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News and Views

Magazine of the Country Women's Association in Tasmania Inc

State President's message.

Dear Members. It has been an eventful month. As most of you will be aware by now, the Association has bought the building at 16 Albert Road, Moonah, to be our new headquarters. It has taken a long time to find something suitable but I think we have. The front offices of the building are currently leased to the Parliament of Tasmania, but we will relocate our present office to the flat at the back of the building, at least for the time being. This will provide us with an income as well as an accessible headquarters. The site is flat and has 5 parking spaces, with many more free car parks close by. It is exciting to finally have the move under way.

Like many of you, I have been seriously concerned at the annual deficits of the Association and I hope to be able to show you in the coming months that we can turn this around. Thank you to the branches, shops and members who have contributed to the costs of running the Association. It belongs to all of us and we all have a responsibility for keeping it viable.

I am pleased to have been able to visit more branches. I have visited Launceston City (who met together with East Launceston), Bellerive, Ranelagh, and Strahan, as well as attending a number of branch events. On every visit I have found branches and members keen to work to improve the lives of their local communities. It is heartening also to find a willingness to address broader issues like homelessness and health care and a preparedness to lobby as an Association where necessary. Your State Executive will be working on these issues and keep you informed on progress.

I believe Members have also been pleased to have a chance to be heard on their own concerns and to have the opportunity to ask me questions. Lots and lots of questions! I have also been given suggestions on how we could do things better and hope I have been able to address specific concerns of individual members. I look forward to visiting more branches in the coming months. We have heard the sad news of Kate Sainsbury's and Maureen Bayles' death - lives well and generously lived. Kate will be farewelled on 27 March in Koonya. This month we begin a new financial year. I look forward to sharing many good experiences with you. Please note that the South Pacific Area Conference is being held in Griffith NSW in early September and let State Office know asap if you would like to be part of the delegation.

I encourage all branches to take part in your local Anzac Day commemoration and lay a floral tribute on behalf of your branch.

Adriana.

Northern Region

NORTHERN GROUP PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A reminder about the Northern Group President's Forum to be held on the 11 April at Christ Church, Longford from 10.00 am – 2.00 pm. Branches will be providing an 'SSS lunch' (Soup sandwich and slices). Cressy Branch will be having a raffle and trade table. We hope to see everyone in attendance. State President will be available for all your questions and anything CWA you need to know. Our executive officer Chris has sent out the AGM voting packages, so if your secretary has not received then please contact the office. Remember this year we have 4 different ways of paying your membership. Just use whichever way is easier for you. State H&HI Exhibition is at Latrobe this year and is fast coming up in May so don't forget to get your entries in.

City Branch – At our last meeting we hosted our president Adriana with a joint meeting with East branch, we all found the financials and how much it costs to run CWA a very interesting topic. We all now have a greater understanding on the scope of this issue. As usual we are busy with ST Vincent de Paul's soup vans. Very soon the local school programs will be back on board supplying the bulk of the soup for the vans, but CWA has been asked to stay on for the remainder of the year supplying other items such as slabs of cold slices (frittatas) utilising a variety of produce supplied by Vinnie's. Eggs and fresh veggies can be turned into all sorts of nutritious slices. We are currently planning our next major fundraiser for the year our annual High Tea event. More information to follow.

East Launceston Branch- We had a very lively meeting with many things discussed including the country of study and the annual primary produce topic and health topic. We will be discussing them again next meeting. The new state office was also discussed. We have a branch craft day on Monday 22 April. Artificial flowers are being made for various groups who support different hospitals in the north of the state.

George Town - Our branch is slowly getting back into full swing after the Christmas and New year break. We are in the process of moving forward with a few projects this year. The largest being our 80th birthday celebration in November. We are also looking at maybe a high tea. We will hold our yearly raffle in September/October. The branch is also looking at holding some craft and cooking classes in our area for members of the public.

NORTHERN CSO REPORT

As I say every month the need for help in communities is increasing. I can't help them unless you help me. This month I'm asking for donations of toiletries. Any donations can be left at the Launceston Shop with my name of it. If your branch isn't contributing to CSO, I ask why not. **Lindy Perkins**

NORTHERN HAND CRAFT AND HOME INDUSTRIES

Last weekend we had our yearly retreat at Hagley farm. Numbers were low which was disappointing. The ladies who attended enjoyed their time and learnt new crafts. Thank you to the teachers and everyone attended. Plans for next year's retreat are under way. Next month we will be at Perth (Jenny's) making paper flowers - all welcome.

