

WAB Newsletter edition number 225, April 2018



President's Report...



Hello WAB Members,

WAB is off to a good start in 2018 by Peter Panas of **Bank SA** agreeing to sponsor us for another year with \$5,000. He and I had afternoon tea in Adelaide in February to discuss our plans for the year and Bank SA will help us out at the Riverland Field Days by allowing us to share their site. It is important that members remember our long term sponsor in financial matters - to support Bank SA as they has supported us. We have a very small Bank SA account number, which bemuses the staff at Bank SA, as we have had the same account since our early history.

I am attending the **Kapunda Farm Fair** in April to raise awareness of WAB and ACWW in this region in the hope of expanding our membership. There are also plans to attend the Cleve Field Days this year. Next year I will attend the Lucindale Field Days and the Karoonda Farm Fair. If you are attending these events, please pop in for a chat!

From December 6th, I have taken over the WAB Admin computer and paperwork, and this way WAB will save expenses. I have delegated some secretarial work to the other members of the Management Team and there are more portfolio officers to take the load off the combined WAB Admin and State President's role. I believe this is working very well and I think we will be more effective this way as well. Thank you to all who volunteered their time for these positions.

In April I will be attending 2 Regional Conferences and then in May I will be busy with 2 events. WAB has been selected to display our history at the NCW(National Council of Women) House History Festival in Adelaide (95 South Tce) and Thelma Newman will be helping me. Also, **Ruth Shanks**, World President of ACWW, is visiting SA and I will be hosting her for 4 days in the Limestone Coast. Together with CWA of SA, there will be two events for all of us to attend

during the week of 13th -21st May, a morning tea and lunch in Tanunda on Monday 14th and a day event in Penola on Wednesday 16th.

While our website is being revamped, our **Facebook** page is very active. Please “Like” and “Follow” our page and send information to add to the page to Sally Grundy. There have been quite a few people visiting our page and it increases weekly. We are fulfilling our goal of becoming more visible in our Community by participating in Facebook and this is certainly the way of the future.

I wish you a most enjoyable WAB experience in our 101st year,

Yours in WAB Friendship,
Sandra
WAB State President

WAB congratulates Wirrega member, Phyllis Salmon

Tatiara Citizen of the Year – Phyllis Salmon

Phyllis has an outstanding record of contribution to the community.

Phyllis’ incredible commitment to the community includes 47 years as a Girl Guides leader, 38 years as a volunteer for Clayton Farm, 17 years as a member, and currently president, of Women in Agriculture and Business - Wirrega Branch (WAB), as well as involvement in the Bordertown Show Society, volunteer at the Bordertown Salvos Thrift Store and volunteer for the Red Shield Appeal.



In 2017, Phyllis Salmon was presented with the Girl Guides South Australia EMU award in recognition of her contribution to Guiding in the Limestone Coast and as a leader in the region’s outdoors and adventurous activities.

Phyllis with Wirrega members Josie Arney, Lynette Staude, Adair Dunsford at the 100 year celebrations

CENTRAL REGION

Cunliffe: Our guest speaker, Vanessa Bouilly gave us an informative talk about how she became involved with her group “SOS” – Stamp Out Suicide Yorke Peninsula Inc. Her background gave us an insight as to why she is so passionate about her group, what they do and how they are involved with the community. The proceeds of our raffle went to ‘SOS’ which is our charity for this year.

Yvonne Correll, our new member who has recently transferred from Lochaber, spoke to us about her family and their farming interests in the South East and York Peninsula. Yvonne has been an ABA representative and now retired, she and her husband are building a new home at Kadina – Cunliffe are feeling lucky to have her as a member.

Rosedale/Sandy Creek member Una Judd recently passed away, aged 92. Una was a Regional Councillor between 1992-96 and State President 1994-95 and WAB member of Rosedale/Sandy Creek since 1964.

Strathalbyn: STRATHALBYN WAB SAYS THANK YOU (as reported in the southern Argus)

The Members of Strathalbyn Women in Agriculture & Business say “Thank You” to all our local friends who over many years have supported our fund-raising efforts on special occasions, i.e. Branch Birthday celebrations and occasions when we have hosted Central Region Conferences.

During 2017 WAB celebrated 100 Years of WAB in South Australia. Strathalbyn Branch Secretary, Thelma Newman was instrumental in facilitating the naming of a new WAB rose, “Spirit of Rural Women”, which was first suggested several years ago by Jeni Jones who later became a Strathalbyn Branch member. The official Rose launch took place on 21 April 2017 in Brougham Place Gardens in North Adelaide with Sophie Thomson doing the honours.

On 28 and 29 October 2017 WAB’s Centenary celebrations came to a climax at Riverton where the first Branch was formed. Strathalbyn members were thrilled to read the report placed on the front page of the Southern Argus 2 November 2017 and sincerely thank the Staff who accorded to us this honour.

In order to show our appreciation it was decided to give back to our community by donating 2 Spirit of Rural Women roses and a bronze plaque to commemorate 100 Years of WAB in South Australia.

The roses were planted and plaque installed in Strathalbyn Soldiers Memorial Gardens by Alexandrina Council Parks & Gardens Officers. The official unveiling took place on Wednesday 31 January by Bennett Dodd who is a Great Grand-son of Strathalbyn WAB's first Secretary, Mrs C.M. Hudd who as a Foundation member was the Branch Secretary for 28 years. Her husband Clyde was Chairman of the Agricultural Bureau and Chaired the WAB Foundation meeting held on 9 March 1936.



