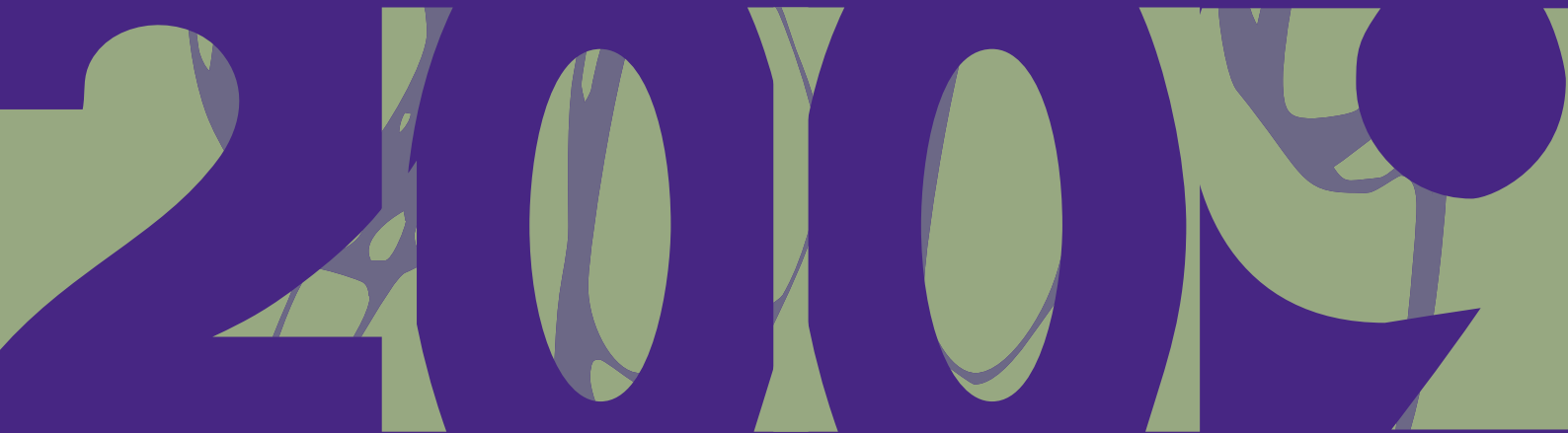


Acknowledging and
celebrating South Australian
women in all their diversity.



[SOUTH AUSTRALIAN women's honour roll]



Government
of South Australia

Office for Women

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
[women's honour roll]



A message from the Hon Gail Gago MLC

Minister for the Status of Women

Congratulations to the 100 outstanding women selected for inclusion in the 2009 South Australian Women's Honour Roll. The Honour Roll acknowledges and celebrates passionate and committed women who have made a positive contribution to the community.

The Women's Honour Roll was established in 2008 and I am very pleased that in 2009 over 250 South Australian women have been nominated - over 100 more than last year.

It is vital that we find ways to recognise and celebrate the achievements of women who contribute so much to our community. I hope that this Honour Roll will continue to be just

one way of achieving this recognition.

Too often, women are silent achievers, and this year a concerted effort has been made to acknowledge women who have not generally been publicly congratulated.

This year, ten nominations have been identified for special recognition. This inspiring group of women, which includes the seven

member Kupa Piti Kungka Tjuta Coober Pedy Senior Aboriginal Women's Council, are highlighted for their extraordinary contributions to South Australia.

The 2009 Women's Honour Roll also pays posthumous tribute to women whose legacy remains strong and relevant today.

Hon Gail Gago MLC

Minister for the Status for Women

Office for Women acknowledges the Department of the Premier and Cabinet Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Division for their support and assistance in providing information on the Elders and Aunties who have passed away. This is by no means a complete list but represents the beginning of a collaboration between the two departments to respectfully acknowledge the enormous contribution made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women to our community.



2009 honorary acknowledgment

.....
Betty Fisher
.....

A strong and vocal feminist and advocate for Aboriginal rights and conservation. Betty was International Women's Day Committee president for eight years and has been a member of the Women's Information Service [formerly the Women's Information Switchboard] Support Group since its inception in 1978.

