



# Inner Wheel Australia Magazine

*November 2019 Issue 107*



## Conference Edition





## **Inner Wheel Australia Executive Committee**

President	Robyn Gillespie
Vice President	Elizabeth Tooke
Immediate Past President	June Muller
Secretary	Helen Donaldson
Treasurer	Helen Foley

## **Inner Wheel Australia Elected Officer**

National Editor	Cheryl Leddy
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## **Inner Wheel Australia Appointed Officers**

Constitution Chairman	Carole Buchanan
National Project Coordinator	Barbara Mitchell
Merchandise Officer	Lyn May
Media Administrator	Susan Chisholm
Directory Editor	Ros Hall
Badge Officer	Pauline Barrett
Head Teller	Elizabeth Russ
Public Officer	Joan Beech-Jones
National Membership Coordinator	Meryl Usback

## **International Inner Wheel**

President

**Phyllis Charter**

(Newent & District, Great Britain & Ireland)

## **International Inner Wheel**

Board Director

**Karen Winters**

(Brisbane North Qld)

## **National Representative**

**June Muller**

(Mandurah WA)



*A Message from  
Inner Wheel Australia  
President Robyn Gillespie*

Dear Friends

Well the year is certainly moving along at a rapid pace with summer here and Christmas around the corner.

Our 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference is now a memory, but what a memory! My amazing Conference Committee worked tirelessly to bring you a magnificent conference. I cannot thank them enough for their work ethic, attention to detail, enthusiasm and organisational skills which all helped to bring together a great enjoyable experience for all Members.

The setting of the Pullman in Cairns was ideal for such a function and all aspects of the conference traded on the beautiful weather and the venue to ensure that all conference participants had a wonderful time. The pool deck for the Welcome and Friendship dinners was superb, the decorations at all functions amazing and the food delightful.

Many Members commented on the idea of the District Tables at the Welcome dinner and how great it was to catch up with District friends. Likewise, the Friendship dinner where you could get together with old and new friends worked well.

The presentation of three grants during the Gala Dinner is always a highlight. It is a credit to the hard work of the members that each year we continue to be able to award valuable funds to research projects that will benefit the lives of those who are so desperately in need of assistance.

The workshops proved a success although the room didn't particularly lend itself to 6 separate workshops at one time with the larger groups having some difficulty in hearing the speakers. The Constitution, Head Teller, Secretary and Treasurer groups had better success with smaller groups. Copies of the Dart Board analysis sheets will be sent out in due course.

My thanks must also go to Susan Chisholm for the wonderful way she can bind us all together in a very special way as we remember those much-loved members who are no longer with us.

Many Members contribute to the success of a conference and it is impossible to name them all but please accept my thanks for your participation and we now look forward to seeing what the "Hobbits" bring for us in Wangaratta in 2020.

Summer is certainly here, and my heart goes out to those who are struggling through various climate events that may result in water shortages, failed crops, depression and heartache. We pray that wherever you are and whatever the situation you find yourself in, you know that friends are always only a phone call away.

I commence my District visits shortly and look forward to meeting many old friends and making new ones. Inner Wheel is all about achieving through friendship.

As the Christmas season approaches may you surround yourselves with loved ones, cherish the time spent together, stay safe and well and look forward to 2020 with enthusiasm because we know **Together We Can** achieve much in the name of Inner Wheel.

Take care in Friendship

*Robyn*





# *Inner Wheel Australia 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference Pullman Cairns International Hotel*



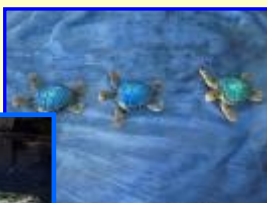
**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October** - Welcome Dinner was a Nautical Theme on the Daintree Pool Deck at the Pullman International. A BBQ buffet with the tables being arranged in Districts enabling us to catch up with our friends on the first night.



