



# 2021 Inspirational Women's Awards



*We gratefully acknowledge the support of our Vice Regal Patron, Her Excellency,  
The Hon Margaret Beazley AC QC, Governor of NSW*

**Date: 19 September 2021**

## **2021 NSW INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN'S AWARDS ROTARY CELEBRATES THE WINNERS**

The Rotary Clubs of NSW hosted the Rotary Inspirational Women's Awards on Sunday afternoon. Twenty finalists from all parts of the State were judged by panels of Rotarians from Rotary Districts across the State.

The Inspirational Women's Awards – RIWA - recognize community service across all sectors and locations throughout NSW. Judging focuses on the level of commitment, dedication, perseverance and proactivity in improving the lives of others. The Awards are open to all women across NSW who aren't a Rotarian.

In keeping with Rotary's motto of '**Service Above Self**', these Awards acknowledge and celebrate community service performed by women, through their various activities and endeavors, over and above their normal daily role. These "quiet achievers", whose actions inspire others and make a difference in each of their communities.

This year's virtual celebration has reached out to rural locations from Casino in the North, Bega in the South, West to Dubbo and the urban centres of the Hunter, Illawarra and Sydney.

NSW Minister for Women Bronnie Taylor congratulated the winners and nominees and said the awards were an important way of acknowledging and thanking volunteers across NSW.

"These awards highlight the incredible commitment, generosity and passion of women all across the state." said Mrs Taylor.

"This is an important event on the Rotary calendar which celebrates those women who give so much of their time and energy to enrich their communities and improve people's lives."

The five (5) winners for each category have been announced by the RIWA Awards Ambassador, Louisa Hope.

- 2021 Young Rural Inspirational Woman of the Year – Gemma Champion - Dubbo



- 2021 Young Urban Inspirational Woman of the Year – Mina Skandari - Campbelltown
- 2021 Rural Inspirational Woman of the Year – Sarah Bancroft – Millingandi/Bega Valley
- 2021 Urban Inspirational Woman of the Year – Melissa Histon– Newcastle
- 2021 Health Worker of the Year – Louise Murphy – Wollongong

Awards Patron, Her Excellency, Hon Margaret Beazley AC QC joined the celebration, virtually, to honor and congratulate each of the finalists, culminating in announcing:

- **The 2021 Rotary Inspirational Woman - Sarah Bancroft**
- **The 2021 Rotary Young Inspirational Woman Mina Skandari**

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