She served as the first female president of the Conservation Council of SA; received a Flinders University medal for services to women and a 1988 Bicentenary medal; served on the SA State Schools Organisations State Council and was a member of the National Fitness Council of Australia. Betty was also a key witness at the Hindmarsh Island Royal Commission where she produced notes and tape recordings from the 1960s which confirmed 'secret women's business.' She is currently writing the biography of Gladys Elphick and the history of the Aboriginal Women's Council.

Betty acknowledged the remarkable achievements of over 2,000 South Australian women in a publication she produced in 2001 in conjunction with the International Women's Day Committee [SA] Inc. *The Women's Roll of Honour for the 20th Century in South Australia, Volume 1* is an important record of the achievements of some of the remarkable women in our state and represents Betty's ongoing work to publicly acknowledge the role of women in our community.

Betty's mantra remains strong today: **"In the name of peace we did what we could ... and in the name of peace could the young people in our community please continue on this path."**

2009 honour roll: 10 outstanding nominees

[SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
women's honour roll]

Josie Agius [Auntie Josie]

Outstanding Kaurna Elder and positive role model in the Aboriginal community. One of the first Aboriginal health workers in Adelaide in the 1980s, part of a team who set the cultural context for how hospitals and community health services respond to Aboriginal people. Aboriginal Education worker for eight years at Taperoo Primary School and assisted many young Aboriginal people to develop their self esteem and cultural pride through her ongoing work at Kurruru Indigenous Performing Arts. Fiercely independent and a pillar of strength in the Aboriginal community and committed to sharing cultural knowledge with non-Aboriginal people.

Marjorie Bateson

Outstanding service in the community sector for 18 years as a representative in the Liquor Trades Union and the Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Union whilst working at Holden Elizabeth. Involved at a state level in the transfer of the Liquor Trades Union into partnership with the Federated Miscellaneous Union. Actively involved in the Country Women's Association, Garden Club, Salvation Army and Neighbourhood Watch in the northern region of Adelaide.

Kupa Piti Kungka Tjuta Coober Pedy Senior Aboriginal Women's Council

Emily Austin, Eileen Brown,
Eileen Crombie, Martha
Edwards, Ivy Stewart, Eileen
Wingfield, Angelina Wonga

Seven women instrumental in the establishment of the Irati Wanti Campaign that successfully stopped the dumping of radioactive nuclear waste in the South Australian outback, a landmark event in South Australia's history. They hold positions of seniority in terms of Aboriginal traditional law and culture pertaining to their region. "We are the women who are fighting to keep the culture going. We've been teaching the younger women and the women that were taken away, teaching the people that lost the culture." Ongoing work with the Umoona Aged Care Service at Coober Pedy and pivotal in bringing about the development of Tjamuku Kamiku Ara Nintitjaku [Grandparents knowledge] Program.

Khadija Gbla

Passionate and inspiring young African woman displaying courage and determination in assisting women, youth and minority groups to have a voice at a local and state level. Contribution to the community in creating and raising awareness about multiculturalism, mental health and issues affecting young women. Member of the Federal Government Initiative Steering Committee for the Australian Youth Forum.

Nora Phippen

Commitment over 40 years raising a core group of profoundly disabled children to adulthood. Cared for hundreds of infants, children and youth in family crisis, from emergency placement, short-term and long-term arrangements. Advocated for children with disabilities to reach their maximum potential. Given countless children, many with a disability, a genuinely loving family home upbringing and a future.

Diana Sautelle

Pro-active in developing projects and events that build bridges between communities and positive engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Founder, manager and music director of the Adnyamathanha Women's Choir in 1996, worked intensively with women to reconstruct Dreaming songs from their childhoods. Tireless work in celebrating humanity, culture and diversity with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

Eleanor Scholz

Active role in the Wudinna community contributing in a volunteer role with local Council, St Johns Ambulance, Aged Care, Wudinna and Districts Telecentre and Children's Services Regional Advisory Committee. Negotiated and supported local communities to establish Networking the Nation throughout rural and remote communities, a communications centre that has internet access and community based information. Assisted in establishing an increased profile for the TAFESA Campus and increased accessibility for the local community.

