



Media release

The Hon Mary Wooldridge MP

Minister for Mental Health
Minister for Women's Affairs
Minister for Community Services

Wednesday 14 March 2012

Sylvia Gelman AM MBE and Jane Rowe elevated to Victoria's Honour Roll

Sylvia Gelman AM MBE of Caulfield North and Mirabel Foundation CEO Jane Rowe are among the 20 exceptional Victorians who have been inducted onto the Victorian Honour Roll of Women.

State Member for Caulfield David Southwick congratulated Sylvia Gelman and praised her as a highly respected elder of the Jewish community. He also praised Jane Rowe's long time work with Mirabel, helping carers and their families.

"Sylvia Gelman's numerous and wide-ranging activities and achievements were acknowledged in 1981 with an MBE for her contribution to education, youth and the Jewish community," Mr Southwick said.

"Sylvia was also made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2003 for her contribution to women's organisations including the National Board of the National Council of Jewish Women Australia and the International Council of Jewish Women Australia."

"Sylvia was president of the National Council of Women of Victoria from 1986 to 1989 and has been active in community affairs for over four decades,"

In recognizing Jane Rowe David cited her long time advocating for carers and their families.

"For more than a decade the Mirabel Foundation has been there for kids who for a variety of reasons are without their parents and are now living with carers."

"Jane Rowe's work looking out for children most in need of care is inspirational and has changed so many lives. More than 1000 children and their families have been supported by Mirabel."

Women's Affairs Minister Mary Wooldridge honoured the new inductees at a function in Parliament House last week, ahead of International Women's Day which was on 8 March.

"The Honour Roll provides ongoing recognition of the role of women and their success in making a difference for women and the broader community," Ms Wooldridge said.

"These inductees are joining a select group and placement on the Honour Roll ensures their contributions are recorded and made available to inspire future generations.

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“The community responded strongly to our call for nominations and the 20 women inducted onto the Honour Roll for this year represent a good cross-section of geographical areas and fields of activity.”

The Honour Roll now contains almost 500 names with some women honoured posthumously.

For further information about the Victorian Honour Roll of Women and its inductees, visit <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/for-individuals/women>

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