

THE REALITY

Only 2 out of 19
parliamentary ministers
are women

#wcarethe51

INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY

#wcarethe51

They're rule breakers and game-changers – women leading the charge in breaking down barriers. This International Women's Day, we're celebrating the fact that women make up 51 per cent of the population by highlighting the extraordinary achievements of those who have defied the odds. As told to Jessica Prince-Montague

Julie Bishop

Deputy leader of the Liberal Party and Australia's
first female Minister for Foreign Affairs

"I try not to look at things through the prism of gender, but I'm not denying [an imbalance] exists; I'm not denying women are challenged every day by it.

"Of course, I advocate for more women in cabinet. I have advocated for more women in the Liberal party and I hope, in my own way, I can help in the process, either by encouraging women to consider a political

career or by advising those who are considering one.

"I think the best thing I can do to break down the barriers is to charge through them. I could spend a lot of time complaining about what has or hasn't happened to me, or what has or hasn't been said to me, but that's not who I am.

"You need champions and I think of myself as a champion of other women. I think women

need to be more forthright in stating their ambitions and I admit that, in the past, I've not done that. I've hoped that if I work hard enough, someone will notice.

"It's important for women to seek counsel. Also, there are times when you have to reach out of your comfort zone. You might fail, but you'll be a better, stronger person as a result ... don't let others define you." >

want more? #wcarethe51 is a campaign and hashtag created by *marie claire* to celebrate International Women's Day. Visit marieclaire.com.au to see exclusive behind-the-scenes footage from this shoot.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY PETER BREW-BEVAN. HAIR BY LEE PRISTON. MAKE-UP BY KRISTEN KASELON CREATIVE. SPECIAL THANKS TO THE TERRACE HOTEL, ST GEORGE'S TERRACE, PERTH. VISIT TERRACEHOTELPERTH.COM.AU FOR ADDITIONAL REPORTING BY KATHERINE FLEMING. WOMEN MAKE UP 51 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

THE REALITY

Just one Australian female chef has ever received a Michelin Star

#wcarethc51



Skye Gyngell

London-based chef and Michelin Star winner in 2011

"Winning the Michelin Star remains one of my greatest career achievements and I would love to see more women coming through the ranks."

"The gender gap exists across all industries. Awareness is growing among women and men, [but] there's still a long way to go – particularly in the world of food and restaurants."

"I've always been inspired by three very strong women – Maggie Beer, Alice Waters [of Chez Panisse in Berkeley, California] and Ruth Rogers [of London's The River Café]. I would be thrilled to think that young chefs – male or female – would look up to me with the same respect."

Skye's first solo venture, Spring at Somerset House, is now open.

THE REALITY

Female sport accounts for only 7% of all Australian TV sports coverage

#wcarethc51



Ellyse Perry

Dual international sportswoman for soccer and cricket

"I grew up playing both soccer and cricket in the local boys' competition, so – perhaps naively – I only realised the [gender gap] when I reached the top level."

"I made my debut for both [Australian] teams at 16. Most people are quite shocked to learn a girl can play sport better than the average male. People's reactions are quite funny – they intend to be complimentary, but it doesn't always come off that way."

"Equal free-to-air TV coverage is the ultimate goal for women's sport, but [in the meantime], organisations like Cricket Australia are starting to invest in online streaming to promote our game. It's getting a good following and often, these [alternative] avenues are a great way to get things moving."

"It really is an exciting time; we need to make sure the momentum [in women's sport] continues." >

Gillian Armstrong

One of Australia's premier feature film directors, whose 1994 adaptation of *Little Women* was on that list (right)

"I had parents who brought me up to believe that a girl could do anything."

"My first feature film [*My Brilliant Career* in 1979] was about a woman growing up in rural Australia. Newspapers said things about me like, 'Will she do it? Can she stand filming out there in the desert?' I felt like if I had failed, [critics would] say, 'Well, women just can't do it.'"