IWA President  
Robyn  
welcomes  
everyone to the  
Conference



Dressed in her Nautical outfit  
A77 Past District Chairman  
Margaret Treston lights  
The Flame of Friendship



Jennie  
Gilbert  
Guest  
Speaker

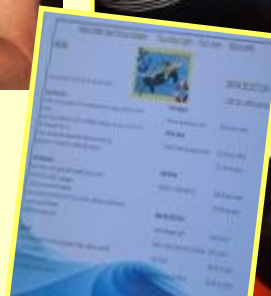


**Guest Speaker - Jennie Gilbert.** Jennie is from the Cairns Rehabilitation Centre and has devoted her life to caring for all animals, and finds it most rewarding to watch a healthy sea turtle swim its way to freedom. She has helped nurse hundreds of sick and injured reptiles back to health over the past 15 years, releasing them back on to the Great Barrier Reef.

“Some turtles stay anywhere between six months to four years. When one is able to leave the tank, it’s fantastic, because you know you have done a good job”, she said. “They belong in the ocean and not the tank”.

Jennie has spent a lifetime around all creatures great and small, including volunteering during her childhood at Sydney Taronga Zoo, and carrying out conservation work in Africa.

The experienced Zoologist studied veterinary nursing in Sydney, before going on to open the Marlin Coast Veterinary Hospital in Trinity Beach, Cairns in December 1989. Her fascination with turtles emerged about twenty years ago, when a beachgoer found 52 eggs abandoned on the beach at Trinity Park, and brought them into the vet clinic to see if they could be hatched.





## Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October

The day began at 7.30am - 9.00am for District Chairmen, Vice and Junior Vice Chairmen enjoying a special breakfast.

**Opening Ceremony** - Past National President Marilyn Armstrong MC introduced the Executive, Elected and Appointed Officers and IWA Past National Presidents. It was wonderful to have Cairns Foundation Member Iris Forno, aged 105, who is still an active Member of her Club, light the Flame of Friendship. (Cairns Club was chartered in 1961).

The 14 District Chairmen and Non-District, Canberra-Belconnen President, Roslyn Joslin presented their Banners to President Robyn and IIW Past President Chris Kirby.

IWA President Robyn welcomed us to the Conference in Cairns and also welcomed New Zealand Vice President Dot Anderson-Lee from Invercargill and fellow New Zealanders, who brought greetings from across the Tasman. (She mentioned that New Zealand's Conference will be held in Christchurch 14th - 16th May, 2021).

IIW Past President Chris Kirby officially opened the IWA 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference. She spoke about the highlights of her year as International President and the wonderful projects being achieved by Inner Wheel Clubs around the world.

International IW Board Director Karen Winters, on behalf of IIW President Phyllis Charter sent her greetings and best wishes for the Conference and presented President Robyn with Phyllis's banner.

National Project Coordinator Barbara Mitchell introduced her District Cord Blood Coordinators and thanked the past team for their work. There is now a new name "Make it in March". instead of "Coin for a Cord Day".

Deputy Mayor Terry James from the Cairns Regional Council welcomed us to the beautiful city of Cairns. He mentioned that they are between two natural treasures, the World Heritage listed Rainforest and the Great Barrier Reef. Cairns has over three million visitors a year and a population of 166,000 locally. It has the busiest regional airport in Australia and has a world class International Cruise Terminal in the centre of the city. He commended Inner Wheel for the community work done in this country.

The morning session concluded with Innisfail's Club Member Mary McDowall's granddaughter, Hope McDowall, with the most amazing voice, singing, "Advance Australia Fair".



Iris Forno



The Executive  
&  
Partners  
  
(Below)  
Hope McDowall



Past National President  
Marilyn Armstrong (MC)



Deputy Mayor Terry James (Above)





*Presentation of Banners during the  
Opening Ceremony to Past International  
President Chris Kirby and Inner Wheel  
Australia President Robyn*



Canberra-Belconnen  
President  
Roslyn Joslin  
Presents her Banner



IIW Past President Chris Kirby  
is presented with a gift from  
Inner Wheel Australia

International Board Director  
Karen Winters presents  
IIW President Phyllis's  
Banner

New Zealand  
Vice President  
Dot Anderson - Lee





## **Friday 2.00 pm- 4.00pm**

A forum was held with several workshops. These proved very popular with many members. These included **Club Secretary** and **District Secretary**, facilitated by **Helen Donaldson** and **Monique Maunder**. **Treasurer**, facilitated by **Helen Foley** and **President Robyn Gillespie**. **National Project**, Past IWA President **Kay Morland** and **National Project Coordinator Barbara Mitchell**. **Membership Retention** with **National Representative June Muller** and **National Coordinator Meryl Usback**. **Proposals and Amendments**, with **Joan Beech-Jones** and **Carole Buchanan**. **Head Teller Elizabeth Russ** with **Karen McKenzie** spoke about filling out forms and the correct way to vote using numbers only.