L to R: Janet Rankine, Margaret Schmidt, Jeni Jones, Pat McAlinden, Ian Brett (Supervisor Parks & Gardens Strathalbyn), Thelma Newman, Janette Harvey, Heather McMurtrie, Bennett Dodd, Glenys Caust & Marlene Megaw.

Tanunda, a once very active Branch which was formed in June 1950 met for the last time on March 6th 2018 with the purpose of officially closing the Branch. The Branch has given much pleasure and knowledge to so many through the years and the remaining 5 members will continue as either Associate or On Line members of WAB. Remaining funds are to be sent to Coins for Friendship and archival material will be sent to Thelma Newman, WAB Historian, or to the Tanunda Historical Society.

Wepowie/Booleroo Centre



Wepowie/Booleroo Centre secretary, Roma McKinnon with Central Coordinator, Lee Russell with the "Spirit of Rural Women" rose which has been planted in the garden of the Booleroo Centre hospital.

Coonalpyn: No report

Paringa:

Following the Australia Day Celebrations Member for Chaffey, Tim Whetstone sent the following letter to Paringa WAB.

I write to congratulate the team behind the *Paringa Women in Agriculture and Business* on being acknowledged with the Community Services Award at the Renmark Paringa Council Australia Day Celebrations.

This wonderful award recognises a group or individual that has a positive impact on the region and ignites community spirit.

Through the award, the group's commitment to the community which spans more than 50 years, is highlighted. I would particularly like to highlight the group's contribution towards activities such as planting trees in the Paringa cemetery, donating resting seats and participating in fund raising events and other functions across the local community.

Such events are yet another example of the community spirit that exists within our towns and I wish to commend the club and those involved for their hard work and dedication.

Wirrega: November meeting was in the form of a day trip to Kaniva, the first town over the Victorian border on the Melbourne Highway. Members car pooled to Kaniva and started the day with coffee and cake. The Puppet shop was the first business visited. It is relatively new to the town as the lady has re-located from Hahndorf. What a wonderful treasure trove of puppets large and small, jigsaw puzzles and many delights for young and old. After lunch members shopped at a ladies clothing and local produce store. We also heard a guest speaker talk about the organisation "West Wimmera Ladies in Agriculture" of their activities and wide range of courses offered much like our TAFE Courses.

December we celebrated Christmas with a luncheon at the Willalooka Tavern and as it was some distance away, members car pooled. Lovely food and good company made this festive celebration most enjoyable.

Wirrega WAB held a Community event in February at the Tatiara Civic Centre to "Meet the candidates" for the approaching State elections. Three of the standing Candidates attended with apologies from others. The evening commenced with Coffee and Cake. A local cake maker Jo Hunt made a huge cake with the Mackillop Regional map on top which the Candidates jabbed their knives into to make a wish, which was then enjoyed by everyone. The formalities of the evening started with a welcome by the President Phyllis Salmon and Adair Dunsford was the Facilitator of the evening's proceedings.

Each candidate introduced themselves and their policies and Adair brought a pink plastic pig to squeal as the time keeper, which caused much mirth amongst the crowd. At the conclusion

of the introductions, the forum was open to the audience to ask questions of the candidates. A wide range of questions were asked from the large audience and the Candidates replies gave the Community a better understanding of the Candidates views, before election day.

Yurgo: A busy February meeting planning for our 86th Birthday in March and our turn for Regional Conference to be held at Karoonda on April 23rd.

We decided to have a quiet birthday, with lunch at the local cafe.

A letter of welcome sent to Wirrega as new members of the Mallee Region.

LIMESTONE COAST REGION

Kalangadoo: No report

Lochaber: In December *Lochaber* branch of WAB hosted the combined Christmas luncheon with nearby branches *Stewarts Range* and *Padthaway*. The luncheon was held in the dining room of the Bushman Arms Hotel, Naracoorte. Two long tables were set festooned with a Christmas theme, together with a Christmas card for each place setting, inscribed with two up lifting poems. Attached to each card with festive ribbon was a small packet of short breads to celebrate our time together. Each member was greeted with a card with the words from part of a sentence taken from a Christmas Carol, the member then needed to find another who held the rest of the sentence to the carol. This enabled all attending to be sitting with someone from another branch.

Rosemary Miller, Lochaber's president welcomed all and introduced Lochaber member, Paola Zilm who led us in the singing of an Aussie Jingle Bells. Paola had also prepared ten Christmas trivia quiz questions to be answered together with the person seated in the next seat.

Rosemary welcomed our new regional coordinator Narelle Scott from Padthaway's branch and our guest speaker and presenter, Harriet Mort of Blommé Flora.

A special Christmas lunch was enjoyed, and Lochaber member, Glenice Bourne read out a poem taken from an old WAB newsletter, to celebrate our centenary year. In between courses, members struggled, puzzled, chatted and laughed over the Christmas Quiz, with answers to the ten questions. Eventually the quiz answers were given, with the highest score of four correct!



Lochaber member, Michele Jones and guest speaker/presenter Harriet Mort. Michele was the lucky winner of Harriet's floral arrangement.

Lochaber enjoyed a tasting night with Thermomix presenter, Jen Blacker.

Jen has been demonstrating this appliance and presenting in a short time a wide range of food preparation and presentation over the past two years. She became interested in the product when she noted from attending a demonstration herself that fresh food for children could easily be presented quickly and without preservatives and chemicals to enhance colour and flavour. A love of cooking combined with the ease of using



From left to right Meredith Burge, Glenice, Claire Williams and Thermomix demonstrator Jen Blacker.

