

NCWQ 2021  
**BURSARY  
RECIPIENTS**

## President's Report



It is my honour, on behalf of the Management Committee, to present to you the National Council of Women of Queensland's 2021 Annual Report.

Life in Australia over the past 12 months has continued to

be greatly affected by COVID-19. Controversy surrounding lockdowns, state border closures, and the different types and availability of vaccines have dominated our national narrative. In addition, COVID-19 induced isolation, economic loss and uncertainty have impacted negatively on everyone, especially our women and children.

While COVID dictated much of the discussion, women's safety also made it onto the national agenda following revelations from Brittney Higgins that she had been raped in Federal Parliament House. This spurred a nationwide conversation on the issue of women's safety which culminated in a summit in early September to address all forms of gender-based violence including domestic, family and sexual violence. Like the rest of Australia, the NCWQ shares in the vision of a community free of violence against women and children.

NCWQ has also continued this year to work in the areas of advocacy and empowerment of women. In May 2021, through our collaboration with the Pelvic Pain Foundation of Australia (PPFA) and QENDO (a charity for women affected by endometriosis, adenomyosis, PCOS or infertility), we welcomed the National Action Plan for Endometriosis and the Australian government's allocation of \$5m over four years to any state that chooses to match funding. The funding will be used to deliver the Periods, Pain and Endometriosis Program (PPEP) to girls (and boys) about managing severe period and

pelvic pain. At time of writing, PPFA is working with the Queensland Government to roll out this important initiative.

Despite the inconvenience and uncertainty of snap or prolonged lockdowns, NCWQ was able to deliver five Empowerment events for members throughout the year with a combination of in-person and video sessions. This series of events has proven popular in creating networking and educational opportunities for our members and their guests.

NCWQ's journey in embracing new technology continued this year with our bursary program delivered via a newly created bursary application online platform. Our thanks go to our Webmaster, Kley McPherson, for the hundreds of hours he donated to NCWQ to design the system and get it up and running while also keeping our website updated. NCWQ's adoption of technology has resulted in more participation and access for women who are currently pursuing careers and caring for their families.

It has been 13 years since NCWQ started our bursary program. This year, led by Kathy Cavanagh, NCWQ had 27 sponsors recognizing 35 women who collectively embody our shared values of leadership, community service, perseverance, and determination. We would like to extend our gratitude to the sponsors and coordinators who helped make this happen.

On October 31st, we will farewell NCWQ's Patron, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC CVO, Governor of Queensland. We thank him for his interest in NCWQ and wish him and Mrs de Jersey well for their future endeavours.

Lastly, I must thank the NCWQ members for their support and enthusiasm in pursuing a period of change and opportunities against a most challenging backdrop.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chiou See Anderson'.

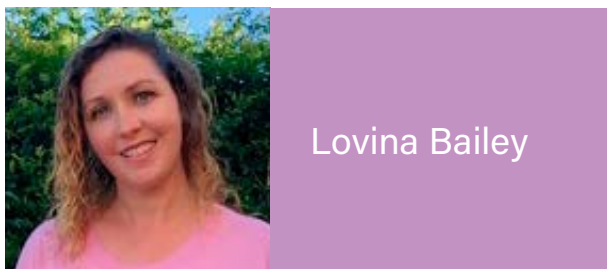
Chiou See Anderson  
NCWQ President

## Claire Moore Bursary

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**This bursary for a student of special education, reflects the view of former Senator Claire Moore that education provides the best opportunities for us all.**

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Lovina Bailey is 41 years of age and lives in Toowoomba. She is currently studying for a Bachelor of Primary Education with a Major in Special Education at the University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba Campus. She commenced her studies in 2018 and completes her degree in 2021. She has obtained high results and especially enjoys applying the practical side of her studies to her current workplace.

Lovina has worked in education for over 10 years, for the last 6 years in special education.

Coming from a background with special needs children and adults and lacking the opportunity to study at a younger age Lovina has come to the believe with this degree she can provide a classroom situation where her passion for learning will create a supportive and inclusive environment.

Lovina hopes that the monies from the bursary will assist her in purchasing the aids to enhance a fun, supportive and warm classroom environment.

## Cr Vicki Howard Bursary

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**For a female student living in Brisbane City Council area, this bursary provides assistance through both monetary value and mentoring to a recipient who identifies with the LGBTIQ community.**

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Georgia Suttie is a year 12 student at Somerville House. She is a passionate voice against social injustice. Georgia has combined high academic achievement with participation in sport, musical and choral programs. She served on the 2019 Lord Mayor's Youth Advisory Council for community inclusivity and accessibility. At the 2019 INAS Global Games, she gave a presentation on the facilitation of success for people with intellectual impairment.

Georgia's own journey as a queer kid and the challenges she faced in identifying as LGBTQ+ have given her the drive to be a voice for underrepresented and marginalised people in our communities.

Her conviction that access to health care should be universal regardless of background, along with her passion for tackling societal discrimination, have led Georgia to apply for a Doctor of Medicine degree at the University of Queensland.

Georgia's goals after graduation include working in remote and Aboriginal communities with the Royal Flying Doctor Service and involvement in Medecins Sans Frontieres.

## Hon David Littleproud MP Bursary

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**Recognising the difficulties for country students wishing to pursue their education, this bursary is for a female resident of the Maranoa Federal electorate commencing first year of tertiary studies.**

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Kellara Harney

Kellara is a full time, first year student studying a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Hons.) at Central Queensland University, Bundaberg Campus.

She completed her secondary schooling in Blackall graduating as Dux of the school.

During her school days she was involved in the School Council as Vice-Captain.

