



WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE AND BUSINESS OF SA INC

NEWSLETTER 254 SEPTEMBER 2024

State President's Message

Hello WAB friends

Following on from the success of using the 'Life is for Living' theme at the State Conference, the Management Team is continuing with the focus on this theme. We are allocating an amount of \$25 per financial member to branches to be used to hold an activity to celebrate Life is for Living sometime during 2024/2025. This may be to hold your end of the year meal or outing, or any other way that your branch wants to celebrate. Branch treasurers can email a list of their financial members to Nadene Jericho (wabtreasurer20@gmail.com) along with the branch bank account details when they are ready to have the funds transferred into their branch account. I look forward to reading about Life is for Living branch activities in future issues of WAB News.

This year's project is Operation Flinders for Girls. Episode 23 of the '60 Minutes' program on Channel 9 starts with a twenty minute segment that includes information on Operation Flinders. This segment could be screened at a branch meeting, or if this isn't possible members could watch it at home to then discuss the project at a meeting. Here is the link - <https://www.9now.com.au/60-minutes/season-2024/episode-23>.

Tony and I spent a week at our friend's shack at Blinman in the Flinders Ranges. Tony painted murals on cars in a previous life and the spectacular landscape and colours inspired him to start painting again. The next photo of our little caravan may showcase scenes from our past home, the Kimberley and our new home, the Eyre Peninsula.

Yours in WAB,

Sandra Wischki



Our friend's shack which is the old store on the corner of the Blinman Arkaroola road.

EYRE PENINSULA REGION

Charlton; Learning about SES

Local SES (State Emergency Service) members outlined their roles at the September meeting of Charlton branch. Max Coulson, a volunteer for 35 years explained the varied nature of the work done which includes marine rescue both inside and outside the bay, assisting in times of flood, storms, heat waves and fires, searches and crashes.

Sue Davison, a Unit Duty Officer spoke about her 15 years involvement now working mainly with land searches and communicating with victims and their families. She strongly recommended the importance of people travelling alone or into isolated places to carry an 'epirb' (a personal alarm) which is registered to the individual and their vehicle.

Ben Stobart, with 8 years involvement is a Unit Manager for the group. SES accepts people of various age athleticism and gender who are well trained and provided with all the necessary uniform and safety equipment which he was wearing in the photo. Volunteers are covered by insurance while training or on a job, can choose what type of work they are willing to assist with and are well supported. He strongly recommended the epirb and having the 'Emergency Plus' app put on mobile phones.

Equipment was demonstrated, including quieter battery operated chain saws. *Lyn Siviour was strapped into a frame used to transport an injured person.*

A fully equipped truck was also available to see.



LIMESTONE COAST REGION

Lochaber; At our August meeting we were fortunate to have Amy Mott, an Estates Administrator from Westley, DiGiorgio, Norcock give an informative presentation to our members on the importance of having Estate Planning, Wills, and other important documents in place.

Amy is a local who grew up in Naracoorte, and became a solicitor, working alongside her father, Jon Mott, also a solicitor, who was a well-known and esteemed local identity.

Amy answered some pre prepared questions that our members presented to her and then went onto outline Wills, Probate, Asset distribution and the importance of keeping our Wills updated, as changes occur, or just as a precaution to make sure our wishes are still valid. She also discussed having an Advanced Care Directive and Power of Attorney in place as well.

Communication within the family structure is especially important and initiated some interesting questions from our members. Talking with family members can alleviate many complications that may occur once a loved one is deceased. Contesting a Will can be costly and cause angst, so better to have all bases covered.

In September Lochaber members met at the old Naracoorte Cemetery and spent an hour walking around recognising many local family names. Donations were collected for ACWW "Women Walk the World".

Padthaway; Padthaway members had a lovely meeting for September when we learnt about "Operation Flinders." Together we watched a report from 60 Minutes. In the video we heard of the accident that took the life of a young 18 year old boy named Charlie, who was killed in a hit and run accident and the impact it had on his parents. Charlie was the son of Australia's Police Commissioner and his wife. After the accident, a charity was started in Charlie's name with the proceeds going towards "Operation Flinders". The video also discussed what "Operation Flinders" is about and the positive impact that it is having on kids who come from fractured and difficult home lives, who just need someone to take a chance on them and help them through the difficult times they are facing and have faced.

Operation Flinders is an organisation that was first started by Pamela Murray-White, back in 1991. After completing her service in the army, she returned and started working at Beafield Campus, working with students who had behavioural issues. While working with the students Pamela realised that some of the outdoor elements of army culture could have a positive impact on them. Pamela had spent a lot of her leisure time while she was home in the Flinders Ranges in South Australia and had decided it would be a fantastic place to run her project. She trialed her idea in 1991 by completing one exercise that year with a modest group of 35 participants. By 1993, Pamela managed to expand the program to conduct three exercises throughout the year, in which 99 participants in total attended. Over the next two years Pamela refined and adjusted her project's concept to emphasise the elements that had the most significant and positive effects on the kids while minimising or getting rid of those that didn't. Sadly, Pamela passed away in August 1995 from cancer, but her program still lives on with it still benefiting many kids today.