LAUNCESTON GIFT SHOP REPORT

This month sales have been very low. We are hoping it's because of school returning and Easter is fast approaching. We are running low on coat hangers, baby items in a variety of colours, children's gloves and mittens and tea cosies. We have our plans ready to renovate the kitchen. If anyone has contacts to a builder, can you please pass them on to me. It's very hard to find one to commit to the job.

STATE HAND CRAFT AND HOME INDUSTRIES REPORT

Our next event is State Exhibition being held in Latrobe this year in May. The schedules are out, so if you haven't received one, please contact me, Lesley Young or the State Office. Get your entries in. I hear they have some great displays happening on the Saturday. Christmas in July will be held on Saturday 6 July - more information to come. There will be a judge's school in July. When we have a date and venue sorted, we will let you know.

Northwest Region

NORTHWEST GROUP PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello everyone, I've been visiting King Island and Strahan during March and can't help but be inspired by the women who continue to be involved with their branches and communities. King Island has its pop-up shop on Fridays, as a source of income, but importantly, a meeting place for others to catch up with each other. The way the organising committee put the Show together is amazing and the quality of Home Industries and Handcraft was terrific. Yet it is so incredibly dry and farmers and their families are in dire need of relief. Let's hope all the election promises come to bear, but even the politicians can't fix the weather.

Strahan Branch is extremely busy, and I would like to thank them again for welcoming Adriana, Audrey, and me to their Branch meeting. The afternoon tea was spot on thank you very much.

AGMs are coming up and there is much paperwork to take care of, audits also, and Chris has sent Branch Secretaries the form for reporting your new office bearer details and a reminder that subs are due, and we now have 4 payment OPTIONS for subs. You are still able to pay your secretary. Please ask if you need any explanation.

A reminder to get your entry slips in for Exhibition, please include a stamped addressed envelope, if you are using Australia Post. Details are in the schedule.

Happy Easter to everyone, **Lucy Murfet.**

Southern Region

Kingston/Channel Branch - CWA Kingston/Channel Branch has had a busy February supporting local events. On Saturday 3 February, members of the branch served Devonshire tea and other delicious treats at the Middleton on The Green Community event. The day was glorious, and the event had the atmosphere of a country show. Two weeks later on 17 February, members of the branch supported the Kingborough Bake Off as part of the Tas Pride Festival. More than fifty cakes were entered in the bake off. The branch sold cupcakes in pride colours as well as other sweet treats and jams. We also offered the opportunity for children to decorate a cup cake, which proved popular. Members of the CWA Kingston/Channel Branch – Lesley Clementson (left), Maree Gerven (center) and Sally Wallace (right). Member, Kerry Zosky, who helped at the event, took the photograph and her daughter Emma (far left) also helped.



SOUTHERN HANDCRAFT AND HOME INDUSTRIES

Our next day is Mother's Day Madness is on 20 April from 10:00 am -2:00 pm at Magra CWA Rooms. The cost is \$5. Bring a shared lunch and craft is to be advised. Camp dates and info has been released. Save the date Monday 28 October to Thursday 31 October at the River Run Lodge at Dover. Cost for classes is \$300 and further information will follow at a later date.

SOUTHERN CSO REPORT

This has been a quiet month in the South, so it's a great opportunity to acknowledge our generous crafters who take the time to knit, crochet and sew items for our baby bundles. These items are made with love and cannot be purchased. Thank you. For the moment we have hats and booties but are seriously short of jackets, and baby wraps/blankets. Can you help? When knitting for babies please do not use cords and ribbons as closures on jackets and secure any cords or ribbons you use in booties at the back of the booty. Also avoid 'chenille' yarns as it releases fibres that can be breathed by the baby, and avoid delicate buttons that may break and become choking hazards.

Once again, Thank you. **Rosemarie Baker**

HAWLEY HOLIDAY HOME

This is an entry left in the Guest Book at the CWA Hawley Holiday Home.