Her passion for holistic health care has directed her community involvement. She joined Blackall's Community Advisory Network, later becoming a member of the Health Consumers Queensland's Youth Reference Group, which gave her the opportunity to speak to the Queensland Clinical Senate about the struggle for adolescents accessing health care in rural and remote communities. She was later recognised as Young Australian of the year in the Blackall-Tambo region.

Kellara successfully applied for an internship with the board of directors for Regional Housing Limited, a local- not- for-profit organisation dealing with the rapidly increasing house crisis in the Wide Bay, Bundaberg and North Queensland areas.

Since moving to Bundaberg, she has become involved with the local ZONTA Branch, and her church community. Raised by single mum, Kellara is the first in her family to attend university.

## DiH Health and Wellbeing Bursary

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**As a health professional, sponsor Diane Hickey recognises the difficulties those with a mental illness face as they work towards their study goals.**

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Hannah Nugent

Hannah is in the second year of her Doctor of Medicine degree, following on from her completion of a Bachelor of Medical Science degree, graduating with a GPA of 6.7.

Diagnosed with a generalised anxiety disorder, and the following year with depression, Hannah is determined to achieve her goals.

She works part-time in a pathology laboratory as a biochemistry scientist.

Hannah has an interest in the arts. Having played the clarinet for over ten years, she enjoys instrumental performances, both as a member of an orchestra, and in the audience.

Hannah is a member of the UQ Mind Student organisation, which runs regular events on mental and general health promotion for medical students.

With a particular interest in pathology, her long-term aspiration is to specialise in forensic pathology.

## Elements Living Bursary

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**Sponsored by Chiou See Anderson, Owner/Managing Director of Elements Third Age Living, this bursary reflects her passion for improving the care and lifestyle for seniors.**

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Phoebe  
Langbridge

Phoebe is a third year Paramedic Science student at the University of the Sunshine Coast. Growing up in a medical household with both of her parents being nurses, Phoebe grew a passion for the healthcare sector.

She is also a dedicated surf lifesaver on the Sunshine Coast and currently volunteers her time and skills to her local rugby union club as a strapper and first aid officer.

Outside of her volunteer commitments, Phoebe works as a Personal Support Worker at Arcare in Peregian Springs. She is passionate about making a difference to the lives of everyone, but particularly the older generation. She enjoys the responsibility of looking after their health and safety, and ensuring they have a high quality of life.

Phoebe aspires for a long and successful career in healthcare and wants to make a difference to those living in the aged care sector.

## Elsie Byth Bursary

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**Sponsored by Dr Susan Byth, this bursary recognises the work of her grandmother, Elsie Byth OBE, (1890-1988) in the National Council of Women, serving as both Queensland and National President.**

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Hayley Pearce

Hayley grew up on a sheep and cattle property outside Longreach and is currently a Boarder Captain at Somerville House, Brisbane. She collaborates with the Head of Boarding, to support younger fellow boarders.

She also develops her skills for her planned teaching career by assisting the Junior School Speech and Drama teacher. She has completed her Voice and Communication exams to Level 7 and will complete Level 8 this year.

Hayley loves the activity and social aspects of sport, participating in tennis, netball, touch football, rowing and dance.

A keen volunteer, prior to COVID Hayley spent one afternoon a week interacting with children staying at Ronald McDonald House, and when in Longreach she assisted with Christmas Craft Vacation Care at the Uniting Church.

She is passionate about agriculture and the rural life and plans to defer her university study until 2023, meanwhile working as a governess on properties in regional Australia to gain more life experience.

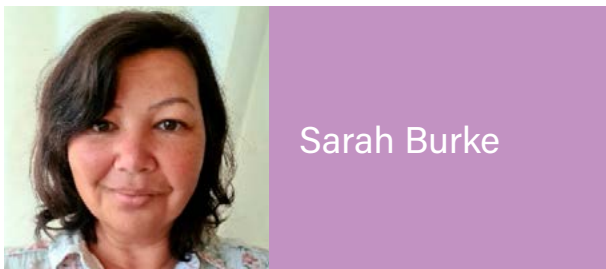
Hayley says, "Children need passionate teachers who care about their lives and their learning. I want to induce a love of learning because I have seen the difference that it can bring to a child's life."

## ESA International Bursary

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ESA International is a women's service organisation for Education, Service and Association. With a long history of supporting cancer research and support services, this bursary reflects this focus by assisting a female student whose family is affected by cancer.

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Sarah Burke is in her final semester at James Cook University where she is studying a Bachelor of Arts majoring in History and English. The ESA bursary has a cancer focus, reflecting their efforts in fund-raising for cancer research and treatment, but over the last two years, it is Sarah herself who has done the cancer battle when in 2019 she was diagnosed with Stage IV Breast Cancer.

However, she saw this upside-down world as an opportunity to realise her potential, and immediately enrolled at university, studying while undergoing her treatment at the adjacent hospital.

This has resulted in success in both endeavours: a GPA of 6.27 with two awards for history, two Indigenous academic awards, and a poetry prize.

Sarah will use the bursary funds for resources as she prepares her theses for acceptance into a Master by Research in Indigenous philosophy.

## Forum Communicators Bursary

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Initially established to assist women to improve their public-speaking skills, Forum, with open membership, offers advice in conducting meetings and organisational procedures. This bursary reflects Forum's passion for communication.

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Laura McLellan is a first-year student studying a dual degree of Mathematics and Business at QUT. In her final year at school, she was awarded Dux of the School, Caltex Best Allrounder, and the STEM Future Innovator Award, as well as subject awards for Specialist Mathematics, Mathematical Methods, Legal Studies and General English. Currently, at university, Laura has attained a GPA of 7.0.

