

**IWA Newsletter March 2025** 

Issue 122

#### IWA Club News Edition

Welcome to the March edition of the IWA Newsletter.

This edition features news from all the clubs in Australia as well as news about the upcoming IWA Changeover.

-Ed.

## International Inner Wheel theme Heartbeat of Humanity



#### **International Inner Wheel President**

Mamta Gupta

(India)

#### **National Representative**

Susan Chisholm

(Wyong)



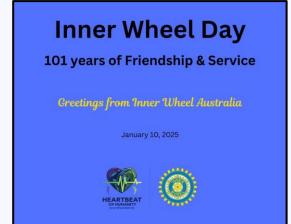
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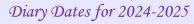








IWA Executive: President Julie Brzozowski, Vice President Clare Swaan, Secretary Christine Laws, Treasurer Jenni Bennett and Immediate Past President Susan Chisholm



IWA Changeover:  $20 - 22^{nd}$  June 2025, Gosford RSL, NSW

IWA Conference: 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> October 2025 Corowa NSW

President Julie's visits to all Districts and ND clubs:

November 2024 - April 2025

IWNZ Conference 2025: 2-4 May 2025 Blenheim

## IWA President Julie's Message

My year as IWA President is flying! Since our last edition, I have made my official visits to A76 (my district), A77, A53, A54 & A50. I have really enjoyed visiting the districts. Members opened their homes and hearts to me. From Cairns to the beautiful rose gardens of Toowoomba, to 40-degree heat in Sydney, to rain in Wagga Wagga and Blayney – such a diverse and beautiful country we live in. I have laughed, hugged and made more friends on my visits.



- When staying with Janet Power in Blayney, we saw the rain gauge rise to 80mls over a few days. Janet was astounded when she saw how much rain fell in North Queensland in just 24 hours 250mls. I was amazed to hear they can have snow for Christmas!
- Christmas was a time to catch up at home and fit in a bit of cricket viewing! Both our children, with their families were away this year. Mike and I had an "orphan's" Christmas celebrating with friends Lyn and Maggie and husbands.
- Inner Wheel Day was celebrated around Australia on January 10<sup>th</sup>. The photos on Facebook showed the friendship and fun we all enjoy when we come together. My club, FNQ Tablelands celebrated at our home in Peeramon. Such a fun, lively lot of women came along. Way too much food! Two ladies came to "check" us out. They will be joining our wonderful organisation.
- January saw the beginning of our wet season in North Queensland. Flooding in the Townsville area occurred. Soaring temperatures in Victoria saw fires rampage through the Grampians. Our council members in these areas have been asked to keep us informed as to where our organisation can help. This can be done through the IWA Disaster Fund. Many thanks to the generosity of Clubs and Districts who have supported this initiative.
- Our website is progressing. We are excited with the new look and the information being uploaded by our IWA Media Administrator Alwyn. We are asking clubs to email their information and photos for the website Club Directory. This is a new initiative for the website. Keep tuned for the "reveal" hopefully by the end of March.
- In a few weeks I will be starting my next official visits. I'm looking forward to visiting A51, Scone, A40, A70, A61 & A55 in March. April I will be in Victoria for A62 & A60. Unfortunately, I will be unable to help Bundaberg celebrate their 70 years anniversary of service and friendship. However, I will be able to celebrate with IWC of Tamar Valley for their 50<sup>th</sup>. It's so encouraging to see and hear of clubs reaching these milestones.
- With "March into Membership" and fundraising for our National Project Walk 2 for 10 I look forward to seeing your Facebook posts and newsletters showing members having fun, laughing and extending the hand of service. Every photo or event could touch someone looking to join our organisation. Enjoy the remainder of your Inner Wheel Year.

Julie Brzozowski

## Club News

## District A 40



#### **GERALDTON**

Our first club meeting in January 2025 was a great meeting celebrating IW Day and Yvonne Lovedee's birthday.

We all enjoy our gatherings - especially with food.

#### **KALAMUNDA**

We celebrated Inner Wheel Day at a local Hotel with members ordering from the Senior's Menu. We had good participation from our Club and Guests from Scarborough Club. President Joy Moffat welcomed everybody.

The toast to Inner Wheel was proposed by Pam Lyons from Scarborough Club. Friendship was enjoyed by all.

#### **SWAN VALLEY**

We celebrated IW Day at the Brook Bar & Bistro, Ellenbrook - we were joined by members from three other clubs – Wanneroo, Gosnells, Rossmoyne and our District Chairman – Catherine Whitelaw – from the Rockingham/Kwinana Club.

Swan Valley President Lorraine welcomed us, Felicity lit the Flame of Friendship, and Catherine made the Toast to International Inner Wheel.

At the conclusion of the meal the Raffle was drawn – with three prizes to choose from – a Rose scented Candle, Champagne, and a Bunnings Gift Card.

#### **ALBANY**

We celebrated IW Day with a BBQ (cooked to perfection by our club President and her daughters – thank you) at Albany's Emu Point.... a time shared with husbands and members on Sunday 12/1/25. It was a beautiful day with lots of fellowship.