Thermomix gave Jen the beginnings of a new way of healthy food appearance and taste.

Jen demonstrated a range of delightful, tasting food courses, ranging from pineapple sorbet, Turkish bread with homemade butter, pesto, jams with scones, a beetroot, carrot and walnut salad, followed by a moist chocolate mousse cake. Members were able to watch as the chunky cuts of pineapple and blocks of ice were made into a sorbet within a few seconds. Again, in a short time she made from raw beetroot, carrot, walnuts and feta cheese a lovely fresh salad. On display were various types of sauces, sweet syrups, jams and chutneys, all made using Thermomix.

In March members travelled to visit Clothiers free range hens and eggs enterprise on their 'Greenvale' property. Meeting at the home of Graham & Karen Clothier, members then travelled out to the paddocks approximately two kilometres further away.

The breed of fowl is 90% Isa Brown with 10% Highlander in the breeding. The hens are kept only for twelve months, then sold off at \$5.00 each if possible, rather than being gassed. The family started with 1,000 hens, with two Maremma dogs per paddock. They have two paddocks with one "caravan" in each. The chooks use these caravans to lay their eggs. Hens are bought in at eighteen weeks of age and start laying at twenty two weeks. The eggs are marketed through Splendid Marketing Group in Mount Gambier where eggs are delivered each Sunday.

Members were shown the mechanism to collect the eggs inside the caravan and found the enterprise very impressive. Approximately 920 eggs are collected per day. In the first caravan and paddock the older hens are kept within an electric fence around the paddock boundary, whilst the younger hens in the second caravan need to be kept in a secure fenced area until trained to stay and lay in the caravan. Lots of watering points are required along with Aussie Feeders self feeding boxes.

The enterprise is run by Sam Clothier, although father, Graham helps out quite often. Sam uses Facebook for marketing his product.

Members and visitors commented on how lovely it was to see the hens running free and very quiet, coming up, inquisitive, pecking their trouser legs.



Lochaber President, Rosemary Miller with member Glenice Bourne and her 80th birthday cake.

Lochaber members standing amongst the quiet and inquisitive free range hens



In April Lochaber WAB members and friends travelled to the seaside town of Robe, arriving at Mahalia's Coffee and Cafe at 10.00 am. The business is situated in the Industrial area of Robe and from the outside nothing prepares anyone for the interior of this business. Although not a large shop/coffee roasting house/cafe, it is packed with an array of china, glassware, items of furniture and ceramics to purchase. Leading out through a side door we found tables and chairs also lounges strategically placed along the boundary fence and backyard, interspersed with lush planting of various plants in pots, dividing these areas into small private settings for patrons. Unfortunately, coffee beans were not being roasted in the roasting room when our branch visited.

From Mahalia's we walked a short distance to Sky Seafoods where we were given a tour of the water tanks holding Southern Rock lobsters, some ready for export. Other species of fresh fish are held on the premises. Our tour guide, Stewart explained to members the length of time live lobsters (crayfish) are flown to China and other destinations and the preparation in ice for the journey.

Lunch and meeting at the cafe known as Adventurous Spoon then a visit to the Chinese Memorial which commemorates the 156,000 Chinese who landed at Robe and walked to the Ballarat gold fields in the years 1856 to 1858.

The Lapwing Gallery, in Robe's Institute was our next stop and there we were able to catch up with former Lochaber member, Gill Williams who now lives at Robe. Gill's paintings of various breeds of dogs were a delight to the eye, but she also excelled with her paintings of various birds along with seascapes. The gallery displayed many paintings and other art forms created by local artists.

Members were taking part in ACWW's Women Walk the World and were able to contribute to this cause before leaving.

LOCHABER WAB MEMBERS TRIP TO
ROBE ON 3RD APRIL 2018
CHINESE MEMORIAL, ROBE

Back Row left to right: Anthea Stringer, Marie Blacker, Louise Charlick, Sue Angel, former member Jan Fisk now residing at Robe, her sister Lochaber member Claire Williams and Michele Jones

Next Row left to right: Rosemary Miller, Janet Higgs and Lynette Williams
Sitting left to right: Glenice Bourne, Meredith Burge and Jan Boord



Padthaway: Padthaway WAB Enjoys Getting Together Again”

On February 1, 2018 we all met up after our January break our meeting was held in the home of Narelle Scott. Big news for the Padthaway Branch since last year our member Narelle, has been nominated and accepted the position of Limestone Coast Regional Coordinator. This is a huge position and she will be an invaluable asset to WAB. Thank you Narelle for accepting this position and we as a branch will help support you where we can. Narelle shared with us her passion Cork Leather, sometimes called cork fabric, it is a high quality fabric produced from thin cork shavings obtained directly from the Cork Oak Tree. Much of the production is handcrafted.

- ❖ The innovative characteristics of cork fabric are unique and original.
- ❖ Soft to the touch, pleasant to view
- ❖ Environmentally friendly and ecologically correct
- ❖ Durable as leather, versatile as fabric
- ❖ Waterproof and stain resistant
- ❖ Dust, dirt and grease repellent

Unfortunately we ran out of time to make the purse that she had demonstrated at the SA Rural Women Gathering in Cleve 2017. Narelle showed us how easy it was to cut out and assemble and the finished product was outstanding. She showed us several other items she had made, for example a large leather clutch purse, a makeup bag, an insulated lunch bag. We went into her Aussie Cork room and saw and felt the beautiful rolls of leather/fabric. We are very proud that she has created her own online business. You can find her



Members with some of the cork fabric articles made by Narelle

www.aussiecork.com.au, narellescott@aussiecork, YouTube and face book group is Aussie Cork. Have a look!