Laura has demonstrated her ability in communication through her leadership role in school presenting speeches weekly to crowds of over 500 people, debating, and winning awards in speaking competitions. Her achievements as a leader at school, including School Captain, and her roles as a tutor and a debating coach show her commitment to leadership in the community. The bursary would allow her to fund necessary university stationery, textbooks and equipment.

Laura aspires to finding a job that she is genuinely passionate about, and that will improve the lives of others in some way.

## Helen Ovens Memorial Bursary

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Helen was well-aware of how easy it is for mothers, especially of young children, to lose their sense of identity. This bursary reflects the importance she gave to maintaining those interests which nourished her as an individual.

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Claire counted becoming a Mum as one of the greatest joys in the world. With three children under 5, and a part-time kindy teacher, life was busy.

But ten years ago, that world turned upside down, with a diagnosis of a pancreatic tumour—months in hospital, a successful Whipples procedure, giving up work, a stay-at-home Mum concentrating on beating her illness.

With recovery came a sense of loss of identity and self-worth, so in 2020, Claire enrolled in a Bachelor of Communication and Media, offering a wide range of future employment.

Last year was a bit tricky, but now into her second year, Claire will complete her degree next year.

Community involvement includes being a scout leader, enjoying the chance for young people to extend their horizons.

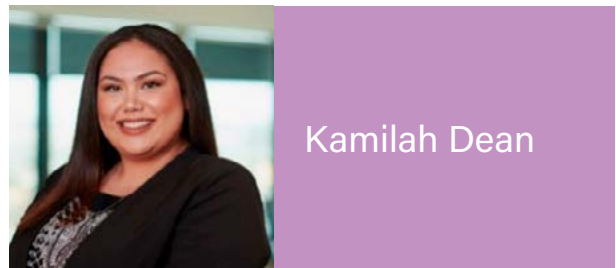
The bursary will help replace her 15-year-old computer – the same age as her eldest child. She aims to get back to work in the marketing area. Her name is not just Mum, but Claire – a good place to be.

## Lady Justice Bursary

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Sponsored by Senior Sergeant Anna Dwyer and Joanna Robinson, this bursary acknowledges the value of law and justice, wishing to support a Queensland woman to achieve her goal studying within this area.

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Kamilah is a final year Bachelor of Justice student at QUT, majoring in criminology with minor in policy and governance.

Kamilah is passionate about providing access to justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Queensland. Most recently she has volunteered her time at Cherbourg through a work placement at QUT to conduct vital child safety research for an Indigenous health service.

Kamilah is a resilient achiever, having striven for success throughout her childhood, when unfortunate circumstances meant she was brought up without her parents and by her grandmother.

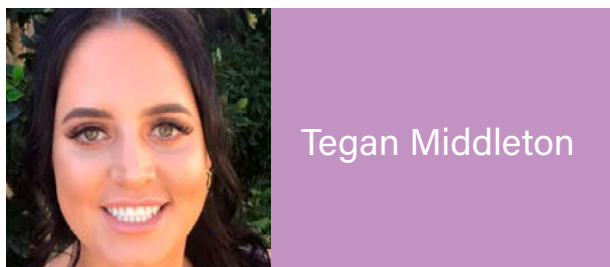
She is a proud Australian/Papua New Guinean woman and believes in the importance of front-line experience to be the best possible political advocate for vulnerable groups. Kamilah aspires to be a successful leading female professional in the Queensland criminal justice sector.

## Lavis/Wilson Qld Child Watch Committee Bursary

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After 30 years of advocating for quality early childhood education, this Committee continues its legacy by the ongoing sponsorship of a bursary for a student in this field, with a commitment and passion for the education of the 'whole' child.

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Tegan is 28 years old and is studying at The University of Southern Queensland for a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood). She is currently in her 4th year and expects to complete her degree in 2022.

Tegan is working full time whilst studying. She is currently a Kindergarten teacher and her passion for her small charges makes her workday more like a family visit than a chore. She is committed to ensuring that her kindergarten children are supported, nurtured, and guided to prepare them for the next stage in their lives, "big school".

She undertook a recent placement in the Torres Strait Island enabling Tegan the opportunity to experience a diverse and rich culture and to enhance her teaching experience.

Her future aspirations are to continue teaching within the early childhood sector.

## Moreton Bay Regional Council Bursary

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This bursary is to assist a female tertiary student from the council region, with her studies. She will have also contributed to the local community.

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Nikita left school at the end of 2020 (a terrible year for a lot of students) with an ATAR of 99.50 which indicates just how focused she had been during her school years.

She received her school's Academic Medal for being the highest achieving student, but whilst doing all this study she managed to be involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award scheme, competed at States triathlon, studied piano and was part of her schools service team helping organise fund raising ventures, being awarded the Compassion Award for this work.

Outside of school Nikita coached a netball team for a charity running sports programs each weekend for community or disadvantaged families, also helping in the gift shop/café when needed. She volunteered at the Abbey Medieval Festival in a number of capacities and also entered and won awards at the Redcliffe Show over many years.

Nikita is currently studying a dual degree in biomedical science and science enroute to studying medicine. She hopes to specialise in neurology or neonatology which in all will probably take her 12 years of study.



## Narelle Townsend Bursary

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This bursary honours the work of Narelle Townsend, graduating as the first female student from the College of Sydney, (now Uni of NSW). She was a trailblazer throughout her working life, including recognition as matriarch of UN Habitat, where she worked for more than 60 years.

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Carina is studying for her PhD (Architecture) degree at Griffith university. Throughout her academic career, she has developed a strong research interest. Carina presented her master's thesis at the City as a Commons Research Symposium in Pavia, Italy in 2019, focussing on the role of commons in overcoming social isolation in homeless youth.

The Queensland Institute of Architect's Medallion was presented to Carina in 2019, recognising her post-graduate achievement.

