

IAPESGW Continent Serie



Janice Crosswhite

Oceania inspirational women: making a difference in physical education, sport and dance

Janice Crosswhite
(Editor)



*Oceania inspirational women:
making a difference in physical education,
sport and dance*

editora
NGME

Janice Crosswhite – OAM
(Editor)

**OCEANIA INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN:
MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN PHYSICAL
EDUCATION, SPORT AND DANCE**

Juiz de Fora
NGIME/UFJF
2016

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Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora

Faculdade de Educação Física (Faefid)

Maurício Gattas Bara Filho

DIRETOR

**Grupo de Pesquisa em Inclusão,
Movimento e Ensino a Distância (NGIME)**

Eliana Lucia Ferreira
Flávio Iassuo Takakura
COORDENADORIA GERAL

NGIME – Campus Universitário da UFJF
Bairro Martelos – CEP 36036-900 – Juiz de Fora, MG
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FOREWORD

It is a great privilege for the International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women (IAPESGW) to have this opportunity to greet current, former and potential members and other readers through this book series. The purpose of the 'five continents series' is to commemorate some of the many inspirational women who have worked in physical education, sport and dance to increase opportunities for girls and women around the world. We thank Eliana Ferreira whose project led to the University of Juiz de Fora (Brazil) partnering IAPESGW on this unique venture.

Inspirational women: Making a difference in physical education, sport and dance is a five book series and IAPESGW is proud to say that members of the voluntary Executive Board stepped up to collect, edit and present each of these books for the series. We also thank the members of the Association who were the major contributors and facilitators of contacts that made this ambitious idea a success.

Oceania – Janice Crosswhite OAM (Australia).

Europe – Rosa Diketmüller (Austria).

Americas – Beatriz Ferreira (Brazil).

Africa – Anneliese Goslin (South Africa).

Asia – Canan Koca (Turkey).

The series will increase the visibility of women in the field across the world by profiling women's lives and achievements. It is

by no means an exhaustive collection of outstanding women. There will be many others who have been influential as roles models and leaders. But it offers a contribution in a world where men and male sports still dominate newspapers and television broadcasts alongside the history books of modern sport.

The editor of each book in this series had the autonomy to manage the collation of the volume as she preferred. She was also tasked with contextualising the continent in the introduction, offering a rationale and synopsis of the distinctive content and concluding each volume. The books are published by the research group "Núcleo do Grupo de Pesquisa em Inclusão, Movimento e Ensino a Distância [NGIME]" (Research Group on Inclusion, Movement and Distance Learning) coordinated by Eliana Ferreira – University of Juiz da Fora, it is a major publication project sponsor by the Brazilian government. It is expected that the books will be distributed to the Brazilian Universities and to attendees at ICSEMIS, Brazil 2016.

The International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women

The International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women (IAPESGW) was formed in 1949 and is the longest serving voluntary organization supporting the advancement of girls and women in Physical Education, Sport, Dance and Physical Activity.

Our Aims are:

- 1 To bring together interested scholars and practitioners of many countries working to improve the position of girls and women in the fields of physical education, sport and physical activity.

- 2 To represent the interests of girls and women at all levels and in all areas of physical education, sport and physical activity.
- 3 To strengthen international contacts and networks.
- 4 To afford opportunities for the discussion of mutual challenges and to share good practice.
- 5 To promote exchanges of persons and ideas among countries.
- 6 To promote research on physical education, sport and physical activity for girls and women.
- 7 To co-operate with other associations and agencies working to promote the interests of girls and women in physical education, sport and physical activity.
- 8 To promote leadership development throughout the world.

Our Vision:

Throughout the world, girls and women will benefit from:

- Participation in physical education, sport, physical activity and dance.
- Improved health through physical activity for all.
- Scientifically-based information.
- Quality education.

Ultimately, throughout the world, girls and women will be empowered through physical activity to: enjoy a balanced and healthy lifestyle, achieve a sense of value and well-being and make a positive contribute to society.

Members of the Association share belief in the value of physical activity in the lives of all girls and women, thereby forming a network of voices of, and for, the support of girls and women, improving their position at local, national and global levels. All members supporting IAPESGW at national and international level are volunteers who are driven to make time and space for stronger international support and camaraderie that networks like IAPESGW can bring. Over many years IAPESGW has been the place where young or early career researchers have found a supportive and accessible context alongside experienced colleagues in which to embark on presentation and research projects. The Executive Board is strong by global reach and also range of academic and practical experience and skills. Members of the Board are elected every four years and new volunteers who really want to make a difference by serving such an Association are always welcome. The current Executive Board indicates the extent of our international collaboration and is as follows:

President: **Rosa Lopez de D'Amico** (Professor, Universidad Pedagógica Experimental Libertador, Pedagógico de Maracay, **Venezuela**).

Vice-Presidents: **Janice Crosswhite** (OAM and President of the Australian Women sport and Recreation Association (AWRA), **Australia**).

Anneliese Goslin (Professor, University of Pretoria, **South Africa**).

Karin Lofstrom (Executive Director – Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women – CAAWS, **Canada**).

Rosa Diketmüller (Assistant Professor, University of Vienna, **Austria**).

Tansin Benn (Visiting Professor, University of Plymouth, **UK**).

Darlene Kluka (Professor, University of Barry, **USA**).

Gladys Bequer (National Director of Physical Education and Health Promotion at the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation (INDER) and Professor at the Higher Institute of Physical Culture (ISCF), **Cuba**).

Marianne Meier (Terre des Hommes International Federation, **Switzerland**).

Maryam Koushkie Jahromi (Associate Professor, Shiraz University, **Iran**).

Canan Koca (Associate Professor, Hacettepe University, **Turkey**).

KehNyt Chin (Professor, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, **Taiwan**).

Beatriz Ferreira (Professor, State University of Campinas – UNICAMP and is currently included in the program CAPES Visiting Professor Senior at the Federal University of Grande Dourados – Mato Grosso do Sul, **Brazil**).

Arisa Yagi (Professor Japan Women's College of Physical Education, Tokyo, **Japan**).

The full history of **Presidents** who have served IAPESGW is as follows:

1949 - 1961 Dorothy Ainswoth (USA).

1961 - 1965 Marie Thérèse Eyquem (France).

1965 - 1981 Liselott Diem (Germany).

1981 - 1989 Helene Tollich (Austria).

1989 - 1997 Patricia Bowen-West (UK).

1997 - 2005 Margaret Talbot (UK).

2005 - 2009 Darlene Kluka (USA).
2009 - 2013 Tansin Benn (UK).
2013 ... Rosa Lopez de D'Amico (Venezuela).

IAPESGW has held quadrennial Scientific Congresses since 1949 around the World:

1949	Copenhagen, Denmark	1985	Warwick, UK
1953	Paris, France	1989	Bali, Indonesia
1957	London, UK	1993	Melbourne, Australia
1961	Washington, USA	1997	Lahti, Finland
1965	Koln, Germany	2001	Alexandria, Egypt
1969	Tokyo, Japan	2005	Edmonton, Canada
1973	Tehran, Iran	2009	Stellenbosch, S. Africa
1977	Cape Town, S. Africa	2013	Havana, Cuba
1981	Buenos Aires, Argentina	2017	Miami, USA

In 1999 a special Conference event was held to commemorate the Association's 50th anniversary in the place of its birth - Smith College USA.

Alongside these Scientific Congresses, the Association contributes to other international scientific programs such as the quadrennial *International Convention on Science, Education and Medicine in Sport* (ICSEMIS). As a members' Association, IAPESGW responds to requests for information, support, research and action.

As a recognised Member Association of the International Council for Sport Sciences and Physical Education (ICSSPE), IAPESGW helps to construct international policy and aid work in sport and physical education. It is one of six bodies that contribute to the *International Committee of Sport Pedagogy (ICSP)*, a working group established by ICSSPE.

In addition to IAPESGW, the working group includes the following international partner associations: FIEP – Federation Internationale D'Education Physique / International Federation for Physical Education; AIESEP – Association Internationale des Ecoles Superieures d'Education Physique / International Association for Physical Education in Higher Education; IFAPA International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity; ISCPES – International Society for Comparative Physical Education and Sport; ICCE – International Council of Coaching Excellence. Representatives of this working group have contributed to collaborative research such as the "Global Voices project", and, through ICSSPE to the "Quality Physical Education (QPE) Guidelines for Policy-Makers" and the "Revised International Charter of Physical Education and Sport" that emerged from MINEPS 2013, Berlin, and were published by UNESCO (2015). The Association also has representation on related bodies such as the International Working Group on Women and Sport (IWG) where we work alongside Women Sport International (WSI).

IAPESGW's memberships continuing to grow with representation throughout the world via members on all five continents. The Association supports its members in the fields of sport, physical education, dance and physical activity for women and girls and provides opportunities for professional development and international cooperation. If you are interested in learning more or in joining please see our website at www.iapesgw.org.

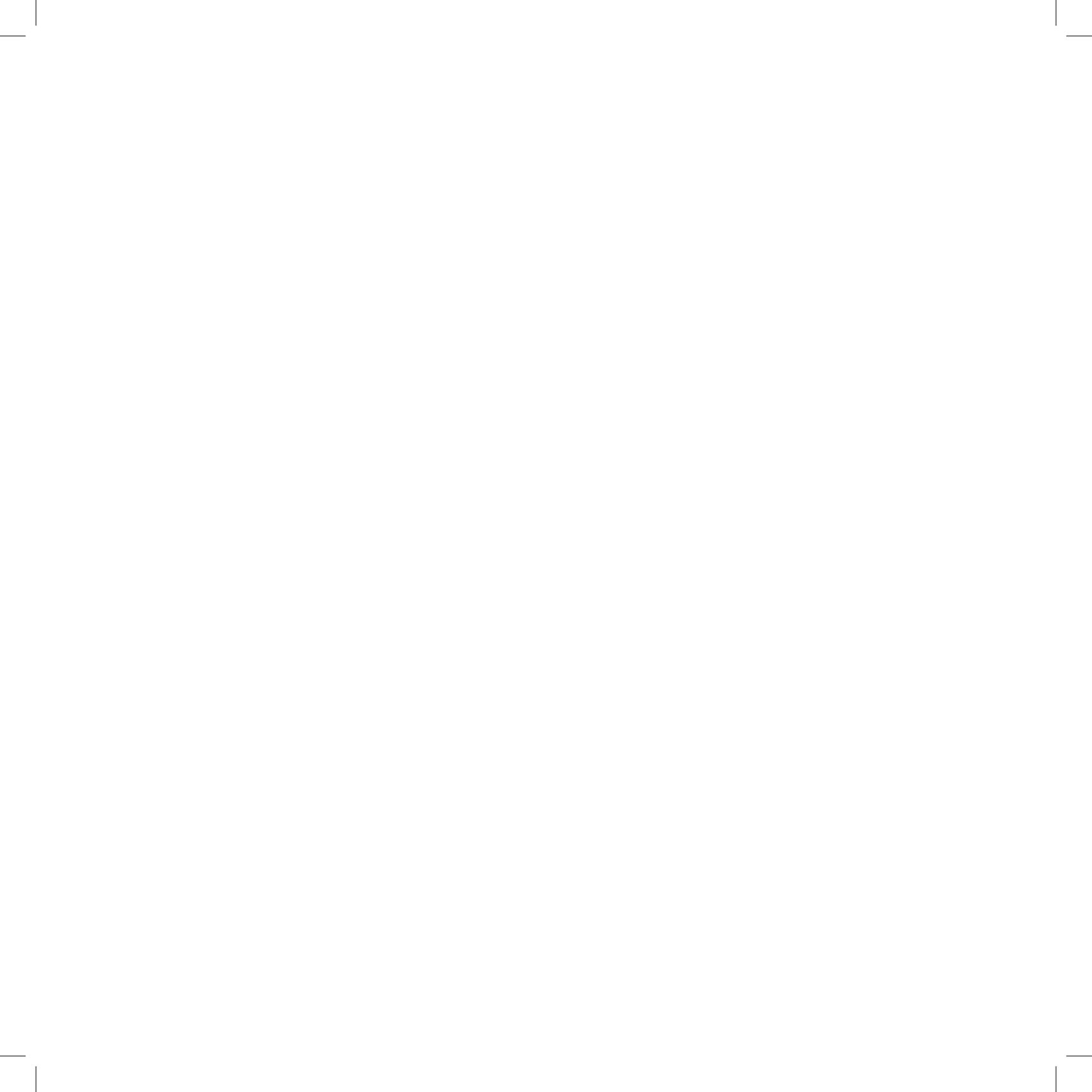
Be part of the future of the International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women.

Co-authors:

Rosa Lopez de D'Amico (Venezuela) (Current President)

Tansin Benn (UK) President 2009 – 2013

Darlene Kluka (USA) President 2005 – 2009



FOREWORD

This collection represents a milestone in the history of physical education as it seeks to present the conditions of equality and opportunities for physical activity around the world. This publication brings together experiences from five continents, highlighting elements which allowed to identify the progress and challenges of world policies in physical education.

In recent years, the Center for Inclusion, Movement and Distance Learning at the Federal University of Juiz de Fora – Brazil sought partnerships aiming to build a work disclosure policy that can support studies that consider the experiences of pedagogical practices in the physical activities. This is, undoubtedly a publication that makes us very proud, as it structure a proposal for a diverse and inclusive physical education.

A series of debates, the consolidation of an accessibility policy and the construction of pedagogical practices involving the conditions for a complete access, are the basis of this book.

In this sense, physical education acquires more relevance, establishing a more social understanding, related to accessibility and at the same time, is sensitive to the specific demands defined for education based on diversity.

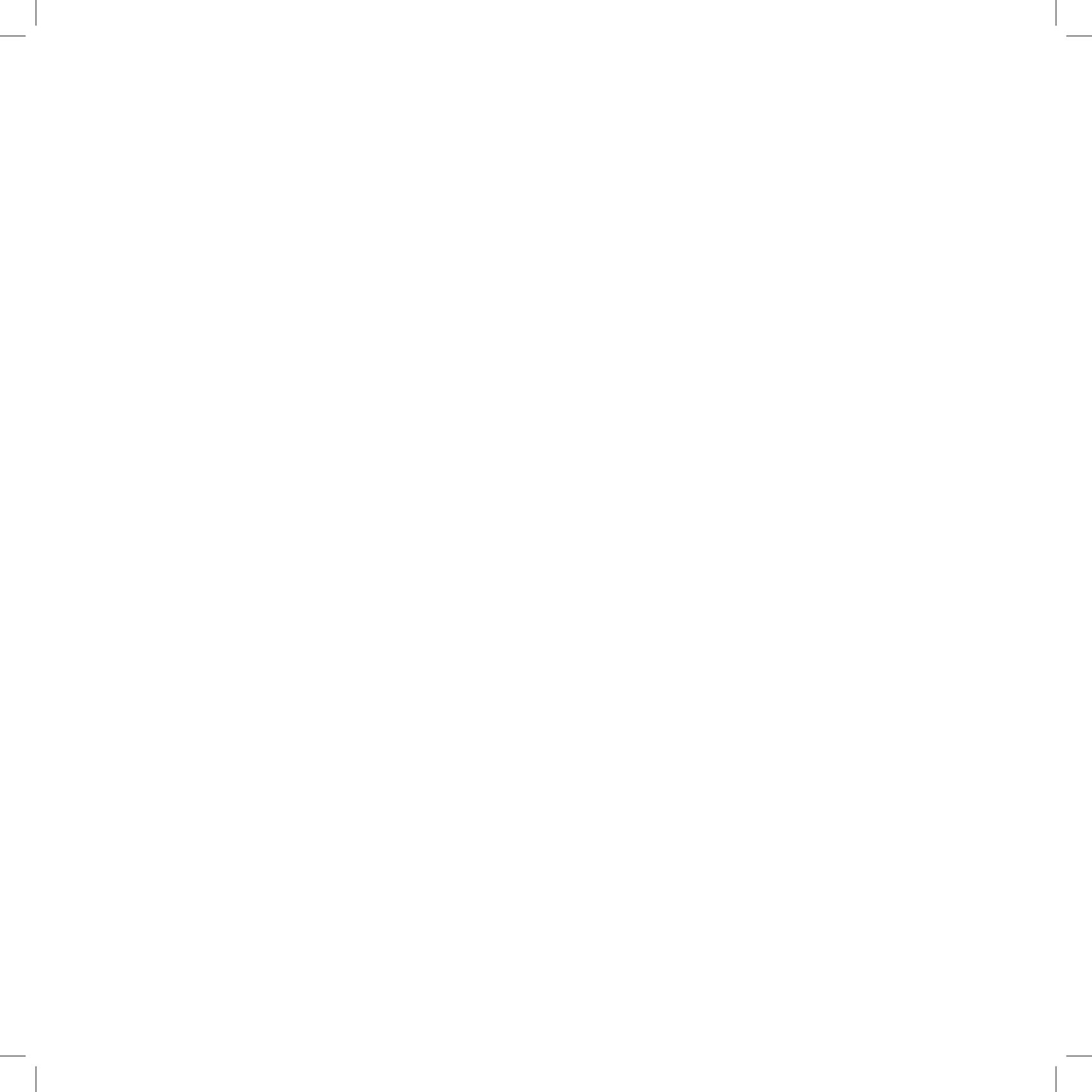
Based on extensive material reported here, we share the idea that, every day, it becomes more evident that physical activities play an important role in ensuring the exercise of citizenship.

Profa. Dra. Eliana Lucia Ferreira
Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora – UFJF
Ministério de Educação – MEC/BRASIL

1

INTRODUCTION

JANICE CROSSWHITE – OAM



This book aims to share important life stories that have made a difference in the lives of girls and women in physical education, sport and dance across Oceania. It is about promoting and increasing the visibility of women across the world who have made a difference in the lives of girls and women in physical education, sport and dance.

In December 2014 the first call for nominations went out across the Pacific, asking for people to nominate a diverse range of women who have made inspirational and outstanding contributions in their local communities or at a regional, national and international level.

A unique aspect of editing this book is that the content has almost entirely been driven and collated through email!

The internet is free (or almost) so it has been possible to use various networks and individuals to spread the word to find inspirational women and collect their stories.

Another unique aspect to this book that I found was that most women had never been asked to tell their story and therefore needed a lot of prompting to do so, and many had to be convinced to write their own story. Thankfully, some had friends or work colleagues who readily assisted in the writing.

Another outstanding feature of this book is that it is the work of volunteers!

However, it has been difficult to find and contact a range of women from the smaller Pacific Islands, as some do not have internet access and it seems some do not feel that they warrant inclusion and lack the confidence to come forward and present themselves for inclusion.

My sincere thanks to all those who have contributed their story or who have been able to point me in the right direction to contact others. The majority of women are from

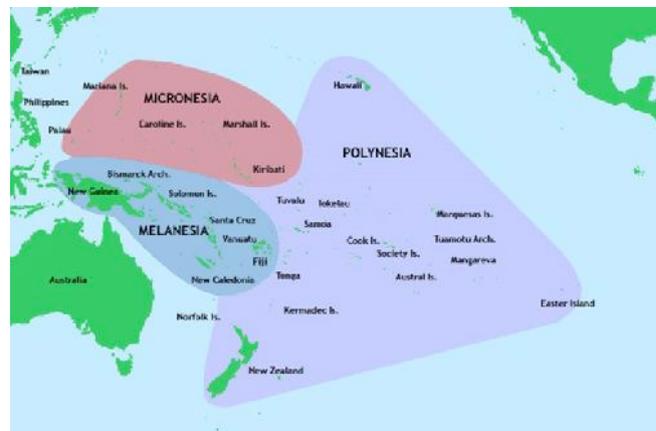
a sporting background, as outstanding athletes or administrators, physical education and sport pioneers in some cases, powerful advocates for increased female participation and some inspirational dance teachers. It is by no means an exhaustive collection of outstanding women. There are many, many others who have been influential and inspirational as roles models and leaders.

It has been an honour and pleasure to compile this book. I have met and known many of the women in this edition. Yet I was often amazed at their stories as there is so much that goes unseen and is not publicly known, particularly the work of volunteers.

However, it is hoped that the series of five continent books (Asia, Europe, America, Africa and Oceania) will shine a light on women in these fields across the world by profiling their lives and achievements.

Where and What is Oceania?

Oceania is mostly oceans and is made up of four geopolitical regions: Australasia, Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. The largest continental land mass of Oceania is Australia.



The countries that comprise Oceania are islands:

Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Norfolk Island, Palua, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuta.

Socio-Political Issues Across Oceania

Climate change is a major economic and political issue for Pacific Island nations, and changes are expected to get worse in the next few years and decades to come. Tornadoes or cyclones, bushfires and floods are getting worse, with the sea warming and slowly rising. Most countries are investigating how to mitigate the expected impact on their economy and daily lives and trying to evolve humanitarian plans for relocation and changing economic responses.

Another common major issue across all countries is violence against women. Alarmingly the prevalence of violence against women and girls in Pacific Island countries and territories is amongst the highest in the world. Most widespread is violence perpetrated by partners or ex-partners.

Recent Pacific studies reveal that 64 per cent of women in Fiji, 68 per cent in Kiribati and 65 per cent in Papua New Guinea (PNG) have experienced physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime. This means that two out of every three women and girls experience violence in their homes, family and community. Prevalence rates in Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Marshall Islands have been reported at 46 per cent, 64 per cent, 51 per cent and 60 per cent, respectively. In Australia it is recognised that two women a week are being murdered by their current or ex-partner. The Australian Government has put family violence on the national agenda, declaring it the most urgent matter for state and federal governments. There is a national program for cultural change, focusing

on gender equality, called the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Woman and Children. Many programs are being funded to target violence against women, including initiatives in sports.

Equal pay for equal work is still a major issue across all countries and this is exemplified in women's sport, probably more than in other aspects of employment. Looking at high performance level sport in Australia as an example, there is equal prizemoney at the Australian Tennis Open and in hockey, swimming and athletics but in other sports pay scales are vastly different.

In June 2015 the Australian women's soccer team (the Matildas) performed brilliantly in the World Cup, making it through to the quarterfinals (top 8) demonstrating team cohesion and poise, receiving much public and media praise for their performances and behaviour on and off the field of play.

The Matildas were ranked 9th in the world while their male counterparts (Socceroos) are ranked 63, yet FFA (Football Federation Australia) admits the huge disparity between match payments to the Matildas and Socceroos. Players contracted to the Matildas receive a base payment of \$21,000 plus a standard match payment of \$500 and per diem of \$150. By comparison the Socceroos receive \$6500 per match plus a share of commercial profits and sponsor bonuses. At the World Cup the Matildas received \$650 each for reaching the quarterfinals of the World Cup while the Socceroos would have been paid \$8,500 if they had made it that far into their World Cup. Further the Matildas will earn a total of \$3000 for the tournament, while the Socceroos would have netted \$100,000 plus if they had made it to the last eight. This is a huge pay disparity for playing in the equivalent competition, at the highest level, doing exactly the same "work".

Dawn Fraser, Australia's greatest ever sportswoman has called for better pay for female athletes. "If you play the same amount of time, on the same court in similar conditions you should be paid the same or at least similar" she said¹.

A major health issue across Oceania for all parts of the population relates to obesity. Many governments are trying to address this health concern, in an effort to reduce the rise in lifestyle diseases such as diabetes and heart disease. Many of the government supported grass – root sport programs are now delivered with strong messages of health promotion.

United Nations Women (2015) describes Oceania thus:

While women have the right to vote and stand for election in all Pacific Island countries and territories, they must often overcome negative gender stereotypes and socio-cultural norms. These views on what a leader looks like, as well as the roles men and women are supposed to play in the community and the home, not only affect whether voters are willing to elect a woman to a leadership role, but also whether she can secure support from a political party or her community to run, and even whether she is willing to stand in the first place. The combination of such norms and inherently biased systems and processes that often persist in the Pacific have led to a general lack of women in decision-making and leadership roles; at 5.5% the Pacific region (not including French Polynesia) has the lowest number of women in parliament in the world.

The stark reality in the Pacific today is that an overwhelming majority of the region's five million women and girls do not enjoy access to their full human rights. The political and social climate as described above influences and restricts women in physical education and sport resulting in their under representation of women as participants, leaders and volunteers.

¹ Dawn Fraser; HERALDSUN.COM.AU SUNDAY JUNE 28 2015.

Sport Development in Oceania

In a sporting context the Oceania continent exists along with Europe, America, Asia and Africa. Each of these continents has a continental sports association, which is ONOC for Oceania – Oceania National Olympic Committees (Map below).



Olympic Continental Associations and locations for IAPESGW book series

The two organisations that control sport across Oceania are:

- The Pacific Games Council, which includes the Francophone countries.
- ONOC, Oceania National Olympic Committees, which does not include the Francophone countries.

There has been American influence in the north and west regions of the Pacific through the USA Peace Corps. Australian and New Zealand influences have reached across the central and western part of the Pacific and there is French influence in the Francophone countries of New Caledonia, Tahiti and Wallis and Fortuna. The French

speaking countries cannot attend the Olympic Games but their athletes can represent France in the Olympics.

The Pacific Games (formerly known as the South Pacific Games) is a multi-sport event, much like the Olympics on a much smaller scale, with participation exclusively from countries around the Pacific. They began in 1963 and are held every four years. Australia and New Zealand have not competed in the Pacific Games until 2015, when they were invited to compete in a limited number of sports.

In July 2015 the Pacific Games were held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, with approximately 3000 athletes, made up of 1200 female athletes and 1800 male athletes, which is approximately a 40/60 female/male split. When you look at the total team size, which includes team officials (coaches, managers, sport medicine, media and VIPs) the total numbers were about 2500 male and 1500 female, which is about 64% male, 36% female, demonstrating that the team officials/VIPs are more heavily male represented².

In the years between the Pacific Games there are Mini Pacific Games, Micronesian Games and Francophone Games. The larger countries also attend the Commonwealth Games and Olympic Games. Indeed, Oceania has a crowded international sports calendar with many opportunities for countries, sports and participants.

To assist in sport development the Australian Government operates the Pacific Sports Partnership (PSP) Program, a \$14 million competitive grants program funded by Australia's Agency for International Development (AusAID) and managed by the Australian Sports Commission (ASC).

Since 2009/2010 sporting organisations such as cricket, football, netball, rugby league and rugby union have been implementing sport for development activities in the

² Andrew Minogue, Secretary General, Pacific Games Council.

Pacific. Activities under the program focus on developing healthier and more inclusive communities through sport in the following countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

In 2015, as part of the Pacific Sports Partnership, Volleyball Australia (VA) has been delivering the Pacific Volleyball Partnership (PVP) to increase levels of regular physical activity amongst women and girls at the community level in a number of Pacific countries.

ONOC also runs sport education programs, supported by Olympic Solidarity funding. ONOC has a Woman and Sport Oceania (WASO) Committee that is chaired by Helen Brownlee (Australia) whose story is included in this book.

Australia, as a Case Study

Australia, the largest country in Oceania, has the reputation of being a sport crazy country that achieves above its weight in gold medals compared to the size of its population. Since the 1956 Olympic Games more Olympic medals have been won by Australian female athletes than males, despite fewer events for women and fewer women selected in teams. At the Commonwealth Games in 2006, 2010 and 2014, Australian female athletes have won more medals (gold, silver and bronze) than their male counterparts, again despite there being fewer events for women and less women selected in teams. Despite inequity of access to facilities and the less media coverage of the excellence of their efforts, Australian women were outstanding performers locally and abroad throughout the 20th century and early 21st century.

This tremendous success in organized sport has been achieved despite a background of gender inequality. Historically, sport has been and is an important and powerful institution in Australian society, but based on “male hegemony”, denying women gender equality across the fields of play.

Nikki Hemmingway (University of Melbourne) writes: "Given the historical connections between sport and male domination, we should not be surprised to know that "sport supports male domination because it was developed [...] to do just that". Lying at the heart of her research is the theory that sport is an important and powerful institution in Australian society, one through which "male hegemony is constructed and reconstructed"³.

Since the 1980's the Australia Government has initiated several actions to create a level playing field for women in sport. The Sex Discrimination Council was established in 1984 and the Women's Sport Unit was established in the Australian Sports Commission in 1986, but later disbanded. Around Australia like minded women banded together to establish non-government incorporated 'womensport' associations, starting in South Australia, then Western Australia (Womensport West), ACT Sportswomen Association, Womensport and Recreation Queensland, Womensport and Recreation NSW and Womensport and Recreation Tasmania. They delivered strong advocacy messages as well as special projects for girls and women and developed resources and publications. The latter two organisations survive today. The Queensland and Victorian Governments have recently established advisory committees on women and girls in sport and recreation.

In 2005 the Australian Womensport and Recreation Association (AWRA) was founded and incorporated. It works towards its vision of "A strong and healthy culture through increasing the active participation of women and girls in sport, physical activity and recreation". Government funding or lack of has been the major factor in the longevity of all these womensport associations. The peak advocacy body, AWRA, does not receive any direct government funding and exists on securing various project grants, and by operating on the "smell of an oily rag" and through the dedication of its volunteers and members.

³ Nikki Henningham, University of Melbourne; The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth -Century Australia; <http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders/biogs/WLE0425b.htm>.

While much has been done to level the playing field for girls and women in sport, much more needs to be done. For instance in the lead-up to the 2012 Olympic Games in London, it was revealed that, while Basketball Australia flew the men's national basketball business class to London, the women's team was flown economy, with some women paying for their own upgrades. If reward for performance was the deciding factor, this seemed very odd indeed. The women's team was ranked second in the world, having won three silver medals and a bronze in previous Olympics; the men were ranked ninth and had never won a medal. Elizabeth Broderick, remarked, "these are Australia's finest athletes, both male and female, but treated very differently" (Samantha Lane, *Age*, 20 July 2012).

Another case of discrimination in the lead-up to the 2012 London Olympics was the non-selection of an Australia Women's 8 (Rowing) when the Men's 8 were pre-selected and funded for pre-Olympic competition. After a very strong and successful campaign (supported by the Australian Womensport and Recreation Association), a few months out from the Olympics, a Women's 8 were given the opportunity to qualify for the Games and did so. At the London Olympics they qualified for the final, to finish last, the same place the Men's 8 finished in their final.

Moreover, similar concerns were taking place on the international scene in the lead-up to the London Olympics. The International Boxing Federation tried to put female boxers into skirts "to feminise" their appearance as female boxing was making its first appearance at these Olympics. FIFA (International Football Federation) banned the Iran women's football team from wearing headscarves, in a pre-Olympic qualifier, but after much pressure in 2014 changed their rules to allow women players to cover their heads. Eventually, the International Volleyball Federation similarly changed its dress rules to allow female competitors a choice of shorts (like the men) rather than mandating women wear a 40cm wide (sexist) bikini bottom.

Hemminway continues: Are things any better than in 1990 when the Australian Sex Discrimination Commission complained that sport was "riddled with sexism". Only

marginally, Broderick suggested: "The participation of women in sport at all levels is marked by division and discrimination that is reinforced by negative gender stereotypes. Strict gender segregation marks all levels of sport and elite, professional sport remains the unquestioned domain of men" (Elizabeth Broderick, *SMH*, 21 May 2010).

There is still insufficient commercial development of women's sport, which is directly related to media coverage of sport. In 2014 with only approximately 7% media coverage (across all forms) women's sport lacks media exposure and until there is improved media exposure, you don't get the sponsors and backers on board, and so the vicious circle continues. Indeed, media coverage has actually declined in recent years.

A report (from January 2008 – July 2009) *Towards a level Playing Field: sport and gender in Australian media* found that coverage of women in sport made up 9% of all sports coverage in Australian television news media while 7% of non news programming content on television was devoted to women's sport. 250 television journalists reported on male sport while only 82 journalists reported on female sport⁴.

However follow-up research in 2014 found that media coverage had declined with women featuring in only 7 per cent of sports programming in Australia. This was despite "the ongoing successes and strong participation levels of women in sport", according to the report.

It found coverage of male sport made up 81 per cent of television sports news coverage, compared to women at 8.7 per cent.

"To put this into context, horse racing received more air time than women's sport in Australian television news", it said.

⁴ *Towards a Level Playing Field: sport and gender in Australia media, January 2008-July 2009*; Australian Sports Commission 2010; ISBN 978174013 108 7.

This situation has since been made worse as the Australian Broadcasting Commission has suffered funding cutbacks and as a result its Board decided to drop its coverage of the Women's National Basketball League and the W-League (football) where a game a week was covered.

And, if the Australian media's level of respect for women athletes is any indication, it suggests that journalists and commentators are as much a part of the system of inequity as those who play and administer the sport.

In this book Angela Pippas, one of the first female sports journalists, tells her story of success and many setbacks as she pursued her career in radio, television and print and sought the recognition she deserved for the great job she did. Louise Evans tells a similar story about her years as a leading sports journalist. Through perseverance and resilience, they made it possible for the next generation of female sports reporters who now follow them.

You can read about Heather Reid, CEO of Capital Football in Canberra, who was the first woman to hold a senior leadership position in football (soccer) when she was appointed in 2004. It is hoped that with more women in leadership and decision making positions there will be a more inclusive culture across sports, to encourage and motivate others, particularly girls and women, to get involved at all levels and in all aspects. In 2013 a successful policy initiative was introduced by the Australian Sports Commission "that by 2015 the national sporting organisations (NSO's) boards should comprise 40% female". This has seen board figures rise from 22% female in 2013 to an average of 36% in mid-2015, across the top funded 15 sports. However, female NSO presidents are few and far between, namely Netball, Gymnastics and Badminton.

Oceania Women in Sport, Physical Education and Dance

Many of the Oceania stories are absolutely amazing and motivating. The early pioneers were all volunteers who played, administrated and managed sport because of their love and passion for their sport. Many women achieved sport success internationally and then moved into administration in their sport: women like Eunice Gill (netball) Heather Robson (badminton and tennis), Anita Palm (softball, volleyball and beach volleyball), Lorraine Landon (basketball) and Barbara Kendall (board sailing and now an IOC member).

Some top level athletes have set up foundations to help others less fortunate than themselves, such as Marjorie Jackson, Catherine Freeman and Louise Savage, and Yvonne Rate chairs the Bluearth Foundation. Dame Susan Devoy does much fundraising for charities, as does Raylene Boyle for cancer research. While still competing and aiming for a gold medal at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics in 2016, Caroline Buchanan sponsors programs that assist emerging young cyclists in her disciplines.

Other high profile athletes act as Ambassadors (Lauren Jackson) and Patrons and lend their names to charity causes.

Some have retired into academic pursuits, such as Shane Gould who is studying for her third Master's Degree (on swimming) and Farah Rangikoepa who was an outstanding rugby player, now coach and university lecturer. Johanna Adriannse and Clare Hanlon are lecturers and researchers in sports management with a focus on women in sport. Lynne Embrey has documented the history of softball.

A couple have ventured into politics, such as Dawn Fraser who served a term in the NSW Parliament, Marjorie Jackson successfully served as the Governor of South Australia and Nuatali Nelmes is the Mayor of Newcastle. Tarianna Turia was a Member of Parliament in New Zealand who actively drove health and fitness programs to assist Maori people.

Some of the most inspiring stories are about athletes who have suffered illness or injury after their careers and have tackled their situations with much determination and strength. Triathlete Emma Carney was diagnosed with a serious heart condition, Raylene Boyle had bouts of cancer and ex-Olympic rowers Amber Halliday and Sally Callie separately suffered very serious health issues and tell an inspirational story of recovery.

Paralympian's are all truly inspirational. Louise Sauvage, whose success in Paralympic sport saw her selected as the Australian Institute of Sport Athlete of the Year in 1997, is now a successful para-athletics coach. Lindy Hou, from a Chinese background, was an able-bodied athlete who lost her sight and became a Paralympian and motivational speaker. Eve Rimmer was a paraplegic who competed in a variety of events and was the best in the world.

Several Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and Maori women tell their stories and the extra effort that was often needed to overcome the double bias of being Indigenous and a female. Athletes like Cathy Freeman (athletics), Nova Peris (hockey and athletics), Evonne Goolagong (tennis) and Beatrice Faumuina (rugby) have trailblazed the way for Indigenous women's participation in amateur and elite sport.

Many of the women have been recognised by their countries with national honours, made Life Members of their organisations and/or inducted into various sports halls of fame.

Physical education teachers such as Barbara de Bruine, Yvonne Rate, Janet Keenan, Kathleen Anderson, Margaret Pewtress, Eunice Gill and Lorna Mc Conchie inspired their students to follow their footsteps, while also coaching and administering their sports.

BMX and mountain bike racer Caroline Buchanan exemplifies a modern professional athlete who uses the media (particularly social media) to tell her story and promote her brand, sometimes outside the norm.

The early administrators were all volunteers – who worked hard to promote women’s sports such as netball, softball, hockey and basketball – whereas today there is career pathway for sports administrators and more women are seeking employment in the sports industry – often to experience the grass ceiling.

Across Oceania various organisations have been delivering leadership and educational courses for women sports administrators. Hamidan Bibi from Fiji has been delivering leadership workshops as has Beatrice Faumuina (New Zealand) with her Pasifika leadership training.

Dance is part of the fabric of Pacific countries and the stories of Merryn Lee Hibben-Perez and Jackie Tuara tell the importance of dance in their cultures.

