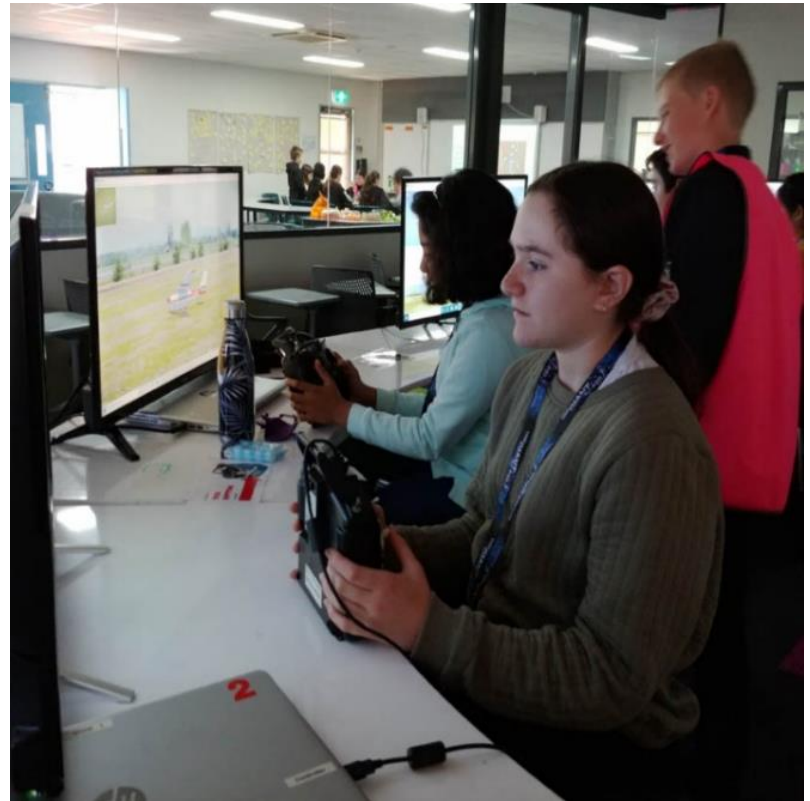


# The Gadget Girlz Gazette

Latest news and bulletin updates

## The Gadget Girlz Roadshow Penrith

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of June the Gadget Girlz set out on a mission to spread STEM education to girls in Penrith, NSW. The Gadget Girlz Roadshow was 8 hours of practical workshops. 6 workshops all in one day that included electronics, robotics, STEM challenges, drones, flight simulators, and a special workshop designed around finding your superpowers! The workshop was available for girls in Years 5, 6 or 7. At the end of the day we asked the participants what their opinion was of The Gadget Girlz Roadshow, majority of the answers were based around how much fun and interactive the program was. The Gadget Girlz aim of the workshop was that the girls would go home with a brain full of facts and a heart full of inspiration to continue learning and becoming the new Einstein's of Australia. This Program wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for the help of The Gadget Girlz Support Crew, Mentors and Ambassadors.



## The Gadget Girlz Zoom Calls

Women who have recently been online for The Gadget Girlz:

### Shannon McConnell

Shannon has been introducing students to the excitement of space exploration since 1998. Working with NASA, she has led the Galileo Outreach Team, the Cassini Formal Education Team, and the Deep Space Network Education and Public Outreach Office. Shannon worked mission planning and design for the Cassini Spacecraft, Sequence design and execution for the Galileo Mission, and Data Analysis for the Magellan Mission. Shannon also spent 1993-1994 working payload operations for 2 Space Shuttle Flights managed by JPL.

Shannon holds Bachelors and Master's degrees in Astronomy and Environmental Engineering from the University of Southern California as well as being a Committee Chair for the Pasadena Tournament of Roses and an Executive Member of the Board of Directors for Don Bosco Technical Institute, a Project-based STEM focused high school in Rosemead, California.



## Beverly Cook

Bev Cook's amazing career spans 45 years. Trained as a metallurgical engineer, Bev started working as an engineer in 1975 at the age of 21. At the time she was hired, she was one of only three women engineers at a research site of 7000 people. By 1980 she was managing a small group of all male engineers.

From performing the failure analysis of the Three Mile Island Nuclear Reactor Core, through her career at the US Department of Energy, The Idaho Nuclear Test Laboratory, and NASA, where Bev delivered the Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generators for Cassini's Mission to Saturn, Bev has successfully managed large groups of Engineers - most of them men. Bev did all of this while raising a family, too. Now retired, Bev still loves talking with students and inspiring them to reach for the stars in their careers.



