

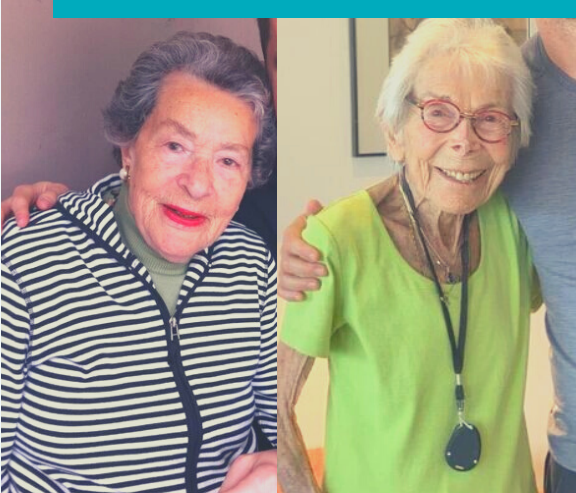
INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY

March 8th 2023

The Women Who Inspire Us

This International Women's day our leadership teams share thier thoughts on the amazing females that have inspired them, taken them under their wing or have beaten a path before us

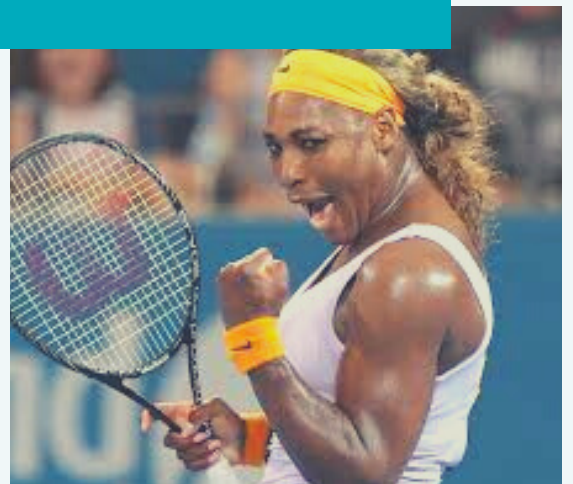
RAMI: MY GRANDMOTHERS



My 2 grandmothers have been major inspirations in my life. I was fortunate enough to have them both until they were 98 & feel incredibly blessed to have had that time with them. One of my grandmothers was a Holocaust survivor who survived 3 years in Auschwitz and lost her whole family in the gas chambers. Somehow she was able to rebuild her life and became a volunteer at the Sydney Jewish Museum, teaching and educating museum visitors every week about tolerance, forgiveness, mutual understanding and respect of all people and cultures. My other grandmother came from a very poor background living in the lower east side tenements in NYC and became a trailblazing feminist before the term became widespread - becoming a teacher, artist, radio star, newspaper columnist & many other creative endeavours, always pushing herself to overcome adversity and believe in her talents. They both inspire me every day to lead with compassion, put life's challenges into perspective and always work for the betterment of the world.

PHIL: SERENA WILLIAMS

Serena Williams for me is an inspirational athlete, holding a combined 39 major titles, including 23 Grand Slam titles, more than any female or male in the open era. She strongly advocated for equal prize money within the sport as well as being a beacon of hope for underprivileged African American girls across the globe.



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BEN: *ADA LOVELACE*



Ever since being taught about her, I've been inspired by Ada Lovelace. Born in the 1800s, she studied mathematics. Recognised as the first woman in computing. She worked with Babbage on the Analytical Engine. The second Tuesday of October is Ada Lovelace Day. The goal is "to raise women's profile in science, technology, engineering, and maths", and to "create new role models for girls and women" in these fields.

BETTINA: *KATHERINE JOHNSON*

Katherine Johnson was one of the first African-American women to work as a NASA scientist. Her mathematical calculations of orbital mechanics at NASA were critical to the success of the first and subsequent U.S. crewed spaceflights. I admire her assertive determination in ignoring racial and gender barriers, standing her ground and proving that she belonged.