Oceania women athletes have exhibited talent, excellence and professionalism in pursuit of personal best achievements. In so doing, they have been strong role models for women beyond the sporting arena and are particularly important to girls growing up.

Dame Quentin Bryce, Australia's first woman Governor-General (2008-2014) and Australian Womensport and Recreation Association Patron, recalls the impact of famous Olympic athletes as she was growing up in the 1940s and 1950's: Shirley Strickland, Betty Cuthbert and Dawn Fraser "were young women with extraordinary talent and drive. They were modern, successful women", says Bryce, "and we wanted to be just like them" (Bryce, Boyer Lectures 2013).

While the quest for increased opportunities in physical education and sport for girls and women has started and will continue throughout the 21st Century, and much has been achieved, there is still a lot of change to be undertaken before the *grass ceiling* is truly mown down to a manageable length and women take an equal place in society.

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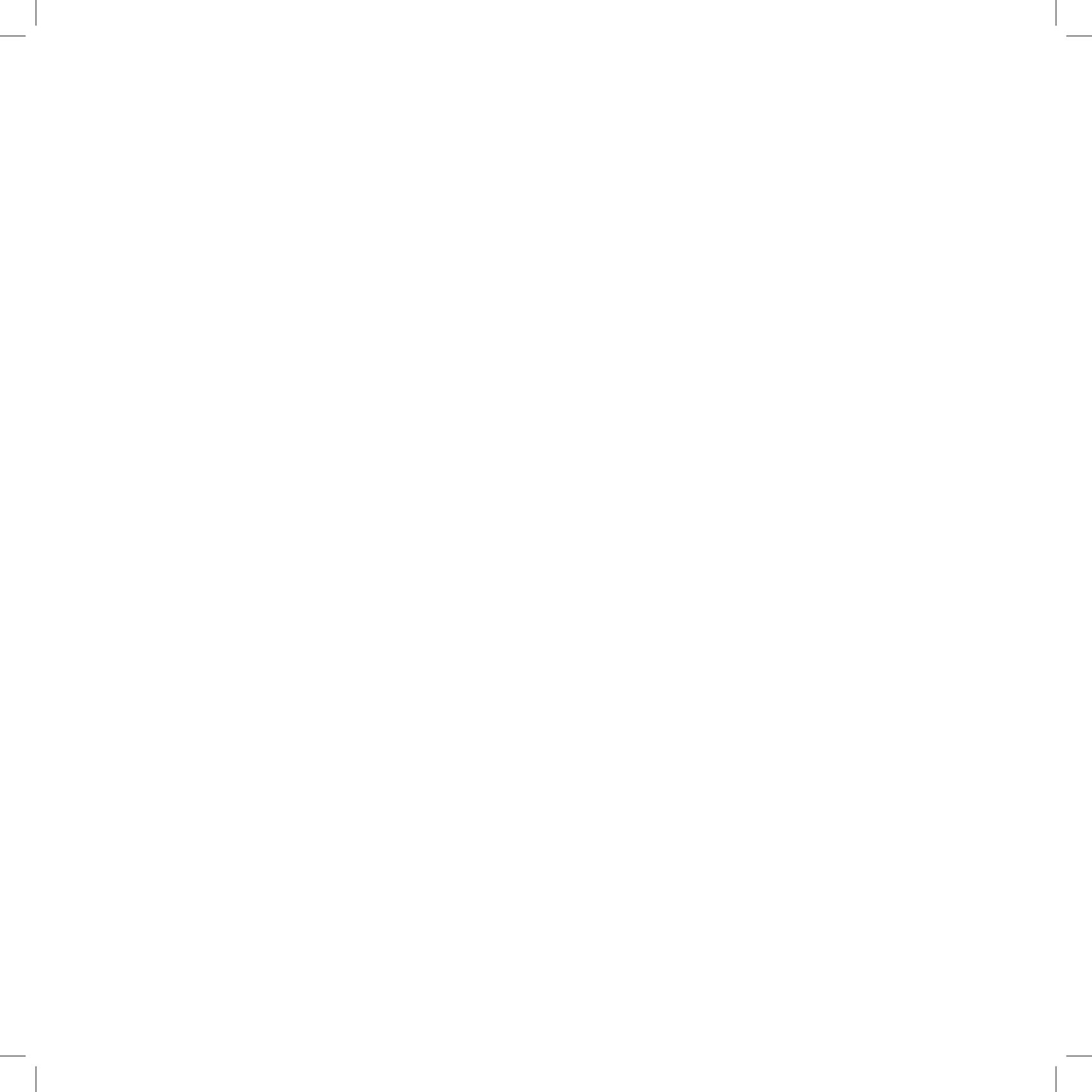
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For more stories, visit the Sport Australia Hall of Fame and the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame

For information on promoting women's empowerment through sport in Fiji:

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Editor of Oceania Book

Interview (edited 2015) of Editor Janice Crosswhite OAM by Nikki Henningham – University of Melbourne 2013

Janice Crosswhite is an advocate for gender equity in sport who has enjoyed a lifetime of involvement, as a player, teacher, coach, administrator, volunteer and community leader. Her influence has been felt locally and globally; from establishing keep fit classes for women in a newly developing rural fringe community near Melbourne, Victoria, to providing leadership as Vice President of the International Association for Physical Education and Sport for Girls and Women (2009-2017). For many years, Crosswhite has worked energetically and effectively to promote and support women's access to and involvement in sport in the community. She has an Australian Sports Medal (2000) for her services to basketball and her Order of Australia (2001) was in recognition of her services to the community and women's sport. She is the current (2015) secretary of the Australian Womensport and Recreation Association (AWRA and was the founding President (2005-2013).

Crosswhite studied Physical Education at the University of Melbourne at the same time as she trained for a secondary teachers certificate at Melbourne State College. Sport was integral to her sense of self and identity; "I enjoyed using my body and my brain to produce and do things", she says (*Interview*). Her sports of choice were softball and basketball and she played both at an elite level while studying. She graduated top of her class in 1964 and chose to work at Preston Technical School when she started her career in teaching in 1965, because they had the best facilities in the state. In an era without consent forms, she was able to use the surrounding neighbourhood to advantage during lessons, deciding on the spur of the moment to take classes of girls running in local playgrounds, or along the Merri Creek, looking always for the opportunity to inject variety into lessons. She was always on the lookout for discrimination too. She saw no reason why the boys should always get first use of the facilities, as was traditionally the case in coed

schools and began her advocacy on behalf of girls who want to enjoy sport in the school yard. Her efforts were noticed and she well mentored at Preston Technical College by a supportive principal, Chloe Williams, who valued her passion and allowed her the space to be creative with it. Reflecting on her life as a leader in volunteer organisations, Crosswhite has no doubt that her experience as a sports mistress was vital to the development of her leadership skills. "Most good teachers", she says, "have highly developed communication skills, which are essential to good leadership", but most of them, except the drama, music or sports teachers, don't have to organise cross-school events.' Running school sporting events assisted in the development of her project management and organisational skills. Being a sports mistress also helped her to develop her people management skills, especially as she constantly had to "cajole reluctant participants" (*Interview*).

In 1970, Crosswhite married an Australian representative basketballer, Perry Crosswhite, who, like Janice, went on to have a distinguished career in sports administration in Australia. She also left classroom teaching, after five years of classroom teaching to take up a position in the Victorian Department of Education Physical Education Centre, becoming the first woman advisor to Phys Ed teachers in technical schools. The role gave her further opportunities to speak up for girls in sport who she insisted should be properly provided for in curriculum and not just treated as an afterthought. The work was interesting, and she discovered that there were career benefits to being a woman in phys ed teaching, quick promotion through the ranks being one of them and the creative opportunity to develop new programs another. She had her first baby in 1974, returned to work full time in 1975 and then a year later decided she would leave work to look after her child. The timing was right for a change, not only for family reasons, but because she felt she wanted time to think about new career challenges.

Living in a new suburb on the urban fringe, Crosswhite saw what isolation could do to new mothers with young families and established community initiatives to create connectedness. She ran popular keep fit classes in the local hall, using her own property as part of the circuit so she could keep the costs down. It was during this period that her

habit for volunteering was established. Having lived all her life in well-established areas of the city, there was something about moving to an area where community was being built that inspired her. "Happiness comes from being grounded in your community", she believes, "and that happiness leads to you wanting to give back as best you can. There is a sense of worth that comes with volunteering" (Interview).

Ever after, that sense of engagement through volunteering has been a driving force in Crosswhite's career, as has the importance of equality of access to opportunities for sport and recreation. As the Crosswhites moved from Melbourne, to Canberra to Sydney and then back to Melbourne, mainly due to employment opportunities made available to Perry (including with the Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Olympic Committee) Janice found work in the developing health and recreation industry and associated bureaucracies. In Canberra in the early 1980s she worked for the Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (ACHPER). She also progressed through various volunteer and paid administrative positions within school and community systems, setting up non-sexist education committees and working on programs to encourage equal opportunity for girls in community sport.

But it was in volunteering and the non-profit sector that she thrived. What began as an involvement in community sport through her presence on school councils and at the clubs that her children played for led to greater responsibilities. She served as President of the Manly-Warringah Basketball Association, winning an Australian Sports Medal in 2000 for services to basketball. In 1995 she was a founding president of the advocacy organisation, WomenSport and Recreation NSW, and a member of the NSW Government's Advisory Committee for women and girls in Sport. In 2005 she became a founding president of AWRA, a position she held until 2013. It is work she is passionate about because, as someone who reaped the rewards of an active life, she has a strong belief, not only in the mental and physical benefits of a life that includes sport and recreation, but in the importance of women's participation as a vehicle to promote gender equality and empowerment at a broader cultural level. In particular, women who take leadership

roles in sporting organisations are "challenging stereotypes, especially about women's capabilities as leaders and decision makers" (Interview).

Crosswhite's own experience as a sportswoman has been her biggest teacher. While principal Chloe Williams gave her guidance in the school context, most of her leadership training was experiential, through observation of women she played team sports with in the early 1960s. Softball players who chose to pursue their careers in sport, who chose to remain single and not have children, some of whom were probably in same sex relationships, all provided her with "different models of achievement". They were "strong women who did what they wanted to do, did not conform to traditional understandings of domestic femininity and "this made them interesting people", she observes (Interview).

To that end, as well as promoting the interests of women's sport to government and broadcast authorities, AWRA has made capacity building and leadership training for women a priority, because women undervalue their own leadership potential and need help recognising and refining what they bring to the board room. "The industry as a whole will benefit from women's participation", says Crosswhite. "Diverse boards are the hardest to work with as a leader, but they are the most effective [...] Encouraging women's leadership in the sports industry will result in better outcomes for men's and women's sport" (Interview).

2

**DOUBLE
RECOVERY**

JANE CADZOW*

* Published May 23, 2015 Good Weekend, The Age Newspaper



Amber Halliday and Sally Callie strove together for Olympic rowing gold, not knowing they would one day face the almighty challenge of brain injury.

Shared memories – Amber Halliday, and Sally Callie at the West Lakes boat shed in Adelaide



Photo – "David Mariuz / Fairfax Syndication"

In a cafe filled with light and the smell of good coffee, two women are talking intently. Amber Halliday and Sally Callie have a lot of shared history. Both grew up in Adelaide and became champion rowers. They trained in the same squad and set a world record together at the Athens Olympics in 2004. But as Callie points out, they are doing more than reminiscing. "We're making sure our memories line up", she says.

Callie, 39, and Halliday, 35, are both recovering from brain injury. Even in the tight-knit world of elite rowing, few are aware of their remarkable story or the parallel turn their lives have taken. Three years ago, Callie awoke from neurosurgery to find she was paralysed on her left side. "I didn't tell many people", she says. "Only Amber, my family and a few trusted friends knew".

Callie had good reason to phone Halliday from her hospital bed: "I called Amber for help. To say, 'Amber, I'm in the same shoes as you. What do I do?'"

The story begins on the morning of August 15, 2004, as wind buffeted the surface of the Olympic rowing course at the coastal town of Schinias, outside Athens. At the starting line for heat three of the women's lightweight double sculls were Callie (who rowed as Sally Newmarch; she changed her name when she later married) and Halliday. Both were highly experienced competitors – they had won world championships – but their preparation for the Olympics had been badly disrupted.

"At 100 days to go, I was riding to training and I got knocked off my bike by a car", says Halliday. "I think I had six fractured ribs". Then it was Callie's turn for a rib-busting cycling spill. At a training camp in the Swiss Alps, she hit the wrong brake on a mountain bike and felt the handlebars slam into her chest. "I was furious", she says. "It was a really silly accident".

The women's twin injuries not only curtailed their training but prevented them from competing in pre-Olympics tournaments. The heat in Athens was, incredibly enough, their first race together. "And the conditions were horrible", Callie says. "It was like rowing on a tightrope. You had to keep your head perfectly straight and keep your blades above the rolling white-caps. If you put uneven pressure on the blade in those conditions, the boat would tip off balance. But Amber rowed with complete precision".

Halliday was the "stroke": it was her job to set the rate and rhythm of the oar movements. "My job", says Callie, who sat in the bow, "was to do all the talking and encouraging. I didn't look out of the boat for the whole six minutes and 49 seconds. All I did was look directly ahead and follow Amber precisely. The concentration was immense. We crossed the line and I didn't know whether we were first or last, let alone that we'd got the world-best time".

Not that the result was a complete surprise. In their training squad - which comprised the seven best lightweight female rowers in Australia, all vying for the two seats in the double scull - Halliday had seemed to Callie to be capable of anything: She was just such a high achiever. Such a perfectionist. Her attention to detail was incredible, and she knew what she needed to do to be the best.

"For example, when we stayed in a hotel, Amber would negotiate the double bed, and we'd all be in single beds in the next room". When the women's single sculls were transported by road to interstate regattas, "if you weren't quick enough, your boat would be on the outside of the trailer, where it could get chipped by a stone", Callie says. "Amber would always manage to get her scull in the middle of the trailer".

Callie smiles. "Amber was switched on, and that's what I loved about her. Nothing was going to stop Amber". In both the Olympic heat and the semi-final, the Australians won convincingly. "I had my ribs strapped, trying to hold them in place", Callie says, "but I felt confident because I was in Amber's boat".

By the day of the final, the wind had dropped. "It was dead calm," says Halliday, who was uneasily aware of what that meant. In blustery weather, the duo's technical skill had compensated for their lack of fitness. On a smooth-as-glass surface, the race would be a straightforward test of strength and stamina. Sure enough, after leading for the first half of the two-kilometre course, Halliday and Callie were overtaken by the Romanian, German and Dutch crews. The hot favourites for the gold medal finished fourth. They were shattered. "We thought it was the most disastrous thing that could have happened to us", Callie says.

Halliday makes the point that rowers, more than any other team athletes, operate as a single unit: "You are literally in the same boat. Your performance depends on their performance". And the smaller the crew, the more important the relationship between its members. "In a double scull, because it's just the two of you, it's very intimate and very intense. You have to have a particularly special bond with your partner".

Yet after Athens, Halliday and Callie went their separate ways, not wanting to be reminded of their shared disappointment. "We didn't speak for quite some time", says Callie, who by then was a veteran of three Olympics and keen to embark on a long-planned teaching career. "I really wanted to change my identity and get back into society and not be an athlete anymore".

Halliday competed at the Beijing Olympics in 2008, again missing out on a medal. She then hung up her oars, worked as a freelance journalist and felt herself drift. For ex-athletes, ordinary existence can seem to lack structure and purpose, she says. "You don't have to show up every day for training any more. You don't have that special thing you're working towards". To fill the gap left by rowing, she took up competitive cycling, and excelled at it. She was the women's national time trial champion in 2010.

In November that year, Halliday caught up with Callie, who was living in Auckland with her husband, former South African rower John Callie, and their baby son, Zach. "I was shown that life goes on after sport", Halliday says. The reunion delighted Callie, who realised the women were still perfectly in-synch: "It was like we'd seen each other just the day before".

A couple of months later, in January 2011, Halliday was seriously injured when she fell off her bike and hit her head during a race in Adelaide's Victoria Park. In New Zealand, Callie's first reaction was rage. She'd been close to Amy Gillett, the Adelaide-born Olympic rower turned champion cyclist killed on a road in Germany in 2005. Now Halliday was in an intensive-care unit. "I was just so angry that cycling was doing this to my female rowing friends," Callie says. "I sat down immediately, that afternoon, and I wrote a card to Amber. I wrote to her like I was in the boat with her, sitting in the bow while she was in the stroke seat. All the encouraging words I used in our racing, I wrote down on the card.

"I actually thought, 'If anyone can get through this, Amber can.' Because Amber was such a fighter in her rowing - for the best boat, the best equipment, the best oars, the best

hotel bed. Amber fought for everything. I knew that if anyone was going to come out of the coma, Amber would".

Halliday regained consciousness after 72 hours, though she has no recollection of the first month in hospital. She had post-traumatic amnesia, a condition characterised by an inability to lay down new memories: though she recalled people and events from the past, she had difficulty retaining new information. Her partner, Mello Bouwmeester, explains that when she crashed, "the force of the impact basically caused her brain to bounce within her skull. It caused bruising on the brain, and bleeding".

At the age of 31, Halliday had to learn to walk again. "Her injuries were similar to a stroke victim's", says Bouwmeester, a manufacturer of mountain-bike racing wheels. "The whole left-hand side of her body was not very functional". She also had to relearn to structure thoughts and sentences.

Halliday says it felt like being in a fog that cleared a little each day. By the time she moved to a rehabilitation hospital, she was determined to reclaim her old life. When medical professionals gently suggested that might be unrealistic, it only hardened her resolve. "I thought, 'When was the last time you dealt with an Olympic athlete with a brain injury?' I'm just going to prove you wrong".

Callie was standing under the shower, enjoying the feel of the heavy spray on her neck, when she became aware of a dizzy, tingling sensation. Then her left side started to shake. It was September 2011, nine months after Halliday's accident and two weeks after the birth of Callie's second child, Jake. She called out to her husband, John, who phoned an ambulance.

Tests in an Auckland hospital showed that Callie's seizure was caused by an arteriovenous malformation (AVM), a tangle of abnormal veins and arteries in her brain. Doctors told her these blood vessels were liable to weaken and eventually burst under pressure. The result could be a debilitating or fatal stroke. As Callie vividly recalls, "They said, 'If you leave it, your chance of having a stroke will compound every year of your life'".

Surgical removal was a viable option, since the malformation was in a relatively accessible part of the brain, but the operation carried its own risk. Callie decided to put it off for a short while. "I asked for six months to breastfeed my baby", she says. "Just to get him strong". A few days before Easter 2012, the AVM was successfully excised during seven hours of neurosurgery. Callie got the good news after being wheeled out of the operating theatre, but her relief gave way to concern when she realised she couldn't move her left side. "I woke up like a potato sack", she says. "I felt like my body blended into the trolley".

Over the next week, her anxiety rose: "So many doctors coming through, saying, 'Can you move your thumb? Can you move anything?'" The answer was always no. Then an MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) scan showed Callie had suffered a stroke during surgery. Using her good right hand, she picked up the phone and called Halliday.

"We had the most amazing chat", Callie says. "I was incredibly desperate, and Amber gave me so much hope.

She said to me, "I've got one word for you – 'neuroplasticity'".

Until about 30 years ago, scientists believed adult brains could not be repaired. It was thought that if a particular area of the brain was injured, the neurons – or nerve cells – were unable to regenerate or form new connections, so the functions controlled by the damaged area were permanently lost. People who had a stroke, like Callie, or sustained a traumatic brain injury, like Halliday, were given little chance of full recovery.

We now know that new neural connections are formed throughout life. In effect, the brain is continuously rewiring itself. This phenomenon, called neuroplasticity, makes it possible in some cases for a function previously managed by a damaged area of the brain to be taken over by an undamaged area. Halliday, who has a psychology degree, had read a lot on the subject, and recommended some books to Callie.

For the women, a key message was that the more we practise something, the more we strengthen the neural pathway and the easier the skill becomes. This means that in the rehabilitation ward – as in the sports arena – hard work and persistence can pay off. In other words, says Halliday, "the mind-set that you need to become an Olympic athlete is pretty similar to the mind-set that you need to recover from serious injury or illness".

The first time Callie succeeded in moving her left thumb a few millimetres, she wept with relief and started making plans. She soon found that, like Halliday, she was more optimistic than most of the people around her. "I remember sitting with the physios and they said, 'What's your goal?' I said, 'I want to run. I want to water-ski'. I just wanted 100 per cent recovery, nothing less. I remember the pitying look they gave me. Like, 'Well, let's set some small goals. We don't want you to be disappointed'. I wanted to tell them, 'I'm an Olympic athlete, and I'm taking this seriously'".

When she moved to the rehabilitation hospital, where she shared a room with five women, mostly much older than her, Callie had been issued with a commode, a wheelchair and a set of cutlery designed for people whose poor grip and muscle control meant they had trouble feeding themselves. "I soon realised the goal of the occupational therapists, physios and nurses was to teach us how to adapt to our new disability", she says.

She thought back to the lead-up to the Athens Olympics, when she and the six other women in her training squad were competing to represent Australia. The workload imposed by their coach was enormous, but she and Halliday both pushed themselves even harder: Halliday cycled across town in the dark to the boat shed each morning, while Callie went for

long runs before training. "That's why we got selected", Callie says. "We just did that little bit more. I knew that in my rehab, I had to do more than the physios were prescribing. I had to do more than the typical stroke survivor if I was going to be a real survivor".

As soon as she could move one foot in front of the other, Callie spent her evenings making her way unsteadily up and down the railed corridors. "I did a lot of things you weren't meant to do", she says. "When the nurses were in their quarters at night, I'd be trying to play volleyball with a balloon. Doing squats with the wheelchair". Her husband cheered her progress. "Very visible changes were happening week by week", says John, who was pretty busy himself. With the help of Callie's parents, who had arrived from Adelaide, he was looking after two children aged under 14 months while holding down his job as a teacher and rowing coach.

Though Callie missed her family, she had mixed feelings about going home for weekend visits. "It was really hectic", she says. "My brain wasn't ready for that much energy and noise. There were no rails around the house. The shower floor was slippery. Everything was difficult. When I'd come back to rehab on Monday, it was so comfortable. Everyone understood each other. We were like family by the end".

She got restless after a couple of months, though. One morning, she told the nurse on duty she was going for a walk in the car park. That was a lie. "I really wanted to get on a bus and go to the city and have a nice coffee and just be normal", she says. The trip into the Auckland CBD with the peak-hour commuters was thrilling, though at one point she wondered why the man in the next seat was glaring at her.

When she looked down, she saw that her left arm, still weak and wayward, was resting on his briefcase.

By the London Olympics in August 2012, Callie had been discharged from hospital and was briefly back in her home town of Adelaide. The day of the women's lightweight

double sculls final, she and Halliday joined a group watching a TV broadcast of the rowing events. The duo's world record had been broken previously, but their Olympic record still stood. They hoped it would survive another Games - and it did. "We gave each other a quiet high-five", Callie remembers. "Didn't say a word to anyone".

As they were leaving, they were struck by how much their circumstances had changed since Athens. "We sort of hobbled down the stairs together", Halliday says, "and thought, 'Oh God, where are we now?'" At which point, they started laughing and had to steady themselves. "I remember both of us going for the rail at the same time", Callie says.

Halliday has a baby due next month. It is her first, and she says she has been plying Callie with questions: "How do you hold your baby when you've got a weak left side? How do you bath it? That sort of thing". She is also working towards a psychology doctorate. "I was an unco-ordinated kid at high school, and with enough hard work I made the Olympics", she says. "So I can be a brain-injured girl going into university, and with enough hard work I will hopefully end up with a PhD".

Her friend Miranda Bennett, a director of Rowing NSW, is full of admiration. "It's been a long, slow process for Amber, but every time I see her, there's definite improvement in everything she does".

Callie is teaching science and coaching rowing at Brisbane Girls Grammar School. She says her left side isn't yet completely up to speed – she still trips over now and then, and cannot dance – but to her great satisfaction she has been able to take up running again. She believes the events of the past few years have changed her profoundly. "I feel like I'm a much better person", she says. "I've got resilience. And compassion". In her opinion, Halliday has changed, too. "She is a different person now – in a good way. Very understanding, very patient. I think the same thing has happened to her as to me".

To Barnaby Eaton, Rowing Australia's national talent pathways manager, who has known both women for a couple of decades, it is clear that the grit required to deal with the demands and disappointments of their sporting careers helped prepare them for the later challenges they faced. "Like their muscles, they actually strengthened their will and their personality", Eaton says.

Callie used to think that the thousands of hours she had spent on the water had to some extent been wasted because she had come home empty-handed from the Olympics. "But now I can see it wasn't about the gold medal", she says. "It was about surviving this injury". She adds, "I'm prouder to be a stroke survivor than I am to be a triple Olympian. Way prouder".

John Callie says he and his wife have both become more philosophical. "When things get tough in our day-to-day lives, we say, 'Well, how big is this actually? Have a look back at what we came through'". John pauses. "She could never dance. Let me clarify that".

Jane Cadzow writes for Good Weekend magazine, in The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age. She has twice won the Walkley Award for magazine feature writing. She was highly commended in the Graham Perkin Award for Australian Journalist of the Year in 2004. She lives in Canberra with her partner and their two sons.

Australia: Anita Palm

Anita joins a very small and elite list of athletes in the world that have represented their country at the highest level in three sports. She was selected in the world all-star softball team following the 1986 world championships, is an Olympian in BeachVolleyball (ATLANTA, 1996) and was a member of the Australian Volleyball Team. In tandem with her athletic career she extended her passion



and commitment in sport to excel in sports management at a global level. From achieving academic awards in her degree in Human Movement Studies at the University of Queensland she progressed from being the first female and youngest ever National Coaching Director for Australian Volleyball Federation to work across all sports in Olympic Games Organising Committees for Sydney 2000 and Athens 1996 later moving into a sport consulting role with the IOC and various Olympic Bidding Cities.

Whilst this in itself is a phenomenal achievement, what makes Anita remarkable is that whilst achieving her sporting success and forging a stellar career in sports management she found time to give back and volunteer her time inspiring others to also achieve in and through sport. She started volunteering early, from coaching teams at the improbable age of 12 through her years as a dual National representative to eventually foster the career of athletes who continued on to Olympic success. She was the first female vice-president of Volleyball Australia and President of Womensport Queensland also devoting many hours to improving the fitness of her local community and raising money for sporting groups as one of the founders of a local charity.

Now as Head of Sport with the Commonwealth Games at the Gold Coast and vice-President of Volleyball Australia she continues to be an inspiration to all young women in the field of sport both on and off the field with her not only her success but commitment to assisting the next generation to follow their passion in sport wherever it may take them.

Australia: Betty Cuthbert AM MBE – Athletics

Betty Cuthbert was inducted into The Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985 as an Athlete Member for her contribution to the sport of athletics and was elevated to "Legend of Australian Sport" in 1994.



SAHOF

Cuthbert was the true "Golden Girl" of Australian track and field. She won four Olympic gold medals, three in Melbourne in 1956, and the fourth, eight years later in Tokyo in 1964.

The progress towards Melbourne gold began when she was eight and living in Ermington near Parramatta. She was persuaded to join the Western Suburbs Athletic Club by June Ferguson, a teacher at her school and coach at the club.

Rather than changing Cuthbert's natural style, June made it work better by concentrating on driving forward and getting a better start. June also worked on her concentration and used to say, "If you had time to think over 100yds you weren't going fast enough". She was never taught a finish, in the belief that she should be in full flight when breaking the tape, therefore she would aim for a yard beyond the tape before slowing down.

On September 16, 1956, in a race that she was persuaded by her mother to contest, Cuthbert shocked herself and June by breaking the world 200m record with a time of 23.2 seconds. But so unconfident was she that she would be selected into the Olympic team, she bought tickets to attend the Games as a spectator.

At the Olympic trials the following month, Cuthbert showed just how perfectly her preparation had been, peaking to win both the 100m (and beating Marlene Mathews over that distance for the first time) and the 200m. A week later she was chosen for the team, and was able to give the tickets she had bought to her brother John.

At the Games, Cuthbert and Mathews both won their heats, Cuthbert clocking a new world record of 11.4 seconds. In the semi-final later that same day, her concentration lapsed momentarily and was beaten into second by German Christina Stubnick.

In the final, with her mouth agape, Cuthbert surged down the track to win in 11.5 seconds, winning Australia's first gold medal of the Games.

Later in the week, Cuthbert contested the 200m. Having recently set the world record in the distance and having just won the 100m final, she was full of confidence. She got away fast, clearing the way to another gold medal and equalling Marjorie Jackson's Olympic record of 23.4 seconds.

Australia was favourite for the 4x100m relay and the final team consisted of Cuthbert, Shirley Strickland, Fleur Mellor, and Norma Croker. The team performed magnificently, creating a new world record of 44.9 seconds in the heat, then broke the record again to win the final from Great Britain in 44.5 seconds. This made Cuthbert the first Australian, male or female, ever to win three gold medals at a single Olympics.

The publicity at these games made Betty Cuthbert a national hero and an inspiration to many young girls who wanted to run like Betty and follow in her footsteps.

Cuthbert competed at the 1958 Cardiff British Empire and Commonwealth Games and won two silver medals, in the 220yds and the 4x110yds relay.

Cuthbert had a torn hamstring before the 1960 Rome Olympic Games and as a consequence, she failed to survive the second round of the 100m, and was forced to withdraw from the 200m. Neither the injury nor the failure in Rome influenced her decision to retire as much as her hatred of being a public figure. After Rome she retired to the peace and quiet of her father's nursery.

Eighteen months later, the idea of making a comeback entered her mind. She tried to push it away but the urge became more insistent. She finally gave in and took advice from June Ferguson again, who suggested she try the 400m. She spent some time with Percy Cerutti at Portsea, improving her endurance, then began an intensive training program under Ferguson's guidance. She competed at the 1962 Perth British Empire and Commonwealth Games, winning gold in the 4x110yds relay.

Cuthbert broke two 440yds world records in March 1963, but was hampered in the 1963/64 season by an injury to her right foot. She was beaten at the 1964 national championships but finally won at the distance at the Olympic fundraising carnival.

At the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, Cuthbert ran just well enough in the heat of the 400m to qualify for the semi-finals. In the draw for the final, she received the lane she wanted, number two, with most of her opposition across the track outside her. She started explosively, passing her Australian teammate Judy Amooore (Pollock). Over the last 100m, she drew on all her reserves, and all her sprinting capacity winning the race in 52.01 seconds.

Drained of all incentive, Cuthbert retired from international competition after the Games. In domestic competition, she won three national titles, the 220yds in 1955/1956 and 1959/1960 and the 440yds in 1962/1963.

In 1956 she won the coveted Helms Award and became a Member of the British Empire (MBE) in 1965 for her services to athletics in NSW. In 1984 she was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her services to sport and the community.

In the 1970s, Cuthbert was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and began actively campaigning for research funds for the Multiple Sclerosis Society. To complete a magnificent career, she was one of the final torch bearers in the opening ceremony of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games.

Betty Cuthbert was an inspirational athlete to many young women who was inspired by her running feats and her shy and humble demeanour. She will always be known as the Golden Girl of the Australian track and loved by many as a wonderful role model.

From the Sport Australia Hall of Fame and Editor.

Australia: Betty Mitchell Watson OAM

Betty Watson is the “mother of women's basketball” in Melbourne, Victoria and Australia. She started as one of the pioneer players, playing against American nurses in 1942, then initiated the first official basketball games for women in the 1950's at the Albert Park Basketball Stadium, to become the first Victorian State President for Women's Basketball and then Australia – positions she held for 20 years.

In all these positions Betty demonstrated her strong leadership skills which lead to success for the sport at local, state and national level. The Women's National Basketball League (WNBL) is considered one of the strongest leagues in the world and the Opals have won silver or bronze medals at the last five Olympics and a World Championship.

Through her volunteer efforts (she was never a paid administrator) Betty Watson has directly contributed to improving the physically active lives of girls, women and families, and through her basketball involvement she has brought new sporting opportunities and long term health benefits to many girls and women in Victoria and across Australia. She has been a wonderful role model for others in sport.

In 1998 she was awarded an OAM for her contributions to women's sport and basketball in particular.

Betty Watson was born in Melbourne 28 May 1925; married to Ken Watson for 64 years. Ken (a Mathematics Lecturer) was Secretary of the Victorian Basketball Association (VABA) for 37 years and Secretary of the Australian Basketball Federation for 10 years. He played and coached Australia at Olympic Games. Two sons represented Australia at Olympic Games and the other was an international standard referee.

In the 1930's Betty saw her first game of basketball at the Fitzroy “stadium” between the local team “Church” and a visiting Mormon team.

She played her first game of real basketball in 1942 against American nurses who were stationed at the "4th General Hospital" (Royal Melbourne) during the war years. "I immediately loved the game as compared to netball as you could run all over the court and everyone could shoot".

Betty worked for the Red Cross and served in the land Army, spreading flax at Koo-wee-rup in Gippsland. Married in 1945 to Ken, their home became a basketball office – full on "kitchen table top" administration as Ken was VABA Secretary and Betty was his helper, with weekly VABA meetings at their home and supper provided.

The 1950's were very busy years with three young boys and her husband the State and National Secretary; plus the development of the men's game into the international sphere with many overseas teams, coaches, players and administrators visiting and being entertained by the Watson's. In 1954 FIBA (International Basketball Federation) directed its members to develop women's basketball. Ken asked Betty for ideas on "what to do?" and the rest is history.

Betty Watson has been part of the following:

- 1955, the first Australian Women's Basketball Championships were held at the Hall of Industries, Melbourne Showgrounds, with six states competing.
- 1958/1959, the first six courts came into use at the Albert Park Stadium.
- 1960's, state and national President; continued to 1981 (the year she nursed her son with cancer).
- 1963, organised the first women's basketball tour of Asian countries.

- 1960's and 1970's; leading female administrator for basketball for domestic and national competition.
- 1968, the first Under 18 Women's Australian Championships.
- 1974, Manager of Australian team touring Asia, including mainland China.
- 1975, Manager of Australian team at World Championships in South America.
- 1970's; Member of the Ministerial Advisory Committee for the Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation.
- 2012, Inducted into Basketball Australia's' Hall of Fame as a legend of Basketball – the only female legend to date.

Betty Watson has done it all in women's basketball, from being one of the pioneer players, to starting the first competitions in Melbourne, assisting with the first national championships, the first national club championships, the first touring Australian teams (as Manager) as well as administrating and chairing all of the committees along the way.

At the local level she started the first competitions by advertising. Betty's view was that it pays to advertise, so women's basketball began with an ad in the Sporting Globe newspaper! She established the many committees that were required to run the new competitions at Albert Park, developing a Junior Women's Council as well as a Senior Women's Council. She was the manager of the initial Victorian women's teams competing in the annual Australian Championships and during the championships chaired the meetings of the Australian Women's Basketball Association.

The women's game flourished at all levels. However, it was observed that Australia lacked tall centre players for international competition so Betty advertised again in the

Sporting Globe, but this time for tall players. Success again. Sandra Tomlinson was one of the many young women who saw the ad and started playing, later representing her state and country (and she still competes at Australian and World Masters Games). This is a typical example of Betty's initiative and leadership.

Some of the players, such as Sandra Tomlinson above, were brought into the administration of the sport and assisted Betty as recruiters, organisers, fund raisers and committee members. Supported by this group of very loyal, hardworking local women, Betty was able to administrate annual national championships and World Championships every four years, growing the sport to where it is today.

Her ongoing volunteer involvement in basketball from the 1950's to the 1980's established and grew the sport into the first Australian women's national league (the WNBL started in 1981) and a highly successful Olympic sport. The WNBL has honoured her by naming one of their annual awards the Betty Watson Rookie of the Year Award.

Betty Watson's leadership has been most successful because of her passion for basketball but more so for her excellent communication skills and public relations. She has high personal standards of honesty, fairness for all and treats individuals with care and compassion, and a sense of humour. She has been a wonderful ambassador for the sport here and abroad. She has enjoyed mixing and mingling with all nationalities and was able to establish effective personal and working relationships with sporting officials across Australia and internationally. You never heard a bad word about Betty!

Betty Watson was the first woman administrator in basketball to stand up for the rights of females to participate in basketball, on the same basis as the men.

Betty Watson was able to start up a new sport that has been taken up as a school and community sport, played across Australia at the grass-roots to national and international level. She has encouraged the infrastructure to match the competitions, so that female

referees, bench officials, timekeepers and administrators have found new avenues of participation in the sport. She has encouraged women into leadership positions, establishing separate women's committees to administrate the sport, and as such has had a huge impact on many girls and women that have been directly involved with her.

Historically, Victoria has been the dominant state in women's and men's basketball (and still is). The successful structure of women's basketball in Victoria was copied by the other state bodies – and Betty's power of persuasion often overcame state rivalries to secure agreement on a way forward for the Australian team and/or the conduct of national championships. Through her long-standing and successful involvement and negotiations at the national level Betty Watson was able to contribute to various campaigns for equity in opportunity, participation and funding for women's basketball, thus contributing to long term sustainable change for women in this sport.

Australia: A letter from Mountain Bike Mechanic and Mentor Tim Chadd on Caroline Buchanan



What I find most inspiring about Caroline Buchanan is not that she has won 5 World Championship, 16 Australian Championship and awards far too numerous to list here.