Celebrating Argentina The month of March was time for the Padthaway WAB to celebrate Argentina, our annual country of study for 2018. This included decorating the supper room with Argentinean colours, enjoying a guest speaker who had recently travelled to South America and sharing a pooled luncheon with local recipes made by members from the various regions of Argentina.

Bob Williams from Lochaber had recently travelled to South America and was invited as our guest speaker to share his experiences from his tour and specifically Argentina. Bob had also prepared a colourful power point presentation.



He enjoyed the trip thoroughly but recalls going through the Andes was a long and winding climb on a tour bus. It had great views but scary as there were hardly any guardrails. He mentioned if your bus slips off the edge there wouldn't be a lot to send home.

To put it into perspective the Andes is the longest continental mountain range in the world. The range is over 7000km long, 200-700 km wide and has an average height of 4000m. The Andes extends from north to south and passes through seven South American countries. These include; Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina and Chile.

The tour also stayed on a working ranch and guests were able to try more local food. A big part of the diet is meat including delicious steaks. There was an opportunity for wine tasting. The grape industry in Argentina is the fifth largest wine producer in the world and was started through its Spanish roots. Originally the locals consumed 90% of the wine and wanted quantity but not quality. This has changed in more recent years. Argentinean wines started to be exported during the 1990s and have since grown in popularity making them the largest wine exporter in South America. Argentinean vineyards rarely face the problem of insects, fungi, mould and other grape diseases that affect vineyards in other countries. This allows cultivation to occur with little or no intervention from pesticides enabling organic wines to be produced.

Bob was impressed with the Iguazu Falls that border the Argentina Province - Misiones and the Brazilian State - Parana. Iguazu translates in Spanish to "water" and "big". Iguazu is part of the largest waterfalls system in the world. There is a walkway, inflatable boats (you will get wet) and for the more adventurous white water rafting and helicopter flights which Bob highly recommended.

The members had tackled some traditional recipes and put together a comprehensive and tasty menu for all to enjoy. There were 3 different types of empanada which are a Spanish type of pasty. Cabbage stuffed rolls, an eggplant dish, meat kebabs, chorizo stuffed rolls with

chimichurri sauce. Dessert included a quince paste tart, alfajores (a delicious biscuit worth looking up and trying, you will not be disappointed), and a beautiful apple spice cake with caramel sauce and cream.

Congratulations to the Padthaway members for their hard efforts in replicating another cultures food as it certainly was an outstanding feast and interesting afternoon.

Padthaway WAB holds Regional Gathering in 2018

President Beth Gale welcomed State President Sandra Young and Limestone Coast Coordinator Narelle Scott, Members from other branches, Guest Speakers and Guests. All guests received a gift bag on arrival and they were well received. Limestone Coast coordinator Narelle Scott opened our Regional Gathering and explained how she came to live in Keppoch and join Padthaway WAB. Narelle then decided to become a Coordinator for the Limestone Coast and the many mountains she has had to climb on the way there.

Our first Guest Speaker was Stephen Edwards and he followed our country of study Argentina and our theme 'climbing mountains'. He enlightened us on the many mountains he has climbed throughout the world and the trials to climb these mountains and on reaching the top the beauty is worth the pain and hard work to get there. A group of friends with Stephen climbed the Western Arthur Range in Tasmania recently and he shared with us some of the trip through a movie presentation. Chloe Williams then sang, "Climb every mountain" which was beautiful and appropriate.

.The second guest speaker was Veronica Mayfield from Keith, she works for Country Health SA, the South East Integrated Mental Health Services. Veronica said pay attention to early signs, worsening and severe, get to your local GP and arrange a mental health care plan, as different levels require different support plans. There is a men's watch program designed by Australian farmers to help other farmers. Veronica also took on our theme from a mental health point of view that there are many mountains to climb but there is help out there if you just ask or someone asks for you. She got members of the audience out front and they said each person here has an illness whether it is bipolar, depression, diabetes, schizophrenia. They all repeated what the first person said so you couldn't tell the difference of who had what condition making the point that sometimes when we meet a person you don't know what they are suffering on the inside. If you need help please seek advice or call 000 in an emergency or 131465 24/7 Mental Health Emergency Assistance. "Provide support for anyone who may be concerned for someone's well-being".

President Beth Gale read the CWA grace and we broke for lunch where we all went to the Padthaway football club rooms where we were quickly presented schnitzel, chips and salads which were handed around by some member's husbands organised by our member caterer Els Heddle. Thank you to the men for helping with dishes throughout the day.

State President, Sandra Young spoke of the 100 year WAB celebrations in Riverton, the weekend of guest speakers, the WAB rose called "Spirit of Rural Women", the unveiling of the memorial chair and the WAB interpretive sign at Riverton as it was the first branch of WAB opened in 1917.