Dr Lesley Shorne

Outstanding women's health practitioner for over 25 years with a deep commitment to making public health and health promotion work for South Australian women. Senior Medical Officer at Yarrow Place Rape and Sexual Assault Service and Cervix Screening SA. Tireless advocate for women, especially those disadvantaged by class, race or socio-economic circumstances. Forensic medical examiner in the area of sexual assault making improvements in both medical and legal processes for women in South Australia. Developed protocols, guidelines and interpretation of national guidelines for Cervix Screening SA. Acknowledged as an expert in many areas of women's health and forensic science. Progressed the field of forensic sexual assault medicine through her commitment to high standards of practice. Awarded a Churchill Fellowship in recognition of this work.

Janette [Jan] Stirling OA

Contribution to women's basketball as a coach, player and mentor. Significant role in promotion of professional development in the sport sector and raising the profile of women's sport. Accomplished and respected coach for over 20 years and winner of four Women's National Basketball League Championships with Adelaide Lightning. Coached Opals to a Gold Medal at the 2006 World Championships and Silver at Beijing Olympics.

Carol Sutherland

Significant professional contribution to leadership in administrative services in tertiary education in South Australia at UniSA. Active in community roles as member of Catherine House Trust, assisting in housing homeless women in Adelaide. Developed relationships between UniSA and Catherine House, promoting awareness and support through corporate sponsorship and fundraising activities. Previous Chair and current committee member of United Nations Development Fund for Women [UNIFEM], promoting awareness of projects and gathering support from UniSA colleagues at the annual UNIFEM International Women's Day Breakfast.

2009 honour roll

Rachel Abdulla

A proud Ngarrindjeri woman providing an outstanding contribution through engaging and consulting with Aboriginal communities and mentoring Aboriginal people in training, employment, health and housing. Currently supporting Centacare and Australian Services Union in best practice approach for working with Aboriginal communities.

Sue Averay

Pro-active contribution to the support of women through mentoring programs with the YWCA and IPAA and facilitating the Department of Environment and Heritage Connecting Women website. Currently Manager, Corporate Planning and Development, Department of Environment and Heritage.

[Elizabeth] Anne Bachmann JP OAM

Dedication and commitment to justice issues and involvement in selection and training of the state's Justices of the Peace. Currently community representative on the Department for Correctional Services' Prisoner Assessment Committee.

Karen Bartel

Outstanding advocate and representative of working women's rights over the last thirty years. Currently Commissioner and Deputy President of the South Australian Industrial Relations Commission, the first woman to hold these positions.

Margie Berlemon

Inspirational leader as State Commissioner of Girl Guides South Australia and as Member on the Board of Girl Guides Australia. Pro-active in leading a range of innovative programs to empower girls and young women.

Rose-Marie Berry

Commitment to providing ongoing legal services in Coober Pedy for over 13 years in a paid and volunteer capacity. An outstanding community member involved in advocacy for women and Aboriginal heritage.

Dyan Blacklock

Author and creator of nine children's books and publisher at Omnibus Books. Committed to engaging with and supporting local authors to have their work published and currently involved in environmentally friendly publishing.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN [women's honour roll]

Winifred Branson

[1924 - 1972]

Outstanding political activist and proud Narrunga woman with ties to Ngadjuri and Kaurna. Developed support networks and services for Aboriginal people and their families, especially within the Port Adelaide area. Pro-active in the 1960s as State Secretary for the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders working alongside Faith Bandler, Dr Nuggett Coombs and Pastor Doug Nicholls.

Muyuru Burton

[1958 - 2008]

Respected senior Pitjantjatjara woman from the Amata Aboriginal community. Active and passionate campaigner for women and children's rights and safer communities. Involved as community health and welfare worker, Anangu teacher and interpreter at Amata School, senior officer of the Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara [NPY] Women's Council and Chair NPY Women's Council Governing Committee.

Shirley Callaghan

Outstanding commitment over many decades in providing services for children, women and men dealing with issues relating to domestic and family violence in the southern region. Currently Regional Co-ordinator South, Relationships Australia South Australia.



Nicola Esti Caon

Commitment to public advocacy for social justice and human rights through participation as a volunteer in the University of Adelaide branch of Amnesty International, Australian Refugee Association and Oxfam Australia.

