

MEDIA RELEASE

Lyrebird Foundation brings International Women's Day cricket and gala dinner to Bowral

The countdown is on for Bowral locals who will welcome leading cricket players, leaders and supporters from across Australia and overseas next month for a major International Women's Day event celebrating women in sport.

The Lyrebird Foundation is hosting a powerful two-day celebration of women's cricket at Bradman Oval across two days, showcasing talent, diversity and opportunity within the women's game.

On Thursday March 12, the Lyrebird Invitation XI will take on the Barbarian XI, followed by the Lyrebird XI versus Ethan Indigenous XI on March 13. Together, the matches will celebrate excellence in women's cricket while reinforcing the importance of strong, inclusive development pathways for future generations.

Following the opening match on March 12, guests will come together for the Lyrebird Foundation International Women's Day Gala Dinner at the iconic Peppers Craigieburn.

The gala dinner will feature inspiring conversation with leading voices from business, cricket and media including cricketers from Vanuatu, Afghanistan and the UAE, as well as Australian cricket legend Geoff Lawson who is on the Board of Lyrebird Foundation.

Presented in partnership with Western Sydney University and Ethan Indigenous, the event will raise vital funds to support scholarships and pathways that enable young women to access education, leadership development and long-term careers in sport.

Based in Australia with a growing global reach, Lyrebird Foundation is at the forefront of transforming women's cricket, using sport as a platform to drive social change, promote gender equality and empower women and girls from diverse backgrounds.

A key focus of Lyrebird's work is the establishment of a Lyrebird International Academy for Women's Cricket - a groundbreaking initiative designed to break down barriers and create pathways across all facets of the sport, including playing, coaching, officiating and leadership roles.

In support of this vision, the Lyrebird Foundation recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Western Sydney University, with a central pillar of the partnership focused on the development of a Diploma-level course. The program will allow students to combine academic study with elite cricket development, creating tangible pathways into professional and leadership careers within sport.

Together, Lyrebird and Western Sydney University are committed to nurturing talent and creating opportunities for women to excel both on and off the field, with a particular focus on supporting women from Indigenous communities and developing nations.

All funds raised through the International Women's Day Gala Dinner will directly support this important work.

Quotes attributable to Shaun Martyn, Chair of the Lyrebird Foundation (who is available for interview):

"International Women's Day is a powerful moment to reflect on progress, but more importantly, to invest in what comes next. Through this event, we're not just celebrating women's cricket - we're actively building pathways that give talented women the opportunity to lead, learn and thrive in the sport, on and off the field."

"Lyrebird's vision is about long-term impact. By combining education, elite development and leadership opportunities, we're creating a model that supports women from all backgrounds to reach their potential and shape the future of cricket."

Quotes attributable to cricketer Selenia Solman, Vanuatuan cricketer (who is available for interview):

"The Lyrebird Foundation is giving all players opportunities that are often hard to get. Not to just play but to further our education to secure a better future."

For more information and to purchase tickets for the event visit
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/lyrebird-international-womens-day-gala-dinner-tickets-1977223059396>

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About the Lyrebird Foundation

Based in Australia with a global reach, Lyrebird is at the forefront of transforming women's cricket, using sport to drive social change, promote gender equality, and empower women and girls from diverse backgrounds. Through advocacy, education and training, research, inclusivity and opportunity creation Lyrebird Foundation is proud to be levelling the playing field.

For more information visit <https://lyrebirdfoundation.org/>