Although there were no Australia Day Awards, each of our members contributed to the broader community in so many ways. Share the Dignity, Butterflies Op Shop, Sausage Sizzles at Bunnings, and Foodbank to name but a few. Well done everyone.



#### **MANDURAH**

The Inner wheel club of Mandurah is a growing, vibrant club and currently have 35 members.

We celebrated Inner Wheel Day on Sunday 12th January with a breakfast at Cafe Coast in Wannanup which is a suburb of Mandurah. The cafe is situated on the water and the surroundings are lovely. Thirty people attended including members, partners and friends. Everyone enjoyed a delicious breakfast with excellent service. A wonderful way to celebrate a special day in the Inner Wheel Calendar.



#### **BATHURST**

Bathurst Club enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate our busy year of friendship, service and fun at our annual Christmas Party held in the beautiful setting of Abercrombie House. Proceeds of our Christmas Bowl supported the Little Pantry, which offers low priced pantry items, fruit and vegetables to members of our community. Having two of our Inner Wheel members who volunteer there makes our Club happy to be part of Inner Wheel in action.





#### **BLAYNEY**

A group of intrepid walkers braved inclement weather for the annual Two for Ten Walk. A community seat was donated by Blayney Inner Wheel Club to celebrate Inner Wheel's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Each year Blayney Club donates a book to a local school in honour of Remembrance Day. President Janet Power and member Bev Delaney made the 2024 presentation to Carcoar Public School.

#### **COWRA**

The IWC Cowra Christmas Luncheon on 16th December 2024 was celebrated at Montrose House, Canowindra. We entered a Christmas Wonderland of reindeer, polar beers, a nativity scene and a room decked with everything Christmas. From the décor to the food and the camaraderie, the luncheon truly captured the essence of Christmas. It was a heartwarming gathering filled with joy, laughter, and the spirit of the season—a Christmas treat to remember.





#### **DUBBO**

Members celebrated Inner Wheel Day with a luncheon at the local Vietnamese Restaurant. Flags of the world were on display to represent International Inner Wheel. It was a wonderful day of friendship and an opportunity to promote Inner Wheel in the community by wearing the Club T-Shirts. The Club is actively promoting March into Membership and the Cord Blood Walk in the local paper, on radio, flyers and invitations to other organisations.

#### **LITHGOW**

The unveiling of a plaque took place on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024 in recognition of 100 years of friendship and service by International Inner Wheel and 65 years by the Inner Wheel Club of Lithgow. Club member Gail Coates was instrumental in arranging the plaque and its installation on a piece of mining equipment situated in Rotary Park Lithgow. Member Elsie Gearside donated the original Inner Wheel Club Badge featured on the plaque.



# The second secon

#### **OBERON**

We inducted one new member and will be inducting two more members in 2025. We had a few fun craft afternoons making bookmarks for the National Conference held in Bathurst. Our Christmas market stall and raffle was a great success, getting us out and about in our community. We will be catering at the Oberon Shakespeare Festival and Feast. Our Cord Blood fundraiser street-stall will be held soon and the Country & Western extravaganza night fundraiser for FAST.

#### **ORANGE**

A plaque celebrating 100 years of friendship and service of International Inner Wheel and 60 years of Orange Club was unveiled at the Inner Wheel/Rotary Wall in Rotary Park in Orange. In December Club members donated over ten baskets of food-to-Food Care, a Community Service Program giving families access to affordable food and household items. Our baskets were very much appreciated.



#### **BALMAIN**

Busy with fundraising, includes baking Pancialli Nut Logs, stalls, garage sales and raffles. We met a French IW Visitor, enjoyed Morning Tea with their Local Member of Parliament, and hosted a free Skin Check Truck (at which over 200 'locals' were checked). IW Day was celebrated with Morning Tea at President Suzie's home.





#### **BELROSE**

With Friendship at the forefront, we've had a fun December meeting, a Husbands & Wives Lunch, a Japanese meal with a past club member, then it was Inner Wheel Day, which we Toasted with water!



#### **CAMDEN**

Marked Inner Wheel Day on January 10th with a delightful gathering at a local café. 17 members came together to celebrate the spirit of friendship, service, and community that defines Inner Wheel. Despite the rain outside the cozy atmosphere fostered lively conversations, shared stories, and reflections on the group's contributions and the positive difference that can be made in the community. Right: President Joan Tereshchenko and Kadrienne Ireland.







#### **SUTHERLAND**

A wonderful Inner Wheel Day on January 10<sup>th</sup> celebrating with a High Tea at the delightful Ben & Annies, which contrasted with our 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Dinner at Engadine RSL late last year, with our Members, past Members and special guests. We listened to a wonderful story of our club's beginning, given by Jennifer Pidoux, supported by Jenny Dalton. So much history which was unknown by our newer members.



#### WOLLONGONG

In the latter part of 2024 Wollongong's major fund-raising activity was the purchase of grocery and pantry items for the newly established Ronald McDonald House at Wollongong Hospital.

