



WOMEN IN SUPER

WOMEN IN SUPER
Mother's Day Classic

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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Message from the Chair



Kara Keys
National Chair, Women in Super

It was certainly an interesting first year to commence my tenure as National Chair of Women in Super.

Just when we thought life was getting back to 'normal', COVID swung back around and sent us all scuttling back to our home offices, home-schooling, lockdowns and isolation.

This time we had the advantage of knowing what to do, though.

Once again, the Women in Super Board, State Committees and National Office hunkered down, continuing to pursue our goals of providing our members access to the same quality professional development and connection opportunities as in previous years, as well as the important policy work, advocating for a more equal retirement system for women – the importance of which is only increasing due to the impacts of COVID and the changes to the superannuation industry.

We know that many women retire to a life of poverty because of the choices our governments, have made. In a prosperous nation, this is a travesty, and the events of the pandemic have only accelerated this inequality. We are now better placed to see the real-life impacts that the federal government's ill-advised COVID-19 financial hardship Early Release Scheme has had on our country – particularly women.

Tragically, women starting out now on their working lives will be among the most affected. They were more likely to withdraw super than men under the early release scheme, and young people were twice as likely to have entirely drained their super accounts.

A young woman today with a lower super balance than a male counterpart that tapped into their account will miss out on decades of compound interest on the funds withdrawn – and have lower retirement savings as a result. Women should benefit from substantial superannuation policy changes which will holistically make a real impact to a dignified retirement. However, until government policymakers prioritise women's dignity, the super system will not fulfil this aim.

Some of the policies we have pushed for change on include the removal of the $450 threshold, and simplifying the super splitting process in divorce.

The $450 threshold that was in place prevents 300,000 low-income earners – the majority of whom are women – from earning superannuation on their full wage. Due to a considerable and long term effort from Women in

Super and ally organisations the government legislated for this reform to take place in July 2022. A significant win for advocates and this must pave the way to further pushes for policy changes to support an equitable retirement for women.

In conjunction with AIST, Women's Legal Service Victoria, HESTA, Financial Counselling Australia and Economic Abuse Reference Group, Women in Super also called on Parliament to act quickly to pass the long-awaited legislation that is critical in preventing family violence perpetrators from hiding their superannuation assets when they are going through the family law courts.

We have been working towards this since WLSV released their Small Claims, Large Battles report in 2018, and we were thrilled to see the legislation pass in September, as this will truly make a difference to simplifying and reducing the cost of the legal superannuation splitting process benefiting many women.

These to changes give evidence to power of collectively advocating for improved policies which ensure women have a equitable and dignified retirement and we look forward to continuing this work with our members, partners, sponsors and ally organisations.

The online events we have offered throughout the year have been an important way for members to connect with each other, and we have been glad to see increased engagement across all of our members around the country.

Those who are based regionally, or are on parental leave, are for the first time accessing events and speakers that they otherwise would not have been able to. This is a great reminder of recognising the opportunity that the last couple of years has brought us – in amongst the adversity.

The Mother's Day Classic was also back in person again this year, across many more local locations, that while smaller in size and more informal in nature, were big on community spirit. Our Committees and staff were thrilled to be able to be present on the day, supporting in various volunteer roles around the country.

Finally there have been some big changes at Women in Super.

I would like to take the opportunity to pass on my sincere thanks to Sandra Buckley, our outgoing CEO, for all of her hard work over the last eight years. Sandra joined Women in Super just as the first formal membership agreements were negotiated and she leaves having established strong relationships, agreements with and support from just about every profit-to-member fund and their service providers.
Sandra has been a champion for women's outcomes in both the superannuation and domestic and family violence spaces, and she leaves having had a significant impact on the lives of countless Australian women and has paved the way for more positive change to come.
We know she will continue advocating for women in all of her future roles.

I would also like to thank Lisa Hawkins, our outgoing Administrative Assistant, for her calm, diligent and positive support for the Women in Super team, State Committees and Board.
We wish Sandra and Lisa all the best in their new pursuits.

The Board of Women in Super have big plans in 2022, and with a new CEO onboard, an election on the horizon, and a new landscape to work with, it is extremely exciting to see what we will be able to achieve.

Industry Partners

We would like to thank our founding partner AIST and the following corporate members and industry partners for their ongoing support and commitment to Women in Super.

- ACSI
- Active Super
- APRA
- AustralianSuper
- AvSuper
- Aware Super
- CareSuper
- Cbus
- Challenger
- Christian Super
- EISS
- Energy Super
- ESSSuper
- Fidelity International
- First Super
- Frontier Advisors
- Funds SA
- Guild Trustee Services
- HESTA
- Hostplus
- HRL Morrison & Co.
- IFM Investors
- Industry Fund Services
- Industry Super Australia
- IQ Group
- ISPT
- J.P. Morgan
- JANA
- legalsuper
- LUCRF Super
- ME
- Media Super
- Mercer
- NGS Super
- Northern Trust
- Prime Super
- PwC
- QSuper
- Rest
- RiceWarner
- Spirit Super
- Statewide Super
- Super SA
- TelstraSuper
- TWUSUPER
- UniSuper
- Vision Super

2021 events

2021 saw us continue our online presence due to various lockdowns around the country.

