedlands

NCWWA is holding a 'Movie Afternoon' on Sunday 30 October 2022 at 3.30 pm for 4.00 pm.

The Movie 'Mrs Harris Goes to Paris' by Paul Gallico. It is a new adaptation of the much – loved novel about a cleaning lady in London in the 1950s who falls in love with a dress by Christian Dior and decides to gamble everything for the sake of the folly.

Starring Academy Award Nominee Lesley Manville ('Phantom Thread'), the story reminds audiences it is never too late to follow your heart.

A booking form with payment details is attached in the Newsletter.

NCWWA STEM BURSARY 2022

Abigail Elezovich is the NCWWA STEM Bursary Recipient. Abigail is studying a Bachelor of Science in Molecular, Medical and Forensic Science majoring in both Forensic Biology and Psychological studies at Murdoch University. Abigail is in her second year in 2022.



As Abigail stated in her application for the NCWWA STEM Bursary
“Generally speaking most, if not all scientific fields are male dominated careers. This maybe due to women having fear of not belonging or lower aspirations from constant reminders of men being the ones to be scientists. In this generation it is extremely inspiring to see a rise of women being interested in scientific careers as I truly believe we can bring a new perspective and new original ideas to the table.”

Abigail is a former Year 12 Student Captain at her school and achieved the Baden Powell Award in Girl Guides for the challenge of further developing refined leadership skills and outdoor skills as well as dedicated community service and personal growth.

While Abigail has received the Bursary, she is hoping to join NCWWA at its next Council meeting.

Congratulations Abigail!

NATIONAL STROKE WEEK



In Australia, a stroke occurs every 9 minutes that is more than 56,000 strokes every year across people of all ages and the impacts last a lifetime. Stroke is one of Australia’s biggest killers and a leading cause of disability, but more than 80% of strokes can be prevented.

National Stroke Week 2022, celebrated the precious moments that those effected can continue to enjoy, during and after recovery.

Help others to keep enjoying precious moments too by sharing the F.A.S.T. (Face, Arms, Speech, Time) signs of stroke message with others.

If you or someone you know experiences the signs of stroke, no matter how long they last, call triple zero (000) immediately.

Vale

The President and Members of National Council of Women Western Australia (NCWWA) extend their deepest condolences to the family of

Lesley Cangemi

On her passing in July 2022



NCWWA MEMBERSHIP FEES

NCWWA membership fees for the 2022-2023 year are now due.
Payment may be made by Bank Transfer or by Cheque

Fees remain the same:

Associate Members \$55

Affiliate Members \$66



NCWWA NATIONAL COUNCIL
OF WOMEN
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Payment by Direct Transfer:

Account name: National Council of Women of WA Inc

BSB : 066110

Account Number: 1015 7530

Please ensure you identify your name in the 'comments' field

Payment by Cheque:

National Council of Women of WA Inc

PO Box 6224 East Perth WA 6892

If your details have changed in any way please complete:

2022-2023 Associate Members Renewal Form

2022-2023 Affiliate Members Renewal Form

Both are available on the NCWWA website. Please return to – Robyn Nolan: robymn@bigpond.net.au

WA WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME



Applications for the 2023 WA Women's Hall of Fame will open on 12 September 2022 and close on 4 December 2022.

The WA Women's Hall of Fame was first established in 2011 in recognition of the Centenary of International Women's Day held annually on 8 March. Its purpose is to recognise and celebrate the achievements of Western Australian women past present and future each year on International Women's Day.

Do think about nominating someone who would be a worthy recipient. Once nominations officially open an application form will be available on the WAWHOF website.

WOMEN'S REPORT CARD



The link to 2022 Women's Report Card is below.

<https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/womens-report-card>



NCWWA NATIONAL COUNCIL
OF WOMEN
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The date of the next NCWWA General Meeting to be advised

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Movie Afternoon

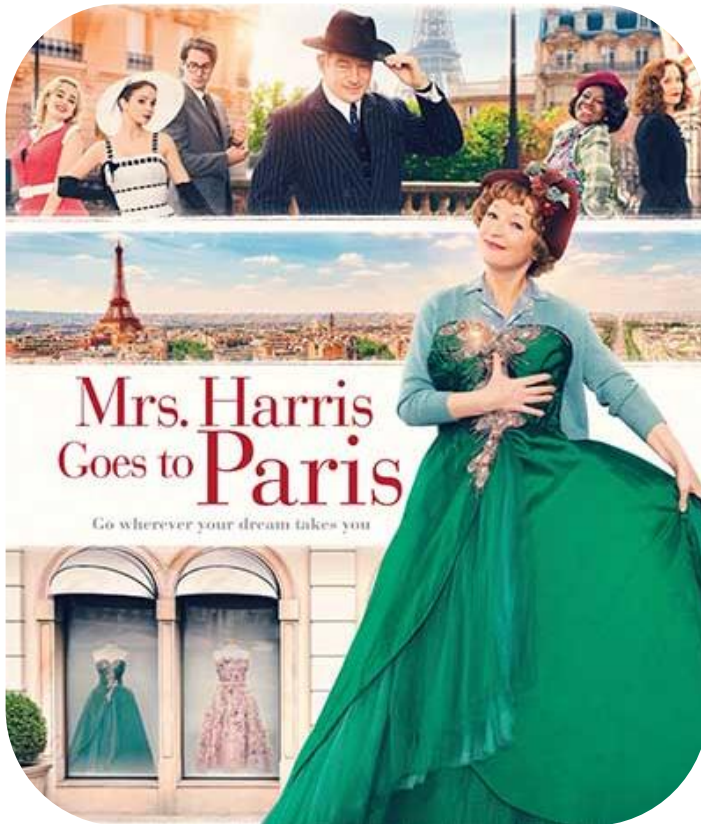
Mrs Harris Goes to Paris

Sunday 30 October

Time 3.30 pm for 4.00 pm

Windsor Cinema – 98 Stirling Highway Nedlands

\$25 per person



In partnership with the House of Dior Mrs Harris goes to Paris tells the story of a war-widowed cleaning lady in 1950s London who falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress and decides that she must have one on her own. After she works, starves and gambles to raise funds to pursue her dream, she embarks on a an adventure to Paris which will change not only her own outlook but the very future of the House of Dior. Based on the novel "Mrs Arris Goes to Paris" by Paul Gallico and starring Academy Award Nominee Lesley Manville ("Phantom Thread"), the story reminds audiences it is never too late to follow your heart.

An RSVP with payment is essential by Monday 24 October 2022 to confirm attendance – numbers are limited!

BOOKING FORM

Contact: Robyn Nolan email: robynmn@bigpond.net.au mob: 0417 917 294

Sally Plummer email: plummers@iinet.net.au mob: 0411 868 995

YES I will be attending the NCWWA Movie Afternoon on Sunday 30 October 2022

Please indicate the names of your guests

TOTAL AMOUNT: _____ (\$25pp) 1. _____

NAME: _____ 2. _____

ADDRESS: _____ 3. _____

EMAIL: _____ 4. _____

PHONE: _____ 5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

PAYMENT

CASH

BANK TRANSFER

BSB: 066 110 **Account number:** 1015 7530

Acc name: National Council of Women WA

Use your name as your reference

CHEQUE: payable to:

National Council of Women WA

PO Box 6224, East Perth 6892

I am unable to attend but I wish to

DONATE Amt \$ _____