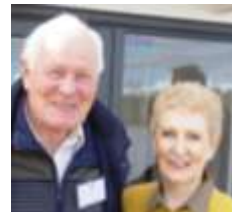
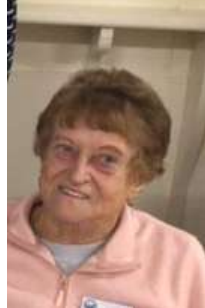




WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE AND BUSINESS OF SA NEWSLETTER NUMBER 243 July 2022



STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 2022 State Conference and AGM is done and dusted! What a great event it was, meeting up with members and their partners after 12 months. We felt it was like a happy family reunion – that is our WAB family. It was a lovely feeling knowing in person except for one member and her partner.

Retired Promotions Officer Helen Colliver has prepared a comprehensive report on the weekend's activities, it is published in this issue of WAB News.

I must compliment the facilities and food that was provided to us by staff at The Hub, Mannum. A community facility owned by the Mid Murray Council. We were served copious amounts of food, some even home made. How spoilt were we? The Hub in Walker Avenue is highly recommended.

The presentation of \$3,840 to Glaucoma Australia was made in a Zoom meeting to their CEO Richard Wylie who was most grateful to branch members who worked hard in their fundraising efforts. I plan to have a recording of this available in a few days, to members via WAB's You Tube channel.

Election of Office Bearers 2022-2023

State Management Team

RC= Regional Co-ordinator

State President	Narelle Brooksby	President Elect	Vacant – no nominations received
State Treasurer	Nadene Jericho	Central RC	Yvonne Correll
Eyre Peninsula RC	Sandra Wischki	Limestone Coast	Vacant – no nominations received
Mallee RC	Fiona Armstrong		

Portfolio Holders

International Officer	Joyce Chapman	Promotions	Gini Gale
News Editor	Lee Russell	Website Mgr	Vacant
Social Media Mgr	Sally Grundy	WAB Delegate	Joyce Chapman

Congratulations to those newly elected and a big thank you to those who are continuing in their positions.

We had a few technical difficulties combining WAB equipment with The Hub's. The Zoom meetings held during the day were recorded, but until I download them to start editing the videos, I won't know the qualities of the recordings. The sound in the conference room wasn't the best but let's see how it worked out.

Get Online Week (part of the Be Connected initiative) is happening on 17 October at 7.30pm and 19 October 2022 at 1.30pm, you can choose the date that suits you. Start talking to your branch members and organise to participate in the Zoom presentation as a group. My Family File folders have been put together and a representative of each branch has taken home their respective box of folders for distribution to members. There will be interviews with a General Practitioner, a Lawyer and a Funeral Director who will give you hints and tips on how to organise your family's personal documents. Don't miss it!

Looking forward to "seeing you" at Get Online Week Zoom meeting.

Yours in WAB

Narelle Brooksby (prev Scott)

WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE AND BUSINESS OF S.A. STATE CONFERENCE – AUGUST, 2022.

State President Narelle Brooksby welcomed all present to “The Hub” at Mannum and introduced Mid Murray Council’s Deputy Mayor Cr Simone Bailey, who welcomed us to Country, the Mallee region and told us a little about the hopes and achievements of the region.

Yvonne Correll, WAB Central co-ordinator and co-ordinator of the Archiving of our WAB History records, launched the policy for all regions and branches to implement.

Following Morning Tea, President Narelle introduced Morna Young, Group General Manager HR - Compliance of Thomas Foods, a local South Australian Company whose head office is in Adelaide. Morna told us about the company’s fire in January 2018, which destroyed the Murray Bridge Meatworks and how devastating it was to the Company. The company process over 120,000 head of animals per week and run a large Feedlot at Tintinara in the South East, consisting of 8 farms, which graze 16,000 head of cattle and improvements are underway to enlarge it to 30,000 head. Feed for the animals is sought locally and from growing their own on the farms.

