

**CAN YOU AFFORD**



**THAT CUPCAKE?**

**COUNT HER IN:  
INVEST IN WOMEN.  
ACCELERATE PROGRESS.**

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Brought to you by Sprout Education Group

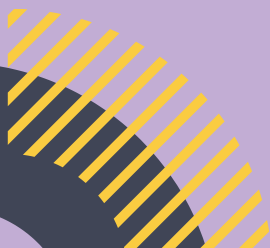


# IWD

**This is the 114th International Women’s Day celebrated globally, and the 97th held here in Australia.**

**The first IWD in Australia was organised by the Militant Women’s Movement in Sydney, where they called for an 8-hour working day for “shop girls”, equal pay for equal work, and paid leave.**

**According to the United Nations, IWD represents a time to reflect on progress made towards gender equality, to call for change and celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary.**



# **IWD2024 THEME**

**Women's economic empowerment is central to a gender equal world. When women are given equal opportunities to earn, learn and lead – entire communities thrive.**

**The International Women's Day 2024 theme is  
Count Her In: Invest in Women.  
Accelerate Progress.**

**Based on the priority theme for the United Nations 68th Commission on the Status of Women, this theme examines the pathways to greater economic inclusion for women and girls everywhere.**

**While important progress has been made, women face significant obstacles to achieving equal participation in the economy.**

**Without equal access to education, employment pathways, financial services and literacy, how can we ever hope to reach gender equality?**

**We must ensure women and girls are given equal opportunity to build their capabilities and strengthen their capacity to learn, earn and lead.**

# MEET THE PANEL

## **Aunty Cheryl Penrith**



Aunty Cheryl is a connector, an influencer, a mentor and coach, and has worked in the government, non-government and tertiary education sectors.

Her passion is community development and capacity building, business and strategic planning, cultural empowerment, community health and wellbeing, involvement in decision making and the revival and reinvigoration of cultural practices such as language, possum skin cloak making workshops, women's cultural business.

Aunty Cheryl's life experience as a First Nation Wiradjuri woman has given her a unique perspective, skills and networks.



# Gioia Gianniotis

**Gioia is a registered Architect and established GPG Architecture following registration with the NSW board of Architects in February 2006. In 2021, Gioia completed her NSW registration as a Design Practitioner-Architectural. Her architectural practice undertakes a diverse range of residential, public and commercial projects. In the 19 years since the establishment of GPG, Gioia has developed an efficient and well-known regional practice with projects located throughout the Riverina, Bland and Snowy Valleys council regions. Employing a team of five, while also leading teams of numerous consultant teams of various specialties, her business continues to develop with many successful and multi-million dollar projects in construction and on the drawing board. Recognised for her passion and business acumen, Gioia received the “Most Outstanding Business Leader” and her practice won the “Excellence in Small Business” Award at the 2018 Wagga Wagga Business Chamber Awards. Gioia won the 2019 inaugural MBA Riverina Women in Building Award. Her practice projects have also won several awards from the HIA and MBA from 2017 through to 2023. In 2020 her practice in collaboration with another local architect, Mark Golden achieved the Australian Institute of Architects NSW Country Division Educational Architecture award for their work at the Wagga Wagga Christian College, Junior School. Prior to starting GPG, Gioia spent ten years at The Cox Group working alongside many influential architects. She considers her time at the Cox Group as an invaluable contribution to her career, and attributes this to several mentors that supported her journey. Gioia’s move to Wagga Wagga in March 2004 from Sydney was for a lifestyle change and was an opportunity for Gioia to establish her own practice and contribute to the ever expanding architectural landscape of the region. Throughout her career Gioia has been involved in many professional bodies, forums and community activities including being a mentor within the Australian Institute of Architects NSW Chapter Mentoring Program and is currently the President for Women in Business Wagga Wagga. Her practice, GPG Architecture regularly hosts work experience and university students from all over the region and she is actively involved in presenting to local colleges and school about her career and the built environment**

