

SUBJECT: MAYORAL MINUTE - INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY GALA
FROM: The Mayor
EDMS #: 25/115084

I am delighted to report on the incredible success of the fifth annual International Women's Day Gala, held last Thursday, at the Gledswood Homestead & Winery. This event has once again highlighted Camden's commitment to celebrating and empowering the women in our community.

This year's Gala brought together 308 attendees, all gathered to recognise the achievements of local women, foster meaningful conversations and support the ongoing push for gender equality. The evening was a true celebration, filled with inspiration, connection and a shared vision for a more inclusive future.

We were lucky to welcome Edwina Bartholomew as our keynote speaker. With an illustrious career spanning television, radio and print media, Edwina captivated the audience with her insights on resilience, leadership and her incredible journey in the media industry. Her presence added a special touch to what was already a remarkable evening.

A key highlight of the night was the presentation of the Camden Woman of the Year Award, which each year recognises an outstanding local woman for her significant contributions to our community. Congratulations to Frances Warner for her lifelong dedication and impact.

Beyond the celebrations, the Gala also served as a platform for giving back. I am thrilled to share that the event raised more than \$20,000 for Turning Point Camden, a local organisation making a tangible difference in the lives of women.

This event would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors. A special thank you to our Silver Sponsors – Macarthur BMW, Momenta Books and McDonald's in Macarthur, as well as our Bronze Sponsors – Brookfield House, Camden Golf Club, Fox & Co Finance, IP Technologies, Print Sign & Design Hub, Politech Air Conditioning Services and Start Fresh Accounting. Your commitment to empowering women in our community is truly appreciated.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the dedication of Camden Council staff who worked tirelessly to make this event a reality. Your efforts ensured a seamless and unforgettable evening for all who attended.

International Women's Day is a moment to reflect on how far we have come, but also a reminder of the work that still lies ahead. This year's theme, Accelerate Action, challenged us to turn promises into progress – and I am proud that Camden continues to lead the way in fostering equality and inclusion.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported this event. I look forward to continuing our efforts to celebrate, support and uplift the incredible women in our community.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the information.