

## School Girl's Brunch Celebrating International Women's Day 2025 Inspiring Young Women in Sport and Beyond

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Womensport and Recreation Tasmania (WSRT) is delighted to host a School Girls' Brunch to celebrate International Women's Day 2025, on Tuesday 11 March 2025 at the Paranple Centre in Devonport.

The morning will be officially opened by **Mayor Alison Jarman** and MC'd by the well-known former ABC sports journalist Sarah Gillman. Sarah will lead a dynamic panel discussion with a lineup of incredible female athletes and leaders:

- **Salliann Beams** – General Manager of High Performance at Cricket Tasmania
- **Janelle Smith** – Cycling Coach, past WNBL player, holder of dual world championships in cycling, and Champion of Champions
- **Phillipa Martin** – Tennis Coach at the Tasmanian Tennis Club, former recipient of a full scholarship to study and play in the USA Division 1 College
- **Morgan Avent** – Swimming Coach and 8-time Australian Nationals Open Champion

Sarah Gillman will guide attendees through an inspiring program, offering the opportunity for young girls to hear directly from successful women who have made their mark in the sporting world.

This event is free for school girls, teachers and coaches to attend and aims to motivate, inspire, and empower participants to follow their dreams, with a particular focus on encouraging young women to pursue careers in sport and leadership.

Presented in collaboration with major sponsor Devonport City Council, the morning will see 170 people come together from Don College, St Brendan-Shaw College, Devonport Christian School, Devonport High School, East Devonport Primary School and Latrobe High School, as well as the Tasmanian Tennis Academy.

A lucky door prize for participants offers more than 20 lucky door prizes, generously supported by local and Tasmanian organisations. Students will have the chance to connect with peers from across the region, creating a supportive network with new and existing friends.

**Media are invited to attend the event to capture the inspiring moments and hear from the panel. Opportunities for photography, video, and interviews with MC Sarah Gillman and panellists will be available.**

### Event Details:

Date: Tuesday, 11 March 2025

Time: 9:30 AM – 11:30AM

Location: Paranple Centre, Devonport, Tasmania

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### QUOTES FROM PRESIDENT AND CHAIR OF WOMENSPORT & RECREATION TASMANIA, JO BAILEY:

"WSRT is thrilled to partner with Devonport City Council for this celebration of International Women's Day. Research shows that events of this nature, and the opportunity to hear from inspiring and relatable speakers, have a positive impact on teenage girls, boosting their confidence and empowering them to reach their full potential."

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"By hearing first-hand from women who have excelled in their fields, our attendees will gain valuable insights and be inspired to pursue their own dreams."

"Sport plays an important role in building self-esteem, and learning teamwork skills – qualities that benefit us throughout life. A 2024 report from the United Nations (Australia) identifies research showing that girls who play sports tend to stay in school longer and achieve greater career success. Additionally, 80% of female Fortune 500 CEOs played sport in their youth, underscoring the positive impact of sport on women's development and potential."

"We've been overwhelmed by the positive response from local schools and coaches, as well as businesses who are providing prizes on the day. I particularly want to acknowledge the support of Kinetic, who have generously provided transport at no cost for the schools."

"I also want to recognise and thank Mayor Alison Jarman, and the Devonport City Council for approaching us to host this event and for their invaluable support in making it possible."

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### **ABOUT WOMENSPORT AND RECREATION TASMANIA (WSRT):**

WSRT is the peak independent body celebrating, facilitating and advocating for females in sport and recreation in Tasmania.

WSRT drives cultural change and pushes for opportunities to ensure sport and recreation is inclusive so that all Tasmanian females can fulfill their potential via participation, leadership and research.

Our history and experience show this change also brings lasting health, social and economic benefits across the Tasmanian community.

**ENDS.**