Carina works as an Architectural Graduate at Habitat Studio Architects mainly in bespoke residential design. Her overall interest is about how architecture can improve social and community ties.

Carina also participates in the Griffith Architecture Mentor Program to assist in mentoring commencing students.

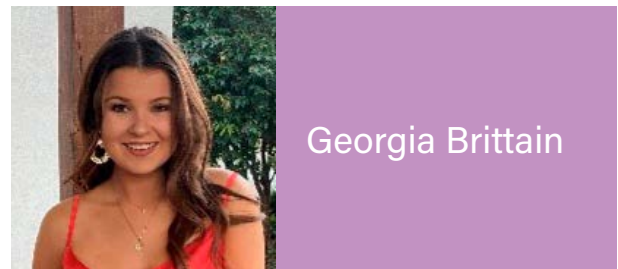
The bursary will assist in the purchase of materials for her architectural installation and exhibition, part of the PhD by practice methodology.

## National Council of Jewish Women, Brisbane Section Bursary

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This bursary reflects the sponsor's interest in the education and advancement of women for a student studying in the field of education.

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Georgia is in her final year of her bachelor's degree in Arts and Education (Secondary) at the University of Queensland.

She has always considered the sharing of knowledge as invaluable, spending time as a surf lifesaver, choir and Duke of Edinburgh captain during senior schooling, the Ready Reading Program and, more recently as a mentor in the UQ Young Achievers program. This has involved mentoring 10 Year ten students from low socio-economic or rural backgrounds.

Georgia sees the tie between volunteering and teaching, especially within the communities of small towns. This has been confirmed by a recent placement at Bundaberg State High, and last year at Gin Gin, where she will return for her final practicum.

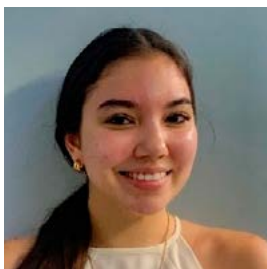
The bursary will assist in covering the expenses of this time in Gin Gin. Georgia looks forward to a teaching career in rural areas.

# National Council of Women of Queensland Regional/Rural Bursaries

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Sponsored by NCWQ since the establishment of the bursary program in 2009, the bursary focus is to assist young women living in regional/rural Queensland relocate for their studies. Two bursaries were offered in 2021.

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Nikol  
Khimushina

Nikol is attending James Cook University to complete a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery.

Nikol attended Cairns State High School and received The Honours Award for an A standard GPA in both senior years.

She attended the National Youth Science Forum and the University of Queensland's Young Scholars Program.

In pursuit of her passion for leadership and helping others, she took on roles at school as Prefecture Captain and Peer Support Leader, as well as volunteering at Rosie's friends on the Street and FNQ Rescue R US.

She aspires to be her community's predominate health pillar, servicing regional/indigenous communities that have the greatest inaccessibility to health care.

This Bursary will assist her to further develop professionally, providing the financial support she needs to begin to instigate the changes she wishes to make in her career.



Tequile Ryan

Tequile is enrolled in a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)/Mathematics degree at the University of Queensland, in pursuit of her passion of Maths and Physics.

Tequile attended the Holy Spirit College, Mackay and was Dux in Year 11 and Year 12. She has also received a Certificate of Excellence in Physics from the Australian Institute of Physics; Distinction in the Australian Mathematics Competition; the Australian Defence Force 2020 Future Innovators Award and Subject Award for all the subjects she studied – Specialist Mathematics, Mathematics Methods, Physics, Chemistry and English.

During year 12 she participated in the School's Community Groups – the Environmental Group, Justice Action Group and ZONTA Club.

Tequile's career goal is to work in the electrical field and grow her skill set. Her desire is that her work contributes to solving global issues such as mitigation climate change, making renewable energy more affordable, or making electricity available to communities in poverty-stricken areas.

## Office for Women (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bursary

## Office for Women (Leadership) Bursary

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The Department of Justice and Attorney General, through their Office for Women, has been a supporter of the NCWQ Bursary Program for a number of years. Four bursaries were sponsored in the 2021 NCWQ Bursary Program.

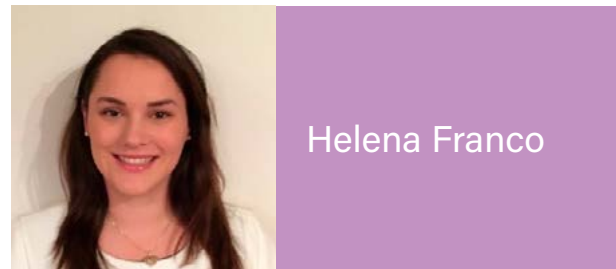
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Amanda is 22-year-old Griffith University student in her final year of a dual Bachelor of Laws/ Bachelor of Commerce degree, majoring in Economics.

A high achieving student, Amanda is involved in mentoring programs, such as the Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) program, assisting new students enrolled in more difficult subjects. She has also worked as a tutor in Griffith's Indigenous support unit, Gumurrii.

Amanda is passionately interested in First People's Education and ensuring adequate access to education in remote communities. Amanda is actively involved with the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation (QATSIF) which provides high school scholarships to Indigenous youth. Through QATSIF she speaks to Indigenous students about the benefits of pursuing tertiary education. Amanda is a Cadet at Queensland Treasury in the Insurance Commission. Upon graduation she plans to enrol in a Practical Legal Training program to become an admitted solicitor.



