



Photo: Pexels |
Richy Dannielz.

Queens of Africa:

The Untold Legacies of Africa's Powerful Queens

Words: Niddal Abdelrahman — Journalism Student

When you hear the word 'royalty', what immediately comes to mind? Perhaps it's glittering palaces, King Charles or perhaps, the grandeur of European monarchies?

The term 'African royalty' often remains absent from mainstream narratives. Africa is rich with powerful queens who shaped the continent's destiny to this day. These remarkable women—often overlooked—**embody leadership and empowerment.** The stories we tell shape the world we experience, and history left untaught is at risk of being erased.

So, let's honour their legacies and learn a little more about each of them: [▶](#)



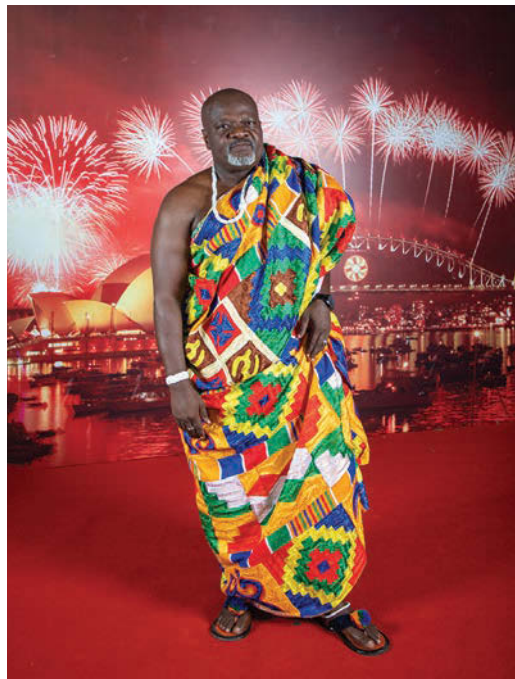
Australia Day 2025 Celebrations

Accra, Ghana

Australia's longstanding and strong relationship with Ghana was on full display as the Australian High Commissioner to Ghana, Ms Berenice Owen-Jones, joined Ga Mantse King Tackie Teiko Tsuru II, President of the Ga Traditional Council, along with esteemed dignitaries, fellow Australians living and working in Ghana, and friends of Australia to commemorate Australia Day 2025. The celebration took place against a striking backdrop featuring the Sydney Harbour Bridge and Uluru (Ayers Rock).

The Australian High Commission in Ghana is accredited to nine West African nations, including Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo. [LC](#)

Photos: Public Affairs, Australia High Commission-Accra.





Usha Chandra OAM



Jeannie MOK OAM



Galila Abdelsalam OAM



Saba Abraham OAM

Shaping their Communiti@s


(QUEENSLAND EDITION)

Words: Niddal Abdelrahman and Gloria eSowah.

A strong woman knows she has strength enough for the journey, but a woman of strength knows it is in the journey where she will become strong.

– Unknown

Cristina Williams. Photo: Supplied.

A portrait of Cristina Williams, a woman with long, dark, wavy hair, smiling warmly. She is wearing a white short-sleeved top, a necklace with a heart pendant, and large pearl earrings. She has a tattoo on her left forearm consisting of several black chevron-like shapes. She is sitting in a dark wooden chair, with her hands resting on the backrest. The background is a plain, light grey wall.

Determined to have it all

Words: Cristina Williams

Business leader, writer, world traveller ... **Cristina** has lived a big life, but when you ask her what her greatest achievement is, she will tell you: her family.

Photos: Barbut Fotograf.

Designer: Green Embassy.

Models: Saskia Fleming (left),
Jenay Larson (below).



Fashionably Eco Determined

Forget fast fashion. Forget mass production.
Forget waste. Eco Fashion Week Australia (EFWA):
A Sustainable Revolution Expands to Europe!

