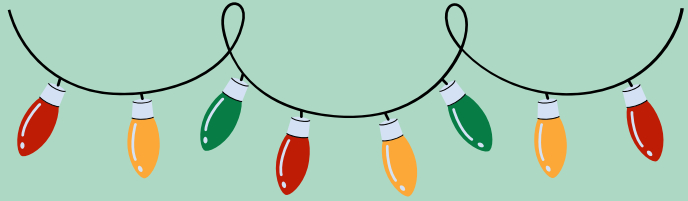


Be Connected

December 2024



A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT JULIE



What a busy year it has been! Christmas is upon us. Such a joyous time of year!

As we gather for Christmas with family and friends, find time to reflect on the year that has been and look forward to excitement, adventure and inspirational events. Members, clubs and districts give so generously through this time to local charities.

I have met with members from A76, A77, A53, A54 & A50 over the last month. It's been wonderful connecting with so many fun loving, awe inspiring women. The kindness and hospitality shown to me during my visits has filled my heart with joy.

Mike and I will be spending Christmas day with friends this year as our children and grandchildren will be in Japan and Brisbane. We will miss them but when we see them in 2025, there will be lots of hugs and laughter to go around. Since last Christmas Mickey came into our lives, so we will be needing a new family photo. Last year's family Christmas photo.



Julie B



FROM VP CLARE

When Nick and I left our home in Cairns for a new start in Sydney way back in 1986 a dear friend gave me a Christmas decoration with this poem on it:

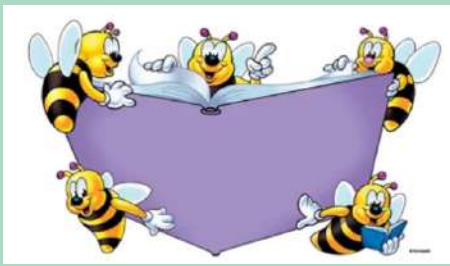
Never a Christmas morning,
Never the old year ends,
But someone thinks of someone,
Old days, old times, good friends.

May I wish you all a happy Christmas filled with family,
friends and happy memories.



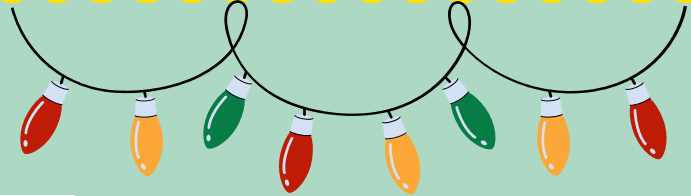
Clare





FROM IPP SUSAN

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Lessons from a Christmas tree



- Be a light in the darkness
- It's ok to fall over sometimes
- Bring joy to those around you
- Sparkle and twinkle whenever you can
- And remember - it's perfectly ok to be a little tilted!

"In the sweetness of friendship, let there be laughter and the sharing of pleasures." — Khalil Gibran.

May your Christmas be filled with the sweet laughter of shared moments with family and friends, and give you the chance to rest, recharge your batteries and enjoy some downtime as we head into 2025 and another year full of excitement and new adventures.

Susan ☺

P.S. As I write, there are now only 16 sleep until Christmas!

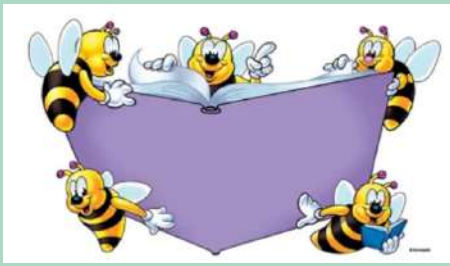


FROM SECRETARY CHRISTINE

Happy Festival Season to all. Hopefully like myself you will give yourself a little time off to recharge the batteries. I hope to make a list (don't believe in resolutions) for things to do in the New Year. Some say to 'hit the ground running'. Great to hear clubs and districts are filling positions. You are environmentally friendly when we recycle. Well done to all members for an amazing year so far. I'm looking forward to enjoying the second half of the Inner Wheel year. I wish all members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. If visiting family and friends, safe travels.

Christine





FROM TREASURER JENNI



Christmas Greetings from the Tropical North

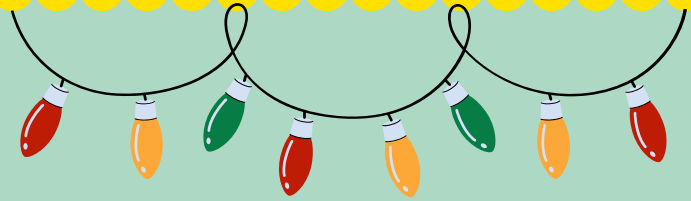
Well, here we are again! December already and my To Do List is longer than I am tall – although that isn't really hard!!

Weeding has been easier with the rain we have had over the last week. My Cardwell lilies are starting to bloom. We have some red Blood Lilies that come up around Christmas too – they have just started to poke their heads up in our garden. Hoping to have a reasonable display by Christmas day.

Trouble with the rain in the tropics is that it makes everything grow, very quickly! Our crunchy lawn two weeks ago is now lush and in need of a mow! The rain was so forceful at times that it took a lot of bark off our gum trees, making more mess on the lawn! Oh the joy! And I have discovered that this hot and sticky weather is an ideal time for mealy bugs to thrive! Overnight it seems, an entire plant has been infested with them! Another thing for me to add to my To Do List!!



Be Connected



Three weeks till 2025!! Here's some things that will be coming up on everyone's IWA To Do List! Badges, for example – its time to consider presentations to Honoured Active Members. Make sure you add them to your badge orders for March! Insurance – not just IW related. It is a good time of year to think about the things that are precious to you, such as a treasured charm bracelet, brooch, etc from a loved one. Even your Inner Wheel Club collar. Take a photo, make sure it is nice and clear. Should the unthinkable happen and it is lost or stolen, having up to date photos of your precious things will assist police to find them and hopefully, return them to you. Contents insurance covers a lot of things, and while a true value cannot be put on such treasured belongings, photos will help the assessors with any claim that you make.

Christmas is a time to celebrate love, joy, and togetherness. Wishing you all the very best for Christmas and the New Year. **Jenni**

A quick and easy Qld salad for Christmas

Mango, Avocado & Macadamia Salad

Ingredients – 2 baby cos lettuce, leaves separated, 2 mangoes, sliced, 1 avocado sliced, 2 rashers rindless bacon, fried until crisp, chopped.
2 hard boiled eggs, chopped. 1 red onion, thinly sliced, ½ cup toasted macadamias, roughly chopped.
Shaved parmesan and basil leaves to serve.
Combine. Wisk 1/3 cup olive oil, ¼ white wine vinegar, 1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard, sea salt flakes and ground black pepper. Drizzle over salad just before serving and gently toss.
Scatter the torn basil leaves and parmesan.
Source BH&G 12 Aug 24 -ENJOY!!!