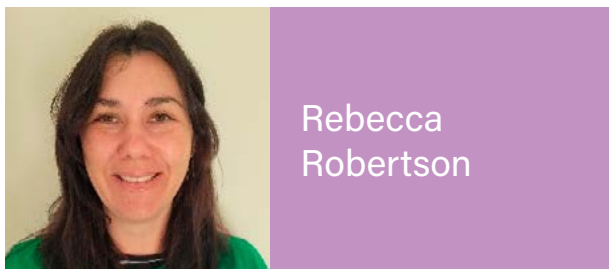
Helena Franco is a medical graduate heavily involved in leadership and advocacy in global surgery. Currently Orthopaedic Principal House Officer at the Cairns Hospital, Helena has been President of the International Students Surgical Association, Vice Chair and a Board Member of the International Student Surgical Network and was the AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Deputy Chair in 2020, advocating for pre-vocational doctors during COVID-19. Helena was involved with forming Australian Global Surgery Group aimed at identifying local solutions for surgical inequality. In 2019 she was a keynote speaker at the International Students' Surgical Conference and nominated for Young Australia of the Year. Through formal Honorary Adjunct and Associate Lecturer appointments at Bond University and the University of Queensland, she provides regular teaching and mentorship to students.

This year Helena received an R.G. Menzies Scholarship to Harvard. Helena will attend the Harvard Medical School to study a Master of Medical Sciences in Global Health Delivery. This program will allow her to enhance her career plans of developing a model of delivering Orthopaedic surgical to rural and remote regions of Australia.

## Office for Women (Return to Work) Bursary

## Office for Women (STEM) Bursary

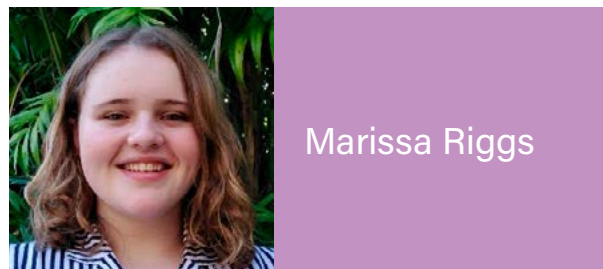
The Department of Justice and Attorney General, through their Office for Women, has been a supporter of the NCWQ Bursary Program for a number of years. Four bursaries were sponsored in the 2021 NCWQ Bursary Program.



Becky is a thirty-seven-year-old mother of four in her second year of a Bachelor of Nursing degree at the University of Southern Queensland, Ipswich Campus. She is currently bringing up her children as a sole parent after leaving a domestic violence relationship.

In the future, Becky wants to help others in similar situations to hers, to find the courage to make the break and start a better life, just as she was given the necessary support to do so. When she completes her degree, she hopes to specialise in domestic violence care so that she can provide assistance as a first point of contact for individuals and families as they navigate a frightening and difficult time, and then provide ongoing care and support to see them through it. In order to do this, she intends to follow a mental health nursing route.

Currently, Becky is taking on the largest study load that she can manage while still finding enough time to give her children the care and attention they need. To date, she is passing all her subjects with good results. In her "spare" time she volunteers as an assistant teacher at a local dance school. The bursary will help her with her course expenses and alleviate some of the financial pressure on her family.



Marissa is a 20-year-old student enrolled in dual Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) /Science degrees at the University of Qld majoring in Mechanical/Aerospace Engineering and Physics. This year Marissa was a Finalist for Female Leader of the Year at the National Australian Space Awards and was also recognised for outstanding performance in Professional Engineering at the University of Queensland. She has been the Lead Propulsion Engineer at UQ Space, which is an advanced student STEM team that provides students with hands-on experience, real-world learning, and exposure to technology, designing, building and launching rockets and rovers.

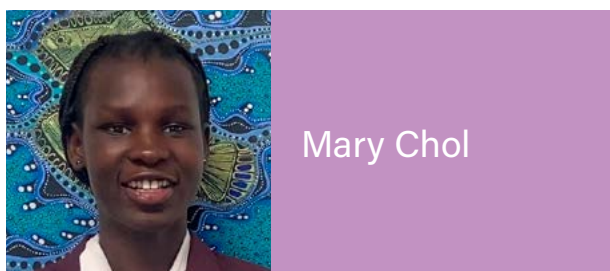
Marissa has also been a Student Research Assistant with the Optical Micro-Manipulation Group within the School of Mathematics and Physics at UQ, understanding the importance of being visible as a female in STEM as a role model for other young women and finds speaking to young women and encouraging them and their interest in aerospace a most rewarding experience. Her future aspirations include working in the space industry as a mechanical and aerospace engineer on innovative projects such as rocket propulsion. The bursary will be used to assist Marissa not only with course costs such as textbooks and study materials, but also help her to pursue further opportunities by attending events in her chosen field.

## National Council of Women of Queensland, Student from a Refugee Background Bursary

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An original bursary sponsored from 2009 by NCWQ, this bursary assists a student currently at high school, to further her educational outcomes.

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Mary is a Year 12 student at St James College. She was born in South Sudan, but because of war and the sudden, savage loss of her father, she and her remaining family fled to Kenya in 2011, where they spent three years in refugee camps.

In 2014 they obtained visas for Australia, and Mary was delighted to start her education in Year 5 where she quickly became fluent in English.

Mary is her school Vice-Captain and has received several leadership and academic awards including the 2020 Griffith University Remarkable award for outstanding leadership, determination and innovation and in 2021 the Ipswich Club Lions' Youth of the Year. She has been recognised for her academic success in English as a second language and across all subject areas.

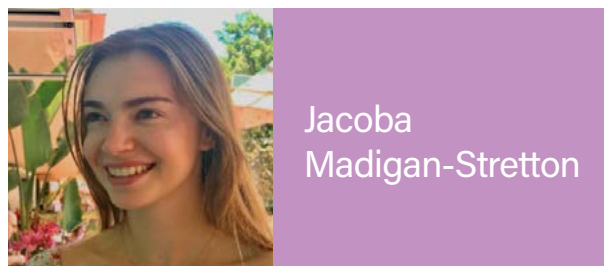
She participates in the school debating club, is an enthusiastic and skilful basketball player, has participated successfully twice in the Kokoda Challenge and has a part-time job. Studying nursing and possibly continuing to become a doctor are her plans for the future. She says, "I hope to give back to the community by using my opportunities I have been given in Australia and leave a legacy behind."