**As a disability consultant and journalist, Jessica uses her lived experience and expertise in disability, diversity and inclusion, social justice, and media to help change the disability landscape and discourse.**

**Jessica has more than two years of experience in creating content, writing stories, and advising on disability-related issues for various platforms and organizations, including the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), Mona Magazine, and Relationships Australia. In 2022,**

**Jessica was selected as an ABC Regional Storyteller Scholarship recipient, where she pitched and produced stories about the adult autistic community from a lived experience perspective. She also received a Media Diversity Australia Award nomination in 2023 from the Walkley Foundation for her work on raising the profile of autistic adults in the media. Jessica's mission is to be a voice for those who are left without a voice, and to promote hope and empowerment for the disability community and broader society.**



**Jessica Horner**

## **Dr Rachel Hogg**



**Rachel is a psychology academic whose work focuses on human-animal interaction, social psychology, gender and feminism, mental health, and the psychology of work. Her PhD research examined horse-rider relationships in elite equestrian sport. She now conducts research on animal-assisted therapy, sustainability in farming, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experiences of mental health services, neurodiversity, social media, and the gendering of mental health diagnoses and systems.**

**Rachel has contributed to academic and media discourses around wellness culture, sex education and consent, and domestic violence reforms, and is regularly sought after as a researcher and public commentator. Rachel grew up on a wheat and sheep farm in south-eastern Australia and this upbringing has infused her work, alongside her engagement with literary and performing arts.**

**Rachel delivered a presentation on 'Disordering distress: Women's experiences of domestic violence, self-empowerment, and psychology' as part of the TEDxWaggaWagga event in 2023**

**Trish is a CFP® certified millennial financial adviser with more than 7 years of formal experience, a Masters Degree, three school-aged children and a military veteran partner.**

**With an abundance of life experience prior to commencing her financial planning career, Trish intimately understands the challenges the younger generation face which can thwart their financial goals. Having previously worked in a more 'traditional' advice role supporting pre-retirees and retirees as well as clients holding a Defined Benefit pension, she now spends her days in the weeds of budgets, projections, goal planning and trade-off conversations with Millennials and Gen Z.**

**Trish is a strong believer in supporting women to enter and grow in the financial planning profession and knows that systemic change is needed before we'll reach gender parity. Just wait until we get her started on the overall gender or superannuation pay gap!**

**Trish Gregory**  
**CFP®**





# **Event Host**

## **Jenny**

### **Rolfe-Wallace**



Jenny has worked in the financial services and education sectors since 1992 as a teacher, lecturer, and instructional designer, and over the past decade as an education consultant with clients including the Association of Superannuation Funds Australia, Victoria University Online, Charles Sturt University, Griffith University, University of Canberra, Kaplan Professional, CPA Australia, Pearson, ACER, FASEA, and Commonwealth Bank.

Jenny's work, combined with her academic research into financial socialisation, has provided her with insight into the various ways children and adults learn about money and build financial wellbeing, recognising that there is no 'one size fits all' approach.

Jenny founded the Sprout Education Group in 2018, creating resources designed to help people change how they think and feel about money, as well as engaging in advocacy, and providing education services for corporate clients. As part of this work, Jenny hosts the "It's Not About The Money" podcast.

Jenny holds a Bachelor of Business in Accountancy and Economics, Graduate Diploma of Education (Secondary), Master of Education and Graduate Certificate of Educational Research, all from Charles Sturt University, Graduate Certificate in Higher Education from the University of NSW, Diploma in Law from the Legal Practitioners Admission Board, Diploma of Financial Planning from the Financial Planning Association, and a Diploma of Sustainable Living from the University of Tasmania. She is currently studying a Diploma of Financial Counselling through TAFE NSW.

