

WFWP Australia Newsletter: Empowering Women, Strengthening Relationships and Building Peace

Anne Bellavance
June 29, 2026

WFWP AUSTRALIA
NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 | 2026

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The Hope for
Humanity
Comes from Mothers



“History is calling for reconciliation, compassion, love, service and sacrifice. Today’s problems cannot be solved by the logic of power. ... Our present problems can only be solved by the logic of love.”

Dr. Hak Jan Han Moon
Founder, WFWP International



FEATURE STORY - The Earth & I

The Arctic Tipping Point
Rapid Climate Changes in the Far North Are Rippling

The planet isn’t warming evenly—it’s unraveling fastest at the top. In the Arctic, temperatures are rising four times faster than the global average, turning what was once Earth’s frozen stabilizer into a rapidly shifting engine of change.

The data no longer sketch centuries-long natural cycles; they spike, surge, and accelerate. Ice that endured for millennia is vanishing within decades, and the consequences are no longer confined to the Far North ...

< [READ MORE](#)



Melbourne | Australia
GWPN Assembly: She Leads

We embarked on a journey together— a journey of heart led leadership with confidence, deep human connections, and the kind of effective communication that builds more internal confidence. Door prizes, awards, table talk, great food and great people. Great to connect with mentors and mentees in the Leading into the Future mentor program, themed She Leads for 2026, our fabulous volunteers, and of course our ...

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Global Women's Peace Network



Purpose: A network of women leaders and organisations dedicated to solving pressing social issues and securing an environment for human development. It seeks to ensure mutual prosperity and lasting peace through feminine peace leadership rooted in a culture of care, responsibility and education in family values.

New style of leadership: Leaders in our 'flattening world' need a different set of skills; requiring aptitude in emotional intelligence, reconciliation, mediation and forgiveness.

GWPN inaugural assembly: the founders of WFWPI, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and her husband Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon called for a new era of women's leadership in peace building. The assembly highlighted the need for a body of NGO leaders, whose collective wisdom and judgment can complement the deliberations of the United Nations; which as a body of government representatives is overwhelmingly male. GWPN is a project of WFWP international.



GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT, AID & SERVICE PROJECTS

***Leading into the Future* mentor program: She Leads 2026**

The mentor program supports women to build confidence from the inside out, grounded in values, strengthened through meaningful connections, and guided by service-oriented leadership.

The program recognises that authentic leadership begins with self-awareness and flourishes through relationships, purpose, and a commitment to contributing to the greater good ...

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**WFWP International is an NGO
in General Consultative Status with
the Economic and Social Council of
the United Nations**

WFWP Australia has Chapters in
Queensland, New South Wales, and
Victoria

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Feeling inspired?



Support our Pacific Islands Global
Development and Aid Projects!

Volunteer: Get involved with one of our Oceania Chapters. Contact us to find out how.

Donate: Make a financial contribution to our WFWP Island Projects, where 100% of your donation supports Global Development & Aid projects. Within Oceania, WFWP is a fully volunteer based NFP charitable organisation.

Pasifika Scholarship Fund: The scholarship is committed to providing young adults living in the Pacific Islands an opportunity to access empowering education programs, and supports young adults who are passionate about getting an education to become future leaders, and who align their beliefs and goals with the values of WFWP International, 'Living for the sake of others'.

Pasifika Micro-Credit: Taking a partnership approach between WFWP Australia and the WFWP Chapters within the Pacific Island Nations, Pasifika Micro-Credit aims to empower women in the Island Nations of Oceania by directly investing in their business idea, economic activity or micro-enterprise with a micro-credit loan.



PARTNER WITH US

National Office:
42-46 Bartley Road
Belgrave Heights, VIC, 3160

Regional Chapters: Australia, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Samoa, PNG

The Arctic Tipping Point

Rapid Climate Changes in the Far North Are Rippling

Website: <https://www.theearthandi.org/post/the-arctic-tipping-point?>

Summary

The planet isn't warming evenly—it's unraveling fastest at the top. In the Arctic, temperatures are rising [four times faster](#) than the global average, turning what was once Earth's frozen stabilizer into a rapidly shifting engine of change.

[The data](#) no longer sketch centuries-long natural cycles; they spike, surge, and accelerate. Ice that endured for millennia is vanishing within decades, and the consequences are no longer confined to the Far North.



Warmer oceans lead to less summer sea ice, rising sea levels, and increased heat absorption.

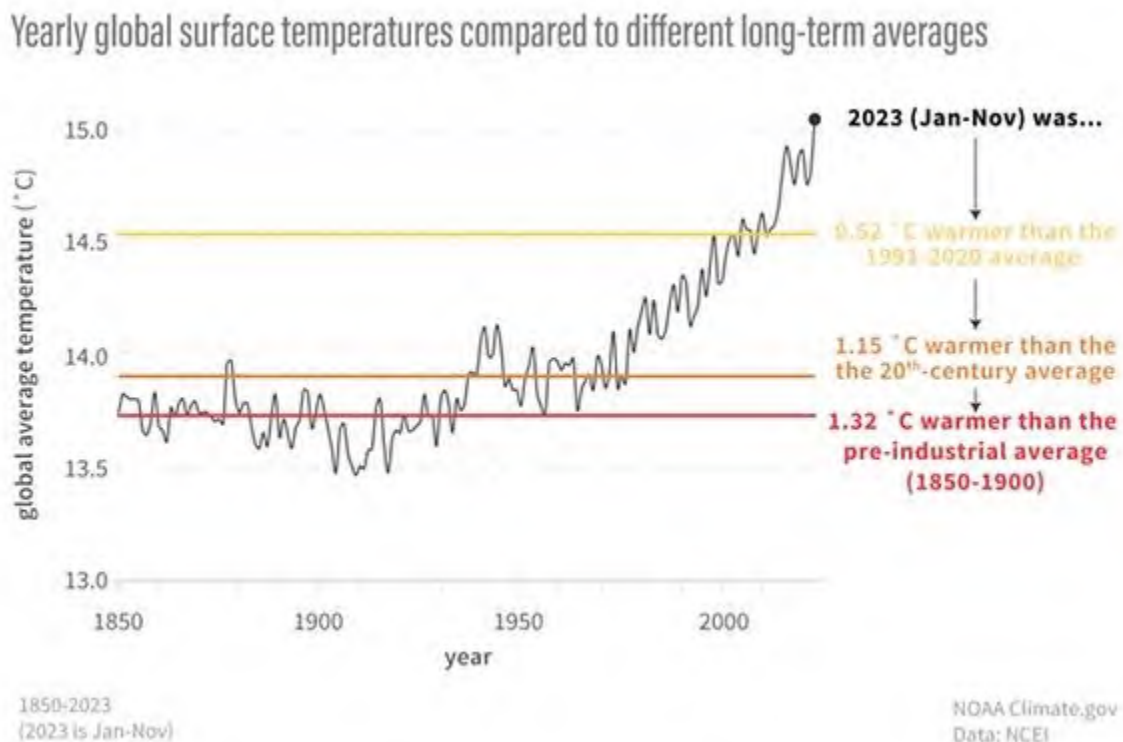
Courtesy of Chi-Hyun Park/Clipart Korea/News Penguin

