



# Be Connected

## MAY 2025

### FROM PRESIDENT JULIE



Make time for fun.  
It makes you a happier person.  
It models self-care for others.  
It brings you to life.  
You deserve it.

I am consistently impressed by the incredible projects that clubs and districts take on. It would be a fantastic exercise to tally the hours dedicated to all the fundraising efforts! Our Walk 2 for 10 initiative has been a focal point over the past couple of months, and there's still more to look forward to.

Despite facing challenges such as inclement weather, flight delays, and a misplaced suitcase, a group of 20 Australians successfully journeyed to the NZ Conference in Blenheim. While wine was certainly an attraction, it wasn't the only reason for our visit! We had the chance to connect with each other, our friends from New Zealand, and IIW President Mamta. Since first meeting Mamta in Bathurst, I have grown to value her insights, her ability to inspire members, and her genuine warmth. Our IIW President truly embodies this year's theme – the Heartbeat of Humanity. I felt extremely honored to be able to place the Australian Flag on the stage.

Guest speaker, Alexia Hilbertidou (Girl Boss), was incredibly inspiring as she challenged stereotypes and drove change. Through her initiatives for young girls, she has connected with a network of over 17,500 young women eager to make a difference through leadership.



Participating in our changeover and attending district meetings and conferences fosters a deeper understanding of Inner Wheel and highlights how each of us can contribute to improving the lives of others.



### FROM VP CLARE

It seems like just a few weeks ago that we were celebrating Inner Wheel Day and planning our 2 for 10 walks, and yet here we are in May, and we turn our attentions to our final fundraising efforts of the year and our Changeover celebrations.

I know that taking on a committee position can be daunting, but I encourage you all to consider what you can offer this wonderful organisation – whether it is on a committee or as a support person to someone taking on a position for the first time.

Speaking of committees, your IWA Exec had a very productive few days together in Nth Qld recently, and it was lovely to have next year's VP Yvonne Romp & next year's Secretary Sharon Lawrence both able to join us as observers. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to get to know one another a little more.

Registrations for the IWA Changeover in Gosford close on 17<sup>th</sup> May. It's shaping up to be a wonderful event and I am looking forward to seeing many of our beautiful members there. Plans are also well under way for the Conference to be held in Corowa in October.

Remember to book your accommodation early for this one. Details on this have gone out and the registration form and more info will be heading your way soon.

**Clare**





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### FROM IPP SUSAN

**Membership Matters** – all year round! And it doesn't have to be difficult; in fact, the simple and personal approach is usually best. I know you've heard it before but...

- There are so many ways to extend the hand of friendship and ask someone along to experience what we all love about Inner Wheel.
- Always be ready with your "30 second commercial" when someone asks, "What is Inner Wheel?"
- Always carry brochures with you – don't forget to include your contact details on the inside.
- Use your Club social events and/or meetings with guest speakers as an opportunity to invite a potential new member.
- If you don't ask, the answer will always be no. But don't leave yourself wondering what might have happened if you did ask.
- It's so important to think ahead – your Club might be functioning well now, but who will be there to take on positions in the future?
- Always remember that help is available from your District Membership Chairman and the IWA IPP/Membership Officer. Speak up and reach out if you need to!

And last, a reminder that the IWA Membership Funding Applications close on 31 May, to give time for the current IWA Executive to finalise this year's applications and evaluate the programme. Keep smiling!

Susan ☺



### FROM SECRETARY CHRISTINE

Time seems to fly by when we're busy, doesn't it? It's that old saying: where has the year gone? As we step into May, it's time to tackle those tasks sitting in the "to-do later" box, because later is just around the corner, and hopefully, we can finish them up.

I've been making progress on my RDP and updating it as I go—great job to all position holders! This practice keeps your documents relevant and serves as a valuable reference. Please send me your updates once you've made them; they become a living document.

As we approach the conference, you can expect an increase in my email communications, especially with the registration pack going out. \*Read the Red\* is definitely worth your time, along with this newsletter. If you haven't registered for Changeover yet, there's still time!

Now, I'm off to see what tasks await me in my "to-do later" box. Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Christine





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**FROM TREASURER JENNI**

Membership is always a popular subject with our Members. Some of you know about Honorary Members and Honoured Active Memberships. Do you know the difference? Liz Ralston has passed on the following information to help clarify.

### **Honorary Members.**

Firstly, let's define the word 'honorary'. (a) This can be a gesture offered to somebody of note or rank whom you would like to have 'on side' as they may be of value to you in some way. (b) means at no cost, no payment, zilch.

1. Yes to the Rotary President or
2. the boss of the company which makes widgets and who gives them to you each year for your fete or
3. the woman who has set up her own foundation to feed homeless people in Outer Woopwoop and is raising funds to do that.
4. It can also be given to the wife of the Rotarian, as a gesture of good will and making her feel 'part' of things, but also because she knows other women and may find that Inner Wheel is quite good / fun / worthy and she would like to join and perhaps her sister-in-law, or neighbour might like to join with her. i.e. Plus 3 new members!

**Honoured Active Member**, as the name suggests, are members already – but they do so much for the club, the club life, the environment, the monthly stall at the shopping centre (going above and beyond what most of us bother to do) that you reward her with an Honoured Active badge, because she is both honourable, and active, so you pay her fees for ONE YEAR (after a motion is passed at your club meeting that this is what the club wants to do). If she is so wonderful, or 98 and still doing wonders, you might like to pass another motion that you renew the HAM for another year. And after that she comes back to the 'pay your own way, dear' like the rest of us.

There are badges for both. Please keep this in mind when preparing capitation fees.

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We have noticed that there still be some confusion regarding ABN registrations. Please note:-

Not every Club or District needs to have an ABN, IF it does – it cannot share it with another Club or District.

### **The Australian Business Register advises -**

Your ABN is for life. You are only entitled to an ABN while you're running an enterprise. We (ABR) periodically check to make sure you are still running an enterprise. Therefore you do not need to renew it at all. Only time this would happen is if you cancel it. Then you can renew it. The ABN allocated to your organisation, business, whatever is YOURS FOR LIFE!

See you at Changeover!!

Jenni



IWA Changeover - Gosford - 20-21 June

IWA Conference - Corowa - 15-19 October





The "**red thread motherline**" refers to the red thread ritual, a symbolic practice often incorporated into Mother's Blessing ceremonies, representing the connection between women and their maternal ancestors. It signifies the continuity of the maternal line and the support and wisdom passed down through generations.

