



United Nations Association of Australia WA Division



UN Matters January 2023 – February 2023



UNAAWA President Randhir Amoganathan and Dr Sandy Chong at the International Women's Day Breakfast



Charlotte Moss, UNAAWA newly appointed Young Professional Convenor



City of Melville's Community Citizen of the Year Awards Recipients

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From the President

2023 started well for the UNAAWA, and in between December 2022 and February 2023, we had several noteworthy events.

In December 2022, Environment Committee Youth Representative Natalie Muhl shared her sustainability career journey with student Sustainability Leaders of three Perth high schools, all brought together by their interest in sustainability and the SDGs.

In January 2023, the Human Rights Committee made a submission to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee's Inquiry into the extent and nature of poverty in Australia, and its impact on many areas, including human rights.

In March 2023, the Gender Equality Committee held the International Women's Day Breakfast, attended by Hon. Minister Stephen Dawson, and with a high-calibre panel of speakers.

In March 2023, the Environment Committee held the 'Collaboration for Climate' event at Curtin University Faculty of Business and Law, attended by Hon. Minister Reece Whitby MLA and Ms Jessica Shaw MLA, also with a high-calibre panel of speakers.

Also in March 2023, UNAAWA's Immediate Past President and former Board Director of the WA Indigenous Tourism Council (WAITOC), Dr Sandy Chong, presented at the first World Indigenous Tourism Summit (WITS).

While these appear to be many events on different subject matters, there is one underlying theme that connects each - collaboration. In each event, there is collaboration between industry, academia and government towards a common goal, be it raising awareness of gender equality, climate, education, human rights and other topics.

In this goal-centric vision the UNAAWA works towards, our collaborative method of working highlights how interdependent we all are on each sector, be it industry, academia and government, and that a collaborative approach draws upon the best of each other's strengths for a greater common good, for the benefit of the society and community we live in.

To add to the UNAAWA's drive for the greater common good, we are proud to announce the launch of the UNAAWA Young Professionals committee, with Charlotte Moss as the Convenor, to engage with the younger generation of West Australians.

To keep up the momentum, the UNAAWA invites its members to attend the upcoming WAWEB3 conference on 5-6 April 2023, which we are supporting.

There is much to look forward to!

Randhir Amoganathan
President of the UNAAWA



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

UNAAWA International Women's Day Breakfast 2023: Innovation & Technology for Gender Equality



The United Nations Association of Australia, WA Division's (UNAAWA) International Women's Day Breakfast was held on Wednesday 8th March 2023 at Central Park Towers. The event was intended to centre conversation on future building and to draw attention to the UN Sustainable Development Goals which are being implemented to build a fair, equal and sustainable future for everyone. Goal 5, "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls", with Target 5.b concerning the use of enabling technology to promote the empowerment of women.

With over 120 guests in attendance, representing industry, academia, government and civil society, the event was themed 'Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality', in line with the theme of the 67th Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York city between 6th – 17th March.

At the opening of CSW67, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres stated that progress is vanishing, with gender equality slipping back to 300 years away. "The patriarchy is fighting back," he says, "But so are we". Going on to state global examples of unequal access and participation, His Excellency says, "As technology races ahead, women and girls are being left behind".

A keynote speech was given by Minister Stephen Dawson, who highlighted the targets of the state's innovation strategy, unveiled at WestTech Fest in December 2022, and discussed gender inclusiveness and opportunities for women to nurture interests in innovation across the state.



The event was hosted by UNAA WA Gender Equality Convenor, Francesca Stewart, who calls on industry to take up the heavy lifting required to create gender equality. She says that appetite for growth must be harnessed, and structures built so that women can not only be hired into organisations on an equal basis but have the opportunity to thrive – which means bringing the technical skills of women up to parity with the technical skills of men. "The future is built in the belly of industry and it is in industry that we have the biggest opportunity to equalise the world of tomorrow," she says.

Panel speakers included: Christine Ross, Aboriginal Employment Expert and Cultural Advisor at Christine Ross Consulting; Cettina Raccaia, GM, Experience and Design at RAC; Dr. Andrzej Gwidzalski, Blockchain and Digital Assets Lecturer at UWA; Dr. Kate Brooks, Innovation Leader and

Enterprise Advisor at AiGroup; and Amelyn Wongso, Tech Founder at Neovate.