What a 1.5°C Warmer Climate Means

In 2025, the World Meteorological Organization [announced](#) that the global mean temperature, averaged over the previous 12 months, was effectively 1.5°C above preindustrial levels. Crossing

this threshold significantly increases the likelihood that extreme heat waves, droughts, floods, and ice loss will intensify. For decades, scientists have identified 1.5°C as a critical tipping point. Observed warming trends are unambiguous. According to the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) (IPCC), the global mean temperature for 2011–2020 was already 1.09°C above preindustrial levels. The rate of increase has since accelerated. In 2023, the global temperature reached 1.45°C above preindustrial levels. In 2024, driven by a strong El Niño weather phenomenon and continued greenhouse gas emissions, global temperatures reached the highest level on record.

Warming [has grown steadily](#). The oceans continuously absorb heat, while atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations continue to rise. Over the past decade alone, global temperature has increased by an additional 0.3°C. Climate change cannot be attributed to a single cause; it reflects a planetary-scale accumulation of energy. That energy manifests differently across regions.



According to the IPCC baseline (relative to 1850–1900), the global mean temperature has risen sharply since the late 20th century, with the rate of increase accelerating markedly over the past decade. Credit: NOAA

Since the Industrial Revolution, atmospheric [carbon dioxide concentrations](#) have risen from 280 parts per million (ppm) to over 420 ppm. Methane has also increased significantly. These gases

trap heat: They absorb infrared radiation emitted from the surface and reradiate a portion back toward Earth. As a result, the planet now retains slightly more energy than it emits to space.

Acceleration in the Arctic

The Arctic is the [most rapidly warming region](#) on Earth. Over the past 40 years, it has warmed nearly four times more rapidly than the global average. Since satellite observations began in 1979, Arctic temperatures have increased by approximately 0.6°C per decade, compared to about 0.2°C globally.

This disparity originates from surface changes. Snow and ice reflect 80%–90% of incoming solar radiation, limiting heat accumulation. When ice melts, however, it exposes darker ocean surfaces that absorb rather than reflect sunlight. Consequently, the same solar input results in significantly greater heat retention. In regions where ice has retreated, absorbed summer solar energy has increased by as much as 20 watts per square meter.

The ocean has a strong capacity to store heat. Heat accumulated during summer is released back into the atmosphere during autumn and winter. As a result, Arctic winter temperatures [are rising faster](#) than summer temperatures. The Arctic continues to warm through a cycle of seasonal heat storage and release—an energy flow directly confirmed by observations.

When Permafrost Thaws

Arctic soils contain an estimated 1,500–1,700 gigatons of carbon—roughly twice the amount currently in the atmosphere. For millennia, this carbon remained locked in frozen ground. As temperatures rise, however, [permafrost is thawing](#). In some regions, ground temperatures have increased by more than 1°C over the past two decades.

As soils thaw, microbial activity resumes, releasing carbon dioxide and methane. Methane, over a 20-year time scale, has more than 80 times the globe-warming potential of carbon dioxide. [Satellite observations](#) have confirmed methane emissions increasing in regions such as Siberia and Alaska. Some projections suggest that an additional 150–200 gigatons of carbon could be released by 2100.

[Wildfires](#) further amplify this process. Since 2003, Arctic fires have emitted an average of 0.2 gigatons of carbon annually. Rising temperatures and increasing dryness have made fire-conducive conditions more frequent. According to recent NOAA reports, when wildfire emissions are included, parts of the tundra—particularly in eastern Siberian lowlands—have

already shifted from being net carbon sinks to net carbon sources. The Arctic carbon cycle is gradually changing direction.

Arctic Change and Sea-Level Rise

Greenland's ice sheet is [rapidly losing mass](#), with 250–270 gigatons disappearing annually since 2002. This contributes approximately 0.7–0.8 mm per year to global sea-level rise—about four times the rate observed in the 1990s. Melting is particularly pronounced near [Jakobshavn Glacier](#).



Glaciers are melting, collapsing into the sea, and rapidly retreating due to global warming. Scientists are closely observing the emergence of darker ocean surfaces as the ice shrinks. Courtesy of Chi-Hyun Park/Clipart Korea/News Penguin

The steady decline of Arctic sea ice is triggering a massive shift in global climate systems, transforming the region from a reflective ice shield into a heat-absorbing dark ocean. Since 1979, summer sea ice extent has shrunk by 40% to 45%, while older, thicker ice has plummeted from 60% to below 15%. This loss allows open water to absorb more solar radiation, driving summer sea surface temperatures 2–4°C higher in areas like the Barents and Beaufort Seas and releasing immense heat back into the atmosphere. This rapid polar warming is destabilizing the

global jet stream and weakening its flow, which has increased winter minimum temperatures across Northern Hemisphere midlatitudes by about 0.4°C per decade and led to increasingly milder winters.

Beyond atmospheric shifts, the influx of fresh, less-saline meltwater from Greenland is disrupting critical ocean currents. By reducing vertical mixing, this runoff has contributed to a 10% to 15% weakening of the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) since the mid-20th century. Because the world's oceans absorb more than 90% of the Earth's excess heat, global ocean heat content continues to break records, a reality reflected in accelerating sea-level rise.

Global mean sea levels have risen by more than 20 cm since 1900, with the annual rate increasing from 3.3 mm in the 1990s to roughly 4.5 mm in recent years due to melting land ice and thermal expansion. Satellites confirm that glacier margins are retreating by tens of meters annually, signaling that while stored heat guarantees ongoing coastal changes, future greenhouse gas emissions will ultimately determine whether sea-level rise is limited to 0.3 meters or exceeds a full meter by 2100.

