

64th Pioneer Women's Ceremony : Sunday, February 2, 2025, 11:30am–2:00pm

This will again be held at the Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden in the Kings Domain, Melbourne.

(Melway Map: 2G A10). This event celebrates Victorian Pioneer Women, conducted annually by the National Council of Women of Victoria to acknowledge past and present women pioneers.

In 2025 we are acknowledging 30 years since the Australian Bureau of Statistics recognised, under occupations in the Census, that women could be farmers. We will shine the light on women in agriculture including those in rural and regional Victoria. Speakers will be:

Alana Johnson AM – Chair Victorian Women's Trust and Founder Australian Women in Agriculture

A pioneer of the Rural Women's Movement in Australia, Alana is a farmer and rural consultant. She was the Victorian Rural Woman of the Year in 2010. A founding member of Australian Women in Agriculture, Alana has worked extensively on behalf of rural women, nationally and internationally. She has served on a number of government and NGO boards and is currently the President of Voices 4 Indi, which initiated a democracy project in the lead-up to the 2013 federal election. Alana was listed in the inaugural AFR/Westpac 100 Women of Influence in Australia and was inducted onto the Victorian Women's Honour Roll in 2018. [Board - Victorian Women's Trust](#) [Alana Johnson AM | vic.gov.au](#)

Liesbeth Long – Primary Producer and Councillor with Central Goldfields Shire

First elected to the Central Goldfields Shire Council in 2020, Cr Liesbeth Long is Dutch by birth and migrated to Australia with her family in 1982. Since 2003, she has been a Primary Producer, alongside her husband Andrew, as fifth generation farmers (since circa 1876) in Timor West Victoria, producing fine Merino wool, prime lambs, oaten hay and mixed dryland cropping. Cr Long has actively been involved in all aspects of farming including accounts management. Cr Long is a 'down to earth' changemaker through community-driven, collaborative initiatives. She is an active volunteer, serving on the Bowenvale Hall committee and as a Bowenvale CFA Brigade Member since 2003.

With an immense love of the great outdoors, Cr Long enjoys multi-day hiking, cycling, photography, reading and time with her family. Cr Long served as Mayor 2023 – 2024 and was re-elected in 2024. [Councillor Liesbeth Long Central Goldfields Shire Council](#)

Narelle Hanrahan Victorian Director – Australian Women in Agriculture

Narelle is working in corporate agriculture. She has been a member of Country Women's Association of VIC (CWA) for over 10 years, in that time she was the Chair on the Agriculture and Environment committee as well as a state council member for 5 years. She has advocated for rural women and children throughout her time as a member. She is joint owner in the family's small property in Ballarat where they have beef cattle. She has a finance background and has worked in Agriculture for the past 20 years, in rural products (Seed), retail, grain trading for OH&S. [Our Board & Governance — Australian Women in Agriculture](#)

At this event, chairs, canopies and water will be provided, but please bring your own water bottle/cup. We also encourage those attending to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy in this special place.

So we have enough chairs, **please notify NCWV of your attendance on info@ncwvic.org.au**



The garden was created as part of 1934 celebrations of the Centenary of Melbourne.