Over the past 8 years since I first met a fresh faced teenage Caroline, I have been most impressed by her refusal to accept the mainstream and chase her dreams without allowing negative events, people or situations drag her down.

BMX and mountain bike racing is all about approaching the obstacles on your course better than the other athletes. It is therefore completely natural for Caroline to approach things at full speed, when most people would be too terrified to attempt them. Caroline, like most champions, views an obstacle as an opportunity to go faster and higher and for her this applies both on and off the track.

Caroline's energetic and polite personality has grown into a purposeful presence that still carries the 100% genuine smile that can capture the attention of an audience and hold their attention while she delivers a calculated address.

Caroline has used the obstacles of being a female athlete, in a non-mainstream sport, with little media coverage, funding and sponsorship as a launching ramp for her successful career both on and off the bike. She is constantly seeking out ways to improve and succeed and most importantly, never gives up.

The perception of poor work ethic, sense of entitlement and unrealistic expectations sometimes associated with others in her generation are polar opposites to this 24 year old, whose training, competition, media, business and travel schedules would rival any CEO or politician.

Rather than having an expectation fortune will fall her way, Caroline chases down opportunities like a cheetah after its prey. Not just the low hanging fruit, but the difficult ideas and concepts others have given up on or consider not ripe enough, are pursued with even more vigor.

Caroline's work with government to have an international BMX training and competition facility built in her home town of Canberra are a prime example of her being undeterred by even the thickest of red tape. Projects such as a facility to train for the Olympic Games have a direct benefit to Caroline, however, two of her more recent projects, the Next Gen girls development BMX team and a signature balance bike for toddlers are proof of her desire to give back to the community.

Caroline's community is an international one. Rather than spend hours gazing at new and social media Caroline is constantly studying how to use this platform in an efficient and effective manner to gain exposure not available through traditional channels. The result is a huge following with a measurable and appreciative fan base, that gives her work and her brand legitimate value.

The 15 second video grabs and carefully filtered photos give the impression of someone born with natural talent and abilities reserved for just a few. Behind the podium back drops and left on the modern equivalent of the cutting room floor are hours, days, weeks and months of nose to the grind stone old fashioned hard work. Caroline's calculated and positive approach to life is genuine, so avoiding the pitfalls of the twenty four news cycle is not as difficult as it would be for others with a profile similar or more exposing.

A rare public insight into what is behind those green eyes was displayed to the whole world at the 2012 London Olympics. The raw emotion of disappointment poured out live to the world. What would Caroline's world look like if she had won? In my opinion nothing as varied and possibly not as progressed as it is now. Not winning Olympic gold poured rocket fuel on the fires in both her athletic and business ambition.

Successful people can be measured by their results and their relationships. Doing so much of the work herself, but due to her genuine appreciation of those who surround

and support her, Caroline is backed by the best in the business. An impressive network of family, friends, coaches, supporters and advisers remain on call to help, guide and sometimes just listen through the dips. We now know that they quickly become the take off for another jump.

Those of us privileged to have seen behind the scenes know how many crashes, injuries, rejections, trial runs, preparation hours, unsuccessful proposals, and late nights of work, that give Caroline the ability to spot opportunities and turn them into success. Witnessing the way Caroline continues to turn the downs into ups and launch off them with style is exciting and inspirational on many levels.

Australia: Catherine Freeman OAM – Athletics



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At 16 years of age, Catherine won gold at the 1990 Auckland Commonwealth Games as part of the 4x100m relay team, and at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics she became the first Aboriginal track and field athlete to represent Australia at an Olympic Games. In 1994 she won double gold at the Victoria Commonwealth Games in the 200m (22.25 secs) and 400m (50.38).

In Melbourne 1996, she became the first Australian woman to run under 50 seconds for the 400m. Then at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, she became the sixth fastest woman ever over 400m, running a Commonwealth record and winning silver (48.63) behind Marie-Jose Perec in arguably the greatest one lap race of all time. After Atlanta, Freeman won back to back World Championships in the 400m in 1997 (49.77) and 1999 (49.67) then won the 200m (22.78) and 400m (50.00) national titles in February 2000 at Stadium Australia.

Catherine's role in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games embedded her name forever in Olympic history and Australian history. She lit the cauldron in the Olympic Stadium - after the torch had been handled by six Australian women, who had between them won 15 gold medals - in an Opening Ceremony that celebrated both a century of women's participation and the heritage of indigenous Australians.

Eleven nights later she fulfilled a mission that had absorbed her life: she won the 400m final (49.11), and claimed Australia's 100th gold medal. The weight of expectations she carried into that race was enormous. Apart from the hopes of a nation, there was an extra load - 400yds of history. Wearing a bodysuit, she was fourth out of the blocks, she appeared to catapult herself clear of her rivals in the straight. Later she danced through a victory lap, carrying Australian and Aboriginal flags. Not since 1964, when Betty Cuthbert was successful over the same distance in Tokyo, had an Australian woman won a flat race on the track at the Games.

She finished the Games with a seventh in the 200m final, and ran a great anchor leg (49.35) for the Australian 4x400m relay team, finishing fifth in a new Australian record time.

After taking a break from athletics after the Games, Catherine competed in the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester, in the 4x400m relay. In a thrilling finish to the athletics program, the women's team of Lauren Hewitt, Freeman, Tamsyn Lewis, and Jana Pittman ran a sensational race, crossing the line in a new Games record of 3:25.63 for gold.

Her personal bests are: 100m - 11.24 (1994), 200m - 22.25 (22.25), 400m - 48.63 (1996). Catherine won 13 Australian titles from 100yds to 400m and set 8 individual Australian (open) records in the 200m and 400m, as well as the 4x400m relay.

Catherine was awarded Young Australian of the Year in 1990 and Australian of the Year in 1998 (the only person to ever be awarded both honours). In 2000, she was named the Laureus Female Athlete of the Year, and in 2001 was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM). Catherine was inducted in the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 2005 and was elevated to "Legend" status in 2011.

Since retiring from the track Catherine has founded and directs the Cathy Freeman Foundation, which aims to close the gap between indigenous and non-indigenous children and to provide pathways to a brighter future.

In 2007 her autobiography was published: Cathy Freeman, *Born To Run: My Story*. She is now married with one child.

From the Sport Australia Hall of Fame and Editor.

Australia: Dawn Fraser AO MBE – Swimming



Dawn Fraser was the first female inductee into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985 as an Athlete Member for her contribution to the sport of swimming and was elevated to "Legend of Australian Sport" in 1993.

Fraser is probably Australia's most decorated and most controversial athlete of all time. Known for her politically incorrect behaviour and larrikin character as much as her athletic ability, she won eight Olympic medals, and six British Empire and Commonwealth Games gold medals. Fraser is recognised as Australia's greatest Olympic athlete and in 1999 the International Olympic Committee named her the World's Greatest Living Female Water Sports Champion.

She won the Olympic 100m freestyle title at the 1956 Melbourne Games and went on to win it again at the 1960 Rome Games and the 1964 Tokyo Games, becoming the first swimmer of either sex to win the same event at three successive Olympics. She was the first woman to break the minute for the 100m freestyle, held the world record for that distance for an incredible sixteen years, and possessed 23 individual world records and was part of 12 team world records.

Fraser was four when she learned to swim at the Balmain Baths in Sydney, New South Wales, and was competing seriously by the age of 11. Suffering asthma, swimming helped her breathing. Coach Harry Gallagher recognised the raw talent and persuaded her to join his squad at Drummoyne, where he was pool manager. He even waived his normal fee of 12 guineas for six months.

She was disqualified after her first amateur race at the age of 14, on the grounds that she had been involved with a professional club and had to stand down from swimming for eighteen months. After the NSW titles in 1953/54, in which she finished third to Lorraine Crapp in the 100yds freestyle, and won the 220yds freestyle, she travelled to Melbourne for the 1954 national titles, and finished third in the 110yds freestyle.

Fraser failed to win at the NSW titles of 1954/1955, which were dominated by Crapp, but was chosen to go to Adelaide for the nationals as a reserve member of the NSW team for the 220yds. When Crapp was forced to withdraw, Fraser was given the chance to compete. She won the 220yds in Australian record time of 2 min 29.5 sec. It was that victory, more than anything else, which caused her to devote herself utterly to training and improving.

When Fraser was 17, Gallagher was offered the chance to manage the City Baths in Adelaide, and he persuaded her parents to let her go and train under him in Adelaide. The following summer, 1955/1956, she won every South Australian individual freestyle title - 110yds, 220yds, 440yds, and 880yds. Then in February 1956, she went to Sydney for the national championships that would decide the training squad for the Melbourne Olympics.

Fraser finished second behind Crapp in the 440yds, however she won the 110yds, out sprinting Crapp over the second lap to break a 20 year old record with a time of 64.5 seconds. She then won the 220yds, beating Crapp again to set a new world mark for both the 200m (2:20.7) and the 220yds (2:21.2). By the time the Olympic trials were over, Fraser and Crapp shared the world record of 62.4 seconds for the 100m.

At the 1956 Melbourne Olympics, Fraser led an Australian medal sweep of the swimming. Swimming in neighboring lanes, Fraser and Crapp were dead level with 25m to go, swimming stroke for stroke. Both women finished inside the previous world record and Fraser set a new mark of 62 seconds. She won a second gold in the world record breaking 4x100m freestyle relay with Faith Leech, Sandra Morgan, and Crapp with a time of 4:17.1, and won silver in the 400m freestyle.

Two years later at the 1958 Cardiff British Empire and Commonwealth Games, Fraser won two gold medals, in the 110yds freestyle and the 4x110yds freestyle relay and silver in the 440yds freestyle.

At the 1960 Rome Olympics, Fraser's main objective was the 100m freestyle. Although still weak from gastric problems suffered after her arrival in Rome, she sailed through her heat and semi-final, and then beat American Chris von Saltza convincingly in 61.2 seconds to win the final. That victory made her the only Australian woman to win gold at those Games, and the third person and first woman in history (after Duke Kahanamoku and Johnny Weissmuller) to win the 100m freestyle at successive Olympics.

After these Olympics, Fraser was banned from swimming in international races for two years due to a number of misdemeanours in Rome, including not wearing the national track suit to receive her gold medal and being accused of taking part in an unauthorised swim in Switzerland.

At the 1962 Perth British Empire and Commonwealth Games, Fraser won four gold medals, in the 110yds freestyle, 440yds freestyle, 4x110yds freestyle relay, and the 4x110yds medley relay.

Soon after the 1964 Australian championships, Fraser was involved in a car crash in which her mother was killed. She suffered severe injuries which caused her neck and back to be encased in a steel brace for nine weeks. At the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, she came back to

swim inside the minute in her 100m freestyle semi-final, then won the final in a world record time of 59.5 seconds. That swim made her the only person of either sex to win the golden hat trick. She also won silver in the 4x100m freestyle relay and placed fourth in the 400m.

Again, Fraser was no stranger to officialdom at the Tokyo Olympics. She smuggled herself into the Opening Ceremony with other female swimmers despite a ban placed on swimmers competing in the first three days, and then went on to wear a swim suit that was produced by a rival manufacturer. At the end of the Games, Fraser was arrested for stealing a flag from the entrance to the Emperor's Palace, but after she apologised and the police realised who she was, the charges were dropped and the police gave her the flag as a gift. Despite all of this, Fraser was elected to carry the Australian flag in the closing ceremony.

Upon her arrival back in Australia, the Australian Swimming Union proceeded to suspend Fraser from all forms of competitive swimming for ten years. This was later reduced to four years; however, it meant the end of her Olympic career. In 1965 Fraser retired from swimming,

Between 1955 and 1964, Fraser won 22 Australian individual championships from 110yds to 440yds freestyle as well as the 110yds butterfly.

She was Australian of the Year in 1964 and was made a Member of the British Empire (MBE) in 1967 and an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 1998. In 1964 she was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame at Fort Lauderdale.

After retiring from swimming Fraser tried her hand at a number of things: publican at a hotel in Balmain, swimming coaching, was elected as an independent member for Balmain to the NSW House of Representatives, chaired a Ministerial Committee on Women's Sport for the NSW government, Patron and Ambassador for various organisations and still features in various advertisements for health related products.

“Dawnie” is a popular figure in Australian sport and makes herself available to comment on current and controversial sport issues.

From the Sport Australia Hall of Fame and Editor.

Australia: Heather Reid AM – a football story – by Marion K Stell and Heather Reid



Heather Reid AM has made a significant impact on and contribution to the promotion of sport to women and girls over a period of 35 years in Australia. As is evident, our nation is well served by thousands of sports administrators who selflessly give of their time and resources every week, and have done so for many years, to benefit the sporting community and society as a whole. They are rewarded by receiving appropriate sporting awards and recognition including life memberships of their organisations at community, state and national level. Heather Reid has indeed received many such rewards herself over the years.

The progress of women's sport in Australia, and indeed across the world, has never been straightforward or uncontested. Gains made in one generation can quickly be lost in the next. Real change has only occurred when individuals with vision challenge the way

the system works and ensure those changes are sustainable. It is not about the number of years you devote to sport, or the number of positions you hold, or even the resources or money you devote to the task.

Heather Reid, like many before her and since, began her involvement in women's football (soccer) at the club and state level in the late 1970's. As she worked her way through the state and national levels of what was then the Australian Women's Soccer Association from the early 1980s she challenged the way their business was done. She personally turned the organisation from an amateur model of administration to one that would be resilient in the marketplace. She guided the organisation from the 'kitchen table' to the international boardroom. As National Executive Director of Women's Soccer Australia from 1986-1993 her first tasks were to build strong club competitions across Australia that fed into state and national championships. Here player numbers and increased opportunity were the key focus and she helped turn football into the fastest growing sport for women and girls in Australia. Accompanying national teams overseas, she realised the importance of developing professional networks firstly in Oceania and then in Asia and using them to further the reach of football. Her international advocacy led directly to the establishment of the FIFA World Cup for women in 1991. At home her advocacy saw women's football included as a development program at the Australian Institute of Sport.

As the stakes for women in football began to change, Heather Reid ensured that the amateur nature of the sport was changed across the whole spectrum. She saw the need for Australian players to gain international experience and exposure, negotiating the first international contracts for Australian women players in Europe and the USA. As she opened up opportunities for players to make a semi-professional career in the sport, Heather was herself sought after for her skills and expertise by many organisations outside football. Nevertheless, football remained at the top of her personal priorities, in these years her international advocacy and vision also ensured the introduction of women's football on the 1996 Olympic Games program.

Not content with the progress made for the playing side of football, Heather Reid realised that further systemic change was needed for the sport to be truly sustainable and competitive. To these ends she developed world-class strategies to increase women's opportunities for leadership roles in sporting organisations, she developed mentoring programs for women coaches and referees, she created pathways for women in promotion and lobbied hard for increased professional media coverage of women in sport.

Heather Reid has been Chief Executive of a State Football Federation (Capital Football in Canberra) where she oversees the integration and administration of men's, women's, and junior indoor and outdoor football. She is the only woman in such a role in Australia. In this capacity she constantly challenges the ethos and practices of the code. In addition, Reid has been CEO of Canberra United, a foundation club in the Westfield W-League. She manages the stand-alone team without A-League money or backing with the team securing two premierships and two championships in the seven years of the W-League. She has long recognised the strategic role that a strong national competition plays in the sustainability of sport – men's or women's – in Australia and internationally and the link this has to Australia's international success in sport.

Heather Reid has facilitated change in sports administration, to adopt an all-encompassing attitude to empower women and improve gender equity across sport. She has demonstrated the importance of ensuring that all the building blocks are in place. Her unique vision and approach have guided women's football and as a result she has had a profound impact on the approach to women's, and now men's and junior sport - professionalising them without the safety net of major sponsorship or millionaire donors. She has achieved what many thought was impossible by taking a sport played by few females, to the fastest growing sport for women and girls, from amateur players to professional players able to play seasons in Europe and the USA as well as Australia. She has brought international players and coaches to Australia, and she has promoted women in leadership roles and in all aspects of the game including refereeing, sports promotion and commentary. She has lobbied for women's sport to be seen on television, heard on

radio and read about in the newspapers. But importantly, she has ensured that football is played at a standard to warrant the media attention that has resulted from the hard work. She has overseen the status of the sport raised from very little international competition to FIFA World Cup tournaments at senior, under 20 and under 17 levels as well as Olympic Games standard. No job description has called for the extent of these profound changes. She has stood against years of overt sexism and discrimination with good humour and poise. She has faced many challenges with a strong character and personal integrity. She has never been interested in self-aggrandisement or personal gain.

Heather Reid is an Ambassador for the Australian Womensport and Recreation Association (was Vice President for six years), received an Australian Sports Medal in 2000, is listed in the Football Federation Australia Hall of Fame and in 2015 was made a Member of the Order of Australia.

Australia: Kathleen Anderson OAM

Physical Education is an area that involves Health, Games/Sport, Gymnastics, Dance and Outdoor Education. During my lifetime I have concentrated on all of these areas and contributed to the development of skills and positive attitudes for girls.

As a Physical Education / Health Coordinator and teacher for 5 years, a Netball player, coach, umpire and Association executive and committee member for 56, 43, 28, 15 years respectively; a Duke of Edinburgh Leader for 18 years; an Executive member of the ACT Outdoor Education Association for 18 years; a Girl Guide leader, Commissioner and NSW committee representative for 14, 4, 2 years plus a Gymnastics coach and judge for 5 years I have aimed to encourage people, especially girls, to get involved in Physical Education and attempt all activities and challenges to the best of their abilities. I have also tried to present a positive role model for a physically active life.

My initial teacher positions from 1971 to 1973 were as a PE teacher / Sports Mistress at two Sydney (NSW) Girls' Schools. During this time I taught Health, Sports, Dance and Gymnastics. I also set up coaching for Netball and had ten teams in the City Saturday competition; Athletics and Swimming for one term each before and after school once a week. I established a Gymnastics club which practised twice a week after school. After this I took 15 years off from paid employment as our family travelled overseas and around Australia while bringing up four children. Helping at schools with gross motor skills, reading recovery, a Science club, and being on Parent Committees kept me in touch with programs.

I returned to Maths and Science teaching in 1989. In 1997 a new Physical Education, Music and Photography block was built at Telopea Park School in the ACT and I became the Physical Education / Health Coordinator from 1998 to 2000. During this time I taught Physical Education and Health for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. I coached a variety of school sporting teams and also set up a weekly climbing group as the gym had an indoor climbing wall.

I also initiated a review of the Curriculum to present to the Board of the School, which was completed, printed and passed by the Board in 2000. All members of the Faculty were involved in this review. Semester Courses for Years 7 and 8 were rewritten to reflect current requirements from the School and the Education Department. Pre existing courses for Years 9 and 10 such as Sports Leadership, Sports Science, Dance and Aerobics were reformatted. It was decided to introduce new single sex courses for Years 9 and 10 to be called "Women in Sport", "Fitness for Boys" and "Team Sports". "Outdoor Education" was written but not taught at this time due to staffing constrictions. All courses were then reviewed or written collegiately by team members with each member responsible for a particular area of their expertise. This strategy meant that students could elect PE courses which suited their interests and abilities. Emphasis could be put on issues that were relevant to male and female development and health. It also catered to different cultures, ethnicity and physical attributes within the school community. With over 65 different nationalities at the school it was imperative that the Curriculum was inclusive. By

offering a variety of courses for girls, they developed abilities, confidence and leadership skills through Physical Education.

I have played Netball from Primary school through Junior and senior rep teams, as a NSW State player to currently playing in a weekly competition and at Masters' carnivals. As a coach for club, District Representative and State Schoolgirls teams; as an umpire and as an Association President, Secretary and committee member, I have contributed to the Physical Education of girls for most of my life. These four parts of our sporting organisation work together and are interdependent to develop the love of sport and structure needed to support the girls of today to stay active and involved in team sports. Girls I have been involved with have gone on to play in State, representative, competitive and social teams; coach other teams; assist with umpiring and provide infrastructure for Associations.

The Duke of Edinburgh Scheme is an International leadership in action program available to young people aged 14 to 25 in 140 countries. Participants complete a Physical Recreation, Skill, Service and an Adventurous Journey. At Telopea Park School students were responsible for completing the first three sections themselves whilst I organised the "Adventurous Journeys" as a strand of "Outdoor Education". These involved caving in over 20 different caves; abseiling; canyoning through over 15 canyons; downhill and cross country skiing; canoeing but mostly bushwalking. Once a week classes were held for theoretical instruction. These were followed by weekend and school holiday activities. Over 18 years I organised and participated in 261 trips over 584 days. Some of these were one day compass walks, most were weekend walks, whilst others were extended walks of up to 8 days including the Overland track in Tasmania and the Croajingalong walk on the NSW / Victoria border. This was available for both girls and boys but the girls gained so much more, being physically active in the bush. This contribution was done on weekends and during school holidays while I worked as a Science and Physical Education teacher at a government High School. The developments in skills, courage, confidence, determination, problem solving, responsibility, team work, self esteem and health are reflected in the many positive letters and comments from the girls involved and their parents.

The four main elements of the Australian Guide Programme are Physical, Practical, People and Self. As a Girl Guide leader, assessor and Commissioner for Brownies, Guides and Rangers in NSW and ACT I made sure that all meetings included aspects of these elements. All programs also included unit, patrol or District camps. When I became North Rocks (NSW) District commissioner there was a large waiting list. A meeting was held and adult leaders recruited. The training and emphasis on fun, learning and physical activity meant the District increased from 4 units to 10 units in the next three years. As a unit leader for Brownies in USA, Guides in Duffy ACT and North Rocks NSW and Rangers in North Rocks I supported girls to develop many life skills through this world - wide movement including Physical Education. Current research bears out the importance of outdoor activity for youth, particularly girls for their physical, mental and social well being. I was on the NSW committees for the organisation of the Innabanya Muster and for the future directions of Guiding.

As a founding and continuing Executive member of the ACT Outdoor Education Association (ACTOEA) I have been involved in many aspects of this part of Physical Education. These have included providing support and facilities for people to gain qualifications towards their Certificate IV in Outdoor Education, coordinating the National Outdoor Education conference (2012), producing newsletters to disseminate information and facilitating networks for practitioners. By gaining various Outdoor qualifications I have assisted other teachers / adults on trips to the Nullarbor for caving as well as trips for bushwalking, abseiling and canyoning.

Similarly, as a gymnastics coach and judge, I encouraged girls to participate in a rewarding physical activity. Girls I have coached have progressed to joining clubs and those I have judged have gone on to representative contests and programs.

In all of these activities I have facilitated, encouraged and supported girls to become and continue to be involved with Physical Education.

Kathleen Anderson OAM B Ed (PE).

Australia: Kia Dowell



Kia is a Gija woman from Warmun Community (Turkey Creek) in the East Kimberley of Western Australia. Her traditional Aboriginal name is Wadjbarreyal and her skin name is Nangala. As one of seven siblings, Kia's heritage stems from the Gija nation and English and Scottish immigrants.

Raised in regional Australia presented Kia with adversity and lessons on resilience from a young age. The social issues which so strongly define Aboriginal Australia today were shocking scenarios back then and none more so than a rainy night in Warmun when Kia was 8 years old. It was one of the defining moments in her life that would see her commit her life to education and sport. After her parents decided to leave the community of 400 people in an effort to access better education in Darwin, then 12 year old Kia set her sights and every waking hour to achieving one of four simple but not small goals 1) To play basketball in the US, 2) To go to University, 3) To wear the green and gold for Australia and 4) To own her own business. All while ensuring that her pride in Gija culture, honouring Aboriginal wisdom and knowledge never wavered.

By the age of 23 Kia achieved all but goal number 4....until a few years ago.

Kia is now Co-Founder of The Cultural Connection Code and was recently named as a Finalist in the WA Business News prestigious 40under40 Business Awards. As a business and leadership coach with extensive commercial, cultural and community experience, Kia is passionate about working to support the growth of profitable and sustainable Aboriginal businesses that serve a greater social purpose. Using her knowledge and expertise gained in Australia and the US, Kia guides individuals to realize their dreams of business success, cultural connection and leadership through Indigenous eyes and meaningful community engagement.

Kia's natural ability as a leader was cemented during her career as an elite basketball player which saw her spend 8 years in the USA competing in NCAA Division 1 women's basketball and winning bronze while representing Australia at the 2005 World University Games. Kia balanced her sporting and academic commitments by volunteering with numerous organisations focusing on low socio-economic areas. It was during this life-changing period that her desire to create a legacy focused on personal and cultural appreciation came to life.

While living overseas, she realised there was more curiosity and appreciation of Aboriginal culture globally than there was in Australia. Though initially disappointing, it also presented an opportunity to tap into her life time of experiences as an Aboriginal woman, the extensive tools and strategies she learnt and practiced as an elite athlete and the challenges of starting a profitable and successful company.

Kia has a MBA International Business, BBA in Business Management and a Graduate Certificate in Community Relations in the Resources Sector. She is currently an independent Director with The Clough Foundation.

Australia: Lauren Jackson AO



Lauren is the most recognised and decorated female basketballer in Australia.

The outstanding athlete has captained the Australian Opals (National Women's team), since 2006, and was the youngest player ever selected at the age of 16, in 1997.

Lauren has made more than 60 international appearances for Australia, including at Olympic and World Championship levels.

She said the Australian honour has reminded her of why she loves the sport.

"It makes me realise that basketball means the world to me. I get a bit emotional talking about it because lately it's been taken away from me through injury".

"It's one of those things, like when I carried the Australian flag at the 2012 Olympics, you never expect. It's a huge honour and I'm kind of blown away by it".

Injuries have put a dampener on the 34-year-old's career in recent years. She underwent more knee surgery in May in a bid to get right for the final year of her contract

with the Canberra Capitals in the Women's National Basketball League. She also hasn't given up hope of a fairy tale swansong at Rio de Janeiro next year, which would be her fifth Olympic Games.

Lauren was Australian International Player of the Year, winning the Maher Medal in 2008, 2006, 2004, 2002, 2000 and in 1999. She was inducted into the 'Best of the Best' at the Australian Institute of Sport in 2005. She was named Most Valuable Player in the Australian Women's National Basketball League, in 2004, 2003, 2000 and 1999.

She is patron and sponsor of the Commercial Club Bandits Basketball Club of Albury-Wodonga.

She leads the Lauren Jackson 15 Elites Basketball Training and Camps and is patron of the Aussie Hoops basketball program (promoting sport for 5-10 year olds).

She was the all-time Leading Scorer in the Olympic Women's Basketball competition in 2012.

Her international career included captaining the Seattle Storm in the American Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) since 2001 where she was the 'Most Valuable Player' in 2010, 2007 and 2003.

She was WNBA Champion in 2010 and, 2004; a WNBA All-Star in 2009-2010, 2005-2007, 2002-2003 and was part of the All-WNBA First Team in 2003-2010.

She has played in China, Spain, Russia and in South Korea.

She was a Silver Medallist at the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008, at the Athens Olympic Games in 2004 and at the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000.

She was a Bronze Medallist at the London Olympic Games in 2012.

She was a Gold Medallist at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne in 2006.

She was a gold medallist at the 2006 International Basketball Federation (FIBA) World Championships in Brazil, a bronze medallist in 2002 and in 1998.

She has been patron of Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia, since 2011 and has been a Gender Equality Champion for UN Women Australia, since 2014 and a member, since 2012.

She is Ambassador for the Albury-Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre Trust and the Australian Womensport and Recreation Association.

Australia: Lindy Hou OAM: Paralympic Gold Medallist and World Champion

As a small child Lindy dreamed of standing on the Olympic podium with a Gold medal around her neck. In 2004 at the Athens Paralympic Games that dream became a reality when she won a gold, two silver and one bronze medal.

Winning those medals in Athens proved to me that any one can, with hard work, dedication and a goal to achieve, fulfil their sweetest dreams.

Lindy suffers from a degenerative eye condition called Retinitis Pigmentosa. She began losing her sight in the mid-1980s and is now, in 2015, almost totally blind. Twenty-five years ago as her sight began failing, Lindy was forced to give up playing ball sports and decided that as an alternative, she would participate in the sport of triathlon, which she

did for many years. During the early 1990s, despite her failing eyesight, Lindy represented Australia twice in the World Triathlon Championships as an able-bodied athlete for her age group.

During that time Lindy was also very involved in coaching, working with a variety of sports including Softball, Triathlon, Athletics, Cycling and Strength and Conditioning.

For many people, losing their sight often means the end of being involved; not so for Lindy. In 1999 she rediscovered the joy of cycling; this time on a tandem bike. When Lindy very narrowly missed selection for the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Team the disappointment made her determined to be a member of the Australian team for the 2004 Games in Athens.

The Athens Paralympic Games were a triumph for Lindy. Not only did she make the team with pilots Janelle Lindsay and Toireasa Gallagher, but she and Janelle had the honour of being the first Australian females to win Gold at the Athens Paralympic Games. She came home with a total of four medals. During the Games, Lindy and Janelle set the World Women's 200m Fly record of 11.675 seconds.

Exactly one year later, on the 19th September 2005, when Lindy and her pilot Toireasa Gallagher set the One Hour World Women's Tandem record of 42.93km at the Sydney Dunc Gray Velodrome, Lindy held the shortest and the longest world records recognised by the Union of Cycling International (UCI), the governing body for world cycling!

Another year later, in September 2006, Lindy finally won her first Rainbow Jersey (the world championship jersey) with her pilot Toireasa Gallagher when they won two Gold medals at the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) World Championships.

At the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games, Lindy and Toireasa continued to win cycling medals for Australia by winning a silver and bronze medal.

To be able to wear the Australian uniform and stand on the podium in Beijing, the land of my ancestors is the essence of what being an Aussie is all about.

Since Lindy's retirement from Paralympic Cycling, she has continued to keep fit through cycling and running. In the last five years she has completed many charity bike rides including a ride from Cairns to Melbourne. She finished the Melbourne marathon. She also competed in many triathlons, last year represented Australia at the World Paratriathlon Championships in London.

Lindy is now almost completely blind and has had her Guide Dog, Harper, for the last eleven years.

Prior to losing her sight Lindy worked for fifteen years in the Information Technology industry and for the last ten years of her professional career worked as a consultant to many major corporations dealing with their accounting systems. Lindy gained extensive and valuable knowledge of the corporate environment and became very familiar with the type of stress and challenges professional workers and managers deal with.

Lindy's life journey, both challenging and rewarding, has made her the person she is today. Lindy is now able to share her journey with others to empower them to achieve their own personal best. She works as a motivational speaker.

"Making the best of our ability to perform our personal best", is Lindy's motto and she uses this maxim to share with her audience her journey of creating success and overcoming challenges.

During her corporate life, Lindy presented papers at conferences and ran many training courses. The experience gained during this time allowed Lindy to build a solid foundation for public speaking – especially in the corporate world where she understands the issues and

challenges they face. Over the last few years Lindy has had the opportunity to speak in front of diverse groups of all ages, including corporate, school and community groups.

Lindy's family migrated to Australia on the 29th July 1974 from Hong Kong. She became an Australian Citizen on the 7th December 1977. As an Australian, she was the first Chinese descendant to have won a Gold medal at either Paralympic or Olympic Games when she won Gold at the Athens Paralympics.

Australia: Lorna McConchie

Lorna McConchie was a leader on and off the court, a pioneer of physical education and an advocate for women's sport who emphasised the need to keep netball strong and forward-looking.

McConchie began her involvement with netball as a player, representing both Victoria and Australia from 1931 to 1940. In 1939 she was named the vice-captain of the Australian team which was due to tour New Zealand, although the tour was eventually cancelled due to World War Two.

At the conclusion of a successful playing career, the talented McConchie shifted her focus to alternative roles in netball, particularly the areas of administration and coaching.

McConchie became manager-coach of the Australian national netball team, the first women's netball team to tour internationally. Her greatest coaching accolade came in 1963, when she coached the Australian team at the first World Netball Championships, her team going through the tournament undefeated to claim the first world netball title.

Despite McConchie's impressive skills as a netball player and coach it was her methods of implementing administration that made her such an important leader in netball.

It was Lorna McConchie and Jean Cowan who travelled as Australian delegates to the international federation to change the name of the sport from women's basketball to netball and establish a code of common rules of netball in 1957.

In 1960 she was selected the Australian delegate at the inaugural International Federation of Netball Associations (IFNA) meeting, an honour recognised with high prestige. Additionally, McConchie was the initial organiser of the IFNA Rules Subcommittee, a member of the committee from 1963 to 1967. She served as a member of IFNA for twenty-five years, a remarkable feat.

A visionary for the sport, McConchie created and introduced skills-testing to netball in the early 1960s, the first individual to introduce these methods to the training of netballers. She was also the creator of the organising committee that planned the successful 1967 World Netball Championships that were hosted in Perth.

A Physical Education teacher and advocate for healthy living and sport, McConchie was a member of the Australia Council of Physical Education up until her death in 2001. She was a lecturer at the University of Melbourne, Diploma of Physical Education course, working alongside her friend and colleague Eunice Gill. After graduating she stayed at the university lecturing in dance, movement and teaching practice.

McConchie was recognised for her achievements and service to netball with a service award from the Australian association in 1966 and she also received an IFNA Service Award in 1991. In 1998 she was inducted into the Victorian Netball Association's Hall of Fame and was selected as a 2000 Victorian Team of the Century member.

In 2014 the inaugural Lorna McConchie Umpire Award was announced.

Lorna McConchie is remembered as a dynamic leader, and as a passionate and committed ambassador of netball and physical education who was internationally respected.

She was added to the Victorian Honour Roll of Women in 2004.

Australia – Lynn Embrey PhD



Lynn's interest in physical education began at a small country high school (300 pupils) which did not have a physical education teacher. However, an itinerant physical education teacher visited the adjacent primary school once a fortnight and Lynn used her private study classes to watch him. This led her to complete a Diploma of Physical Education at the University of Melbourne (Victoria) and train as a secondary school teacher.

After five years in the system she had progressed as far as she could, so the next step was to the University of Western Australia (UWA) to complete a Bachelor of Education majoring in Physical Education. In the 1970s this was adequate for a position in a teacher training college back in Victoria. Her experience at UWA made Lynn realise that she had a

long way to go to satisfy her quest for knowledge. Lynn returned to Western Australia to teach at the WA Secondary Teachers' College (WASTC, now Edith Cowan University) and enrol in a Master of Physical Education at UWA focusing on physiology of exercise.

At the WASTC Lynn took on the co-ordination of a federal government funded program for teachers from developing countries. Through this she contacted the Federation Internationale d'Education Physique (FIEP) and became its delegate in Australia. Her interest shifted from physiology to education prompting a deviation into a Master of Education at Murdoch University and growing interest in the classroom research being undertaken in North America. Lynn completed her PhD at Ohio State University. During her two years away the courses offered changed and on her return to WA Lynn found herself teaching in the Sports Science course and later in Sport Management as well. In these courses students were required to undertake practicum and Lynn decided she should too, becoming fitness adviser to the WA women's softball team.

Throughout Lynn was an active member of the Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (ACHPER) first at State level then national as a Vice President and President. As well, she was secretary of the WA Branch of the Australian Sports Medicine Federation.

All of this was set against a background of growing awareness of sex discrimination in physical education and sport. Lynn participated in meetings of the ACHPER Special Interest Group: Women in Sport and Recreation in the 1970s lead by the late Wendy Ey. Lynn joined a group in WA committed to raising awareness of the problems facing girls and women. Following persistent lobbying and practical events, the Women's Sport Foundation of WA (later rebranded Womensport West) was funded by the State government. Lynn was its first Chairperson. She prepared a submission for the WA Branch of the Sportswomen's Association of Australia (SAA) to the federal government inquiry into Equal Opportunity and Equal Status for Australian Women in 1991.

Now fully committed to the women's sport movement Lynn became national Vice President of the SAA. In WA the Foundation took over the work of the SAA in WA including hosting the annual Sportswoman of the Year Awards. Nationally, Lynn supported efforts to unite various State initiatives resulting in the formation of Womensport Australia. Having liaised with national and international activists Lynn took increasing interest in the IAPESGW and willingly took on the editorship of its Bulletin from 2001 to 2005.

During Lynn's tenure in tertiary education emphasis shifted from teaching to combining teaching with research. The opportunity to combine her diverse interests arose fortuitously when she was in Adelaide with the WA softball team and met some of the leaders of the highly successful 1950s WA softball teams. With a background in qualitative research from OSU she began interviewing the leaders to find out why they thought they were so successful. She offered to share her work with a sports historian writing a history of softball in Australia only to find that the project had come to a halt. Lynn successfully applied for a grant to continue the project completing it in time to celebrate 50 years of softball in Australia. She has since prepared a manuscript of the history of the WA Softball Association.

Australia: Merryn Lee Hibben-Perez

Without much thought or planning or any real burning ambition to follow a particular career path, I found myself tumbling into a physical education degree. All I really knew was that whatever I did, it must involve music and movement, my two favourite pursuits.

Like many young people, I was fuelled by an insatiable desire to travel, so, not long after completing my degree, I applied to work with the French company Club Mediterranee. I seemed to have the right mix of skills and interests because I was offered a position at Cherating Beach, on the west coast of Malaysia. I was one of the staff employed to organise activities for children, but soon found myself involved in all areas of the Club Med village life.