Written by Chi-Hyun Park

The Earth & I Magazine

www.theearthandi.org





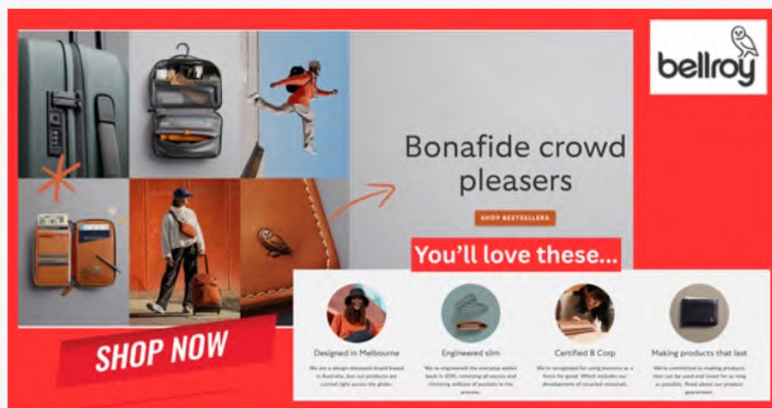
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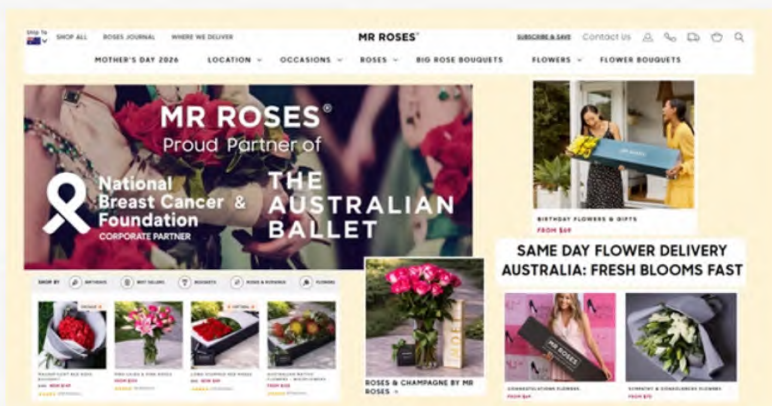
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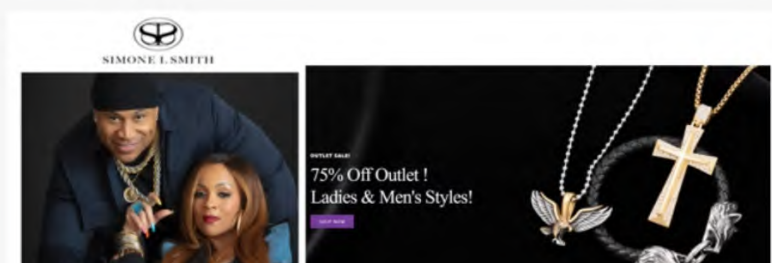
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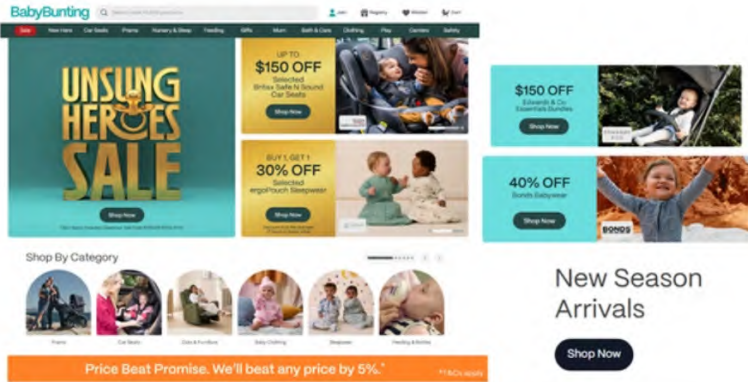
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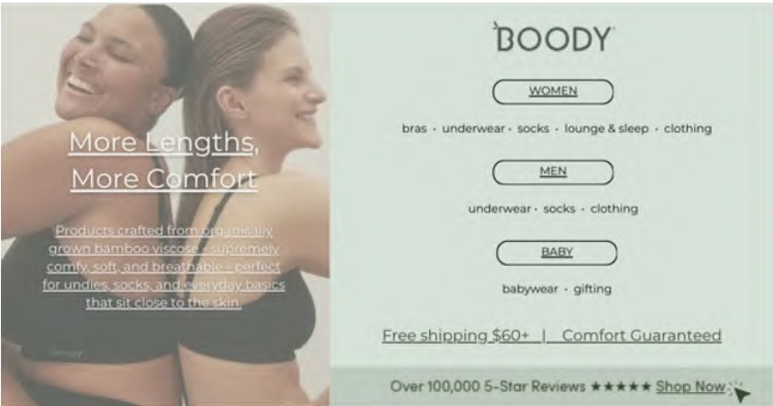
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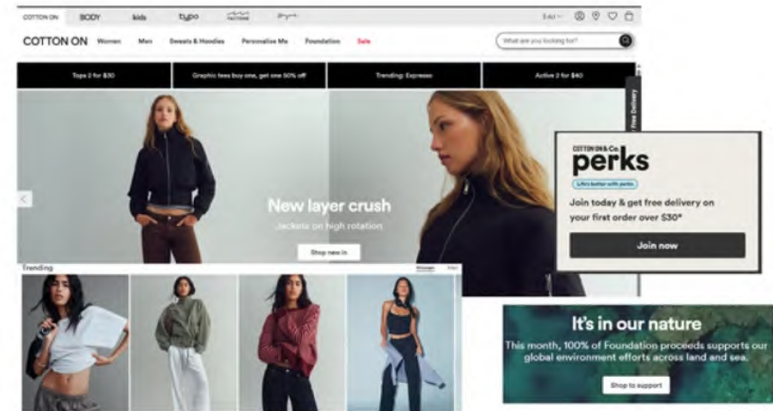
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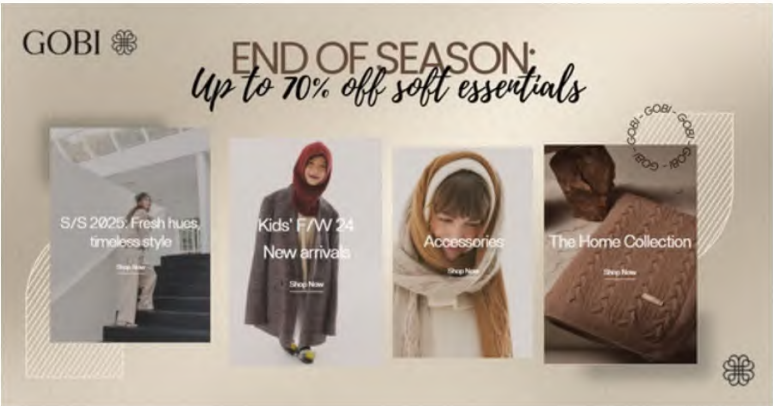
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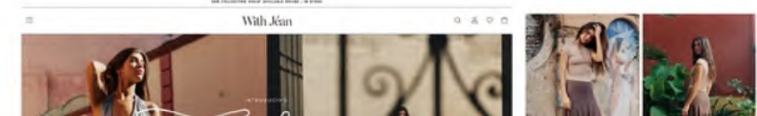