## PhD Student Bursary

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This anonymously sponsored bursary is for a female PhD candidate, whose research focus will be of benefit to women and their families.

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Jacoba Madigan-Stretton is 23 years of age, she is studying for a PhD at the University of Queensland, Translational Research Institute Campus, expecting to complete in 2023

On graduation she was recognised as part of the "UQ Future Leader " alumni, maintaining a GPA of 7, and twice received the Dean's Commendation for academic excellence She won the W.W. Bryce Medal for the best thesis among the School of Agricultural and Food Sciences and the AEV Richardson National Student Award for the best agricultural thesis in Australia.

On completing her honours degree in Animal Science, she is pursuing a PhD in Medicine, researching nonmelanoma skin cancer under the supervision of Professor Ian Frazer. Her hope is to develop a cost effective non-invasive preventative treatment for precancerous lesions.

Her primary interest is in promoting women's health through education of the wider population, an area where there is currently a lack of research and funding.

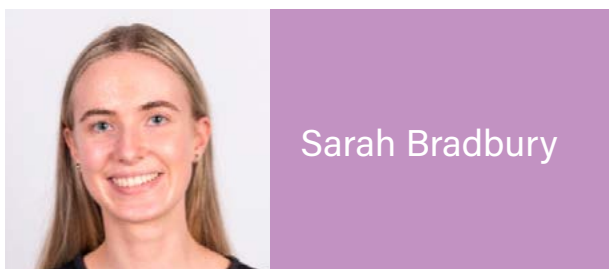
She plans to pursue a career in health policy and promotion with particular interest in rural and women's health. She aspires to become Minister of Health sometime in the future.

## Science Bursary

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Sponsored by June McNicol OAM, her experience as a metallurgist, gives her understanding of the difficulties for women working in the physical sciences field. This bursary reflects her desire to assist female students following in her footsteps.

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Sarah is in her third year of a Bachelor of Science degree at QUT, majoring in physics, with minors in astrophysics and mathematics. She has an outstanding academic record (with a GPA of 6.9: all High Distinctions with two Distinctions). She has been listed on the Dean's Honours list for 2019, 2020 and Semester One of 2021.

She plans to undertake postgraduate studies in astrophysics and to become a lead researcher in this field. Sarah is committed to being involved with as many outreach events to support women in the field of physics as possible.

This bursary will allow her to more easily balance her volunteering commitments (such as her involvement in the QUT Physics Society, Women in Science club and as a student leader in QUT's 'STIMulate,' which aims to assist students in science, maths, engineering, and IT) with her work and final-year physics studies.

## Qld Medical Women's Society Bursary

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From its strong focus on supporting professional development including participation in international conferences and networking, the sponsorship of a bursary by QMWS assists female medical students to take advantage of these opportunities.

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Jessica will complete her Doctor of Medicine degree at Bond university next year, having previously completed a Bachelor of Medical Studies.

Not yet certain, Jessica is interested in the field of general practice, especially in the area of preventative health, as well as being a physician.

Outside her studies and part-time work, Jessica loves the outdoors, combining her interest in swimming with teaching children to swim. This provides a rewarding experience and a good balance from study and hospital placements.

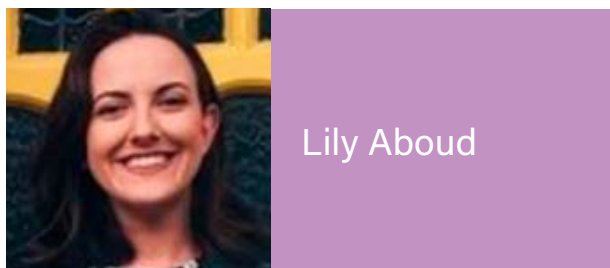
Jessica is relishing the opportunity of the bursary in attending conferences and events. At times the only female on the team, it would be invaluable to meet with other women in the field, learn from their experiences and potentially make improvements.

## AMAQ (QMWS) Professor Tess Cramond Memorial Bursary

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Former President of AMAQ, Professor Cramond's career ranged across her role in anaesthetics, CPR for Surf Life Savers, and establishing multidisciplinary pain clinics. The purpose of this bursary is to assist the recipient to attend a Medical Women's event or AMA Conference that will foster commitment, involvement and leadership in issues relevant to medical women.

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Lily is in her final year of a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery degree at James Cook University in Cairns. Having spent her childhood in regional NSW, Lily is acutely aware of the impact that geographical location has on the provision of holistic, quality health care.

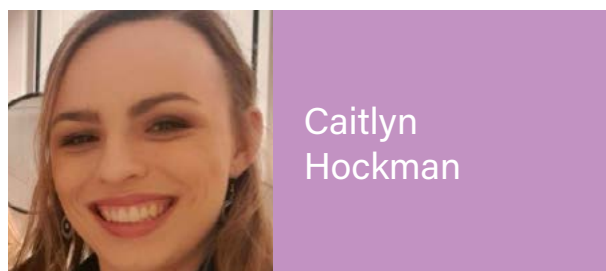
With her medical training based in tropical Far North Queensland, Lily has also completed medical placements in the Central West communities of Charters Towers and Longreach. A previous recipient of the Lynn Kratcha bursary, she spent a placement in Canadian First Nations communities. A Dr Lee-Anne Perry Leadership Award also allowed Lily to undertake a women's health project in rural India. Along with her study, Lily works as a research assistant within the Global Neonatal and Maternal Health team at the Burnet Institute for Global Health. In her spare time, Lily plays touch footy, practices yoga and loves acrylic painting. Though Lily would love to use the bursary to assist in attending the WHO Assembly, Geneva in 2022, with current travel restrictions she is hoping to attend a Perth-based Global Health Conference in late 2021.