As chance would have it, the Chef de Village, or manager of the resort, was a musician who was well known around the Club Med world for his team of entertainers. Usually, staff or G.O.'s (gentil organisateurs), were employed from their home countries to spend a "season" of six to 10 months under the command of their Chef de Village. If they were successful, they were offered another season in another exotic location around the world. In my case, "Guitoune" the Chef de Village in Cherating Beach, took me under his wing as one of his troupe of entertainers.

At each location, such as Tahiti, Mauritius Island, New Caledonia, Martinique, Bali, and at ski resorts in France, I was singing, dancing, organising children's activities and sports and games for adult guests, performing in the water ski team, and teaching exercise classes to guests. It was exciting and fun, but very hard work to be on call day and night. Between seasons I would take a break with my family in Australia and work as a casual teacher in the high schools as well as teach "aerobic" classes at various gyms and fitness centres. We were not paid well at Club Med.

After about 4 years of travelling, working with people from all over the world, I knew it was time to come home and try to settle into a career. It took a while to do that, settle I mean. I had experienced so much and grown in so many ways. Soon enough I was offered "permanency" within the ACT Department of Education. Chance favoured me again when I was offered a position at Telopea Park School, the French Australian school in Canberra. The principal, Gwen McNeill, was eager to boost the performing arts area, and I was selected with the specific aim of introducing dance into the school. By this time I had also acquired a reasonable grasp of the French language. This too was an asset in my favour.

Telopea Park School is located in Barton, ACT, in an area where most of the embassies from around the world are located. It is a school, richly populated with students from many different cultures, with large numbers coming from French or Francophone families. Even though Barton is well known as a rich and privileged suburb of Canberra, there are still a

number of students coming from the outer suburbs from less advantaged backgrounds whose families lived there well before the area became “trendy” and expensive. I’m not sure about now, but for the 12 years I was working at the school (1992-2003), there was also a presence of several indigenous Australian families.

All this provides the background for what became a new passion. Naturally for me, at the heart of everything I pursued, was a desire to inspire students to get active and excited about the beauty of music and movement. I didn’t really have any expectations, just a lot of enthusiasm. It wasn’t all smooth sailing and I did come up against some resistance from one or two colleagues who thought I should have been spending more time coaching sporting teams and organising after school sporting pursuits. Fortunately, I did have the full support of our creative school Principal, as well as many other staff members and parents.

In physical education classes at Telopea, there were large numbers of students who made excuses not to participate in the largely sport-oriented lessons and it was not long before I was writing elective courses in dance and fitness, and attracting most, if not all, of these girls into regular physical activity. These girls also acquired more subtle, but equally as important, lessons in self respect, cooperative teamwork and tolerance of individual differences. Witnessing this was by far the most rewarding aspect of my career.

I kept up to date with all the latest fitness and music trends, and organised excursions to dance studios and performances, festivals, and gyms. On most weekends I also worked as a singer in a jazz band and from time to time would perform for school events. This nurtured a great relationship with the music, drama and art department at the school. For a few years, when “aerobics” was in its heyday, many of the girls, in my classes, competed in aerobic competitions and performed at various ceremonies and events around Canberra. The most noteworthy were their performances at several functions promoting the 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games.

From time to time I would organise events for the primary school, like ACES day, (All Children Exercise Simultaneously), an Australia wide event encouraging young children to exercise and have fun doing so. This attracted media attention and became a fixed event on the school calendar. Also during this time I worked as a volunteer on the regional committee for ACHPER (Australian Council of Health Physical Education and Recreation) with the same goal of inspiring children to be active.

On Wednesdays after school, I conducted an exercise class for school staff members. This evolved into Yoga classes over the years. Not all the staff would come along, but wonderful, long lasting friendships evolved as a result.

At Telopea, my students and I held numerous fund raisers so that we could purchase equipment like mirrors in the school hall, which was to become my classroom. We also managed to supply the school with sound equipment, fitness props, mats and a music and DVD library. The highlight of the school year was the Dance Festival, not unlike a Rock Eisteddfod, but without the competitive element. Most high schools around the ACT region participated and Telopea became well known for producing a high quality, creative and unique performance every year. It was a rewarding experience for all and always received full support from the entire school community.

Upon reflection, I do not regard myself as a remarkably gifted teacher. I just never lacked passion and compassion. I loved to inspire young women to love themselves and aspire to find their own unique way of giving back to the world.

Merryn is now living in Gerringong NSW with her husband Professor Pascal Perez, (UOW), their almost 12 year old daughter, who is about to start high school next year, and new puppy Miely. She is no longer teaching in the schools but runs her own Yoga studio, a committee member of Yoga Australia, and still aims to inspire people of all ages to be look after themselves as they travel through life.

Australia: Marjorie “Midge” Nelson BEM



Midge was born at Cottesloe, Western Australia on 2 February 1937, one of four children, but Midge was the only sibling to take up competitive sport. She started doing athletics at school, throwing the discus and javelin and showed a lot of potential but was not that interested in these events.

In 1952 she watched the Australian Softball Championships, where Victoria was dominate and its pitcher, Myrtle Edwards, was starring. “Myrtle was to become my club, state and Australian coach. I wanted to be a softballer. I started with the Freemantle Rebels at age 16 and made my first state team in 1956. After playing softball on a Saturday in summer I needed a sport for winter and that’s when I took up hockey. Also at this time I started playing 5-aside basketball which was just starting up in W.A. in 1958.

I captained the winning WA softball team in 1959, after we sat on the train from Perth to Brisbane (5000 miles over five days) and then back again. Funds were tight in those days.

In 1959 I travelled to Victoria on a working holiday and was selected in Victorian state teams for softball (catcher), hockey and basketball. I made my first Australian softball team in 1960 and played against South Africa.

My sporting highlight was in 1965 when Melbourne hosted the first ever World Softball Series and Australia beat the clear favourite USA 1-0 in the final, to be crowned the first official world softball champions. In the lead up game against the USA I hit two home runs, against their windmill pitcher Bertha Tickey, who pitched faster than anyone we had seen in Australia.

In 2014 The Sport Australian Hall of Fame recognised the 1965 Softball team in their Team Sport Australia Award.

In 1967 the Australian Softball team travelled to South Africa for six weeks. We travelled all over, playing games and observing apartheid, which was quite an eye opener. We found it hard to adapt to the downgrading of the South African black population. Later in 1967 I was vice captain of the Australian hockey team, to the world tournament in Leverkusen, Germany. I had my nose broken in training on the way over, in Hong Kong, but was able to play through the tournament.

On my way back from the hockey trip I bought my first set of golf clubs, although I had never played the game but thought it would be a game for when I got older.

It turned out that a golf swing is very similar to a softball swing, on a different swing plane, so I could pick up the fundamentals quite quickly and it is a game I can still compete in at a high level of competition. I think I often have an edge on an opponent because I had played and experienced many pressure situations and could always call on that experience.

In nearly all the sports I have played, I have taken either an administrative or coaching role, as I have opinions on what could be done to better sport, so if you want things to change you must be prepared to put back into the sport.

I have a high regard for wellbeing and fitness and even now I continue to uphold those levels as much as possible for my age.

A lot of sporting greats and notable people have an influence on your sporting career and I had many. Such a person was Gladys Phillips, who was the Victorian and Australian Softball Captain. She was a great inspirational player (third base) and leader, who I believe has not received the recognition she deserves.

It is amazing how even now you are affected by great sporting deeds from athletes and teams, and I get a lump in my throat with that feeling of pride.

I always remember reading the Babe Diedrikson story and was inspired – I wanted to be that person!"

Midge Nelson was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985. She is regarded as one of Australia's greatest softball players, competing in four World Series, 1965 (Melbourne), 1970 (Osaka), 1974 (Connecticut) and 1978 (San Salvador). In an international career that spanned 18 years from 1960 to 1978, Nelson was captain of the Australian team from 1973 to her retirement. She played 54 matches for Australia, 25 as captain, and had an overall career batting average of .205 and a career fielding average of .994.

As a member of the Western Australian team four times and the Victorian team 19 times, Nelson attended a record 23 consecutive national titles. She was a member of the winning team 13 times (one for WA and 12 for Victoria). On her retirement as a player in 1978, Nelson was appointed coach of the Victorian team.

In 1983 Nelson was the first Australian player inducted into the International Softball Hall of Fame and in 1985 she was inducted into the Australian Softball Hall of Fame. In recognition of Nelson's outstanding playing career, the Australian Softball Federation struck a special medal, the "Midge Nelson Medal" to be awarded each year to the Most Valuable Player at the national championships.

In 1977 she was awarded the Medal of the Order of the British Empire for her services to softball and hockey.

Australia: Nicola Scaife, World Champion Female Balloonist



Photo supplied by Matthew Scaife

In 2014, Nicola Scaife, age 29, won World Champion Female Balloonist at the Federation Aeronautique Internationale World Women's Hot Air Balloon championship in Leszno, Poland.

Scaife has always been athletic having started swimming and gymnastics at a very young age, later playing representative softball, and finally settling into kayaking at age 13. By 2001 she was racing for Team Australia at the World Championships in England, placing 8th in partner racing.

In 2002, a determined Team Australia went to the World Marathon Kayaking Championships in the Czech Republic but were unable to compete because of flooding that was wreaking havoc throughout Europe at the time. This setback and a progressively worsening back injury finally convinced the young Scaife to hang up her paddles the following year. In 2005, Nicola sold her kayak to purchase her first balloon.

Since her introduction to ballooning Scaife has earned her Private Pilot's License (PPL) followed by her Commercial Pilots License (CPL), culminating in four successful championships at home and abroad. Scaife has been encouraged by her employers and her husband who is a third generation Balloonist. She is one of only four women in Australia who are commercially ballooning versus more than fifty men. With regards to world competition ballooning, she is one of maybe sixteen pilots versus hundreds of men. Women make up a very small portion of the ballooning fraternity, both commercial and competitive, and Nicola is spearheading a change in this gender disparity.

Being one of only a handful of women in the world piloting competitively has had its own share of unique challenges. Not letting anything get in the way of "smashing the gender stereotypes" in ballooning, Scaife has had to organize raising her new born son and achieving her goals. "It requires a huge amount of organization and is hard work flying morning and night, feeding, dealing with any baby sleep issues", Scaife explains, "I've literally been at competitions when my son Hugo was still breastfeeding". Some of her passengers are initially surprised upon finding out she is piloting the balloon, Scaife says of her commercial piloting experience in the Hunter Valley but competitively there is less stigma among the teams, most of which see her as just another pilot.

Aside from the Australian Women Pilots Association (AWPA) here are no organizations promoting women balloon pilots. And the "AWPA is focused primarily on powered aircraft" rather than ballooning Scaife explains. She will be joining the association later this year in order to better promote ballooning. Her advice to young women who are interested in ballooning is speak to balloonists, local pilots, balloon groups, and work your way up: "I've

always been of the belief that if you want to do something then you should pursue that dream or goal".

Aside from defending her title in Lithuania in 2016, Nicolas will be competing in the Open World Championship in Saga, Japan, 2016.

Scaife and her husband now operate tourist balloon flights in the Hunter Valley, where they live with their 14-month-old son.

By: Derek-Paul Labelle

Australia: Shane Gould MBE – Swimming



SAHOF

Gould won more medals in a single Olympic Games than any other Australian female athlete before her. Between July 1971 and January 1972, the 15 year old set world records in all five internationally recognised freestyle distances: the 100m (58.5), 200m (2:05.8), 400m (4:21.2), 800m (8:58.1) and 1500m (17:00.6), the most versatile swimmer the world had seen.

At just 15, Gould stamped herself as the greatest female swimmer of her time, winning three gold, one silver and one bronze in her only Olympics – the 1972 Munich Games. Her record tally of five medals at a single Olympics stood from 1972 until Ian Thorpe equalled it in 2000. In one short period from April 13, 1971 until January 8, 1972, Gould set seven world records.

She entered the 1972 Munich Olympics with such an overpowering reputation that the swimmers from the United States tried to build their own confidence by wearing t-shirts that read "All that glitters is not Gould". In Munich, Gould would eventually swim in 12 races over an eight day period, logging 4200m of competitive swimming in the process.

She began with the 200m individual medley, in which she used her freestyle strength to take the lead after 170m and win her first gold medal by breaking Claudia Kolb's four year old world record in a time of 2:23.07. The next day, Gould finished third in the 100m freestyle behind Americans Sandy Nielson and Shirley Babashoff. It was Gould's first loss at the distance in two years.

She rebounded the next day to win the 400m freestyle easily, breaking her own world record by more than two seconds in 4:19.04. Two days later, Gould earned her third gold medal and set her third world record in five days when she won the 200m freestyle in 2:03.56, by holding off Babashoff's strong finish. Gould closed out her Olympic performance with silver in the 800m freestyle.

She broke one of the oldest records in the books when she beat Dawn Fraser's 100m world record in Sydney on January 8, 1972 with a time of 58.5 seconds. Fraser had held the record for almost 16 years since the 1956 Melbourne Games.

In February 1973, she went on to break the 1500m world record in Adelaide in 16:56.9 seconds. She held a total of eight Australian titles between 1971 and 1973 and broke 21 Australian records. A year after the Olympics, Gould retired from competition at the age of 16.

She was trained by leading coaches Forbes and Ursula Carlile and their assistant Tom Green.

Gould set a masters world record in 2003 for the 45-49 years in the 200m individual medley, with a time of 2:38.13, and has set various Australian masters records including the 100m, 200m, and 400m freestyle and the 50m and 100m butterfly.

In 1971 and 1972 Gould was World Swimmer of the Year and in 1972 she was Australian of the Year. In 1977 she was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame at Fort Lauderdale and in 1981 she was made a Member of the British Empire (MBE) for her services to swimming.

Shane Gould was inducted into The Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985 as an Athlete Member for her contribution to the sport of swimming and was elevated to "Legend of Australian Sport" in 1996.

Gould spent most of the years after ending competitive swimming out of the public eye. She married Neil Innes at 18, became a Christian, and lived on a working farm near Margaret River, south western Australia. She farmed, and taught horse riding and surfing, making very few public appearances. She has four children, and now three grandchildren.

Her marriage ended after 22 years, coinciding with a return to public life, and she married Milton Nelms in 2007. She now divides her time between Bicheno, Tasmania, where she runs bed and breakfast accommodation and Sydney, coaches swimmers, and still swims in Masters competitions. Gould swims the year round at Bicheno with the locals, needing bodysuits to swim through the chilly Tasmanian weather and ocean.

Gould returned to study in the late 2000s. She studied at the Sydney Film School (2007, Certificate IV documentary film, Digital Filmmaking) and was awarded a Master of Environmental Management (2010, with a thesis on the social uses and functions of

public swimming pools), and Master of Contemporary Art (2012, with a video piece Loops and Lines). Both degrees are from the University of Tasmania. She is currently working towards another Master's Degree, (related to swimming) through Victoria University, Melbourne.

From the Sport Australia Hall of Fame and Editor.

Australia: (Valerie) Val Nesbitt – My Badminton Journey

I grew up in the northern suburb of Thornbury in Melbourne. I left school at 15 to become a comptometrist (electronic calculating machine) and continued to work in office administration throughout the early years of marriage and then again for several years once the youngest of our children began school.

I married David at 20 and we had four children but was widowed at 47. I undertook two years training to qualify with a Diploma in Remedial Massage, working in a multi-disciplinary health clinic until retirement at 60. I still do the occasional home treatment for friends or family.

My observation is that sport administration is something similar to being a parent. Once you learn what is needed and when it may be required - you get on with the job of making sure things are set up ready for action and then afterwards you tidy up.

The majority of the things for which I have received credit could never have been accomplished without the tremendous enthusiasm and wholehearted support of the committees and participants (ladies and juniors) who saw the vision and went ahead with making it happen. It was my good fortune to be the go-between, organiser, letter writer and scorer / reporter of such happenings.

My badminton involvement began during my teens and through the early years of marriage, then came a hiatus when we moved across town and my four children arrived. It was at this point that I, like a lot of other mums, loaded with babies, pre-schoolers, pram and portable play-pen joined a social ladies badminton club, then was lured to night competition and became secretary of that local club.

I was an active player with no notable successes, except for a Victorian B1 Ladies doubles title with my sister Wilma. I continued to enjoy playing until 2007, when back problems intervened.

Positions held in badminton :

1950s

- Secretary/player **of the Prince of Wales Badminton club** at age 17.

1960s to 1980s

- Secretary/player of the **Forest Hill Badminton Club** – merged with the newer South East Badminton Association (below).
- Was an active accredited Badminton coach working mostly with juniors and daytime ladies groups for almost 20 years.
- Secretary of the **Melbourne Badminton Association**.
- Secretary of the **Summer Badminton Association**.

1990's to now

- **Badminton Victoria Board Member** since 1983 and still serve as Board Secretary.

- Secretary/Treasurer and tournament organiser (Junior, senior and veterans) for the **South East Badminton Association** and Life Member.
- Served as Secretary/Treasurer and Tournament co-ordinator of the **Victorian Junior Badminton Committee**.
- Currently a member of the **Badminton Victoria Junior Advisory Panel** – and assist with some junior tournaments.
- Was instrumental in setting up the **Australasian Under 17 June Bevan Trophy** junior carnival.
- Was instrumental in setting up the **Australian Under 15 Val Nesbitt Trophy** junior carnival.
- Have served as President, Secretary, and am still the current Treasurer of the **Eastern Ladies Badminton Association** – since its' inception in the 1970s – Also act as treasurer for ELBA's junior development sub-committee the **South East Badminton Academy**.
- President, Secretary & Treasurer since its' inception of the **Victorian Ladies Badminton Committee**.
- Instrumental in setting up the **Australasian Atalanta Jamboree Ladies Badminton Championship** in 1983 and remain a committed and active advisor and co-ordinator for the annual championship.
- President 1983 to 2001 of the **Australasian Ladies Badminton Association** which governs the Atalanta Jamboree championship.

- Life Member of Badminton Victoria and holder of a **BV Service Award and Life Membership**.
- Awarded a **Conspicuous Service Award** from Badminton Australia Inc.
- Awarded the “Heather Robson” **Badminton Oceania President’s Women’s Award** in 2014.
- Awarded the **Badminton World Federation ‘s Women in Badminton Award** in 2015.

The last two awards have literally taken my breath away and are a source of wonderment at the way things turn out. All this means is that I have served on a lot of inter-connected committees with some marvellous friends and colleagues.

Just being around to help “keep the wheels rolling” has been such a pleasure (mostly).

Australia: Alisa Camplin OAM



Images of Alisa Camplin are both reproduced Courtesy of the Australian Sports Commission.

Alisa Camplin is Australia's first female Winter Olympic gold medalist, dual Olympic medalist, World Champion, World Record Holder and two times WC Grand Prix Champion.

Alisa Peta Camplin was born in Melbourne in 1974. The family was sport-mad. Camplin recalls, "every week our whole family was at swimming lessons, ballet recitals, tennis lessons, hockey training and Little Athletics competitions all over the state. It was like being part of a full-time live-in sports camp". A tomboy from the beginning, Alisa loved to play cricket and football, run through the paddocks, swim, ride bikes and play war games with the ten boys in her neighbourhood. None of them could beat her in a running race, even with a head start. At school she insisted on wearing the boys' uniform and tried out for the boys' cricket team. Aged five she was enchanted by the opening ceremony of the Moscow Olympics – here the dream was born. One day she would represent her country at the Olympic Games.

By the age of seven, Camplin was breaking all the Little Athletics club records and beating the other girls by over 20 metres. Asked if she wanted to run with the boys, she accepted the challenge but it was tough competition and her first taste of losing a race. Determined to win again, she began training in the back paddock and before long was winning against the boys and taking out the Open Female All Stars events: "When I was younger, I rarely crossed a finish line without throwing up or dry-retching from giving so much... I always wanted to be the fastest, to finish first, to record my best time, to beat my opponent or break a record". Camplin won several state titles in the 800m and 1500m track events.

At school she took up gymnastics – "I loved to tumble, jump, flip and twist, but I had neither flexibility nor grace" – and was competing in her first state titles by 1989, winning three silver medals. The following year she attended trials for the national titles, but had to pull out because of stress fractures in her lower back. Forced to abandon the sport, she "followed a natural ex-gymnast's progression into diving" in 1991, attracted by the acrobatics. The move was short-lived as good coaches were hard to come by.

In the summer of 1992, having completed her secondary studies, Camplin began sailing Hobie Cat catamarans with her best friend Kynwynn Jones. The girls crewed together in 1993 at the Port Stephens National Championships and finished second.

In 1994 – a fateful year – she attended a ski show in Melbourne with her then boyfriend, Patrick Mollison. A trampoline had been set up by Mt Buller's freestyle skiing program, Team Buller, and members of the audience were invited to try aerial manoeuvres in the trampoline harness. Camplin's acrobatic skills were well honed. Encouraged by her friends, she "got in the rig and flipped around a bit". She was soon approached by Geoff Lipshut (later CEO of the Olympic Winter Institute) and aerial skier Jacqui Cooper with an offer to begin training with the first Australian Aerial Skiing Development Squad. Camplin's dream was still very much alive, and after some consideration, she took up the offer with the sole aim of making it to the Olympic Games.

What followed was a long, hard slog. Camplin had been awarded an academic scholarship and entry into Swinburne University's Bachelor of Information Technology degree, and she was determined to pursue her studies. It was in her second year at university that she began skiing and had to take on four jobs to help pay for ski lessons, mountain accommodation and petrol. She studied; coached gymnastics; worked for ANZ Bank; delivered pizzas; and cleaned houses. Every Friday night for three years she drove to Mt Buller at 10:00pm so as she could train over the weekend. It was not an easy ride:

Constantly fighting negative feedback on the ski fields, Alisa used the criticism as motivation: "Every person who said I wouldn't make it stirred the fire in my belly and helped me train that much harder". After a shaky start in competitions at Lake Placid and, in 1997, at Breckenridge, Colorado, where coaches told her she was "the worst aerialist at training", Alisa's fight began to pay off. She finished seventh in her first Aerial World Championship event in 1999, and fourth in the World Cup finals in 2000/2001.

2002 was Camplin's year. At the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics, despite multiple fractures in both ankles, Camplin won gold in the aerial skiing event, scoring 193.47 for her triple twisting somersault or "back full/double full". She had asked her family not to come to the event as she felt it would be too expensive for them, and would place added pressure on her – but her mother and sister Georgina had hidden themselves in the crowd, and Camplin's joy was doubled when they surprised her after her win. Back home, Australia Post designed a stamp in her honour.

Camplin had achieved greatness but the battle was not yet over. She suffered from depression – or "post-success burnout" – after the Olympic Games and had to fight (ill-informed) accusations that she was something of a one hit wonder. In the 2002/2003 season, Camplin won the World Championship and the World Cup title, breaking a world record in the process. She was named the 2002 Female Athlete of the Year, and received the 2002 Donald Bradman Award for the athlete who has most inspired the nation. In 2002 she also received the Kitty McEwan Award for Victorian Sportswoman of the Year and the Governor's Award for Victorian Sportsperson of the Year (she received both awards again in 2004). In 2003, she was selected as an Australian Institute of Sport all-time top twenty-one athlete. Mt Buller named a new building at the World Cup jump site the "Alisa Camplin Winter Sports Centre". Camplin had proven her point spectacularly.

The stress of competing and meeting expectations meant that Camplin developed stomach ulcers and had a gastrectomy in 2003. She took some time out from skiing to pursue other interests. She worked with the Seven Network; represented Australia at the IOC Convention in Greece; gave much of her time to work with charities; spoke to school students and corporate professionals across Australia; joined the Board of Directors at MLC; continued employment with IBM and began consulting with PricewaterhouseCoopers while the company supplied professional services to the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Committee.

Camplin recommenced training for the 2004/2005 season, but snapped the anterior cruciate ligament in her right knee and underwent surgery for a knee reconstruction, including a hamstring graft. Injury is inevitable in such a dangerous sport, and Camplin later recalled: "I have broken my collarbone, dislocated my shoulder, broken my hand, broken multiple ribs, ripped my Achilles tendon, dislocated my sternum from my collarbone, fractured both ankles, torn my knee ligaments twice, suffered nine concussions and also had a full knee reconstruction". After six months of rehabilitation, training began again and Camplin competed in the 2006 Torino Winter Olympics, winning bronze with a score of 191.39.

Today, Camplin has retired from aerial skiing. She loves reading the classics and biographies of political figures, she is an amateur painter, and she has designed a range of thermal underwear. She continues her involvement with charities, is a regular public speaker and her television work has included commentary for the Athens Olympics and judging for *Dancing on Ice*. In 2006 Camplin began conducting ski tours to Colorado, including nine-day tours to Aspen and Steamboat Springs. She has served on the Board of the Australian Sports Commission.

Camplin married Oliver Warner in December 2010. Their first child was born six weeks prematurely and died due to a congenital heart condition. Camplin and Warner have set up the charity Finnan's Gift to raise money to buy equipment that will detect heart defects in other babies. In 2013, Camplin gave birth to their second child.

Camplin received a Medal of the Order of Australia in 2003 and in 2008 she was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame.

Edited from The Australian Women's Register: <http://www.womenaustralia.info/biogs/AWE2282b.htm>

Australia: Alyson Annan OAM – Hockey



Alyson Annan was born on June 21, 1973, in Wentworthville, NSW. She started her hockey career with the Campbelltown City Women's Hockey Association, and was an instant star, representing NSW in 1988.

Alyson Annan was a pivotal force in the teams which gave Australian women's hockey global dominance for almost a decade. These included five consecutive Champions Trophies between 1993 and 1999, two World Cups ('94 and '98) and two Olympic gold medals (1996 and 2000). She was leading goal scorer at the Atlanta Olympics in '96 and at the World Cup in '98. Few teams in sporting history have enjoyed such prolonged global dominance.

She represented Australia 228 times and her 166 career goals for Australia remain unmatched. Olympic coach Dr Ric Charlesworth described her as "the complete player".

She made her Olympic debut in 1992 at Barcelona where Australia finished fifth, but thereafter was rarely off the podium in international competition for almost a decade.

Her role in the Australian Hockey team was widely recognized. She was voted International Player of the Year by the International Hockey Federation in 1998 and 2000, World Sportswoman Of The Year by the Women's Sport Foundation US in '98. Among the lengthy list of accolades, Annan was also voted Player of Tournament at the 1998 World Cup and Player of the Tournament at the 1997 Champions Trophy.

Post retirement Alyson Annan has been inducted into the NSW Hall of Champions, the Hockey NSW Hall of Fame, the Hockey Australia Hall of Fame and the Sport Australia Hall of Fame.

She has two children and lives in the Netherlands where she is coach of their national women's team.

From the Sport Australia Hall of Fame

Australia: Angela Pippas – Journalist

Born in Adelaide, South Australia, in 1969, Angela Pippas was mad about sport from an early age, but she did not set out to become a trailblazer for women in Australian broadcast sports journalism. The woman with an honours degree in politics from the University of Adelaide – she graduated in 1990 – was certain she would become a political news correspondent working in Canberra. But a placement with the ABC (Australian Broadcasting Commission) in 1993 during the final year of studies in journalism eventually shaped her destiny to one that would see her more likely to be conducting live crosses from outside the Melbourne Cricket Ground than Parliament House.

The grand-daughter of Greek migrants who eventually settled in Australia, Pippos had a happy childhood, growing up in the multicultural suburb of Rostrevor in the 1970s and 80s. Her maternal grandfather, who owned a café on an iconic corner in the suburb of Norwood, became a passionate supporter of the local Australian rules football team, and the whole family was immersed in a love of sport henceforth... Another interest learned early in the Pippos home was a fascination with politics, which was regularly discussed around the kitchen table. "My grandfather was a supporter of Menzies", she says, "bucking the trend of left-leaning Greeks in Australia" (Interview).

Pippos attended government schools (Stradbroke Primary School and Morialta High School) was a good student and participated fully in both sporting and dramatic arts programs, "sitting comfortably in the sport and nerd camps" (Interview). She began a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Adelaide in 1987, the first member of her family to attend university, and had no real sense of what she wanted to do when she left. She did know, however, that she loved politics and became actively engaged in student politics.

With a career in political journalism in mind Pippos believed that establishing a relationship with the ABC as part of a work experience placement was a good first step. She went to Renmark in the South Australian Riverland region and loved the work, because she was given real responsibility. She broadened her experience further by picking up casual production work through the ABC Adelaide office. When a researcher position came up on ABC TV's *7:30 report* she applied but initially missed out, mainly because she didn't have any television experience. Her CV was placed on file and she received a call back when the job again fell vacant. From the *7:30 Report* she moved to the 7:00 pm news, as a trainee journalist.

It wasn't long before her knowledge of and interest in sport saw her being directed away from political journalism towards sport stories, even though there was already a dedicated sports journalist on staff. Being the only woman in Adelaide doing sports journalism was difficult, and she "had to work doubly hard to earn peer respect" (Interview).

But she clearly established a good reputation because Peter Ryan, Director of News at ABC Melbourne encouraged her to apply for a specialist sports position in his office. In 1997, she moved interstate, reassured that she would continue to be offered opportunities at breaking stories of national significance, with the promise of an occasional presenter's job.

Pippos was one of very few women who were specialist sports reporters in the late 1990s. Karen Tighe, Libby Gore and Debbie Spillane were all making their mark at a national level, and Caroline Wilson was creating an impact in Melbourne for her reporting of AFL. "If I was a trailblazer for women in electronic media", she says, "then Caroline Wilson was a trailblazer for us all in print". She felt conscious that she was representing all women when she attended media conferences, and that the weight of expectation was upon her to ask "intelligent" questions. She suffered from the classic double standard. In order not to appear mediocre, she needed to be twice as good as the best man doing the job. The fact that she was not only a woman, but a woman from Adelaide didn't help matters either! "From the perspective of some of my sports media colleagues", says Pippos, "being a woman wasn't as big a problem as was being from Adelaide"! (Interview). Nevertheless, she acknowledges that the increasing number of women entering the profession has made it easier. There is now enough of them to have formed their own informal social network. "The Tokens" have been meeting since 2006 to offer each other support and empowerment.

Arriving in Melbourne, Pippos learned that some sport was more newsworthy than others, and women's sport was almost never regarded as newsworthy. Only during Olympic or Commonwealth Games years, or when the Australian Tennis Open was in full swing, did it attract anything close to the cover it deserved. Any journalist fool enough to cover a women's sport story normally found the story cut from the program when time was tight. She bemoans the lack of management courage that this highlights. "If elite women's sport is offered on television", she says, "it will be watched. It is the lack of consistent coverage that kills women's sport. It's ridiculous that minor men's sports get more coverage than elite women's sport" (Interview). It is for this reason that Pippos supports the notion of a mandatory minimum amount of coverage of women's sport on television.

Pippos rose through the ranks in the Melbourne newsroom. After a stint presenting the weekend sport she moved into the weekday presenter's role in 2001. With Chris Ahern presenting weekend sport in Melbourne for the ABC, they were the broadcaster's first all-female reporting and presenting team. But in 2004, the ABC decided to centralise all sports reporting, appointing Sydney based Peter Wilkins to the job, mystifying Pippos (I still can't understand the decision to go for a format that saw a middle-aged white man presenting everything out of Sydney) (Interview) and disappointing her hard core fans. Although upset by the turn of events, Pippos stayed with the ABC. One of the most experienced members of their sports journalism team, she had hoped she would be sent to Athens to cover the Olympics in 2004. The fact that she was overlooked for that job was one of many factors that contributed to her decision to leave the national broadcaster in 2007.

After leaving the ABC, Pippos moved into the blokey environment of Melbourne breakfast sports radio, at Sport 927, where she worked for two years. There were no other women in the gruelling timeslot she worked in (4 am - 9am) and both the format and the audience challenged her regularly. She wished there could have been more variety in discussion topics "allowing for the prospect of bringing the rest of life into sport" (Interview). She learned some interesting things about the way men in sport radio feel the need to form an opinion and stick with it. "There is no sitting on the fence, no backing down", which inevitably resulted in her making statements that she would have trouble defending later on (Interview). Her claim, for instance, that Australian golfer Karrie Webb was more famous than Greg Norman, was decontextualised and became a signature source of ribbing and ridicule amongst the other panel members and the audience. She did have the final say on that matter, however, when she made sure it was the last thing she said on air when her contract was not renewed. Apparently their hardcore audience did not like listening to women talking about sport, although management offered no evidence to support this claim.

Sports radio taught Pippos a lot about how men operate in that environment but she has no doubt that she taught her male colleagues some important lessons as well;

particularly that women can talk intelligently about sport with a sense of humour and self-deprecation and that humour doesn't have to come at the expense of others. She taught them the art of debating and responding to listeners respectfully. She knows that there were many audience members (hardcore or otherwise) who enjoyed listening to her because they still tell her how much they miss her. Unfortunately management didn't see it that way.

Since leaving Sport 927 in late 2009, Pippas has been working mainly as an MC, predominantly at events run by men's football and cricket clubs, and attempted to launch an all woman AFL panel show. "My experience is that men in the general public respond well to a female presence; it's media management that don't deal well with the prospect of women on an AFL panel, even if they are proven performers" (Interview). In 2012, Pippas received approval from the AFL to launch Sirens, which 'screened' on the AFL website for the last seven weeks of the 2012 season.

In an industry where women are relative newcomers, Pippas has a sense that she might be a trailblazer for others but probably won't reap the benefits herself. She expects she will play some sort of mentoring role to young women journalists and reflects upon its absence in her professional life as a disadvantage. She certainly received encouragement from men along the way, but there was never anyone offering her practical, independent career mentorship. "I was trying to prove I could do it on my own as a form of class and gender struggle", she says. "I now realise the value of the school ties network that I didn't have" (Interview). What Pippas lacked in guidance, however, she made up for in the capacity to take calculated risks. "Deviating from the path and taking risks is important. You shouldn't be scared of taking them", she says. "I'm glad I ended up in sport and not watching question time in Canberra" (Interview).

"Sport is the most important unimportant thing in life", she says, and "women have every right to be part of that and participate at the highest level" (Interview).

Edited interview by Nikki Henningham, "Pippos, Angela", Australian Women's Archives Project, 2014, <http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders/biogs/WLE0578b.htm>.

Australia: Anne Marie Harrison – Sports Administrator

Anne Marie Harrison was appointed the Chief Executive Officer of the Victorian Institute of Sport (VIS) in August 2006 following seven years living and working in Scotland.

The VIS aims to be the leading provider of high performance sports programs for talented athletes, enabling them to achieve national and international success. The VIS operates on a budget of approximately \$9m, has 50 staff and 300 athletes on scholarship. During its 25 years VIS has supported 30 Olympic Champions, 49 Paralympic Champions, 116 Commonwealth Games gold medallists and 299 World Champions.

Anne Marie is also currently the Chairman of the National Elite Sports Council (NESC) which is a coterie of the Directors of each of the State and Territory Institutes of Sport, including the Australian Institute of Sport. She is currently the only woman in this key leadership position across the high performance system in Australia.

Anne Marie came to the position at the VIS from the role as the inaugural Executive Director of the Scottish Institute of Sport. In this role Anne Marie established the organisation which was based on the VIS model and had overall management and leadership responsibility. In conjunction with the Board of Directors she led the strategic direction and policy development of the Scottish Institute. Anne Marie was the key spokesperson for the Institute and also ensured Scotland took a lead in the development of the UK wide network of Institutes and worked to establish strategic and operational partnerships with key organisations in the UK and across the world, including the establishment of six Area Institutes throughout Scotland, incorporating 64 local partners. Her time in Scotland culminated in 2006 in Melbourne with the most successful Commonwealth Games ever

by the country; finishing in 6th place on the medal table with 29 medals including 11 gold. Anne Marie was ranked the 14th "most powerful person in Scotland" in a "Scotland on Sunday" newspaper poll in May 2006!

Prior to that she completed six years as the Chief Executive Officer of Vicsport from 1993-1999. Vicsport is the independent umbrella and advocacy body for 128 State Sporting Bodies/Service Organization's representing then 1.5m registered sports participants in the State of Victoria. Its primary focus was the development of sport appropriate policies by Government and the securement of suitable funding in support of those policies, together with a range of member services, including; taxation, litigation, facilities, insurance, competitive tendering, strategic planning, trade practices, industry training programs and industrial relations.

Appointed as Executive Director of the Victorian Gymnastic Association in 1988 this was Anne Marie's first senior leadership role. During her five years in this role she led a governance and management restructure and implemented self-funding projects, which enabled the staff numbers to treble. She was also responsible for increasing turnover by 500% and membership growth from 5,500 to 13,000, together with securing sponsorship of \$100,000 per annum.

From 1983 to 1988 Anne Marie was the Director of Projects and Events at the Australian Gymnastic Federation and was responsible for the co-ordination of all details relating to Australian Team's and their involvement in international competitions and preparation clinics, liaison with State Association's afforded the rights to host Australian Championships and co-ordination of championship management and development of event/project budgets in association with the National Executive Director.

Anne Marie commenced her career in 1980 as the Development and Project Officer at the Victorian Olympic Council providing administrative support to the Board and liaised with Olympic Sports to support and encourage their development. This exposed

her to decision making at the highest level with regard to preparations for Olympic and Commonwealth Games Teams and developed an understanding of the fundamentals of prudent financial management, investment and fundraising. During this time Anne Marie was appointed to the Headquarters staff for the Australian team at the 1982 Commonwealth Games held in Brisbane.