Club members and friends marked Inner Wheel Day with a morning tea. Although the club has a very small membership all positions were filled, and we are all looking forward to another enjoyable year.

At left: Barbara Williams, Joy Lavelle, Janice Ryan with all the 'goodies'



#### **BAULKHAM HILLS**

Our ladies have enjoyed friendship whilst fundraising for our charities and contributing to the community.

Our recent activities have included a Paint and Sip morning, catering for a Garden Competition Presentation evening, organizing a mango fundraiser and preparing bags for Share the Dignity. We also had a stall at a community market, with the profits going to Coin for a Cord.

Our official visit by IWA President Julie and Christmas celebration was a lovely lunch at a member's home.



Bags ready for Share the Dignity



Community Market day



Mangoes being delivered

#### **BEECROFT**

Beecroft celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in August at The Lakes of Cherrybrook, community Room. Our special guests were A53 Chairman Leigh Smith and Wendy Wonson. We also welcomed Jill Lawrenson and Christine Ananin.

Photos: Leigh Smith, Judy Nance, Gloria Allison and Wendy Wonson. The lovely Blacktown ladies Robyn, Juanita, Kerry and Gay. A delicious Christmas luncheon hosted by Jill Lawrenson and Aileen White was held at the beautiful Breakfast Point Country Club.







#### **BLACKTOWN CITY**

Members were quite busy over the past couple of months. Every month we hold a stall at The Hub, Lalor Park, which not only gives a little more in our Charity account but is a great PR exercise. At the end of November, we held our annual Seniors Christmas luncheon, in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Blacktown City. We all love seeing the enjoyment our senior citizens get out of this event. We spent all of December at Westpoint Blacktown, gift wrapping, once again with Blacktown Rotary Club. The donations raise awareness of Inner Wheel. We also gift wrap for 3 days at Seven Hills shopping centre. We started 2025 with our usual IW Day get-together, this time at the Alroy Café, Rooty Hill. We are looking forward to what 2025 brings.









#### **CAMPSIE**

Our active member numbers dropped to 11 this year and we have 3 of those in retirement or aged care living, so attendance at meetings of 6 or 7 is the regular expectation. In August we attended a dinner held by one of our supported charities, Samaritan's Purse, who runs Operation Christmas Child. We also continued to support our Smith Family "daughter" who is now finishing her schooling. Our AGM in September saw us elect a new committee for next year albeit with multi-recycling all round! For Inner Wheel Day in January a small group met at Circular Quay and had a lovely lunchtime social get together.

Members in Kiama

#### **GOSFORD NORTH**

We are a vibrant club of 44 members, who actively fundraise through stalls, fashion parades, trading tables and movie nights. All monies raised are poured back into our local community providing funds to local schools for student welfare, Cancer care and research, Cord Blood research, meals and care packages for the vulnerable along with funds to District and International charities. We enjoy friendship with regular morning teas, dinners and making the world a better place.



Two for Ten walk

#### LIVERPOOL COMBINED

Our year started out where we were welcomed by a sea of yellow and lots of glitter and many raffle prizes, just amazing and a great day. President Diana welcomed everyone and after presenting cheques to her charities, she thanked the members for their efforts in helping to raise funds for these very worthwhile charities and then passed over to new President Renata Lockwood, who announced her charities for the coming year.

Three of our members attended the IWA Conference in Bathurst. Our club members have attended the Getting to Know You Morning Tea, the District Christmas meeting and IW Day in January. We also enjoyed many happy gatherings like our Christmas party and our Inner Wheel Day celebrations.











#### **NORWEST**

In November we donated filled bags to Share the Dignity which is our club's chosen charity for the year.

Our Christmas party was held at one of our member's homes and lunch was followed by some games. The balloon 'train' was lots of fun but perhaps the favourite was 'Christmas Song Bingo' which had us all singing along.

IW Day was celebrated with Inner Wheel Trivia and a guessing game – we had to match the member with the overseas memento that had been brought along.







#### **MACQUARIE**

Our biggest news is our 1st Anniversary of being chartered (17.9.23) and we held a Changeover dinner on 28th July 2024.

We enjoyed an outdoor movie night at President Jean's where we also celebrated our 12-month anniversary.

Our Chosen Charity - Search Dogs Sydney Inc. were given their first donation.

We had fun assisting Richmond Rotary and IW Hawkesbury at The Hawkesbury Show in the canteen.

Our Melbourne Cup celebration at Lynwood Country Club was a highlight as was Our Clothing Party and High Tea fundraiser. Starting out with 13 members we proudly presented a member's badge to 2 new lovely ladies but sadly one of our founding











#### THE HAWKESBURY

A large number of members travelled to Sri Lanka to visit A53 District's International charity "The Peter Weerasekera Orphanage". They had an incredible time while visiting many of the wonderful sights in Sri Lanka. We attended five Rotary functions, a "Trivia Night" and a "Race Day", combined with the three Hawkesbury Rotary Clubs, as well as the Richmond Rotary Club "Great Race Night", "Richmond Rotary Christmas Party" and their "Seafood Night". All extremely fun events.









