



WAB Celebrated 100yrs at Riverton on 28th & 29th October, 2017 – Theme – “Spirit of Rural Women”

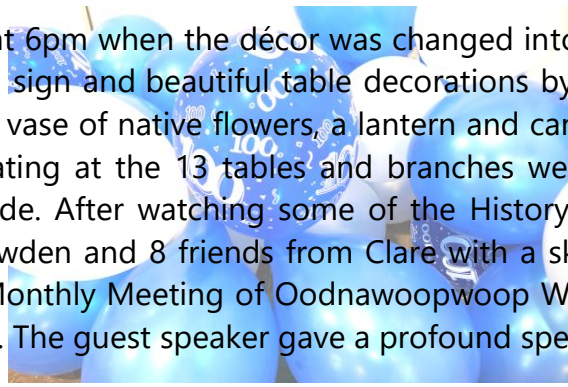
It was buzzing at 8:30am in Riverton on Saturday as the banner bearers gathered for a rehearsal with Lee Russell and a photo in front of the Community Hall. Others were registering and receiving a lovely WAB hessian bag with lots of surprises including a booklet with a play written for the Golden Jubilee in 1967 about the beginnings of WAB in conversation form. There were centenary glasses and notebooks to purchase and displays to peruse. Thelma Newman, our Historian, set up a history display and Helen Colliver, our International Officer had a display of ACWW. National Drones, a Silver sponsor, had a drone to look at and the 32 works of art by 18 members were displayed and ready to be voted on. Morning tea was in the supper room run by the Riverton School Parents & Friends. The stage was adorned with an Ikebana flower arrangement by Yvonne Correll.

At 9:30am all were asked to take their seats while the Governor was being greeted by the State President, Liz Calvert and the President Elect, Sandra Young, together with some of the guest speakers. After the Governor entered the Hall and the National Anthem sung, the WAB banner parade took place with 36 banners from past and present branches. Helen Colliver, the MC, read out the year the branch formed and took us through the ages from 1917 (Riverton) to 2010 (On-Line). Liz Calvert acknowledged that we were on Nadjuri land and wished us a Happy 100th Birthday. We were all asked to wish each other Happy Birthday. Liz read out a letter from the Prime Minister of Australia, the Hon. Malcolm Turnbull MP saying that WAB “is now one of the most respected rural networking organisations in Australia, and enjoys a reputation that has only grown with time”. He also said that “this is an exciting new era for the industry (Agriculture) and for WAB, and I’m sure you will continue to flourish over the years and decades to come.” So, that is a mandate for us!

The Governor of SA, His Excellency the Hon. Hieu Van Le AC, spoke next about women’s roles on the land and he officially opened the Centenary Celebrations. He received a gift of 2 bottles of Premium Taylors Wine together with “Hats Off to WAB” and 2 centenary glasses.



Saturday evening began at 6pm when the décor was changed into a party atmosphere with blue and white balloons, a lit "100" sign and beautiful table decorations by Beth Gale. There was a wool bale, wheat sheath and bags, a vase of native flowers, a lantern and candle in the theme of "Spirit of Rural Women". We had set seating at the 13 tables and branches were mixed up, thanks to the careful selection by Lynette Staude. After watching some of the History of WAB USB by Thelma, we were entertained by Cindy Crowden and 8 friends from Clare with a skit by Pat Martlew & Jill Watson of Bordertown called "The Monthly Meeting of Oodnawoopwoop WAB – September 1967" It was most amusing and quite typical. The guest speaker gave a profound speech, all in cliques.



The dinner speaker was popular romantic novelist, Fiona McIntosh, who had recently moved to Riverton and told descriptive stories of her encounters with many different native species which she is trying to get used to. She grew up in England where the only creature to contend with was a fly, which she is happy to kill in bucketful's! Not so with mice! Fiona was most entertaining and we learnt how she researches her novels and travels around the world to do so. She sold some of her 34 books and signed them for us.

Our dinner was quite delicious with alternate drops of a slow-cooked rib of beef or Greenslades (local) chicken stuffed with cheese and tomato. There were also beautiful vegetables to share. The dessert was an alternate drop of quandong cheesecake or chocolate pudding with molten centre with berries and cream. It was catered by Louise Haines from Clare.