Anne Marie has worked in the sports industry for 35 years covering the spectrum of National and State Sporting Organisations (10 years in the sport of gymnastics), the Olympic movement and Peak Agencies. She has a good understanding of the requirements of the industry from a sporting organisation perspective, elite coaches and athletes, together with the demands from government, the media and sporting community in general.

Anne Marie has been appointed to a number of Boards and Advisory Bodies over her career and has also presented a number of papers at forums and conferences.

She has been privileged to attend four Summer and two Winter Olympic Games, three Paralympic Games and six Commonwealth Games.

Australia: Kellerman, Annette (1886 - 1975) Actor and Swimmer

In a 1915 press interview Annette Kellerman described the principal motivation at the heart of her successful career as performer, movie star, athlete and role model for the emerging 20th century modern woman: "Swimming for women is more than physical, it can engender self-confidence, and in the art and science of swimming, a kind of equality, even superiority to that of men. My chief pride and pleasure has been the knowledge that my work has stimulated an interest in swimming as a woman's sport" (Kellerman, 1915.)

Born on July 6, 1886, at 101 Victoria Street Darlinghurst, Sydney, Kellerman carved an identity based on determination to prove to women that independence could be achieved by taking ownership of their bodies through a physical fitness regime. She attributed her longevity to the independence she maintained through financial security. Resilience, physical fitness and the ability to adapt and learn new skills were her core strengths. Her husband and manager Jimmie Sullivan supported Kellerman's desire for new challenges.

The foundations of Kellerman's courage, originality and entrepreneurial power were laid in her Australian childhood. Her parents were both musicians, running the successful Conservatoire de Musique and they were part of a lively artistic scene in the Sydney of the late 1800s. Annette's mother, Alice Charbonnet Kellerman, was the daughter of an American mother and French father, born in Cincinnati in 1860. She arrived in Australia in 1879 as a promising concert pianist and composer who taught the young Nellie Melba piano.

Kellerman's first great challenge came when her childhood difficulty in walking was diagnosed as rickets. Swimming lessons were the treatment prescribed. Always a great supporter and motivator for Annette, her father Frederick was an organiser of the first Australian competitive swimming event for women – the NSW Ladies' State Swimming Championship Swimming Carnival at St George's Baths, Redfern. Annette won the 100 yards and the mile freestyle races. Soon Australia could not contain the ambitions of Kellerman and her father who became her manager. In April 1905, they left for London where, after weeks of little employment, in a last desperate attempt to gain publicity and earn enough money to remain in England, her father arranged for Annette to swim 26 miles through the polluted waters of the Thames, dodging watercraft from Putney to Blackwall. The *Daily Mirror* picked up the story, and her European career was launched.

Annette's aquatic talents made her an attractive Vaudeville star. The variety of her accomplishments suited the genre and most importantly, Vaudeville paid well – a rare workplace in which women could earn more than men. Arriving in the USA in 1906, Annette worked hard to develop her image as a water spirit, billed as "Peerless Performer with Form

Divine", "The Divine Venus" and "The Australian Mermaid". In one simple and spectacular event in 1907, Kellerman gained world notoriety when she walked across Revere Beach Massachusetts in a form-fitting one piece bathing costume and was arrested for indecent exposure. Her action characterised the revolutionary mood of the time and women's struggle to redefine their roles. By shedding the cumbersome bathing dress and revealing a body both beautiful and powerful, Kellerman was a beacon of inspiration. Emancipation through comfortable clothing was part of her message to women: "The corset has done more to make physical cowards of women than any other thing since slavery. You cannot be brave if your diaphragm is squeezed and you cannot breathe properly" (Kellerman, *El Paso Herald*, March 19, 1912).

In 1910, Kellerman was proclaimed by Dr Dudley Sargent, Director of Harvard University Gymnasium as having the bodily proportions closest to the "Greek ideal of the beautiful... nearest to a perfectly proportioned woman" with height of 64.5 inches, waist 26.2 inches and weight of 128 pounds. By 1912, she had convinced Universal studios that film was the perfect medium for promoting her talents. In *Neptune's Daughter* Annette created a heroine who fought her own battles – quite literally as she refused to use stunt doubles. The film opened on April 25th 1914 and ran for seven months.

Annette Kellerman seized opportunities in Vaudeville and cinema to earn a living which adhered to the rigorous discipline that had brought about the transformation into an aquatic goddess from the childhood disfigurement of rickets. The strength of her conviction inspired a generation of women to cherish physical fitness as a pathway to independence. She returned to Australia to live in 1970 and died in Queensland in 1975.

Written by Jennifer Gall, National Film and Sound Archive.

Australia: Barbara Slotemaker de Bruine

Teacher/Coach/Sports Administrator

"Nature" or "Nurture" has often been discussed in educational circles as to which is the more important in the development of an individual. In my case, it is clearly both. I was fortunate to have a mother who was an A grade tennis player as well as one of the first women to become a lifesaver at Bondi Beach in Sydney, Australia. She was an excellent role model and was also instrumental in providing me with the right environment to develop the skills which helped to shape my character and the direction of my life.

When I was 8 years of age, we (my sister and I) were enrolled in swimming lessons, where I showed a particular aptitude. We subsequently were sent to classes conducted by Harry Gallagher (coach of four time Olympic gold medallist, Dawn Fraser) and Frank Guthrie (coach of Lorraine Crapp, another Olympic Gold medallist). It was here that I learned the discipline of hard work and time management. We used to get up at 4am to be at the pool by 6am (we had to go by train) for two hours training before school and again train for two hours after school from 4pm to 6pm. It was then home by train for homework before bed and the same thing the next day. Needless to say we became school champions and I was named Sportsgirl of the Year in 1954.

Eventually, I tired of this regimen at the age of 12 and gave up swimming and took up tennis. My favourite player was Lew Hoad (Australian Davis Cup player), so again, my mother paid for coaching lessons and I spent hours in the back yard hitting balls up against the wall and copying Lew Hoad's style from a tennis magazine. I became an A grade tennis player and eventually was spotted, by the court owner, at some squash courts (which had only recently been built in 1958). He offered me free coaching lessons and within 6 months I was runner up in the NSW Junior Championships to the eventual 16 times World Champion - Heather McKay nee Blundell.

The court owner again assisted me by paying my way to the Australian Championships (1960) where Heather won her first Australian title. On my return he again invited the Manager of the Olympic Weightlifting team to Tokyo, Brian Marsden, to provide me with an intensive weight training program, which I followed, together with a running program supervised by June Ferguson (Coach of Betty Cuthbert – Olympic Gold medallist).

This provided the groundwork for me to be selected in the Australian Women's Squash Team, which travelled to the UK in 1963 and defeated Great Britain for the first time ever, in Internationals. This resulted in the development of the International Test series, with a British team visiting Australia in 1965 (where they were again defeated) and as secretary of the Australian Women's Squash rackets Association in 1966, I was solely responsible for fund-raising \$A6000 which enabled the Australian team to travel to the UK again and once again, we managed to defeat the Great Britain team. I was ranked No 3 in Australia at that time.

It was with this background that I returned to my teaching career, which I had left in 1963 to travel overseas with squash. The energy and fitness and willpower was transferred to my role as an educator which followed me throughout my life.

Whilst training for squash and teaching (1960-1963) I used to take the Years 5&6 netball and softball teams for practice after school. They were victorious in the District and the Softball girls used to travel to Moore Park in Sydney to compete against High School Girls. They reached the semi-finals even though their average age was only 12 and the girls they competed against were 15.

After I returned from the Squash tours I moved to Canberra, where I met my husband Chris (at University) and we subsequently built our own house and had 2 lovely boys, David and Michael. I completed my Bachelor of Education degree (part-time) and taught at Macquarie Primary School. It was at this school that I attained a Level 2/Master teacher status and developed a recreational program, which utilised parents and staff

for the children to participate in a range of activities. These included cookery, archery, pottery, bushwalking, orienteering, chess, squash, table tennis, drama, gymnastics and traditional sports. The Principal stated that "it was the most successful and dynamic piece of recreational activity that I have been part of in my career as a teacher".

And so, life moves on! In 1977 I transferred to Melba Primary; and my former international sporting success caught up with me. I was asked to take a squash team to Darwin, and being disappointed at the standard of play, I accepted a part-time Coaching Director's position with The ACT Squash Rackets Association. This enabled me to cope with a young family at this stage in their lives.

Needless to say I undertook a Sports Studies degree part-time, coached ACT teams and ran the first Level 2 Coaching Course in Canberra in 1987. Numerous Level 0 and 1 courses were conducted in the ACT. In 1988, I completed my degree and became Squash National Coaching Director. Whilst in this position I established the Australia Squash Rackets Coaching Association (1990), wrote the Aussie Sports Manual (for use in Primary Schools), developed a network of Satellite coaches, organised several National Coaches Conferences and served on several Committees.

Several players under my coaching attained scholarships to the Australian Institute of Sport, with Stewart Boswell and Laura Keating the most outstanding. I was named Australian Coach of the Year (1993) ACT Coach of the Year (1995), was awarded the Australian Sports Medal in 2000, became a Life member of Squash ACT in 2008 and finally, was presented with the Distinguished Services Award from Squash Australia in 2010 – for over 50 years contribution as a player, coach and administrator. I am currently Chairperson of the Selection Committee to select the Coach for the World Championship, and a member of the High Performance review Committee. I have also started to write a book on the History of Women's Squash in Australia.

I resigned from the National Coaching Director's position in 1992, due to family commitments, and was fortunate to secure a posting to Telopea Park School, an International School with a diverse socio-economic catchment area. Students are drawn from Diplomatic areas, and areas less economically fortunate. There are also several aboriginal students at the school. Upon my appointment, I was initially in the English Department (1992), but then transferred to the PE area (1993) which was very run down. Grants were obtained for the purchase of resources to underpin the Health Curriculum, which I had written (1994) including one for Binge Drinking. Funds were obtained from the Aboriginal Community for the purchase of playground equipment for use by the whole school. The P&C Committee also gave a grant for \$3500 for the purchase of PE equipment and PE Sports Uniforms. During this time I was a member of the Building and Grounds Committee, which eventually resulted in a new \$3million gym being constructed, which benefitted the whole school. In addition, after school hours I coached Schools softball, Tennis, Table Tennis, Basketball and Badminton teams. Several aboriginal students, students with disabilities, (deaf, visually impaired, cerebral palsy) students of different cultures and abilities were in my classes and all were given equal opportunity.

In 1995 I developed two new courses Sports Leadership and Advanced Sports Skills (later called Human Movement). The first encouraged the more able students (male and female) to undertake coaching training so that they could assist teachers in the Primary school conduct their PE lessons (it is a K-10 school). The second was for the more able students to study the theoretical components of sport, including video analysis, fitness assessment, sports medicine and nutrition. Both courses were very well received and are still being taught today. Finally, in 2001, as Head of PE, I was responsible for the Review of the PE/Health Curriculum. This was completed (2002) and I retired from teaching in June, 2002.

As you can see from the above, it's been a "full life" and I urge all of you young girls out there, to "give it all you've got!"

Mrs Barbara Slotemaker de Bruine

Bachelor of Education

Bachelor of Sports Studies

NCAS Level 3 Coach

Australia:Associate Professor Clare Hanlon:

Background

My confidence, determination, urn to help others, and love for sport and physical activity developed when I was young. I grew up on a farm, loved getting my hands dirty and had parents who supported me participating in sport. I gained leadership roles whilst attending primary and secondary school and learnt leadership skills and achieved related awards at Girl Guides. The determination I gained during these experiences led me down the path of teaching. I wanted to help children, particularly girls, feel confident in their actions and enjoy sport in and out of the school environment.

After three years of teaching, a male academic who taught me in my initial degree believed I had potential to expand my career in sport and invited me to apply for a scholarship that lead to academia. My return to full time studies and the opportunities that allowed me to teach university students made me realise that I could influence a greater number of people by educating those who sought employment in the field of sport. I also learnt that to gain recognition from peers and students there was a need to be active the sport industry.

Through experience and research I realised that many females lack confidence to pursue a leadership career in sport and this was typified by the low number of women

in such roles. There was also was a lack of community and organisational support and understanding on the needs of women as participants in sport and physical activity. As a result this ignited my drive over the past 15 years to assist with change through research, collaboration with organisations and policy makers, and involvement on advisory groups to encourage women in sport and physical activity.

Now

I have learnt the value of mentors for individual growth. I have sought two mentors (one academic, one industry), and over a two year period our meetings allow me to discuss my strategies and industry issues. I have become an academic and industry advocate to recruit and retain females in sport. I conduct international research, facilitate national workshops and have accepted invitations or nominations where I believe I could help influence community and organisational change. Examples include:

- State Minister of Sport Advisory Group, encouraging women in sport and recreation.
- Gymnastics Victoria, Deputy Chair.
- Gymnastics Australia, Membership Advisory Group.
- Australian Womensport and Recreation Association, mentor early career women in sport.
- Womensport and Recreation Victoria, Advisory Board member.
- Vice-President, Sport Management Association of Australian and New Zealand.

Reflection

At times it has been tough working in a male dominated industry. However this drives my passion to collaborate with others and work towards a society where females can feel confident to access the pathways open to them as leaders and participants in sport.

Australia: Ellen Randell

Ellen Randell is considered Australia's top female rowing coach and was named the coach of the 2015 Lightweight Women's Quadruple Scull, a boat class that she coached to a silver medal at last year's World Rowing Championships in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Born in Katanning, Western Australia on 23 August 1963, Randell is one of four children born to missionary parents. All four children, Doug, Andrew, Ellen and Erica, were keen rowers with Andrew, Ellen and Erica all representing Australia while older brother Andrew is also a senior coach with the Australian Rowing Team.

Ellen began her international career back in 1983 when she represented Australia in a National Senior B team but having raced in both 1983 and 1984, Randell made the decision to retire from racing and move into coaching after realizing she wasn't going to be a world champion. "I had retired from full-time training for national team crews and one of my friends at my club asked me if I would come out and take a look at her rowing".

While I was coaching this group of friends, there was a small period where the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) was looking for apprentice coaches and I applied to work under the then National Head Coach, Reinholdt Batschi, and was offered the six

month role, which was my real step into the elite level of coaching. It was fantastic being in a coach boat with four of our national coaches, every day for that six month block. For a young up and coming coach to be sitting in a boat alongside four very diverse, successful international coaches and listening to their advice and coaching was really valuable.

"After my apprenticeship finished I then took a job coaching junior women's crews and running the Talent ID side of rowing at the AIS alongside Peter Shakespeare and my career took off from there", said Randell.

After a period of time coaching age-category boats, Randell began coaching senior category boats and in 1995 coached Australia's Bec Joyce to become the World Champion in the Lightweight Women's Single Scull, Randell's first taste of gold at a senior level. "In the lead up to the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games I was coaching heavyweight women's crews, but then fell pregnant with my first child and at that point the contract ended at the club I was coaching at, so I took up the position of head rowing coach of PLC, Croydon a girl's school in Sydney. Then in 2005, having had both my children, I returned to club coaching at UTS rowing club and have been a part of the Australian Rowing Team coach set-up ever since".

Speaking of being the only female coach in a male dominated environment, Randell admits she can't do what she does without the support of her family. Throughout the 90s I was the only female coach on the team, so I have always been used to working in a male dominated environment which some would say is tough but it has made me resilient and more driven to succeed. "However, I could not do this role without the support of my husband and entire family. Family is huge for me, all my siblings rowed, I have an extremely supportive mother and father and they have helped to ground me and instil the self-belief that I can achieve whatever I choose to do".



Ellen Randell

Randell also credits some of Australia's greatest coaches as her mentors, "In recent years, Tim McLaren, who I work with currently at UTS Rowing Club, and have done so on and off for many years, has been a strong influence".

Reflecting on gender equality and its relevance to rowing coaching, Randell says: "To be a good coach you need to be a people person, regardless of whether you're a male or female coach. It's important that there is equality in all walks of life, having very few women coaching at all levels sends the wrong message so I would recommend that more opportunities be given to women initially at the club and State level to give women the opportunity early on to develop as coaches. Also that these coaches are supported in their development so that Australia can continue to nurture and grow more female coaches".

"I have been resilient in that I know this is what I want to do and I am extremely competitive and quite driven in that way, I have had a few knocks along the way but you pick yourself and keep going on the path. I always find a way to do what I need to".

Australia: Emma Carney, Triathlete

From childhood Emma Carney hoped to become a world champion runner or even an Olympian. She had potential. As a thirteen year old she won the under fifteen 3,000m at the 1984 Victorian All Schools finals, slicing more than twenty seconds of the race record in the process. Representing Victoria at the Australian school championships a number of times, she claimed the under nineteen 1500m and 3000m titles in 1988.

Although Carney continued to pursue elite running goals in the 1990s, twice representing Australia at the cross country world championships as well as in two international road relays, her sporting focus shifted to triathlon. Initially attracted to triathlon for its cross training benefits Carney's 1991 debut was discouraging; she could not swim. When injury forced her to miss the early stages of the 1992/1993 athletic season she tried again, but attended swim squads with elite coach Alwyn Barrett together with younger sister Clare. It made a difference. In December 1992 they participated in a triathlon at Elwood: Clare finished first in the junior women's category, while Emma won the professional women's race.

Following the Elwood triathlon the Carney girls decided to see how far they could go in the world of triathlon. After a winter of focused swim and cycle training they competed in the national triathlon tour over the 1993/1994 summer season. Based on their performances Triathlon Australia selected them to compete at the November 1994 International Triathlon Union (ITU) World Championships in Wellington, New Zealand. Clare won the junior women's race while Emma won the senior women's race. Less than two years since they had surprised the triathlon community with their respective wins at Elwood they were world champions.

Emma Carney dominated the world of triathlon over the next few years. Ranked world number one from 1995 to the start of 1998, she won the ITU Triathlon World Championships again in 1997. Yet her Olympic dream remained elusive. From mid-

1998 she struggled to maintain her world beating form. In controversial circumstances she failed to secure a spot on the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games team, a decision she appealed. Disappointed, Carney claimed a series of bittersweet wins over the 2000/2001 season and performed well as part of the Victoria Institute of Sport Jayco team in the internationally recognized five day women's road cycling race, the Tour de Snowy, in March 2001. International triathlon podium finishes, however, continued to elude her.

The source of Carney's performance problems became clear in July 2004 when she experienced strong waves of fatigue and a rapid, erratic heartbeat while training for a World Cup race in Edmonton, Canada. She had experienced the symptoms many times over the previous six years but they persisted. A team masseuse eventually realized that something was wrong and called an ambulance. Not for the first time Carney had suffered an episode of Ventricular Tachycardia. Back in Australia Carney sought the advice of leading cardiologist Richard Harper, who linked the attacks to exercise induced scarring on her right ventricle.

Refusing to accept the idea of life without exercise Carney opted to have a pacemaker and automatic internal defibrillator implanted in her chest. She continues to train and compete on a casual basis, has since become a mother and now inspires many others as a coach and athletic mentor. She is also a spokesperson for Monash Heart, the health clinic that found a way for her to achieve a "reasonable quality of life"¹.

¹ Information drawn from Jane E. Hunt, *Multisport Dreaming: the foundations of triathlon in Australia* (Varsity Lakes, QLD: Write Press, 2014); interviews and correspondence with Emma Carney; and Richard Harper, 'Emma Carney – A World Champion Athlete', Powerpoint, Richard Harper private collection.

Esther Deason OBE - Administration - Softball



SAHOF

Esther Deason served as an office bearer of the then Australian Women's Softball Council (AWSC) for 33 years from the foundation of the Council in 1949 until 1982. Initially elected as Treasurer, she served in this position until 1967 when she was installed as the first elected President of the Council.

Within Australia, Deason played an integral role in the development of the fledging sport - forming clubs in Melbourne, initiating Victorian championships, managing the Victorian team at the first Australian championships and was a key member of the Organising Committee for the first international competition with New Zealand in 1949.

Deason also played a major role in the introduction of an Umpires Examination System in 1954 and was subsequently foundation President of the Australian Softball Umpires Association, as well as being elected the Australian Umpire-In-Chief from 1955 until 1971.

Deason was also instrumental in the introduction of an Australian U-16 girl's championship in 1970 as well as the introduction of the Australian U-19 girl's championship in 1974. A perpetual trophy for the U-16s now recognises her contribution.

It was at this time that I met Esther Deason, who we cheekily called Essie, as I was Captain of the Victorian Under 16 softball team. The same year I was selected in the senior women's team that played in the Australian Championships in Sydney (at Ruschcutters Bay) where Essie umpired and attended meetings as President of the AWSC.

When teaching I was able to recruit and start up my own softball club in Melbourne, which meant I would have to attend regular administration meetings at the Domain (behind the Shrine of Remembrance) of the Victorian Softball Council, which Essie also attended and had a key presence at. She was also at all the Australian Softball Championships I played in for the next 10 years, carrying out her leadership responsibilities with a degree of grace and competence.

Her endeavour also had a significant impact on the international development of the sport. Her vision, perseverance and efforts were rewarded with the staging of the inaugural Women's World Softball Championship in Melbourne in 1965. Australia defeated the USA in the final to become the first winner of a World Softball Championship. It was a great victory for the underdogs and showed the world that the standard of softball and its administration in Australia was as good as the best.

Deason chaired the Organising Committee for this event, which also gave rise to the first effective meeting of the International Softball Federation, which first met in 1966. Deason was the first Australian representative to this Congress and served the ISF for 16 years.

Deason is a Life Member of the Australian Softball Federation and a Member of the International Softball Federation Hall of Fame. Deason was made an Officer of the British Empire (OBE) in 1980 for her services to softball and was inducted as a General Member into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1994.

From the Sport Australia Hall of Fame and Janice Crosswhite OAM.

Australia: Eunice Gill MBE

Eunice Gill's involvement in sports administration dramatically transformed Australian women's sport, her contributions leaving a lasting legacy for netball and physical education in Australia.

As a netball player, Gill achieved some notable highs. She was a member of the Victorian state netball team in 1945 and 1946 and Captain of the All Australia carnival team in 1946 and 1947. She also represented Australia in the 1948 team that toured New Zealand.

Gill shifted her focus from playing netball to coaching in 1954, when she coached the Victorian state team. In 1960 she succeeded her mentor Lorna McConchie as the manager-coach of the Australian national team, in an era when the team enjoyed success in New Zealand.

Despite the achievements of representing her state and country as both player and coach, it was Gill's work beyond her playing career that significantly developed the sport. Many of the administration duties she held early in her career, she undertook simultaneously with on-court roles. Later in her career, she undertook multiple administration roles at once.

For long stints of time between 1958 and 1968, she performed the dual tasks of national honorary secretary and treasurer of the All Australia Women's Basketball (Netball) Association.

From 1959 to 1987 Gill also served the International Federation of Netball Associations, as a vice-president (1959–1967 and 1983–1987) and senior vice-president (1975–1983) and it was through her involvement with IFNA that Gill was central to creating an international code for netball in 1960.

Notwithstanding her work in the international arena, she did not lose her passion for Australian netball and the national team. She served as the All Australian Association delegate at the 1967, 1970-1971 and 1979 World Netball Championship, as well as a member of the organising committee when Perth hosted the Championship.

Renowned for her contribution to sport and efforts to develop sport administration, Gill was selected as a foundation member of the Confederation of Australian Sport in 1976 and was the only woman selected on the federal government's Sports Advisory Council. Gill served as Vice President of the Confederation of Australian Sport from 1982-1986.

In addition to her role at the Confederation of Australian Sport, she chaired the Australian Sport Coaches Assembly and the Australian Coaching Council, contributing to the creation of the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme.

Gill was recognised for her achievements and service to netball with a life membership to the Victorian Association in 1959, a service award from the Australian Association in 1966 and an award from the International Federation in 1983. She is also the recipient of a Gold Award from the Confederation of Australian Sport, where she has also been made a Fellow.

Recognised as one of the biggest influencers in sports administration, Gill was honoured as a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to sport, recreation and physical education, and inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1995 and the Netball Australia Hall of Fame in 2008 for her service and contribution to the sport.

Eunice Gill was an innovator, and will be remembered in netball history as a dedicated individual who was always looking to take netball into new and improved directions to achieve excellence.

As a physical educator Eunice Gill also made a huge impact on women and girls. She studied at the University of Melbourne (BA, 1941; Dip.Phys.Ed., 1945; Dip.Ed., 1957) and in 1949 Gill was appointed acting-lecturer in the university's department of physical education, becoming temporary lecturer the following year and gaining permanency in 1953. Her teaching interests, which included human movement and sports practice, reflected the influence of Rudolf Laban, whose work in dance analysis, gymnastics and therapy had impressed her during her study leave in Britain in 1952. While formal and 'perhaps a little aloof' (so her students recall), Gill was also encouraging, inspirational and challenging in developing her subject. She was promoted to senior lecturer in 1960 and used study leave in 1972-1973 to complete an MA (1973) at the University of Leeds. Her professional and dedicated behaviour was an inspiration to her students as "Miss Gill" was always available and very well informed.

A long-standing Victorian representative on the council of the Australian Physical Education Association, Gill organised its 1968 biennial conference in Melbourne. She was also President of the Victorian Women's Amateur Sports Council and Australian representative on the council of the International Association of Physical Education and Sport for Women and Girls. A forceful advocate for improving standards in school curricula and examinations, and for the role of team sports in upholding "an Australian way of life", Gill presided over ACHPER (The Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation) and chaired its Sport in Schools Committee and the Australian Sport Coaches Assembly (1982-1986), overseeing the accreditation of thirty-three thousand registered coaches. She was appointed MBE in 1975.

Following her retirement from the university in 1983, tributes recalled her "wisdom", "analytical mind" and "innate dignity", and her success in raising the profile of women in the community.

Australia: Evonne Goolagong Cawley, AO MBE

Born 31 July 1951 Evonne Goolagong is an Australian former World No. 1 female tennis player. She was one of the world's leading players in the 1970s and early 1980s, when she won 14 Grand Slam: seven in singles (four Australian Opens, two Wimbledon and one French Open), six in women's doubles, and one in mixed doubles.

Evonne Fay Goolagon is the third of eight children from an Australian Aborigine family. Her parents, Kenny Goolagong (an itinerant sheep shearer) and Melinda, are members of the Wiradjuri people. Although Aboriginal people faced widespread discrimination in rural Australia at this time, Goolagong was able to play tennis in Barellan (a country NSW town), from childhood thanks to a kindly resident, Bill Kurtzman, who saw her peering through the fence at the local courts and encouraged her to come in and play. In 1965, Vic Edwards, the proprietor of a tennis school in Sydney was tipped off by two of his assistants and travelled to Barellan to take a look at the young Goolagong and immediately saw her potential. He persuaded Goolagong's parents to allow her to move to Sydney, where she attended Willoughby Girls High School and was at the same time coached by Edwards, and lived in his household.

Goolagong won seven Grand Slam singles titles in her career, reaching a total of eighteen Grand Slam singles finals. During the 1970s, she played in seventeen Grand Slam singles finals, a period record for any player; man or woman. Between 1973 and 1978, she reached the final of almost every Grand Slam singles event she entered. She is the only mother to have won the Wimbledon title since before World War I. Married to Roger Cawley in 1975, she had a daughter in 1977. She won the 1980 Wimbledon title.

After retiring, Goolagong spent some time as the touring professional at the Hilton Head Racquet Club in South Carolina before returning to Australia. She was a member of the Board of the Australian Sports Commission from 1995 to 1997 and since 1997 has held the position of Sports Ambassador to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Goolagong was appointed captain of the Australian Fed Cup team in 2002. In 2003, she was winner for the Oceania region of the International Olympic Committee's 2003 Women and Sport Trophy. She also runs an annual "Goolagong National Development Camp", with the aim of facilitating Aboriginal children playing competitive tennis.

Goolagong was awarded Australian of the Year in 1971. She was appointed an MBE in 1972 and made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 1982. She was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985. In 1988, Goolagong was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame

Australia: Heather McKay AM MBE – Squash



McKay ranks among the greatest players in the history of squash. She dominated the women's game in the 1960s and 1970s, winning 16 consecutive British Open titles between 1962 and 1977.

The eighth of eleven children, McKay played tennis in summer and hockey in winter. In 1959 with the idea of improving her fitness for hockey, she played her first game of squash. A year later she entered the national championships and won the Australian amateur title, and then won it every year for the next 14 years. In 1962 she won the first of

16 consecutive British Opens – a title she held until 1977. McKay also held the New South Wales and Victorian titles from 1961 to 1973.

Moving to Canada with her new husband to coach in 1975, McKay won the inaugural women's World Squash Championship in 1976, winning it again in 1979. She won the American Squash Championships in 1977, and the American Amateur Racquetball Championships in 1979. In 1980 she won the Canadian Racquetball Championship retaining the title from 1982 until 1985. In 1980, 1981 and 1984 she won the American Professional Racquetball Championships.

In 1985 the McKay's returned to Australia and until 1993 worked as a squash coach at the Australian Institute of Sport.

In over 20 years of competition, McKay lost just two matches, once in 1960 to Yvonne West and in 1962 to Fran Marshall, an amazing record that is unlikely to ever be broken.

McKay also proved to be a talent in other sports, including hockey, representing Australia in 1967 and 1971. More recently, she has taken up tennis, winning the world veteran's tennis championships and was also part of the winning combination in the world team's event, the Alice Marble Cup.

In 1979, McKay became a Member of the British Empire (MBE) and in 1969 was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her services to squash. She is a Member of the World Squash Hall of Fame.

Heather McKay was inducted into The Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985 as an Athlete Member for her contribution to the sport of squash and was elevated to "Legend of Australian Sport" in 2000.

Australia: Helen Brownlee OAM



Given that her parents went on a canoe trip for their honeymoon, Helen Brownlee really had little say in the choice of her sport – her childhood rivalled “Wind in the Willows” – fun messing around in boats. In her early years, most weekends were spent paddling down rivers, camping overnight on the riverbank, and developing a love of the great Australian outdoors.

Due to her Father's involvement in the sport, as a teenager Helen became involved in canoe sprint and marathon racing – at State and national level. When Canoe Slalom & Wildwater Racing was introduced in the 1960's she switched from sprint racing to the challenges of whitewater paddling.

In 1972 the Munich Olympic Games featured Slalom as a new event on the canoeing program, in addition to sprint racing. As Australia did not send any slalom athletes, Helen decided to go to Munich, initially as a spectator, before being appointed as an International Judge for the Canoe Slalom events. Without a doubt, this unique experience was her introduction to the International Canoe Federation (ICF) and the Olympic Movement.

Following the Olympics, Helen competed at the Scottish Slalom Championships and then went on to win the first International Slalom medal for Australia with a 3rd place at the International Canoe Federation (ICF) Slalom held in Wales.

Slalom was not to reappear on the Olympic Program for another 20 years - until Barcelona in 1992, so Helen became involved in steering the development of slalom canoeing at a national level, increasing participation, initiating training for competition officials and organising teams for World Championship. In 1974, an invitation came to join the ICF Slalom & Wildwater Committee, the first woman appointed to any of the ICF's Technical Committees, and in 1977 she took on the mantle of President of her local canoe club.

Helen's vision for excellence in sport development paralleled her professional ascent in her chosen profession of Education. She excelled as teacher, Deputy Principal, consultant and eventually became Inspector of Schools. From 1991 – 2000 she was State Manager of School Sport (Primary and Secondary) and charged with developing programs and initiatives to involve thousands of schoolchildren in the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games. As a direct result of her efforts, Helen was invited to become a member of the International Olympic Committee's Culture and Education Commission, where she has lead the development of an Olympic Values resource for young people.

In 1985 Helen was elected President of Australian Canoeing, at a time when the sport was developing rapidly in the area of elite competition, and a Sprint Training Centre on the Gold Coast was established. It was an exciting time, as athletes were consistently winning medals at the international level in all facets of the sport. It was also the year she was recognised for her contribution to canoeing with an OAM – the medal of the order of Australia.

As President of Australian Canoeing, the Olympic Movement had her in their sights, and the rest is history. Helen was invited by the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) to sit on a Justification Panel for the selection of athletes to the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games. Following the Seoul Olympics, she was elected as the first woman on the ICF Board of Directors, and took on the responsibility of canoeing development in the Oceania region.

Before too long the invitation came to stand as President of the State (NSW) Olympic Council, and then initially to fill a casual vacancy on the AOC Executive Board, before being

elected as a member in her own right... which eventually led to the Vice-President's position she holds today. As a member of the AOC, Helen has attended all summer Olympic Games since 1988 as well as the 2002 and 2014 Winter Games – the opportunity to support Australian athletes across a range of sports is seen as a privilege beyond measure.

When the Sydney Organising Committee for the 2000 Olympic Games indicated that the construction of a Slalom venue was not in their budget, Helen was part of a team which brokered a partnership between sport, government and community at the local, national and international levels – unique in the pages of Olympic history – resulting in the Penrith Whitewater Stadium becoming a reality! A fixed price for construction was secured (\$3 M) as well as a Council commitment to the long-term management of the venue. There has been no better justification for all that effort than in the ensuing years where athletes, who have trained at Penrith, have brought home World Championship titles and Olympic medals.

Within the International Canoe Federation, Helen chairs the Women's Commission, which has managed to successfully change the view of the Board to make gender equity a requisite for all Standing Committees and competition events. In 2010 she was inducted into the International Whitewater Hall of Fame for her advocacy of the sport.

Over the last decade, interwoven in all this activity has been the work of the Oceania Women & Sport Commission, covering all Oceania National Olympic Committees. During her tenure as Commission Chair, Helen has increased the number of women holding positions of responsibility within their respective National Olympic Committees, and in the regional sporting organisations. These women are committed to making a difference in their communities and now lead the Olympic world in women and sport initiatives.

As a woman of many "firsts", Helen has been a pioneer for women in sport, as well as being instrumental in shaping history through innovative projects and strong leadership.

In 2015 Helen was awarded the Olympic Order.

Australia: Janet Keenan (Grier)



Born in England, Janet's first sentence was "I can do that".

One of her first major achievements was to become a Queen's Guide and represent the Guides of North Yorkshire at the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth in 1953. After studying at I.M.Marsh College of P.E she taught in Liverpool, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore before emigrating to Australia in 1968, and taking up a position at the Australian Catholic University in 1974.

Meeting Patricia Bowen-West in 1984 was a turning point in her life. Janet became the Australian Representative for IAPESGW, successfully bidding for Melbourne to host the 1993 Congress.

This was one of those "I can do that" decisions/moments that have dominated her life. Then she discovered that she was the single Victorian member of IASPEGW, which made the task even more challenging, especially when the country went into recession and the government removed all promised funding. Favours were called in and the local P.E. community rose to the occasion.

The theme, Women, Moving Ahead in Changing Times, fitted in with her commitment to spread the word and inspire women and girls to realize their potential. Most conferences are for the believers and the converted. This congress was going to reach out to the community. As a result three, open to the public events, were organized outside the traditional themes of physical education, dance, sport, health and sports medicine. An international dance evening showcased performers from six countries, a hypothetical focusing on the pros and cons of under 10s being coached as elite athletes at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra and a Young Women's Day. The latter involved 1,200 16 year old girls hearing from inspiring Australian women reflect on their achievements and motivation, including Kay Cottee (first woman to sail around the world single handed) and Olympians, Shane Gould, Raelene Boyle and Kirsty Marshall. The girls went on to participate in hands-on workshops and a variety of sporting activities.

There was wide media attention, including two days front page of major newspapers and national T.V coverage endorsing the message. The Department of Sport and Recreation was inundated with calls from parents thanking us exciting and empowering their daughters to believe in the Janet mantra "I can do that".

Since retiring in 1997 she continues this work supporting Girl Guides Victoria through mentoring programs.

Janet married in 2008 and lives in Melbourne.

Australia: Janet Pyke M.Ed. (UWA)



I completed my Physical Education degree at the University of Western Australia in 1962 and taught for several months at Applecross High School. I married fellow Physical Education teacher Frank Pyke in June and then had to resign from teaching because back then married women were not allowed to teach in schools.

After some years in Indiana and Nova Scotia (USA) we returned to Australia and I worked in Perth and Canberra at Universities and Colleges of Advanced Education, lecturing and providing fitness testing and advice to the public.

In 1984 I was invited to put in funding submissions on behalf of the Australian Council of Health and Physical Education (ACHPER) to a number of Government Departments and agencies for a national fitness survey of school children, which were successful. In 1985, eight and a half thousand children were tested throughout 104 Australian schools by nine teams of data collectors. Ancillary information on the diet of the children was also collected for the National Department of Health. The information was analysed and reported in 1986 and, using the data, a fitness test for Australian school children was distributed in 1987. The previous national survey was conducted in 1973 and none had been done since the 1985 one.

This was the major achievement of my career in Physical Education and Sport and I believe it was only possible as I knew people in all states of Australia and I was not affiliated with any particular University. Thus varied groups of people and organisations felt free to support the survey fully and were most cooperative and helpful.

I finished my career running the Victorian Coaching Centre; which provided courses for coaches and officials and assisted sports with their accreditation and evaluation processes.