The Company has International Offices with opportunities for workers in Canada, U.S.A., England, Netherlands, China(Shanghai)Tokyo, and in Adelaide. Three Generations of the Thomas Family have been involved with Management. The company has been pleased to be able to keep all employees during Covid.

The Operating Plants are required to be inspected by Government Officers and to ensure all is compliant, especially with “Halal” operations for the Middle East.

Another Business of Thomas Foods is FREW FOODS International, which became part of the Company in 2020. 500 are employed here at Stawell in Victoria. There are 300 employed at Lobethal. Goats are also processed by the Company and sold to 8 other companies. 80% of all production is exported. Automation won’t lessen the need for workers, who all are given training at the Company. Skins are processed and sold, so nothing is wasted. Total Turnover exceeds Two Billion. The Thomas Family intends to remain a Family Company.

Members thanked Morna for her informative presentation and were pleased to learn about such a successful fully Australian Company.

Following a delicious Luncheon, we had a Zoom presentation to Richard Wylie, CEO of Glaucoma Australia, presenting him with a donation of \$3,840 raised by Branches of WAB. Richard explained that Glaucoma has no cure, but that treatment can help. Glaucoma Australia receives no help from Government and all money raised goes towards free treatment for people. He sincerely thanked members for their Donations.

The Annual Meeting was conducted, details of which will appear elsewhere in the newsletter.

Narelle, State President explained “My Family File” to us, that all members would be receiving Files for their personal documents and wishes to be kept in. Narelle has applied for a grant of \$1,000 to fund this project for all Branches to distribute to members. This will be launched during Get Online Week, facilitated by Good Things Foundation. The project will be launched during Get Online Week via Zoom and will include interviews with a General Practitioner, a Lawyer and a Funeral Director, covering initiatives such as Advanced Care Directives, Power of Attorney and recording your Final Wishes plus more. Two meetings will be held on Monday 17 October and Wednesday 19th. Further details will follow.

Local Historian, Leonore Nuske, from the Mannum History Group, took us through the early days of the River Trade, boats, Paddle steamers and Wheelers that helped make History along the River. Mannum is much more a Tourist Town than it was in the past and its history is a feature of activity employing locals and others who volunteer.

Robyn Bishop from Monarto Safari Park, which has changed its name from Monarto Zoo and is now the biggest Park by far with over 160,000 visitors, increasing again since covid restrictions were eased. There are walking trails, mountain bikes and a new Wild Africa Development with Onyx, Ostrich, Giraffe, Zebra, Nyala, and Southern White Rhinos.

A new aspect of the Park is “Aboriginal Learning on Country” which teaches students about native plants and bush gardens. They value add by making jams and other items. Weaving from native reeds and other activities are being learned by local residents. Herbal teas, made by the park are popular, even with the chimpanzees, whose photographs featured in Robyn’s visual presentation, drinking readily of them!

Many native species are now being reared and sent back to their native habitat, such as Hopping Mice sent to Northern Areas and Bettongs to the Innes National Park on Yorke Peninsula. Some Wallabies have just been sent to the Northern Territory and to the APY lands. We all really enjoyed hearing about the animals and showed our appreciation with applause.

There were no Open Forum items submitted, but discussion took place about Memberships of WAB and also about problems within the Medical Profession and Hospitals etc.

Members boarded the bus and headed for the town of Palmer and it’s historic Hotel, where all enjoyed their evening meal, accompanied by a few Jokes. Reboarding the bus, members departed for “Meldanda Dark Sky Reserve” for a presentation by Chris Tugwell, President of Mid Murray Landcare Group, who showed slides of dark and light areas of South Australia and the World. He also explained how light impacts on native animals and plants and how the population can learn to manage lights on their home properties.