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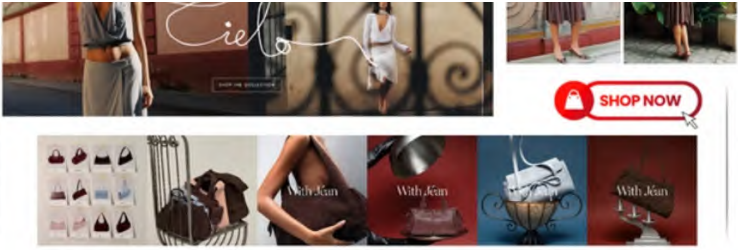
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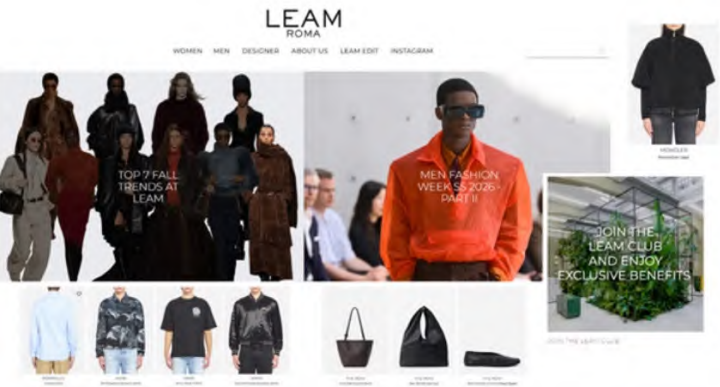
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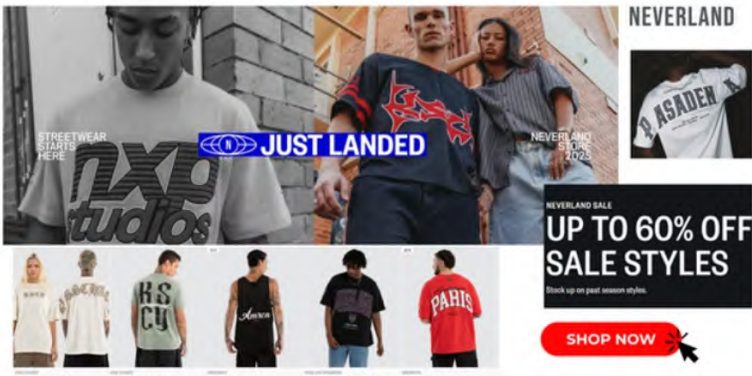
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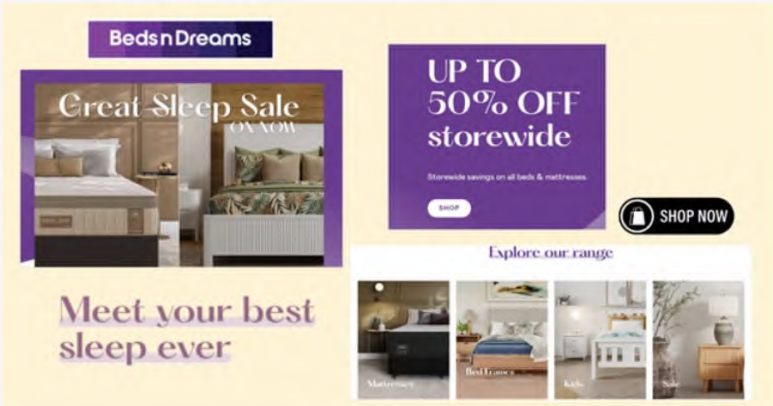
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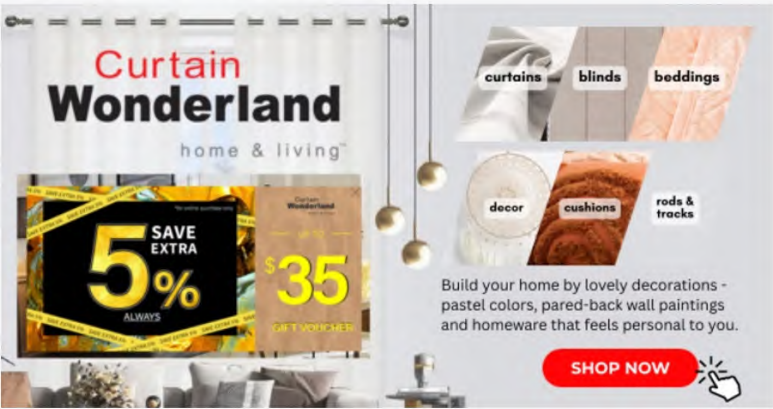
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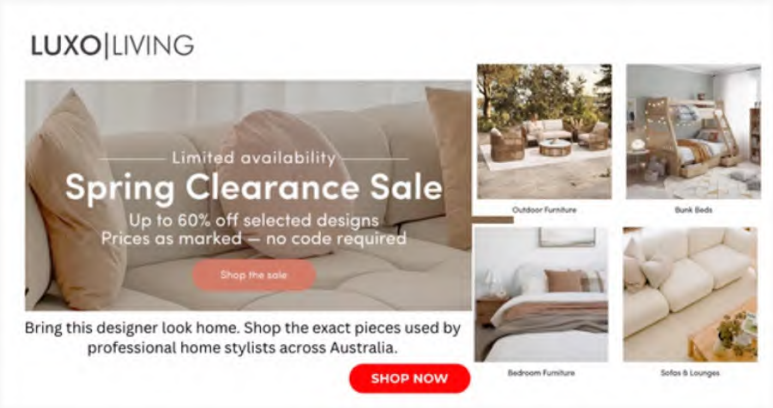
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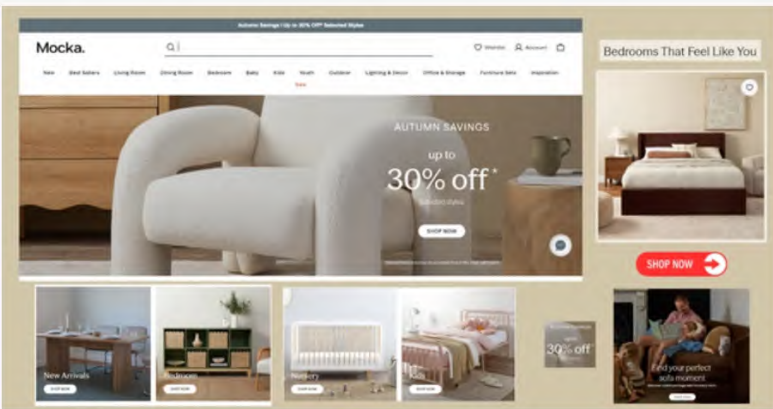
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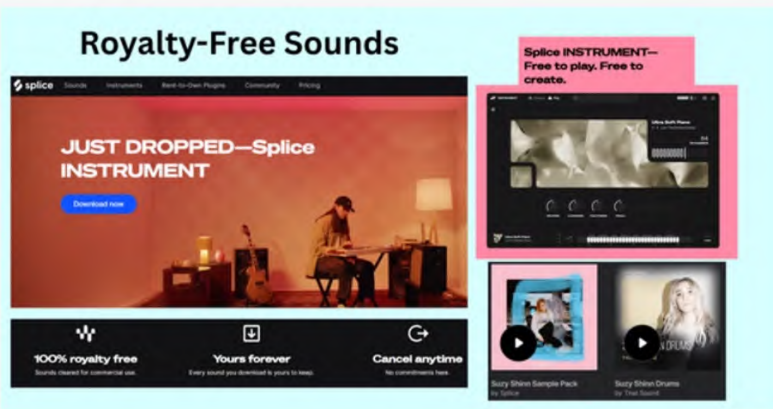
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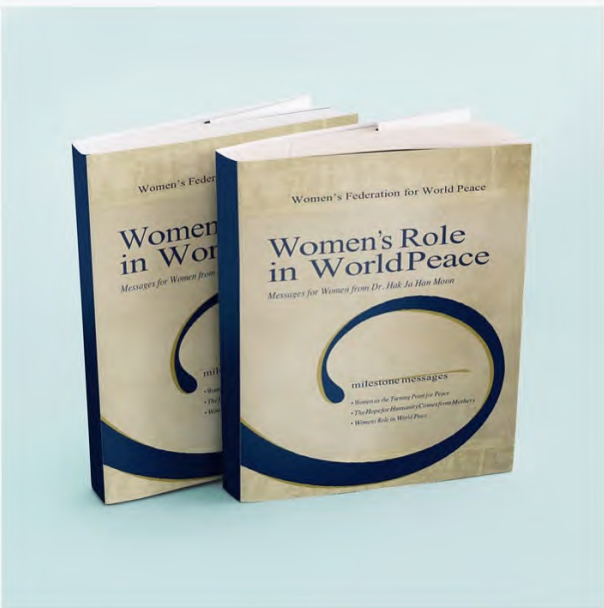