Helen Chalmers

Development of improved access to services in country health in Mount Gambier. Supporting the expansion of services including paediatrics, renal cancer and mental health. Currently Executive Director, Service Operations, Country Health SA.

Dianne Chartres

Outstanding collaborative work across the health sector resulting in increased community inclusion and the protection of the rights of people living with a disability or mental impairment. Currently assists the Office of the Public Advocate and the Guardianship Board in service development, advocacy and strategic planning.

Cathy Chong

Notable contribution to the Chinese community through extensive voluntary work as Management Member of the Multicultural Communities Council of SA and President of Chinatown Adelaide.

Rosa Colanero

Outstanding leadership and advocacy in the fields of education, women's rights and multiculturalism for more than 35 years. Currently Chief Executive of Multicultural Aged Care and member of the Migrant Women's Lobby Group.

Kerry Colbung

A proud Kokatha woman providing a 'voice' for Aboriginal people through advising government at senior levels on the critical issues affecting Aboriginal people in the community. Previous Chairperson of the South Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council, currently Director of the South Australian Aboriginal Sports Training Academy.

Constance Lilian Dawkins

Active participant in the Gawler community since 1943 as member of the Gawler Women's Branch of the Liberal Party, active participant as life member of the Gawler Barossa Oratorio Choir and singer in the SA Country Choral Combined Choir.

Diane Dent

Founder of the Blackwood Reconciliation Group in 1994 assisting in the reconciliation process in the Adelaide Hills by helping to educate the community about Aboriginal heritage within the area. In partnership with the Tji Tji Tjuta [former residents of the Colebrook Home] the Blackwood Reconciliation Group developed the Colebrook Reconciliation Park.

Violet Doreen Deuschle [Auntie Vi]

[1931 - 2009]

Proud Ngarrindjeri woman at the forefront of the reconciliation movement. One of the first members of the Aboriginal Housing Board in the 1970s and heavily involved in the Land Rights Campaigns of the 1970s and 80s. As Chair of the Aboriginal Executive of South Australia's Jubilee Sesquicentenary Aboriginal Committee, secured recognition and development of Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute in 1986.

Joan Dicka

Instrumental in disclosing abuses of human rights within cross-cultural relationships in the 1980s. Advocate for the rights and welfare of migrant women victims of domestic violence, especially the 'mail bride' phenomenon. Now retired but continues to be involved in assisting women to access appropriate services.

[SOUTH AUSTRALIAN women's honour roll]

Tracey Docherty

Commitment to disadvantaged people in the community through the co-ordination of the Adelaide Christmas Hamper project, distributing over 1,300 hampers and 1,000 children's gifts. Relinquishes her role each year as Senior Administration Services Officer in Rural and Remote Service Division of Uniting Care Wesley [Adelaide] to co-ordinate the service.

Carmel Dundon

Commitment to the environment, linking city and rural people to engage with Trees for Life. Development of a voluntary carbon offset program to complement revegetation objectives and enable the organisation to participate actively in the global warming debate. Currently Chief Executive Officer, Trees for Life.

Lavinia Emmett-Grey

Contribution to student activism and leadership in campaigning for student rights. Pro-active in the inclusion of minorities in the university community, quotas for women on the Adelaide University Union Board and implementation of Indigenous mentoring scheme. Currently President, Adelaide University Union Board and member of Premier's Council for Women.

Elaine Farmer JP OAM

Over 40 years involvement in Surf Life Saving SA, helping lead and steer the organisation with the objective of ensuring that it remains a vibrant and responsive emergency service based agency. Heavily involved in education and awareness campaigns for the Nipper Safe Program. Currently General Manager, Surf Life Saving SA.

Margaret Garrett

Outstanding community involvement for over 20 years in Whyalla as a trainer, counsellor, committee member and Chair of Lifeline. Volunteer participation as member of Plaza Youth Centre and Whyalla Conservation Park. Currently Co-ordinator, Interagency Student Behaviour Management, Northern Country.

Beverley Anne Garton

Outstanding long term commitment to providing foster care for children with severe intellectual and physical disabilities. Since 1992 provided safety and security to four children with disabilities, first through foster care and then adoption.