Sunday commenced with coffee at “Picklemees Grandma” Café, followed by group tours of the Mannum Museum and the cruise on the paddlewheeler ‘Mayflower’, both of which were extremely enjoyable and informative. Members noticed that the River Murray was quite full and that the History of the Town and its River Trade were very well documented. Members also visited the local Markets and other shops and town features.

We have all learned much about our South Australian region of the Murray-Mallee and thanks go to the State Management Team for the organisation of a great Conference.

Helen Colliver
Retired Promotions Officer

AROUND THE BRANCHES

CENTRAL REGION

Cunliffe: Members visited the Triple B cafe at Wallaroo for their April meeting.

As we hadn’t had a meeting for several months due to Christmas & outings we caught up on WAB matters as well as Yorke Peninsula Field Days activities.

Unfortunately the guest speaker who was going to demonstrate “chair yoga” was unavailable on the day so we enjoyed a coffee and social get together.

Heather Simpson from the University of the 3rd Age, Yorke Peninsula branch, gave a very interesting and informative talk at our May meeting. The branch was formed in Kadina in 2004 and has approximately 120 members from all over the peninsula. Classes are held wherever there is a demand and subjects range from mahjong to circle dancing, exercises, photography, and many more.

Members decided to send \$100 to Coins for Friendship and \$605 to our project. This included \$500 from our Yorke Peninsula Field Day disbursement fund.

May meeting where members brought along something old from the kitchen that they still use. Items ranged from icecream scoops, jar openers, yellow handled knife, recipe book, cooking tray and a musical biscuit barrel. The Cooks [Jenny Richardson & Dulcie Barker] took over the kitchen and Jenny made a pineapple dump cake using one dish while Dulcie made gluten free biscuits using a packet cake mix [only 4 ingredients] and cooking sausage rolls in the airfryer. A delicious pooled lunch was enjoyed by all.

Rosedale/Sandy Creek: WAB are sad to farewell the Rosedale/Sandy Creek Branch after their decision to close their Branch. Their final meeting was

a luncheon which was a very happy but nostalgic one. We had a lovely meal and then presented our President Janet Cummings with a small gift and also, John Schultz who has served us as our auditor for about 40 years. We had lots of happy conversations and then Cynthia Semmler proposed a toast to our Branch which we all reciprocated.



Left to right - Dawn Schultz, Janet Cummings, Eunice Simpfendorfer, Jan Gregson, Cynthia Semmler (behind), Claire Steggles. John Schultz is half in and half out of photo, on left.

Cynthia Semmler presenting a thank you gift to Claire Steggles – Secretary of Rosedale/Sandy Creek.



At our June, and final meeting, members took turns to express memories and special highlights of their time in WAB

Dawn Schultz – Fondly remembers the Skits performed, Birthday celebrations, highlight for her was 60th year award
Janet Cummings – Her Councillor Nomination. Rural Councillors would stay at Janet’s home. Activities at Northfield with Merle Hoffmann and the planting of tree at Northfield. Meeting Pt. Augusta Mayor Joy Baluch.

Hilda Lange – Joining the WAB Choir. Holding Offices of President, Secretary etc.

Jan Gregson – Invitation to join Padthaway Branch – Southern Councillor, 2 years as State President. Meeting many branch members.

Cynthia Semmler – WAB Friendship and a break from the farm

Eunice Simpfendorfer – Wonderful memories of Choir. Friendships through WAB

Claire Steggles – 100th year celebration of WAB held at Riverton. Conferences attended. Friendships and learning experiences.

‘As attending Regional Co-ordinator officiating at the Rosedale/Sandy Creek Branch I was delighted to hear of the value that WAB had presented to members in the numerous ways mentioned above in Claire’s report. I had never before heard of the WAB choir which members so enjoyed giving them the opportunity to participate in community functions.

The appreciation expressed of the learning opportunity within WAB through members accepting leadership roles ultimately giving them confidence to accept positions in other organisations was shared by several.

Rosedale/Sandy Creek Meetings have been a most enjoyable part of my role as regional co-ordinator and I will miss the interaction with members.’

