



WOMEN ON ANZAC DAY

Dear Members

April 25th is an important day for Australia. It is a time to remember and honour our history, and acknowledge those who have contributed, and those currently contributing, to our country's defence. Women too have made considerable sacrifices, and have served in war efforts. From volunteer organisations building war equipment, to health care staff, to frontline service - women have showed resilience in face of disaster.

I hope you are all taking care and staying safe, and staying connected in isolation. Feel free to send me links, pictures, poems, recipes that I can share with other members. This short newsletter showcases the resilience of women.

Warm Wishes

Jaya (Prof Jaya Dantas, President, AGW)

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
we will remember them. Lest we forget.*



SOME OF AUSTRALIA'S FEMALE DEFENSE FORCE PERSONNEL MAKING THEIR MARK



Australian Brigadier Cheryl Pearce, on promotion to Major General, was appointed the force commander of the UN Peacekeeping Mission in Cyprus in 2018. It was a significant achievement and honour not only for Australia, but also for women in peacekeeping globally.



Squadron Leader Melissa Houston is the Air Force's first female Flight Commander, leading a Squadron charged with defending Australia's coastline.

WOMEN IN THE RESPONSE TO COVID-19

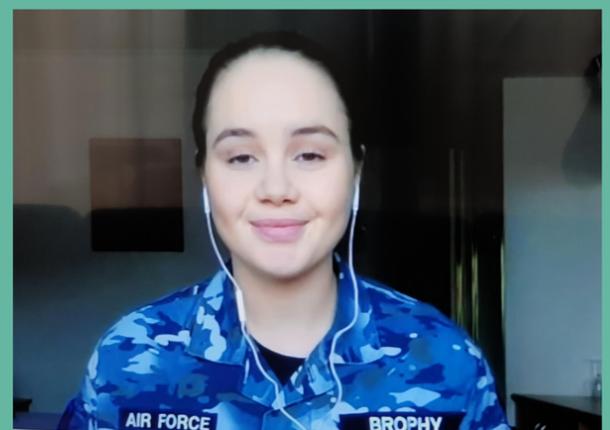
As we reflect on Australia's wartime experience, we are confronted with new global public health pandemic: COVID-19.

The impact of COVID-19 is gendered - we have seen this acknowledged by the United Nations, WHO and UNWomen.

While most of the discussion has focused on the negative impacts on women - we wanted to take the opportunity to celebrate what women at all levels are contributing to the pandemic and the resilience they have shown.

Our response to the current crisis, and our recovery efforts, has been led by strong leadership of women.

AGW thanks all women for their contributions.



Australian Defence Force - Airforce Healthcare heroes helping in Burnie in Tasmania dealing with an outbreak of COVID-19. Flight Officer Cheryl Brophy.

The Australian Servicewomen's Memorial in Canberra





22 Women currently lead countries.

Women leading their countries continue to be celebrated for their strong and calm response to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Jacinda Ardern (New Zealand)
- Angela Merkel (Germany)
- Sanna Marin (Finland)
- Tsai Ing-wen (Taiwan)
- Mette Frederiksen (Denmark)
- Katrín Jakobsdóttir (Iceland)
- Erna Solberg (Norway).

In Australia, 32 senators are women and there are two state premiers (Gladys Berejiklian - NSW & Anastacia Palaszczuk - QLD) who are leading the response in their states.

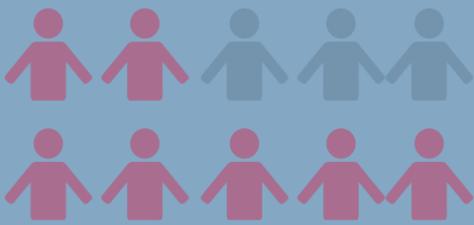
The recent establishment of the Senate Select Committee to review government's COVID-19 response is chaired by Kate Gallagher (Labor) and the seven members include Kristina Keneally (Labor), Jacqui Lambie (Independent), Perin Davey (Nationals) and Rachel Stewart (Greens)

Women have played an important role in the response to COVID-19, including Professor Raina MacIntyre (UNSW) and Associate Professor Kamalini Lokuge (ANU), two world renowned Australian epidemiologists and public health physicians, who have been contributing to the government response on public health measures nationally.

4 women sit on the board of Universities Australia, including the chair Professor Deborah Terry and are responding to the impacts of COVID-19 on higher education. Academics and teachers in Australia have stepped up to the challenge of online delivery of teaching.

WOMEN AT THE FRONT LINES & IN RECOVERY

70% Of health, education and social sector workers around the world are women. There are almost **100 million** women globally who work in health, social and community care.



On 20 April 2020, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, and Gabriela Ramos, OECD Chief of Staff, convened and chaired the 'Women Leaders' Virtual Roundtable' on COVID-19 and the 'Future We Need' to advocate for a gender-sensitive response that considers women's economic contribution and safeguards progress in gender equality.

A Message from CIR, Prof Shirley Randell, AO, PhD

There are two phrases I think about as I am in isolation in my apartment in Sydney: the famous ones, "This too shall pass", and "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens".

We are in the middle of an opportunity that does not come by often, a period of large-scale, forced reduction of activity and it is important to look at how to seize the opportunities before us, a time to return to the essential things again.

This is a time for pruning, for removing the things that are a distraction or a misuse of our time and energy. It is a time for growth, for change, for doing something new or trying something we have not tried before. I have been so encouraged by the stories through newsletters and social media about the way Rwanda Association of University Women, University Women of Europe, Women Graduates-USA, Canadian Federation of University Women and GWI are responding to the changes brought about by COVID-19.

And around the world and here in Australia by the way people are looking out for their neighbours, how communities are gathering (virtually) to stay connected and uplifted. To see how people are maintaining connection in spite of distance and separation brings joy and gives hope. So while being physically isolated from our family, friends and AGW members in what are realistically often quite dark times, there is light.

I am encouraged and hopeful and excited for what is ahead for our national association.

We conclude this short newsletter by sharing a quick ANZAC biscuits recipe for you to try and enjoy

Ingredients

- 1 cup cooking oats
- 1 cup desiccated coconut
- 1 cup plain flour
- 1 cup soft brown sugar (or caster sugar if you don't have brown)
- 120g butter*
- 1 1/2 tablespoons golden syrup
- 1 teaspoon bi-carb soda + 2 tablespoons boiling water

Method

1. Preheat oven to 175 degrees C
2. In a large bowl, add oats, coconut, sugar and sifted flour. Mix together.
3. Add butter and golden syrup to a saucepan and melt gently while stirring.
4. Put bi-carb into a small heatproof container and mix with the boiling water. Add to the melted butter and syrup.
5. Mix butter mixture to the dry ingredients until it is wet through.
6. Bake for 15 - 18 minutes



We celebrate and say thank you to women globally

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and pay our respects to their elders past and present.

Join Australian Graduate Women today at <https://australiangradwomen.org.au/>

✉ jaya.dantas@curtin.edu.au

🐦 @AusGradWomen

©Australian Graduate Women, 2020