[Shirley] Ann Gates

[1936 - 2001]

Services to children and young people with intellectual disabilities and their families. Founded and co-ordinated Interchange in 1988, an organisation that continues to support families and focuses on changing community attitudes to people with disabilities.

Rose Geisler

Role model in the 1960s working in education and in the 1980s as Workcover's first Education Officer. Current commitment to the Goolwa community through active participation in Crisis Care, Primary School Breakfast Club for disadvantaged children and as a palliative care volunteer.

Madeleine Glynn

Joined South Australian Police in 1976 and in 2002 became the first woman appointed to the rank of Assistant Commissioner. Widely recognised by her peers, Government and the broader community for service, commitment and outstanding leadership.

Rosalie Haese

Actively involved in the community for nearly 20 years as Councillor at City of West Torrens. Committed to championing environmental reforms in schools, including establishment of statewide recycling and solar power programs in Department of Education and Children's Services.

Dr Patricia Lorraine Hamilton

Advocate and mentor for rural women across the country through involvement in Partnerships in Grain and Australian Women in Agriculture. Currently volunteering as a mentor for the Office for Youth SA Ignite Program assisting young women on Kangaroo Island to develop their skills and recently elected President, Australian Women in Agriculture.

Anne E Harvey

Commitment to leading and fostering the sustainability agenda across government. Responsible for establishing the Premier's Roundtable on Sustainability and delivery of the state's first ecological footprint calculation as a deliverable target in South Australia's Strategic Plan.

Ann-Marie Hayes

Outstanding leadership and advocate in engaging women in practical actions to improve health and wellbeing, to empower women and to ensure they have access to the resources to achieve positive changes in their lives. Currently Director, Health Informatics, Performance, Planning and Outcomes Unit at Children, Youth and Women's Health Service.

Janet Haydon

Contribution in developing Service Excellence Program and Health Promotion SA by empowering individuals and the community to achieve better outcomes in customer service, health and wellbeing. Currently Manager, Service Excellence Program in Community Connect.

Elizabeth Ho

Commitment to promoting public learning through programming events that provide information, research, ideas and solutions to global, social, economic and cultural questions. Currently Director, Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre at UniSA.

Christine Hofmeyer

Outstanding role in palliative care nursing for nearly 20 years and involvement in expanding services through assistance in the development of the statewide plan for palliative care in SA. Currently Clinical Services Co-ordinator, Lyell McEwin Palliative Care Service.

[Nanna] Gertie Johnson

[1919 - 2007]

Respected Adnyamathanha woman from Nepabunna who shared her skills in language, Dreamtime stories and cultural wisdom to her own people and non-Adnyamathanha people.

Commitment to the Nepabunna School as mentor and member of the School Council. Assisted in establishing the Nantawarrina Indigenous Protected Area, located adjacent to the southern boundary of the Gammon Ranges National Park.

Erica Jolly

Tireless advocate and lobbyist promoting equal opportunity for women and girls, Aboriginal Australians and the disadvantaged through education, law and welfare. Role model for active retirement, published poet and editor. Current Vice President, Australian Federation of University Women SA Inc.

Dr Doreen Kartinyeri [Auntie Doreen]

[1935 - 2007]

Outstanding leader and proud Ngarrindjeri woman from the Coorong regarded as the authority on South Australian Aboriginal genealogy. Assisted in developing the South Australian Museum's National Aboriginal Family History Project increasing the understanding and knowledge of family connections and kinship ties. Leader in the campaign against construction of the Hindmarsh Island Bridge. The importance of relationship and place was at the heart of her life's work.

[SOUTH AUSTRALIAN women's honour roll]

Angela Keneally

Contribution in assisting disadvantaged young women, Aboriginal women and women in the community to access mentors, counselling and support. Current Council Member, City of Charles Sturt and Executive Director In 2 Life Inc Connecting Youth and Community.

Branka King

Leadership and community service to community and government organisations through work with the Women's Advisory Committee of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission, the Serbian Community Choir and Women's Association and Guides SA.

Fiona Lange

Developed strong business and community partnerships to promote reading and literature to all age groups across Australia through the award-winning Big Book Club and Little Big Book Club initiatives.