Thanks and regards,

Yvonne Correll

EYRE PENINSULA REGION

Charlton: ABC Radio Breakfast Presenter Emma Pedlar joined with Charlton WAB for their June meeting sharing some of her life's experiences which has led to almost 20 years working with the ABC in Pt Lincoln.

Very shy as a child, Emma enjoyed the company of friends but never enjoyed being the centre of attention. Opportunity to be part of a school radio station revealed a love of being behind a microphone, and school drama productions fostered a love of acting, still enjoyed today. From a rural upbringing Emma tasted the wider world with time in Switzerland as an Exchange Student followed by three years at University in Adelaide studying Journalism. The years away cemented her desire to return to her rural roots where she delights in giving to her community.

Emma felt a concern about mental health and the lack of people talking openly about it so she made videos encouraging people to share their difficulties. This led to the formation of Mentally Fit E P. The Pandemic showed Emma that for people living alone, and not being able to socialise, radio was a friend. She tries to bring fun into the Breakfast Show and has introduced a segment 'Feel Good Friday'.

Sandra Wischki presenting a gift to Emma Pedlar (left).

Sandra was presented with her Five Year Membership Award with special thanks for her valuable contribution to Charlton WAB.



On-Line: – TOPICS WE HAVE DISCUSSED

In May our focus was on **Future Food Supplies** with the increasing sale and development of agricultural land for housing a real threat. Mary mentioned the Trade War with China and asked what we thought the future holds for producers of grapes, grain, cattle and sheep to mention only a few items that are currently “embargoed”. Sally G sees price fluctuations their only issue as they continue to experience solid demand for their sheep and cattle locally and Sally also feels that wise water use will be increasingly important and renewable energy should ensure sustainability. Barb talked about the growth of home and community gardens and how local Councils like Victor Harbor are promoting “Edible Verge” gardens. One more positive is how many School gardens are being developed so children know where food comes from and how good it can taste. Sandra stressed the importance of eating seasonal foods and buying local produce and wonders why people are complaining about supply shortages when many can still remember WW2 and real shortages. We survived (and thrived)! Sandra also said most Local Councils make their Development Plans available for public scrutiny and concerned citizens can become involved and influence or prevent undesirable development. Anne stressed the importance of Food Security and was another to express concern with the development of prime land for housing. She has purchased assorted Vegepods – waist height, insect proof, self-watering AND on wheels. Smaller Vegebags are good for Tomatoes and can be moved into the sun or out of bad weather.

In June Mary asked everyone for their opinion on the increasing use of unnecessary **Background Noise** in television both on the news and in other programmes. Mary wondered if others thought such intrusive NOISE as opposed to decent MUSIC was really necessary and as someone who used hearing aids she felt that the addition of noise competing with people's voices made it increasingly difficult for anyone with impaired hearing to hear what the people were saying. Jane found the speed at which some people speak, actors and presenters alike, made them difficult to follow and understand and wondered if our older brains could not now compute what was easy when we were younger. A Bluetooth connection direct from TV to hearing aids has markedly improved Jane's TV watching

enjoyment. Joyce shared her main “blood pressure raising” gripe – and it’s the footy commentators on TV and their tone and comments which annoy her even when she’s not watching the game! Anne emphasised “The Joy of Conversation” and felt there was often too much noise at functions or dinners when no-one wanted the intrusive loud music to be played anyway! Tiled floors and hard surfaces often increase the noise levels.

