

## Order of Australia Award to Jo Ward

Congratulations to Emeritus Professor Josephine Ward awarded Order of Australia at the 2023 King's Birthday awards for her significant service to Tertiary Education and Science.

Jo is one of our most gracious, quietly spoken and modest players; a mathematician, scientist and educator as well as an innovator, manager and administrator. Her expertise covers the two disciplines of Mathematics and Science and at one time Jo was the only Australian Mathematician to be also a Dean of Science (Curtin University).

At Curtin University Jo held the position of Chair of the Academic Board. Her achievements at Curtin include the integration of academic learning with practical application in the workforce and created possibilities for integrated learning across curricula. She enhanced courses for students in the early years of University, improving the process and learning outcome of laboratory experiments.

At Murdoch University Jo was the Program Chair for Mathematics for six years. She was in charge of academic oversight and management of course work activities. Much of her work focused on increasing accessibility to science through collaboration between teacher educators and science and engineering academia. One of her major achievements was her role in the restructuring of the mathematics' course at Murdoch, introducing the use of technology in pedagogy and course outcomes. She introduced and oversaw the highly successful innovative Mathematics' Clinic which provided peer support for students in their first years at University.



Jo's work in the empowerment of women in STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) was mentioned in the citation for her Order of Australia Award, particularly her work in the SAGE Athena Swan Project. Jo was involved in this important group from 2016 to 2020 in various leadership roles.

We are extremely proud of our Bayswater bridge player and friend, Jo Ward. The award recognises the benefits that her work has made to society as a whole, with Tertiary education being made more accessible to all, clearer courses and learning strategies producing better outcomes; and the more efficient fit between the academic syllabus and its integration into the workforce. A huge honour well deserved.

Sandy Sutton-Mattocks and Committee and members of Bayswater Bridge Club.