



International Women's Day

International Women's Day is recognised internationally on 8 March of every year.

Murray Chambers encourages, promotes and mentors women in the legal profession, and in particular at the Bar. We are well-aware of the challenges which face women in the law, including systemic discrimination and harassment, and the lack of acknowledgement of their family responsibilities.

Murray Chambers has recently farewelled three women members, whose work we honour. They are Linda Black who was a founding member of Murray Chambers and a leading criminal law barrister. In 2022, Linda was appointed as a Judge of the District Court. In the same year, we also farewelled Lisa Eaton who had been a member of Murray Chambers for some years working in the native title field. Lisa is now a Hearing Member of the National Native Title Tribunal. We also said goodbye to Brenda Robbins who retired after many years of legal practice. Brenda had an eclectic practice, spanning crime, disciplinary matters and immigration and served on numerous boards and tribunals. Brenda had a distinguished career in equal opportunity before becoming a barrister, having been the head of the State Government's Equality of Opportunity Unit.

Murray Chambers has two women silks, **Raelene Webb KC** and **Penelope Giles SC**. Raelene has a national native title practice, appearing in all States and Territories, and the High Court. Penelope practises in family law, equal opportunity/discrimination law and industrial law. She is also the Head of Murray Chambers, and is the only woman occupying such a role at the Western Australian Bar.

Other women barristers who are members of Murray Chambers are **Alice McShera** who practices in family law and violence restraining order litigation. **Jennifer Negus** is also a member, formerly a State Prosecutor and now practising at the Bar in criminal and commercial law.

International Women's Day commenced being recognised in the early 1900's to raise awareness of the rights of women in the workforce. The origins of the Day are debated, some historians tracing it back to a protest by women garment workers in New York in 1857. Since then it has been widely recognised and is celebrated by most countries across the globe to raise awareness of the need to improve the lives of women and girls in the workforce, in education and training, at home and in the society as a whole.

Murray Chambers invites you to pause for a moment on IWD, and consider what you can do to advance the status and equality of the women and girls around you.

**Happy
International
Women's Day**