BOOKS



Herstory - A Window into Multi-Cultural Australia

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Women's Role in World Peace - Messages for Women from Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon

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WOMEN'S FEDERATION
FOR WORLD PEACE AUSTRALIA

Global Women's Peace Network National Assembly

Leadership Advancing a Culture of Heart

A FORUM
FOR TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERSHIP



Theme: She Leads 2026

23rd May 2026 | Melbourne, Australia

Video link: <https://youtu.be/Yh7PNO8smrY>

Overview

- A forum of transformative leadership for established and emerging leaders, with a focus on Heart-led Leadership.
- The Global Women Peace Ambassador award honours leaders who promote reconciliation, overcome barriers, and build peaceful communities based on universal moral principles.
- The Global Partner award honours organisations collaborating with WFWP to achieve the UN Global Development Goals, especially Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals.
- Launching of the 2026 'Leading into the Future' mentor program under the theme of: She Leads.



The event brought together 51 participants, including 4 dynamic speakers, 5 Global Women Peace Ambassador Awardees, and 1 Global Partner Awardee.

The day was full of energy, laughter, tears, and triumphs. We embarked on a journey together—a journey of heart led leadership with confidence, deep human connections, and the kind of effective communication that builds more internal confidence. Door prizes, awards, table talk, great food and great people. Great to connect with mentors and mentees in the Leading into the Future mentor program, themed She Leads for 2026, our fabulous volunteers, and of course our inspiring participants!

A heartfelt thank you to Sylvia Coombe, Multicultural Commissioner, whose ongoing support and warm, insightful opening address continue to inspire participants and provide a meaningful start to the day each year.



Each moment was a golden nugget of wisdom: we learned that leadership is an action, not merely a title. It's about showing up, reaching out, and creating spaces where everyone feels valued and heard. It's about embracing our roles as leaders, even when we're tempted to succumb to fear. It is about feeling the fear but doing the task anyway and realising that this builds the greatest confidence.



Today was a testament to what we can achieve when we come together, share our truths, and support each other's growth. Thank you to every participant, speaker, and volunteers for bringing your authenticity and heart to this gathering. Your contributions today have not just filled this space with energy but have sown seeds of change

that will grow beyond today. It was a day of unforgettable memories and transformative experiences of learning, of celebration, and most importantly, of coming together as a community committed to making a difference. Let's continue to lead with love, pause with purpose, and act with confidence and integrity.



Thanking our GWPB Planning Committee, our VIC Advisory Committee, and incredible volunteers. During events, our faces are towards the front. However, it's the volunteers at the back who create the beauty and energy that is felt by everyone - you make us shine!



PRESENTERS

Anthea Hancocks - The Winding Path of Leadership

Anthea is the CEO of the Scanlon Foundation Research Institute, with extensive leadership experience spanning government, academia, philanthropy, professional services, and the not-for-profit sector.