Australia: Dr Johanna Adriaanse: Play / Think / Change



The lights dim. The audience falls silent. Johanna Adriaanse sits in the front row at the Convention Centre in Darling Harbour. Seated on her left is her Excellency Quentin Bryce, Governor-General of Australia, with opening speech in hand. On her right Ms. Rachel Mayanja, Assistant Secretary-General at the United Nations, leans back in her seat ready to deliver the keynote address on *Women, Sport and Human Rights*. The music starts and on the big screen three words appear: Play | Think | Change. It's the opening night of the 5th IWG World Conference on Women and Sport in Sydney, 2010.

The theme Play | Think | Change epitomises Johanna's contribution to making a difference in physical education and sport. She has dedicated herself for almost 40 years

to enhance the participation of girls and women in sport as an educator, researcher and public advocate.

As an educator, Johanna has been involved in teaching girls and women at schools and universities in the Netherlands, Italy and Australia. Her first position as a teacher in physical education was at a local primary school in Amsterdam. After moving to Australia in 1979, she became Director of Physical Education and Sport at Wenona School, a prestigious independent girls' school in Sydney while currently, she is a senior academic in sport management at the University of Technology, Sydney. Her teaching has inspired many students which is evident when Barbara Jackson, Principal of Wenona wrote in a reference: "Her encouragement led to a high degree of participation in extra-curricular sport as well as great enjoyment as Johanna's philosophy, as it that of the school, is that sport should be participated in and enjoyed".

In the area of research, Johanna has mainly focussed on investigating adolescent girls' participation in sport and women's involvement in sport governance. In 2013 she completed her thesis on gender dynamics on boards of Australian National Sport Organisations and was awarded a PhD from the University of Sydney. She has widely shared her work in leading academic and professional publications, and at national and international conferences in all continents of the world. In recognition of her work Johanna received the prestigious *Wendy Ey Women in Sport Award* presented at the 2000 Pre-Olympic Congress on Sport Science, Sport Medicine and Physical Education held in Brisbane.

As a public advocate, Johanna has led several entities to bring about positive change for women and sport. At a state level she served as President of *Womensport New South Wales* for four years. Under her leadership this organisation was a finalist in Best Organisation of the Year at the annual State Sports Awards in 2002. At a global level she has been Co-chair of the International Working Group of Women and Sport (IWG) and an executive member of Womensport International (WSI). She was the driving force behind the United Nations publication *Women, Gender Equality and Sport in the series*

Women 2000 and Beyond. It was the first time in the history of the United Nations that a full publication was dedicated to this critical issue which was launched in partnership with the IWG and WSI at the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York in 2008. Another defining moment of her career was hosting the 5th IWG World Conference on Women and Sport in Sydney in 2010. This event attracted 500 participants from 60 countries with the *Sydney Scoreboard* as its legacy. Johanna and her team developed the *Sydney Scoreboard*, an innovative web-based instrument, into a global index for women in sport leadership. It aims to be an impetus for increased female representation in sport leadership which is fundamental for gender equality in sport.

On the morning after the 5th IWG World Conference on Women and Sport, walking through Sydney's Darling Harbour, Johanna was approached by a young Canadian woman who said: "I was a participant at the Conference and want to thank you for an amazing experience – it has changed my life!" It is evident that Johanna's substantial and sustained contribution has inspired many to make the world a better place for women and sport.

Australia: Joyce Brown OAM

Joyce Brown's contribution to netball is nothing short of remarkable, recognised as a visionary and an influential leader in the development of the sport for over 40 years.

Representing Victoria and Australia as a coach and a player, Brown's leadership on and off the court has been instrumental in growing netball at a state and national level.

After representing Victoria from 1958-1963, Brown received her highest playing honour when she captained the Australian Netball Team to the team's first world title at the inaugural 1963 World Netball Championship.

Notwithstanding her achievements as a player, it is her contribution to coaching that has seen Brown's greatest influence on netball. After graduating from Melbourne University and teaching physical education for 12 years, Brown became an All Australian umpire and coach.

From 1972 to 1975 Brown coached the Victorian State Team, before returning to national netball and coaching the Australian Netball Team to World Championship titles in 1975, 1983 and 1991.

It was in the development of coaching that Brown asserted herself as a pioneer for the sport. From 1980 to 1983, Brown was the National Coaching Director of the All Australian Netball Association where she contributed to the creation of the Netball National Coaching Accreditation Scheme; guidelines that are still used in the development of coaches today.

The incredible triumphs of the Australian Netball team under Brown's guidance saw her inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1989 and become the first full-time Australian national coach in the sport's history in 1990. She was recognised for her contribution and service to sport with the Medal of the Order of Australia in 1992.

After some time spent working with other sports, Brown made a return to Netball in 1999, coaching the Melbourne Phoenix in the Commonwealth Bank Trophy national competition. The team contributed to her growing list of accolades, winning two Premierships under Brown's three-year leadership period.

In 2008, Brown was inducted into the Netball Australia Hall of Fame for her contribution to the game, specifically the development of coaching and her contribution to the expansion of the sport through initiatives such as modified netball programs for children.

Despite her retirement, Brown continued to leave her mark on the sporting industry, through her involvement with the Australian Institute of Sport, the Confederation of Australian Sport and Victorian and Australian netball.

In 2014 Netball Australia instituted the Joyce Brown Coach of the Year award, recognising a coach at the high performance level who successfully exhibits actions which show dedication to the science and art of coaching.

The new award perfectly reflects the attributes of Brown's own leadership and she is rightly recognised in Australian netball history as one of the greatest coaches and influencers of all time.

Australia: Layne Beachley AO – Surfing



Seven world titles in nine years (1998-2006) and 29 elite tour victories are ample testimony to Layne Beachley's place in surfing as a competitor, but understate her enduring impact on the sport. She spent 15 years as a director of the Association of Surfing Professionals, remains on the board of Surfing Australia and hosts the world's richest women's surfing event. Perhaps the most telling evidence of her impact is that today half of all enrolments at Learn-to-Surf are women. Few champions have left such

a mark on their sport. She has created her own foundation to help young women pursue ambitious goals.

The Beginning

Born to a young single mother, Layne was adopted by Neil and Valerie Beachley, who lived at the Sydney beachside suburb of Manly, but Valerie died six years later and Layne was largely raised by a family friend. However, she shone as a surfer at Manly and by the age of 15 was competing – and succeeding -- against men. Some credit her later strength and big wave ability to this early robust competition.

At 16 she turned professional and by the age of 20 she was ranked sixth in the world.

The following year (1993) she won her first ASP World Tour event, the Diet Coke Women's Classic, at Narabeen NSW. In Easter the following year she took out the women's title at Bells Beach. These were to be but the first of 29 tour victories.

She won her first overseas tour event (the Rip Curl Pro) in France in 1995 and ~~the~~ in 1996 stamped herself as a world championship contender with four tour victories.

It was to be 1998 before she captured her first world title with five tour victories in a year, but such was her dominance by then that she held the title unbroken through 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003.

In 2004 she was given the rare accolade of being given a wild card to allow her to compete against the men in the Energy Australia Open.

She won her seventh and final world title in 2006 aged 35, and in 2008 announced her retirement. Seven world titles – six of them in succession – remains a benchmark in women's surfing.

Awards

Inducted into the USA Surfing Hall of Fame 2006.

Inducted into the Australian Surfing Hall of Fame 2006.

Extreme Female Athlete of the Year 2005.

Inducted into Sport Australia Hall of Fame 2011.

Awarded an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) on Australia Day 2015 for distinguished service to the community through support for a range of charitable organisations, as a mentor for women in sport, and to surfing as a world champion competitor.

Impact on the Sport

It was fitting that when Beachley relinquished her world title in 2007 it was to another Australian, Stephanie Gilmour. Layne's flair and fame over the previous 18 years had ignited the enthusiasm of young women across Australia for surfing so that today more than half of all Learn to Surf enrolments around Australia are from girls and women.

Layne served 15 years on the Board of the Association of Surfing Professionals and is a current board member of Surfing Australia.

Away from the surf she has founded her own clothing brand and set up the Aim For the Stars Foundation to help girls across Australia reach high goals. She has given her time generously to other causes and been Ambassador for the National Breast Cancer Foundation, Network Seven's EcoFocus, Day of Difference Foundation and Planet Ark.

Australia: Lorraine Landon OAM – Administration – Basketball



After a successful career as a player and coach, Lorraine Landon turned her energies to administration – first with her local Bankstown club, then on the national stage with the Sydney Kings and Flames. She managed women's basketball teams at the 1984 and 1988 Olympics. At Sydney 2000 she was competition manager for basketball and for wheelchair and disability basketball and rugby. She has served on national and international basketball bodies for 30 years, including vice president of the FIBA women's commission, as the only female Board member of Basketball NSW and as General Manager, Teams and Competition for Basketball Australia.

The Beginning

Lorraine Landon entered basketball as a player with the fledgling Bankstown Bruins team but also devoted her energies to the Bankstown club's development – and the

club flourished both on and off court. She was a member of the unstoppable women's Bankstown teams which won consecutive NSW State championships from 1968 to 1978.

She represented NSW from 1968 to 1975, coached junior teams from 1970 to 1982 and coached senior women's teams as well for much of that time.

Moving into Administration

In 1975 she was appointed general manager of the Bankstown Association and also Manager of the Bankstown Basketball Stadium – a seven court centre which to this day is the centre of Sydney basketball. She relinquished this role in 1998 and the following year became manager of both the Sydney Kings and the Sydney Flames in the National Basketball League, the first time a woman has held the position of running clubs in both the male and female national competitions. During this time the Flames won two national titles and the Kings reached the finals five times.

Olympic Roles

In 1998 she was appointed competition manager for basketball (both male and female) at the Sydney 2000 Olympics, and also competition manager for Wheelchair Basketball, Intellectual Disability Basketball and Wheelchair Rugby for the 2000 Paralympics. Basketball's global governing body FIBA presented her with a Merit Award in 2000 in recognition of the polished organisation of Basketball at Sydney 2000.

Her success as an Olympic manager dated back more than decade however. As a volunteer she had managed the Australian national women's team from 1984 to 98, including their Olympic debut in 1984 where the Opals finished fourth.

National and International Roles

In 1994 Lorraine was Competitions Manager for OZ94, the Women's World Basketball Championships, which Australia hosted, with preliminaries around Australia and the top eight playing finals in Sydney. For a number of years she was Teams and Competition Manager for Basketball Australia.

Lorraine is currently vice president of FIBA's Women's Commission. She is a long term Board Director of Basketball NSW – the only woman so far to have held such a position. She still works for the Sydney Kings and is involved with the Western Sydney Academy of Sport and INAS, the International Sports Federation for Persons with and Intellectual Disability.

Australia: Louise Evans – Media



As The Sydney Morning Herald's first female sports writer and The Australian newspaper's first female sport editor, Louise Evans has spent her career breaking new ground and being a tireless advocate for women and girls in sport by supporting and promoting female sports journalists, athletes, coaches and administrators.

Louise's career in the sports media began as a journalism student at Queensland University when she volunteered to work at the 1982 Brisbane Commonwealth Games in the main press centre, assisting journalists from around the world.

Louise was shocked that the press centre was populated mainly by male journalists who wrote predominantly about male sporting successes.

Louise was also inspired by the gold medal feats of Australian sprinters Raelene Boyle and Debbe Flintoff and swimmers Lisa Curry and Tracy Wickham but was perplexed that they did not receive as much attention and coverage as male champions including marathoner Rob De Castella and swimmer Neil Brooks.

Louise vowed then and there to become a sports journalist to try to help level the playing field for women both on and off the field.

So began a career that has taken Louise around Australia and around the world, working at another five Commonwealth Games plus six Olympic Games as well as at a host of world championships in a variety of roles including journalist, foreign correspondent, editor, manager, media executive and communications manager.

She's worked for media companies including Australian Associated Press, Fairfax, News Corp and the ABC as well as for the organising committees of the 2012 London Olympics and the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics.

After honing her craft as a general reporter Louise's foray into the sports media began in 1987 when she joined The Sydney Morning Herald as the newspaper's first female sports writer.

In addition to general sports reporting, Louise pioneered a column dedicated solely to the achievements of women in sport. It was so well received that instead of just being a

weekly column Louise wrote about women in sport on a daily basis, shining the spotlight on female role models and the achievements of female athletes, teams and coaches. She also successfully lobbied her bosses and colleagues for more female journalists to join the sport's department.

Louise's groundbreaking success in sports reporting led to her becoming a foreign correspondent in London and Beijing for Australian Associated Press in the 1990s, a role which took her to Wimbledon, world sporting championships and more Commonwealth and Olympic Games. At these events Louise was often the only female in the media room where she fearlessly reported on male and female feats on merit.

In the lead up to and at the 2000 Sydney Olympics, Louise documented the inspirational journey of indigenous Australian sprinter Cathy Freeman who sealed the defining moment of the Games by winning gold in the 400m.

In addition to giving female achievements the attention and space they deserved, Louise advocated in the media for equal prize money for female professional athletes, coaches and administrators.

Having gained experience in the sports media both at home and abroad Louise was appointed as the first female sports editor at The Australian. Here she continued to be a pioneer, appointing female staff and assigning reporters to routinely cover the national netball league and international women's cricket and soccer matches.

The Australian's extensive coverage of women's sport forced rival publications to follow suit and also cover netball and women's cricket and soccer with the same resources and space they dedicated to the men's games. It meant that for the first time in the Australian print media reports on weekly national league netball games were being published alongside reports on men's football games.

Peter Young, Cricket Australia's public affairs general manager, paid tribute to Louise in his retirement speech, crediting her as one of only a few journalists in Australia who'd ring to discuss women's cricket and give it the space it deserved in The Australian.

Louise's was promoted to a number of roles at The Australian, including national deputy chief of staff, features editor, managing editor and commercial editor. While these roles took her away from day-to-day sport she continued to be an advocate, putting women's sport in the news and feature pages and allocating budget to send reporters to cover women's sport.

A keen runner, swimmer and cyclist, Louise has also been an active director on the board of the Australian Womensport and Recreation Association (AWRA) since 2012. AWRA is the peak national not-for-profit organisation committed to equal opportunity for women and girls in sport and physical activity.

AWRA's elite team includes Patron-in-Chief and Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove, Life Patron and former Governor-General Dame Quentin Bryce, former President and Secretary Janice Crosswhite OAM and Executive Officer and former Australian Sports Foundation CEO and Commonwealth Games medallist Leanne Evans.

AWRA has an independent and collaborative board and Louise enjoys assisting and advising AWRA on strategy, advocacy, media engagement and public profile as well as representing AWRA at conferences, functions and award nights.

"I am used to navigating new directions and difficult paths and being an AWRA director allows me to continue the fight for equal coverage, representation and remuneration for women in sport", Louise told IAPESGW.

“Throughout my career, both in Australia and abroad, I've witnessed first hand the transformational power of sport, how it connects people of all ages and cultures and unites communities through events and achievements from the grass roots to elite levels.

“I've also witnessed first hand how you can change the life of women and girls by exposing them to the achievements of strong sporting female role models. The battle to level the playing field is not won. It continues apace”.

Australia: Louise Sauvage OAM – Athletics Paralympian

Louise Sauvage was a dominant force in women's wheelchair racing for 12 years. She was just 16 when she participated at her first IPC Athletics World Championships, where she won gold in the 100m in world record time. A star had arrived on the international sports stage.

She went on to change the sport of wheelchair racing by becoming one of its first truly professional athletes and, in the process, dominated it for a decade and raised the profile and perception of Paralympic sport and Paralympic athletes in Australia and around the world.



Highlights of Louise's sporting performances include:

- Nine gold, and four silver medals from four Paralympic Games, from Barcelona (1992) to Athens (2004), including four gold medals and two world records in Atlanta in 1996. She won Paralympic gold medals in every distance from 100m to 5000m.
- Two gold and one bronze medal from three appearances in 800m demonstration races at the Olympic Games, including gold in Sydney in 2000.
- Twelve gold and two silver medals from four IPC World Athletics Championships, including six gold medals at the 1998 Championships.
- Five gold medals from five appearances in 800m demonstration races at the IAAF World Athletics Championships.
- Numerous victories in the world's most prestigious road races – four Boston Marathon crowns, wins in the Honolulu (3), Los Angeles, Oita, Sempach and Berlin (2) marathons, the Riverside Rumble 10K International Classic, the Peachtree 10K and ten wins in the OZ Day 10K.

Recognition of Louise's achievements has included:

- Order of Australia Medal (OAM) 1993.
- Australian Paralympic Committee Paralympian of the Year 1994, 1996, 1997, 1998.
- First Laureus World Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability 2000.
- Sport Australia Hall of Fame inductee 2007.

- In 2011, she was one of the first people to be inducted into the Australian Paralympian Hall of Fame.
- In 2012, she was inducted into the International Paralympian Hall of Fame.
- In 2014, she was inducted into the Athletics Australia Hall of Fame.

Louise Sauvage was born with a severe spinal disability called myelodysplasia and underwent more than 20 operations before she was ten.

Despite her disability she followed her elder sister Ann into sport, and both became good junior swimmers, with Louise the only member of their swimming club with a disability.

Her swimming career was cruelly curtailed in 1987 when the scoliosis (progressive spinal curvature) worsened, and at age 14 she had metal rods inserted in her back. Three operations meant months in a hospital bed.

The rods in her back precluded further competitive swimming so she turned to wheelchair track events. In 1990 she won her first World Championships in Assen, Holland. She then decided to make sport a full time career.

Sauvage would train 10 to 14 hours a week, when she was actively competing. Her training was very focused, and she attempted to make it fun to help her maintain interest. She often trained six days a week. Her training included boxing, swimming and racing between 25 to 35 km in a single session.

At the 2000 Sydney Paralympics, she lit the cauldron during the opening ceremony for the Games. In 2004, Sauvage carried the Australian flag into the stadium at the 2004 Athens Paralympics.

Since retiring from international competition Louise has turned her attention to assisting the development of future Paralympic athletes and established a foundation to help support children with disabilities.

She is coach to the Australian Wheelchair Track and Road program under long term mentor Andrew Dawes.

Louise Sauvage is a strong advocate for people with a disability. In 2006 Sauvage and fellow athlete Paul Nummar lobbied Virgin Blue airline to drop a requirement that people in wheelchairs be accompanied by a carer if they wish to ride on a Virgin Blue aircraft. Previously, both athletes had tried to lobby Qantas to lift a limit of only two electric wheelchairs on domestic flights flying on Boeing 737s. The pair were ineffective because the change would have required a change in law, not in airline policy. Sauvage and Nunnar did receive an invitation to help train Qantas staff and help make staff more aware of the needs of the disabled.

A Sydney Harbour Supercat (Catamaran) was named in her honour in 2001. The Louise Savage Pathway, a 6.3-kilometre (3.9 mi) wheelchair-accessible bicycle and walking path within Sydney Olympic Park, is also named in her honour.

Several Paralympians cite Sauvage as inspiring them to become athletes, including wheelchair racer Kurt Fearnley.

Sport is my life. I have made a career out of it – I am a professional athlete. Living in Australia we are all very sport minded and I cannot see a life without it.

Louise Sauvage

Australia: Margaret Roberts

I was born Margaret Anne Wippell in 1944 in Brisbane. I grew up in Killarney, Queensland and came to Canberra from Brisbane in 1968.

Before returning to teaching in 1976 I did some summer swimming teaching in 1968/9 and then spent the early 70s firstly, volunteering, then on the staff of Woden, YMCA, Canberra where I was the program director and organised holiday programs, coached gymnastics, squash, a daytime sports program for young mothers and "tots tumbling".

In 1976 I was employed as a P.E. teacher at Lyneham High School in Canberra. Apart for a break of 3 years after the birth of my third child I remained on the staff until my retirement at the end of 2004.

Up until early 2000 P.E. and sport at Lyneham High was taught in single sex classes, so most of my teaching focussed on the development and enjoyment of the girls. I also started an elective course for Year 8 in Outdoor Education and I encouraged the girls to participate alongside the boys in a range of outdoor pursuits at an introductory level.

While at Lyneham High I was heavily involved in the organisation and coaching of school sports teams which competed against other school teams. This led to my being appointed as manager or coach for ACT School Sport teams. I either managed or coached at School Sport National Championship: Tennis (Primary and Secondary), Softball and Orienteering. I was Manager /Coach of the ACT School Sport Gymnastics teams at the 1992 and 1996 Pacific School Games.

Just before my retirement in 2004, I began to teach in the Swimming ACT Program "Swimming for People with a Disability". This was a small program, at that stage, of 35 participants who attended individual swimming lessons once per week. I knew there were numerous people who had a disability and they would benefit from regular swimming

lessons. I successfully built this program to over 150 participants. To give the swimmers another chance to swim and socialise I volunteered with the Aquatics program of Special Olympics (a worldwide organisation which promotes sport for people with an intellectual disability). I continued as a swim coach with the Special Olympics squad.

I have received the following awards during my working and volunteering life.

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 1994 | Physical Education Week Award (ACT). |
| 1995 | ACT Volunteer Involvement Program Award for coordination of Sportsfun. |
| 2004 | School Sport Australia Service Award. |
| 2009/2010 | Swimming ACT Volunteer of the Year. |
| 2010 | nominated for The 2010 Pride of Australia Medal. |
| 2011 | Safe Waters ACT, The Minister's Award for the Most Significant Contribution to Water Safety by an Individual. |
| 2011 | Selected as a Finalist in the Local Hero Award in ACT Australia of the Year Awards program. |
| 2014 | Special Olympics ACT Coach of the Year Award |

Australia: Margaret Court AO MBE – Tennis

Margaret Court (nee Smith) was inducted into The Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985 as an Athlete Member for her contribution to the sport of tennis and was elevated to "Legend of Australian Sport" in 1998.

Court is widely considered to be one of the greatest tennis players in the history of the game. Between 1960 and 1975, she won a record 62 Grand Slam titles – 24 singles, 19 women's doubles and 19 mixed doubles. In 1970, she became only the second female player to win all four Grand Slam singles titles in a year, in 1953. During her tennis career she was ranked number one in the world seven times.

She is one of only three players to have achieved a career 'box set' of Grand Slam titles, i.e. winning every possible Grand Slam title – singles, doubles and mixed doubles – at all four of the Grand Slam events. The others are Doris Hart and Martina Navratilova.

Court grew up in Albury on the border of New South Wales and Victoria and began playing tennis at the age of eight. As a teenager she went to Melbourne to develop her tennis career under the guidance of another Australian tennis great, Frank Sedgman, and trainer Stan Nichols.

In 1960 at just 17 years of age she won her first of seven straight singles titles at the Australian Championships. She defeated Jan Lehane in the first four years from 1960 to 1963. She defeated Lesley Turner (Bowrey) in 1964, Maria Bueno in 1965, and Nancy Richey in 1966 in a walk over. In the Open era, she defeated Billie Jean King in 1969, Kerry Reid in 1970, and Evonne Goolagong (Cawley) in 1971 and 1973. Court also won the Australian doubles title eight times, in 1961, 1962, 1963, 1965, 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1973.

Court won five French singles titles beginning in 1962 where she defeated Turner. In 1964 she defeated Maria Bueno, then in the Open era, she defeated Ann Haydon-Jones

in 1969, Helga Niessen in 1970, and Chris Evert in 1973. She also won the doubles from 1964 to 1966 and again in 1973.

Court was never seeded lower than two at Wimbledon and she became the first Australian woman to win the title in 1963 by defeating Billie Jean King 6-3 6-4. She went on to win two more, defeating Maria Bueno in 1965 and Billie Jean King in a marathon 14-12 11-9 in 1970. She also won the doubles title in 1964 and 1969.

In the United States her record was again outstanding, winning the singles title five times. She defeated Darlene Hard in 1962 and Billie Jean King in 1965. In the Open era she defeated Nancy Richey in 1969, Rosie Casals in 1970, and Goolagong in 1973. She also won the doubles title in 1963, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1973 and 1975.

Representing her country in Federation Cup from 1963 to 1971, she won all of her 20 singles matches, 15 of 20 doubles matches, and was a member of four winning Federation Cup teams, 1964, 1965, 1968 and 1971.

Court was ordained a minister and founded the Margaret Court Ministries in 1991. The Victory Life Centre (Perth) was established in 1995, and is now linked to 25 churches in Australia.

In 1967, Court became a Member of the British Empire (MBE) for her services to sport and international relations. In 2007, Court was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for service to tennis as a player, as a mentor to junior female elite competitors and through professional development programs; and to the communities of Australia and Sri Lanka as the initiator of a range of pastoral care, social support and emergency accommodation projects.

In 1979, she was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame and in 1993, Rod Laver and Court became the inaugural players inducted into the Australian Tennis Hall of Fame.

On the eve of the 2003 Australian Open Tennis Championship, Melbourne Park's Show Court One was officially re-named Margaret Court Arena as a tribute to her outstanding career.

In 2006, Court was recognised by the International Tennis Federation for her outstanding tennis achievements. She was presented with the Phillippe Chatrier award at the ITF's world champion's dinner in Paris during the French Open. She is only the 11th recipient of the award.

Australia: Marjorie Jackson Nelson AC CVO MBE – Athletics



Marjorie Jackson first gained fame when she defeated reigning Olympic 100m and 200m champion Fanny Blankers-Koen a number of times in 1949, earning her the nickname "the Lithgow Flash", after the New South Wales town where she lived. "The Lithgow Flash" nickname stuck, as in her early days Jackson trained on the local oval

after work under the lights of her father's car. Now there is a park and oval named after her in Lithgow.

Jackson won two Olympic gold medals and seven Commonwealth Games gold medals. Between 1950 and 1954 she won every state and Australian title she contested for the 100yds, 100m, 220yds and 200m sprints (six in total). During her athletic career she broke world sprint records on ten occasions.

Jackson became the first Australian female runner to break a world record and the first Australian woman to win an Olympic athletics gold medal. In fact she was the first of either gender to win gold on the track since Edwin Flack in 1896.

Jackson won four gold medals at the 1950 Auckland British Empire Games, the 100yds (10.8 seconds), the 220yds (24.3), the 440yds medley relay (47.9), and the 660yds medley relay (1:13.4).

But it was her performance at the 1952 Helsinki Olympic Games that entranced the nation. She won both the 100m (11.5) and 200m (23.7) gold medals, equalling a world record in the 100m and setting two in the 200m. It was confidently expected that she would collect another gold medal, along with other members of the women's sprint relay team, Shirley Strickland, Winsome Cripps and Verna Johnston. They won their heat easily, setting a world record - but at the last change in the final, the baton was dropped.

At the 1954 Vancouver British Empire and Commonwealth Games, Jackson won three gold medals, in the 100yds (10.7), the 220yds (24.0), as well as the 4x110yds relay (46.8).

In 1952 the prestigious Helms Foundation in the United States awarded her the title of Outstanding Athlete 1952. Jackson was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 1953 for her services to women's athletics, a Companion of the Order of

Australia (AC) in 2001 as Governor of South Australia, and was appointed a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO) by Her Majesty The Queen on the occasion of the Royal Visit to Adelaide in February 2002.

Jackson-Nelson was one of the eight torch-bearers of the Olympic torch at the opening ceremony of the 2000 Sydney Olympics and in 2006, was one of the final four runners who carried the Queen's Baton around the Melbourne Cricket Ground during the 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games opening ceremony.

Marjorie Jackson (Nelson) was inducted into The Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985 as an Athlete Member for her contribution to the sport of athletics and was elevated to "Legend of Australian Sport" in 1995.

In 1953 Jackson married Olympic cyclist Peter Nelson. After his death from leukaemia in 1977, she launched the Peter Nelson Leukaemia Research Fellowship and has raised millions of dollars to aid research into leukaemia.

From 2001-2007 Marjorie Jackson was Governor of her adopted state, South Australia, and served this position with distinction.

She has a road named in honour of her at the Sydney Olympic Park, beside the Sydney Superdome.

From the Sport Australia Hall of Fame and Editor.

Australia – Nova Peris OAM



Described by Ric Charlesworth, (the coach of the 1996 Olympic gold medal winning Australian women's hockey team), as one of the "three exceptional talents among the many great international competitors" who comprised that team, Nova Peris was the first Aboriginal Australian to win an Olympic gold medal.

It was a remarkable achievement, given the difficult circumstances of Nova's early life, not the least of them being a single mother at the age of eighteen. But when the Australian women's hockey team beat South Korea in the final at Atlanta in 1996, Peris achieved a lifetime goal and created history. "Against all the odds, the dream of a little girl from Darwin...had come true", she was later to write. Then, when she decided to challenge herself even further and made the track and field team for the Olympics Games in Sydney, 2000, she achieved the rare distinction of representing her country at the Olympics in two different sports.

Back in 1993 I had made a declaration about my sporting goals and future [...] I had [said] that my goals were to win a World Cup gold medal and an Olympic gold medal and

to then retire from hockey; to run at the Commonwealth Games in 1998 and then in the Sydney Olympics, in the 400 metres. I also declared that it was my intention to become a spokesperson for indigenous rights in Australia.

True to her word – Nova delivered upon her promises and has raised a family along the way. She is a truly remarkable Australian sportswoman.

Despite the odds being stacked against her, Nova Peris and her baby daughter Jessica left their Darwin home for Perth, Western Australia in 1992, to join the hockey program at the Western Australian Institute of Sport. With the determination that comes from self-belief, Peris got on with the business of working, training and bringing up her daughter on her own. She made good friends who helped her juggle the load.

She was also fortunate to have a coach with whom she "clicked". Ric Charlesworth became coach of the national team, the Hockeyroos, at roughly the same time that Peris came into the program, and she thrived under his guidance. Charlesworth tried to keep Nova in hockey but after the Hockeyroos won the gold medal at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics Nova switched to athletics.

She had great success at the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur (she won two gold medals, in the 200m and the 4 x 100m relay) and at the Sydney 2000 Olympics she made the semi-finals of the 400m, which vindicated her decision to make the switch. Had she stayed with hockey, no doubt she would have had another gold medal against her name because the Hockeyroos defended their title at Sydney in 2000. But if she had, she would never fully have lived her Olympic Dream.

It was a dream come true for her to be chosen to run the first leg of the Olympic torch relay when it arrived in Australia. She ran barefoot, in honour of the traditional owners of the land, the Mutitjulu people. "To be the first of 10,000 torch-carriers was one of the most fantastic thrills of my life", she said. Especially given the location where it all started

– Uluru – in her words "the spiritual heart of Australia". "On that single day", she says: "It was as if all the different threads of my life had come together - my Aboriginality, my love of family [represented by her daughter at her shoulder], my sport which carried me on the rollercoaster ride to this day, my spirituality, my love of Australia [...]"

She hopes she can use her profile to inspire other Aboriginal people to take pride in who they are, but she also works hard at changing attitudes within the white community. "In whichever ways I possibly can I will continue to fight through my life for a better deal for Aboriginals and for the healing of Australian society that I believe must (and will) happen".

In 2013 Nova Peris was elected to the Australian Senate as a Labor party representative for the Northern Territory. She became Australia's first indigenous woman elected to federal parliament.

In her personal life she has three children and has been married three times. She has published her autobiography.

Australia: Nuatali Nelmes

She is laying, face down, on a basketball court. It is 10:15pm on Monday night. She can feel the rawness of "another" wood-burn on her knees. She knows well the feeling: effort, exhaustion, determination.

She is a sportswoman.

She is a daughter, mother, wife.

She is a politician.

She is the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, NSW, Australia.

She is Nuatali Nelmes.

She has been well-schooled in the simple, yet complex Australian sporting art of *Having-a-Go*.

And there she is, on that nobody watching -Monday night-few caring-basketball court - and she's doing what she learned as a young girl in Newcastle, she's fighting for a loose ball, fighting for *her team* [...]

Nuatali Nelmes readily admits to being first and foremost a *team sport player*. She's not much for golf or tennis or things that don't include others. For her, *it* is about the connection made with her team-mates, the satisfaction of fulfilling a role within a group. "It doesn't bother me if I don't score, I'm happy to just get the ball back for them", she says smiling. And she could be talking about sport or politics, it seems she plays both games the same way.

And there behind the bespectacled eyes of Nuatali Nelmes' is a blend of kindness, intelligence, determination and confidence that clearly bears her forward. Born not only in the progressive and loving family home in the historic and modernising entrepôt that is Newcastle, but on a wooden basketball court in the working class suburb of Broadmeadow.

Politics is a tough business. The slings and arrows that come flying along with the mud of personal attack are part of the world in which Nuatali operates. And yet despite this harsh reality, Nelmes wood-burned Australian skin is adept at repelling the onslaughts.

Nuatali Nelmes seems to have been imbued with Sport's essential truths: you don't always win, you must play within the rules, you must respect the game, you must stick by your team-mates, and you must play the ball, *not the woman*.

She plays hard, but fair, and it's not personal.

She has represented her city and state on a national sporting stage. She has trained for hour upon gruelling hour, then fallen asleep exhausted in countless freezing tin-shed basketball stadiums throughout Australia.

She has practised at midnight in the tough mining town of Lithgow, in the Blue Mountains of New South Wales. Track-suited and with her friends, wrestling once again for possession of that sacred thing, the pill, the ball – for her team.

She recalls Australian Title Games and University Games and Club Championships, but not once does she mention winning: "I can't even remember winning or losing really", she elucidates, looking out the window into the Newcastle sky, thinking back through the clouds and years...

She remembers laying down the trenches of muscle memory and eking out of her body and mind each available ounce of energy and skill in those gone days of junior elite sport.

And it's not hard to feel and see the invisible sluice left by the force of those days of sporting competition and rehearsal; not hard to tell that them yonder cold nights of fighting for a ball, of winning and losing, of letting go and hanging on – not hard to tell they all made their mark and helped maketh the woman, this woman who is now Captain of her City.

And you sense the city is in good hands, safe hands, hands that can catch.

Indeed Nelmes recounts meeting FIFA chief Sepp Blatter during Newcastle's hosting of an Asian Cup of Football semi-final. The dignitaries were perched high in the grandstand, close to the rails, to the plummeting drop [...] And in a moment of maternal care and in-built

risk assessing, Nuatali imagined the diminutive Blatter losing his balance and, and [...] in her mind, she thought, "I could catch him, I could. I couldn't let him die in Newcastle".

Sport taught her to catch, to care, to get on the loose ball, to fight for her team, her town - and Newcastle Australia is a richer place because of it, and her.

Nuatali Nelmes
Captain of her Town

By Tim Mallon Teacher
Hunter Sports High School

Australia: Margaret Pewtress OAM *Deceased 6/8/1995

Margaret Pewtress was involved in netball umpiring, coaching and administration, physical education and as an advocate for women's sport.

She was a shining light in raising netball's profile. Under her leadership Netball Australia developed its first Strategic Plan and increased netball's profile in the Australian sports community.

She was a member of the Victorian netball team and then coached the team in 1961-1962 and again 1964-1966 before coaching the Australian Team at the 2nd World Tournament. She was President of the Victorian Netball Association and later a Life Member and then a selector for the Australian Team. From 1989-1995 she was President of the All Australia Netball Association which included a year as Chairman of World Netball Championships Company. In 1994 she was awarded an All Australia Service Award and in 2001 was named in Netball Victoria's "Hall of Fame".

Margaret had a profound influence in physical education and across women's sport. She had a wonderful speaking voice that commanded interest and attention and was influential in advocating for equality of opportunity across all women's sport and sports administration.

She graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Diploma of Physical Education, followed by teacher training. She taught physical education and then was an adviser in the Physical Education Centre for the Victorian Education Department.

From 1983-1984 she was a member of the Victorian State Sports Council and from 1986-1988 she was on the Board of the Australian Sports Commission, leading the new Women's Sports Promotion Unit 1986-1990 and Chairing a Federal Government "Women's Sports Task Force".

In 1989 Margaret Pewtress was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia.

Australia: Raelene Boyle AM MBE – Athletics



To this day, Raelene Boyle remains one of the modern era's greatest female sprinters. A Melbourne local, she first took to the international stage at the age of 16, when she won silver in the 200m at the 1968 Mexico City Olympic Games.

Selected in every Australian Olympic and Commonwealth Games team between 1968 and 1982, Boyle won a total of 12 medals. She reached the finals of six individual Olympic short sprints finals, winning three silver medals.

Boyle dominated sprinting events at the 1970 Edinburgh and 1974 Christchurch Commonwealth Games, winning gold medals in the 100m, 200m and 4x100m relay on each occasion. At the 1972 Munich Olympics, she repeated her silver medal success of four years before. At the 1978 Edmonton Commonwealth Games, Boyle only contested the 100m sprint due to injury, and won silver.

Boyle hit the headlines when she apparently broke twice in the 200m semi-finals in the 1976 Montreal Olympics. Film of the start later showed that she in fact had not jumped the gun on her first start. In tears, all Boyle could do was watch as the others battled it out for the medals. Earlier, she had become the first Australian woman to be selected as flag bearer for the opening ceremony.

The controversy of the 1980 Moscow Olympics led to much indecision amongst prospective competitors. Boyle was one of those who decided to stand by the boycott, and she did not take part.

Boyle competed at a time when some countries were running doping programs for their female athletes – there is some discussion that Boyle ran against drug cheats and deserved to win a gold medal at the Olympics.

Perhaps the greatest moment in Boyle's career was her last competitive run at the 1982 Brisbane Commonwealth Games, which saw her win gold in the 400m.

Boyle won 14 individual Australian championships, taking out the 100m and 200m double in 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1976 and 1977, and the 400m in 1980 and 1982. Throughout her career, Boyle set a number of Australian and Commonwealth records, and was a member of two world record breaking Australian relay teams.

