

National Agriculture Day 2018, 21st November, 2018

Theme – Grow for Good

“SA still rides on the farmer’s back” was the final remark by Rob Kerin, Primary Producers SA Chairman, at the 100yr celebrations of Women in Agriculture & Business of SA (WAB) in Oct, 2017. Rob gave us a positive picture for agriculture and the food industry in the near future. I believe he is correct.

On average, each Australian farmer provides healthy and nutritious food for 400 Australians and 600 people around the globe, helping to keep the world healthy and strong, while supporting local and overseas economies.

Today , on National Agriculture Day, we are celebrating the remarkable contribution of Australian farmers by considering how our food came onto our plates. Let us consider how much manpower, technology, science and industrious labour has been spent to enable us to be well fed, enough to live happy and productive lives.

We are celebrating the achievements of such innovative South Australians as Simone Kain and Ben Hood, who brought George the Farmer to the primary schools of Australia to share the stories of our farmers. There is also Deanna Lush and Belinda Cay from AgCommunicators who are doing an amazing job of educating South Australian high school children about agriculture as a career.

WAB is a dynamic communication network for rural women, especially involved or interested in primary production. Branch programs often revolve around agriculture, hearing from guest speakers or even visiting various farms and other food industries – robotic dairies, an organic strawberry farm, a salmon fish farm, a rare goat & sheep farm, a bee farm, hydroponic farming, etc. Our members are always ready to learn of new ideas (eg unmanned aerial equipment) to take back to their farming families and of course safety on the farm is of paramount importance. At the recent State Conference, we were introduced to Safe AG Systems, an on-line tool to manage safety in agriculture.

We welcome any women on the land to join WAB for support, learning skills and increasing one’s knowledge bank to help Australian agriculture to flourish.

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