



November 2023



IWA November Newsletter

Inner Wheel Australia

WA November Newsletter

Issue 118

IWA Conference edition



Welcome to the November edition of the Inner Wheel Australia Newsletter. This edition features the IWA conference hosted by District A62 and held at Cowes, Phillip Island.

More than 280 members attended.

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Quote of the Conference:

"We have what other women want—they just don't know it yet" - Susan Chisholm

International Inner Wheel Theme 2023-2024



IIW President Trish Douglas encourages us to Shine a Light on all the amazing work that we do in the name of Inner Wheel around the world.

We are doing our part here in Australia by sharing our achievements through this newsletter.



Whether it is a presentation of an Honoured Active award or a District sharing it's plans to celebrate the 100 year anniversary we continue to Shine a Light on our Inner Wheel members, clubs and Districts achievements —Ed.

Your Inner Wheel Australia Committee for 2023-2034

Executive Committee

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Back row: Council members
Front row: Executive committee

IWA President Susan Chisholm's message and Diary Dates

Well, what an absolutely wonderful few days we had in Cowes for the 55th Inner Wheel Australia Conference!

Many, many thanks to our strong and resourceful penguins led by Conference Coordinator Chris Wickes. Together they endured stressful setbacks and disappointments while planning the Conference but despite this, and with enthusiastic support from all the A62 clubs and Wandin in A61, they succeeded in organising what can only be described as an unforgettable event.

"....we can each be proud of the contribution we made..."

I know everyone who attended enjoyed the inspiring and uplifting guest speakers as well as the fabulous entertainment.

The video featuring cord blood research grant recipients from the Hudson Institute was a highlight too.

At the start of the Conference I expressed my

"...inspiring and uplifting guest speakers as well as the fabulous entertainment..."

wish that those in attendance would leave Phillip Island with a real sense of what binds us together, a smile on their face and a spring in their step with a renewed enthusiasm to work together to Shine a Light in this centenary year of Inner Wheel and beyond. From the many words of thanks and encouragement following the Conference, I think I can say "mission accomplished"!



Whether you were an attendee or worked behind the scenes or out in full view, we can each be proud of the contribution we made in Cowes. Thank you all for making the Conference such a wonderful experience and something I know will be a highlight of my year as IWA President.

Keep smiling!

Susan

Diary dates at a glance

Date	Event	Location
Nov 2023—April 2024	IWA President Susan's visits to Districts and ND clubs	All
2024 May 7th—10th	IIW 19th Convention	Manchester UK
2024 June 14th -16th	IWA Changeover	Lake Tinnaroo
2024 Oct 16th—20th	IWA Conference	Bathurst

Honoured Active Awards

*Congratulations to these members who recently received
Honoured Active badges:*



District A70 has shared a beautiful story highlighting **Hilary Gardner's** of **Tea Tree Gully IW club** in their recent newsletter. Due to space restraint, I have provided an edited version here, but the full story is well worth the read—Ed

Hilary received her Honoured Active award from District A70 patron South Australian Governor Her Excellency, the Honourable Frances Adamson AC at a Celebratory lunch at the Kensington Hotel.

Since joining Inner Wheel in 1985, Hilary has held many positions at both club and District level. In 2003 she became IWA Vice-President and went on to IWA President in 2004/5. Now, 38 years on, she continues to hold positions at club and District level. In 1994, her role of District A70 Social Convenor is credited which much of the District's success.



She was one of the A70 conference co-ordinators in 2000 and was IWA Conference Registrar in 2014, and was a board director of International Inner Wheel in 2007-2008.

Photos courtesy Michael Errey

Special congratulations to **Glenda Ireland** and **Cheryl Thomas**—both Charter members of District A77 IWC **Rockhampton Sunset** on receiving *Honoured Active* badges for their outstanding service to Inner Wheel over the last 21 years.



Glenda has served as District A77 Historian 2006-2008 & also on the A77 membership committee. She has been Club President 2006-2007, 2016-2017 and Club Secretary 2008-2009

Cheryl has served as Club President 2007-2008, 2014-2015, and Club Treasurer 2002-2004, and again 2010-2014.

Both Glenda and Cheryl have been on the committee, social convenor, delegate & deputy delegate many times and have been involved in organizing many of the Club activities.

They have also attended many District conferences & Changeovers, as well as IWA Conferences & IIW Conventions.

Both have regularly helped on the Meat tray since its inception & have been Convenors for the Heart Foundation wrap.

Cheryl has been the Cord Blood co-ordinator for Rockhampton Sunset since 2017.

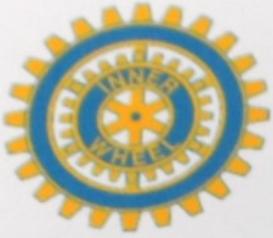
90 Years



Chartered on 19th August 1933 and proudly holding Charter No.1 Bendigo IW Club was the first club to be chartered outside of the UK – turning what had been a National Organisation into an International one.