April Lawrie-Smith

Highly regarded member in her community of Ceduna and proud Mirning and Kokatha woman. Acknowledged for her contribution to the Aboriginal Homeland Movement and Native Title Affairs on the Far West Coast; leader in Aboriginal initiatives and statewide policy development in

health, justice and community service. Currently Executive Director, Aboriginal Health Division, Department of Health.

Mabel Jean Lochowiak

Pro-active for over 30 years in the Coober Pedy community as member of the Aboriginal Land Trust, Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement and National Aboriginal Education Committee. Currently South Australian delegate for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Gathering.

Julie MacDonald

Extensive commitment to social justice and equity issues. Advocate on issues of public housing as Representative, Housing Trust Tenant's Association, campaigning for water meters for public housing tenants and domestic violence through WOVSafe [Women of the West for Safe Families].

Maxeen Yetta Mason

Contribution to the sport of swimming and committed volunteer for SwimmingSA as Chief Timekeeper and Australian Timekeeper. Life Member Jamestown Swimming Club, raising the profile and skill level of swimming officials in Mid and Upper North region of the state.

Deb McCulloch

Ongoing commitment for over 35 years fighting for equality and women's rights. Appointed South Australia's first Women's Adviser to the Premier [Don Dunstan] in 1976, the only appointment of its kind in Australia at that time. Leading role in Women's Electoral Lobby and instrumental in establishment of services for women in the 1970s that continue to assist women today.

Jan McMahon

Leadership and commitment to social justice, advocating for fairer community services and equity for workers. Negotiated significant improvements in the public sector, including Paid Maternity Leave. Currently first full time elected woman General Secretary of the Public Service Association.

Susanne [Sue] Mickan

Leadership in a volunteer role for nearly 30 years in South Australian Country Fire Services, Life Member Coonapyn CFS and first female Deputy Group Officer in the CFS. Improved co-ordination of local emergency services and information flow in times of emergency.



Gail Mondy

Leader and role model to women through academic achievements and progression from the grass roots level of health to a senior level, maintaining her vision for quality primary health care services. Currently Chief Executive Officer, Children, Youth and Women's Health Service.

Michelle Morton

Developed and initiated business ventures that support recovery, reuse and recycling of computers, TVs, electrical and electronic waste and working with local government to deliver electronic waste collection days. Recently founded CRT Recycling, environmental recycling for cathode ray tubes.

Beth Mylius

Development of community projects linking with business and local government to reduce the communities' ecological footprint. Established Sustainable Communities in 2008 linking neighbours, council and business in development of environmental solutions.

Frances Nelson qc

Commitment and dedication as Chair of the Parole Board of South Australia for 24 years supporting offenders to amend their behaviour and to

reintegrate into the community. Strong advocate for development and implementation of accessible, appropriate rehabilitation services.

Veronica [Bobbie] Novak

[1921 - 2008]

Involvement and commitment within the community of Glenelg in volunteer capacity through leadership in the Catholic Women's League. Active participation in fundraising projects for Hutt Street Centre, Cancer Council, St Vincent de Paul and Caritas.

Assina Ntawumenya

Building relationships and partnerships through community engagement with over 300 women from Burundi, Rwanda and Congo. Promotion of health awareness and accessibility to services. Currently undertaking Bachelor of Social Work, sole woman on Burrundian Executive and Cultural Advisor at Gilles Plains Primary Health Care Service.

Jean Oates

[1932 - 2009]

Early childhood educator and principal in Whyalla region for over 20 years. Formation of the Whyalla Rural Association for Refugees, a weekly visitor to the Baxter Detention Centre and advocate and supporter for released refugees.

Carmel O'Loughlin

Leader and long-time campaigner for women in South Australia in many roles including the Women's Information Switchboard in the 1970s and as previous Director at the Office for Women. Currently a Patron of Don Dunstan Foundation.

Professor Rosemary Owens

Outstanding contribution to legal education in South Australia and research into various forms of precarious employment and the impact this has on women. Previous Chair and current board member, Working Women's Centre and Dean of Law, University of Adelaide.

Associate Professor Debra Panizzon

Contribution to removing barriers to women's participation in the highest levels of science and mathematics education. Support to outer metropolitan and rural teachers through accessible learning techniques. Currently Associate Professor, Flinders Centre for Science Education in the 21st Century, Flinders University.