Our WAB 100yr anniversary cake was baked and decorated by **Beryl Clothier** of Yurgo branch and was cut by Merle Hoffmann of Tanunda branch. The beautiful fruit cake was handed around on silver trays by the new management team, Lee Russell, Nadene Jericho, Sally Packer and Narelle Scott. Sandra Young was busy counting up the votes for the art competition and announced the winners – Heather McMurtie of Strathalbyn (Hand spun wool knitted rug from Robbie the sheep), Yvonne

Correll from Lochaber (Ikebana Floral arrangement), Helen Lutt from Wirrega (paper tole –Victorian lady) and Carlene Schulz from Yurgo (hand spun wool knitted rug –sheep & dogs). All participants received a small gift from Sandra. To end the evening an impromptu auction took place in aid of ACWW of the wool bales and wheat bags from each of the 13 tables, with Liz Calvert being the auctioneer. We raised \$261.

On Sunday, the ecumenical church service was held in the Riverton Anglican Church, hosted by Rev Sandra Bryson. The local church choir was led by Deb Callery and the organist was Eric Strange. Two of our WAB members sang in it – Liz Calvert and Roz Rowett, both On-Line members. Readers were Barbara Schaefer and Lynette Staude and Thelma Newman and Sandra Young read prayers, including the WAB prayer. It was indeed a moving and spiritual service.



After morning tea, back at the Hall, we conducted the WAB AGM and then hurried to the Pioneer Gardens for a series of ceremonies. Two little children, Billy Nicholls and Kelly Trott, great great grandchildren of members of the first Riverton branch (Elizabeth Grey and Linley May James respectively) planted 2 roses in the bed of "Spirit of Rural Women" roses. Ross Kemp helped and he was acknowledged for his dedicated work in preparing the grounds for the day. An Interpretive sign was unveiled by Liz Calvert and Jenni Hienjus and her brother, who are grandchildren of Florence Perrin, the first State President and who features on the sign.



A photo of the first WAB Branch at Riverton was presented to Anne Fry, Co-ordinator of Riverton History Centre by Thelma Newman. Finally, a decorative seat was unveiled by Sandra Young, who explained how the 100yr Committee wanted to leave a piece of art in Riverton to commemorate the 100 yr celebration and decided on a practical seat. It was made by A Small Art Factory, Moana, S.A.

All adjourned to the Riverton Bowling Club nearby for a delicious lunch and welcome drink of fruit cup.

There were many positive comments and a lot of enthusiasm about the future of WAB amongst the members and husbands as they left for their homes all around SA. It was indeed a fitting way to celebrate WAB's centenary anniversary.

Sandra Young
Chair, WAB 100yr Committee, State President 2017 -2019

Branches represented at Riverton

Present branches – Charlton, Coonalpyn, Cunliffe, Kalangadoo, Lochaber, Mundulla, On-Line, Padthaway, Paringa, Pinkawillinie, Rosedale-Sandy Creek, Stewarts Range, Strathalbyn, Tanunda, Wepowie-Booloroo, Wirrega, Yurgo

Past Branches – Brinkley, Brooker, Charra, Kimba, Longwood, Mangalo, Nelshaby, Riverton, Saddleworth, Sandalwood, Tumby Bay, Tumby-Yaranyacka, Wanilla, Wattle Range, Williamstown



MALLEE REGION

Paringa: no report received

Yurgo: In September a trading table was held in aid of Karoonda Area School and Community Swimming Pool raising \$57.40.

WAB 100 year centenary glasses were given to members who were really surprised and love their glasses. President welcomed our guest speaker, Don Loller, who gave us a most interesting talk on his Farmers Tour of England and Europe and afterwards he went back to England, Wales and Scotland, visiting Blarney Castle, Caven Club where the Beatles made their fame, Glasgow, Edinburgh Castle and too many places to remember. In November 13 members and 8 visitors joined Karoonda CWA for a combined Christmas lunch.

We had our "Spirit of Rural Women" rose on the table, and also the brass plaque we have had made to be placed with the rose which we planted at Karoonda District Hospital.

100 YEARS CELEBRATION - Three of our members, President Carlene Schulz, Secretary Beryl Clothier and Treasurer Phyl Wegner attended the 100 Years Celebration at Riverton and thoroughly enjoyed it.

Coonalpyn: Welcomed Robyn Miegel, a local nurse in our Health Centre in Coonalpyn. Robyn gave a presentation/talk on Asthma and how to recognize/apply first aid when a person is having an asthma attack. The power point presentation Robyn gave was a good insight into what the puffers do to help the airways during an incident. The board display of all the different types of puffers available was just mind blowing and how to use them sometimes can look very tricky but they all seemed pretty easy to use.