Guest Speaker Marj Sanderson is a Soroptimist Representative for the Wig Library. Marj was very inspiring informing us what the Soroptimists do and how they support the wig library. They have a room in the Presbyterian Church which is decorated for a private viewing

for people who have lost their hair through chemotherapy or other illnesses and would like a wig until their own hair grows back. The library works similarly to a book library, a joining fee of \$25 is asked for the use of the wig and you can borrow it for as long as you need. The wig comes packed nicely in its own box with a set of care instructions plus shampoo and conditioner. If you are not happy you can return the wig and choose another. They also have other head coverings to borrow i.e. hats and scarves.

Anne Emerson lightened the afternoon firstly with a little poem about a satnav which was hilarious. She then recited one of her own poems titled "It must be Global Warming" which had us all in stitches, she is a very funny lady and very clever. Thank you Anne this was brilliant. A Quiz was held by Secretary Beth Ortlepp about facts about Argentina which brought some laughter and more chocolate prizes. Chloe Williams then sang, "Don't you cry for me Argentina" accompanied by Pamela Walker which was fantastic, well done Chloe thank you very much for making a difference to our gathering.

Our Guest Dance Artists, Phil Ross, Shirley White, Don Rosser and Dorothy Thomas Performed for our gathering, 3 dances all with an Argentinean feel which was very entertaining. Sandra Young made an announcement that President Ruth Shanks from ACWW will visit from Dubbo to speak about this wonderful organisation. They are also highlighting some features of Penola and Penola's talented Simone Kain, who has brought farming and rural life to all children throughout Australia, especially those in cities. Simone is co-creator of George the farmer. Her books are in the national school curriculum. Simone will be bringing her books, CDs and toys for sale on the day. There will be a fundraiser for ACWW and a fun international competition plus a visit to the Mary McKillop visitor centre. This event will be Wednesday, 16th of May 9 AM-3 PM. All are welcome. Please contact Sandra Young for any bookings or information; Mobile: 0408 842 963

President Beth Gale recognised birthday milestone of Glenice Bourne turning 80 and Doreen Trotman turning 90. Both were in attendance. The State Bank in Naracoorte provided a generous donation for our gift bags. We sang the WAB song, accompanied by Pamela Walker to conclude our Gathering.



State President, Sandra Young presented the branch awards, L to R

Trish Kernot 40 years - Stewarts Range WAB,

Janet Higgs 20 years - becomes a life member of Lochaber WAB,

Margaret Hack 10 years - Stewarts Range WAB,

Els Heddle 5 years – Padthaway WAB

and Ramona Perry who is an icon - from Kalangadoo WAB and she received her 50 year badge.

Stewarts Range: no report.

EYRE PENINSULA REGION

Charlton: Randall Wilksch, 2016 Nuffield Scholar, was the guest speaker at Charlton Branch's February 2018 meeting. Randall gave an interesting and engaging presentation entitled 'Encouraging more women in broadscale agriculture'. The presentation was attended by 27 people.

Randall outlined the taxing scholarship application process. He was very surprised to be awarded the scholarship which was funded by Nuffield Australia and GRDC.

His travel itinerary included France, Belgium, USA, Mexico, Brazil and New Zealand, with a group of ten people. When he got home he was seeding the next day.

Randall's interest in this area started with the live cattle export ban even though he doesn't have cattle and doesn't live export. He asked people who was at fault and was told by some that it was the farmers' fault because they don't tell their story well enough. Women in our society buy the food, and we need more women farmers to sell the message that our food is safe because women trust other women.

Randall reported that he spent time with very intelligent and amazing women in farming. There are lots of women in some areas of farming, such as dairy, but not many in broadacre agriculture. It is important for women to realise that they are role models for girls and women. Randall outlined the potential reasons for proportionally fewer women in broadacre agriculture:

- history - the eldest son gets the family farm,
- parents - tell the girls not to be farmers,
- identification - women don't identify themselves as farmers,
- partners - partners expect women to work off-farm.

Randall considers that you should never say you are a farmer's wife - it's a ridiculous term when you do everything except maybe drive the big vehicles. It's about the passion, not the gender.

Randall stated that he is not sure how to change this, but we are food producers and need to have diversity, and we need to tell that to the world.

Peter and Margaret Knife outlined the work of the Eyre Peninsula Community Foundation which is an independent philanthropic organisation working specifically in the Eyre Peninsula area. Our interest was in their assistance with finance for the Eyre Peninsula Home Hospice Service and the Palliative Care Service as these will be our project recipients.

Pinkawillinie: Our February meeting was tinged with sadness as we learnt of the passing of our very enthusiastic member Jean Graefe earlier in the month. She transferred from Caralue

branch in 1993 when it closed after joining in 1972. Jean held various positions in our branch and was a keen participant in everything we did.

We were also sad to hear that her sister Audrey Hutchens has had to relocate to Adelaide due to health problems.

A sheet of riddles were given to members to solve and we all had to put our thinking caps on - some were particularly hard and there were several answers to some of them.

Ellie Schulz an NRM Officer based in Cleve was our Guest Speaker in March. She spoke about some of the aspects of her job. As an NRM Officer she covers the Eastern Eyre Peninsula and her work includes counting shore birds at various locations and we were surprised at the number of different birds at one of our local beaches.

Monitoring Mallee Hens, they are an endangered species and only use the same nest one year in five. Cameras are set up on some active nests revealing how much work the Mallee hen does tending the nest to hatch the chickens.

Biodiversity plots 20mx20m are staked for periods of 5 years and various groups go to the plots to count things such as weeds, birds and native animals.