Nadene enjoys having music playing at home as it helps her get started on jobs but sometimes she finds it to be a distraction. Her pet hate is the screaming audience on TV shows such as The Voice where you can’t hear the contestant singing and at that point Nadene changes the channel or turns off the TV. Sandra feels there is a big difference between background noise and good music and feels that Classical music can create a more relaxed atmosphere. Sandra mentioned an experiment she conducted when teaching Science at primary school. She played Baroque music to students taking a test (with their knowledge and awareness) and watched their reactions during the 5 minutes of music and the 5 minutes of silence before a repeat of the music – and then the silence. She felt their concentration improved when the music was playing, and their fidgeting increased and concentration decreased when the music stopped. Very interesting! Sally P likes music to fit the mood of each occasion be it a funeral or a happier gathering. Birdsong and the sounds of farm animals give Sally much pleasure, but the noise of farm vehicles gives her essential feedback on everyone’s whereabouts!! Barb did some research and found that music was used to enhance the plot, characters, and type of action in many films and scientific reasoning was used to choose specific music.

For our July topic, Barb asked the question, **Are We Over-Governed?**

Everyone who participated in the discussion was unanimous in saying Yes! The cost of having three levels of Government in a country of only 27 million people is astronomical. Things we felt we could do without included Politicians who need Consultants to hold their hands and help them keep their jobs; ridiculous regulations totally out of step with reality; officials who blame others for anti-social behaviour; and government departments staffed by people trying to enforce rules made by out-of-touch officials. Things we thought were needed were more common sense, greater initiative, and a sense of responsibility.

Which of the three levels of government would we divest ourselves of if we had the opportunity to do so? Local government is important and possibly costs far less than the State and Federal governments which often duplicate important areas of administration and then disagree on the how and the why – and even the outcomes!!! State and Federal politicians cost the taxpayer significant amounts of money when in office and then continue to cost significant amounts after they leave parliament. However, even though we’d all love to get rid of many of the politicians occupying the assorted seats of power, we thought it might be very difficult to do so. Nadene summed it up well by saying that if we started to do something to rid ourselves of these people there would be working committees set up costing millions to investigate all the possibilities. Terrible but probably True!!

LIMESTONE COAST REGION

Kalangadoo: Oops, no report received.

Lochaber: The lunch that followed the AGM was inspired by Thailand, our country of study for 2021/22. Most members brought a dish and enjoyed researching and cooking a new recipe. We enjoyed curries and rice dishes to name a few. Facts about Thailand were shared and we all left the meeting with a new knowledge of Thailand’s cuisine and culture.

Our Guest Speaker, Ellis Roberts from the National Trust spoke about the extensive HQ Model railway on display in the Sheepsback Museum which was built by Lindsay Barker in his shed in Mylor. Lindsay bequeathed the display to the National Trust in 2021, so it could give pleasure to others for many years to come. The South Australian Rail Modellers Association helped to set up the track, which is 20 metres long, taking 8 days to reassemble on site.

The display depicts the line that travelled from Wolseley to Mt Gambier via Naracoorte and also the first railway line in the South East, from Naracoorte to Kingston. The intricate, to-scale modelling, shows buildings from the 1950s era, true to detail. Extensive landscapes have been painted and built.

It is a truly impressive display that Naracoorte is very fortunate to have.

For our August meeting we attended the Migrant Resource Centre in Naracoorte with guest speaker and manager Frances Kirby. The centre exists to help new people settle into the area and assists in finding employment, housing, accessing education, managing government programs such as Medicare and Centrelink and general integration into the community. Naracoorte has seen its population change throughout the past 10 years. We have many people of different cultures moving to the area as humanitarian entrants and those seeking a tree change. A range of employment opportunities exist here in the agricultural industry which is dependent on people from Africa, Middle East, Asia, South America, Pacific Islands and Europe to operate. The Migrant Resource Centre works with the local council to build a cohesive community in the Naracoorte region.

Following the Migrant Resource Centre members visited the Rotary Peace Pole in Naracoorte. Peace is an area of focus for Rotary International. The Peace Pole was a project developed in 1955 to spread the message of peace on earth. There are now poles located in over 200 countries. Judy Stafford a Rotary member spoke to us about how Rotary supports projects to address conflict, poverty, discrimination, ethnic tension, lack of access to education and unequal distribution of resources. We enjoyed a lunch at a local café.

