



WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE AND BUSINESS OF SA INC.

NEWSLETTER NUMBER 248, JULY 2023

STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – WAB NEWS JULY 2023

As we come to the end of our year where Ukraine was our Country of Study, it is sad that the unrest in their country continues.

Love this burst of colour! Sunflowers have become the symbol of solidarity, resilience, resistance, hope for peace and for the end of the war in Ukraine. Why?

The sunflower is the national flower of Ukraine. The yellow fields of sunflowers and wheat under the Ukrainian blue skies also remind us of the colours of the Ukrainian flag



Also coming to an end is writing my WAB News articles as I prepare to hand over the reins of State President to Sandra Wischki of Charlton Branch and Regional Co-ordinator, Eyre Peninsula and Online.

It is with mixed feelings that I write this last article, as I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as State President during the past 4 years and it is with a little sadness that it's coming to an end. However, it is time for a change, with the bucket full of fresh new ideas that Sandra has and will share with you, during her time as SP.

2023 STATE CONFERENCE 9 & 10 AUGUST 2023 AT KALANGADOO

- WAB Kalangadoo branch members have the arrangements well underway to celebrate their branch 100th birthday this year, the first WAB Branch still operating to achieve this milestone. Well done Kalangadoo!
 - Arrive at 9.15am as celebrations start at 9.30am at the Riddoch Memorial Institute, 6 George Street, Kalangadoo with morning high tea. Join in the fun and come dressed in 1920's style (optional)
 - There will be a Roll Call with lots of reminiscing from relatives of past members and a sit down lunch
 - Enjoy the local production of a Murder Mystery in Kalangadoo in 1920's
 - Afternoon tea, cutting of the birthday cake follows. Finishing time is 3.30pm.
- Wednesday dinner is 6pm at RSL Mount Gambier then walk across the car park to the Cave Garden to view the Sound and Light Show. As it is outdoors, wear warm clothing and rain protection (hopefully not needed), bring your own chair. Overnight accommodation – own arrangements.
- Please gather at the Farmers Market Café, Eliza St Kalangadoo by 9.15am Thursday
 - 9.30am morning tea

- 9.50am Men depart for visit to Nangwarry Forestry Museum
- 10am AGM starts, followed by Awards, Annual Report etc. If you wish to attend the AGM and/or Presentation via Zoom, please drop me a note a few days beforehand then click this link at 9.45am Thursday <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82080900527?pwd=bXRXVUN2b0k0bE1majRtTUVpK0FaQT09>
- 11.30am Presentation by Sophie Dunnet of Good Country Physio who specialises in Women's Health and Incontinence
- 12.15 Men return to Café – when Lunch is served
- 1pm Visit to the unique Kalangadoo Rail Museum – don't miss it, it's one of a kind!

Looking forward to “seeing you” at the AGM. As you would know, I will be carrying on in the position of State Administration Officer and Regional Co-ordinator Limestone Coast, so I'll still be around in the background. Thank you one and all for your support and assistance over the past 4 years, I couldn't have done it without you.

Yours in WAB

Narelle Brooksby
 State President
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Thank you Narelle for your guidance, time, organising abilities, enthusiasm, encouragement and friendship throughout your 4 years as our State President – we all appreciate it and wish you well for your semi-retirement from WAB Management.



*Those of you who may remember **Betty Cliff** will be sad to know that she died recently. Betty wrote a book about her life titled “A Path from the Window” telling the story of her departure from England in 1949 aged 21, nursing employment at Kimba and marriage to a local farmer. Betty often related stories of her involvement with WAB and how the friendship and knowledge learned ‘saved’ her as a new bride on a farm in a rural setting. Betty, as a member of Kimba Branch, made a huge contribution to WAB as Regional Councillor; State President (1977-78); International Officer (1979-83) when she led delegations to 5 countries, plus many other leadership and training roles.*

In 1980 Betty was the first woman elected to the District council of Kimba, and in 1987 became the first female Chairperson of any Eyre Peninsula district Council.

Betty was a Justice of the Peace and in 1989 awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia

Following on from the last newsletter when there was a map showing each Branch's locality, this edition has a brief piece of information about the agricultural activities and/or industries of that area. Thank you to those who sent that information.

MALLEE REGION

Coonalpyn: Coonalpyn is situated 100kms from Murray Bridge – and 75kms from Bordertown (or Victoria Border) on the Adelaide – Melbourne Road (Dukes Highway). It is a part of what was known as 90 mile desert – until the Murray River water was piped through in 1960's – before that bore water was used.