The event concluded with networking and photo opportunities. All proceeds from ticket sales go towards funding the UNAA WA Young Women's Leadership Program, for young women of diverse backgrounds. UNAA WA expects to directly impact the lives of up to 100 girls

this year through the program; enhancing leadership capability, raising career aspirations and delivering education on the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Francesca Stewart
Gender Equality Convenor

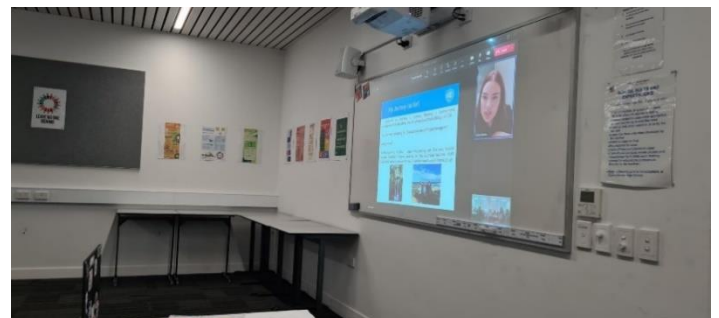
UNAAWA Environment Committee's Youth Rep Inspires Perth High School Students



In December, Environment Committee Youth Representative Natalie Muhl had the opportunity to share her sustainability career journey with the student Sustainability Leaders of three Perth high schools: Carine Senior High School, Duncraig SHS and Warwick SHS. Brought together by their keen interest in sustainability and the SDGs, these students were inspired by Natalie's past experience as she shared stories of her university studies, volunteering opportunities and sustainable living.

Natalie, a pillar of enthusiasm within the Environment Committee, chose to follow her early interest in conservation and climate change and pursued tertiary study in the field of Environmental Management and Sustainability as well as Conservation Biology. While studying, she began volunteering with the Jane Goodall Institute Australia, the not-for-profit environmental organisation and started a university club hosting weeding, planting, beach clean ups and

educational fundraising events. It was through this opportunity that Natalie discovered the United Nations Association of Australia WA Division and decided to attend a sundowner evening. Soon after in 2019 Natalie joined the Environment Committee as the Youth Representative. Natalie has an infectious passion for youth collaboration in the effort to achieve the UN SDGs. She recognises the powerful impact that youth have in achieving the goals and the need to encourage young leaders in their journey.



Natalie Muhl speaking to the students

Toward the end of her presentation to the high school students, Natalie shared a few options as to what actions students can take now. These included:

Share your ideas with friends, your sustainability club or teacher for events that can promote the SDGs.

Make decisions each day that reflect your sustainable values. This may include eating more sustainably,

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organising a planting/weeding event with friends, swapping clothes with friends instead of buying new things, and so much more!

Reduce your waste, recycle what you can and choose reusable options.

When asked what Natalie's final message was to the students, she encouraged them to be genuine and courageous in their interest in sustainability and share this with their family and friends – this will have a

positive impact on their surrounding community and create a greater impact in achieving the SDGs. Natalie left the students with a call to action, from which they wrote down their next steps with many proclaiming they were inspired to study sustainability at university and to host their own weeding or planting events.

Elodie Castagna
Environment Committee Communications Officer

Human Rights Committee: Summary of Submission to Federal Inquiry into the Extent and Nature of Poverty in Australia

In January, the UNAAWA Human Rights Committee made a submission to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee's Inquiry into the extent and nature of poverty in Australia.

The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights sets out a standard that outlines basic equality and rights to ensure people's basic needs are met. Everyone has inherent entitlement to live with dignity and the opportunity to participate in society to their fullest capability. Poverty endangers these fundamental rights. It denies people's right to economic and social participation, the right to employment and the right to access basic needs such as healthcare, education, and housing. Poverty also impedes on an individual's civil and political participation which includes their access to a fair and just justice system.

The submission looked at the impacts of poverty on race, gender, and children, and highlighted communities that experience racism and racial discrimination and poverty at a higher rate due to social exclusion and minimised economic opportunity.