Control of noxious weeds are a big part of their job. Buffel Grass is one of the worst and the NRM Officers work hard to keep it off Eyre Peninsula as it is completely out of control on the roadside between Pt Augusta and Pt Broughton. They regularly check roadside rest areas and the sides of the road to eradicate it. Box Thorns are also on the 10 worst weeds list. There has been a weed killer developed that is granular, a few granules are enough to kill a box thorn but its down side is that it will sterilise the ground for 5 years. Gazanias and Bridal Creeper are two garden escapees that are on the list.

NRM organise fox baiting making baits from kangaroo meat which they cut up and inject with 1080 poison which they supply to farmers who lay them in a coordinated attempt to control foxes during lambing.

At the end of the meeting Ellie identified some of the garden weeds we had brought along.

WAB ONLINE Overview WAB Online Meeting Feb 2018

Sally kick started the year with an informative newsletter and the topic:

We have a state election coming up on 17th March. Elections tend to bring local issues to the fore.

What are some of the local issues that you would like addressed by our politicians to improve your local community?

Responses included: Gawler pavements, Corella problem with trees. No more encroaching on the surrounding countryside for building purpose. Horricks highway from Gawler to Tarlee, Passing lanes between Auburn and Clare. Limited maintenance and rarely improvement of

country roads. \$ to make Adelaide an attractive destination to the detriment of country areas, Unemployment raised and sealing of the Strzelecki track questioned. At election time it is not always clear who we are actually voting for and the whole procedure is confusing, Wirrega WAB is hosting a Meet the Candidates night to address this issue. Meaningful employment for people with disability. Coonalpyn to get the speed limit lowered to 50, The Mallee Highway from Tailem Bend to Pinnaroo, Pinnaroo to Loxton road and also more passing lanes. Less cost shifting to local government. The state of rural media-more quality journalism. Maintaining country hospitals and education and schools. **We need to elect members for country electorates who will give us a voice.**

Books: A book review of "Sweet Wattle Creek" and also many commenting on enjoying Fiona McIntosh's books after hearing her address at the WAB 100th celebrations.

Hazel Gaynor was another recommended author she has written 'A Memory of Violets', 'The Girl who came Home' and 'The Girl from the Savoy' and also 'Herring Girl' by Debbie Taylor. Coins for Friendship: an online silent auction of donated vouchers is planned.

All WAB members are invited to join the Online group to share in the monthly discussions.

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.

Following our 100 year celebrations the Minister for Regional Development, the Hon Geoff Brock MP, put forward a motion in the last sitting week in parliament congratulating the WAB on its centenary celebration and recognising WAB's achievements.

Dan Van Holst Pellekaan, member for Stuart, also spoke on the motion and his speech is as follows for those who may not have seen/heard it

WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE AND BUSINESS

2nd November

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart) (12:29): I rise to support this very good motion from the member for Frome. Women in Agriculture and Business is an absolutely outstanding organisation in South Australia and have been for 100 years now, as we know from the centenary celebrations that were held in late October in Riverton. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend those celebrations due to other electorate commitments. I know that Kendall Jackson, the Liberal candidate for Frome, was able to attend. She said it was an outstanding event supporting a truly wonderful organisation.

I have been fortunate, though, to attend other Women in Agriculture functions—a tremendous one once in Booleroo. Quite a few years ago, they asked me to come and speak with them. They have a very strong presence in that part of the world. Not too many months ago, I was able to attend a very special event for Women in Agriculture and Business here in Adelaide in the park in North Adelaide just off O'Connell Street, where they actually had the ceremonial planting of the rose that was bred to celebrate women in South Australia and the contribution they have made over many years.

As we know, Women in Agriculture have been around for 100 years. Interestingly, they started in Riverton. They were actually created there in Riverton. It is a bit unfortunate that they do not have a branch in Riverton anymore, but they are very strong in many other parts of South Australia. The working and social interaction between men and women in country and outback South Australia could not be more important.

I know it is important in the city. I am not comparing in any way, but my experience with the way families and businesses and communities operate in country and outback areas is that they could not and would not be what they are without organised, capable, hardworking, nurturing women who contribute everything you could possibly imagine, from raising families all the way through to leading large businesses in rural South Australia.

An interesting thing is that rural country areas, outback areas are sometimes considered to be more conservative, a bit more old-fashioned and maybe more chauvinistic, but let me tell you that men in country and outback areas value the women they live and work with enormously. There are features of country and outback life that perhaps to city dwellers might seem to be a bit more conservative, but let me tell you that it does not flow through in any way to respect for women or the understanding by men that women in country and outback areas can contribute to leadership roles of all sorts of descriptions.

There are women leading school governing councils, there are women who are principals, there are women who lead hospitals, there are women who lead transport organisations and there are women leading in senior police roles. There are women in every level of society in country areas, and men are glad to have them there. Men do not want to drag them back down. Men do not feel uncomfortable in that role at all. Let me say that that flows through across different ethnic and racial backgrounds as well. In Aboriginal communities, women play an incredibly strong leadership role in many ways.

In migrant communities in country and outback South Australia, women play a very important leadership role. Throughout country and outback South Australia, women are recognised as the people who will sometimes be supportive, sometimes be working side by side and sometimes be leading to make sure that the right things happen in their families, in their homes, in their communities and in their workplaces. In country and outback South Australia, we celebrate that fact, so I support the member for Frome's motion wholeheartedly.