Padthaway: members and friends learnt about Red Tailed Black Cockatoos

Skye MacPherson, works for Birdlife Australia based in Penola (birdlife.org.au) and is the Project Coordinator for South Eastern Red Tailed Black Cockatoos (*Calyptorhynchus banksii*) The Red Tailed Black Cockatoo are on the endangered list and there are about 1500 in the South East. Skye had a beautiful female cockatoo that had been unable to be saved and had been preserved for viewing and presentations. As its name suggests, the Red Tailed Black Cockatoo has black plumage and scarlet panels in the tail for males while females have some yellow spots on their head, neck and wings and orange-yellow barring on the breast and under tail. Skye did also comment that the Yellowtail Cockatoos love eating pinecones. The Red Tail Black Cockatoos are a quite a fussy bird with their eating habits and usually only produce one egg, nesting in a hollow usually in a eucalyptus or sometimes a stringy bark tree. The female backs down to keep the egg warm which is usually close to their feeding area. Birdlife Australia have been assembling roosting areas for red tailed black cockatoos, and have just got a grant to use cameras to view their habits and growth. They are also placing plastic around the trunks to prevent destruction by other wildlife i.e. possums and sugar gliders. **Fact:** Red Tailed Black Cockatoos are left handed. A government incentive is being offered for any new nesting sites that are found.



Wirrega: bother, no report

MALLEE REGION

Coonalpyn: Hmm, I didn't remind them!

Paringa: members toured the new St Francis of Assisi College which opened in January 2022. We were shown over the buildings and grounds where 75 students in years 7 and 8 currently attend. With each year the student intake will increase with students travelling from surrounding towns to attend.

Yurgo: Oh dear, no report.



ACWW Report

Time seems to be in the QUICK marching mood this year!

It's time to send in monies for CFF to me or alternately direct deposit in SA Bank BSB 105-159 Acc 000070240 and forward the completed form to me at PO Box 286 Naracoorte 5271.

Thank you to those Branches who have already sent in their contributions. With only 3 Branches being members of ACWW I encourage you and your members to join ACWW. The cost is Branches \$70 and Individual members \$52 per year. Reminders will be sent out to Branches in November, fees due end of December,

ACWW is a worldwide network of individuals and Women led societies joined in their passion for empowering women. This network provides friendship, collaboration and organisation. Together women give voice to the issues facing rural women, influencing policy at National and International levels.

I recently sent 3 large parcels of stamps to Mrs Gail Commens for the stamp fund. The sale of these stamps contributes money towards South Pacific Area projects.

Three WAB/ACWW members are planning to travel to Kuala Lumpur to attend the Triennial World Conference in May next year. There is still time to register if you are thinking of attending.

Is your Branch planning to include a meeting for Women Walk the World project? An easy way to raise money for ACWW. You don't have to walk a long distance, just around the block or through the park raising money by donations. Wirrega Branch walked around the local cemetery gathering local history. Lochaber Branch plan to do the same later this year.

Thank you to Joyce Chapman who has agreed to take on the position of ACWW International Officer for WAB. Thank you to you all for supporting me during my 3 year term.

Regards

Jan Boord - INTERNATIONAL Officer for WAB Inc.

Adair Dunsford has been working on the WAB Media Archive and has found some great articles on WAB past activities. Unfortunately I am unable to copy and paste the photos that Adair sent and as she is on holiday I am not able to contact her. With luck they will be in the next newsletter. Lee

Don't find fault, find a remedy

WAB is sponsored by...

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A REMINDER ALL REPORTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT WAB NEWS ARE TO BE SENT DIRECTLY TO **YOUR REGIONAL COORDINATOR** and the **Newsletter Editor** by simply including the 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 SEPTEMBER 2022 – Deadline for articles is SEPTEMBER 20TH 2022 (but if we are still on holiday it might be a few weeks later!)

Honan.
Insurance. Advice. Support.