In 1974, Boyle was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in recognition of her service to athletics. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, she remained involved with sport in a variety of capacities, ranging from being a member of the Victorian State Sports Council to Assistant Manager Australian World Junior Athletics team. She often comments on international athletic events as part of a television or radio team and speaks at various fund raising events.

Diagnosed with breast cancer in 1996, she has worked assiduously since that time to raise awareness of the disease.

Boyle was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985 and is on their Nominations Committee. She has commented on athletics for television and radio at many international events.

From Sport Australia Hall of Fame and Editor.

Australia – Ruby Robinson AM MBE – Administration – Hockey

Ruby Robinson was involved in hockey from 1926, as a player, administrator and umpire. She was president of the Australian Women's Hockey Association (AWHA) from 1976 to 1985 and the Queensland Women's Hockey Association (QWHA) from 1950 to 1986 and is a life member of both organisations.

From 1945 to 1967 Robinson was a Queensland state selector, state manager, and delegate to the AWWA. She was an Australian selector for 12 years and an Australian umpire from 1952 to 1971, nearly 20 years.

Robinson was Australia's delegate to the International Federation of Women's Hockey Associations (IFWHA) from 1963 to 1981. When all the different hockey boards amalgamated, Robinson was then a delegate to the International Hockey Federation Council (FIH) from 1981 to 1985 (on the press, media, and promotion committee). She was manager of the Australian hockey team from 1963 to 1971 and assistant manager (women) of the Australian contingency at the 1968 Mexico Olympics.

Robinson was not only involved with hockey, she is a life member of the Queensland Amateur Swimming Association, was president of the Queensland Ladies Gymnastics Association, a member of the Queensland National Fitness Council for 40 years and a member of the Queensland Olympic Council for 40 years.

Robinson was also involved in the media, covering 13 different sports in newspapers, radio and TV.

In 1965 she was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for her contribution to the advancement of women's sport and in 1988 was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his service to women's hockey.

In 1984 Ruby Robinson was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame as a General Member. It should be noted that Ruby Robinson was a dedicated and inspirational volunteer in all her many and diverse sporting administration roles.

From the Sport Australia Hall of Fame and Editor.

Australia: Sarah Ogilvie – Sailing

Sarah retired from High Performance Sailing in 2009 following a very successful sailing career. After winning her first IYRU World Championship as a youth in 1995 Sarah won the Australian Telstra Youth Athlete of the year award 1995. She combined and completed a university degree in Graphic Design whilst competing at the elite level in sailing and graduating in 1997.

She went on to win the Women's Laser World Championship in 1997 and the Europe Dinghy World Championship in 2002 along with several Australian Championships and State Championships in the single handed dinghy class of sailing. Sarah also represented Australia at two Olympics gaining a 4th place in both the Athens 2004 (highest place by an Australian sailor) and Beijing Olympics 2008. Sarah was also the co-captain of the Olympic Sailing Team for 2008 and since then has been an Olympic Education Ambassador.

Sarah has won many National and State Awards within her sport of sailing. She is the most successful women's single handed dinghy class sailor in Australia. Since retiring from international sailing she has continued to engage with the sport at all levels. Sarah assists the sailors of today with specialist coaching, mentoring and through her employment with Yachting Victoria she works with sailors with a disability.

Sarah has a Bachelor of Teaching and is a certified coach in sailing and has coached at the elite, community and school level. She is a regular speaker for many functions.

Sarah has also grown as a leader throughout her time as a high performance athlete. Not one to rest on her laurels, Sarah recently started the Sarah Blanck Perpetual Trophy Regatta in Victoria which is a regatta for women only and run by women. (Blanck is Sarah's maiden name.) The regatta is to encourage women of all standards of sailing

to become more involved in the sport. The regatta is not only for women sailors but for race management and patrol boat drivers. Once trained these women are encouraged to develop their skills further to officiate further at club, state and national levels.

Through her passion, energy, creativity and commitment Sarah models the way to contribute to community through her sport of sailing. Sarah's ultimate goal is to see a higher participation of women in the sport of sailing.

Australia: Shirley de la Hunty AO MBE – Athletics

For 20 years Shirley Strickland (from 1956 to 1976) was the only female athlete to have won seven Olympic track and field medals. This total was equalled by Irena Swezinska in 1976 and Merlene Ottey in 1996, and then exceeded when Ottey won bronze in 2000.

Strickland took up serious running in 1947 after graduating from the University of Western Australia with a Bachelor of Science in 1945 and, in 1946, won honours in physics.

Perth born and the daughter of state amateur sprint champion and 1900 Stawell Gift winner, Dave Strickland, Strickland won the national title in the 90yds hurdles in 1948, setting a world record time of 11.6 seconds. At the 1948 London Olympics Strickland finished third in both the 100m and 80m hurdles and won silver in the 4x100m relay, becoming the first Australian female athlete to win a track and field medal.

Strickland had never run on cinders before and had expected them to offer firm footing. With the track soft and very wet, she ended up with cakes of cinders around her shoes. The 100m final was run in blinding rain, with Fanny Blankers-Koen winning in 11.9 seconds and Strickland finishing third in 12.2 seconds. The 80m hurdles was incredibly close, with all three (Strickland, Blankers-Koen, and Britain's Maureen Gardner) finishing

in a line. Blankers-Koen was eventually judged the winner with Strickland third with a time of 11.4 seconds. Strickland ran the first leg of the 4x100m relay giving the Australian's a six metre lead, however they couldn't hold onto it and eventually won silver behind the Dutch. Not a bad result considering they had done very little training together. In the 200m, Strickland was placed fourth, a placing disputed by a photographic researcher years later - he placed her third. She went on to win more Olympic medals than any other Australian in track events.

After winning three gold medals at the 1950 Auckland British Empire Games (80m hurdles, 440yds medley relay, and the 660yds medley relays) and two silvers (100yds and 220yds), Strickland won her first Olympic title at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics, in the 80m hurdles, blitzing the field in world record time (10.9 seconds). In the 100m, she won bronze behind Marjorie Jackson, and an unfortunate baton mix up cost her a second gold in the 4x100m relay.

In Poland, 1955, Strickland set a new world record of 11.3 seconds for the 100m and won the 80m hurdles, and at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics, married with a three year old son, she won gold again in the 80m hurdles setting a new Olympic record of 10.7 seconds. She also won gold with the Australian 4x100m relay team (Betty Cuthbert, Strickland, Fleur Mellor, and Gloria Cooke), taking her Olympic medal tally to seven and becoming the first Australian woman to win track gold medals in the same event at consecutive Olympic Games.

During her career she set or equalled five individual world records, four in the hurdles, and one at 100m, and she was a member of five Australian relay teams, which set or equalled world records.

After retiring she maintained her interest in sport by coaching athletes including Raelene Boyle, and was involved in athletics administration as manager of the Australian women's team at the 1968 Mexico and 1976 Montreal Olympics.

Strickland was one of the Olympic torch bearers at the opening ceremony of the 2000 Sydney Olympics. As one of the runners for the final segment, she carried the Olympic torch in the stadium, before the lighting of the Olympic flame by Catherine Freeman.

Shirley Strickland (later de la Hunty) was inducted into The Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985 as an Athlete Member for her contribution to the sport of athletics and was elevated to "Legend of Australian Sport" in 1995.

Strickland had strong political views and was a perennial candidate for state and federal political office but was never elected. She did serve two periods as a local councillor.

In 2001, de la Hunty attracted media attention by auctioning her sporting memorabilia including her Olympic gold medals. She was criticised by some for that but asserted she had a right to do so and the income generated would help pay for her grandchildren's education and allow a sizeable donation to assist in securing old-growth forests from use by developers. Her memorabilia was eventually acquired for the National Sports Museum by a group of anonymous businessmen who shared her wish that the memorabilia would stay in Australia.

De la Hunty was appointed Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) on 26 January 2001 for service to the community, particularly in the areas of conservation, the environment and local government, and to athletics as an athlete, coach and administrator. She had been appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire (Civil) (MBE) for services to athletics on 1 January 1957.

In 2014 Strickland de la Hunty was inducted into the International Association of Athletics Federations' Hall of Fame.

From the Sport Australia Hall of Fame and Editor

Australia: Sian Mulholland

Women's cycling has come a long way since 1982 when, after winning every track championship on offer for women in Australia, Siân Mulholland decided she would compete in the World Championship in Leicester (England). At this time, women were not included in Australian teams for world championship on track or road so it was an ambitious goal and one that she was determined to reach at any cost.

It turned out to be at considerable cost, and her own. While Australian Cycling endorsed her participation and paid her entry fee, the rest was up to the young athlete.

"I had to have my own skinsuit made, purchase my own tracksuit, stitch on an Australian badge, organise and fund the entire trip myself. It was painfully obvious that women were the poor relations in Australian cycling and certainly not taken seriously."

However her time in the flying 200m sprint – one of the 10 fastest in the world – was certainly taken seriously, and her participation in Leicester literally opened the floodgates: since that year, Australian women have competed at every Track Cycling World Championships and are now among the world's leaders in the sport.

As a pioneering woman cyclist Siân Mulholland naturally started paving the way for those coming up behind her: "I set about changing the system from within, little by little".

Which is why, at the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Extraordinary Session in Monaco on December 9th, Siân Mulholland received the 2014 IOC Women and Sport Trophy for Oceania. Each year six trophies (one per continent and one at world level) are awarded to a person or organisation that has worked to develop, encourage and strengthen the participation of women and girls in physical and sports activities whether as athletes, coaches, administrators or media representatives.

Siân's first reaction on hearing of this prestigious award was, "immense excitement but also satisfaction that my contribution to the development of women's cycling over many years has finally been formally recognised".

The Australian's commitment to progressing women's cycling went far beyond setting an example on her bike. While leading the way with her own cycling career, she negotiated with clubs and promoters for the inclusion of women's events at different open competitions on both the road and track, often undertaking their organisation. She would then personally contact female cyclists to promote the event and encourage them to race. Outside the coordination of events she has been involved in securing significant sponsorship, publicity and media coverage for women's races. A qualified coach, she has also coordinated and conducted numerous camps for women at all levels: beginners, intermediate, Elite and Masters.

Twice voted Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Coach of the Year and inducted into the ACT Sport Hall of Fame in 2009, Siân continues to strive to improve the lot of women cyclists.

"I think women's cycling is in much better shape these days but so much still needs to be done. More events, more publicity, more introductory programmes to get women involved in cycling generally – the more who ride, the greater the numbers likely to move across into racing".

"Women ride bikes as well as men, even if ultimately they may not do it at the same average speed. Women are just as clever at reading a race and working out strategies and these aspects should be promoted".

"Working towards equal prize money is a hugely important part of recognition", she continues. "It is time for promoters to take the initiative and try to attract more women to

events with decent reward, rather than demanding that sufficient women be willing to ride for negative return before they will come to the party on prize money".

Siân Mulholland is currently Manager/Directeur Sportif for an Australian National Road Series women's team. A development squad is attached to the team to equip sub-elite women with the necessary race skills and tactical knowledge for entry into national competition. She also has other coaching projects in the pipeline across several competition categories, and continues to support local grass roots development programmes.

As part of her award, the IOC will offer CHF 30,000 sponsorship for a project that she submits for approval. She is not short of ideas and has formulated a plan for a project that she says will benefit Australia and the broader Oceania region: "It is not just for competitors," says Siân. "I've discussed this with Cycling Australia and we're quietly optimistic that this project will facilitate another step forward for women's cycling in the region." When it comes to women's cycling, Siân Mulholland hasn't had her last word [...]

Australia: Yvonne Rate OAM

Yvonne completed a Bachelor of Education majoring in Physical and Health Education by a Master of Education at The University of Western Australia. She subsequently completed a Master of Philosophy (Women's Studies).

In 1966 she commenced teaching Physical and Health Education at Churchlands Senior High School in Western Australia and from there moved to lecturing at the Secondary Teachers' College which became Edith Cowan University.

Netball was her major sporting interest. She represented Western Australia for 10 years and captained this team for five years. She Captained the Australian team on a tour to New Zealand in 1969.

Her interest in women's sport has been lifelong. Recognising that there was an opportunity to raise the profile of women's sport she initiated the formation of the Women's Sport Committee in Western Australia. This was subsequently renamed the Women's Sport Foundation of Western Australia. In 1989 Yvonne was appointed the Executive Director of the Women's Sport Foundation. She retained this full time role for four years. Principally the Women's Sport Foundation provided opportunities for women in sport to develop administrative, coaching and leadership skills.

The Women's Sport Foundation was funded by the WA Government and secured additional resources through grants and sponsorships. The Australian Sports Commission coordinated national meetings of similar organisations in each State enabling the sharing of skills, creating long term partnerships and making a difference. A major focus of the training programmes provided through these relationships was "Media and Marketing of Women's Sport".

Within Western Australia, courses for women's sports administrators and coaches were delivered throughout the State. The appointment of Regional Development Officers in Kalgoorlie, Bunbury and Albany facilitated this development.

Yvonne has served on the boards of the Australian Sports Commission, Netball Australia, Netball WA, Western Australian Sports Council and the Western Australian Health Promotion Board.

In 1999 Yvonne was named the Citizen of the Year (Sport Category) in WA and in 2004 she was awarded an Order of Australia (General Division) for her services to sport.

Currently Yvonne Chairs the Bluearth Foundation, a national health promotional charity founded in 2000 to improve the health of all Australians thereby reducing sedentary diseases. She is also President of Coastals Netball Region working with associations

within the region to provide opportunities for players, coaches, umpires and administrators to collectively improve their skills and enjoy their sport.

Her principal focus remains to create more opportunities for participation in sport and recreation and to encourage the recognition of women in various roles in sport. She believes that sport provides the foundation for the development and expression of skills that can be shared and developed within our communities.

Through her various roles in sport and physical education, Yvonne believes that she has experienced personal growth and has developed lasting community and corporate relationships. Raising the profile of women in sport remains an on-going challenge.

Cook Islands – Jackie Tuara



Photo – Takitumu dance – Ministry of Cultural Development

Jackie Tuara is a choreographer, dancer, business woman and mother. Jackie is an inspirational and talented woman with vision who is passionate about Cook Island's traditional dance, music and costumes. She has the ability to inspire, which is reflected in her leadership and the importance she places on her own attitude and communication skills. She is able to garner the support of the community, performers, composers, musicians, and drummers for participating in the annual Te Maeva Nui Cultural Festival of Music and Dance competition. She never takes personal credit as the choreographer, recognition is given to team effort.

Each year the Cook Islands hold a national celebration of self government, granted in 1965. Formerly it was called the Constitution Celebrations, but in 2001 the Prime Minister, of the time Sir Geoffrey Henry, wanted a Cook Islands Maori name to capture the essence and spirit of the annual event. "Te Maeva Nui" translates as "major celebration". It is the annual Cultural Festival of Music and Dance and is considered one of the most important events in the Cook Islands to showcase Cook Islands culture. Dance teams representing different island groups, from throughout the Cook Islands, gather at the National Auditorium in Rarotonga to compete against each other and perform and present new dances, costumes, drum beats and songs expressing the cultural theme chosen for that particular year. The island of Rarotonga is divided into three main districts or vaka (tribes) – vaka Te Au o Tonga, vaka Puaikura and vaka Takitumu.

Vaka Takitumu have always made it into the top two or three positions in Te Maeva Nui annual Cultural dance competitions with the action song and drum dance. They've developed their own unique style in both dance and music and are innovators in Cook Islands choreography. Their 2003 winning Ature Drum Dance, the choreography of which Jackie had a major role in, changed the way Cook Islands drum dances at Te Maeva Nui were performed. Every year the influence ATURE has had in changing choreography is noted by the audience. Movements from Ature are incorporated into the drum dances of many other teams since and up until today. Many of the Cook Island's most prominent

female and male performers: choreographers, dancers, composers, orators, drummers and costume makers in the Cook Islands come from vaka Takitumu and Jackie is one of them.

Dance is part of our personal and culture experiences, past, present and future. Our dancing, songs, chants music and drumming are a form of communication, a way of telling and enacting a story or legend, connecting to our cultural history and past and keeping those stories alive with each generation. Dancing and drumming is a way of bringing families and community together. Cook Islanders love to dance, everyone from the mamas and papas to youth, and children. There are now Ura fitness classes that everyone can participate in. There is a lot of energy with young people and it's an opportunity to develop their potential. Many people that come to watch the performances during the celebrations are not aware of the work that is involved in preparing for the competition.

Connie Halligan, committee member², "I'd always wanted to be part of the vaka Takitumu culture group to participate in the Te Maeva nui and in 2014 I was. The theme for 2014 was 'Te Rakei Tupuna o Toku Matakeinanga' translated 'Traditional Costumes/Attire of our Communities & Tribes'"

As a newcomer I didn't realise the work, time, energy and commitment that goes into preparing for the competition. Once the theme of the festival is announced, often about six weeks before the event, then preparations begin almost immediately. The community is called together to organise the team, the choreographer, composer's, musicians and drummers. Committee's are established for; administration, fundraising, catering, musicians, drummers, composers, dancers, transportation and costume making. You have to be

² Vaka Takitumu Culture Committee Members 2014, President Pastor Eliu, Assist Tua Pittman, Secretary – Sarah Ama, Asst. Connie Halligan, Treasurer – Steven Peyroux, Assist – Lisa..., Cultural Coordinator Overall – Jackie Tuara, Costume Coordinator – Annie Wigmore- Ama, Tetevano, drums – Kaka Ama and Charlie Hosking, Props – Tiri Toa, Puapii Piho, Nutrition Coordinator Mere Charlie, Grace Rea, Composer – Ute Coordinator- Cultural Advisor, Mauri Toa.

prepared to put in the many long hours, devote your time to that and nothing else, for a performance that will last 6 minutes and then it's over.

For the costume-making alone at least 80 costumes have to be made. The plants, fibre and seeds are prepared and gathered throughout the year and weeks in advance before the actual costume can be made. A sample is made up first of both male and female costumes.

Annie Wigmore, dancer, costume designer, "So much time and energy is put into costume-making, it is very fiddly work, there are time constraints and additions to make to costumes right up to just before the dancers go on stage. Everyone is involved and encouraged to join in making the costumes, women and girls, men and boys. Jackie is involved at every stage, always checking progress".

Many of the older members of vaka Takitumu, dancers and musicians, said that many dance groups are based on hierarchical structures, practices and conflicting personalities. Those responsible for the action song or drum dance just told you what to do and you did it. You were not asked for your ideas or thoughts. Whatever the group leader or senior had to say, you just obeyed. You were shamed in front of everyone if you made a mistake. However, since 2007, with Jackie as team leader we've started to work more as a team.

Paster Eliu, mentor, composer, musician, "Jackie has this creative energy and vision, she is firm and very much a perfectionist, that is a skill we all recognise in her. She is not a one person choreographer. It is a team effort. As team leader, she told us that if we wanted to win the competition and to keep people guessing what we were going to come up with next, we needed to get contributions from everyone. Brainstorming sessions became a big part of preparation for all the performances".

Jackie ensures there is a lot of consultation between and amongst members and those responsible for each area. She has this little book that she carries around at all practices and she writes down all the details and lets everyone know what is on her mind or what she is thinking.

The competition allows for 60 people on stage during a performance, 20 female dancers, 20 male dancers (numbers of dancers may vary depending on the number of musicians). There are usually about 48 dancers in the drum dance) and the musicians and drummers. You can have anywhere between 40-50 dancers turn up for the warm up practice sessions for a few weeks. From these Jackie will assess who can dance, who can do action song, drum dance or both and she has to ensure that those that can dance and can keep up WILL dance on the night, provided they turn up regularly to practices. You can tell the girls who are passionate and love dancing.

Mere Charlie, committee member, singer – Although she is quiet and softly spoken, she is also firm. She has vision and a nice non-threatening way of getting the best performance out of the dancers, and puts the onus back on them to perform their best with feeling and expression if they want to be part of the team.

Each year, you get the same response from the crowd, wow! It's the wow factor that vaka Takitumu looks forward to hearing. All those weeks of preparing for this night and it's over in 6 minutes.

It's always exciting and an honour to be part of a team that has consistently kept the standard high with their innovative dance performances. It is a cultural experience that makes it all worthwhile. It requires leadership, a vision, commitment, passion and the ability to bring people together, to work together in the spirit of community, all the unique and special qualities that Jackie Tuara holds.

Cook Islands: Serena Hunter

As she lined up at the starting line wearing the Cook Islands colours for the Triathlon at the Manchester Commonwealth Games (2002) her thoughts flashed back to her training days in preparation for this race. It was reminiscent of the movie "Cool Running's" loosely based on the true story of the Jamaican bobsled team competing in the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary. Like the limitations faced by the Jamaican bobsledders in the movie, preparation for an international triathlon event in the Cook Islands also presented a number of challenges for an athlete aiming to compete with the world's best in Manchester. This was however but a fleeting thought for Serena Hunter as then the starter gun went off and the race had started.

The South Pacific is famous for its beautiful islands, white beaches, stunning lagoons and friendly locals. However, these features do not make for the ideal training venue for international level competition. With the stunning lagoon and harbour as her training pool, the one main road around the island as her cycle training route and the same road for running, Serena was a familiar sight on Rarotonga when training for triathlons. 5am starts were the norm as she also had to prepare her children's school lunches before heading down to the lagoon for swim training between the corals, and then return to get her two sons Teava and Jayden ready for school and drop them off before heading into the office where she worked full time. The afternoon would then usually involve either a cycle or run during lunchtime or more often cutting out lunchbreaks and finishing work early to train. Serena was fortunate to have her mother support her by picking her children up after school and during training.

After sustaining a debilitating injury (a damaged external iliac artery, which is not uncommon to elite cyclists) Serena switched from competing in triathlons to oe vaka racing, outrigger canoe racing. Having participated in a range of athletic activities and sports since primary school including netball, basketball and track and field, switching

from triathlons to oe vaka was a natural transition for Serena. It did not take long for her to excel at this sport and shortly she was representing the Cook Islands at a national and international level. Titles and awards won include the Cook Islands National Sportswoman of the Year in 2001 for triathlon and in 2005 for paddling; she also coached a local women's team which won their first Vaka Eiva Round Rarotonga race in 2014.

This year Serena competed in the famous Molokai solo challenge. The Molokai Solo OC1 Championships crosses the Kaiwi Channel between Molokai and Oahu islands (Hawaii) – the 38mile outrigger canoe race is considered to be the premier long-distance, open ocean, solo crossing in the world and is the pinnacle of the OC1 solo racing. She ticked off the bucket list her first Molokai solo race to place first in her age division (40-49) and be the first non-Hawaiian to cross the line in an impressive sixth overall placing – and the first Cook Islands woman to undertake this race.

Her sons are now adults, however the pace has not slowed down for Serena as she now also has two young daughters, Reva and Tia. Fortunately her mother is still available to support her in their care. In addition to raising her family and training Serena also manages the family lagoon cruise business.

Amidst the glamour and glitz of top national and international sport, we sometimes lose sight of the dedication, commitment and sacrifice it takes to reach the top of any sporting code and to stay there. The challenges faced by many athletes (these challenges are also faced by other small nations like the countries in the Pacific Islands) include resources, access to training venues and equipment, technology and the time and energy it takes to raise a family.

Serena is dedicated when it comes to training and is prepared to put her body on the line and do whatever training it takes within the limitations of time available to her to achieve the results she desires. She recognises the fact that she could not give her

full commitment to training without the support of her family. "I love training and I love competing, and I feel very blessed to have the opportunities I have had and to be able to do what I love doing. I think also we are so lucky living in the Cook Islands that you have that family and community support. I hope to continue what I do for many years yet".

Cook Islands: Anne Tierney

Growing up in New Zealand, I always liked sport as a school student, playing netball, basketball, swimming and athletics. I was from a very sporting family, one of seven children, and we were encouraged by our parents to play sports. We had our own team to play and practice with! I was usually the captain of my school and provincial teams and although not at a national level I was very involved and enjoyed all of my sports and competitions.

When I married John Tierney we moved to the Cook Islands and started sailing. I fell in love with sailing and have been sailing now for over 40 years.

I have always coached athletics and when I started taking my children to athletics and they did well I had to learn to coach at a higher level. I had to learn the proper language of coaching and track and field, concentrating on sprints and jumps.

I did various coaching courses through Oceania Athletics and continued competing in sailing. Our family time (we had four children) was filled with competitive sailing and coaching athletics – which was very enjoyable and very satisfying.

I was elected onto the Oceania Athletics Council, which looks after the planning and conduct of regional events and the training of coaches and technical officials. I was the first female President of the Council – a world first for an athletic continent.

I have been a sailing coach for 20 years and coach the Cook Islands at the Pacific Games. I think I will always coach sailing at this level and likewise continue to coach school athletics.

I am currently on the Training and Development Committee for the International Sailing Federation and the Regional Games Committee.

My husband John is Secretary of the Pacific Games Council and previously was Regional Vice President for Oceania with the Commonwealth Games Federation, so our lives have been very much committed to sport development in the Cook Islands and Oceania.

Interview by Editor.

Fiji: Lorraine Mar



I am currently the Secretary General and CEO of the Fiji Olympic Committee, with responsibilities for administration and meetings, staff development and external relations.

Sports Career

- 2010 Graduate, Advanced Sports Management Course, Oceania National Olympic Committees
- 2006 Recipient, IOC Women in Sport Achievement Diploma (Oceania Region)
- 1984 Fiji Sportswoman of the Year (Badminton & Tennis)
- 1980-1990 National Representative – Tennis
- 1970-1980 National Representative – Badminton
- Current Life Member, Fiji Badminton Association
- Oceania Level 1 Badminton Coach
- Former Secretary & Treasurer, Fiji Badminton Association

Career

- 2011-2015 Fiji Association of Sports and National Olympic Committee Secretary General & CEO

I started out as a badminton and tennis player which led to fulltime employment as a sports administrator. I have now been 26 years with the Fiji Association of Sports and the National Olympic Committee. I have been able to turn my hobby into a job.

Over the years we have been able to add more staff and we now have an office of nine, and so I have moved from administrator to office manager and in 2011 to the position of Secretary General of the Fiji Olympic Committee.

I played badminton for many years and was Secretary of the Fiji Badminton Association and on the Fiji Tennis Committee but I only get to play occasional tennis and badminton now as we are so busy with the national and international sports calendar.

Although Fiji was suspended from the Commonwealth for seven years and so we missed out on the Delhi Commonwealth Games in 2010 we have been able to compete in all the Pacific and Olympic Games over this time.

Who says politics and sport doesn't mix!

Interview with Editor.

Fiji – Sophia Raddock



Sophia Raddock has dedicated over 65 years of her life to sports in Fiji.

Not only the people of Fiji but also those of the Pacific region hold "Aunty So" as she is affectionately known, dear in their hearts.

Her first love of sports was Hockey. At the early age of 15 she represented Lautoka and then went on to represent Suva and Fiji and captained the most successful Fiji Women's Hockey Team to New Zealand in 1955. She continued playing Hockey for 32 years, until 1971, when she managed the Fiji Women's Hockey Team to their first World

Tournament in New Zealand. Upon retiring from active competition she became involved in administration and served as Secretary and President and then Patron and a Life Member of the Fiji Hockey Federation.

"Aunty So" was Assistant Manager of the South Pacific Games Fiji Team in 1979 when Fiji hosted the Games - this was the first time a woman had been appointed in this capacity and was Chef de Mission to the 1992 Winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer, Norway. She served as a Board Member of the Fiji Sports Council from 1982 to 1986 and was appointed Chairman of the Board in 1987, a position she held until 1990.

As a Committee Member of the Fiji Hockey Association, as it was then known, Sophia became a delegate to the FASASNOC (Fiji Association of Sports and Sports National Olympic Committee) Board of Management and in 1980 was elected as a Vice President of FASANOC. In 1985 she was elected as Senior Vice President and became President of FASANOC in 1987 a position she held until 1997. In 1992 she was the recipient of the IOC Trophy for her contribution to Women in Sport and represented Fiji at the World Conference on Women in Beijing, China in 1995 and also at the Inaugural IOC Regional Women in Sport Workshop held in Fiji in 1996. For her services and dedication to Fiji Sports Sophia was elected as a Life Member of FASANOC in 1997 and was awarded the Olympic Order that was presented by the IOC President, Juan Antonio Samaranch on his visit to Fiji in 2000.

Her citation of nomination "Indeed she has helped to keep Hockey alive in Fiji" was testament to her love of Hockey. FASANOC awarded her the Fiji Olympic Order in 2003 – the grand lady of women's sports in Fiji.

From the Fiji Sports Hall of Fame.

Fiji: Hamidan Bibi

Women and girls have played an instrumental role in promoting various aspects of sports for many years now. They have been top athletes, administrators, ambassadors, coaches, managers and role models, to name a few. In Fiji, the majority of them have been involved in these aspects on a volunteer basis or with limited resources in way of support, finances as well as capacities.

Having experienced the many challenges as well as joys of being a successful athlete, administrator and a trustee in the field of lawn tennis for over 20 years, and now a sports educator, I saw the vital need for women and girls to participate effectively in decision making roles and to have a greater impact. Traditionally, women have shied away from holding leadership roles due largely to sport being seen as a male dominated activity by both women and men. Facilities for women's sports have also been limited, although more emphasis is now being put to promoting "sports for all" programs.

Seeing first hand, the challenges of effective participation of women in sports leadership and administration at various levels, and predominantly served by men, I began to develop and deliver short workshop-type programs to help create an environment that would provide women and girls the opportunities to self develop, enhance their understanding and knowledge base as well as networking. The day-long workshops have been aimed at increasing women and girl's effective participation in sports leadership and administration. They have been supported by the IOC, Women in Sports Commission Fiji and FASANOC (Fiji Association of Sports and National Olympic Committee) and held across Fiji.

Featuring customised contents and participatory delivery methods, the workshops have been an inspiration for many women and who have now progressed to taking on various decision making roles in their National Sporting Federations, or have begun to be actively part of sporting committees and or clubs.

The workshops, conducted since 2010, have covered various aspects of leadership – how it's understood and thus exercised by women and men differently in the context of leading; the many barriers women face in the exercise of leadership and possible solutions, as well as associated aspects such as managing and leading change, empowerment, managing conflict and collaborative problem solving, to list a few.

Women who have participated in the workshops have shared stories of motivation. For many, it was their first time to attend such an event. They felt that the workshops provided the motivation and realization to be able to use their leadership qualities with confidence and greater self esteem in the sporting context. However, they also understood that the exercise of good leadership was a continuous process of learning and self developing.

It has inspired them to believe in themselves more, feel elevated and uncover an increased feeling of hope to take on various leadership roles. They also began to enjoy being not just volunteers, but leaders in sports.

The workshops have also helped raise awareness on aspects of gender, in particular how women could advocate to make sporting environments more gender – friendly. This included sporting facilities, helping develop gender-neutral constitutions and or guidelines, ensuring appropriate meeting times to encourage more women to participate, support from male colleagues, sponsorship in sports, specifically for women and girls and sports education for women. This has also meant that women continue to be empowered to remain active in sports.

Another series of workshops have been planned country-wide as Fiji continues to witness an increasing number of women taking on leadership roles in various sports-related programs and organisations.

Fiji: Jennifer Liew

Jennifer Liew was my dance teacher from when I was a young girl. She taught so many of us in our community about cultural dance. She also taught us how to make traditional head gears and weave costumes and she always did this for free.

Jennifer is also a swimming teacher. She coaches many kids that have gone on to represent Fiji. She works tirelessly every day. She is down at the pool at 5am every morning, for the past 30 years. She still teaches dance in the afternoons and swimming as well.

She never gets paid for what she does, she does everything voluntarily out of the goodness of her heart because she cares so much about all the youth in her clubs that she always tries to develop and support.

I know for me personally she has been such an inspiration in my life and I would not be doing what I am doing today if it were not for her. She taught me to dance from a young age, as well as discipline, dedication, hard work and also how to love and laugh.

She has inspired me to do what I do today which is to open up dance schools in Fiji, in Suva and Nadi. We have over 300 students now and we work to offer job opportunities for people living in poverty. Through dance opportunities we are able to support 12 youth into full time employment.

It is role models like Jenny that create the pathways for people to follow in their generous and giving footsteps.

By Sachiko Soro.

New Zealand – Heather Robson – Badminton and Tennis



Heather and husband Jeff, who played badminton and tennis as a mixed pair.

Heather first played tennis at 10 years of age at the West End Club, Auckland, where her parents were foundation members, and did not start badminton until she was 20 when she joined the Eden Club and became "hooked" on the game.

In 1954 Heather reached the semi-finals of the All England Ladies singles and also won the Irish Open singles. She played tennis at Wimbledon in 1954 and 1957 and progressed through a few rounds of doubles and mixed.

In 1960 she was a member of the most successful badminton Uber Cup team NZ has produced when they reached the final rounds in the USA.

Overall she has represented New Zealand 20 times in Whyte Trophy and Uber cup and also as a NZ tennis rep. She is one of a few New Zealand women who has represented her country in two sports – both racket sports.

Heather won seven New Zealand singles (a record), nine doubles (several with Val Gow) and three mixed doubles with her husband Jeff. She also amassed no less than 14 Auckland singles titles. She has since managed teams in both tennis and badminton including Uber Cup teams, and served as an Auckland badminton selector.

On the tennis scene she has won the Auckland singles, doubles and mixed titles and also New Zealand doubles and mixed titles. The mixed has been with husband Jeff and some of the tennis has been with badminton partner Val Gow. She has also served a term as Auckland President.

Heather inaugurated the Auckland Ladies Badminton Mid-Week club which grew into today's mid-week interclub and championships. Heather and Val Gow organised and ran this competition for many years.

Of more recent times she served on the Auckland management committee for 10 years and was President for three years. She started on the New Zealand Badminton Federation management committee in 1985 and served for many years, including two years as Chairperson and another two years as President. She and Jeff have represented New Zealand at International Badminton Federation forums for some years. She was the inaugural Oceania Badminton Confederation President 1987 to 2000. In 2002 she was awarded the MNZM for services to badminton and tennis.

Heather Robson has made a major contribution to badminton and tennis in New Zealand, as a player, an administrator at local, national and international level and also with fund raising.

New Zealand: Annelise Coberger



NZSHOF

In a sport in which New Zealanders, or southern hemisphere skiers generally, barely leave an imprint in the snow, she was for a time the best in the world.

She became the first New Zealander to win a Europa Cup event and was the cup slalom champion in 1991 and 1992. She also became the first New Zealander to win a World Cup event and was ranked first in the world in 1992 and 1993.

In the World Cup slalom in 1993, she was second to triple Olympic gold medallist Vreni Schneider by just four points. Annelise Coberger's crowning glory came in 1992 at the Olympic Winter Games in Albertville in France, when she won the silver medal in the slalom.

It was the first Winter Games medal to be won by a southern hemisphere athlete and remains the only Winter Games medal to be won by a New Zealander. Annelise Coberger is unique in New Zealand sport.

Since retiring from skiing Goberger has joined the NZ Police.

From the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame.

New Zealand: Barbara Kendall MBE



NZSHOF

Barbara Kendall began international competition when she was still a teenager and for the next 20 or so years, there was no one to compare. She won a full set of Olympic medals – gold in 1992, silver in 1996 and bronze in 2000 – but that told only some of the tale of Barbara Kendall, superior windsurfer and extraordinary athlete.

Kendall won a gold medal at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, a silver medal at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics and a bronze medal at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. She finished 5th at the 2004 Athens Olympics and sixth at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. She was the first and only woman from New Zealand to compete at five Olympic Games.

Kendall also won eleven world championship medals, including four world titles, and collected just about every honour a grateful sport and country could bestow.

Kendall was the Oceania athletes' representative on the International Olympic Committee from 2005 to 2008 and was on the New Zealand Olympic Committee Athletes Commission until 2008. She now has an administrative career: she was elected an IOC member in July 2011 and now sits on the IOC Athletes Commission, Woman and Sport Commission and Sport and the Environment Commission.

In 1993 Kendall was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire for services to boardsailing.

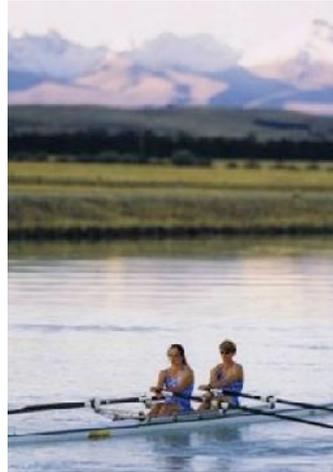
Kendall's brother Bruce is also an Olympic Gold medallist. They are the first brother and sister to have achieved this feat for New Zealand. Brother Bruce began it all with an Olympic gold medal in 1988; Barbara maintained the momentum.

Kendall officially retired from competitive board sailing in May 2010.

She is a motivational speaker on leadership and excellence and volunteers her time to sit on 12 different sporting executive boards, commissions or working groups representing New Zealand, Oceania, Woman and Athletes. Barbara acts as an ambassador for Health 2000, the New Zealand Olympic Committee and Project litefoot. She is a Patron of the Upside downs Education Trust, Motutapu Outdoor Education Camp, and Gulf Harbour Yacht Club.

From the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame and Editor.