Women in Agriculture and Business is a very significant organisation that contributes in the most grassroots of ways and also to some of the most senior leadership roles that exist in the nation. Their advice is valued everywhere they go. They are an outstanding organisation and I

am very pleased to have many friends and acquaintances who are members of Women in Agriculture and Business.

It has been decided not to proceed with the proposal to produce a WAB book celebrating our members. However Janet Cummings, our Awards Officer had already made her contribution and she is happy for it to be shared here. If anyone else would like to send their story we will include it in future newsletters.

Janet Cummings. – “Getting to Know Me – My Story”

I was born during the 2nd World War in Worcester, U.K. on Wednesday, 10th March 1943 to be the only child of Mabel and Ernest Cotton.

In primary school I was involved in many school activities, concerts, sporting events and becoming a prefect in my final year. Having passed the entrance examination, I then attended Worcester Royal Grammar School for Girls. Not an enthusiastic student much preferring the sporting side, I represented the school playing netball, hockey, tennis and athletic events. On leaving I studied at the Technical College where, having succeeded in shorthand and typing, I was employed as a ‘Girl Friday’ for the Norwich Union Life Insurance Company.

During my teenage years I joined the British Red Cross Society, cycled many miles with my Dad and loved to watch him play lawn bowls. I was always an avid reader and my Mum taught me to knit and sew. However, the family’s favourite was playing boxed games and cards which continues on with our children and grand-children.

How did I meet Trevor, the love of my life? There is a little story. In the area I lived in was an oval where all the young people went to throw and kick a ball around with any rule goes! Jumping to catch a ball I was tackled and brought to the ground by a boy when, for no reason, a coat was thrown over us and the boy took the chance to kiss me. Nobody noticed and the game continued. I was about thirteen. About two years later I was shopping with a girlfriend, Gill. We were followed home by a young man. His interest was in Gill so I left them to talk. Having made a date with Les, the young man, Gill asked me if I would go with her as a blind date for a friend of his. Yes, you guessed it, it was the boy under the raincoat and as they say the rest is history.



During our younger years we enjoyed cycling, roller skating and mastered ballroom dancing, although our favourite was to ‘rock and roll’ which we continued in later life to the seemingly

embarrassment of children and grandchildren! (although our son did once confess that they were really proud of us!!)

After getting married in 1964, and the birth of daughter Rachel and son Rob, we decided in 1971 to become '10-pound poms' and sailed in June on the "Fairsky" staying on Pennington Hostel for 12 months before moving to St Agnes living there for 21 years. I worked for Myer, Tea Tree Plaza for 20 years mainly in Soft Furnishings which involved every facet of window dressing and included a great deal of paperwork! The following years were spent doing all the things that bringing up children, running a household and working entails.

In 1991 our first grand-child was born and unfortunately my Mum (who emigrated in 1995, my Dad having passed away in 1964) developed Alzheimer's so I decided to retire. To keep fit and occupied I joined a walking group, (which Trevor joined on retiring in 1996), learnt Tai Chi, took calligraphy lessons and besides reading, enjoyed cross-words and box puzzles.

1992, with both children having left home, the decision was made to move to Williamstown in the Barossa Valley, getting to know the area and residents by collecting for cancer and working the Census, joining the local church Ladies Fellowship, and from its inception was Secretary for the Williamstown Garden Club, a position that I held until, due to ill health, I had to resign after 17 years. I joined Williamstown branch of Women in Agriculture (now and Business) and was a member from 1994 moving to Rosedale/Sandy Creek branch on the closure of Williamstown branch. I represented the Lower North region on Council for 4 years (1999 – 2003). At this time, I became Awards Officer, a position I still hold. As Councillor I gained confidence and knowledge about obtaining grants and the correct way to approach governing bodies, so much so that I was able to help Master Weaver Katarina Urban apply for, and succeed, in getting grants to produce a large tapestry depicting local icons etc. of the Barossa Valley which now hangs in a hall in Tanunda. With Merle Hoffmann from Tanunda branch I helped the organising of a tree planting and re-instatement of the W.A.B. Golden Jubilee plaque at Northfield where 101 trees had been planted in 1947. I have been Reporter and filler-in of most positions for both branches since I joined. I like the idea of fund raising for a worthwhile cause, studying a Country, competitions and learning from speakers but most of all always coming away from meetings smiling after such great fellowship.

Trevor and I moved to Gawler in 2007 to downsize and be closer to facilities which proved the right move when in 2010 I had cancer and was told I would never walk again. I have proved them wrong although have to use a walker outside.

I still attend meetings and am an On-Liner. I would say to everyone keep smiling and enjoy life.

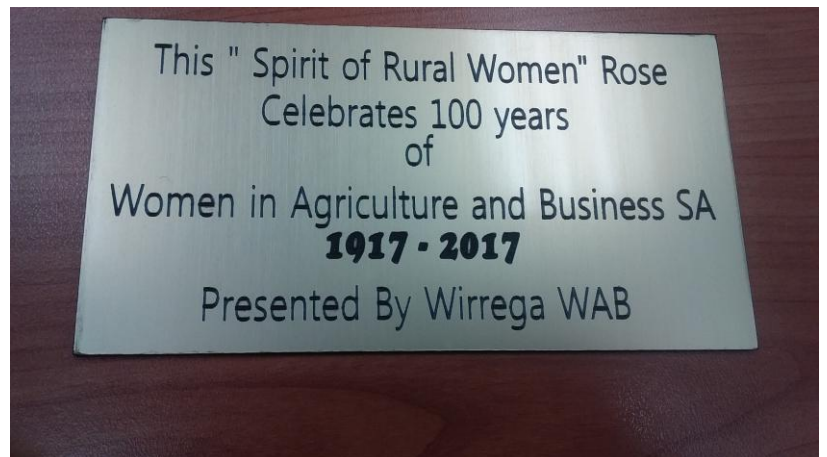
WAB received an email from Tanya Wilkins
Principal Communication and Education Officer
Communications and Education Services
About funding for the **Augusta Zadow Awards**