#### THE HILLS

Our Club continued to flourish since our changeover in June. We have enjoyed many and varied opportunities to continue our fellowship, friendship, and service. Our main Charity, Westmead Foundation for Bone Marrow Research is being enthusiastically supported by club members in various ways. Our Melbourne Cup Lunch, held at a member's home, was very successful.

We enjoy fellowship at a morning tea every second month and other different activities like a fashion parade and a theatre outing. At our Christmas meeting, we filled bags for Share The Dignity. We enjoyed a Christmas lunch and a celebration of IW Day at a local restaurant.







#### **TUGGERAH LAKES**

From our Changeover dinner in July at The Bay Cafe to our regular monthly club morning teas/lunches, we celebrated our friendship, thanks to our wonderful social organisers, Kate, Tess and Teddy. During the six months, we very successfully managed to hold three Bunnings barbecues and two market stalls, plus our biggest money earner of the year, our now legendary high tea. Thanks to our growing membership numbers (now 36), we have plenty of volunteers to help with the endless planning and organising and the result is in the money raised, allocated to our chosen local beneficiaries, along with those supported by District and IWA.







#### **WEST HARBOUR**

Our small club has again managed to assist the grandmother of six children with help during the year. This Christmas the older children enjoyed the opportunity of purchasing their own gifts with funds from our generous supporters.

Aileen and Val had fun buying gifts for 140 Mirabel children. Thankfully our two youngest members took over organising over 60 of the boys' gifts. Our Melbourne Cup function raised funds for Taldumande, "Youth of the Streets" Refuge.







#### **WYONG**

Following the Christmas/New Year break, Wyong members attended an Inner Wheel Day luncheon held on 10 January at *The Entrance*, hosted by the IWC of Tuggerah Lakes. Guest speaker Paula spoke passionately about two of the organisations in which she is involved – *Because We Care Boutique* and *Orange Sky*. Forty-one happy Inner Wheel members from the three Central Coast clubs all agreed that they had enjoyed a wonderful day of friendship and fellowship. Photo:

L-R: Brenda (IWC Tuggerah Lakes) enjoyed catching up with Wyong President Joan and Vice President Carol during the luncheon.



#### **ALBURY**

We hosted the District Christmas and were privileged to have IWA President Julie who spoke to us about her role as President. Our Christmas gathering was held at the 'Ginger Cat Tea House'

Inner Wheel Day was held at the 'Ripe Tomato' on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January, some having morning tea while others had brunch. It was lovely catching up after Christmas.









#### **GRIFFITH EAST**

Members actively participated in district events like the District A54 Christmas party, Friendship Day, Inner Wheel Day, and the District Changeover. The club also welcomed three new members and visited a former member at her nursing home.

We welcomed a visit to the Club by District Chairman, Chris Kent, when she was able to induct a new member. The club remains dedicated to fostering fellowship and participating in Inner Wheel activities.

#### **YENDA**

Fundraising, including a Christmas hamper raffle, has enabled us to donate to the Salvation Army, Carevan, and to the Women's Refuge, which was also given a hamper of food items collected at the Yenda/Griffith East combined Christmas lunch.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of January we celebrated IW Day in Leeton with lunch and a tour of the Roxy theatre.

Pictured at The Peddler's Corner Café: Yenda members – Bruna Crowe, Jan Condon, Jan Turner, Gwenda Millard & Leeton members

Lenore Ditton & Jenny Brumfield.









#### **LEETON**

Our members have been busy these past months, with an afternoon tea membership drive, that featured local singer, John Martin, and an address by President Jan. In November, we hosted the annual sporting challenge with Yenda Club, the latter winning the coveted Golden Rose Trophy. At our Christmas Party we had fun exchanging gifts and in early January, our long serving member, Iris Herrmann, celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, - an amazing milestone. IW Day was marked with a luncheon with guests from Griffith East and Yenda Clubs, followed by a tour of the newly renovated Art Deco Roxy Theatre.







#### **NARRANDERA**

Marilyn and Bob Manning joined in our meeting and Christmas lunch and caught up with past Narrandera member, Kerrie Davis.





#### WAGGA WAGGA

We have been very social with our morning and afternoon teas each month. Some of our members also travelled to Albury for the District Christmas Party (great job ladies), and we had a wonderful Club Christmas Party. In December we had a successful Bunnings BBQ, with another due in February. Coming into the new year, we are all thinking about expanding our club by "Marching into Membership".









#### YARRAWONGA MULWALA

In September, Mary Crane brought a guest- her sister Aileen, grandmother of triple Paralympian Emily Beecroft, who has won multiple medals in S9 swimming events. In full supporter uniforms, they gave us an insight into the struggles Paralympians overcome to become world class athletes. (One of triplets, tiny Emily was born prematurely, deaf in one ear and with part of her arm missing). Her wonderful achievements continued with Emily winning gold and bronze this year.