Wirrega; No report

MALLEE REGION

Coonalpyn; We had an enjoyable meeting learning about our country of study for this year, Egypt. Some people had facts about Egypt, while others cooked supper using Egyptian recipes. Some facts about Egypt were --- The Suez canal took 10 years to build, is 193 km long, 205 metres wide and work started in 1859. When it was completed, 2 ships could pass each other with ease.

In ancient Egypt both men and women wore makeup. Some believed there were magical healing powers attached to makeup. The women wore green eye-shadow-made from copper, and the men wore black eye-shadow made from lead.

Cats were sacred, keeping one as a pet was supposed to ensure good luck for the household.

There has been a 2nd Sphinx discovered in Egypt, in near perfect condition.

To wrap a Mummy, it could take 35-40 metres of bandages, one way of using up old sheets!

Our competition for the evening was Tea-towels. June Holland won with a WAB tea-towel that had belonged to her Mother, who had actually contributed to the design on it.

Nadene Jericho gave a very interesting report on State Conference. She also mentioned the emotions of hearing an apology read out from Beryl Clothier of Yurgo branch for not being able to attend Conference this year, then next day getting a message to say that Beryl had just died.

Coonalpyn member **Yvonne Lacey** joined WAB in 1947 and received her 60year Award in 2007. She passed away in July 2024.



She was an active member, holding positions including Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer over many years. Yvonne always enjoyed attending Regional and State Conferences and was eager to report back to the Branch and to encourage more members to attend. Yvonne moved to Adelaide in 2008 to be nearer her family. Always a community minded member she also was a staunch supporter of the Coonalpyn Show and will be sadly missed.

Paringa; Recent guest speakers have been fellow member Sally Black who spoke on house sitting in Victoria and retired Renmark locals David and Veronica Crouch who recently spent 3 months cycling in France.

Sally and partner had signed up with Aussie House Sitters – Sally had considerable experience with cattle and horses – and their ‘sits’ always involved the care of sheep, cattle, horses and household pets. Some of the properties they visited were in Seymour, Bright, Metung and Shepparton in Victoria and then Mt Pleasant, Aldinga Beach and Nuriootpa in SA. Each stay presented its own challenges eg. 10 of 11 pregnant cows dropped their calves early and being responsible for 22 exotic birds which lived inside and talked all night.

David and Veronica flew to France with their bikes which had been dismantled and boxed in SA and on arrival they had to be reassembled in the airport. Each bike carried camping gear, cooking equipment, repair tools and a minimum of clothes - total weight was 40kg without the rider. Their bikes were ‘muscular’ in contrast to the French more popular electric bikes. They were impressed with the respect and safe



Standing Margaret Duggin and Sally Black. Seated left Elaine Leedham and Valmai Goulden.

road sharing between cyclists and motorists. A highlight of their trip was attending the Dawn Service at Villers Bretonaux; a moving experience in the cold and wet when it was easy to reflect on what the Australian soldiers endured in the trenches during WW1.

They spent 1 month in Chaumont after which they journeyed to Amsterdam, Prague and Berlin. They were overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of locals met in the street, cafes, shops and camping grounds. They left their bikes in Belgium ready for their next adventure. Flying home they had a stop-over in Singapore and visited the obligatory Raffles Hotel and enjoyed the famous gin-sling cocktails.



Speakers David and Veronica Crouch with member Elaine Leedham centre.

Yurgo; Beryl Clothier was well known to many of the members of WAB. She was always keen to attend Regional Meetings and State Conferences and had not missed any of the conferences since they have been held in regional areas rather than in Adelaide. Even this year she was trying to find a way to attend at Port Lincoln, despite poor health. She enjoyed the Kalangadoo 100th and conference last year. Beryl was very proud to be the same age as her Yurgo Branch and worked hard over the years to nurture and grow the Branch, holding the position of Secretary for over 35 years. Beryl passed away in August at the age of 91 years, after sending us a lovely greeting to Conference, we heard the news the next day. She will be missed.



CENTRAL REGION

Cunliffe; We welcomed local bee-keeper David Grey as our Guest Speaker for our June Meeting. In addition to his bee-keeping, and honey production business (BUKA Honey). David's interests and community commitments include Fishing, Country Fire Service, Star of the Sea (Home for Aged) and working with the Therapy Dog (at the Home). His initial interest in Bees began in a small way some 17 years ago however the number of hives to date has now increased a great deal.

Some statistics on which he elaborated included, that 99% of bees are female and each hive includes only one Queen who may live up to 6 years and only leaves the hive once when she matures. During this time, the Queen mates several times with multiple drones, then spends the rest of her life laying eggs, never leaving the hive again. Other bees in the hive are mainly females, workers and drones. The eggs sit in honeycomb cells for a couple of days and leave after ten days as fully developed bees.