It emphasised the established link between gender discrimination in policy and research. Stating that the correlation of low wages, lack of access to secure work, the overwhelming expectation of unpaid care work and risk of gender-based violence exacerbates gender inequality in Australia. Poverty is also more prominent for Transgender and gender diverse communities who are even more likely to experience systemic poverty and overall low socioeconomic conditions.

Poverty in Australia also has significant negative impacts on education outcomes in early childhood. This harms children's development and leads to lower economic and health outcomes later in adulthood.

The submission made a number of recommendations to address and reduce poverty. These included:

- Implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights to recognise the inequalities associated with the cause and impact of poverty.
- Implementation of the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* for strong self-determination and better

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economic, educational and health outcomes for Indigenous communities around Australia.

- Strengthening federal human rights and anti-discrimination legislations for stronger protections

focused on equality of outcomes for vulnerable communities.

Sara Shengeb
Human Rights Committee Convenor

Western Australia Hosts Country's First World Indigenous Tourism Summit

Western Australia hosts the country's first World Indigenous Tourism Summit (WITS) on 13-16 March with over 500 delegates participating at the 4-day event covering inspiring discussions on growing Indigenous Tourism in respective nations.

UNAAWA Immediate Past President and former Board Director of the WA Indigenous Tourism Council (WAITOC), Dr Sandy Chong, presented at the summit on "Achieving the UN SDGs: A Collaborative Opportunity for Indigenous Tourism". She shared insights on the contribution of indigenous tourism with a panel of experts chaired by Professor Cheryl Kickett-Tucker AM of Curtin University of Technology.

Indigenous peoples with their traditional practices and wisdom of the land have coexisted harmoniously with the natural environment for thousands of years. The relationship and the way in which they collaborate

with nature can teach us a great deal about achieving the SDGs. This is because they have always lived sustainably and hold valuable knowledge on conservation, climate resilience and biodiversity.

As highlighted at the UNAAWA SDG Forum in 2019, it is essential to recognise the crucial role indigenous tourism play in job creation, promoting local economy, and educating us and future generation about our planet.

"Look forward to seeing further investment in research, training and media to support the custodians of our land in the important work they do to achieve the 2030 Agenda", said Dr Chong.

Aisha Parker
Chief of Comms of the UNAAWA



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Humanitarian announced as Melville's Auspire Community Citizen of the Year

The City of Melville has recognised local resident Irina Bradley as the Auspire Community Citizen of the Year for her tireless efforts to support Ukrainian refugees arriving in Perth since the beginning of the war in Ukraine.

Ms Bradley has supported 100 Ukrainians families arriving on humanitarian visas by picking them up from the airport, giving them basic necessities and food, providing information, transport, accommodation and working closely with local Australians who were ready to accommodate them.

She was among the City's four Auspire Community Citizen of the Year recipients who were revealed yesterday at the Australia Day event at John Creaney Reserve in Bull Creek and recognised for their contribution to the community.

Jack Anderson was announced as the Young Community Citizen of the Year, Lawrie Carr was revealed as the Senior Community Citizen of the Year and the volunteers of Bottle Top Hill received the Active Citizen of the Year (group or event).

The Auspire Community Citizen of the Year awards were just one part of the event, which included a barbecue breakfast cooked by the Bull Creek Lions Club a flag raising ceremony, an Acknowledgement to Country and a special citizenship ceremony, with 49 City of Melville residents becoming Australian citizens.

The Australia Day Breakfast and Auspire Community Citizen of the Year Award acknowledges the contribution that every Australian makes to our contemporary and dynamic nation.

Comments attributed to City of Melville Mayor the Hon. George Gear JP

City of Melville Mayor the Hon. George Gear JP thanked the Auspire Community Citizens of the Year for their contributions to the community.

"It was inspiring to attend the event at John Creaney Reserve and hear directly about the amazing way these volunteers help our community, each in unique ways," said Mayor Gear.

"Each of this year's Auspire Community Citizens of the Year provide significant contribution to our community and demonstrate the spirit of helping, giving and supporting that defines us as Australians.

"Our community is made richer by the presence of each and every one of our volunteers."

This year's Community Citizen of the Year Awards recipients

Irina Bradley – Community Citizen of the Year

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, Irina Bradley has been investing all her free time and energy in helping Ukraine and, supporting Ukrainians arriving in Perth on humanitarian visas.