David Sonntag was our guest speaker for our September meeting. In 2000 he went on an adventure holiday to Argentina on a climbing holiday for 6 weeks. His holiday started off with a few days stay in the city of Mendoza before leaving on his journey to the mountain summit of 6962 meters. They crossed a stream/small river on horseback and came to a valley of pantatenties which is ice rising up out of the ground. There were 3 different camp sites along the way to the top of the summit. First was base camp at the foot of the mountain. Then Camp 1 and Camp 2 and then High camp which was high up the mountain about a day's hike from the summit. David and two others were the only hikers out of their group of six that made it to the top of the summit.

Wirrega: The Wirrega Branch is set to learn about innovative new businesses run by women in the Tatiara during the next year.

Our first visit in July was to "Millie Millie Embroidery" in Bordertown which caters for business logos and advertising by embroidery on staff uniforms, hats and vests. The business also prints onto a variety of promotional gift ware for companies. Members were privileged to watch the embroidery process on the amazing machine and also the process of printing. This business started on a home basis and has now grown to a shop front in Bordertown.

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It was an enjoyable evening with lots of sampling and purchasing of the products.

September was an enlightening meeting learning and asking questions about recycling. We were fortunate to have June Saruwaka the Regional Waste Management Coordinator of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association who provided an overview of the Council's responsibilities, Andrew Pollock who is the Operations Coordinator with the Tatiara District Council and a representative from the local Recycling depot. These guest speakers told of the recycling options and items that can and cannot be recycled. This was a well attended open meeting for the Community and WAB members and partners.

In October we celebrated International Rural Women's Day with a brunch at Wolseley Community Clubrooms. The local ladies catered with a yummy brunch and guests heard, the now local young woman Michelle Ridgway speak of her life growing up in Ireland, her pathway to becoming a Physiotherapist and how that job took her travelling around the world. Michelle came to Bordertown to work, married a local farmer and is now settled with a young daughter. It was an inspiring story of this young woman's journey.

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LIMESTONE REGION

Kalangadoo: WAB group and friends had a very enjoyable day out. One of our members, Jessie Searle and her husband, Don, offered to take us in their bus on a day trip, over the border into Victoria.

We travelled to Casterton and viewed the town from a high point - an entirely different perspective to when we drive through the town heading for other places in Victoria. From there we moved on to Wannon and Nigretta Falls, both in lovely areas with different wattles flowering. As we were passing through Coleraine it was decided to visit the chocolate factory. Great selection, so chocolate fans were happy.



Left: Kalangadoo members and friends at the falls.



Below: Ramona Perry enjoys the selection at the chocolate shop

Wattle Range:

Members of the Wattle Range Branch of WAB in S.A, regretfully made the decision to close on 21st Of September 2017, after 66 ½ years continuous presence of WAB in the area. The majority of Branch funds are to go to the Wattle Range Community Centre, of which WAB has been a part. The Hall being our meeting place & the venue of some entertaining WAB Birthday Celebrations & Regional Conferences over those years. Many of the South East Region WAB members will remember the “skits” performed by our members in the years gone by. Thank you all for your WAB Friendship over those 66 ½ years – it has been an enlightening & enjoyable experience.

The sum of \$466.70 will be donated to the Mount Gambier Support Group of the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Members were given the opportunity to become Associate Members, On Line Members or attend meetings of the Kalangadoo WAB Branch.

Lochaber: September meeting topic was NOXIOUS WEEDS with GUEST SPEAKERS AIDEN LASLETT & DAVID ROBERTSON from the Natural Resource Management SE who spoke about Declared Weeds in SA Several Agriculture Bureau members together with a couple of visitors attended.

David began by quoting a short article written in the Journal of Agriculture, SA July 1966. “Lochaber – The Branch plans another joint discussion group with the Agriculture Bureau, titled “Education requirements for farm employees and owners”. Mrs. R. (Roy) Lawrie spoke on the Jubilee celebrations for the branch”.

This brought smiles and chuckles to those at the meeting.