Bees most essential needs are Pollen and Water and they can (and do) travel up to 5 kms to source pollen. The hives need warmth, but in Australia this is not a major issue, however in our hot climate they do require shade. David displayed a "Breed Box" and explained how it works – each of the several frames within can yield up to 2-2 ½kgs of honey and these are harvested 2-3 times per year. Bees Wax is also harvested and can be used for making Candles, French Polish etc.

Honey is an amazing product – it doesn't go off and will keep indefinitely!

Guest Speaker David Grey explained and displayed some essential tools of his bee-keeping operations.



WAB 50 Year Award Presentation

We were recently delighted to be able to present a WAB 50 Year Award to Cunliffe Branch member Betty Beare when a group of our members visited Betty. Betty recently became a resident at the Star of The Sea Home for the Aged at Wallaroo. Branch Secretary Elaine Bussenschutt congratulated Betty and presented her with her 50 Year Badge and Certificate.

Due to other commitments on that day several of our Branch members were regrettably unable to attend this special occasion but their best wishes & apologies were acknowledged and passed on to Betty. Betty has been an active member and supporter of WAB since she first joined our Branch 50 years ago, she has also served as Branch Treasurer in past years. She is still interested in our Branch and wishes to receive information regarding the Branch's activities.

We appreciated the assistance of Betty's daughters Katherine & Pam who arranged our visit which also included a surprise visit by Betty's cousin and her family who came from Adelaide. A very pleasant and enjoyable afternoon with good company and friends.



June Allen, Betty Beare, Rosemary Browning, Elaine Bussenschutt OAM presenting Betty with her 50 year award

At our August meeting our Guest Speaker, Graham Hancock, presented a very informative presentation ranging from our local history to World Heritage listings

Graham has been associated with the Copper Coast and its Cornish Heritage for over 40 years. Apart from being a long-time member of CASA, he has also been heavily involved in running and volunteering for the Kernewek Lowender over many years. He is a former high school teacher and involved in senior management level at National Trust of South Australia for many years.

Graham's address elaborated on the World Heritage List where the United Nations has long recognised that there are many places and events around the world of such importance that it has developed a list of these sites.

In South Australia we only have one site and that is the Caves at Naracoorte. Steps toward World Listing are:- State Heritage Listing (1980's), National Heritage (2017) and World Heritage (tentative). The quest for listing SA sites (began in 2004-5) when the State Heritage Branch looked at future initiatives. To this end, a committee was appointed in 2010 to research and recommend which **Cornish** mine site would be considered for listing. Graham was appointed to this committee as a representative of the National Trust of SA. After visiting and assessing a number of sites within the State, it was decided to concentrate on Burra and Moonta Mines.

Graham also made reference to: Farming Interface of the Copper Coast area; the Cornish influence, and a Federal Grant which has been of great assistance in the conservation and promotion of the Moonta Mines precinct.

In closing and in keeping with the Cornish heritage of our area Graham gave an “old Cornish saying” i.e. **If C’apn Ancock says it tis, it tis, even if it tissant”!**

(Left – Right): Branch Member Jenny Richardson, Guest Speaker Graham Hancock and his wife Penny.



Associated Country Women of The World (ACWW) amplifies the voices of rural women, so that the problems they face and the solutions they raise are heard and acknowledged by national and international policy-makers and legislators. Rural women are the backbone of families, communities and nations but they suffer the worst impacts of climate change and conflict, go unheard in legislation, and remain unprotected and unsupported. ACWW exists to change that. ACWW is the largest organisation for rural women in the world with a membership of approximately 9 million through its 365 membership societies – WAB is one of those societies.

Sincere thanks to branches and individuals who have sent donations through for the Rural Women in Action Fund, this money makes a big difference and without our efforts the impact and sustainability of projects cannot be reached. May I just remind members of on-line branch that as we do not have a treasurer, an individual donation would be appreciated if you are in a position to do so. Then please send the “Rural Women in Action Fund” form, which is on our website, to me.

A current project Planting Seeds of Peace is a 12 month programme designed to teach Ukrainian refugee children how to grow plants and vegetables. It is being held at a school in Romania and is aimed to help children recover from the stress and trauma of war while at the same time giving them a very useful, money-making skill to carry with them through life.

Domestic violence in Mongolia is of great concern as more than 50% of women are affected. As an organisation the prevention of violence against women and girls is ACWW’s top priority. There is an extensive report in the last Countrywoman magazine which gives you the details on a summit held in partnership with UNESCO.

New projects are currently being selected so fresh news on that soon.

Please take time to look at ACWW’s website and keep up with what is happening. This year a big focus has been establishing a podcast entitled “Leadership for Equality” It can be found on any platform that you usually use for listening to podcasts and is on UNESCO’s website, already there are four episodes.

This year Sandra Young is going to be managing the membership and financial side of being International Officer so from now on your donations and subscriptions will still go to the same account number but the Rural Women in Action fund form will go to Sandra at tortuwallin@bigpond.com I will continue to meet monthly with head office and report back.

Being part of ACWW is both interesting and educational, I encourage you to be interested in their work and to support it in whatever way you can.

Joyce Chapman
International Officer

WAB is sponsored by.....



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 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024 – Deadline for articles is end of November 2024 –Thank you