With many members increasingly suffering from 'online fatigue' it was essential that we continue to offer high quality, relevant events in different formats to ensure members still found value.

With over 4,000 attendees to events throughout the year, it was reassuring to see the continued support from members, and the recognition that they were still benefitting from our professional development opportunities.

Event Summary 2021	
Event Name	City
WIS SA: Rushing Women's Syndrome	Adelaide
Women in Leadership: Nancy Day	Online
WIS NSW: Perfect Your Pitch	Sydney
WIS ACT: Networking Drinks	Canberra
WIS SA: International Women's Day Lunch	Adelaide
Mavis Robertson International Women's Day	Sydney
WIS QLD: International Women's Day	Brisbane
Mavis Robertson International Women's Day	Melbourne
WIS ACT: Walk Around 'The House'	Canberra
Women in Leadership: Sarah O'Brien	Online
World Class Culture	Online
WIS SA: Speaking the Leadership Language	Adelaide
WIS VIC: Hybrid work is here to stay	Online
WIS VIC: Emerging Issues in Super	Online
Networking Breakfast at CMSF	Adelaide
Women in Leadership: Thalia Dardamanis	Online
WIS WA: The Future of Women in Super	Online/ Perth
WIS SA: Becoming a visible woman	Adelaide
WIS NSW: Post-Budget Discussion	Sydney
WIS SA: Transfer Balance Cap Indexation	Online
WIS QLD: Online Speed Mentoring	Online
WIS VIC: In Conversation on ESG	Online
Kara Keys in Conversation with Lyn Melcer	Online
Networking Breakfast at the ACSI Conference	Online
Women in Leadership: Nicole Kennedy	Online
WIS NSW: Regulatory Update	Online
WIS NSW: Online Trivia Night	Online
WIS SA: Understanding your money mindset with Karen Eley	Adelaide
WIS NSW: Online Speed Mentoring	Online
WIS QLD: Daily habits of highly successful people	Brisbane
Women in Leadership: Felicia Trewin	Online
WIS ACT: Join a Committee!	Online
2021 National Road Show - All sessions	Online
2021 National Road Show - Session 1	Online
2021 National Road Show - Session 2	Online
2021 National Road Show - Session 3	Online
2021 National Road Show - SA Livestream	Adelaide
WIS ACT: Wellness Breakouts	Online
WIS WA: Five ways to wellbeing	Online/ Perth
WIS VIC: Building your professional brand with Lynn Muirhead	Online
WIS NSW: Nation-building infrastructure in an ESG world	Online
WIS VIC: Confidence Mindset	Online
Women in Super 2021 AGM	Online
WIS QLD: Christmas drinks in style	Brisbane
WIS SA: Networking Night	Adelaide
WIS VIC: Christmas Lunch	Melbourne
WIS ACT: Christmas in the Park	Canberra
WIS NSW: End of Year Celebration	Sydney

National Road Show

Covid sharpens the caring crunch for Australian women. Women have been hard hit by the Covid pandemic, but the economic recovery has focused on men in hard hats, the Women in Super Roadshow heard in October.

Session 1 – Covid-19 and a gender equal recovery

Women already carry the lion's share of caring and unpaid labour, and the financial repercussions follow them into retirement. Policy solutions to address the issues exist, but political action is lacking.

The second virtual Roadshow began with an examination of the gendered economic impact of Covid on a labour system which already penalised women in the workplace.

Professor Elizabeth Hill, from the department of Political Economy at the University of Sydney and Professor Rae Cooper, from the University of Sydney Business School's Women, Work and Leadership Research Group detailed their research into the impact on women.

Female participation in the workforce was an all-time high before the pandemic, and women lost more jobs and hours of work when the pandemic hit, with highly feminised sectors – such as accommodation, tourism, hospitality and the arts – among the first to be shut down. These same areas are also marked by 'precarious' work, with high rates of casualisation.

Care sector 'incredibly under-valued'

Female healthcare, aged care and care workers have dominated the frontline of the pandemic, not only in direct contact with the virus, but with low pay and little voice in the workplace.



"The skills exercised by workers on this feminised frontline were critical in keeping a lot of us in work and keeping us much safer," Rae Cooper said.

"They are nevertheless very low-paid relative to skill and incredibly undervalued relative to the enormous social and economic impact their jobs have."

Women have always carried the burden of unpaid labour at home – Covid may have seen men do more than ever before, but so did women, further widening the gap. Women's caring responsibilities are linked the to fact that their alcohol consumption rose more than men throughout the crisis, and one in ten women were subject to family violence. One in three experienced abusive behaviour.

While Federal childcare packages and the doubling of Jobseeker helped many women and single mothers keep their heads above water, they were short-lived. The 2020 Federal Budget did little for women, instead it widened the pay, participation and retirement income gap, according to Elizabeth Hill.

"The thing that amazes me is that this is despite the evidence that public investment in care and social infrastructure creates more jobs for women and more jobs for men. It also provides a stronger foundation for recovery than the same investment in physical infrastructure. The boost to direct employment from a 1% increase in GDP investment in caring is almost five times greater than the direct employment generated by the same Investment in construction - yet we see construction dominate the policy agenda," she said.