Photos show Aileen on left, Mary on right.





#### **COROWA**

This year is going to be a very busy one for both our Club and District as we are hosting the IWA Conference in October. All the Clubs in our District are very enthusiastic and the Conference Committee are busy with the organisation. We hope to see you here in October.

Christmas last year was celebrated at the Pickled Sisters in Rutherglen, and we held our Friendship Day with the Yarrawonga Mulwala IW Club at the Mulwala Ski Club. Once again it was a great day.









#### **BENDIGO**

Our Club considers every Event and Meeting a celebration of Friendship! Four events stand out – Our Christmas Dinner, at which President Debra Reade was granted Honoured Active Membership; Member Aileen Cambridge's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday; Inductions of 5 new members and participation in Inner Wheel Day at Arboria Afloat in Melbourne. Five Bendigo members travelled to Melbourne by train to celebrate with other Victorian District attendees from A60, A61 and A62. All the celebrations were fabulous!









#### **ECHUCA**

Celebrating IW day at St Anne's Winery. 13 members attended and 2 prospective members enjoyed the Friendship, and enjoying lunch at the Historical Star Hotel to celebrate Christmas. A fitting way to end the year with fun and fellowship with our friends.

















#### **SWAN HILL**

Members took to the streets with other community groups to say NO against family violence.

Money raised from popular movie "A horse named Winx" shown over two nights to fully booked theatres, for purchase of a MRI machine for Swan Hill Health. Presenting cheque: Maureen Smith and Wendy Witty.

A60 District Chairman Jan Tozer, Lyn Ward celebrating IW Day.

Gala Dinner at Conference with the theme A Touch of Red.

#### WENDOREE

In November members attended Cord Blood Laboratories at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute.

Here many times a recipient of IW CBR Grants is Professor Ngaire Elwood giving an introductory speech to club members from Victorian Districts.

#### WARRNAMBOOL

We have had a lovely and productive summer filled with morning teas, Christmas dinners, and a celebration lunch for Inner Wheel day.

In between Christmas and New Year, we held a very successful Bunnings BBQ.





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#### KINGLAKE RANGES

At our last meeting in December, we had a Christmas party which was full of laughter, chattering and delicious food. We also made several donations to the local community food share pantry and other charities. In January, we have also donated to farmers affected by the Grampians bush fires.

We are looking forward once again to a busy year raising money by having barbeques at the Kinglake Rotary market commencing February.

#### **WILLIAMSTOWN**



A Fun filled evening of Christmas cheer and merriment was held at Pelicans Landing Restaurant in Williamstown.

Some of our entrepreneurial ladies staged their version of the Billy Ray Cyrus song Achy Breaky Heart to rapturous applause!

Photograph shows one of the highlights with our President, Glennis presenting our oldest member with a bouquet of flowers. Lexie Green was 99 on 15 December and has been a member for over 25 years!

#### **BUNDOORA**

Blair Rowland (International Service Organiser) and her partner Chris welcomed the birth of their daughter Imogen Lee on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Blair is the granddaughter of Immediate Past President Merle Maunder. Our Club also celebrated 30 years being a member of Inner Wheel. Margaret Ferguson celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday by having a luncheon in which several District

members attended. While visiting family who live

locally, Malathi Tantry, Past President IWC Udupi from District 318 India, contacted IWA and District A61 to meet and exchange flags. This was done at Margaret's 80th luncheon.

What a lovely day for A62 Inner Wheel Day, attended by 95 ladies. The sun was shining and lunch was at the Arbor restaurant next to the Yarra River, Melbourne. After lunch we all enjoyed a river

It is good to see so many Inner Wheel ladies catching up and making new friends. We would like to thank A62 for holding this event which was such a enjoyable and memorable day.





#### **WHOROULY**

Our club held several events that have been embraced by our local community. We have held International Women's Day (IWD) 2024 with the slogan "Inspire Inclusion", a "Whole town" garage sale, and a pleasant Friday night evening and family fun day. Even though we have lost a few members we have had 5 new members join, and we are looking forward to the new year.

cruise down the Yarra River.

#### **BAIRNSDALE**

Our annual Inner Wheel Day celebration was held in Lakes Entrance on the 9<sup>th</sup> of January. St. Brendan's School was the ideal venue for this celebration and Lakes Entrance members left no stone unturned in ensuring they put on a lovely evening for all. Highlights were a tasty range of food with a South African influence supplied by members and the interesting table decorations displayed, including the outstanding Jacket showing badges from a variety of countries Inner Wheel covers.



#### **BAYSIDE**

Inner Wheel Day on January 10<sup>th</sup>, was celebrated with an afternoon tea hosted by Marilyn Brownlees in her garden, under shady umbrellas. Fourteen Bayside members attended and enjoyed chatting and catching up.

We will soon be back to our usual activities after the holidays with Dinner Meetings, Book Club, Movie Tuesdays, and Coffee and Chat, all arranged for February 2025.