“Well, if these walls could talk! What a wonderful feel this holiday home has, full of joy and the beautiful wonders of the beach. Even though one of us broke her wrist on the first day (beware of slippery rocks!) and we weren't as “active” as we planned – what a wonderful place to recover. Thank you to the women of CWA Tasmania for keeping this house simple, comfortable and affordable for the likes of us. So good to see some old places still exist and are made available to all people, with much gratitude F & N.”

It is always a pleasure to read the comments that have been left by our guests and I have great pleasure in sharing this one with you.”

With thanks from Ann, Vicki, Helen, and all those involved with the CWA Hawley Holiday Home

cwatas.hawleyholidayhome@gmail.com or ring us 0409 507 956

INTERNATIONAL OFFICER

Aileen Donoghue has temporarily stepped into this role with the support of Lesley Young AO to keep the role going until conference. The first event will be ‘Women Walk The World’ to be held at Ross Town Hall on the 29 April. We will meet at the Ross Town Hall at 10:00 am until 2:00 pm for a walk around the historic Ross, followed by a shared lunch themed to our country of study the Solomon Islands. Prizes will be awarded for the best decorated table and there will be a quiz about the Solomon Islands - so get studying ladies, as this should be a fun day for everyone.

Big Thank you to our outgoing International Officer Janet Whelan.

ONLINE BRANCH

We extend a warm welcome to new member Ella Pasanen and we look forward to her contribution to the branch. The Exeter Show on 24 Feb was a fabulous day out for families and the welcome we received along with the weather were both warm. Our small group of members Giselle, Sherryl, Maree and I put in a monumental all-day effort. Demand was high for vegan apple, cinnamon and blackberry tarts with one family so impressed they purchased 18. At our March meeting we highlighted the fantastic work of Food Plant Solutions, a Tasmanian not for profit organisation, based in the northwest, of the state, servicing communities all around the world. They produce quality educational materials around nutritional food, why our bodies need it and how to grow and use it. Food Plant Solutions assist communities to grow nutrient dense localised crops to increase food security, crop resilience and address malnutrition by growing crops acclimatised to their bioregion. The Online Branch is excited to partner and support their excellent work making a difference beyond our shores. Learn more here: <https://foodplantsolutions.org/links/>

In friendship **Tania Brookes** - President Online Branch



EXECUTIVE OFFICE REPORT

The new payment system is being finalised but as branch treasurers will understand, dealing with banks is challenging! I was I hoping to make membership payments available through BPay, but after 7 visits to the bank and 2 hours on the phone, this has not been completed. While BPay will not be available this year, next year is possible.

Invoice have been posted and these outline the available payment options. Credit and debit cards payment are now live on the CWA website and direct transfer is available. Members can still pay fees to their branches but if you choose this option, please remember to give your invoice to the branch Secretary/Treasurer.

Contributions to State Office

The following contributions have been received for the State Office since January 2024.

Collinsvale	\$200
Lilydale	\$100
Cressy	\$100
Brighton	\$500
Launceston Gift Shop	\$10,000
Launceston City	\$500
Magra	\$500

Please let me know if I have missed anyone.

Purchase of 16 Albert Road and sale of 434 Elizabeth Street

The sale is progressing, and a deposit has been made with an expected settlement date of 27 March. There will be several things to organise before we can move in such as cabling, the transfer of phones, internet, Aurora, and Mekina Security. However, I am hopeful that we can be in by the end of April. The sale of 434 Elizabeth St is progressing, and a valuation was recently completed. We should be able to list the property soon. We have needed to withdraw investments to fund the purchase and while these will be replenished on the sale

of 434 Elizabeth Street, reports on investments will be complicated for the next few months. We will report further once purchases and sales have been settled.

Chris Batt State Executive Officer

Vale

Maureen Lois Bayles - 23. 6. 1934 - 5 .2 .2024

Maureen joined as a member of Newstead Branch as the daughter of Gwen Walsh, a Life Member of the Association. Maureen used to deliver all the CWA notices for her mother on her bike around the area. On her marriage Maureen moved to Cressy and transferred to the Cressy Branch and was a member for over 60 years. Maureen held the positions of branch treasurer, secretary, and president, and was made a member of Honour of the Branch.