With the aid of slides, brochures and display stands, Aiden and David spoke of the recently declared weeds, including “escaped” garden plants, i.e., gazanias, coprosma, pittosporum (sweet), arum lilies and polygala to name just a few. Many other plants such as buffel grass, African love grass, Coolatai grass were also highlighted. The declared plant known as Spiny Rush can produce 100,000 seeds, the potential to spread far and wide. Some of the known declared weeds, such horehound, cape tulip, bridal creeper, along with several trees, desert ash, swamp oak and the small tree or shrub, known as the coastal tea tree Aiden and David highlighted. Natural Resource Management is responsible for controlling declared plants on road reserves and can recover costs from adjoining landholders. David mentioned that in some areas of agriculture different rules applied in regard to the management of declared weeds, i.e., Lincoln weed is managed differently in parts of SA.

David spoke on the release of the K5 Calicivirus in South Australia, in March of this year including an area in Lochaber. He mentioned early reports of success and asked if any dead rabbit or rabbits were found to please contact him at the NRM office in Naracoorte for David to conduct disease identification.

A busy meeting in October with a visit to the Men’s Shed, the Community Garden and the Sheep’s Back museum.

Ten Members of the Lochaber WAB branch met at the recently opened Naracoorte Men’s Shed. David Law greeted our members, speaking on the early beginnings of searching for the right combination of land usage and available buildings until the present site was agreed on. Many volunteer hours and widespread company and private donations have finally culminated in providing a wonderful and impressive, but practical shed for those attending. Various hobbies and skills are undertaken, ranging from welding, woodworking, furniture repairs and even the making of fishing lures, cutting up discarded pallets to sell the wood. Another member enjoys playing musical instruments whilst there.

The shed is divided into various areas, - a meeting area, up to date kitchen, first aid room and toilets. The walls of the meeting room were lined with ‘scrimber’ panelling, providing insulation and also great feature walls. One of the member’s wives has taken cuttings of various succulents from her own garden and planted a colourful, but practical garden bed at the entrance to the shed. Incidentally, several women are also members of Naracoorte’s Men’s Shed. Age is no barrier either, with one member a young boy not yet a teenager. The insignia on the Naracoorte Men’s shed banner was derived from the national Men’s Shed flag, but with input from some of the Naracoorte members.



Lochaber members

Back Row left to right:
Meredith Burge, Lynette Williams, Marie Blacker, Claire Williams

Front Row left to right:
Glenice Bourne, Paola Zilm, Jan Boord, Lyn Bellman and Rosemary Miller. Photo taken by Yvonne Correll

We walked to the enclosure of the Community Garden where there are twenty one allotments in three rows of seven; raised plots have been created and tended. Each plot displayed many stages of growth, with new seedlings popping out of the soil, along with companion planting of various flowers providing insect control and pollination by bees.

.....and then to the **Naracoorte Sheep's Back Museum & Visitor Centre**

At the Naracoorte Visitor Centre members were able to explore the wide ranging local crafts for sale. With the aid of the extensive TV recordings we explored the three floors of the sheep industry from Naracoorte's early beginnings through to later decades, housed in an old stone flour mill. Leaving the main building (the flour mill) we moved on to a shed housing an early model of a mechanical shearing/crutching machine and displays of wool presses through the ages, along with many handpieces and combs. In the corner of the shed stood a bronze statue of local Willalooka shearer, Shannon Warnest, World and National Shearing Champion many times over. Members watched a promotional video on mechanised sheep handling, from crutching to shearing; the video was made in the late 1980's and members noted that currently, this project still hasn't advanced to a commercial scale. From there members visited the small wood slab hut that was originally the Hynam Post Office, complete with hessian ceiling and walls. Thanks to Glenice Bourne our member who has volunteered at the Sheep's Back for quite some time and suggested the visit.

In November President, Rosemary Miller introduced members to Rex Hall, custodian of the CFS Memorial Site, and member of Naracoorte's Region 5 CFS Group, explained the formation and history of the CFS Memorial site. He travelled to USA and noticed there were many memorials throughout rural America dedicated to those who had lost their lives fighting fires. With the help of grants, donations and eventual block of land donated from the Naracoorte and Lucindale Council the idea of such a memorial was underway. Stage one of the Memorial site is in the shape of a circle with the centrepiece consisting of a large block of green granite donated from the granite mine owned previously by the Goldfinch family of Padthaway. Embedded into the ground the granite block is surrounded by a circle of lovely deep raspberry orange coloured, double fluted roses named "Firestar". The Firestar rose is the official rose of the CFS Foundation, available exclusively from Knights Roses and each sale of this rose a percentage goes to the foundation. The CFS Foundation provides financial help for CFS volunteers through disability, suffering or an accident, resulting from volunteer work involved in the community of SA. Included in the Memorial are limestone rock donated from Henschke's quarry, red roses, and Australian native shrubs repeating the red and orange theme of the roses.