#### **BERWICK**

Several members enjoyed the Inner Wheel Day cruise in Melbourne before attending an enjoyable night with other Berwick ladies and their partners, hosted by Diana and David in their lovely new apartment.

Our International Officer, Preet, whilst on a holiday, was a guest of the IW Club of Patiala, India. She was honoured to be part of a project to celebrate Christmas with low socioeconomic children who were provided with food and gifts.





#### **CRANBOURNE**

Our December Christmas meeting was very well attended. The tables were beautifully decorated, and our Christmas meal was delicious. We enjoyed some lovely Christmas songs from the Blue Hills Rise Chorale. Well done to all the people who participated. Your singing was wonderful, and you obviously enjoyed sharing your talent with the Cranbourne IW members. We had a lovely visit from Santa and his helper who gave everyone a bag of sweets.

#### MOE

Four of our members enjoyed IW day in Melbourne with 90 other members from across the state. Many thanks to Ula for such an excellent, fun-filled day.

21 members enjoyed afternoon tea at the Morwell Centenary Rose Garden to celebrate IW day. We had Alison's Mother and Sister from Scotland join us. It was good catching up after the Christmas break.



#### NARRE WARREN

Our Grande Bazaar Luncheon was an overwhelming success with over 100 ladies having a wonderful day learning about Cord Blood Research and the Yokhuselo Haven, our District's International Project, whilst enjoying the wonderful bargains that were on offer. The amazing amount of \$5,435.42 was raised to be shared between these two worthy projects. Yokhuselo Haven in South Africa offers refuge to women and children fleeing family violence.



#### **PAKENHAM**

We finished our year with a Dinner for members and partners at our President's home. Those who were around joined together at a member's home to see in the New Year. Inner wheel day was celebrated at both club and combined district level as we had a lovely picnic breakfast in the park under the shade of a big elm and journeyed to Melbourne to dine at Arbory afloat and cruise up the Yarra.

#### **PHILLIP ISLAND**

Our Christmas party was hosted by member Juie Holloway. It was a lovely opportunity to have a final catch up for the year and donate gifts to those less fortunate while sharing a beautiful Christmas dinner.

On January 10<sup>th</sup> three members ventured up to Melbourne to enjoy the annual celebration of Inner Wheel day. They met members from other districts in the city. They enjoyed a cruise along the Yarra and a lovely meal.





#### WARRAGUL

Our December theme was Christmas. The room was decorated beautifully for the festive season.

Donations taken for St Vincent de Paul Drouin were to assist with the supply of Christmas hampers.

Glockenspielers provided the Christmas carols.

#### **DISTRICT EVENTS**

Inner Wheel Australia President Susan Chisholm made her official visit to the District in March 2024.

Her Excellency, the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia and the Patron of District A70 hosted an afternoon reception at Government House to celebrate 100 years of Inner Wheel and to thank members. (see picture)

Celebrated 100-year anniversary with an afternoon tea, male choir and celebrity speaker in November 2024.



Her Excellency with District A70
Ambassadors and members

#### **HOLDFAST MARION**

At Changeover in July 2024 several members received 15-year service badges.

Held a Fashion Parade in September 2024 to raise funds of \$2,000 which was donated to the Cord Blood Research Fund.

Celebrated 25th birthday dinner in March, and five Charter members were presented with their 25year service badges.

Members conducted a sausage sizzle with Rotary in the lead up to Christmas.

Traditional Christmas lunch was held at a local hotel.

#### **CAIRNS**

Cairns Club often combines with nearby Trinity After Dark Club for fundraising and social activities. The Cairns Esplanade is a popular location and keeps Inner Wheel in the public eye especially if a sausage sizzle is included. A monster 'Bring and Buy' event was very successful both financially and socially and everyone took home lots of goodies, plants, books, and household items.

#### **FNQ TABLELANDS**

Our Club undertook a Centenary Project in 2024. Funding and assistance were sought from the Mt Emerald Community Benefit Fund (Grant), Tablelands Regional Council (seat installation) and Guilfoyle Funeral Services (plaque) to provide a bench seat at the Children's Section called Angel's Rest in the Atherton Cemetery. Trees have been planted to provide shade in the future.



#### **INNISFAIL**

The latter part of 2024 saw Innisfail raise funds through a 'Peach Blossom Drive', a '\$100 Club' at Brother's, a Raffle (prizes were a quilt and a leadlight light catcher) and a 'Bring and Buy' stall. Donations are set aside for the High School, Cord Blood, SES, Meals on Wheels, Youth and Family Care, International Project (Fred Hollows). Members travelled 30km north to Babinda for their Christmas Lunch. Most club positions are filled for 2025-2026 – hooray!!!

#### **TOWNSVILLE**

Ten Pin Bowling followed by morning tea have proved successful both socially and as small fundraisers. Even members with mobility problems can take part using the special shute. So popular is this activity that this is how the Club celebrated Inner Wheel Day on the 10<sup>th</sup> of January. A 'Sausage Roll Drive' raised \$1,005.00. A local Jeweller donated a bracelet to be raffled. Drawn at the Christmas fundraising lunch, this raffle alone raised \$1,998.00.