Other positions

Maureen was also Esk Valley Group Treasurer, Vice President, and President. She served on all the Esk Valley Group Northern Committees holding office positions on the Unit and Baby Box. Maureen was also organist for the Choral and Drama, as well as Handicraft and Home Industries. She was a State Vice President and State Representative to Agfest and Landcare. Maureen was awarded a member of honour of Esk Valley Group.

Maureen attended all State conferences, Choral and Drama Festivals, Handcraft and Home Industries Exhibitions, exhibiting in and winning prizes, and a member of the Choir for the 2004 World Conference held in Hobart. When Maureen was unable to continue as a member, she knitted for the CSO. Maureen was a truly dedicated and loyal member of CWA. When speaking with her she would always ask about the Association, wanting to know what we were doing. Maureen was a true friend of mine whom I miss.

Elizabeth Clark Cressy Branch.

Lindisfarne Branch

It is with enormous sadness that Lindisfarne Branch offers our support and condolences to our Branch President Susan Hogan, on the passing of her husband and life partner John. We will miss John's beautiful smile, good humour, and kindness. Rosemarie Baker Vice President

Dates to Remember

- 11 April - Northern Group President's Forum (Christ Church Longford)
- 16 April Northern H & HI Paper flower making Perth.
- 20 April Southern H & HI Magra CWA rooms
- 24 April – ANZAC Day
- 29 April Women Walk the World CWA event at Ross Town Hall.
- 4 May - Southern President's Forum (location to be advised)
- 25 May -CWA Exhibition Latrobe Memorial Hall 9am to 4pm
- 26 May - CWA Exhibition Latrobe Memorial Hall 9am to 3pm
- 1 June - Northwest Group Meeting East Devonport Recreational Centre
- 29 June -Northwest President's Forum East Devonport Recreational Centre.
- 28-31 October Sothern H & HI Camp, River Run Lodge Dover

**Associated Country Women of the World South Pacific Area Conference
Griffith, NSW, Australia 9 – 12 September 2024 Griffith South Pacific Area Conference
Planning Committee Proudly supported by the *Country Women's Association of NSW***

Hello, fellow members, I hope you all enjoyed International Women's Day and are preparing for Women Walk the World on or around ACWW Day 29 April 2024. There is lots of information and resources on the ACWW Website <https://acww.org.uk/fundraise-for-acww>.

Please take photos and share your story on how you walked the world with your local women!

I have attended the Queensland CWA International Study Conference and the CWA of NSW International Seminar – two amazing events highlighting Morocco and France respectively. I had the opportunity to speak at both these events about ACWW and urged everyone to renew their memberships and support our Rural Women.

It's already the middle of March and registrations for the South Pacific Area Conference are coming in slowly but surely. For information check out the website <https://acww.org.uk/south-pacific-2024>.

If you have not registered as yet, the link is <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1163079> and it is simple and easy to log into and navigate through this site. If you have any queries, you can contact the SPA President Assistant, Mrs. Bronwyn Dunston at brondunston@gmail.com to assist you with your registration.

We have lots of international Guests attending, including our World President, World Secretary and World Treasurer, please come along and show your support for our South Pacific and ACWW's Rural Women.

NOTE: You do not have to be an ACWW member to attend the SPA Conference! You can come along as an observer, bring friends and family and enjoy all Griffith has to offer. (Even hint to the family that you may like conference registration as a Mother's Day gift? Just a thought J)

The SPA Conference Planning Committee are doing a fantastic job and have secured some really impressive speakers for our event. The Welcome Dinner will be wonderful with the Army Band (similar to the CWA of NSW Centenary Conference Dinner entertainment) booked and ready to rock and roll. Resolutions are being fine-tuned and we are hoping for some lively debate. Resolutions must be received by email spacific@acww.org.uk to the South Pacific Area President by June 1, 2024. This will allow time to review them and call for any further supporting information etc. prior to Conference.

Please put in your registration soon and make sure you also nominate your preference for the Conference Tours to avoid disappointment. See you there! Yours in ACWW Friendship,

Lyn Braico

Trustee and South Pacific Area President ACWW