

## President's Message March 2022

Dear Members

There have certainly been changes to rules and regulations introduced by the Western Australian Government in the last few weeks in Western Australia because of the Omicron variant of COVID-19. It is terrific to see that the vaccination rates are continuing to improve all the time with people going and having a booster shot. With Novavax now available it is hoped that community members will ensure that they are fully vaccinated. There is now clear evidence that for most people who are fully vaccinated that if a positive Omicron test is received without having other health issues the virus is usually only a mild case and recovery happens quite quickly.



The approach to managing COVID-19 over the winter months must focus on minimising the health impacts with a particular focus on protecting those most at risk of severe illness. This year's winter season will likely see the co-circulation of COVID-19 and influenza viruses which we have not seen significant transmission of since 2019.

The Federal Government is proposing to extend the concessional Rapid Antigen Test program until 31 July 2022 in partnership with the States and Territories.



Children under five, pregnant women, people 65 years and over, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and people with medical conditions that put them at greater risk of becoming seriously ill from influenza are able to receive their vaccines free of charge through the National Immunisation Program (NIP). The NIP offers a specific enhanced influenza vaccine to protect older people.

The Federal Government is investing additional funding in medical research to identify new and innovative approaches to help increase participation in Australia's breast, bowel and cervical cancer screening program. Bowel cancer is the third most common cancer in both men and women in Australia and is more common in people over the age of 50. The National Bowel Cancer Screening program has been rolled out nationally and has the potential to save 84,000 lives by 2040 if participation levels hit 60 per cent. Currently participation in the program remain below 45 per cent.

The University of Western Australia will undertake research to improve breast screening participation and target obesity related barriers to mammographic screening.

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**Attachment: NCWA Conference flyer**

**Attachment: NCWWA Movie afternoon flyer**

Research will also examine ways to engage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, women from diverse cultural and language backgrounds and women with different levels of education attainment and income.

A trade measurement audit program will be conducted in 2022 to ensure imported food and grocery goods measure up for Australian households. Where many of us prefer to buy Australian food and grocery items sometimes it is not possible. The National Measurement Institute (NMI) will conduct the audit concentrating on oils and seasonings, pet food, beverages sanitisers and cleaning products.

Obesity is a complex health condition. Australia's first National Obesity Strategy was recently released which will help people understand the social, environmental and economic factors which can impact a person's ability to maintain a healthy weight and in turn increase the risk of chronic conditions such as cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes. Making healthy choices is not always easy and the strategy recognises the importance of ensuring all Australians are empowered, enabled and supported to make the best possible decisions about their health.



A number of events were held again this year in Perth and rural Western Australia to celebrate International Women's Day. The theme this year was 'Break TheBias'- whether deliberate or unconscious bias makes it difficult for many women to move ahead. The WA Women's Hall of Fame held its annual Inductee Ceremony on Friday 4 March 2022 in the Government House Ballroom. The 2022 Inductees are listed separately in this Newsletter.

The WA State Government is delivering on its funding commitment to support women and children at risk of homelessness due to family and domestic violence. The Safer Pathways Program which has been expanded to cover Midland and Mirrabooka areas, has been servicing Cannington and Victoria Park catchment areas since 2016, helping women with or without children who are in public housing tenancies or waiting for a public housing allocation and are experiencing family and domestic violence.



Two concurrent and complimentary reviews will examine a multitude of issues relating to sexual offending to ensure laws and practices deliver justice outcomes to victim-survivors in Western Australia and adequately reflect community expectations. The Law Reform Commission of Western Australia will review the sexual offence laws contained in the Criminal Code and provide advice on possible amendments to enhance and update these provisions. The final report is due in July 2023.

The Department of Justice through the Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime will undertake a separate project examining the end-to-end criminal justice process for victims of sexual offending from reporting an offence to the release from custody of the offender. The Department of Justice will complete its review and provide the Government with its recommendations by May 2024.

A key commitment from the 2021 Women's Budget Statement abolishing the \$450 threshold limit for the payment of superannuation passed the Federal Parliament in February 2022.

From July 2022 around 300,000 Australians (about 200,000 of whom are women) are set to benefit from this provision. It means that these workers many of whom work two or more jobs will start receiving superannuation and have the same right as other workers.

Well over half of the Family Home Guarantees issued since the program commenced in July 2021 have been taken up by women. The program designed specifically to help single parent families, the majority of whom are women into the housing market has assisted more than 2300 single parents on the pathway to owning their home. Many of the guarantees issued have gone to essential workers like nurses and teachers.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all in Ukraine. The bombing campaign on a maternity hospital in the besieged southern city of Mariupol is disgusting and a war crime without any justification. The world must stop Putin from continuing these horrific crimes. There must be a permanent ceasefire!



Robyn Nolan  
0417 917 294

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## NCWWA - MOVIE FUNDRAISER - DOWNTON ABBEY: A NEW ERA

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NCWWA is holding a movie afternoon  
Saturday 30 April 2022  
3.30pm for 4.00pm  
Windsor Cinema  
98 Stirling Highway Nedlands  
\$25 per person

From award-winning creator, Julian Fellowes comes the motion picture *Downton Abbey: A New Era*. The much-anticipated cinematic return of the global phenomenon reunites the beloved cast as they go on a grand journey to the South of France to uncover the mystery of the Dowager Countess' newly inherited villa.

**An RSVP with payment is essential by Saturday 23 April to confirm attendance – numbers are limited**

The trailer can be viewed by following the link below  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wN0Spmq610Q>

**Flyer attached**

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**NCWWA** NATIONAL COUNCIL  
OF WOMEN  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**The date of the next NCWWA General Meeting to be advised.**

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The WA Women's Hall of Fame (WAWHOF) held its induction ceremony Friday 4 March 2022 in the Government House Ballroom. The WAWHOF purpose is to recognise and celebrate the social, economic, historical, scientific, cultural and political achievements of women who have helped to build this great state.