She has gathered all the newcomers and built a new community of Ukrainians in Perth, including picking them up from the airport, giving them basic necessities and food, providing information, transport, accommodation and working closely with local Australians who were ready to accommodate Ukrainians.



Also, Ms Bradley has organised many events such as a party for Ukrainian kids, picnics, yoga, hiking every month. They have visited Rottneest Island, Fremantle, John Forrest Park and Penguin Island so the community would feel at home.

She is also a volunteer for many organisations, including Feed it Forward and Stirling Farmer's Market, from which she delivers groceries, clothing and other essential items to families.

Jack Anderson – Young Citizen of the Year

At just 21 years of age Jack Anderson goes above and beyond for his community every single day.

He has created ThrivEd, a not-for-profit textbook organisation, which uses a model where the proceeds from every two sales are used to produce a third

textbook for a student who would benefit from receiving this resource.

The textbooks have been book listed by most major schools across the Perth, allowing for hundreds of donated copies to become accessible to high school students in low-socioeconomic areas throughout WA.

He has also co-produced and premiered the documentary Realising Dreams to an almost sold-out audience, raising over \$9,000 for Ignite Mentoring and Cancer Council WA.

Lawrie Carr – Senior Community Citizen of the Year

Lawrie Carr has been heavily involved in Lions WA for more than 25 years and has held various key voluntary roles at both a state and local level.

He regularly volunteers at activities such as garden clean-ups, sausage sizzle fundraisers, awards nights presentations and more.

Mr Carr along with wife Janet co-facilitate the University of the Third Age Club in Melville, which is part of a worldwide movement aimed at encouraging older people to remain mentally, physically and socially active.

He is also an advocate for LifeBlood and has donated blood and plasma more than 600 times, resulting in saving thousands of lives.

The Volunteers of Bottle Top Hill – Active Citizen of the Year (group or event)

The volunteers of Bottle Top Hill form a powerful team who man a collection point in Melville once-a-month in their spare time for common items that are difficult to recycle curbside and run it as a free community service.

Bottle Top Hill follows a set program designed to engage, educate and raise awareness among fellow members of the community.

They also want to help improve our understanding of what items can be recycled, along with adopting behavioral and sustainable change at a community level, collaborating closely with schools and other local community groups to educate and share resources.

Aaron Corlett
City of Melville Media Contact
9364 0198



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UNICEF's Türkiye and Syria Emergency Appeal

UNICEF has been on the ground in Türkiye and Syria since 1950 and 1970 respectively, enabling a rapid response to the recent devastating earthquakes.

With \$8.7 million of critical supplies pre-positioned and 73 tonnes dispatched from our warehouses in Dubai and Copenhagen, UNICEF is supporting more than 940,000 children and families impacted by the disaster.

Lifesaving water and sanitation and hygiene packs have been distributed, as well as high-energy food, winter clothes and blankets. UNICEF is also providing essential education and psychosocial support.

The need is monumental, and our response is just beginning. It's a mammoth operation and as always, only made possible thanks to donors and partners.

To help us reach more children and families, please donate if you can: [Philanthropy Syria Appeal \(unicef.org.au\)](https://www.unicef.org/philanthropy/syria-appeal)

Nicolette Casella
UNICEF WA representative

ncasella@unicef.org.au



Water supplies arrive at Aleppo, Syria



UNAAWA Environment Committee Welcomes Communications Lead

Elodie joins the UNAAWA Environment Committee as Communications Lead.

A communication professional by trade, Elodie brings over twelve years of experience developing communication programs, encompassing ESG strategies, for a wide range of companies

With a passion for sustainability and the environment, Elodie is excited about the opportunity to raise awareness of the United Nations SDG Goals in Western Australia and contribute to promoting collaboration through events and networking opportunities in the State.

Elodie thoroughly enjoys dedicating her time to volunteering initiatives working with several not-for-profits in Perth, including Royal Perth Hospital Research Foundation, the third largest medical research foundation in Australia, where she provides guidance on the foundation's public relations, fundraising and social media strategies. She is also the Chairperson for FINSIA's Young Finance Professionals body in Western Australia (the main not-for-profit body for financial services in Australia) with the aim of

connecting young finance professionals through events, courses and networking opportunities.

