



*Stella Giles*  
*Soroptimist Award for Excellence*



**Nomination Kit**

## **STELLA GILES 1904 - 1995**

Stella (Ryan) GILES was born in the Goldfields, the eldest of six children. She received her education at the local convent and came to Perth around 1920. Stella trained as a secretary / bookkeeper and was employed at Barnett Bros, a hardware type firm.

From an early age she showed a compatibility with people of all types – nothing was ever too much trouble for Stella.

At the age of 28, she married Phillip Giles, a widower with 6 children, the elder ones quite close to Stella in age.

Stella became a Soroptimist (Perth Club) in 1962 with the category of livestock – poultry. She, her husband and brother ran a poultry market at Perth Markets.

She held most positions in Perth Club, including that of President and Secretary.

In 1970 the position of Region Extension officer became vacant and Stella was encouraged to stand – that was the beginning of a career in extension which was both remarkable and outstanding. Stella's efforts produced 10 clubs in all

1974 – Port Hedland

1975 – Darling Range

1977 – Geraldton

1980 – Mandurah

1981 – Carnarvon

1973 – Morrison

1975 – Port Walcott

1978 – Joondalup

1981 – Rockingham

1982 – Albany

Her success in extension was due to her hard work, her affinity with people, and her sense of humour.

Never one to boast, Stella was always conscious of the fact that the girls (the members of each new club) as she referred to them, had a lot more education than she had.

At the conclusion of her extension career, the Region made her an Honorary Life Member – a testimonial dinner was held in her honour at the Sheraton Hotel. At least one member (and in most instances, many more) from each Club she chartered was present. A tribute to Stella was given by a charter member of Port Hedland, her first club.

Stella personified the true Soroptimist spirit – and she will live on in the Clubs she formed. We honor our memories of Stella in awarding on an annual basis the 'Stella Giles Soroptimist Award for Excellence' to a worthy nominee.

# **STELLA GILES SOROPTIMIST AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS**

**1989 Helen Rogerson  
Radiographer, St. John of God Hospital  
Nominated by Soroptimist International of Perth**

Helen, the inaugural recipient of the Stella Giles Award for Excellence used the award to further her knowledge of the screening and detection of breast cancer in women at a Mammography Seminar to be held in Sydney. The Chief Radiographer at St. John of God Hospital commented that without the award Helen would have been unable to attend and that Helen intended to teach her new learned skills to other staff members so ultimately patients will benefit from the experience.

**1990 Judith Smith  
Midwife  
Nominated by Soroptimist International of Joondalup**

Judith a midwife working with women battling Post Natal Depression campaigned for the inclusion of a NGALA type unit to be built into the planned extensions to Wanneroo Hospital. The award not only recognised Judith's devotion to duty, but also helped her financially to continue her Welfare Studies at TAFE.

**1991 Mary Jo Kroeber  
Deputy Director Nursing, Osborne Park Hospital  
Nominated by Soroptimist International of Joondalup**

The award assisted Sister Mary Jo Kroeber to attend the World Congress of Enterostomal Therapy Nurses. Sr Kroeber specialized in stoma nursing and therapy techniques. The Congress discusses the advanced technology of stoma therapy nursing, helps to promote better care and understanding through the presentation of stimulating papers, workshops, posters and an exhibition of ostomy appliances and skin care products.

**1992 Elizabeth Sugars  
Teacher, Co-ordinator  
Nominated by Soroptimist International of Rockingham**

Elizabeth used the award to facilitate a workshop for Rockingham Family School and the EASY Learning Centre aimed at increasing awareness of the way groups of people work together to achieve common goals. The workshop involved team-building exercises, leading to an understanding of the principals of Synergy. The second half of the workshop was devoted to understanding and applying the principals of goal setting, with each of the two groups coming out of the day with a written, working plan, and a group vision for their future.

**1993 Marjorie Tidman  
Lecturer, Murdoch University  
Nominated by Soroptimist International of Morrison**

The award was used to record an oral history of the Aboriginal Women of the Onslow and Roebourne Area in Book Form. Their oral history will document the struggle, joy and courage of a community which is emerging from oppression, alcoholism, prejudice and superstition towards full participation in community life, self-respect, self-determination and equality with non-aboriginal communities. Marjorie intended the book to be an educational resource for high school 'history', 'social studies', and 'aboriginal studies' and of interest to the general community. Proceeds from the book sales are to be donated to the Onslow community for their ongoing spiritual, social and economic development.