She is a Fellow of Monash University, a Civil Society and Public Administration Fellow at Toronto Metropolitan University, and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Anthea shared reflections on her personal and professional journey, weaving in valuable insights on leadership, resilience, and growth. She emphasised that leadership begins with self-development, but true leadership is realised when we invest in the growth and success of others. Throughout her career, Anthea maintained a quiet determination to pursue her goals while balancing family responsibilities and adapting to changing circumstances.

She spoke about the importance of remaining flexible, finding alternative pathways when challenges arise, and embracing lifelong learning as a foundation for effective leadership. A key theme of her presentation was the role of education in expanding opportunities, building confidence, and preparing individuals to lead with purpose. She reflected that many of her achievements were not the result of a predetermined plan, but rather a willingness to persevere, continue learning, seek guidance from others, and step forward when opportunities presented themselves.

Anthea also highlighted that leadership is demonstrated through action and example. Rather than directing others from the sidelines, effective leaders inspire confidence by showing what is possible and creating opportunities for others to succeed. Her presentation concluded with a powerful reminder that when capable people are trusted, encouraged, and given opportunities to contribute, they can achieve extraordinary outcomes.

Anne Bellavance – Heart-Centred Leadership

Anne is National President of WFWP Australia



Anne shared the guiding philosophy of WFWP Australia, rooted in the vision and teachings of its founders, Father and Mother Moon. She highlighted how WFWP's national and regional initiatives are grounded in a Culture of Heart and the principle of 'Living for the Sake of Others', which underpin the organisation's approach to leadership, peacebuilding, and community development.

Through these values-driven programs, WFWP empowers individuals, strengthens communities, and fosters compassionate leadership and sustainable peace.

Drawing on her work as National President, Anne highlighted how WFWP Australia translates these principles into practice through mentoring, leadership development, relationship enrichment programs, humanitarian service, and peacebuilding initiatives. She emphasised that heart-centred leadership combines emotional intelligence, empathy, integrity, and a commitment to serving others, creating the conditions for trust, collaboration, and meaningful social impact.



Lasting peace begins within ourselves and is expressed through the quality of our relationships. By empowering individuals to lead with heart and purpose, WFP Australia is developing values-based leaders who strengthen families, workplaces, communities, and contribute to a more peaceful, compassionate, and cohesive society. This is peace in action!

Fiona Demark – Leading with Ability Thinking

Fiona is a speaker, trainer, life coach, author, and passionate disability advocate who is recognised as Australia's leading expert on Ability Thinking. Legally blind since birth, she has spent her life navigating challenges with resilience, determination, and a positive mindset.



With more than 30 years of experience in the human services sector, Fiona inspires others to reframe obstacles as opportunities, build resilience, and unlock their potential by focusing on possibilities rather than limitations.

She challenged participants to consider how their perceptions of ability influence the way they lead, encouraging them to adopt an Ability Thinking mindset that focuses on possibilities rather than limitations. Drawing on her personal journey, she shared powerful insights on resilience, leadership, and overcoming adversity, while challenging conventional assumptions about disability and potential.

Fiona emphasised the importance of directing energy towards activities that bring joy and purpose, highlighting how even a small investment of an hour a day doing what we love can have a significant impact on wellbeing and resilience throughout our lives. She also spoke about the value of supportive relationships, noting that trusted friends who bring encouragement, perspective, and laughter are essential in navigating life's challenges.

A key message from her presentation was that leadership comes in many forms and that everyone has unique strengths to contribute. She encouraged participants to challenge negative thinking through self-reflection and reality-checking assumptions, which enables us to respond to challenges with greater confidence, perspective, and optimism.

Justine Martin - When Women Rise, Communities Change

Justine is an international keynote speaker, resilience coach, author, and podcast host. As Founder and CEO of Justine Martin Corporation and creator of the MOXIE philosophy, she empowers individuals to transform adversity into strength, resilience, and leadership. Drawing on her lived experience of navigating multiple sclerosis and rare health conditions, Justine inspires audiences to overcome challenges with courage, grit, and determination, helping them unlock their potential and create meaningful impact.



She shared that there comes a moment when you either remain where you are or choose to rise. The invitation is simple: say yes first, then work out how to move forward. Regardless of physical or mental disability, the importance of holding goals and vision remains constant. We are stronger than the stories we have been told—and stronger than the ones we tell ourselves.

Justine developed the Resilience Mindset through her **MOXIE Framework**:

M – Mindset

Cultivating a perspective that focuses on possibility, growth, and forward movement.

O – Own your story

Reclaiming personal narrative and taking back control of identity and direction.

X – Execution

Prioritising action over perfection. Small, consistent steps create meaningful and lasting change.

I – Inner Strength

Building resilience through lived experience, challenge, and adversity.

E – Energy

Protecting and strengthening personal energy by surrounding yourself with what uplifts, sustains, and supports wellbeing. Establishing clear boundaries is essential.

Leadership is not defined by a title, but by how a person lives and shows up each day. It is about choosing to act in alignment with values, rather than being shaped by the limiting beliefs of others.

When intention is set and expressed with clarity, it shapes direction and momentum. What is consistently put forward with purpose has a way of returning in the form of opportunity and growth.

GUEST MUSICIAN

This year, we were delighted to feature **Selene Messinis**, an acclaimed multi-instrumentalist and one of Melbourne's most sought-after musicians, recognised for her exceptional versatility and powerful sonic presence.

Her outstanding work has earned her the APRA Professional Development Award, selection in the Melbourne International Jazz Festival 'Take Note' program, and the Melbourne Women's International Jazz Festival Recording Prize.



TABLE TALK

One of the most meaningful moments during the GWPN Assembly is our Table Talk session — an opportunity for real conversation, reflection, and shared wisdom, designed to foster dialogue, personal reflection, and peer-to-peer learning in a supportive environment. Each table was invited to choose from three guiding questions. The conversations were rich, honest, and insightful, reflecting the diverse experiences in the room.

Below are the discussion prompts:

- Q 1: What parts of your authentic self. have/would you suppressed to lead successfully?
- Q 2. Who taught you the most about leadership?
- Q 3. Under pressure, how do others experience you as a current leader, or as an emerging leader?



Arfa Khan sharing wisdom from her table group - they won the Table Talk prize for discussion of question 3.