Future plans include the construction of a shed to house the wide range of former vehicles used in fire fighting and now housed in various sites throughout the town.

A one day fire preparedness workshop, run by Megan Hurrell, Naracoorte's CFS Community Officer will be held with members of Stewarts Range and Padthaway WAB branches invited to attend.

Padthaway: WAB visit around Naracoorte

On a lovely sunny Thursday morning we all met a member of the community garden, Mr. Grant Inverarity. Mr. Inverarity explained how the Naracoorte council got a \$5000 grant as part of the Government stimulation package in 2008 this helped pay for initial fencing and watering. Secondhand timber from the Naracoorte sale yards was used to form individual garden plots and also compost is supplied. Anyone wanting garden plots can apply at the Naracoorte council office for an annual fee of \$50. All 21 plots are occupied at present with two gardeners on the waiting list. Some raised beds are also planned for the future for those gardeners with back problems. There is a great diversity of gardeners, two retirees, one councilor, one vineyard manager, three plots for gardeners from the independent learning centre and many foreign gardeners who are employed by Teys Australia. Some of the more unusual plants grown are oriental lettuce and cabbage, very long string beans and an herbal chrysanthemum. It would be quite a sight when all the beds are at full capacity.

The Art Gallery was showcasing some paintings from year 7 at the North School and some creative paintings from the students who visited the Naracoorte Caves. Their feature artist is local Trevor Smith, 'Around the World and Beyond' displaying many crochet tea pot covers.





Left: Faye Longbottom, Kerrie Bull, visitors Narelle Scott, Virginia Gale, Grant Inverarity, Beth Ortlepp, Erica Neumann, Betty Burge

Our guest in October, Jan Miles was welcomed and she showed us how to make small, handbag sized tissue pack covers. They were bright and colourful and will make a nice addition to the "Welcome" bags for the Regional Conference. A few were completed on the day. Jan also showed us a number of small quilts, bags, wall hangings and book covers that she has made – quilted or embroidered. Beth Ortlepp also brought along a quilt that she has just completed in time for the Gum Tree Quilters Exhibition on the 20th, 21st and 22nd October in Bordertown

Stewarts Range:

Eleven members assembled at the Old Mill Museum for a guided tour with Judy Murdoch who explained the geographical features of the area shown on a model. Some members browsed the 3 stories of the Mill to see exhibits covering the sheep and wool industry of the area. Our visit included the old Kyby school situated in the grounds of the museum.

Toni Williamson was our guest speaker. Toni spent 12 months as a Rotary Exchange student in Denmark when she was 15 years old. She spoke enthusiastically about her time there, the highlight being meeting Princess Mary. Toni learnt the language while staying with 3 host families, went on Euro tour with other exchange students, a 5 day sailing tour, played in the snow and made many friends and hopes they may visit her in Australia one day.

Mundulla: held their final meeting in Oct. A lot of reminiscing took place and all agreed that over the many years we have learned a lot and enjoyed many local places and local business operations, which are not normally seen on a day to day basis. A few members have indicated that they will transfer their membership to Wirrega, next year. Our records will be given to Bordertown Library to be held in the History section. The branch has now officially closed.

Our final get together will be for our Christmas lunch on 28th Nov.

Wirrega: The Wirrega Branch is set to learn about innovative new businesses run by women in the Tatiara during the next year.

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CENTRAL REGION

Cunliffe: After weeks of hard work preparing for the Paskerville Field Days which were very successful, the committee treated members to an afternoon high tea. Our guest, Lyn Dayman is compiling a brief history of our branch and spoke of the changes and interesting things she has noticed

Rosedale/Sandy Creek:

Members were presented with their inscribed glasses from WAB with much pleasure.