The Coonalpyn area is a very reliable rainfall area with an average 16 inches of rain a year. Crops do quite well on the heavy soil areas, (mainly with lucerne, velt & primrose, clover & grass pastures); while the Sandy Loamy Soils are good for grazing – with quite a few cattle and sheep in those areas.

No reports

Paringa: Members toured the gourmet sun-dried fruit business Singing Magpie Produce in Monash. The family property began as a soldier settler block in 1921. The group saw through the orchards, packing shed and processing rooms where there were many delicious items to be enjoyed.

After lunch their next visit was to Santos Ready Mixed concrete who have a fleet of 12 trucks.

Guests Kathleen and Malcolm Tubb presented us with an overview of the colonisation of South Africa and of their personal experiences (many and varied) living there before migrating to Australia.

Yurgo: an area known for sheep of all breeds producing wool and meat, also various crops

No reports

CENTRAL REGION

Cunliffe; Cunliffe WAB usually meet at the Yorke Peninsula Field Day Site just out of Paskeville each month where the Field Days are held biannually on the northern end of the Yorke Peninsula. The farming industry consists mainly of crops and sheep with a few farms having cattle.

No reports

EYRE PENINSULA REGION

Charlton; A reliable rainfall has made for successful farming, mainly 'wheat and sheep' in roughly equal proportions. Cropping: canola, wheat, lupins, barley, oats, hay ... while sheep are grown for wool and prime lambs.

The visit of Ambulance Officers for a night refreshing our first aid knowledge, and learning what is helpful to ambulance officers when they are called out, was a beneficial time for members of Charlton branch.

Paramedic Facilitator Chris Morgan and volunteer Ambulance Officer Pauline Britza gave helpful advice for dealing with emergencies which we may face, eg unconscious person, excessive bleeding, burns & choking.

Chris and Pauline suggested what we can do to assist the ambulance team eg,

- Have house number clearly displayed;

- Be as concise and informative as possible when calling 000. 'A red roofed house' may not suffice in the middle of the night!

- Make access to patient clear.

- Dogs can present a problem to the ambulance team.

- A list of current medications to hand is helpful and it was suggested placing the list on the fridge together with Doctors name.

They encouraged us to be mindful of trip hazards around the house eg electrical cords and hoses.

A wise recommendation was to consider a written 'last minute advice care directive' and to inform family members and your doctor of this directive.

Ambulance Officers Chris Morgan and Pauline Britza.



A LOT ABOUT RUBBISH!

Guest speaker for the July meeting of Charlton WAB was Brenton McGrath from Pt Lincoln Resource Recovery Centre.

Brenton has worked at the centre for 20 years, seeing the change from a very labour intensive to a mainly mechanical operation. Whereas previously everything was buried, now the Centre is really a transfer station.

General waste is transported almost on a daily basis to Grenville a 1500 acre farm at Butler.

It was staggering to hear the tonnage of different categories of waste which the Centre deals with, and to learn of the increasing difficulty in 'finding homes' for recycled matter eg: net rope primarily from the fishing industry. Soft plastics are no longer recyclable, cost effectiveness being the reason.



FOGO a promising trial for food and green waste is due to commence in Pt Lincoln in September.

Brenton answered many questions and it proved a profitable and very interesting meeting.

On-Line: No report for this newsletter as facilitator Mary has been away and recently has had cataract surgery.

LIMESTONE REGION

Kalangadoo: Kalangadoo Branch is located in a farming area, mainly producing beef cattle and sheep. We also are a large potato growing area; one of Australia's largest Rose farms is here (Wagner Roses) and several apple orchards. A Timber mill is located on the end of the town as we also have large pine plantations in the area. It is a very diverse community.

No reports

Lochaber: Lochaber is situated 29km from Naracoorte and consists of the local fire station and a Hall which WAB uses for its branch meetings. The district is involved in the production of prime lambs, beef cattle and hay.

Our AGM was held with some changes being made to the responsibilities of Office Holders in an effort to ease the workload of a few, hoping that by spreading the load our branch will be able to continue meeting.

Unfortunately the speaker for the July meeting was not available.

Padthaway is situated in a fertile valley with diverse agricultural production. We are a cool, but very warm group, keen to learn and explore.

Padthaway's monthly articles and photos are submitted to the local Naracoorte newspaper "The News". They have a payback scheme, which they received last year, if a paragraph and picture of members is included for publication.