The 90th birthday luncheon was held on 19th August 2023 at the Quality Hotel Lakeside in Bendigo. The luncheon was attended by members and guests including IIW Treasurer Sarita Lunani and IWA President Susan Chisholm as well as Inner Wheel members from near and far.





THE INNER WHEEL CLUB OF *Macquarie*

The Inner Wheel Club of Macquarie held its Charter luncheon on Sunday 17th of September 2023 at Richmond Golf Club, NSW. Special guests included Inner Wheel Australia President Susan Chisholm and Inner Wheel members from local and Interstate clubs.

The club will be in A53 District and has been sponsored by nearby The Hawkesbury IW Club. Macquarie IW Club's charter members are excited to be part of the larger Inner Wheel family.

We welcome them and wish them every success.

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Charter Luncheon

SUNDAY

17TH SEPTEMBER

2023



Inner Wheel Australia Conference

Day 1 Wednesday 11th October 2023

COWES

Registrations opened at 1pm today at the House of Friendship, Uniting Church Hall, Cowes. By opening time, a small crowd had gathered outside ready for the doors to open. There was an excited buzz through the room as more people arrived to register and catch up with one another. The lovely ladies from the clubs of host District A62 were kept busy all afternoon with registrations and afternoon teas. Raffle tickets were also available and merchandise stalls with both Cord Blood and IWA merchandise did a brisk trade.



IWA President Susan with A62 members preparing afternoon tea for conference registrants



Cord Blood and IWA Merchandise



Raffles were popular



Inner Wheel Australia Conference

The evening meal was a casual one, giving us all another opportunity to catch up with members from other areas. Buses were available to take us to and from the Little Penguin Café.

As dusk fell, we made our way out along the extensive boardwalks to the beach to learn about the little penguins which come in from the ocean every night. They are counted as they come in and tonight more than 1500 made their way in.

Later, as we made our way back to our vehicles, the boardwalks were surrounded by chattering penguins waddling to their burrows.



Inner Wheel Australia Conference

Day 2 Thursday 12th October 2023

COWES



Today's program included:

District Chairman's Breakfast (for District Chairmen, Vice Chairmen and Junior Vice Chairmen and hosted by IWA President Susan).

Opening Ceremony including Banner presentation by District chairmen, guest speakers and entertainment by local vocalists 'Sisters and Misters'

Forum Q&A led by IWA Executive committee

Welcome Dinner (*Beach Party* theme)

Robyn Murray (Wyong) was our MC for the day



Dianne Allen (DC A62) lit the Flame of Friendship



In her opening address before officially opening the conference, Christine Kirby (IW District A51 Council Member) reminded us that in order to *Shine a Light* we must keep these things in mind:

- * Look among likeminded women for new members...
- * Learn about our organisation - our Inner Wheel...
- * Get involved...
- * Listen and respond to the members...



District banners were presented to IWA President Susan



IWA President Susan welcomed gathered members and guests



Our guest speaker today was Mat Bowtell, Founder and CEO of Free 3D Hands, an Australian charity who designs and 3D prints hands and assistive devices. The hands are provided for free, to children and adults around the world. Mat freely shares his designs under an open source licence so others can make and repair their own devices and to encourage further innovation.

They are currently developing a low-cost, multi-grip bionic arm and their goal is to make the equivalent of a \$60,000 bionic arm for less than \$60 in parts.

Inner Wheel Australia Conference



Entertainment was provided by local vocal group 'Sisters and Mistery' (today it was just the Sisters). The large group of more than 30 ladies were led by its founder and director Irene Bennetts. We all joined in as they sang a variety of familiar songs including My Girl, Sweet Caroline, Twist & Shout and Do You Love Me? There was even the opportunity to get dancing...and all this before lunch!



After lunch IWA Executive committee: Susan, Melissa, Julie, Lyn and Jenni ran a Q&A style forum, where each offered advice on ***“Getting our ducks in a row”***.

Some of the key points were:

- ◆ The importance of using and passing on to incoming position holders the generic email accounts (gmail). Only gmail addresses will be included in the directory from 2024/25
- ◆ Sending an email to IWA Treasurer after depositing or transferring money to IWA
- ◆ All members have access to the members area of IWA website using the login details sent to your District secretary.



Inner Wheel Australia Conference

Welcome Dinner "Beach Party"



Tables were beautifully decorated with Seaside Scenes



Mains
Chicken Schnitzel
or
Flathead Tails

Dessert
Strawberry Cheesecake
or
Pavlova



So many fantastic outfits!



Music provided by local duo 'The Times' playing the best from past and present



IPP Lynne took a moment to perform the 'Egg Ceremony' on IWA President Susan

Inner Wheel Australia Conference

Day 3 Friday 13th October 2023

COWes

While Council Members met with IWA Executive, the rest of us had time to explore Phillip Island, either independently or on one of the organized bus tours.