Natasha Veronika Pataki

Committed active member of the City of Charles Sturt Youth Advisory Committee and positive role model for young women. Excellent leadership skills and ongoing volunteer contribution to youth in the community through Guides and Air Force Cadets.

Rosemary Jean Penn OAM

Significant contribution through long standing involvement with a number of community organisations working with people with a visual impairment. Over 30 years involvement with South Australian Blind Cricket Club as Scorer and Secretary; volunteer reader, administrator and board member Radio for the Print Handicapped.

Eileen Pomfrett

Service to the community in a volunteer role for over 20 years with the Modbury Hospital Hospice, Ingle Farm Community Centre and Neighbourhood Watch Pooraka. Dedication to assisting the terminally ill, frail and elderly providing support and care.

Dorothy May Pyatt

Joined South Australian Police in 1947, first permanently based police woman at Port Augusta and the Far North between 1951 - 1967 allowing women and children to more easily report sexual abuse issues. Commitment to research and preservation of historical records.

Thekla Anna Maud Reichstein

Lifelong commitment to the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide, appointed as one of the first women trainee gardeners in 1956. Expertise and knowledge widely recognised in the promotion and delivery of community education to improve the understanding of the plant world and its importance to a sustainable future. Now retired, remains actively involved with the Botanic Gardens.

Alma Lynette Kaye Ridgway

[1944 - 2009]

Proud and respected Kurna / Narungga woman who worked tirelessly for the community. First of her family to achieve a tertiary education, teacher at Kurna Plains Aboriginal School at Elizabeth and Deputy Principal for 11 years. Worked with Department for Corrections in the late 1990s, providing support and assistance to improve the social, educational and economic status of Aboriginal people and to decrease the over representation of Aboriginal people incarcerated.

Agnes Rigney

[1939 - 2009]

Respected Elder of the Ngarrindjeri people and strong advocate for protection and preservation of Aboriginal heritage and active participant in identification of sites. Managed the Aboriginal Community Centre in the Riverland for nearly 30 years, member of First People's of the River Murray Native Title Claimant Group and member of South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resource Management Board.

Tracy Ritchie

A proud Narungga woman providing leadership in the Aboriginal community as a strong and positive role model in both strategic leadership, cultural awareness and child protection. Co-author Clinical Guidelines for Undertaking Psychological Assessments with Aboriginal Families within SA to ensure appropriate engagement with Aboriginal people. Currently Principal Aboriginal Consultant, Families SA.



Pat Rix

Widely respected as a national leader in bringing community and professional artists with and without a disability together to perform. Pioneered the Tutti Ensemble which offers opportunities to disabled and non-disabled people of all ages to be involved in concerts, music theatre and choral programs. Tutti Ensemble includes Tutti Choir, Club Tutti, Tutti Arts, Tutti Kids and Country Choirs.

Margaret Jean Roberts [Auntie Connie]

[1913 - 2007]

Senior Ngarrindjeri Elder passionate about sharing cultural traditions and facilitated an exchange of ideas and cultural values between people and communities. Recognised for Ngarrindjeri weaving and important Aboriginal art forms including carving, painting, dance and song. Travelled to the United States and Canada in the late 1990s to attend a traditional weaving conference.

Ruth Russell

Political advocate for human rights, peace and freedom at both national and international levels and plays a key role in the SA Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Travelled to Iraq in 2003 as a Human Shield and to Bolivia in 2007 as part of the International Peace Voyage.

Paquita [Kita] Scott

Instrumental in improving understanding of adult literacy issues across the community and training sectors. President of the SA Council for Adult Literacy, involved with development of SA Adult Literacy Action Plan [Secret Codes: Making Literacy Everybody's Business] and currently at TAFESA Victor Harbor Campus.

Moira Edna Ruth Shannon JP OAM AM

Commitment and contribution to the Port Lincoln community assisting in the foundation of Yarredi Domestic Violence Service for women, West Coast Youth Services, the Befrienders Club assisting elderly and isolated people in the community and ADAM House accommodation for people with disabilities.