GLOBAL AWARDS

One of the most moving moments of the day was the **Global Awards Ceremony**, where individuals are honoured as Global Women Peace Ambassadors and organisations are presented with the Global Partner Award. Our Global Awardees dare to lead with confidence and courage — feeling the fear but doing the work anyway. These are leaders who have shown us that true leadership is rooted in trust, love, and service to others.

Global Women Peace Ambassador Awards

Five outstanding women received the **Global Women Peace Ambassador Award** for their values-led leadership and commitment to peacebuilding. Each embody WFWP's core principle of *living in service to others*, working to heal divides and uplift their communities.

Global Partner Awards

This year, one organisation was recognised with the **Global Partner Award**, recognised for their shared commitment to reconciliation, unity, and peacebuilding. The award honours their collaboration with WFWP in advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals—especially **Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals**.

Congratulations to all our award recipients — your strength, humility, and unwavering dedication continue to inspire and uplift us all.



Holding the Award - Left to Right - Front

Bismi Palatty – Founder, She Rise Foundation.

Tina Brunet - Founder, Full Circle Enterprise.

Sally Vuli – Founder & Director, Thee Coffee Table | Principal, House of Destiny.

Chanchal Kumavat – Founder & Director, Saathi Multicultural Association of Australia.

Not in the Photo

Arfa Khan – *President, United Muslim Sister of Latrobe Vally*

Elevated Coaching & Consulting Global – Founded and Directed Kylie van Luyn

REFLECTION from PARTICIPANTS

This is an organisation that genuinely wants to give back to the women and really impact their lives in an amazing way.

Powerful impact of inspirational women who step forward and support each other and communities.



The place where my core values love, joy and peace connect and where i belong 🤝🙏

Great organisation which promotes and develops leadership skills for us to lead for peace and unity of humankind.

Community of women that give selflessly for the betterment of others.

Power of Authentic leadership & supporting each other. Inspiration from other powerful and courageous women who are successful despite many obstacles.

WFWP is undertaking great initiatives to empower women and promote gender equality to make the world a better place. I wish WFWP all the very best in all their activities.

PARTNERS and SUPPORTERS

Hosted by:



The **Women's Federation for World Peace** is an international NGO in General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

WFWP adheres to the principle that women working together, taking initiative, and empowering one another across traditional lines of race, culture, and religion to create healthy families can resolve the complex problems of our societies and world.

<https://www.wfwpaustralia.org>

With Support from:



City of Monash

<https://www.monash.vic.gov.au/>

Written by Anne Bellavance
President, WFWP Australia



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GLOBAL WOMEN'S PEACE NETWORK

About the GWPN

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As a project of WFWPI, the Global Women's Peace Network (GWPN) was established in 2012 by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and her late husband, the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon.

The GWPN is a compassionate alliance of women leaders dedicated to uplifting those in need and empowering the next generation of leaders.

Through mentorship, education, and community-building, the network nurtures heart-centred leadership across all sectors of society, fostering a culture of care and inclusion.

By empowering emerging leaders from all walks of life, WFWP contributes to the betterment of society and a brighter future for all.

GWPN Assembly: a forum for transformative leadership



The GWPN National Assembly creates opportunities for emerging women leaders, ensuring they have the support and resources needed to reach their full potential.



[Read More](#)

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Global Awards

Global Women Peace Ambassador awardees, drawn from diverse sectors and backgrounds, are committed to fostering a global peace community by embodying WFWP's principle of 'living for the sake of others.' This accolade celebrates their leadership, accomplishments, and selfless service.

The **Global Partner award** recognises organisations for their outstanding service and leadership, showcasing exceptional social responsibility of supporting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The award honours the exemplary partnership between WFWP and the organisation.



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WOMEN'S FEDERATION
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Leading into the Future Mentor Program

Leadership Advancing a Culture of Heart

2026 THEME

She Leads
When Women Lead, the World Shifts



Building Confidence, Connection and Courage Through Mentorship

May – December | Australia

wfwpaustralia.org/mentor-program

Overview

- *Leading into the Future* is WFWP Australia's heart-centred mentoring initiative that builds women's confidence from the inside out—grounded in values, strengthened through connection, and guided by service-led leadership.
- Through mentoring, masterclass workshops, and an active community of practice, the program nurtures mutual learning, courage, and reflection, recognising mentorship as a two-way exchange that creates lasting personal and collective impact.



The *Leading into the Future* mentor program, themed She Leads for 2026, is not intended to be just another leadership program. From its inception five years ago, it is designed as a heart-centred space of belonging, courage, and conscious growth—a place where women could pause, reflect, and step more fully into who they are becoming as leaders, professionals, and human beings.



As a flagship initiative of WFPW Australia, *Leading into the Future* supports women to build confidence from the inside out, grounded in values, strengthened through meaningful connections, and guided by service-oriented leadership. The program recognises that authentic leadership begins with self-awareness and flourishes through relationships, purpose, and a commitment to contributing to the greater good.

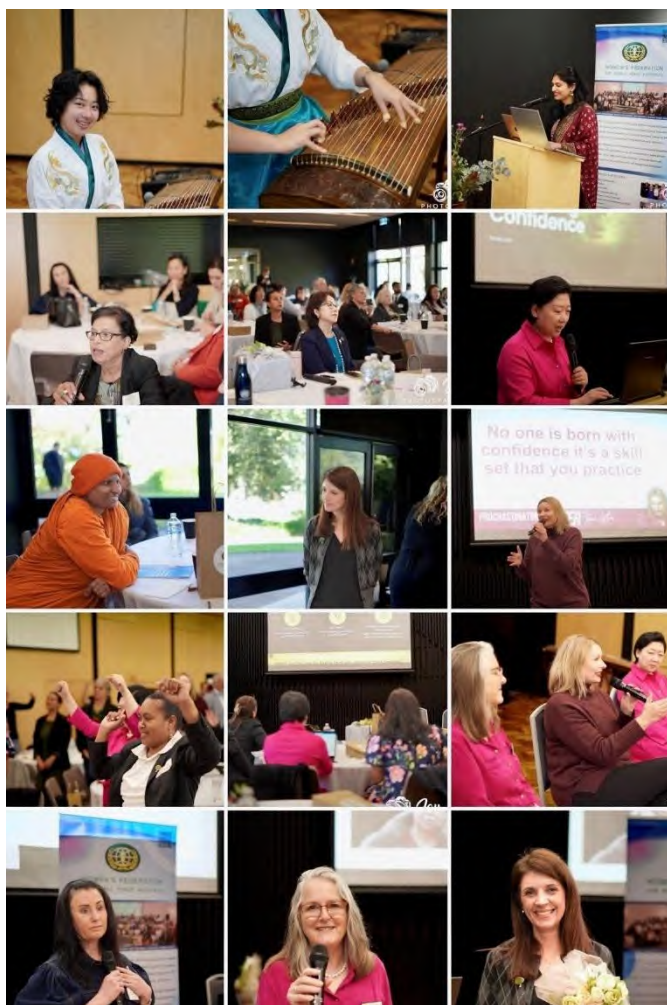
A defining strength of the program is its extraordinary team of mentors—accomplished professional women who generously volunteer their time and expertise pro bono to support the next generation of women leaders. Their commitment stems from a shared recognition that, despite progress, a significant "leaky pipeline" remains in women's leadership, with many talented women leaving leadership pathways or never stepping into them at all.