Tour 1: To San Remo for lunch via Phillip Island Chocolate Factory, then on to The Nobbies and Seal Rocks

Tour 2: Churchill Island

Later, the Gala Dinner had a “Floral Fantasia” theme.



Formal proceedings included the presentation of Cord Blood grants to the three recipients. Music was provided by Esta Christensen, a Year 12 student at Newhaven College, Phillip Island.



Sights of San Remo



Robots deliver the orders at the chocolate factory cafe



Stunning scenery at The Nobbies boardwalk



Afternoon tea with a view at The Nobbies

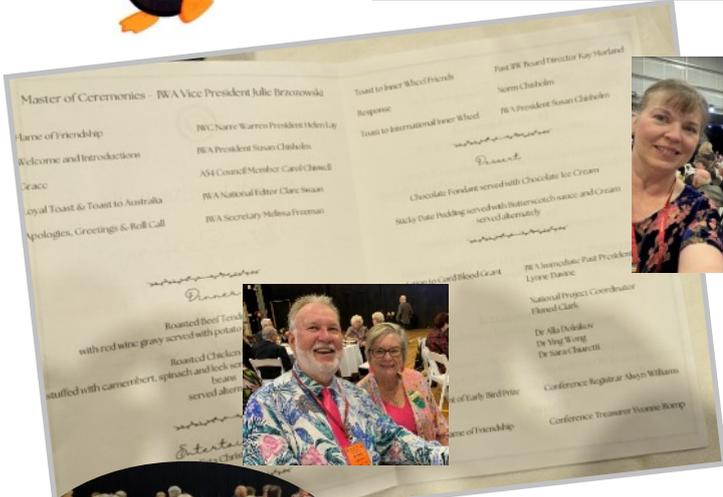
Inner Wheel Australia Conference



Gala Dinner "Floral Fantasia"



Table centrepieces were elegant shoes filled with flowers



Everyone dressed to the theme and looked beautiful in their florals



The three Cord Blood recipients each spoke about their specific research that the grant will be used for



Inner Wheel Australia Conference

Day 4 Saturday 14th October 2023

COWES

Today was the Business Session and the agenda was a full one. Minutes of both the Business Session and the AGM have been circulated to clubs. Some of the highlights are covered here.



Q. What do these photos have in common?

A. There's at least one conference newbie in each of them!



The Districts reported on their year's activities and achievements



Inner Wheel Australia Conference



Inner Wheel Australia Conference



Guest speaker this morning was Helen Comport who spoke about the quilts she makes for injured servicemen and women.

Inspired by her own son, who was injured during duty, the idea has now become a charity named Quilts of Valour Australia.



Voting on the proposals and amendments was presided over by Returning Officer Karen McKenzie



Fun Fact:

President Susan created this brand new banner in her 'spare time' leading up to the conference. Thank you Susan!



This afternoon we were inspired by the story of 'Ben the Bandit' aka Ben Harkin, who was born without both arms, yet has overcome all obstacles to live a full and amazing life. He is a powerful and entertaining motivational speaker that tells of the many challenges of his life and how he has learned to conquer them. From learning to walk, eat and write to living and working in developing nations, Ben speaks openly about his experiences and really gives you something uplifting to take away.



IWA Changeover
14-16 June 2024
Lake Tinnaroo Resort



IWA Conference
16-20 October 2024
Mantra Bathurst

Inner Wheel Australia Conference

Tonight's dinner was a relaxed, fun evening. The theme was 'Rock & Roll' and the band kept us on the dancefloor doing just that.



Tables were decorated with placemats and coasters made to resemble rock and roll legends and vinyl 45s



There were plenty of leather jackets and bobby socks—and even a couple of Elvis!



Inner Wheel Australia Conference

During the evening, there were presentations, gifts of thanks and messages of appreciation to all those involved in bringing us such a successful conference



The raffle was drawn and presentations made to the conference committee



There was a brief presentation on the location of the 2025 conference—Corowa



The Flame of Friendship candle was extinguished by IWA photographer Judith Banks



International Inner Wheel news



Going to Manchester?

IWA has set up a Facebook group

[Aussies Going to Manchester 2024](#)

Be sure to join it to stay in touch and up to date

- Order your green IWA shirt—your club has an order form
- Apply to participate in the global choir
- Purchase your IWA merchandise online now

International Inner Wheel
19th Convention
Manchester 2024



Celebrating the occasion in Australia?

There will be more details and photos later but so far we have heard that:

- District A53 will present and plant 2 roses at Graces Place as part of a luncheon in February 2024
- District A77 will officially open the Qld State Rose Garden in Toowoomba in January 2024 There is also talk of a teatowel design competition
- District A50 planted a Gift of Friendship rose in the Cowra Rose Gardens in August 2023



Objects of Inner Wheel

- To promote true friendship
- To encourage the ideals of personal service
- To foster international understanding