Session 2 – Who cares? A fair share of work and care

In 2006, Australia was ranked 15th of 153 countries on the World Economic Forum's Global Gender index. By 2021, it had plummeted to fiftieth place.

While issues like board gender diversity have improved markedly in recent years, those improvements are not

reflected elsewhere. Super funds can play a role in turning it around, particularly in the retail sector, Julia Fox, the SDA's National Assistant Secretary told Session Two. Ten percent of Australians work in retail, but their voices are seldom heard. But the shocking results revealed by recent research based on a survey of more than 6,000 retail workers by the SDA and the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of NSW should change that. It highlights systemic problems in the sector.

"The results are an insight into the daily lives of our members, and it's shocking. The pressures they face, the powerlessness they experience, the lack of certainty and control they have over their working hours, and the anxiety and the stress that this causes them and their families," Ms Fox said.

"They face multiple and compounding pressures - these are low-paid workers, predominantly women, many are single parents, and many have multiple and often complex caring responsibilities."

"Not even a safety net"

Despite retail workers – most particularly in supermarkets – being crucial throughout the pandemic, they're not being rewarded, either through pay or working conditions.

Short shifts – of three or four hours – are commonplace. The retail Award lists the part-time weekly minimum as three hours a week. Workers can be on low contracted hours, working 20 hours one week and just eight the next.

"That's not a part-time job - that's not even a safety net. Part-time work is supposed to look like full-time work, but in retail, part-time looks a lot like casual work, but without the casual loading," Ms Fox said.

Critically, there also is a mismatch between shift times and childcare availability.

The reality of this was outlined by Samantha, a retail worker who was cautioned and nearly sacked by her employer when she would run home to feed her newborn during her unpaid meal break.

She and her husband are among the 12% of retail workers who work 'oppos', or opposite shifts. While one of them is home in the day and one at night, their children rarely see both parents together and spend time as a family. As the main carer for their children, Samantha works from 4pm until midnight and her husband doesn't finish work until 4.30pm.



"It's hard for us to get care - we have no family nearby and there's no formal care that I could get from my two year-old, because we literally only require an hour and a half of care. No family day care is going to do that - we rely on my 14 year old son to look after both my other children in that gap. I'm quite anxious all the time when I'm at work," she said.

"Gender-washing is alive and well"

Superannuation funds need to use their ESG investments lens, and ask questions of big retailers who've signed up to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Ms Fox said.

"Just has we have 'greenwashing', 'gender washing' is alive and well. Many organisations have chosen SDGs five and eight. SDG five is gender equality - what does that actually look like? It's not just women on boards, so what else as investors must we be looking at to tell us the real story about gender equality in the businesses we invest in?" Ms Fox said.

"SDG eight is decent work - more than just modern slavery. What does decent work mean for all women, not just women in senior leadership? It means predictable hours of work, access to paid parental leave, workforce participation, and recognition and support for the care contribution that we make."

Session 3: Paying super on parental leave

Women in Super members know the stats like the backs of their hands. Women retire with a third less superannuation than men, older women are the fastest growing cohort of the homeless, single older women are the most likely Australian household to live in poverty.

Many systemic changes are needed, but one area that can be changed quickly is to have superannuation paid on paid parental leave.

Industry Super Australia is campaigning on the issue and Gemma Pinnell, Director of Strategic Engagement and Georgia Brumby, Director of Advocacy joined the third Roadshow session to outline why.

The only parental leave half of Australians can access is the Commonwealth Paid Parental Leave Scheme, which does not have super paid on it - one of the only forms of paid leave which doesn't. What's more, only 6.9% of EBAs provide for super being paid on parental leave, leaving millions of women missing out.

"An important equity measure"

"Our analysis shows that mothers have missed out on $1.6 billion dollars in super since the Commonwealth scheme began because they don't pay super on it. If they did, a mother with two children would $14,000 better off at retirement," Georgia Brumby said.

"The median gap between men and women is about $60,000, so $14,000 is a quarter of that. It's not small change - $14,000 is actually quite material, and a really important equity measure."

More than 60% of Australians assume super already is paid on parental leave, and think it should be. The key to ISA's campaigning is to go local, breaking down figures for local areas, having local women talking to local media about the issue – knowing politicians always monitor their local news sources.

Beyond paid parental leave, there's much to be done to support women returning to the workplace, especially post-Covid, which has seen a further blurring of the lines between paid and unpaid work.



"When we get back to a new way of working after lockdowns, it'll will be really important for policy makers and employers to think about flexible work that works for the company and for the workers – not one where the women are choosing to work at home so they can do the kids' pickups, then they're not in the office when people are informally discussing promotions, so they're locked out of those things," Gemma Pinnell said.

"And men have got to be encouraged to take whatever flexibility there is. How do we get a silver lining into this and not entrench the disadvantages within that flexibility."

Former Victorian Premier Steve Bracks is Chair of Cbus, which does pay super on parental leave, joined the session to call for leadership on this and other gender equity issues.