#### TRINITY AFTER DARK (TAD)

Our 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday was celebrated at the District Meeting in Cairns on Saturday 16 November 2025 with many TAD members attending. Everyone enjoyed the talk by our very own IWA President Julie Brzozowski. In December we ran a market stall and held a Trivia Night raising over \$820.00 with all proceeds going to Cord Blood and local charities. We hope everyone had a fabulous Christmas and New Year! PS Bring a raincoat if in FNQ!



#### **BOONAH**

In December, our District Chairman Leeanne Ballinger attended our meeting, and everyone brought along a plate of food for this lunchtime event. It was interesting to learn about Leeanne's journey through life and Inner Wheel.

We are still catering for Boonah Rotary once a month. This is a great way of fundraising for our club. In January we decided to hold our meetings at lunchtime, as it suited everyone better.

#### **BRISBANE**

Club members, family and friends acknowledged and toasted Inner Wheel Day with lunch at Mary Mae's on the river at New Farm Park. Brisbane Club Birthday was celebrated at the February meeting with the Guest Speaker coincidently being the son of one of our original members. We were able to present him with photos of his late mother's time with us.

#### **BRISBANE NORTH**

Our Club celebrated IW Day with lunch at the Moreton Bay Boat Club on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January. Our International Service Organiser, Rosemary Larson, decorated our table with shot glasses filled with rice topped off with a flag of some of the IIW countries. This was done to remind us of the District Charity, "Rice for Cambodia".









#### **BRISBANE WEST**

At Brisbane West we celebrated Inner Wheel Day 2025 with a friendly luncheon in a member's home. Many ladies were involved in the catering, with a variety of delicious dishes enjoyed by all. Both in the preparation and in the animated conversations over the meal we enriched the friendships that invigorate our strong club.

A great way to start a new year of social and community action that furthers all Inner Wheel objectives.

#### **BROADBEACH**

Inner Wheel Day is usually celebrated in conjunction with the first meeting of the year held in January. It is a casual evening where information and recognition is given about our International Project and Clubs.





#### **BUNDABERG**

Our Club went into recess in December after celebrating our Christmas breakup at the Bargara Golf Club.

We celebrated Inner Wheel day with the Inner Wheel Club of Hervey Bay, who hosted the Event and the Inner Wheel Club of Bundaberg Sunset. Unfortunately our Club will be handing in our Charter this year after 70 years.

#### **BUNDABERG SUNSET**

In January four members of Bundaberg Sunset club celebrated Inner Wheel day at Molly Dookers at Apple Tree Creek with other club members from the district. The theme for Inner Wheel day was "Wear a Hat". The fellowship was enjoyable after a busy time fundraising for projects including Hope in a Suitcase by catering at the Doll and Bear fair and the Pottery Convention.







#### **GOLD COAST NORTH**

Members and their guests attended our Inner Wheel Day Breakfast bar-b-cue held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January at Jane Green's Village Club House. Everyone enjoyed a cooked breakfast for \$ 20 per person which helped raise funds for the District Charity for 2024-2025, *Rice for Cambodia*.

#### **HERVEY BAY**

For the January Inner Wheel day, we had lunch at a Canadian-inspired restaurant, Mollydookers, at Apple Tree Creek. Bundaberg and Bundaberg Sunset clubs joined us, and President Liz organised a cake for the former who will celebrate 70 years in March. We are now revving up for the A77 district meeting which we are hosting in March.



#### **ROCKHAMPTON SUNSET**

Our 2025 Inner Wheel Day was celebrated at the beach with lunch at the Yeppoon Sailing Club where our ladies and men folk enjoyed catching up with everyone's holiday news in a relaxed atmosphere. With the sun shining and the sparkling blue seas rolling in, we all felt totally relaxed.

#### SUNSHINE COAST

Christmas Celebrations included President Suzanne and A77
Chairman Leeanne presenting Honoured Active Brooches to
Ann Rattle, Pam Snyman and Noela Dethlefs.
Congratulations to these wonderful ladies for their service
spanning over 19 years each.

January –Inner Wheel Day was celebrated with lunch, a lovely day of friendship, kindness and camaraderie.







#### **TOOWOOMBA**

Toowoomba IW Year began with 33 members celebrating on Friday 10 January 2025 at the Windy Acres Lavender and Bee Farm. Members certainly experienced the windy weather and watched the storm roll in as they enjoyed a lovely Devonshire tea of lavender scones, tea or coffee.

We were treated to an informative talk from Alicia Vohland who, with her husband established the Lavender Farm back in 2019. Members also took advantage of the opportunity to shop at the farm shop adding value to the local economy.

#### **WISHART**

Eight Club Members attended the 107<sup>th</sup> District Meeting in Toowoomba - two of these members were attending as "First Timers" and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the occasion.

Club Christmas Celebrations were held on Macleay Island – those able to attend cruised across Moreton Bay and enjoyed a beautiful seafood lunch. Inner Wheel Day 2025, a small group of members celebrated 101 years of Inner Wheel over Morning Tea.