Our Memorabilia segment, with each member displaying their item and giving a talk produced some wonderful items. Pauline Davids showed 2 very interesting little pieces of assaying equipment which had members guessing; Cynthia brought along her old milking stool (a marvellous exhibition of old carpentry); Hilda's talk about her Mother's innovative way of making knitting equipment when the real items were not available enabling her to learn to knit; Janet's collection of sentimental old Teddy Bears; Brenda's collection of tin plates, candle stick holders, bowls and an old fly-sprayer were some of the wonderful items shown and much discussion took place about old times

Speaker, Win Nicolai the District Leader of the Gawler Branch of Girl Guides gave us a great talk. She worked her way through her talk, using her poetry to explain different stages of her guiding commitment. The retiring Leader, Val McClure, approached Win to take her place and now 30 years later she is still doing it. There have been many changes and lots of Rules and Regulations and requirements for Insurance now make it more difficult but the Gawler branch is growing. Guides still go on camp, they still have to earn their badges. The main fundraiser is the car parking and selling of programmes for the Gawler Show and this makes it possible for The Guide Hall to have some very necessary upgrades. Win's poems made her talk very enjoyable and our President thanked her and presented her with a small gift. Our member Cynthia Semmler brought along her sleeping bag from her Guide days which was covered in badges she had earned during her years as a Girl Guide.

October was a special occasion as we welcomed seven visitors to help us celebrate our 64th birthday. We were honoured to have our State President, Elizabeth Calvert join us to present a 50 year badge to our wonderful member, Eunice Simpfendorfer. Branch President, Brenda Noll, spoke to us all about the many roles that Eunice has fulfilled over her 50 years with WAB. We welcomed our guest speakers, Graham and Sue Young, who came along to share with us their experience of visiting Israel. Graham had a lovely power point presentation of all the sights they visited on their guided tour.



Brenda Noll Branch President,
Eunice Simpford order with her 50 year award
and State President Elizabeth Calvert.

Tanunda: Members are having their Christmas lunch early in December.

Wepowie/Booloroo Centre: intend to hold a Christmas meeting.

Strathalbyn: During 2017, Strathalbyn WAB members have been celebrating 100 Years of WAB in various ways.

On May 31st, an attendance of 46 members and local visitors enjoyed Strathalbyn's program to Celebrate 100 Years of WAB.



Sandra Young and Jeni Jones presented Membership Awards to Lorraine Jones, 10 years, Glenys Caust, Janette Harvey and Heather McMurtrie all 5 year awards, while Jan Rankine received her 5 year award at the previous meeting.

Guest speaker on this occasion was Carolyn Tucker, who chose to give an over-view of changes in the main use of land in the Strathalbyn district during 77 years from European settlement 1839 to the formation of WAB in South Australia in 1917. The district was first settled by Scottish immigrants who took up a large tract of land along the Angas River. By 1840 the land was surveyed into 14 Stations with 100's of farmer tenants. Wheat was grown continuously for 20 years until exhaustion caused the tenants to find other means of employment such as mining for copper locally and on Yorke Peninsula or at the Gold fields in Victoria. During this time the land reverted to grazing land. Following SA Government legislation on Closer Settlement, a large Estate was surveyed into 100 - 500 acre blocks where over 200 people were settled with cropping and dairying taken up again. This Act assisted Strathalbyn back to prosperity.

At the September and October meetings arrangements were made to donate several 'Spirit of Rural Women' roses and a brass plaque for Strathalbyn's Memorial Gardens to commemorate 100 Years of WAB which is our project for 2017.

Eight Branch members attended the 100 Years Celebration at Riverton which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Our 22nd November meeting will be the last meeting for a number of our members who wish to resign. This will be a celebration of their achievements as well as our annual Christmas Lunch.

EYRE PENINSULA REGION

Charlton September Guest Speaker Terry Christensen gave us her impressions of her travels in Argentina last May and previously in 1968. Population more than 43 million, Capital Buenos Aeries which makes Sydney look like a village – traffic A very diverse landscape including beaches, deserts, icecaps, wine regions, river deltas ... and many animals, mostly beef cattle.

Spanish speaking but with some German influence as ex Nazis migrated there after the war. Religion is predominantly Catholic.

Mostly apartment living in the cities but with many poor areas of shanties. Some begging and thieving although Terry and partner felt quite safe walking about at night.

There were excellent markets and many with tango dancing; the range of food and wine was good and taxis were cheap in the tourist areas.

In October we celebrated WAB's 100 years with 33 people, 14 current members, 7 ex members, 9 husbands of ex/and current members and 3 visitors.

Minutes of the first meeting of Charlton Branch in April 1950 were read.