Scholarships

Women in Super CMSF Scholarship
WIS offers one member the opportunity to attend the Conference of Major Superannuation Funds (CMSF), run and supported by AIST. The scholarship is worth $4,500 and covers the registration to both the conference and networking events, as well as flights and accommodation.

Fiona Reynolds Global Dialogue Scholarship
In conjunction with AIST, WIS is proud to offer one member the opportunity to attend the bi-annual Global Dialogue Conference, targeted at trustee directors, CEOs, CIOs and senior fund executives. The scholarship is worth $10,000 and covers the registration to both the conference and networking events, as well as flights and accommodation.

WIS NSW, AGSM@UNSW and B & K Consulting Virtual Program Scholarships
In partnership with its sponsors, AGSM@UNSW Business School and B & K Consulting, WIS NSW offered 8x members an exclusive opportunity to develop their executive management skills through attending one of six fully funded AGSM virtual courses. A secondary opportunity for career coaching was also available for an additional 10x members, and the same Virtual Courses were offered to the rest of the membership at a discounted rate.

WIS VIC Your Leadership Voice Scholarship
In conjunction with Monash Business School, WIS VIC is delighted to give one Victorian based member the chance to undertake the Your Leadership Voice: Women in Focus Program, part of the executive education program at Monash Business School.

WIS VIC Mavis Robertson Professional Development Scholarship
Sponsored by Northern Trust, the Mavis Robertson Professional Development scholarship allows successful Victorian based members to complete a relevant training course, education program or conference of their choice, up to $2,000.

WIS SA Newday Summit Scholarship
WIS SA offers two of our South Australian based members the opportunity to attend the Newday Leadership Summit, which was founded by Paralympian champion Katrina Webb. The Summit features courageous and inspirational trailblazers from Australia and around the globe who will motivate, challenge and prepare you to become the best leader you can.

WIS QLD Professional Development Scholarship
WIS QLD offers one member the opportunity to complete a professional development course of their choosing, up to the value of $1,000.

WIS WA Professional Development Scholarship
WIS WA offers one member the opportunity to complete a professional development course of their choosing, up to the value of $1,000.

2021 Committees

Board of Directors
Kara Keys: **National Chair**
Robbie Campo: **Director**
Sue Field: **Australian Capital Territory Chair**
Katie Frazer: **Secretary and Victoria Deputy Chair**
Ann Janssen: **Queensland Director**
Karen Lauf: Director
Natalie Lister: **Victoria Chair**
Lata McNulty: **New South Wales Deputy Chair**
Tasha Naige: **South Australia Chair**
Jeannene O'Day: **New South Wales Chair**
Teika Porrins-Chinnery: **Western Australia Chair**

Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee
Karen Lauf, Chair
Kara Keys
Tom Kokkinos
Lata McNulty
Tasha Naige

Policy Committee
Robbie Campo
Litsa Tsitsis
Ailsa Goodwin
Sarah Goodwin
Mel Birks
Pauline Taylor

Policy Committee (cont.)
Gemma Pinnell
Sarah O'Brien
Kara Keys

Professional Development Committee
Alison Anthony
Deneille Sutton
Sarah Cable
Leanne Nunn
Kelly Shay
Danielle Slater
Akriti Suri
Jes Teubert

ACT Committee
Sue Field: **Chair**
Shan Badowski: **Secretary and Treasurer**
Caterina Gareffa
Trish Mosslar
Jennie Murray
Ellen Piper
Bronwyn Riley

NSW Committee
Lata McNulty **Chair**
Jeannene O'Day **Deputy Chair**
Nikki Brown **Finance & Strategy**
Victoria Boast
Sarah Cable **Education Subcommittee Chair**
Louise Green
Marifel Manducdoc
Nicole Tansley **Secretary**
Jenny Oliver **Treasurer**
Dania Zinurova
Natalie Kalouche

QLD Committee
Michelle Ingram **Chair**
Ann Janssen **Deputy Chair**
Adele Fisk
Deline Jacovides

QLD Committee (cont.)
Anne Kemp
Tracey Kinsella **Secretary**
Katherine Noonan **Sponsorship**
Karen Prins **Treasurer**
Melissa Russo **Secretary**
Mailene Wheeler

SA Committee
Tasha Naige **Chair**
Melanie Carvill **Treasurer**
Julie Steed
Asta McCormack
Lorna Harrison
Maria Zillante
Danielle Slater

VIC Committee
Natalie Lister **Chair**
Katie Frazer **Deputy Chair**
Karen Lauf **Treasurer**
Melissa Hillebrand
Nikki Howie
Sally Mackey **Secretary**
Simone Palm
Pia Ransom
Erin Quinn
Katrina Waghorne
Coco Ryan

WA Committee
Teika Porrins-Chinnery **Chair**
Rebecca Gonzalez
Danika Johnson
Susan Joyce **Treasurer**
Donna Adam
Natalie Metcalfe
Leanne Nunn
Debra Watson

The financial statements in this summarised financial report have been derived from the Women in Super Financial Statements and Report for the year ended 30 June 2021