Each year, new mentors join the program, bringing diverse experience from business, education, government, entrepreneurship, community leadership, and the not-for-profit sector. Their profiles, available on the WFPW Australia website, reflect the breadth of wisdom, expertise, and leadership available to participants.

Unlike traditional career mentoring programs, *Leading into the Future* focuses on heart-led leadership development. Established women leaders are carefully matched with emerging women leaders to explore leadership as an expression of values, authenticity, and service.



The program equips women with the confidence and courage to be themselves, lead with integrity, and create positive change wherever they are. Participants are encouraged to transform workplace, community, and family cultures by building caring relationships, fostering resilience, and creating environments where people feel valued, connected, and inspired to work together for the greater good.



Over the past five years, the program has evolved into far more than a mentoring experience. It has become a thriving community where women encourage one another to grow, take courageous steps forward, and embrace opportunities that may once have seemed beyond reach.

One of the most inspiring aspects of the program is the vibrant Community of Practice chat group, which is a living expression of the program's spirit. It is a space where gratitude flows freely, milestones were celebrated, and challenges were met with encouragement and support. Messages of reflection, appreciation, and shared learning demonstrate that every participant contributes to the collective strength of the community. Whether highly visible or quietly engaged, each woman plays an important role in shaping the experience.

A powerful lesson reinforced throughout the program is that mentorship is never a one-way exchange. While mentees gain confidence, clarity, and practical guidance, mentors consistently share how deeply enriched they feel by the openness, commitment, and courage of the women they support. Relationships built through trust and genuine connection became a source of growth and inspiration for everyone.

The mentor program also features six high-impact Masterclass Workshops led by experienced presenters, many of whom generously serve as mentors within the program. These workshops

provide practical tools and fresh perspectives while helping participants connect inner clarity with purposeful heart-led action. Their generosity reflects WFWP's belief that peaceful and

prosperous communities are built when individuals are empowered, encouraged, and guided by strong values.

As the six-month program unfolds, confidence emerges in many forms—through courageous conversations, academic achievements, career advancements, renewed purpose, stronger relationships, and deeper personal connections. These transformations



remind us that leadership is not simply about position or influence; it is about showing up authentically, serving others through servant leadership, and having the courage and emotional intelligence to continue growing.

As the program continues, we celebrate the women who choose to lead with heart, support one another, and embrace the journey of becoming. Together, they demonstrate that when women are empowered through mentorship, connection, and purpose, the impact extends far beyond the individual—to workplaces, families, communities, and future generations. At its heart, *Leading into the Future* helps shape a new generation of women leaders who understand that sustainable success is built not only on achievement, but on the quality of the relationships, cultures, and communities they help create.

That is peace building in action !

Written by Anne Bellavance,
President, WFWP Australia

To find out more, visit the mentor program here:
<https://www.wfwpaustralia.org/mentor-program>



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PACIFIC PROJECTS

PASIFIKA SCHOLARSHIP FUND



The Pacific Island Scholarship Fund is a not for profit development program launched in March 2017. The scholarships aim to provide young adults living in the Pacific Islands with opportunities to access empowering education programs in their own country.

The program supports young people who are passionate about getting an education and who align their heart with one of the values and goals of WFWP: "Living for the sake of others".

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PASIFIKA MICRO-CREDIT PROJECT



Taking a partnership approach between WFWP Australia and the WFWP Chapters within the Pacific Island Nations, Pasifika Micro-Credit aims to empower women in the



Island Nations of Oceania by directly investing in their business idea, economic activity, or micro-enterprise with a micro-credit loan.

The project was initiated in 2020.

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NEW HOPE ACADEMY - The Solomon Islands



The New Hope Academy Primary School opened to grade 1 in 2019. In 2011, WFWP Japan provided some funding for the building of the kindergarten. Since then, WFWP Australia has provided school materials and equipment.

Located in the Solomon Islands capital of Honiara, the Primary School and Kindergarten is situated close to the city centre. With a family centred philosophy of teaching children to develop their sense of community through sharing, developing empathy and understanding for each other, the Academy has the reputation of being the best school in the area.

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WFWP Australia's Global Development & Aid projects support the realisation of the following United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals:

- Goal 1 : End poverty in all forms everywhere;
- Goal 3 : Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages;
- Goal 4 : Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all;
- Goal 5 : Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls;
- Goal 8 : Ensure everyone has access to employment opportunities, and make sure they have jobs that last;
- Goal 10: Reduced inequalities;
- Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals.

WOMEN'S SEWING CENTRES



Commencing in 2008, Women's Sewing Centres continue to provide Island women the opportunity to gain practical skills that empower their lives, and support their families economically.

With the short term goal to bring women together to learn and/or volunteer their skills, the long-term goal is for women to become economically independent.

Our most developed sewing centre is in Honiara,



Solomon Islands and closely collaborates with New Hope Primary and Kindergarten, providing uniforms and funds. The sewing centre is currently expanding as more women join and new projects are developed. Other sewing Centre's are in Vanuatu, Samoa, Fiji and PNG.

[Read more](#)

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BOOKS for the ISLANDS



WFWP Australia initiated the Books for the Islands Project in 2008. Since then, thousands of boxes of children's books have been shipped to establish libraries in primary schools within Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands, Samoa, Fiji and Papua New Guinea. Many Island nation schools do not have libraries.

WFWP Australia also works towards expanding the resources of existing school libraries by supplying good quality children's books, either in the English or French language.

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