Excerpts from a handwritten paper by Audrey Pobke about the early days of the Wanilla branch and excerpts from a paper written by Lorna Low in 1980, (and added to for our activities) were shared.

Lee Russell presented award certificates and a posy to

Kay Williams for 10 year membership of Charlton

Mary Murray for 60 years membership'

Mary Murray lit candles and cut our birthday cake (made and decorated by Liz Mickan)

A 'fancy' supper followed, with an opportunity to 'mix, mingle and reminisce'



Coordinator, Lee Russell presents a 60 year award to Charlton member Mary Murray. Mary has been an enthusiastic member and has contributed to the branch in many ways over her 60 years of membership.

Charlton celebrated 100 years of WAB at a special meeting when members, and husbands, wore their best attire of years gone by from 'the back of the wardrobe!' (the strands of pearls were popular)

Member, Pat Forrest, showed photos and souvenirs and spoke about her holiday to Finland and Russia.

Pinkawillinie:

The subject for the August meeting was Argentina our country of Study. Members had all looked up information on Argentina and spoke on their research. It was a much more diverse and prosperous country than we realized. It would be an interesting country to visit. Members received their centennial glasses

In September members brought treasured items (jewellery, a dressing table set, plates and ornaments) from times gone by and told us of the stories that made them such sentimental articles.

We also organised a street stall to raise funds for our project 'Igniting Kimba' the fund raising group who funded the painting of the silos.

Teacher, Megan Lienert and three students from last year's Powerful Learners Programme at the Kimba school, spoke to us about the ultimate school camp, an assignment the group investigated last year that turned into an actual camp. The students researched, planned and fund raised to enable 12 students to visit Canberra for a week at a cost of \$400.00 each. They were accompanied by 4 adults whose fares etc were part of the deal the students negotiated. They hired a bus and stayed in a hotel where they had their meals, even packed lunches. There were 4 schools staying at this hotel.

They visited such places as Ian Potter Foundation Technology Learning Centre where they came up with some automated process to everyday issues such as feeding the dog and hanging out the clothes; Australian institute of sport and went through the training facilities. They also visited the High Court, Anzac Parade Walk and The War Memorial, Geoscience Australia, Questacon, Parliament house where they acted out their own House of Representatives, and many other places all set up to cater for school groups to give them experiences and ideas they hadn't dream of before going to Canberra. The Girls then answered questions about their trip and Megan explained that Powerful Learners Programme was a programme she runs within the school to extend students. They come out of class for two lessons a week which they have to make up in their own time. They work on assignments and projects that are outside their normal experiences

WAB ONLINE

Liz Calvert asked the question "With many two income households outsourcing ironing and general cleaning etc. are the next generation missing out on being taught how to do their ironing and other household tasks?" The response from eight members was varied; being taught, learning by observation or of necessity; and the differing allocation of household tasks as compared with some years ago!

Jane Smith included her Butter Biscuit recipe which her grandchildren enjoy cooking – and eating!

Melt 125g butter, pour over 140g sugar, add 1 egg and mix in 200g SR flour, top with a choc bit. Bake 10 mins at 350F (180C)

Just a reminder to members of branches if you would like to join the online branch please email WABinSA@gmail.com to get your name added to the contact list and you too could be a part of this great "online" community as your membership is included with your Branch Levies.

Women in Ag to return to foundations

(As reported in the Northern Argus newspaper).



Women in Agriculture and Business SA management team, Janet Cummings, Gawler; Lee Russell, Port Lincoln; Glenice Bourne, Lochaber; Helen Colliver, Moonta Bay; state president-elect Sandra Young, Kalangadoo; Thelma Newman, Strathalbyn; Nadene Jericho, Coonalpyn; and state president Liz Calvert, Manoora.

Members of Women in Agriculture and Business of SA celebrated 100 years of the organisation at events in Riverton in late October.

Reaching this milestone makes WAB the oldest rural women's organisation in Australia.

While celebrations reflected on past achievements, members are looking forward to the future. In 1917 there was considerable opposition to the formation of what were then called women's branches of the Agricultural Bureau. Harold Finnis, acting secretary of the Advisory Board of Agriculture, progressed the idea to assist rural women to learn skills for the home and the farm.

The first branch was formed at Riverton on October 30, 1917, and the concept soon spread to other districts with 157 branches formed over the past 100 years.

A new era of informal education for rural SA women had arrived!