WIS financials

WOMEN IN SUPER

STATEMENT OF SURPLUS OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOMEFOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Revenue and other income	**2021 $**
Event income	109,336
Membership received	281,471
National roadshow income	78,091
Sponsorship income	66,955
Interest income	2,053
Government Subsidies	170,768
	708,674
Less: expenses	
Depreciation and Amortisation	(1,415)
Employee benefit expense	(312,508)
National Roadshow expense	(13,142)
Make Super Fair expense	(13,349)
Event expenses	(149,932)
Bank costs	(1,306)
Business costs	(59,688)
Insurance	(3,789)
Scholarships	(4,107)
Registration fees	(10,696)
Other expenses	(7,543)
	(577,475)
Surplus	131,199

WOMEN IN SUPER

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Current assets	**2021 $**
Cash and cash equivalents	862,340
Receivables	112,578
Other financial assets	53,286
Prepayments	73,387
Total current assets	**1,101,591**
Non-current assets	
Plant and Equipment	10,919
Intangible assets	-
Total non-current assets	10,919
Total assets	**1,112,510**
Current liabilities	
Trade and other payables	63,930
Provision for employee entitlements	37,214
Other Liabilities	346,800
Total current liabilities	**447,944**
Non-current liabilities	
Provision for employee entitlements	1,178
Total non-current liabilities	1,178
Total liabilities	**449,122**
Net assets	**663,388**
Members' funds	
Contingency reserve	165,000
Accumulated surplus	498,388
Total members' funds	**663,388**

WOMEN IN SUPER

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS' FUNDS AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	Contingency Reserve $	**Accumulated surplus / (deficit) $**	**Total "members' funds" $**
Balance as at 1 July 2019	110,000	349,335	459,335
Deficit for the year	55,000	(55,000)	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	72,854	72,854
Balance as at 30 June 2020	165,000	367,189	532,189
Balance as at 1 July 2020	165,000	367,189	532,189
Transfer to Contingency Reserve	-	-	-
Surplus for the year	-	131,199	131,199
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	131,199	131,199
Balance as at 30 June 2021	165,000	498,388	663,388

WOMEN IN SUPER

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Cash flows from operating activities	**2021 $**
Cash receipts in the course of operations	748,783
Cash payments in the course of operations	(482,334)
Interest received	2,053
Net cash used in operating activities	268,502
Cash flows from investing activities	
Acquisitions of computer hardware and software	(12,134)
Cash provided by / (invested in) term deposits	23,537
Net cash provided by investing activities	11,403
Reconciliation of cash	
Cash at the beginning of the financial year	582,436
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held	279,905
Cash at end of financial year	862,341


MDC2021
Mother's Day Classic Local
GETTING ACTIVE FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH
Mother's Day Classic Local
YOU'RE AMAZING
Mother's Day Classic Local
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY
Mother's Day Classic Local
41249
31772
35860

Mother's Day Classic Local 2021

This year the Mother's Day Classic Local united the community in 75 local event locations where participants nationwide walked, ran and jogged on Mother's Day to honour and support those impacted by breast cancer.

In 2021, the amazing Mother's Day Classic community donated $2,000,000 to fund life-saving breast cancer research.

Research is the only way to get closer to zero deaths from breast cancer. By identifying, funding, and championing world-class research, we can detect tumours earlier, improve treatment outcomes, and ultimately save lives.



Mother's Day Classic Timeline

Women in Super Mother's Day Classic

MOTHER'S DAY CLASSIC 25 years EST. 1998

1994 Women in Super Mother's Day Classic established with events in Melbourne and Sydney.

1998 Five-year survival rate for breast cancer is 76%.

2004 NBCF introduces Australia's first ever National Action Plan for breast cancer research.

2006 Brisbane, Adelaide and Hobart events added.

2006 NBCF-funded research finds sentinel node biopsy can save women from invasive surgery.

2007 MDC celebrates 10 years. Western Sydney, Canberra and Perth events added.

2008 Collaborative grants introduced to drive national and international research partnerships.

2010 $2.1 million raised, 100,000 people, 10 cities, 23 regional events.

2010 Online resource Register 4 launched. Community can track research.

2012 Darwin event added, regional events hit 63. $4 Million donated.

2012 Professor Christine Clark receives an MDC grant and establishes the Australian Breast Cancer Tissue Bank.

2015 105 MDC events held across Australia.

2016 Five-year survival rate reaches 90%.

2018 $1.75 Million donated

2018 Five-year survival rate reaches 91%.

2019 Assistant Professor Jennifer Stone finds that breast density is a predictor of cancer risk in Aboriginal women

2020 2020 MDC is the first national event to launch a virtual offering – over 50,000 participants

2021 MDC launches MDC LOCAL, an innovative new event format, providing a fun, flexible, scalable and safe community event $2 Million donated.

2022 Five-year survival rate reaches 91.5%.

National Breast Cancer Foundation



Message from the Chair



Louise Davidson AM
Chair and Co-founder,
Mother's Day Classic Foundation

On Sunday the 9th of May, over 50,000 Australians took part in the Women in Super Mother's Day Classic Local.

