

FOR FEMINIST ACTIVITY IN THE COMMUNITY

## A COMMUNITY ACTIVISM AWARD

Darelle Duncan motivated a presence of Wollongong women at the historic International Women's Day March in 1975 which culminated in the establishment of various women's groups in Wollongong, including the 1978 WOMEN'S CENTRE, the 1979 WOMEN'S STREET THEATRE GROUP, as well as lobbying against misogyny in the Wollongong *Mercury*.

Darelle organized Schools Commission funding for the CENTRE FOR GENDER EQUITY. Elected Women's Coordinator for the NSW Teachers' Federation, she promoted affirmative action, maternity leave, equal employment, assertiveness training and sex-based harassment policies; actions which she continued as Principal of Erskineville and Ferncourt schools.

She formed a RELINQUISHING MOTHERS' GROUP, lobbying successfully for changes to the Adoption Act. She established the AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S PARTY and stood as a Senate candidate. She has published widely on gender issues and convenes the Greens WOMEN'S GROUP, currently campaigning on abortion reform.

Darelle Duncan's contribution to improving the status of women is brave and persistent. Her activism is accompanied by a deep theoretical feminist underpinning.



# DARELLE DUNCAN

THE 2015 EDNA RYAN AWARDS 23 OCTOBER 2015