"I am endlessly asked why there aren't more female directors. Big-action films are commercial and squashing the [space] that used to belong to character-based dramas, so there are fewer opportunities [for women]."

"The thing that *has* changed is that there are more women directors in television. The main directors of *Homeland*, *Olive Kitteridge* and *Breaking Bad* are all women. Success breeds success. Those dramas are doing so well that [studios] are after them."

Gillian's new documentary, Women He's Undressed, is out in June.



THE REALITY

Only 5% of the 2000 highest grossing films in the past 20 years were helmed by female directors

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SKYE WAS PHOTOGRAPHED BY MARK HARRISON/NEWS/5. ELLYSE WAS PHOTOGRAPHED BY HUGH STEWART AT THE AUSTRALIAN FILM TELEVISION AND RADIO SCHOOL. VISIT AFTS.EDU.AU. HAIR AND MAKE-UP BY JANE ROBERTY. ELLYSE WAS PHOTOGRAPHED BY HUGH STEWART ON LOCATION AT THE SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND. VISIT SYDNEYCRICKET.COM.AU. HAIR AND MAKE-UP BY YOLANDA LUKONSKIDLOM. STYLED BY CHLOE FINLEY

THE REALITY

Just 21.5%
of registered
songwriters
in Australia
are women

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Izzi Manfredi

Lead singer of The
Preatures and winner of the
2013 Vanda & Young
songwriting competition

"I fell into the live music scene in my late teens watching the guys, because there weren't many girls in bands. I figured, 'Well, if these guys can do it, I can do it, too.'

"It's a given that any industry created by men is going to be set up for the way *they* work, so of course it's challenging, but I don't see myself as 'one of the boys'.

"Boys are raised to be combative, assertive and stand their ground, whereas girls are taught to follow the rules.

"If we don't think we're good enough to do something, we won't do it. It's not that men are any less insecure, it's that they allow themselves to make mistakes."



IZZI WAS PHOTOGRAPHED BY PETER BREW-BEVAN AT THE VINTAGE RECORD AN ANANDALE NSW. VISIT THEVINTAGERECORD.COM FOR HAIR AND MAKE-UP BY ISABELLA SCHIMMUN IN MANAGEMENT. STYLED BY CHLOE FINLEY. *ACCORDING TO APPRA AMCOS, ONLINE ENTREPRENEURS WERE PHOTOGRAPHED BY PETER BREW-BEVAN. HAIR AND MAKE-UP BY DANIELA EBBUTHER, ALLISON BOYLE/THE ARTIST GROUP, WAYNE CHICK/THE ARTIST GROUP. STYLED BY JANE ROBERTY. "SILICON BEACH" A STUDY BY THE AUSTRALIAN STARTUP ECOSYSTEM NOVEMBER 2012

THE REALITY

Just 4.3% of Australian
tech start-up companies are
founded by women

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Online
entrepreneurs

From left: Melanie Perkins;
Genevieve George; Jodie Fox.



Melanie Perkins
Co-founder and
CEO of graphics
website Canva

"In 18 months, we've reached 1.5 million users through Canva. I started the company six months before I finished uni. I didn't realise [the gender imbalance] was such a 'thing'. I just had an idea and wanted to start. I am very stubborn, but like to call it 'determination towards fixed goals', instead."

Genevieve George
Founder and CEO
of employment
website OneShift

"OneShift matches candidates to businesses. We have 420,000 candidates and 36,000 businesses, as well as 40 employees. That statistic [about start-ups] sucks. But it's something I've noticed getting better since we started two years ago. If you seek out networks of women, you do find yourself banding together."