We witnessed an extraordinary response to another challenging year, with participants registering to join us at 75 Local locations across the country or in their own time and place. Despite uncertainty still facing the events industry in Australia, the Mother's Day Classic once again inspired women, men, children, family, friends, and teams to get active for breast cancer research.

In the lead up to Mother's Day, participants tracked their fitness activity and shared stories of what has inspired them to get involved and photos of their event preparation on social media. Our incredible network of sponsors helped to create a magical year for MDC, inspiring participants to sign-up for a ME Bank 'Buck it Forward' card, join the AIA x MDC Strava Run Club, submit a song request for the HESTA #runlikeamum playlist and much more.

You may have also spotted our new merchandise range that sold out in a matter of weeks. It was heart-warming to see photos of our iconic daisy, worn with pride by participants on Mother's Day – rain, hail, or shine!

This year marks our 24th anniversary and partnership with the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Since it all began in 1998, over 1.5 million participants have taken part in the Mother's Day Classic. This year, the MDC community donated an extraordinary $2 million dollars, contributing to our total donation of nearly $40 million dollars. This donation has helped researchers detect tumours earlier, improve treatment outcomes and ultimately save lives.

As organisers, we are truly humbled by the thousands of families, volunteers, individuals, and sponsors who have made this such a special event and in their own way contributed to its longevity. I'd like to acknowledge our sponsors, volunteers, our National Advisory Committee, and the MDC Foundation Board who demonstrate enormous commitment to the cause. Not forgetting the small team at the national office, who work with energy and enthusiasm throughout the year to bring the Mother's Day Classic to life.

We look forward to seeing you all again next year for our 25th Anniversary.

Message from the CEO



Zara Lawless
CEO, Mother's Day Classic Foundation



In 2021, in response to another year of uncertainty, the Mother's Day Classic went Local!

The Mother's Day Classic has always been more than the sum of its parts. It is more than a fun run and more than a successful fundraiser; it is a community celebration that allows people to be part of something bigger than themselves, and to know that they are not alone. In the 24th year of running this iconic Australian event, we were committed to providing a way for participants to enjoy the MDC experience, no matter what COVID-19 restrictions presented.

In 2021, the events industry continued to face challenges. However, MDCF's objectives remained the same: to unite and inspire the community on and in the lead up to Mother's Day, to celebrate and remember those touched by breast cancer, to raise funds for life-saving breast cancer research and to create a fun, innovative and engaging event experience.

We managed to achieve those objectives with MDC traditions continuing in innovative ways, maintaining flexibility and scalability. All participants received a race pack with a medallion, commemorative headscarf, race bib, tribute card, backpack, start/finish line ribbon and sponsor goodies - everything required to create an MDC event day experience regardless of the circumstances. On Mother's Day weekend, we were able to gather in 75 Local locations across Australia, which, despite being smaller and more informal in nature were big in community spirit. It was all possible thanks to our passionate hosts and volunteers who helped bring local communities together in true MDC fashion, to honour and support those impacted by breast cancer.

Thank you to all of our volunteers, including our extremely hard-working National Advisory Committee and MDC Foundation Board, our Corporate Challenge winner Julie Lander, our top fundraising team Lifestyle Communities, and our Classic Champion Lee-Anne Murdoch. I would also like to send a special thank you to the many partners across Australia, who support us with sponsorship, and in particular our founding partner Women in Super, our major sponsor ME, our gold partners AIA and HESTA, and our supporting partner AIST.

In 2022, the Mother's Day Classic will be returning to major and metro events in all capital cities while maintaining local and flexible options for participants across the country. We look forward to bringing the MDC community together once again to celebrate 25 years of impact.

Special thanks

Community ambassadors

Robyn Bailey
Lily Blight
Rosie Blight
Jessica Braude
Scott Bunny
Lauren Couter
Mary Doyle
Samantha Foreman
Sarah Gladman
Tamara Henwood
Kylie Jones
Kristie Karikios
Karen Lamond
Tessa McKenna
Danielle Meyers
Vanessa Morley
Lee-Anne Murdoch
Amy Muscat
Nikole Neal
Alana Pirrone
Molly Robertson
Colin Sharpe
Lairen Russell
Sam Webb
Meredith Whitaker
Rosa Guerrisi
Karen Stillman
Jessica Marechal
Jenny Hutchens
Rebecca Moffat
Ross Clennett
Dawn Leicester
Jennifer Ngodara
Aimee Ngodara
Km Curtis
Nikki Long
Nicole McTigue
Erin Sorenson
Louise Momber
Amy Parkes
Karyn Thompson
Susanne Novak
Michelle Goodwin
Jessica Fussell

2021 Classic Champion Inductee

Participants who have cumulatively raised over $25,000 for the Mother's Day Classic

Lee-Anne Murdoch

Board members

Louise Davidson AM (Chair)
Heather Gray (Director)
Nicole Oborne (Director)
Melissa Birks (Director) (appointed 22 December 2020)
Thomay Gatis (Director)
Robert Pickering (Director)
Stephen Reilly (Director)
Sue Field (Director) (appointed 22 February 2021)
Catherine Wood (resigned 23 November 2020)
Zara Lawless (Director and CEO)
Leanne Nunn (Director) (appointed 26 August 2021)