EFWA is rewriting the rules, proving that style and sustainability can walk the same runway. And now, this bold movement is linking arms with fellow visioners global. Reshaping the Australian fashion landscape, EFWA is setting its sights on Europe with two landmark events—Barcelona (dates yet to be confirmed), and Florence, May 16–18, this year. (Visit [@ecofashionweekaustralia](#) for dates and more).

For the first time in Italy, the stunning Florence Garden will host a fashion event like no other—an immersive experience where international designers, sustainability pioneers, and creative visionaries converge to push the boundaries of ethical fashion.

This groundbreaking event is co-organized by Atelier Biologico ([@atelier.biologico.firenze](#)), Antico Spedale del Bigallo ([@anticospedalebigallo](#)), and ours truly Dr Zuhail Kuvan-Mills ([@ecofashionweekaustralia](#))—Founder of EFWA.

Plans for Barcelona will see a collaboration with EFWA partners and its European representative Sylvia Calvo ([@sylviacalvobcn](#)) and Barcelona Fashion Designer, a brand that transforms discarded jute coffee bags into couture masterpieces. Sustainability meets creativity in a spectacular showcase uniting Perth and Barcelona through art, fashion, and a shared commitment to a greener planet.

Not Just a Fashion Show—A Fashion Revolt. Sustainable fashion isn't a trend. It's a movement. More than a runway—it's a month-long festival where designers, artists, and activists challenge industry norms and ignite change. Since its inception, it has been transforming ways fashion is experienced, designed, and consumed, while making headlines and breaking records.

Last November (2024), the headlines read—'The World's Longest Sustainable Runway on Water'. EFWA made history on the Busselton Jetty, where models walked an astonishing 1.8 km runway over crystal-clear waters, wearing designs that celebrated eco-conscious craftsmanship. ➔





LVN Colour's 101 FIRST NATIONS Leaders

Today, we celebrate you and
give you your flowers.

‘ Alone, a woman
has power.
But collectively,
women
have impact. ’
– Shelly Zalis.

Guyala Bayles model, radiating in a black ensemble, adorned with a stunning neckpiece of cowrie shells and beaded tassels.

Photo: Sam www.businessbrother.co.



Team Caption Simba (DR Congo) with Beny Bol, QACC President (2024), Hon Tim Mander MP (Minister of Sports & Racing, Minister for the Olympics and Paralympics Games), with Senator Paul Scarr holding the Winners Cup 2024.

Images: Jamari Prod.

THE AFCON QLD SHOWCASE

A Determined Queensland Community

Celebrating the Spirit of African Football
in Queensland

AFCON Queensland, formerly the QACC Cup, is not just a football tournament—it's a vibrant cultural festival that celebrates the rich football heritage of the African continent. For its stakeholders and participants, it's a platform that transcends sport, fostering unity, cultural exchange, and a deep sense of community.

Each year, AFCON Queensland showcases the talent and passion of African soccer teams from across the state, blending skill, sportsmanship, and camaraderie. This annual



Senator Paul Scarr, QACC Secretary (2024) Jimi Bean, with newly elect Qld Premier David Crisafulli (Oct 2024) with Beny Bol accepting the AFCON All Nations Trophy.

event has become a unifying force, bridging cultural divides and strengthening bonds among players, spectators, and the wider community.

A Platform for Talent and Unity

Embodying the essence of the African Cup of Nations, AFCON Queensland brings the excitement of the continent's most prestigious football competition to Queensland. With teams representing various African nations, the event creates an ➡



Celebrating 50 Zic's Milestone

Zic's golden jubilee celebration at St Lucia Golf Links brought together family, friends, and community leaders, with guests traveling from Toowoomba, New Zealand, and Sierra Leone. The elegant black-and-gold-themed evening featured delicious canapés, flowing champagne, Mr Whiskey, and Afrobeats tunes, creating a perfect backdrop for heartfelt speeches that honoured a journey of resilience, determination, family and love. Congratulations, Zic—welcome to the fifth!

Pictures of family—including model Cynthia Taylu (@taylu_me)—and friends celebrating Zic. Cynthia is in the white dress.

Photos: Yedeed Pix Photography | www.yedeedpixphotography.com.au