## Non-Districted Clubs





#### TAMAR VALLEY

Members enjoyed Lunch at Drysdale House instead of an October meeting – this is a training school for those who wish to enter the Hospitality Industry.

In October we held a fundraising Brunch at Jan Easther's home.

Our usual activities were to fill Samaritan's Purse Boxes, gifts to Magnolia Place and cash (Women's Crisis Centre) and donations to Empty Stocking Fund and six local schools for Grade Presentations.

#### **BURNIE**

Club members meet for a business meeting every 2<sup>nd</sup> month and each alternate month members meet for lunch at restaurants along the Northwest Coast of Tasmania.

Christmas lunch was held at the Guide Hall.

Inner Wheel Day was celebrated in the old tram, at the Turners Beach Berry Farm. A fun day was had by all.

Members will meet in February to sort through 42 years of Inner Wheel paraphernalia stored at Bev Vincent's home. Bev is one of 2 members in their 90s.



# Julie's Club Visits EXTRACTS FROM "JULIE'S TRAVEL DIARY"

A 76



"My first official visit was to A76, my own district. I was warmly welcomed by District Chairman Chris Jarvis, the executive and members I have known for a long time. I even caught up with Helen Brown. I was her Secretary after I first joined. I didn't have to travel far. Members from Cairns, Townsville, Innisfail and FNQ Tablelands attended and helped celebrated Trinity After Dark's 20th birthday — on the exact date. Brought back memories as I helped charter TAD. The inaugural charter President Su Walker is President this year. The cake was decorated like the club's banner and was of course very yummy. Thank you A76 for all the hugs."



"Toowoomba's 40th Birthday Celebration – Burke & Wills Motel. The night was full of friendship, laughter and surprises. President Becky introduced the Handbell Choir who played "Happy Birthday". There was

Trivia, Pass the Parcel and guess the number of jellybeans. We cut the beautiful cake and of course laughed lots."





A 53



"I flew out of Brisbane to a hot Sydney. A welcome smile greeted me as DC Leigh and hubby Rob drove me to their home. A lovely meet and greet was organised at The Fiddler. VP Clare & Nick drove down from Avoca. Thursday was the District Meeting at Wenty's – an awesome venue. The tables were decorated with beautiful Christmas decorations. Over 40 members attended. It was wonderful to catch up with friends I have known for years and make new friends. Lively discussions and business followed by of course! A Christmas Lunch. Thank you A53 for your hospitality and warmth."



"What a lovely visit to A54! After a turbulent landing I was met at Albury airport by Margie the Editor. Kerrie my hostess welcomed me to her home where I met her cat Luna (short for lunatic)! We were later joined by Robyn & Lance Gillespie before going to a meet and greet at the Thurgoona Golf Club. As usual, laughter and hugs were everywhere. A54 held their meeting at the Commercial Hotel – an excellent venue. I was able to catch up with my dear friend Dallice from Mulwala and Hope McDowall (Innisfail Club Member) – Mary's granddaughter who now lives in Albury. DC Chris ran



A 50

her first meeting which was fun and of course business was discussed. Thank you to Chris and members of A54 for the fabulous weekend!"



"My last visit for the year was to District
A50 – Blayney. A 3hr flight followed by a 3hr
train trip to Lithgow where I was met by CM Janet Power & hubby John.
From here we travelled back through Bathurst and on to their beautiful

home in the country outside Blayney. Rupert the Pug/French bulldog greeted us. The rain followed me. A quick unpack, freshen up and then off to Millthorpe for a Friday night catchup with

Patricia, Maria, Jenny, Lesley and Elizabeth. Saturday – the District Christmas meeting was held at the Blayney Golf Club. Kellie, with help from members had decorated the room, home-made slices for morning tea and an abundance of smiles and laughter greeted me.



Congratulations to DC Barbara who has a broken wrist & her executive for organising a well-run meeting. Judy Reppen lit the Flame. Christmas lunch was followed by Santa's helpers giving out raffle prizes, Kellie's Christmas trivia questions and a decorated box for the Ukraine Appeal. The cutting of the Christmas cake and extinguished the flame by PDC Devina Harris. Sunday was a trip to Neville (a village) and Millthorpe for lunch with Elizabeth & Ian Tooke."

## IWA changeover 2025



Corowa's the VIBE in 2025

District A54 invites you to join us for the Inner Wheel Australia 57<sup>th</sup> Conference

16th - 19th October 2025

At Club Corowa, Betterment Parade, Corowa, NSW

Corowa - "the Birthplace of Federation"

## NATIONAL PROJECT

## CORD BLOOD RESEARCH



www.facebook.com/p/Inner-Wheel-Australia



Website: www.innerwheelaustralia.org.au





- **OBJECTS OF INNER WHEEL**
- TO PROMOTE TRUE FRIENDSHIP
- TO ENCOURAGE THE IDEALS OF PERSONAL SERVICE
- To foster international understanding