Elodie is Italian and French, with a Bachelor of Public Relations from the London College of Communication.



Charlotte Moss: Convenor of the Young Professionals Committee



With a passion to make a difference, Charlotte has sustainable development goals aligned with her core values. Charlotte is determined to connect, empower and build the skills of young professionals to achieve the United Nations Mission by leading the Western Australia Young Professional committee.

Charlotte is an engineering and leadership professional delivering a technical, complex and safety-critical multi-million-dollar portfolio within the mining and rail industry. Charlotte has over 11 years of experience in the industry, a Bachelor of Engineering and a Master of Business Law. Her experience working overseas in Russia, India, Sweden and Finland provides a strong cultural awareness and insight into global issues.

Previously recognized by the UNAA WA for her work in gender diversity, Charlotte is determined to create awareness of existing issues and make a change. Charlotte received the Women in Technology Western Australia Award (WiTWA) in 2021 for her impact on the industry and her community.

What is the Young Professionals Committee?

The Young professional's mission is to connect, empower and build the skills of young professionals to achieve the United Nations Association of Australia's mission of creating a safer, fairer, and more sustainable world.

Run by young professionals for young professionals! We aim to promote professional development opportunities and build awareness to turn your global thinking into local action.

The YP Committee has a number of events in the pipeline for 2023 that cover a diverse range of important topics, including homelessness in WA, Leadership and Business, mental health, and space travel!

Join us on our Mission

Do you want to:

- Connect and network with young leaders and like-minded professionals;
- Get involved in important and engaging discussions;
- Support your local community, and
- Network with other young professionals?

Join us as YP Member Now!

Email: young.professionals@unaa-wa.org.au

<http://www.unaa.org.au/divisions/western-australia/>

UN Observances

March

- 1: World Seagrass Day
- 1: Zero Discrimination Day
- 3: World Wildlife Day
- 5: International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness
- 8: International Women's Day
- 10: International Day of Women Judges
- 15: International Day to Combat Islamophobia
- 20: International Day of Happiness
- 20: French Language Day
- 21: International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- 21: World Poetry Day
- 21: International Day of Nowruz
- 21: World Down Syndrome Day
- 21: International Day of Forests
- 21-27: Week of Solidarity with the People Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination
- 22: World Water Day
- 23: World Meteorological Day
- 24: World Tuberculosis Day
- 24: International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims
- 25: International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade
- 25: International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members
- 30: International Day of Zero Waste

April

- 2: World Autism Awareness Day
- 4: International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action
- 5: International Day of Conscience
- 6: International Day of Sport for Development and Peace
- 7: International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda
- 7: World Health Day
- 12: International Day of Human Space Flight
- 14: World Chagas Disease Day
- 20: Chinese Language Day
- 21: World Creativity and Innovation Day
- 22: International Mother Earth Day
- 23: World Book and Copyright Day
- 23: English Language Day
- 23: Spanish Language Day
- 24: International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace
- 24-30: World Immunisation Week
- 25: World Malaria Day
- 25: International Delegate's Day
- 26: International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day
- 26: World Intellectual Property Day
- 27: international Girls in ICT Day
- 28: World Day for Safety and Health at World
- 30: International Jazz Day



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The UNAAWA Education Committee are looking for volunteers to assist us.

If you are interested please contact us at gcs@unaa-wa.org.au.



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Upcoming Events

The global community is not on track to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

To achieve the Goals, we need to accelerate our current progress and to improve our financial, economic, governance and innovation systems through openness and decentralisation.

For people and organisations working to achieve the SDGs, be it eliminating poverty, tackling the climate crisis, building better infrastructure, protecting human rights and advancing good governance, Web3 will

change the nature of this work and can enable powerful new solutions.

The UNAAWA is proud to support the upcoming WAWEB3 conference in exploring these opportunities on 5-6 April so that no one is left behind.

Early bird special ends 21 March. Book now at: <https://waweb3.org>

#web3for2030 #web3 #sustainabledevelopment #digitalinclusion #sdgs2030 #leavingnoonebehind

WAWEB3 PARTNER



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Sustainable Web3 Adoption: New Economic Opportunities
Western Australia Web3 Conference 5-6 April 2023



Register and learn more at waweb3.org

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