NAC representatives

Thomay Gatis (SA)
Karen Prins (QLD)
Leanne Nunn (WA)
Loretta Drago (VIC)
Winsome Hall (NSW)



2021 Volunteer local hosts

NSW

Armidale	Alahna Fiveash, Donna Matheson
Ballina	Jo Parker
Camden	Thai Tyquin
Huskisson	Renee Henry
Orange	Sarah McIntosh
Port Macquarie	Kylie Bulmer, Carmen Abi-saab
Tocumwal	Kim Sutton
Wollongong	Grant Plecas

NT

Alice Springs	Tricia Bruce

QLD

Capalaba	Clara Rizzo
Chinchilla	Swimfit Chinchilla
Hervey Bay	Kylie Howe, Jade Wellings
Miles	Toni Brown
Mackay	Dawn Mansfield, Chris Evangelou
Tannum Sands	Jess Smith
Wondai	Mick Freeman

SA

Gawler	Renee Platt
Mount Gambier	Megan Medhurst, Chris O'Callaghan, Emma Telford

VIC

Bairnsdale	Elise Malberg, Kassy O'Kelly
Balnarring-Somers	Dianna McKellar
Bendigo	Jody McGregor, Joanne Boyd
Bemm River	Rhonda Gillard
Box Hill	Danielle Cain
Bridgewater on Loddon	Tracey Webb
Caroline Springs	Nicole Oborne
Chelsea	Les Innes, Tania Kehagias
Cohuna	Fiona Miller
Drouin	Kevin Thorpe, Madeline Stanton
Elwood/ Brighton	Clare Miles, Michele Fisher Julianne Hewitt
Eynesbury	Mel Oakley, Nicole Norris
Ferntree Gully	Francois Malherbe, Martin Whiteley
Flemington	Elaine Fraser
Girgarre	Kezia Talbot, Kara Canny
Horsham	Janine English, Jackie Exell
Lilydale	Kim Robin
Lysterfield	Sandra Rotunno, Carol Bosward
Mansfield	Charlotte Lindsay, Sophie Yencken
Manningham	Danielle Le
Mildura	Michelle Hewett, Lucy Dunne
Reservoir	Loretta Drago
Richmond	Sandra Buckley
Shepparton	Kathy Fuller
Traralgon/ Toongabbie	Karen Blomquist, Casey Bonacci
Warrnambool	Jeff Hintum
Wonthaggi	Caroline Donohue
Wycheproof	Sandy Pollington, Averyll Loft

WA

Albany	Amber Cekerevac, Pamela Russell
Busselton	Natalie Metcalfe
Kalgoorlie	Allison Hunter
Newman	Hanna Roets, Breanna Shuttleworth
Onslow Beach	Ashleigh Shone
Port Hedland	Kelly Andrews

TAS

Devonport	Amie Bramich
Launceston	Olivia Harding



NBCF Research projects



Professor Sarah Lewis
University of Sydney,
New South Wales

Effective Artifical Intelligence in Breast Cancer Screening

BreastScreen Australia (BSA), the population-based mammography screening program for early detection of breast cancer, currently screens more than 1.8 million women in each two-year cycle. For each woman screened at BSA, two qualified radiologists will independently review the images, with consensus via a third arbitrator radiologist. This double-reading strategy puts significant strain on existing human resources and can lead to higher false positive results, impacting upon consumer anxiety. Some international screening programs employ single reading but with the trade-off of reduced sensitivity (ability to correctly identify patients with breast cancer).

A few recent AI tools have achieved levels of accuracy comparable to experienced human radiologists in detecting breast cancer. This has led to a growing interest to use AI in screening practices, including as a potential replacement for the second reader or as an 'early screener', to help solve problems associated with radiologist workforce shortages and capitalise on the large data sets that screening mammography creates.

However, there are still questions to be answered before AI can be fully integrated into breast screening practices. For example, it is not known how radiologists and AI can interact and operate in a complementary way to produce the best screening outcomes for early detection of breast cancer or if AI might have a de-skilling effect. Therefore, it is essential to determine how to optimally integrate AI in routine screening practices in partnership with the radiology community.

To address this knowledge gap, Professor Sarah Lewis from the University of Sydney, will lead a study to investigate whether AI could be best used as a second reader to radiologists, as a tool for pre-screening before a radiologist's viewing, or as a tool to help prioritise suspicious cases. Overall, this study will help answer hard questions about how AI can be best deployed in breast screening programs towards achieving optimal screening outcomes for Australian women.

NBCF Research projects



Dr Sharissa Latham
2022 Mavis Robertson Fellow
Garvan Institute of Medical Research Institute, New South Wales

New Treatment for Metastatic Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

Dr Sharissa Latham, from the Garvan Institute of Medical Research who will lead this project, was also awarded the NBCF Mavis Robertson Fellowship for showing great promise as a future leader in breast cancer research. Her team has identified a drug that can inhibit a cellular pathway called oncogenic JNK. This signaling pathway is not found in normal healthy tissue, but is highly activated in TNBC tumours and is vital for the growth of metastatic TNBC cancer cells. By inhibiting oncogenic JNK signalling with the new drug, known as K12, the researchers believe they will be able to slow the growth of metastatic cells.