Do you have an idea, project or research that delivers significant benefits to women and young workers in South Australian workplaces? The 2018 Augusta Zadow Awards is offering up to \$45,000 in grants towards this cause. In previous years, this award has invested in projects and research to assist farmers and those in regional areas, particularly around farm safety, new bending and lifting techniques that reduce loads on the knees and lumbar spine, and important awareness raising in the workplace of the potential impact of hazardous substances on fertility and pregnancy.

[Submissions are open.](#) Now is your chance to make a difference

Open the 'Submissions are open' for more information.

Spirit of Rural women roses planted around the State commemorating 100 years of WAB Wirrega branch



The rose, with plaque, planted near the entrance of the Bordertown Memorial Hospital.

Strathalbyn branch

The Great Grand-son of our first WAB Secretary unveiled a plaque to commemorate the planting of 2 Spirit of Rural Women roses at our local Strathalbyn Soldiers Memorial Gardens and the celebration of 100 Years of WAB in SA.



To clarify procedure for Open Forum here are the guidelines -

- 1.** Items are to be sent to the State President in writing from branches at least two weeks prior to Regional Conferences / Gatherings.
- 2.** If an important or timely issue comes up at another time of the year, these can also be sent in to the President in writing to follow up.
- 3.** Written items need to contain supporting information.
- 4.** Management may send issues out to Branches to action quickly as required.
- 5.** For Conferences or Gatherings, a rep from the proposing branch will be asked to speak to the motion/issue.



Are we all supporting BANK SA , our sponsors over many years.

People with many interests live not only the longest but the happiest.



ACWW: INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS' REPORT

Hello Members,

This is the time when Women from many countries “Walk the World” raising funds for ACWW. It’s a very simple thing to do! Find a few sponsors, and Walk somewhere! The ladies of Lochaber Branch have done just that. Members visited nearby town of Robe, a lovely seaside area, and walked along the streets - that’s money raised for time spent SHOPPING!

How Easy! Now, what could your branch do to raise some funds for the very worthy cause of ACWW? I'd love to hear from you all.

There are two ACWW conferences on the Horizon for members. The Triennial World Conference will be held from 4th to 10th April, 2019, in the Convention and Exhibition Centre, Melbourne Victoria. Registration for this conference will be available soon on line, or will be detailed in the next "Countrywoman" magazine.

The next South Pacific Area Conference will be held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, in mid June 2020. Mrs Gail Commons will be travelling there in mid June this year, and will have details available when she returns.

This year we have six branches who have taken out membership of ACWW, they are Cunliffe, Kalangadoo, Lochaber, Stewart's Range, Wirrega and Online. Membership is only \$50 per branch and members then can see the magazine and catch up on all the news from around the World. We also have many members of WAB who are individual members, either annually, or for three years. If you have paid your membership online instead of through me, could you please advise me of this as I would like to know how many of our WAB are members, especially when special events occur and invitations are sent out.

We are very pleased that our World President, Mrs Ruth Shanks of Dubbo, N.S.W. is making a visit to S.A. especially as she was unable to attend our 100 year celebrations last year due to her husband's illness.

Ruth will be visiting Tanunda where she will be hosted by the C.W.A. on 14th May with a morning tea, followed by her speaking and then a pooled luncheon. Ruth will also visit in Adelaide, and then Penola where she will be hosted by WAB and accommodated and travel with State President, Sandra.

These days writing letters is called "Snail Mail", but there are still many who use the Postal services around the world. ACWW has a Friendship Link which encourages members worldwide to communicate and become friends. This has been a "penfriend" link in many ways, but there are many who now connect through the internet, it's up to each person really. If you would like to connect and make friends through ACWW in this way, the Friendship Links Co-ordinator, Pat Weitzmann would love to hear from you.

Send an email to 'info@acww.org.uk' or write to Friendship Co-ordinator, ACWW, AO4 Parkhall, 40 Martell Road, London, SE21 8EN, United Kingdom.

Finally, a big Thank you to members who have sent get well wishes whilst I was ill in hospital and since, it was greatly appreciated.

Best Wishes for a great year in 2018.

Helen Colliver,

WAB International Officer

Associated Country Women of the World

70 Countries
365 Member Societies
9,000,000 Members



Friendship
Mutual support
Practical help

Melbourne

2019 World Conference

Guests and non members welcome

Save the Date!

4-10 April

Melbourne
Convention
and Exhibition
Centre
4-10 April
Hosted by

Expressions of interest:
03 9827 8971
admin@cwaofvic.org.au




The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc.

WAB Administration and Finance: Sandra Young

33 Bridges Drive, Southend SA 5280

E: WABinSA@gmail.com

Editor: Lee Russell

Email: ndhrrussell@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. If emailing reports simply include Newsletter Editor by cc to LEE at ndhrrussell@bigpond.com when emailing to your Coordinator.

NEXT EDITION OF THE WAB NEWS WILL BE DUE OUT IN August 2018 – Deadline for articles is 15th August 2018