Initially WAB meeting topics ranged from basic skills for the home and garden through to instructions for poultry keeping, the house cow and pig husbandry.

Over time WAB programs included broader topics and members learned about their community, Australia and overseas.

A strong element of WAB has been to represent rural women and their families and from 1937, statewide meetings have included resolutions calling for action on a variety of issues including health, education and agricultural research.

By 1948 there were 72 active branches and WAB members, led by Florence Perrin of Koolunga, pushed for the need to form their own association separate from the men's Agricultural Bureau.

Mrs Perrin became the inaugural president of the renamed Women's Agricultural Bureau Council which had members from Yurgo, Penola, Sheoak Log, Mangalo, Balhannah and Wirrabara.

The motto adopted by the council was "progress and improvement in all ways."

The Department of Agriculture provided extension officers for WAB and membership increased as various skills programs were run in rural communities including leadership schools, meeting procedure workshops, cooking demonstrations and financial management seminars.

In 1999, a new name – Women in Agriculture and Business of SA – was chosen to better reflect the membership and their roles.

A hundred years on from its beginning, most WAB branches meet monthly and organise a program of speakers of interest, trips for education and pleasure and run sessions to learn new skills.

On the program of one branch this year – a visit to a new logo embroidery business, a public meeting on recycling in the local community, a media night with representatives of local media and a meet the candidates night prior to the state election.

WAB has had an online branch since 2007 to connect women who are unable to attend meetings. Each month a topic for discussion is selected and each member can contribute by email. Topics recently have included mineral exploration and mining on agricultural land, useful apps and the use of social media in agriculture and business.

Incoming state president Sandra Young of the Kalangadoo WAB has high hopes for WAB in the future.

“It is a unique organisation and offers so much to rural women, young and old,” she said.

“WAB branches are groups of rural women who are passionate about progressing and improving themselves, their communities and the world in which they live.

“Branches mainly have a mixture of experience and new energy to work together for a common cause.”

Mrs Young believes this mixture of old and new will allow WAB to thrive in the future to face new challenges in a changing world.

The Advertiser also printed an article “*Century of support for rural women*” by Erin Jones in the supplement for the Royal Adelaide Show on September 18th 2017. Members of Cunliffe, Jenny Richardson, Kathryn Fuss and Dulcie Barker gave interesting information about WAB in their interview. .



...d sponsor for WAB.

...er Panas, from Bank SA spoke at the
... year celebrations at Riverton.

Thought for the day:

To succeed in life you need three things – a wishbone, a backbone and a funnybone.

BOOK REVIEW: Janet Cummings, WAB Awards Officer, is an avid reader. Here is her latest recommendation.

"Herring Girl" by Debbie Taylor. This is a book away from the normal type of story. It is one that can not be put down whether the reader agrees in theory or not. A fabulous story which is part historical thriller as well as an emotional drama. It tells of the inhabitants from the same fishing town but almost 100 years apart, going from one era and back. It is a very thought provoking novel with a difference.

I loved the story which is certainly enlightening. - Jan (Awards Officer)



ACWW: INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS' ANNUAL REPORT,

From Helen Colliver

There are three things I wanted to say, firstly

"Thank you to all those who have given me used stamps over the last few months, I have a huge bag full to send to the ACWW person who handles these.

Secondly, subscription notes will be sent out soon, and the fees might be a bit more than last year because the Dollar and the pound are at 58pence today, last year at this time the dollar was 62pence!! Also if there is anyone who pays through the internet and not through me, please let me know so that I know who all our members are.

When sending out invitations to the dinner for Ruth Shanks, I was embarrassed to find that one of our members was a member but as I didn't know, I didn't send her an invitation.

So to ensure this doesn't happen again, please let me know if you are a member separately.

I hope that everyone has a joyous Christmas and Wonderful New Year."

Helen Colliver,

WAB International Officer

WAB Administration and Finance:

PO Box

E: WABinSA@gmail.com

Editor: Lee Russell

Email: ndhlrussell@bigpond.com

A REMINDER ALL REPORTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT WAB NEWS ARE TO BE SENT DIRECTLY TO **YOUR REGIONAL COORDINATOR** WHO WILL THEN FORWARD TO LEE RUSSELL THE WAB NEWS EDITOR.

**NEXT EDITION OF THE WAB NEWS WILL BE DUE
OUT IN May 2018 – Deadline for articles is end of April 2018**