ANDREW: *MY GRANDMA*



My Grandmother. She was a Ukrainian refugee after WW2, came out to Australia with nothing and not speaking a word of English (she was however fluent in 5 other languages). Made a successful local business and created an amazing life for herself and her family.

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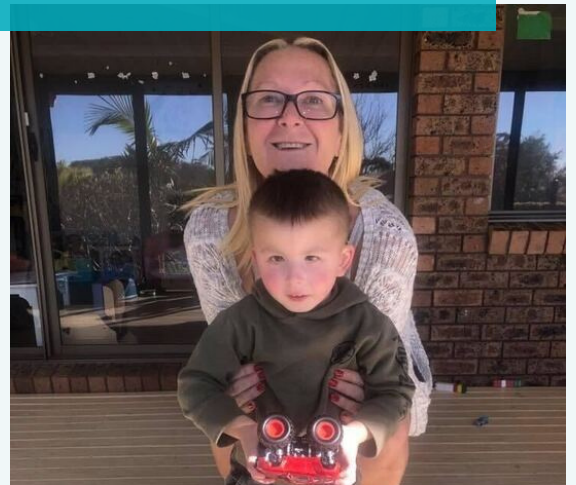
EWAN: *JACINDA ARDERN*



I'm going to go with Jacinda Ardern. It probably goes without saying but in a time of incredible global uncertainty and political distrust, Ardern led her nation with such authenticity and compassion that the rest of the world learnt of a standard of leadership that did not seem possible in the current context. Not only did Ardern hold up a mirror to the way parts of society (and in particular, certain media organisations) perceives women, and mothers, in the workforce but her genuineness and grace inspired the world in a time severely lacking in inspiration.

KELLIE: *MY MOM*

Mine is my mum. She came from a very tough childhood and she always wished that someone would have removed her from that home. She didn't let those experiences set her on a negative path in life, and instead chose to become a foster carer and help protect other children from abusive homes. I've watched her care for probably 40-50 children including many with disabilities and she has advocated for their rights with the government many times to help affect changes. She taught me to turn your adversity into your strength, to always operate with empathy and that nothing can stop you from achieving your goals if you believe in it strongly enough.



VIK: *INDIRA GHANDI*



I find Indira Gandhi inspirational. She was the first Woman Prime Minister of India and she was a strong and determined leader who fought for the rights of the underprivileged and worked towards the development of India. Her leadership during difficult times, like the Indian Emergency of the 70s. She placed emphasis on self-reliance and social justice, and her dedication to her country are qualities that I admire and aspire to emulate.

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DIANNE: *MALALA YOUSAFZAI*



My contribution for Inspiration women has to go to a young Pakistani female education activist that is the world's youngest Nobel Prize Laureate having won the prize at 17 years old. She has an incredible story of overcoming an assassination attempt by the Taliban at the age of 15 for her efforts in campaigning for women's rights and children's rights to an education. I cannot begin to imagine her journey but I find something very powerful behind her drive to fight for necessary change.

CHARLES: *GRETA THUNBURG*

I find Greta Thunberg inspirational. She has not let anything stand in her way in her quest to bring climate change issues to global attention. She has not been deterred by anyone and has proven hugely successful in communicating the challenges and impact of climate change.



BRIDGET: *WONDERWOMAN*



My motto growing up was "Girls can do Anything!" I loved Wonder Woman when I was a young girl, for me she symbolised power, strength & independence. I recently read The Year of Yes by Shonda Rhimes, in which she references how, by commanding a Wonder Woman power stance, we can empower ourselves actually take more control and feel more confident! Amy Cuddy's TED TALK in 2012 on the benefits of power posing became the 2nd-most-popular TED talk in history at that time. The Power Pose became all the rage, job candidates, public speakers and athletes were finding a few minutes alone to adopt Wonder Woman-like expansive body postures, hoping to boost their feelings of power. So it seems that Wonder Woman continues to inspire all these years later & if we can all channel a little more power & confidence to face our challenges from her power pose then why not?