This project will help Dr Latham and her team take K12 through the next stage of preclinical drug development and evaluation, which is crucial prior to further clinical testing and commercialisation. The team have already synthesised a comprehensive library of K12-derivative drugs to trial in the study and are hopeful this will lead in time to a clinically-viable drug to treat metastatic TNBC, providing a new treatment option for this breast cancer subtype.



Dr Amy Dwyer
2022 NBCF Fellow
University of Adelaide, South Australia

Reprogramming the Estrogen receptor to Eradicate Endocrine-resistant Breast Cancer

Estrogen receptor positive breast cancer is the most common cause of breast cancer, affecting up to 80% of female and 90% of male breast cancer patients. In ER+ tumours, the hormone estrogen fuels the growth of the cancer. As such, current treatment options aim to either block the estrogen receptors, or lower the levels of the estrogen hormone in the body. This, in effect, starves the tumour of its fuel. However, this treatment also leads to estrogen deprivation in the rest of the body, which can lead to side effects.

This study, led by Dr Amy Dwyer from the University of Adelaide, will trial a completely new treatment strategy. Instead of eliminating estrogen receptor activity, the team will test therapies that reprogram the estrogen receptor to prevent the growth of tumours but retains activities needed by the body.

The project will trial drugs that are already on the market, which have been shown to modulate estrogen receptor activity. There will likely be additional benefits to these new treatments, including promotion of bone and muscle health, increased libido and prevention of hot flushes. The hope is that this new approach may be able to treat women with breast cancer, without making them feel miserable in the process.

MDCF Financials

MDCF STATEMENT OF SURPLUS OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	2021 $
Revenue and other income	
Registration fees	1,556,854
Donations and individual fundraising	1,932,763
Sponsorship income	723,398
Merchandise sales	104,684
Other income	274,206
Government subsidies	399,961
	4,991,866
Less: expenses	
Depreciation and Amortisation	(109,888)
Employee benefit expense	(1,142,504)
Marketing	(227,029)
Event expenses	(1,098,973)
Bank costs	(21,121)
Consultants	(62,995)
Other business costs	(117,450)
Insurance	(15,991)
	(2,795,951)
Donation to National Breast Cancer Foundation	**(2,000,000)**
Surplus	**195,915**
Other Comprehensive Income	-
Total Comprehensive Income	**195,915**

MOTHER'S DAY CLASSIC FOUNDATON STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	2021 $
Current assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	1,081,053
Receivables	29,511
Other financial assets	2,313,720
Prepayments	17,265
Total current assets	**3,441,549**
Non-current assets	
Computer hardware and software	29,031
Right-of-use Asset	513,808
Total non-current assets	**542,839**
Total assets	**3,984,388**
Current liabilities	
Trade and other payables	2,197,253
Provision for employee entitlements	108,487
Lease Liabilities	72,595
Total current liabilities	**2,378,335**
Non-current liabilities	
Provision for employee entitlements	33,774
Lease Liabilities	484,824
Total non-current liabilities	**518,598**
Total liabilities	**2,896,933**
Net assets	1,087,455
Trust funds	
Settled sum	100
Accumulated surplus	1,087,355
Total trust funds	**1,087,455**

MDCF Financials

MOTHER'S DAY CLASSIC FOUNDATON
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN TRUST FUNDS
AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	Settled Sum $	Accumulated surplus / (deficit) $	Total trust funds $
Balance as at 1 July 2019	100	808,080	808,180
Surplus for the year	-	83,360	83,360
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	83,360	83,360
Balance as at 30 June 2020	100	891,440	891,540
Balance as at 1 July 2020	100	891,440	891,540
Surplus for the year	-	195,915	195,915
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	195,915	195,915
Balance as at 30 June 2021	100	1,087,355	1,087,455

MOTHER'S DAY CLASSIC FOUNDATON
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Cash flows from operating activities	2021 $
Receipts from event participants, donors and sponsors	5,024,554
Payments to suppliers and employees	(3,473,066)
Interest received	11,360
Interest paid on lease liabilities	(29,070)
Net cash used in operating activities	1,533,778
Cash flows from investing activities	
Acquisitions of computer hardware and software	(2,789)
Cash provided by / (invested in) term deposits	(1,150,720)
Net cash provided by investing activities	(1,153,509)
Cash flows from financing activities	
Principle payments of lease liabilities	(65,671)
Net cash used in financing activities	(65,671)
Reconciliation of cash	
Cash at the beginning of the financial year	766,455
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held	314,598
Cash at end of financial year	1,081,053

Women in Super Mother's Day Classic

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report is designed to give our stakeholders an insight into the diversity of work delivered by Women in Super and the MDC Foundation Limited. It provides details of our activities during the 2020/2021 financial year.

This report is produced by Women in Super (ABN 91 896 877 254) and MDC Foundation Limited (ABN 604 328 994).
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All donations over $2 are tax deductable.