### The 2022 WA Women's Hall of Fame inductees are:

**Arts:** **Maggie Wilde West**  
Executive Director, Vocal Ensemble Voiceworks

**Arts:** **Louise Howden-Smith OAM**  
Arts Advocate

**Business:** **Amanda Healy**  
Director, CEO Business

**Business:** **Emma Hanh Ma**  
Businesswoman, Entrepreneur, Pharmacist and Philanthropist



**Community:** **Nihal Iscel**  
Human Rights Activist

**Community:** **Theadosia Kurniawan**  
Founder, Engineer and Community Leader

**Culture:** **Shannon McGuire**  
Co-Founder Miss NADOC Perth

**Culture:** **Dr Nonja Peters**  
Author and Historian



**Education:** **Professor Donna Cross**  
Educator and Child Health Researcher

**Education:** **Karen Anderson**  
Psychotherapist Educator

**Health:** **Carol Martin**  
Health Professional

**Health:** **Janine Gliddon**  
Health Professional

**Sport:** **Lyn Foreman OAM**  
Athletics Coach

**Sport:** **Eunice Yu**  
Sports Volunteer



**STEM:** **Dr Paola Magni**  
Forensic Scientist

**STEM:** **Professor Britta Regli-von Ungern-Sternberg**  
Consultant Paediatric Anaesthetist

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## NCWA CONFERENCE

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### Improving Safety and Economic Security For Women

The NCWA conference by Zoom  
Friday 1 April 2022  
9.00am Canberra (6.00am WA)

#### Guest Speakers include:

- **Senator the Hon Anne Ruston** Minister for families and Social services  
Minister for Women's Safety.
- **Senator the Hon Jane Hume** Minister for Superannuation, Financial Services and the Digital Economy; Minister for Women's Economic Security.
- **Senator the Hon Amanda Stoker** Assistant Minister to the Attorney-General; Assistant Minister for Women; Assistant Minister for Industrial Relations.
- **Louis Markus** Board Chair of the Australian Institute for Health and Welfare

**Flyer attached**

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## PADDY FIRSTENBERG MEMORIAL AWARD

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Sonya is currently a PHD student at Murdoch University. Sonya holds a Bachelor of Science with First Class Honours (Animal Science) 2019 and is currently employed as a Research Technician at Murdoch University.

Sonya is currently a Girl Guide Leader at Girl Guides Australia Belmont where she assists in educating girls from 12 years to 18 years to:

- be challenged by new experiences
- think for themselves and make decisions
- acquire leadership skills and work in a team
- develop self-awareness, self-respect and self-confidence
- develop personal values
- contribute to society

As a volunteer Sonya is also the coach of the Murdoch Meat Judging Team at Murdoch University College of Science, Health Engineering and Education. She has been awarded a number of Awards and Scholarships including the Queen's Guide Award in 2016 from Girl Guides Australia.

Congratulations to Sonya as the 2021 NCWWA Paddy Firstenberg Memorial Awardee.



National Council of Women of Australia Conference  
**Improving Safety and Economic  
Security for Women**  
Friday April 1 2022  
9:00am – 1:00pm (Canberra Time)

### > About the event

The NCWA Conference 'Improving Safety and Security for Women' is an opportunity for members to meet the new NCWA board and to attend a number of presentations made by Members and Ministers of the Australian Parliament.

### > About the guest speakers

- **Senator the Hon Anne Ruston**  
Minister for Families and Social Services; Minister for Women's Safety.
- **Senator the Hon Jane Hume**  
Minister for Superannuation, Financial Services and the Digital Economy; Minister for Women's Economic Security.
- **Senator the Hon Amanda Stoker**  
Assistant Minister to the Attorney-General, Assistant Minister for Women, Assistant Minister for Industrial Relations
- **Louis Markus**  
Board Chair Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

### > About the registration

Attendance is complimentary. Bookings are essential to obtain zoom link

### > About the booking

Can be made through the NCWA TryBooking link below:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BWUSL>

For further information please contact:  
Lorraine Hardgrave  
NCWA Secretary  
Email: [info@ncwa.org.au](mailto:info@ncwa.org.au)  
Mobile: 0410 884 322





An RSVP with payment is essential  
by Saturday 23 April 2022 to confirm  
attendance – numbers are limited!

## DOWNTON ABBEY: A NEW ERA

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN WESTERN AUSTRALIA MOVIE AFTERNOON

Saturday 30 April 2022

3.30pm for 4.00pm

Windsor Cinema – 98 Stirling Highway Nedlands

\$25 per person

#### CAST

Hugh  
Bonneville  
Jim Carter  
Michelle  
Dockery  
Elizabeth  
McGovern  
Maggie  
Smith  
Imelda  
Staunton  
Penelope  
Wilton

From award-winning creator, Julian Fellowes comes the motion picture Downton Abbey: A New Era. The much-anticipated cinematic return of the global phenomenon reunites the beloved cast as they go on a grand journey to the South of France to uncover the mystery of the Dowager Countess' newly inherited villa.

## BOOKING FORM

Contact: Robyn Nolan email: [robymn@bigpond.net.au](mailto:robymn@bigpond.net.au) mob: 0417 917 294

Sally Plummer email: [plummers@inet.net.au](mailto:plummers@inet.net.au) mob: 0411 868 995

YES  I will be attending the NCWWA Movie Afternoon Saturday 30 April 2022 at 4.00pm

TOTAL AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$25pp)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the names of your guests

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_