## Lauren Barack

Lauren Barack is the Executive Editor of GearBrain, a news site that reviews smart consumer technology and examines its role in our daily lives. Her writing about the intersection of technology, business and education has run in online and print magazines from Inc. to Wired, Parenting to Newsweek.

She is a recipient of the Gerald Loeb award for business journalism, a Pace Foundation Fellowship in robotics, a Poynter Fellowship, and an Associated Press Television and Radio Association award.

She is the former president of the University of California at Berkeley School of Journalism Alumni Board, the current president of the Seward Park Conservancy, and lives in New York City with her husband, daughter and a 90-pound Labrador retriever who resents the robots she tests regularly in his space.



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## 2021 YES! Youth Encouragement Scholarships awarded to one of The Gadget Girlz

One of The Gadget Girls, Nicola Baker, has been awarded the inaugural *Yes! Youth Encouragement Scholarship* by the Rotary Club of Sydney for her passion of photography and drones.

Rotary created the Awards to celebrate 100 years of Rotary in Australia in 2021. *Yes! Scholarships* focus on youth support and growth for young people between the ages of 12 - 17 years across four categories: sports, education, the Arts, and environment. There were eight scholarships awarded valued at \$3000 per participant, equally balanced between metropolitan and regional New South Wales. Nicola Baker was motivated to apply for the scholarship as she wants to gain her drone license so she can move towards working in the

drone sector whilst she is finishing school. Nicola's dream is to get her Remote Pilot's License (RePL) and improve her flying skills.

"This scholarship is going to make such a huge difference in my life by helping me open doors to different pathways and careers that without the scholarship I probably wouldn't have," says Nicola.

One Giant Leap's Jackie Carpenter, the founder of The Gadget Girlz, believes the remote operation of drones was highlighted just recently with the Ingenuity Helicopter on Mars.

She hopes that one day Nicola could be flying a drone on the Moon or Mars herself. "Nicola is a positive role model, and she thoroughly deserves this scholarship", said Jackie.



Photo of Nicola Baker flying the newest FPV DJI Drone at Hawkesbury Model Air Sports field.

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Emily



Coco



Ellie

Lucy

## International SpaceCRAFT Exploration Challenge

The Gadget Girlz compete against the rest of the world!

An all-girls team named “Saturn Surfers” has been assembled by The Gadget Girlz to compete in the International SpaceCRAFT Exploration Challenge, which will be taking place over the Australian school holidays. “We wanted to participate in this challenge as it is a new experience for us. Throughout the week of the challenge, we will also have a chance to expand our knowledge and understanding of many different aspects involving STEM”- Saturn Surfers.

This global event is run out of the Astrolab at Texas A & M University and is the creation of Professor Greg Chamitoff who is a former NASA astronaut. This virtual event is scheduled for the 20-25<sup>th</sup> of September 2021. Students will learn from subject matter experts including astronauts, scientists and engineers who are directly involved in ongoing missions as they compete with other teams for the best mission design.

Lessons on topics ranging from planetary science to spacecraft systems, orbital mechanics to robotic exploration, bring all aspects of space exploration to an understanding level for young students, who learn by doing and creating these concepts themselves.

For more information:

<https://www.space-teams.com/international-spacecraft-challenge?fbclid=IwAR06qCc7-0JYqBOLFQ6B2dODf6RxXzbjzRIYBRr5GJ2boBeZQW-TWeEmK4s>



### World Automation Conference 2021

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of May a group of The Gadget Girlz gathered at HQ. Throughout the day, the girls worked together with Tony Nolan and his crew, to record a video for the World Automation Conference. By the end of the day, the group reflected over the times they had shared and become thankful for the friendships they had created.

The World Automation Conference 2021 was virtually held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August. Azahlia Stevenson, Jessica Kreskay, Jackie Carpenter and Robert Carpenter attended this virtual meeting representing The Gadget Girlz. “The ideas presented were thought provoking and eye opening. I thoroughly enjoyed hearing from so many intelligent innovators; it made me appreciative of the information age which we are in and the potential for growth in our world” - Azahlia Stevenson.

The Gadget Girlz would like to thank Tony Nolan for helping create the video and inviting the girls to be part of the World Automation Conference 2021

To watch the Gadget Girlz WAC video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3XPIyO1J56w>



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