New Zealand: Philippa Baker-Hogan and Brenda Lawson



NZSHOF

Individually and together, Philippa Baker-Hogan and Brenda Lawson were world leaders in rowing in the early 1990s. Between them, they won 47 national premier titles and Baker-Hogan became the first female New Zealander to win a world title when she won the lightweight single sculls in 1991.

Lawson, who had been an under 23 world champion, teamed up with Baker for them to win consecutive world double sculls titles in 1993 and 1994, adding a bronze medal in 1995.

They were the New Zealand Sports Team of the Year and the Halberg Award winners in 1994. Baker had earlier won the Sportsman of the Year award (as it was then known) in 1991.

Each of them has also been New Zealand Rower of the Year and Lawson won the Lonsdale Cup for outstanding achievement in an Olympic sport in 1993.

From the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame.

New Zealand: Beatrice Faumuina

Sports star and role model Beatrice Faumuina is helping to develop a new voice for Pasifika through her work to create strong leaders in the Pacific community.

The former discus thrower and Dancing with the Stars competitor was named a finalist in the 2014 Fairfax Media and Westpac Women of Influence Awards for her work in fostering much-needed Pasifika leaders.

A world champion discus thrower, World Cup champion, four-time Olympian, Halberg Award-winner and two-time Commonwealth Games champion and record holder, Faumuina began her leadership journey as one of New Zealand's sporting heroes and has achieved success again by forging a path of excellence for the next generation of Pasifika leaders.

In 2005 she was made a member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for her services to athletics.

Faumuina has headed the BEST Leadership Academy since its inception in 2010.

The leadership course aimed to lift incomes and living standards in New Zealand's Pacific Island community by increasing the number of Pasifika people starting and leading Kiwi businesses and organisations.

The course teaches Pacific Island leaders to become better and stronger in their workplace, community and family life.

Faumuina told Fairfax Media earlier this year that her hope was to see all Pasifika people fulfil their potential with the support and encouragement of a team.

The cliché of "making a difference" as a Pacific person no longer sufficed as a purpose for working and leading, she said.

"We must know what kind of world, what kind of nation we want".

The academy provided a breakthrough for Pasifika leaders who wanted to go on a journey to leadership.

Almost 40 Pasifika business leaders have undertaken the Auckland course so far after being nominated by their employers.

The 38-year-old said the course helped Pacific Island leaders reach their potential by instilling them with more confidence in their abilities.

"Some of our Pasifika leaders are humble and are incredibly shy and would not self-nominate".

Faumuina said the course's success to date had exceeded her expectations.

The course also assisted employers by increasing awareness of traditional cultural and behavioural values of Pasifika people.

Her plan now is to deliver the programme outside Auckland.

New Zealand: Erin Baker



NZSHOF

When multi-sport was in its formative years in the 1980s, Erin Baker was without peer in gaining success over a variety of distances and disciplines, to such an extent that her feats continue to stand the test of time.

Upon the suggestion by her mother Mary, Baker began running competitively at age 15 and showed ability right from the start. "I remember the first day Erin competed in a cross-country race. I was waiting for her to come in thinking, she won't be very pleased because she hasn't done very well. In fact, I missed her crossing the finish line a quarter of an hour earlier, in first place".

Baker was originally coached by John Hellemans, but controlled and developed her successful career by self-training. "I was self-trained. I just trained as much as my body would handle, and that was a shit load. I trained and trained, and I trained more if I had time. I never got injured so I would often do more in case somebody else was training while I was resting".

In 1981 she was convicted of throwing explosive devices while protesting during the South African Rugby tour of New Zealand, which prevented her from entering the United States for several years, restricting her from competing in American competitions. Baker was also known for her protests at the Hawaii Ironman competitions when she rebelled against the notion of the winner of the men's division receiving a car and the women's division winner receiving nothing for her efforts. She voiced her opinions on numerous occasions and as a result was well known as a controversial athlete.

Baker won her first world triathlon title at Nice in 1985 and repeated it the following year. The next year, she won the world sprint title in Perth and in 1988 won world titles in both sprint and ironman events.

She also won a world duathlon title and went close to selection as a distance runner in New Zealand Games teams, all the while continuing her dominance in her first event, the triathlon.

She ended her career in 1994 with a final tally of eight world triathlon titles over a variety of distances. She had a record of 104 wins from 121 triathlons entered.

Baker was named "Triathlete of the decade" by American magazine Triathlete. The magazine commented on her success by saying, "We've stopped trying to figure Erin out, we just accept her as the best female triathlete that ever lived".

In the 1993 Baker was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire for services as a triathlete.

Baker has served as a councillor on the Christchurch City Council and a number of boards.

From the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame and Editor.

New Zealand: Eve Rimmer

(1937-1996)



NZSHOF

Eve Rimmer had been a school long jump record holder and sprint champion before a car crash at the age of 15 left her a paraplegic.

In her late 20s and when she had had a child, she turned to disability sport with the aid of Edgumbe coach Ray Gurren.

In a remarkably short time, she became one of the leading paraplegic athletes in the world, excelling in the javelin, shot put and discus, but also competing with distinction in swimming and archery.

Her haul of gold medals from various international events, including the Paralympics and the Commonwealth equivalent, was more than 30 and she also set numerous world records.

Such was her domination of paraplegic sport that in 1972 she was runner-up for the New Zealand Sportsman of the Year title to the Olympic champion rowing eight.

From the New Zealand Sport Hall of Fame.

New Zealand: Dr Farah Rangikoepa Palmer and the Journey of NZ Women's Rugby



As a child growing up in rural New Zealand with my Māori mother and grandparents, I identified strongly with the tangata whenua or indigenous people of New Zealand. I was introduced to a rural Pākehā (Colonial European) way of living at seven years of age when my mother and I moved in with my Pākehā father. Despite the physical and cultural distance from my extended Māori family, sport became the common language of conversation in both worlds. My worldview was that being Māori meant sport was a rite of passage while being female tempered the opportunities that were available to me.

When I secured a Māori scholarship to study Physical Education at University I ended up reinforcing some stereotypes and breaking others. This opportunity also further displaced me from my whenua/land and whānau/family but once again sport became a space where I could secure my Māori identity while challenging my gendered one. It was while at University that I discovered women's rugby.

I'm not sure what attracted me to a sport considered in New Zealand society to be a rite of passage for boys to become "real" Kiwi blokes. Perhaps it was the perceptions I had at the time that Māori played rugby and so this could be my whānau (family) I yearned for? Or was it the link back to my rural upbringing where the rugby clubrooms were the heart of the community? Or was I seeking the approval of my rugby mad father? Whatever subconscious intentions I had, I instantly enjoyed the whānaungatanga (kinship), physicality, and "in the moment" experience of playing a physical team game. I was hooked and ironically ended up playing the "hooker" position.

After a few years of rapidly learning the trade, the lingo, the expectations, the culture and the values reinforced by predominantly male coaches I went on to captain the New Zealand women's rugby team, now known as the Black Ferns, to three consecutive World Cup wins (1998, 2002, 2006) from 1997 to 2006. After the final of the 2006 Rugby World Cup I announced my retirement as a player but stayed involved in rugby and women's rugby in particular, as an amateur coach, administrator, advocate, and academic.

I noticed during this time that much was being written and researched about the culture of the All Blacks, particular when it came to their winning ethos (i.e. up to 2013 they had won 390 tests creating a 76.2% winning record) yet very little was known about the Black Ferns who also had a strong winning ethos. Their record up to 2013, for instance was 58 wins or an 86.6% winning record. This story is based on my reflections as Black Ferns captain and aims to shed light on the struggles and triumphs this team experienced during that time.

When I made the Black Ferns in 1995 as a reserve player it was all a bit surreal because although I'd always been an active person I had never considered myself 'naturally gifted' in sport despite stereotypes about Māori being so. Being asked to captain the team two years later was an even bigger shock. I remember thinking "you're not ready for this", but the opportunist in me said "go for it" and so I did. I intuitively knew these chances don't come up that often, and if the coaches felt I had what it took to lead the team, then

I would do my best to honour that. I'm also a realist and knew how lucky I was that some of the other potential candidates for captain at the time were injured! I was on a huge learning curve regarding captaincy, and made many mistakes along the way, but I felt my core values reflected those ideals the team wanted to reinforce at the time; hard-working, physically uncompromising but tactically skilled, resilient, and willing to stand tall and proud in challenging times.

The Black Ferns had the difficult task of gaining support from male-dominated administration and a national culture that saw rugby as a hyper-masculine sport for boys and men. As players, our sexualities, motives, genders, and mental states were questioned by anyone that had an opinion! We had to work hard to change the perception of women's rugby so that it could; a) grow participation numbers, b) get officially recognised by those who held the purse strings (the New Zealand Rugby Union/NZRU) and moral strings (i.e. the schools) of NZ society so that we could access resources and potential players, and c) prove to New Zealanders that women not only had the right to vote (NZ became the first country in the world to give women the right to vote in 1893) but also to play rugby if they so wished.

People like Vicky Dombroski worked tirelessly behind the scenes to get the NZRU Board to acknowledge women's rugby, and male advocates like J.J. Stewart did their bit to get the women's game officially sanctioned. One of the first national team coaches, Laurie O'Reilly who was also a high profile human rights lawyer at the time, helped to put women's rugby on the radar of the NZRU in the early 1990s, and provincial champions like Sue Garden-Bachop worked at the grassroots level to get women's rugby competitions up and running.

In the mid-1990s Darryl Suasua took over as the head coach of the national team and under his guidance, the team culture changed dramatically. He wanted to create a team that conducted itself professionally despite amateur status with regards to resources. He emphasised to the players our role as trail blazers and 'game changers' for

women's rugby. We were the ones who had to set higher standards for women's rugby so that players in the future could follow and ideally surpass these expectations. All the hard work to get women's rugby recognised reached a crescendo in 1998 when the team won the first inaugural IRB sanctioned Women's Rugby World Cup in Amsterdam.

Timing is everything and the fact that the All Blacks were experiencing a losing streak and that New Zealand had its first female Prime Minister at the time did us some major favours. We went from being female freaks of nature to national darlings. The media attention, national support and official recognition from administrators, politicians, and high profile figures with influence pushed women's rugby in New Zealand from the shadows into the limelight. Suddenly we gained an official name as the 'Black Ferns', a name that incorporated symbols and colours associated with national sports teams while also reflecting deeper meanings the NZRU thought would enhance the brand.

The Black Fern or Ngā Mamaku for instance, was a native fern tree considered to be the matriarch of the forest in Māori culture. Symbolism was used extensively in everything we did. The milestone of 10 games was acknowledged with a Māori bone carving pendant and the milestone of 20 games was rewarded with a pounamu (greenstone) pendant. Each campaign was associated with a different metaphor. Players would receive a piece of rope to symbolise how important each strand was in making our team strong, a piece of Number 8 wire hammered to native timber to epitomise the 'can do' attitude and rural history associated with NZ, and a BTB badge to reflect our goal of being 'Better than Before' and 'Back to Back' World champions. Rituals like the haka (postural dance) performed before games, and waiata (songs) performed at after-match functions were also imbued with symbolic meaning.

In my final year as captain I wanted to leave something with the Black Ferns team that would add to the legacy/story. At my request, a kaumatua (elder) in Māori rugby circles, Whetu Tipiwai (of Ngāti Kahungunu descent), composed a haka for the team that referred to strong female figures in Māori cosmogyny representing the parallel journeys that wahine toa (strong women) took in the realm of atua/gods and in rugby: "Ko Hineahuone, ko Hine-tītama, Ko Hine-nui-te-pō ki te whai ao, ki te ao marama e". This translates as "From Hineahuone, Hinetītama, and Hinenui te pō [mythical female figures] we came to transfer from the void (supernatural world) to the world of enlightenment". To me, this summarised poetically the journey the Black Ferns had taken thus far. These words and the meanings associated with them helped us to transfer from the void of darkness in a predominantly male sport into the world of light where recognition and acknowledgement were given. As another verse in the haka suggests, the Black Fern legacy will continue to develop as long as the men and women who represent the team are willing to fight for and uphold it in the face of resistance and apathy:

<p>Tūmai rā koe Te mana wahine Te Wharetangata Ngā Mamaku o Aotearoa He tia he tia He ranga he ranga</p>	<p>You stand tall and proud Women of strength and prestige Who will bear the future The Black Ferns of NZ Let us proceed Press on, press on</p>
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New Zealand: Joan Harnett



NZSHOF

Joan (now Harnett-Kindley) was one of the outstanding players who helped transform the image of “basketball” as a schoolgirls’ game to netball as a fast, entertaining international sport.

It helped too, in the style of the day, that Harnett gained more than usual attention because of her looks. “It was flattering”, she said. “You have to have someone like that”. But Harnett wasn’t just a pretty face. She first played for Canterbury in 1960 and was in the shooting circle for New Zealand at the inaugural world championships in England in 1963, when the Silver Ferns lost the final by a goal to Australia.

By the next championships, in Perth in 1967, Harnett was in devastating form and was one of the standout players of the tournament, which was won by New Zealand.

Harnett captained New Zealand at the 1971 championships (again second) and retired unexpectedly in 1974. She played 100 games for New Zealand from 1963-1974 and has been described as one of the most outstanding netball players to have represented her country.

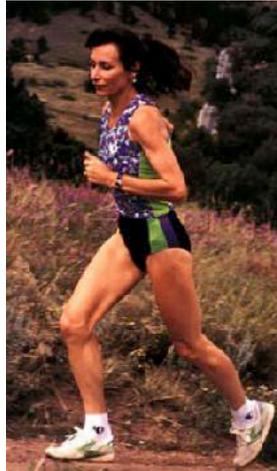
She coached Canterbury for two years, for a first and a second in the provincial tournament.

In business, Harnett has had wide practical experience in the operation and administration of real estate businesses in Christchurch, Dunedin and Wanaka. She has been a Real Estate Institute of New Zealand (REINZ) President and committee member of three districts. She is a fellow and life member of REINZ and was appointed to the Real Estate Agents Licensing Board in September 2006.

Joan Harnett-Kindley is a member of the Board of Governors of the New Zealand Hall of Fame.

From the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame and Editor.

New Zealand: Lorraine Moller MBE



NZSHOF

When it comes to commitment to and passion for a sport, Lorraine Moller sets the standards. Add in durability and versatility she stands unique among New Zealand athletes.

Lorraine Moller is New Zealand's greatest female distance runner in terms of longevity and performance.

She ran competitively from the age of about 13 until she was into her 40s and had a reputation for being able to record world-class times in a range of events, from 800 metres to the marathon.

Moller's first international competition was the 1974 British Commonwealth Games at Christchurch, where she finished fifth in the 800m. Her time of 2:03.63 was her lifetime best and is still the fastest ever by a New Zealand junior (under 20) woman.

Although Moller ran her first marathon in 1979, there were no sanctioned marathons for females at an international athletics competition until 1984. Moller was instead selected for both the 1500 m and 3000m at the 1982 Brisbane Commonwealth Games, winning bronze medals for both events.

In 1985 Moller broke the New Zealand 1500 m record, running 4:10.35 at Brussels. In 1986 at the Edinburgh Commonwealth Games she competed in the 3000 m, finishing fifth, as well as running the marathon.

She won silver in the marathon at the Commonwealth Games in 1986 and bronze in the marathon at the Barcelona Olympic Games in 1992. She also ran in the marathon at the Olympic Games in Atlanta in 1996 and became the only woman to run in each of the first four Olympic marathons.

She is widely, and rightly, credited with opening up the road racing circuit in the United States to women athletes.

In 1993 Moller was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire for services to athletics.

From the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame.

New Zealand Marilyn Marshall



NZSHOF

Marilyn Marshall had the distinction of captaining her country in two sports, softball and soccer.

She was only 15 when she first played softball for New Zealand, at the first world championships in Melbourne in 1965.

A national team was hardly fielded over the next 15 years without Marshall in it, first as an outfielder and later as a specialist second base.

She played at four world championships and captained New Zealand to third place in her last, at El Salvador in 1978. She was also a pioneer figure in women's soccer, playing in 16 internationals and captaining New Zealand from 1976 to 1981.

Her Miramar Rangers club was the dominant one in the country, winning eight national club titles, and she also helped Wellington to six national provincial titles.

Marshall later took up golf, at which she was also selected for provincial teams.

From the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame.

New Zealand: Susan Devoy



NZSHOF

The bald figures of achievement hardly do justice to Dame Susan Devoy: 11 years of international squash, world champion four times, British Open champion eight times, New Zealand Open champion eight times.... numerous wins in other events. She dominated the sport in the late 1980s and early 1990s and was utterly dominant in her time. Part of her makeup was not just her excellence on the court, but also her actions and demeanour off it, including a trek through New Zealand in 1989 in aid of muscular dystrophy sufferers, a commitment that may have cost her the 1989 world title.

Her family was very involved in the squash community and she started playing when she was very young. Devoy turned professional at the age of 17. Her first World Open title came in 1985 with a subsequent win in 1987. Further World Open titles came

in 1990 and 1992. For most of her career, the World Open was held biennially, a fact that stopped Devoy potentially doubling her tally. She did, however, win the coveted British Open eight times, a record only beaten by Heather McKay (Australia) in the 1960s/70s and by Janet Morgan (England) in the 1950s.

In 1992, the year of her unexpected retirement, she was the Australian, British, French, Hong Kong, Irish, New Zealand, Scottish, Swedish and World squash champion. After Devoy retired from competitive squash, she became the Chief Executive of Sport Bay of Plenty.

In the 1986 Honours Devoy was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire and later elevated to Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1993. She is also noted for her charity work, being the New Zealand Patron of the Muscular Dystrophy Association. In 1988 she walked the entire length of New Zealand, over seven weeks, and raised \$500,000 for that charity. Other achievements include being named New Zealand Sports Person and Sports Woman in 1985.

In 1998, she became a Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit, the youngest New Zealander since Sir Edmund Hillary to receive a knighthood. In between her charity work she is also a professional motivational speaker.

In 2007, she appeared on Like Minds, Like Mine TV commercials in New Zealand to counter the stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness.

In March 2013, she was appointed to the position of Race Relations Commissioner for New Zealand, a five year appointment.

From the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame and Editor.

New Zealand: The Honorable Tariana Turia MP



Tariana Turia was a Member of Parliament in Aotearoa, New Zealand from 1996 to 2014. In 2004 she became Co-leader of the Maori Party; a political party which brings the strong and independent voice of Maori people into the New Zealand Parliament. During her terms in parliament she made a profound impact on working collectively for the wellbeing of families. One of her key policy initiatives was called "Moving the Maori Nation".

In 2010, Tariana was appointed Minister for Whanau Ora in recognition of the ground-breaking policy she introduced to inspire whanau/family wellbeing. Whanau Ora is an approach that places families/whānau at the centre of service delivery, requiring the integration of health, education and social services and focusing on improving outcomes for whanau as a whole. The approach is built on the close relationship between holistic health and family functioning; it is driven by a focus on building capability and capacity. Whanau Ora is aspirational, recognizing that the goals of any intervention will be met when families are self-managing, living healthy lifestyles, participating fully in society, confidently participating in te Ao Maori (the Maori world), economically secure, cohesive, resilient and nurturing.

Les Hokianga and the Hikoi 4 Life team are an active demonstration of the Whanau Ora approach in action. The 17 participants were all obese, some weighing up to 200kg. The programme they developed was based on healthy lifestyle changes, good nutrition and fun exercise. Les and his group achieved remarkable goals like cycling almost 300km from Hastings to Wellington to present their programme to Tariana, to show her it was changing their lives and the lives of their families for the better.

Tariana was excited by the revival of a traditional Maori sports game, ki-o-rahi, a fast paced ball game played on a circular field. Tariana opened the first ki-o-rahi field in New Zealand, at Waitangi, in December 2013. The Ki-o-rahi revival represents a community aspiration to invest in the health, wellbeing, sport and recreation of their whanau by bringing back a ball game which had its origins in World War Two.

In Rotorua, a key priority for eleven of the first 22 whanau plans developed by their Te Arawa Whanau Ora collective was fitness and exercise. In turn, one of the nine agencies in the Whanau Ora collective was a sports body, Te Papa Takaro o Te Arawa (Sports Foundation). Exercise and healthy lifestyles were prioritized as helping to shape a positive pathway for the future.

Another approach to physical activity and health supported by Tariana has been the *atuatanga* framework developed by Dr Ihirangi Heke. This is a strength-based, culturally appropriate system consisting of *atuatanga* (environmentally based information), *kaitiakitanga* (indigenous role models) and *tipua* (esoteric knowledge). Practical workshops in physical activity, nutrition and health draw on the legacy of *Matauranga Maori*, the knowledge passed down by ancestors. *Atuatanga* is premised on the view that by studying the environment and learning from the natural world, that awareness provides the foundation for optimum health.

Recognising the impact of approaches like these in 2014, Tariana announced a \$10 million fund to focus on Maori sporting and cultural activities, as a key means of nurturing whanau well-being, as well as supporting families in finding their own opportunities for exercise and recreation. In both policy and practice, Tariana understood the universal truth that the family that plays together, stays together. The decisions of the family group to work at wellbeing, to set goals for themselves and put in place plans to achieve them, is a prescription for success on many different levels. In focusing families on a common cause, they are dedicating themselves to transformation for them, and their children after them. Tariana knew this intuitively and as a result set in train an approach which leaves behind an outstanding legacy in helping to build the spirit of champions in all our families.

Papua New Guinea: Auvita Rapilla



For someone who never intended to pursue a life in sports administration, Auvita Rapilla has been a key figure in the Papua New Guinea sports setting for the last 25 years. Over this period she has travelled the full sports administration spectrum, beginning as a volunteer at the 1991 (South) Pacific Games in Port Moresby to her current role as the Papua New Guinea Olympic Committee (PNGOC) Secretary General.

That Games experience was the hook, which led Auvita to joining the organisation that she now leads. In 1994 she joined PNGOC as a young graduate, armed with a Bachelor's Degree in Arts majoring in Public Administration from the University of Papua New Guinea, and is now its longest serving employee.

Her experience in the organisation, and its broad mandate of attending to the needs of the National Sporting Federations of PNG while also ensuring Team PNG is represented at the Pacific, Commonwealth and Olympic Games, has seen Auvita become an almanac-like source of knowledge with all things related to Games and administration of national federations.

The women and sport movement has also been a cause firmly rooted in Auvita's efforts. Her own achievements – first female Secretary General of the PNG Olympic Committee, winner of the 2009 IOC's Oceania Women and Sport award; winner of the inaugural "Alberto Madella" Award for her project on assessing the capacity of National Federations; obtaining an Executive Masters in Sport Organisations Management (MEMOS XI); Executive Board member of the Oceania National Olympic Committees; Executive member of the Association of National Olympic Committees; Board member on the Pacific Games (2015) Authority – are proof to the recognition given to her and her own capacity as a leader in sport.

What isn't as easily captured by awards and appointments, but is even more demonstrative of her efforts to see women equally involved in and represented in sport, is the time dedicated and the advice given to the mentoring of other females, whether athletes or administrators.

Auvita's role goes beyond sports. Her status as a strong ethically conscious leader has influenced the sporting leaders and those outside of sport. In PNG and the Pacific, she is highly regarded and respected among her peers. She speaks to all women irrespective

of their background. Her role model marriage shows girls and women how important trust in a marriage is. These are critical issues that affect women and their status in PNG society. She is a role model for women in the nation who constitute almost half of the 7.3 million (with over 800 languages) where there is a strong tradition for women to be housewives.

She views family support as extremely important, "I would not be where I am without a very supportive husband and family; this I believe is key for any women to excel and succeed in their chosen field of career, especially in the industry of sport".

In 2008 while pursuing her Masters in Sport Organization Management (MEMOS), she worked on developing the Sports Planning Self-Assessment Tool, which led to her being awarded the inaugural "Alberto Madella" Award for the best research project.

Auvita admitted to having a problem of self-doubt and one of the biggest lessons she learnt after achieving this award was to "never doubt yourself, you will never know your full potential and what you're capable of unless you take on the challenge".

PNGOC is staffed evenly by men and women. In the office place, children sit and read or rest after being picked up from school in the afternoons and wait for their parents before they are taken home. If children are sick, Auvita allows her staff to attend to their sick children first. In this respect, she shows compassion that underlies her human management skills. This attitude motivates her staff to do their best in serving the organization well.

She refuses to be called 'Boss' and places great value on recruiting young people with leadership talent, value adding skills and experience and most pleasing, willing attitudes to lend support to each other, thus building a strong culture of team within the PNGOC.

"I have a team of young vibrant Managers...the value and the quality they bring are not threatening but rather empowering. It is about having an open mind and working with these men and women, earning their trust and respect as I work along-side them to achieve our common goals and objectives".

In a snapshot, there is no doubt that Auvita is a woman who inspires and leads by example. She is a blessing to all who know her. She is able to ask for help and never too knowledgeable to refuse help. She works with those around her to motivate them to greater heights.

Papua New Guinea: Betty Burua



Betty Burua was born in Rabaul, PNG and grew up there. She showed a lot of potential as a track and field athlete and in 2007 was awarded a sports scholarship to the University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff.

"While at university there I competed in American college athletics but at the same time fly back to PNG to compete in events. I hold the PNG national record for the 400m indoor (55.48 seconds) and I am the second fastest 400m female in PNG. I'm blessed that I hold the 400m hurdles record for PNG and the Pacific. I am the second fastest to Lauren Wells (Australian 400m hurdler) in this event this year in Australia and the Pacific".

Betty won the Gold Medal in the 400m hurdles and the triple jump at the 2011 Pacific Games and likewise in the 2013 Pacific Mini Games, where she also won a Gold Medal in two relays (4 x 100m and 4 x 400m). A 400m specialist, Betty has recently started to compete in the 400m hurdles and triple jump.

In 2011 Betty graduated with a Bachelor of Management from her USA University and decided to delay her business career at this point to aim for the Rio Olympics. She currently trains with the Ignition Track Club on the Gold Coast (Australia) where she is coached by Glynnis Cearns- Nunn, a Gold Medallist in the heptathlon at the 1984 Olympics. She is competing again in the 2015 Pacific Games and is on track to make the PNG team for the Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games.

With Sanya Richards-Ross (American 400m record holder) as her personal role model, Betty says "my goals are always to deliver in all my events with distinction and success".

Papua New Guinea: Emma Waiwai



I was always out on the playing field, as my mother and father were both very sporty and would drag me off with them to netball and softball, which I also played. But in high school I got interested in basketball and was selected to play for PNG at the Noumea Pacific Games in 1987 where we won a bronze medal.

In 1999 I had to watch the Pacific Games as I was pregnant and our PNG team won the gold medal but I wasn't in it so ever since I have wanted to win a gold medal.

As I got older I turned to coaching, starting with local teams in Port Moresby and then coaching at a national level. I did basic coaching courses and a coaching tour of Australia where we visited major cities and concentrated on learning how to coach teams through tournament play which is so much harder than just coaching on a weekly basis. I was able to do other coaching courses through the Oceania Coaching Council, and learned more through watching and talking to other coaches and through the internet.

I was the Chef De Mission of the PNG team to the Commonwealth Youth Games on the Isle of Man in 2011 and currently I am the Vice President of PNG Basketball Federation. In 2011 I was voted female Vice President of the PNG Olympic Committee (and I Chair the Women and Sport Committee) which led to my appointment on the PNG Organising Committee for the 2015 Pacific Games.

At the time some people were worried that we were taking the Games planning and new facilities construction program too slowly so I was approached to take on the position of Chair – which I said I would do on a temporary basis until they found a new Chair. However, a little while later I accepted the offer from the Government to Chair the PNG Organising Committee, a volunteer position.

Eventually as the games got closer I had to take leave from my work with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). I am an engineer by profession and have been with the CAA for 26 years and after the 2015 Pacific Games I will return to my fulltime job and get back into coaching women's basketball.

In the meantime I hope we organise the biggest and best ever Pacific Games that deliver positive, magical and memorable experiences for all the athletes, and that PNG athletes bring home lots of gold medals!

Interview by Editor.

Tonga – Ahosivi Kaitapu



Ahosivi Kaitapu (known as Sivi) was a tireless and dedicated coordinator of the Pacific Sports Partnership (PSP) – Shuttle Time (Badminton) Tonga Program. Shuttle Time is the learn to play program for school aged children.

With a successful background in teaching, and many years' experience in Sports Administration for the Tonga National Olympic Committee, Sivi was the ideal person for the role of PSP Shuttle Time, in Tongan "Taimi Pasika" Coordinator.

Nadia Bleaken, Regional Development Manager for Oceania Badminton, said: "Sivi was a great connector of people, and a leader in collaboration with all the key partners – the glue that made things happen.

Personally I got to know Sivi well during 2013 as a friend and colleague taking part in the Oceania Sport Education Program Advanced Sport Management course.

Sivi was a fantastic host to our team in Tonga, every time we visited. She had an amazing warm-heart and was one of the most generous, loving and humble person in our sporting community.

Despite difficulties she faced over the last year, she was always positive and had a smile [...] nothing fazed her”.

Sivi was an inspirational woman who drew much respect and fondness from her colleagues and protégés and will be sadly missed by all the sport community in Tonga.

Tonga: Leody Eleutilde C. Vainikolo

My name is Leody Eleutilde C. Vainikolo and I am 57 years old, born in June 1959. I am married to Sateki Vainikolo and we have three grown up sons, Sione, Jay and Talakai.

I am the current President of the Tonga National Badminton Association (TNBA), holding this position since December 2010. TNBA was established in May 2009, one of the youngest National Sports Federations in the Kingdom of Tonga.

In 2012, Badminton was integrated as a sport into the School Curriculum in Tonga, under the Government's Primary and Secondary School's "Movement and Fitness Subject". This is a milestone for the sport of Badminton in Tonga and we are grateful for the strong support and collaboration between key players – Tonga's Ministry of Education and Training, Tonga National Sports Association and National Committee, Badminton Oceania and the Badminton World Federation.

Also, I am currently a Board Member of Badminton Oceania and also a Member of Badminton Oceania Women's Committee. In 2013, I was honored to be nominated for the Badminton Oceania Women's Award.

Aside from my career in sports, I work fulltime for the Government of the Kingdom of Tonga. I am currently holding the position of Deputy Director for the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Forests and Fisheries and Officer-in-Charge for its operation on the island of Vava'u.

Vanuatu: The Inspiring Story of Women's Beach Volleyball

The Vanuatu Women's Beach Volleyball team is fighting hard to qualify for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.



It all started back in 2004 when Debbie Masauvakalo came to Vanuatu as an Australian volunteer and started to develop the beach volleyball program. Towards the end of 2006 and with the help of the Ministry of Youth and Sport and the Australian Government, a beach volleyball court was opened. The national team was formed, made up of Henriette Latika, Miller Pata, Linline Mansale and Joyce Joshua, and from then on, the world was their oyster. After travelling to the 2007 Oceania Championship in Samoa and winning Silver, the team returned to the 2008 Oceania Championship and amazingly, the little team that had only officially been training for one year won Gold at the Championship.

This victory secured them a position in the funding program from the IOC (International Olympic Committee) to allow them to pursue the world ranking they needed in order to qualify for the 2012 Olympics Games. In 2009, the program's funding provided them with the resources to pay for international coaches. Under the watchful eye of Olympic Gold Medal coach, Steve Anderson and Australian coach, Lauren McLeod-

Soderberg, four young mothers stepped out of their peaceful island lifestyle and into the rigors of the FIVB World Tour – their journey had begun. With a ranking of 350 in the world the Vanuatu Women's Team commenced its assault of the world, having conquered fears, cultural beliefs and shyness, the girls with a the weight of a nation on their shoulders (a population of 235,000 people), they slowly but surely assembled an impressive winning record for themselves, including Gold at the Pacific Games, Oceania Championship, FIVB Challenger Korea Open, Asian Tour China Open and Silver at the Asian Championship.

They narrowly missed out on a place at the London 2012 Olympics, but quickly set a new goal to be the first Pacific nation to qualify for the FIVB World Championship. From the top 48 teams that qualified for the FIVB World Championship held in Poland, Vanuatu was seeded 37th and quickly proved that they were not just making up the numbers. They finished second in their pool behind eventual bronze medallists Liliane Maestrini and Barbara Seixas (Brazil), and then gave the first seeds and soon-to-be world champions Chen Xue and Zhang Xi (China) a fright in the first set 21-23 of their second knockout round match, to finish the highest placed Oceania nation in 9th position.

In a press release Vanuatu women player Henriette Latika said "I have sacrificed my life at home to become the best I can be; I have two kids who stay on the island while I am away training and competing because I want to take part. I want to make my family and country proud of me and I want to show all the young people in Vanuatu what is possible if you try hard".

Many don't realise just how much the team members and their families sacrifice in order for them to compete around the world. Each has a family and, in some instances, young children, and the support they are given from home is crucial to their mental stability when playing away, often for many months of the year. However, playing beach volleyball at an international level has given these girls the opportunity to become educated, empowered and up-skilled and to earn an income to support their families with the basic things such as food and clothing.

No strangers to prejudice, gender equality issues and domestic violence that most women in Vanuatu are faced with, these women have proven time and time again just how good they are. With many countless wins, including the prestigious Pacific Outstanding Team of the Year Award for 2012 and 2013 and the Vanuatu Medal of Distinction from President Iolu Abbil Johnson at the 33rd Independence Celebrations in 2013.

At the same time they are role models for other female athletes as well as young girls in Vanuatu and the Pacific. Perhaps one of the most challenging aspects of competing on a world level is the constant financial struggle to get to these events. The team regularly needs to fundraise and does receive good support from their local community and the National Olympic Committee VASANOC.

Qualifying for the Rio Olympic Games means so much to the Vanuatu team of Henriette Latika, Miller Pata, Linline Mansale and Joyce Joshua. After having overcome so many hurdles, the women are as ready as ever with their new coach Jason Lochhead from New Zealand. It is a chance of a life time to continue to support and promote gender equality in sports. The story of the Vanuatu Women Beach Volleyball Program has changed the perception of women regionally and proven that, in spite of gender, success and inspiration is for everybody.

By Debbie Masauvakalo

President, Vanuata Volleyball

Vanuatu – Anolyn Lulu

My sport is table tennis which I have been playing for 20 years. I live in Port Villa, Vanuatu, which was badly hit by a cyclone this year.

I have competed in Pacific Games in 1999, 2003, and 2011 and the 2006 and 2009 Mini Pacific Games.

Other games I have participated in are:

- 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2014 Oceania Championship.
- 2006, 2010, 2014 Commonwealth Games.
- 2008, 2012 Olympic Games.

Most recently in January 2015 I finished second in the Fiji Open singles and came first in the mixed doubles. At the 2015 Pacific Games I am hoping to win four gold medals.

My role model is Serena Williams. I like to think I play table tennis like she plays tennis!

At the Beijing Olympics I was team manager for the Vanuatu table tennis team and my younger sister was in the team, as she was given a place to compete by the International Table Tennis Federation. When it came to the London 2012 Olympics I qualified in my own right to compete and was thrilled to carry our country's flag in the Opening Ceremony.

At the 2009 Mini Pacific Games I was recognised as the most outstanding athlete of Team Vanuatu for the decade and in 2010 on Olympic Day I was awarded the IOC Trophy for "aspiring young people".

I am involved with the Champion Athlete, Vanuatu STOP HIV Outreach Program; Chair the Vanuatu Athletes Commission, have undertaken Olympic Coaching Scholarships in China, Austria and San Domingo in 2005, participated in an IOC Women In Sports Seminar in Lausanne, Switzerland in 2006 and I am a member of the Oceania Table-Tennis Federation Women's Committee.

I work as the National Table-Tennis Development Officer and have held this position since 2005.

My motto is "never give up on your dreams" – this drives me to compete in the Olympic Games.

Norfolk Island: Tess Evans – Lawn Bowls

I was born in Papua New Guinea (PNG) and feel so lucky to call both Norfolk Island (NI) and PNG home. Because of my background I can speak five languages: English, PNG Motu, Polis Motu, Pidgin English and Japanese.

My sport is Lawn Bowls which I have been playing for only five years, locally with the Norfolk Island Bowling Club and representing NI in international events. NI has a strong history in Bowls and runs a lot of international bowls events and I have competed in all of them over recent years, in singles, pairs, triples and fours.

Since 2012 I have been able to compete in the World Bowls Championships in Adelaide in 2012, the South Pacific Pairs International Tournament on NI and the Glasgow Commonwealth Games in 2014. In Glasgow we were only one point from making it into the medal round – we played very well and adapted well to the heavy conditions as we are used to these greens. On NI we always play on Thursday nights so we adapted to the heavy and slow conditions.

My best result has making it to the quarterfinals of the Ladies Major Singles Championships in 2015 and won 25-1. The game lasted for over an hour and 20 minutes.

Winning Gold at the 2015 Pacific Games in PNG would be a bonus, however, I am happy to do my very best and enjoy the fellowship of Bowls. Also, catching up with friends I met in previous Championships and meeting new ones.

There is a saying: "You can take one out of PNG, but you cannot take the PNG out of us". As the late Colleen Mc Culloch (international author who lived on Norfolk Island) said in one of our conversations: "come from is the most important thing in us, we should respect and treasure it". With Bowls, I will continue to do my very best and beyond at nationals and international events.

Interview by Editor.