**1994 Anne Blanchard**  
**Head, School of Social Work, Curtin University**  
**Nominated by Soroptimist International of Joondalup**

Award funds were used towards completing a research project to study the effects of witnessing domestic violence as children on the lives of adults. Anne hoped that through publication of the results of this study there would be a greater spread of knowledge about the widening effects of domestic violence on family life, and particularly on children. Anne also hoped that the findings could be used by the University of Sydney Law Department to assist in reforms to the Family Law Act in relation to the custody of children and their safety.

**1995 Dr. Anne Read**  
**Epidemiologist**  
**Nominated by Soroptimist International of Helena**

An epidemiologist, Dr Anne Read has focused on the prevention of disease in the area of maternal and child health. Two areas of particular and ongoing interest are Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and Aboriginal maternal and child health. Anne used the award to assist her attendance at the 4<sup>th</sup> SIDS International Conference to be held in Washington DC in 1996, where she will present her most recent findings.

**1996 Jean Rickards**  
**Community Worker**  
**Nominated by Soroptimist International of Morrison**

Jean has dedicated much of her life to educating women on how to avoid osteoporosis and regularly visits schools, women's groups and health clubs to talk about the importance of calcium and exercise to avoid osteoporosis. Jean used the award to increase awareness of osteoporosis and disabled people's needs in the community.

**1997 Lyn Page**  
**Managing Director, Forrest Holdings (WA) Pty Ltd**  
**Nominated by Soroptimist International of Broome**

Lyn used the award to print and distribute a leaflet educating the community about the nature of different types of family violence. The leaflet was used to promote family violence workshops in Broome and to provide phone numbers for counseling and crisis help services.

**1998 Linda Williams**  
**Physiotherapist, ASeTTs**  
**Nominated by Soroptimist International of Perth**

Linda, through her work as a physiotherapist working with the Australian Services for Torture and Trauma Survivors (ASeTTs), was fortunate to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Seminar for Physiotherapy Educators on Ethics and Torture in Copenhagen. Linda used the award to disseminate the information gained in Copenhagen to the physiotherapy community and to the general community to help make the management of torture survivors something that is a "thread" through the undergraduate physiotherapy curriculum at Curtin University. Linda presented this information at the Australian Physiotherapy Association's Conference in Hobart.

**1999 Wilma Dunne**  
**WA Director, Operation Rainbow**  
**Nominated by Soroptimist International of Joondalup**

Operation Rainbow has been highly successful in reversing deformed facial features and in creating attractive and happy faces for children. Wilma used the award to carry out research into 'Post-Surgery Speech Training' and also to publish a 'Presenting Mother's Information Booklet' for the mothers of cleft lip and palate deformed children who are presenting to the doctors for the first time. The booklet provided mothers with information on the benefits of the surgery and how the surgery would transform the child's life. The booklet also contained exercises to facilitate better speech and hygiene for post-operative cleft lip and palate children.

**2000 Myrtle D Mullaley**  
**Voluntary Coordinator, Aboriginal Seniors Group**  
**Nominated by Soroptimist International of Joondalup**

Myrtle Mullaley established a Community Social and Crafts Center to give time-out to Aboriginal Grandmothers who lived with their relatives and minded the children. The center is operated from a Homeswest Community Hall in Girrawheen. Myrtle used the funds from the award to purchase a television, video recorder and a supply of educational videos and a camera to photograph the arts and crafts made by the women to establish a visual record and history of their work.

**2001 Ros Worthington, OAM**  
**Founder & Director, La Femme Breast Cancer Foundation Inc**  
**Nominated by Soroptimist International of Helena**

Ros Worthington OAM, has worked to provide support to women in our community affected by breast cancer. Ros is using the funds from the award to help develop a web site to provide educational programs to younger women from non-English speaking backgrounds and women in rural Australia.