Jodie Fox
Co-founder of shoe-
designing service
Shoes of Prey

"In 2009, I was one of three people with an idea. Now, we are rolling out six stores in [US retailer] Nordstrom. I actually don't think it's tough for women in tech – I think there's a gender imbalance because it's perceived as a male career. Tech's a great space waiting to be discovered by more women." ▷

THE REALITY

Up until 2015, women had never won all four categories of the Australian of the Year Awards

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Australians of the Year

From left: Drisana Levitzke-Gray; Rosie Batty; Juliet Wright; Jackie French.



Drisana Levitzke-Gray Advocate for the deaf community (Young Australian of the Year)

"I come from five generations of deaf people – women who have been active in the community as advocates. They've become my role models, especially my mum. Who knows if [an all-women win] will ever be repeated. It's a lovely example of recognition of women who have worked so hard to make Australia a better country."

Rosie Batty Family violence campaigner (Australian of the Year)

"One woman a week is killed from domestic violence. I hope I've given women or victims of violence a voice. I know my son, Luke, would be proud. To win is very humbling, but this is a real issue and the time is right to discuss it. This now gives me – and these other women – a platform to achieve our goals."

Juliet Wright Founder and CEO of charity donation website GIVIT (Australia's Local Hero)

"I founded GIVIT after having my second child. I think women are frequently under-represented on awards lists, although I have seen a shift in the past few years. To be honest, I just consider women so capable – this sort of recognition should be happening automatically."

Jackie French Award-winning author and advocate for literacy (Senior Australian of the Year)

"There was a moment during the awards, when we realised we were all women. Even more extraordinary was the fact we were behaving like women. We were hugging one another, giving each other tissues, supporting each other in the way that only women can do. That was just extraordinary." ▷

PHOTOGRAPHED BY PETER BREW-BEVAN. HAIR AND MAKE-UP BY DANIELLE BUTCHER, ALLISON BOYLE/THE ARTIST GROUP, WAYNE CHICK/THE ARTIST GROUP. STYLED BY JANE ROARTY



Fiona Lowry

Artist and 2014
Archibald winner

"Looking at the number of female winners of the Archibald, it is an extraordinary statistic. When I think about my time at art school, the majority of students were female, as were many of the artists who inspired me. I do think these statistics are going to change though, and are changing. There are many wonderful women going for prizes and I think we will see more of them recognised. Outside of this portrait prize, Australian women are creating very powerful work; we just need to shine a light on them. I think now that we've got more happening in Asia with the Hong Kong Art Fair, for instance, it will help."

Shot on location at Martin Browne Gallery, Paddington, NSW, which will exhibit Fiona's work from May 28 to June 21.

THE REALITY

Only 9 women have won the Archibald, Australia's premier portrait prize, in 91 years

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Gai Waterhouse

Winning trainer of the
2013 Melbourne Cup

"My father [legendary horse trainer TJ Smith] advised me against becoming a trainer. He said, 'You should be my PR [instead].'

"People didn't rush to give me a horse [when I first got my licence]. They figured, 'Why would we give her a horse when there are all these other prominent men?' Others found me too much of an extrovert. 'Oh, she wears hats, she doesn't really train the horses.'

"This statistic shows just how damn hard winning the Melbourne Cup is. I was actually the third woman trainer [to win] – the first one was E A Widdis in 1915, but she wasn't allowed to have the horse in her name, so she had to have it in the strapper's instead.

"I can't bear people saying, 'You can't.' Everyone can, if you put your mind to it. I reached 100 Group One victories faster than any other trainer in Australia. But somehow, some people still think I've got some magic man hidden behind me." □

THE REALITY

Just three female horse trainers have won the Melbourne Cup in 154 years

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win a personal mentoring session

As part of our International Women's Day celebrations and *marie claire's*

#wecarethe51 campaign, we are offering readers a unique opportunity to be mentored by one of our ambassadors.

Enter now and you could be matched with either Julie Bishop, Jodie Fox, Fiona Lowry, Gillian Armstrong, Gai Waterhouse, Izzi Manfredi, Melanie Perkins or Genevieve George. Visit maireclair.com.au to enter.

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