Theodora [Roula] Soumas

Dedicated outstanding volunteer, devoted carer and positive role model for the community through long involvement with the City of Unley Community Visitors Scheme. Providing friendship, companionship, socialisation opportunities for people identified as isolated and lonely.

Joan Stone

Spokesperson for the ageing community on behalf of residents of retirement villages both in South Australia and nationally. Tireless lobbyist for improved treatment and acceptance of older South Australians. Member South Australian Ministerial Advisory Board on Ageing and Chair Aged Rights Advocacy Service.

Vanessa Swan

Outstanding commitment to providing a voice to women around the important issue of violence against women, especially sexual violence. Instrumental in informing the national plan to deal with violence against women. Currently Director, Yarrow Place Rape and Sexual Assault Service.

Kerry Symons

Commitment to providing a national leadership role for the Australian Red Cross in re-focusing their services to the most disadvantaged communities and actively engaging in reconciliation with Aboriginal communities. Currently Executive Director, SA Division of Australian Red Cross.

Jillian Tidswell

[1954 - 1979]

Instrumental in bringing together the broad base of women in 1977/78 who developed the Rape Crisis Centre. One of the first Neighbourhood Youth Workers and Senior Youth Consultant in Department of Community Welfare in the 1970s. Provided support and leadership to women, especially disadvantaged young women.

Val Tidswell

[1932 - 2009]

Worked tirelessly to improve the lives of women in South Australia alongside her daughter Jillian. Established effective working relationships with mainstream services to ensure the Rape Crisis Centre had support from hospital and clinical services. This service is today sustained by Yarrow Place Rape and Sexual Assault Service.

Debra Faye Walker

A proud Ngarrindjeri woman promoting improved health services for Aboriginal people through the development of Muna Paiendi, the first Aboriginal primary health care clinic for Central Northern Adelaide Health Service. Currently providing leadership, strategic direction and cultural advice to Ambulatory and Primary Health Care Directorate.

Phoebe Wanganeen AM [Auntie Phoebe]

[1925 - 2007]

Well known and respected Kurna, Narungga, Barngarla Elder devoted to promoting the importance of education in the Aboriginal community. Lifetime commitment to education as member of Tauondi College, member of the South Australian Education Consultative Committee and leading role in the Aboriginal Lobby Group in the northern suburbs. Contribution to the establishment of Kurna Plains Aboriginal School and support to disadvantaged and at risk families.

Rosemary Warmington

Tireless work for over 15 years to advance the recognition and rights of family carers through the development of relationships between the grass roots movement of carers and government. Active lobbyist for improved services, conditions and allowances. Currently Chief Executive Officer, Carers SA.

Tjunmutja Myra Watson

[1927 - 2009]

Elder and Senior Aboriginal woman of the Pitjantjatjara people and sought after as a cultural adviser. Witness to the Maralinga Royal Commission, active in the formation of the Pitjantjatjara Council, first Chair of the

Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara [NPY] Women's Council and member of the Kupa Piti Kungka Tjuta Senior Aboriginal Women's Council.

Deborah Welch

Outstanding contribution over 30 years providing access, diversity, innovation and a voice to under-represented people and issues through community media. Instrumental in transforming Radio Adelaide into a dynamic, multicultural, multigenerational station. Currently Station Manager, Radio Adelaide and President Community Broadcasting Association of Australia.

Professor Hilary Winchester

Committed to social justice, increasing leadership opportunities for women and improving the quality of and access to post-school education. Provided leadership of the Northern Community Summit to develop strategies to reduce inequalities for young people in the northern suburbs. Currently Pro Vice Chancellor and Vice President Strategy and Planning UniSA.

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The Hon Gail Gago MLC

Minister for the Status of Women

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Office for Women acknowledges that we are on Kaurna land and pays respect to the traditional owners of this land.

2009 South Australian Women's Honour Roll launch officiated by:

His Excellency Rear Admiral
Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR
Governor of South Australia

Mrs Liz Scarce

The Hon Gail Gago MLC
Minister for the Status of Women

Government House
Tuesday 6 October 2009

A full list of all women nominated for
the 2009 SA Women's Honour Roll
is available at:

www.officeforwomen.sa.gov.au