Beth Gale and Adair Dunsford making sure Padthaway WAB will be included in the next round of payback from "The News"



Padthaway WAB tighten their belts with a \$10 Budget

Our challenge was for members to supply a meal for 4 people for \$10. We were all very interested to see if we could do it. Members all did well, maybe one was slightly over budget. Members produced soup, tacos, frittata, doorstep, sausage casserole, salad, fried rice, sweet-and-sour chicken wings, casserole and brownies. We shared the difficulties of keeping under \$10 that we take for granted. e.g sausage casserole was made with small sausages - available 2 packets for \$12, therefore you have to buy 2 packets but only need one packet for a meal. Pumpkin is cheap at the moment but onions very expensive. Eggs and cheese now a very expensive item. A small vegetable garden, a fruit tree and a few chickens made an amazing difference in savings. A sweet and sour pork casserole had to be made with chicken wings on sale as the meat was too expensive. Some found items hard to buy Australian and it was a better deal to buy the cheaper alternative. The fact you couldn't choose Australian was one of the significant points everyone agreed on. We all agreed it could be done if you shopped around but it would be better if you had a little patch to grow something. Lettuce plus fresh herbs grown in pot plants is a good saver with meals and if you could have some chickens there are so many meals to make with eggs for desert or mains.



This was a fun exercise, thank you members for participating.

Flowers come to Padthaway WAB

Padthaway WAB members were greeted with tables and buckets of native and garden flowers which members brought from their garden. Guest speaker Di Bradley demonstrated and explained briefly about arranging flowers with height, numbers and balance and also how to wire a gerbera. We did two boxes each, one a native arrangement and the second a posy. There was a lovely chattering sound as people were inspired. We seem to like sharing a lunch where we all sit around and catch up on the where, what and how. Flowers are like friends, they colour your world.



Wirrega: We still call ourselves the Wirrega Branch even though a majority of us have retired into Bordertown. Our area is predominately cropping (wheat, barley, oats, canola, peas, beans, lucerne and clovers) as well as sheep and cattle grazing and studs.

Our main industries are JBS Meat works, S.A. largest lamb processor, processing 8,000 thousand sheep/lambs per day for domestic and export sales. Blue Lake Milling processes oats into rolled oats in our breakfast cereals. These are distributed throughout Australia and overseas. These two industries in Bordertown are major employers.

We were privileged to have Narelle Brooksby State President and Limestone Coast Regional Coordinator attend the Wirrega Branch AGM in June. We held a dinner meeting at a local hotel followed by the AGM. Narelle acted as our Chairman Pro tem and all Office Bearers were returned for another year.

This month the Branch is visiting Kaniva just over the Victorian border, to acquaint ourselves with a neighbouring town to have our meeting, retail therapy, enjoy their food and coffee, as well as the tourist attractions.

WAB ARCHIVING

It is pleasing to report that our State WAB Records comprising 10 office storage boxes have been accepted by the Riverton Historical Society Centre. They have graciously installed additional shelving to accommodate our records appreciating that as the first Branch was formed at Riverton and WAB records are already there, it is appropriate to have them stored in the one place as Riverton is so historically connected with WAB.

Trevor and I delivered the records to Riverton on 7 July 2023 and consequently were able to cancel our storage room at U-Store-it at Totness (Mt. Barker)

I have been ably assisted by Nadene Jericho and Sandra Young since September 2020 meeting at U-Store-it sorting through and archiving records as well as working at home between our meetings.

Thank you must go to;

- Nadene and Sandra for their efforts and support throughout.
- Adair Dunsford for archiving the WAB Media records.
- Mary Wilkinson who assisted us with locating and sorting the On-Line records.
- other members who assisted in various ways.

Branches are encouraged to store their records in their own region and Riverton will be for State records. WAB records are available to be accessed by contacting the Riverton Historical Society on
08 8847 2705 open on Wed –Thurs - Friday 10am-3pm.

Yvonne Correll

Archiving Co-ordinator
0438273264



Three WAB members, Joyce Chapman, Debbie Guenther and Sandra Young attended the ACWW conference in Kuala Lumpur. Joyce is the WAB International Officer and has written a descriptive report of the conference which will be included with the WAB Annual Report for the AGM at the Conference at Kalangadoo.

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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 ndhlorussell@bigpond.com when emailing to your Coordinator.

NEXT EDITION OF THE WAB NEWS WILL BE DUE OUT IN SEPTEMBER 2023 – Deadline for articles is SEPTEMBER 20TH 2023