# SUPPORT SERVICES

## Specialist services

- Wagga Women's Health Centre (02) 6921 3333
- AskIzzy.org.au
- National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline  
1800 880 052
- People with Disability Australia 1800 442 015  
TTY free call: 1800 422 016
- Pro Patria Centre [contact@propatria.com.au](mailto:contact@propatria.com.au)
- Open Arms – Veterans & Families Counselling  
1800 011 046
- ADF Mental Health All-hours Support Line on  
1800 628 036

## Domestic and family abuse

- 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732)
- 1800 ELDERHelp Line 1800 353 374
- Men's Referral Service 1300 766 491
- MensLine Australia 1300 789 978
- NSW Domestic Violence Helpline  
1800 656 463
- Women's Domestic Violence Court  
Advocacy Service 1800 938 227
- QLife 1800 184 527
- NSW Sexual Violence Helpline 1800 424 017

# Mental wellbeing

- NSW Mental Health Line - 1800 011 511
- Lifeline Australia – 13 11 14
- Beyond Blue – 1300 22 4636
- Mensline Australia – 1300 789 978
- Kids Helpline – 1800 551 800 (for children and young people aged 5 to 25)
- Headspace 1800 856 572
- Suicide Call Back Service - 1300 659 467
- 13YARN - 139276

## Financial support resources

- Moneysmart [www.moneysmart.gov.au](http://www.moneysmart.gov.au)
- National Debt Helpline 1800 007 007
- No Interest Loans Scheme [www.nils.com.au](http://www.nils.com.au)
- Credit reporting:
  - [www.equifax.com.au](http://www.equifax.com.au)
  - [www.experian.com.au](http://www.experian.com.au)
  - [www.illion.com.au](http://www.illion.com.au)

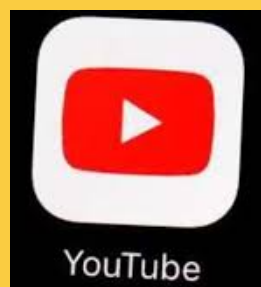
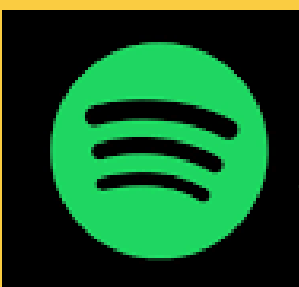
## Housing crisis services

- Link to Home 1800 152 152
- Sisters Housing Enterprises Inc 02 6921 8211
- Edel Quinn Support Services 02 5942 3555
- Department Communities and Justice Housing 02 6921 0099

**KEEP THE  
CONVERSATION GOING...**



**The "It's Not About The Money (Australia)" podcast explores why Australian women are more likely to experience lower levels of financial wellbeing, dispelling myths and advocating for systemic solutions to create a nation where gender doesn't determine financial outcomes.**



## **THANK YOU!**

**This event would not have been possible without the contribution and support of so many people and organisations including (but not limited to)::**

- **Our panellists**
- **Rach Viski from Minta Viski**
- **Andrew Harris, CSU Playhouse**
- **Peita Vincent, poet extraordinaire**
- **Adam Bannister and the crew from Pyrus Events**
- **UNISONg Community Choir, and particularly Annabel Bowcher and Ruth Palmer**
- **Anna Gannon**
- **Emily Thompson**
- **Emma Grant Daniels**

## **DISCLAIMER:**

**Sprout Education Group Pty Ltd helps people build financial knowledge, confidence, and empowerment to make informed choices and take control of their financial future through quality, independent education programs that are practical, fun, and accessible.**

**We do not hold an Australian Financial Services Licence. The information presented during this session is factual information only and won't take into account your personal objectives, situation or needs. It is not intended to be general or personal financial product advice, legal advice or tax advice, and should not be relied upon as such.**

**You should always seek professional advice from an Australian Financial Services licence holder or their Authorised Representatives before making any financial decisions.**

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of this land, the Wiradjuri Nation, and their continuing relationship with the land, sky, and waters, cultural heritage, and contribution to Australian life. We recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait nations. We are honoured to live and work on the ancestral lands of the First Australian nations and pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Artwork: Anna Gannon