## Soroptimist International Bursary

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With the theme "Soroptimists - Lead to Educate, Empower, Enable" this bursary for an Indigenous woman studying in the areas of Medicine, Health or Education, reflects this ideal.

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Caitlyn is proud of her aboriginal heritage and understands the educational challenges faced by minority groups. She has completed almost three years of her studies in Primary Education at the University of the Sunshine Coast, achieving a GPA of 6.62, admitting her to the Golden Key International Honour Society.

Caitlyn has volunteered more than 30 hours in local schools, and also tutors in Maths and English and volunteers for the Ronald McDonald House Charity.

This bursary will help cover her costs for textbooks and technology, and extra requirements while doing the practical placements in schools, as part of her course.

Her lifetime goal is to work alongside disadvantaged students, to develop their skills through an improve the connection between curriculum content and classroom experience. Her future hopes are to advance the security of females through providing them with equitable educational experiences.

## Soroptimist International Moreton North Inc Bursary

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**This bursary focuses on the creative industries. Recognising the expenses associated with assessment projects, the bursary is to assist final-year students.**

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Kaede Miyamura

Kaede is a Japanese-Australian writer-director, completing her Bachelor of Fine Arts (Film and Television) at the Victorian College of the Arts. Having immigrated from Japan at age 7, she grew up bilingual in a mixed culture environment. Kaede is particularly interested in stories about different and conflicting cultural perspectives, intertwining her childhood experiences into her work. She is passionate about working with filmmakers of all different backgrounds, especially stories told by and/or represent minority groups.

The bursary will go towards her graduate film *Kotoba*, a 10-minute coming of age drama following Hina, a Japanese immigrant, as she navigates through her new life in Australia. Face with language and cultural barriers, she struggles to make human friends, instead turning to animals at a petting zoo for social interaction as well as English lessons. The story is reflective of Kaede's own childhood, reflecting the hard, funny and embarrassing moments that she experienced. *Kotoba* passes the Bechdel test, with females crew members in Heads of Department roles with an all-female cast.

Kaede hopes to continue telling stories, with diversity on and off-screen in mind.

## South Burnett Bursary

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**Sponsored by the South Burnett Regional Council, this bursary is for a female student from the region, who has contributed to the local community. The bursary recognises the additional difficulties for regional students.**

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Melina Cergnulli

Melina is a single mum with three boys living in the South Burnett.

She has recently returned to work after eight years of home duties and raising her family.

Melina is currently employed as a Laboratory Technician at Kingaroy State High School.

To help secure her future, her goal is to become a qualified Laboratory Technician.

She is currently studying Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques and intends to continue her studies to then complete the Diploma.

Melina regularly contributes to the local community by helping at the local rugby league club with maintenance of the grounds, serving in the canteen and on the admission gate. She also helps at St. Patricks Primary School with the reading groups.

Melina will use this Bursary to further her studies and pursue her Diploma.



# The Boyce Bursaries for Students with a Disability

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**As a long-term advocate for those with a disability, Sue Boyce has been an NCWQ bursary sponsor for a number of years, sponsoring two bursaries.**

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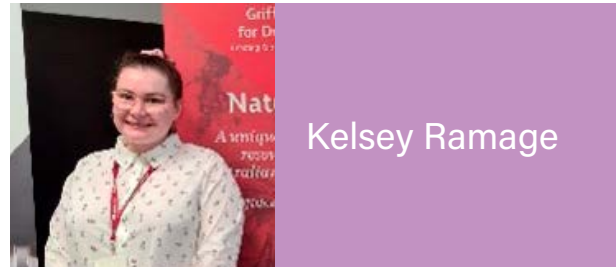


Laura is a special education teacher in the Torres Strait. She continues with her Master of Education, presently writing a dissertation on Positive Behaviour for Learning in remote school settings, research not previously done.

Notwithstanding that Laura has a learning disability, she has shown determination to successfully achieve her academic goals. While reading and processing information takes much longer to complete, living in a remote area restricts support. Writing is the biggest barrier as it requires intensive face-to-face visits to Brisbane.

Amongst Laura's achievements are a diploma in Early Childhood Education, Bachelor of Education, Post Graduate Certificate in Special Education and a masters degree. Her commitment to the Badu community was recognised in achieving the TEACHX 2019 Dr Roger Hunter OAM Excellence in Beginning to Teach Award Extending beyond the classroom.

Laura also organises AFL Cape York visits, coaches, and arranges for guest visits. Laura hopes to put her research findings into practice on a larger scale. One day she hopes to become Head of Special Education and continue to make a positive impact on the students in the Torres Strait.



Kelsey is a student at Griffith University who recently completed her Graduate Diploma of Research Studies in Science.

As a person with autism, she has worked throughout most of her life to better communicate her needs and thoughts to others. She sees this as life-long journey.

As part of her childhood speech therapy, she joined a youth theatre group, leading to a passion for performance art, literature and public speaking.

Although not directly related to her studies in chemistry, it has given her the ability and confidence to take on tutoring roles, laboratory demonstrator and university ambassador, allowing her to be noticed in the academic community.

With her academic record, she is on track to undertake PhD studies, to advance her goal of combining her chemistry and communication skills as a lecturer or a science communicator.