## National Project Coordinator



Cairns, WOW, WOW, WOW so amazing. What a lovely place to escape to after the cold of Victoria. How lucky are the Cairns girls living in such a lovely place? The 2019 Inner Wheel Conference was amazing, congratulations to the committee you were all such a well-run team.

We had a very successful Cord Blood table during the conference moving and selling lots of stock. A whole box of Cordelia books was moved to clubs to purchase and then donate to local primary schools. This idea has swiftly spread to members and hopefully we can have at least one book in a library in every school in Australia. Warehouse stock Manager, Diana Douglas, has Cordelia books and can send to your clubs so you all can work on your own town/area. Also, by putting your club details inside the cover, may be a link to get new members to join our great organisation. Once again, the team of very talented knitters and sewers produced dressed bears for the silent auction. The pop group Abba, Lorne Greene, Suzi Quatro, Olive Ridley, Bob Hawksbill to name a few of the bears on parade. A huge thank-you to the special ladies that created them and mega thanks to the ladies who brought them. Due to the enthusiastic knitters out there, we are nearly out of sleepy bears. They have been redressed as turtles, beauty queens and lots sold with AFL footy jumpers. So, our next challenge is redressing the Bush Bear as we have approximately 436 out there that need to be sold or redressed. I'm working on a smaller footy pattern so the footy sleepy has a little mascot to go with it. Hopefully, we will sell heaps of them as well. Queensland and NSW could knit state of origin jumpers or any of the rugby league teams. Just let me know if you need a pattern or you can make one yourself and pass around to all of us. There must be a few Rabbitohs and Cowboy supporters out there who would line up for a premiership bear.

We have a few Coordinators who have moved on to other tasks, and we thank them so much for their support and dedication to our Cord Blood Research project. Marion Newman, Publicity & Promotional Material, A40 Eluned Clark, A50 Alison Broughton, A51 Beryl Cross, A70 Lyn Green, A77 Jenny Stone and A80 Cini Murcott. Welcome to our team, Kay Morland Publicity & Promotional Material, A40 Josie Jamieson, A50 Louise Harpley, A51 Franca Rodilosso, A70 Rosalie De Lurant, A77 Heather Hannah, A80 Anthea Hamlet.

"Coin for a Cord Day", IWA Executive have decided that this logo is outdated and suggest that we all try to hold events, sell stock etc. in the month of March. **"MAKE IT IN MARCH"**, so you can do whatever you like e.g. fashion parades, trivia nights, wine drives, BBQs, coffee days etc. Of course, it does not have to be in March, (if that month is already busy), you could still do what you like to raise funds whenever you like. Please remember to have a table with your left-over bears etc. to sell so visitors can purchase them. **"Cord Blood Research"**, is still the main name of our project; it's just not going to be named "Coin for a Cord" anymore.

Kay Morland, our new Publicity & Promotional Material officer is working on getting us all motivated to share stories, ideas etc. on Facebook, Social Media or, anywhere that can get our name out there to big companies so they can donate to our Cord Blood Research. So, if you have any great success stories let Kay know, the more we have to show, what we are about, and the great cause we are working towards must make an impact.

The future of our National Project, Cord Blood Research is even more inspiring after giving out 3 more grants of \$65,000 to each recipient. Dr Courtney McDonald and Dr Sam Greenall both from Monash University and Dr Alla Dolnikov, Sydney Children's Hospital.

Finally, our **READ THE RED** figure from July to Sept is.....**\$2,883,430.08**.

**AMAZING**, thank you for all your hard work



## **Friday 6.30 pm - Gala Dinner**

A semi formal evening with the theme wearing a “Splash of Blue” in the Grand Ballroom of the Pullman International Hotel. As we entered, we were serenaded by the Cairns Chamber Ensemble, and during the formal dinner we were entertained by The Vocalettes, Cairns’ Andrew Sisters with perfect vocal harmony and full choreography, with songs of the 1940s.