**2002 Robyn Barrett-Levy**  
**Artistic Director and Administrator, Karratha Youth Theatre**  
**Nominated by Soroptimist International of Karratha & District**

The award has enabled Robyn to travel to Perth to complete the Community Arts Network WA – Community Cultural Development Planning course. This 5 day course covers the topics of assessing cultural activity within the community, networking within the community and setting goals for future cultural development. Robyn believes that by exposing young people to innovative contemporary performances she will be able to support, challenge nurture and encourage artistic and cultural expression and development in young people

**2003 Sandra Winning**  
**Designer of 'The Winning Edge' Flashcards**  
**Nominated by Soroptimist International of Cambridge**

Sandra has developed flashcards to assist the education of autistic children and has used the award to further the development and marketing of the flashcards

**2004 Anne Jeavons**  
**Champion of the Deaf.**  
**Nominated by Soroptimist International of Helena**

Anne will use the award to further her ambition to promote the cause of counselling services for Deaf and hard of hearing people in the community. During 2004, Anne will carry out research, collect and interpret data in order to present a report to the Minister for Disabilities in 2005. As a professional counsellor, Anne will attend the national conference in Brisbane (Oct 04), where she will present a paper on the implications for deaf people in the Counselling context.

**2005 Rebecca Thomson**  
**Mountain Angels**  
**Nominated by SI On the Terrace**

Operating under the business name of Mountain Angels, Rebecca works full time trying to raise money for two Kathmandu charity organisations - ABC Nepal which helps rehabilitate trafficked women and the Snowland Ranag School for poor rural children. Rebecca will use her award to conduct a three-month feasibility study by investigating the current status of children affected by the war in Kathmandu. She will also establish a project plan for the establishment of a 'home' based on the information gathered and priorities identified.

## **GUIDELINES**

### **Stella Giles Soroptimist Award for Excellence**

The Award will be made on an Annual Basis, providing there is a nominated candidate considered worthy of receiving the Award.

To be eligible for the Award, candidates must be female and should not have received the Stella Giles Soroptimist Award for Excellence in the past.

Candidates suitable for nomination are required to have already achieved a high standard in their chosen field. The candidates chosen field is to be of benefit to the community.

Preference will be given to the candidate who can demonstrate that the Award will be applied to improving and furthering knowledge in their area of expertise.

It should be ascertained that the funds required for the candidates project are not available through their employment.

Nominations for the Award are to be made by a Soroptimist Club and only one nomination from each club.

A Curriculum Vitae of the candidate so nominated is to accompany the nomination.

Nominations to be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary of the Region, no later than 30 April in the Award Year.

Presentation of the Award to be made by continuing/retiring Regional Council President during Soroptimist International Week.

Nominations should follow the format outlined in this kit.

**Nomination Form**  
Stella Giles Soroptimist Award for Excellence

**PART ONE:**

**Name**

**Address**

**Postcode**

**Telephone**

**Facsimile**

**Email**

**Nominated by** (Name of Soroptimist Club)

**Current Position**

**Educational Background**

**Personal Achievements in chosen field** (*Document from most recent involvements and/or Awards*)

**Other Achievements/Interests**

**Demonstrate how the candidate's chosen field benefits the community**

**How will the Award be used?** *(Please provide a list of what will be produced or expected outcomes, including a rationale on how the proceeds from the Stella Giles Soroptimist Award for Excellence is relevant to current issues for women and will be used to benefit the community. Remember you must submit a budget and timeframe parameters for your project.)*

**Referees** (*Please provide two professional referees who can attest to the community work you have been doing. Attach any correspondence you may have received that also supports your work.*)

## **PART TWO:**

1. **Please attach to your nomination a current Curriculum Vitae.**  
*This document should include the following minimum information:*
  - *Educational Background*
  - *Employment History*
  - *Business and/or Professional Associations*
  - *Other details that might be relevant to your nomination.*
2. **Supporting Documentation.**  
*Photocopies of Awards, Degrees, News Articles, Colleagues' Statements, References, Commendations etc should accompany the nomination.*
3. **Business Information.**  
*If applicable, please provide a copy of either your Certificate of Incorporation or you're A.C.N. / A.B.N. and any other legal information that may be relevant.*
4. **Project & Budget Outline (including Timeframes).**  
*Submissions should include a proposed Budget Outline and Timeframe for the project. If appropriate you can attach a detailed description of the aims and objectives, deliverables and outcomes for the project the funds will be utilized to support.*
5. **Nominations should be forwarded to:**

**The Convenor  
Stella Giles Soroptimist Award for Excellence  
P O BOX 8169  
PERTH BUSINESS CENTRE WA 6849**