# Transport and Main Roads

## Women in Engineering Bursaries

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The TMR Women in Engineering Bursaries form part of TMR's ongoing commitment to increase the number of women in the traditionally male dominated engineering profession. These four bursaries aim to promote continued female engagement with engineering courses, ensuring a strong pipeline of qualified female engineers for today's contemporary workforce.

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Medina Jenkins

Medina is in her second year of a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) majoring in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Griffith University Gold and doing extremely well academically. She has applied her theoretical knowledge in an engineering environment as an Electrical Engineering Cadet through Witthoft Engineering and as an Undergraduate Engineer at Engenuity Solutions.

She has successfully demonstrated her leadership skills through her positions as Student Representative in the Engineering Student Committee and as an Engineering Student Peer Mentor.

During her studies, Medina has also completed a Diploma of Business and has experience working as an Administrator within an engineering firm as well as holding two part time jobs and tutoring high school Mathematics and Sciences in her spare time.

Medina aspires to have a successful career as one of the few women within the Electrical and Electronics engineering field and inspire more women to pursue a career in the industry.



Divya Joy

Divya, who is in her second year of a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)/ Bachelor of Mathematics course at the QUT, has an excellent academic record.

The fact that she has combined Engineering with Mathematics illustrates her love for mathematics and her interest in the practical application of Mathematics to Engineering.

She and her team have been very successful in the inter University challenge run by Engineers Without Borders (EWB). Her teams have presented their Rammed Earth design at the EWB Challenge Showcase and their model crane at the Grand Challenge.

Her ambition is to make a real impact in the STEM and humanitarian sectors by joining organisations like EWB.

The bursary will help to alleviate some of her financial stress from working to help support her studies.

# Transport and Main Roads

## Women in Engineering Bursaries

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Estha Nulty

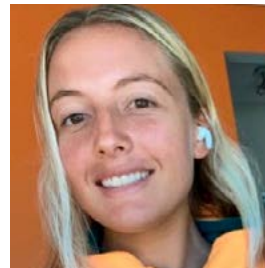
Estha is in her third year of a Bachelor of Engineering(Honours) majoring in mechanical Engineering at Griffith University with above average grades.

She thoroughly enjoys mathematics and finding solutions to problems that look impossible at first glance.

She has demonstrated her leadership skills through her positions as Secretary of Women in Engineering in her first year; Project Manager of Griffith Racing Team in her 2nd year; and students design, validate, manufacture and race an open-wheel race vehicle, for the Formula Society of Automotive Engineers Australasia competition.

Estha aspires to be a part of a passionate and supportive team working together to achieve a mutual goal of making a positive difference.

She will use the bursary for a higher performing laptop which will run 3D modelling and simulation software needed in her course.



Liana Walsh

Liana Walsh is in her second year of her Bachelor of Civil Engineering and Environmental Science at the University of the Sunshine Coast. Liana hopes to combine structural engineering with her passion for the environment to revolutionise Australia's approach to infrastructural design.

Liana spoke earlier this year for International Women's Day, promoting the importance of females in STEM. Liana seeks to thrive academically and push the boundaries of female empowerment in engineering, not only for herself, to encourage other young girls to consider this career. To further develop her leadership skills, she has partaken in several online engineering webinars such the "Infrastructure Thought Leader Series: Building Climate Resilient Infrastructure" and "A Circular Economy for Infrastructure is The Only Way Forward".

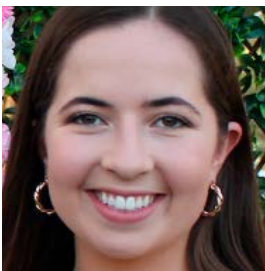
Liana aspires to travel the world tackling the international climate crisis and this bursary will fuel her determination for success and the available time to focus on her studies.

## Val French AM Memorial Bursary

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**This bursary, sponsored by Older People Speak Out, an organisation founded by Val French with the goal of accepting positive ageing, and to give older people a voice. For a student in journalism, the bursary honours Val's career in journalism.**

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Josephine  
Copley

Josephine is 22 years old studying Bachelor of Communications (Journalism)/Bachelor of Laws (Honours) at QUT, with a major in Journalism. Commencing the dual degrees in 2018, she expects for finish in 2022. With a current GPA of 6.08 she hopes the bursary money will enable her to concentrate more on her studies.

Josephine grew up on a cattle property a near Toowoomba and her experience in rural Australia has shaped her understanding and empathy for the stories of the bush. Her experience as a Red Earth volunteer has led to a deeply personal connection with the traditional owners in remote Australia and their stories. She is excited to be assisting on a Cape York immersion in September 2021.

In becoming a journalist, rural reporting, foreign correspondence or even political reporting are of interest, hoping to share her passion to transport others with the power of authentic and accurate journalism.

## In Conclusion

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I think at the end of 2020, we all breathed a sigh of relief, on the expectation that 2021 would be more "normal". How wrong that was! But as we had now learnt, we again adapted to the need for flexibility, and the 2021 NCWQ Bursary Program continued on track.

Thanks to Team Bursary – the coordinators met once face-to-face before Zoom took over; the coordinators worked with the panel members to complete the selection process; the presentation function was set to go – and then re-scheduled.

We so hope Wednesday 6 October provides the opportunity to meet the recipients in this larger setting, but we continue to share your stories in this COVID-inspired E-Yearbook.

Thank you Sponsors for providing us with 35 recipients in the 2021 NCWQ Bursary Program. Congratulations Recipients! I wish you well:

*"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."* Eleanor Roosevelt.

### A special thanks to our Bursary Coordinators

Fran Cahill  
Erin Cunningham  
Kathy Cavanagh  
Paula Ivanovic  
Avril Kent  
Gloria Kirkness  
Yvonne Matta  
Ronda Nix  
Noela O'Donnell  
Lyn Peacock  
Pat Pepper



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