A61 Past Chairman Glen Harding lit the Flame of Friendship and Vice President Elizabeth Tooke was MC. She introduced National Representative June Muller, who made a presentation of three grants for Cord Blood Research to the following Recipients:

**Dr Courtney McDonald** - Adjunct Research Fellow, Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Monash University. Her research focuses on how the umbilical cord blood stem cells can be used to prevent or treat perinatal brain injury and is also investigating which stem cell types are found in umbilical cord blood and how these cells can reduce inflammation and contribute to brain repair.

**Dr Sam Greenall** - Hudson Institute of Medical Research, Melbourne is evaluating and testing haematopoietic stem cells utilising umbilical cord blood. His team is using cutting edge technology with a humanised mice platform for cancer immunotherapy research, which hopefully can be applied to all types of cancer.

**Dr Alla Dolnikov** - Sydney Children’s Hospital is working to develop a local CAR-T cell therapy program that includes a series of clinical trials with patients with leukaemia and lymphoma. The work is intended to make such treatment in fighting childhood cancers more openly available. CAR-T cell therapy is using the patient’s own immune cell. (Tiffany Tank, Dr Alla Dolnikov’s assistant, accepted the Grant on her behalf.



Cairns Chamber Ensemble



Vice President Elizabeth Tooke



“Lighting the Flame”. Glen Harding



The Vocalettes



IWA President Robyn, Dr Courtney McDonald, Dr Sam Greenall and Tiffany Tank with National Representative June Muller





## **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October - 9.30am**

Business Session and Annual General Meeting. President Robyn welcomed us and Secretary Helen Donaldson, gave Greetings and Apologies.

Media Administrator Susan Chisholm gave us a very moving power point presentation of members who have passed away during the last twelve months, in "Moments of Remembrance". They were honoured by a member of their respective club placing a Red Rose in a vase. At the Friendship Dinner, the Red Roses were also displayed on a raft floating on the pool.

Guest Speaker - Maz Shirmer came to us by Zoom. Her story is a true life rags to riches, that took many twists and turns that eventuated in her asking questions that sent her on a unique journey of the human mind. She has now had more than a decade of incredible success travelling the globe, she became obsessed with understanding why women were not rising beyond a certain level and not able to achieve their dreams, or break through, as she herself has done. Her book "The Maz Factor", is a must read.

Executive Reports, National Editor, Public Officer, Conference Co-ordinator and the District Chairmen's and President Canberra-Belconnen were all read.

General Business - Head Teller, Elizabeth Russ. There were two Proposals.

No. 1 submitted by the IWA Governing Body regarding Capitation fees for adjustment. The motion was put and lost.

No. 2 submitted by the IW Club of Innisfail Dist. A76, regarding the re-election of the President for a second year. This motion was put and passed.

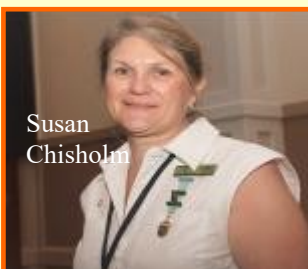
There were two nominations for Vice President 2020/2021 from Districts A53 and A62.

The IWA 52<sup>nd</sup> Conference next year will be held in Wangaratta on 14<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Conference Coordinator, Helen Crossley from Trinity after Dark, passed over the Conference Banner to Wangaratta coordinator 2020 Patti Stafford.

A very comical skit with Hobbits, a Ghost, Ned Kelly and somebody who had far too much wine entertained and encouraged us to be in Wangaratta in October 2020.

Men's Tour - 9.00am - 2.00pm. Partners visited the Australia Artillery and Armour Museum with tanks, armoured vehicles and artillery on display from the second world war and post war periods.

District A80, Anne Shadbolt, Extinguished the Flame



Susan  
Chisholm



Maz  
Shirmer







**“The Skit”  
What can we expect in  
Wangaratta?**



**The Conference  
Banner Exchange**



**Extinguishing the Flame of Friendship  
District A80 Anne Shadbolt**

## **Saturday 6.00pm - Friendship Dinner**

This was a Tropical Theme night on the Daintree Pool Deck with beautiful weather great food. This was also a chance to catch up with new friends and say goodbye until the Changeover next year in Blayney NSW, where it will be very cold. We were entertained by Cairns trio Big Noise Band.











# Inner Wheel Australia Inc

# 52nd Annual Conference

# Wangaratta

## 14th - 17th October 2020



