

Chance made us
colleagues but the fun
and laughter we share
made us friends

Exec NEWS

FROM THE IWA EXECUTIVE
FEBRUARY 2026



NEW YEAR, NEW GOALS

From President Clare

Welcome back to a new Inner Wheel year! Our theme this month is *New Year, New Goals*. What does your club have planned? With International Women's Day on the 8th March and clubs planning their 2 for 10 walks there is a buzz of excitement around the clubs.

It was great to see some of your Inner Wheel Day catchups shared on social media. I am sure we will see more as newsletters are compiled and shared. My own club had a lunch at my house. Our knowledge of Inner Wheel was tested with a trivia quiz.



IWA Executive have hit the ground running, starting 2026 with a very productive Executive Committee at my home in Avoca Beach. Treasurer Jenni joined us on Zoom. We continue to focus on supporting and growing our membership.

A huge welcome to the Inner Wheel Club of Wonthaggi Owls. I was thrilled to be part of the celebrations at their Charter meeting. Thank you to the ladies who put so much work into making this day such a wonderful celebration.



I am about to start my visits to District again, with A70, A40 and A55 all scheduled during March. These visits will be interspersed with catch ups with some of our Non-Districted clubs - most of these will be on Zoom.

And speaking of Zoom - IWA Executive will be hosting a series of Zoom Forums which I have titled 'Leading by Example'. These forums will give District Chairmen, Secretaries and Treasurers an opportunity to ask questions of and learn from us and one another.

We also recently convened a Zoom chat for our Past IWA Presidents to inform them of some of the initiatives we are considering rolling out over coming months. It was great to hear their comments - their enthusiasm and passion for Inner Wheel is inspirational.

Over Summer, we were once again reminded of the impact of the wild forces of nature on our country, with cyclones and bushfires making the headlines. Following a request from District A61 and discussions with local agencies, Inner Wheel Australia was pleased to provide a significant donation from our Disaster Fund to support those farmers impacted by the Longwood Bushfire in Northern Victoria.



A big thank you to the candidates Eluned Clark and Patricia Cuming for their nominations and to all the clubs who voted for next year's treasurer.

We can now advise that voting has closed and the incoming Treasurer is Patricia Cuming. We wish Patricia all the very best as she Steps Up into this important role.



Flag Exchange a new twist on an old idea

Several of our clubs have been contacted by members from overseas who are travelling to Australia and would like to visit a club to conduct a 'FLAG EXCHANGE'. With less of our clubs engaging in this practice, how about carrying a few of the AUSSIE IW FLAG PINS? Available in the Merchandise section of the website (Members Section) 5 for \$10 - perfect for you to take on your next O/S too!

From Vice President Yvonne

The year 2026 is well on its way with many functions to attend and plans to be made, and fun to be had!

The IWA Executive team have just finished 3 long days of meetings at Avoca Beach with many, many items on the agenda, we got through it all with lots of planning mixed with laughter & excitement. We covered so much ground updating forms & putting forward plans which we think will go towards helping some of our clubs move forward with advertising for membership & streamlining some of the paperwork.



SAVE the DATE: IWA Changeover **19th & 20th June 2026**. The Friendship Dinner on Friday 19th and the Gala Dinner & Changeover on Saturday 20th June. Our planning team have been busy with both these events and have many ideas for making it a great weekend. The Venue for both evenings will be The Pink Hotel, Beaconsfield Vic. The official invitations will be forwarded to the Districts & Clubs in near future.

Home Hosting for 19th & 20th June 2026: We are asking our A62 members to offer home hosting over these 2 days for our out-of-town & interstate members. Kate Luxford (IWC Cranbourne) has taken on the task of arranging accommodation and is looking forward to hearing from you should you require accommodation and also members who can accommodate our visitors for these 2 days.

SAVE the DATE: The Maroochydore Conference Team are well ahead with their planning for a wonderful few days commencing from the **14th to 17th Oct 2026**. Entertainment & High End speakers are already locked in.

The Charter of a new Inner Wheel Club is a very special event and on Saturday the 28th February, those attending will had the pleasure to welcome the Charter members of the Inner Wheel Club, 'Wonthaggi Owls' into the A62 District. I wish all the members many years of enjoyment as members of Inner Wheel.



From Secretary Sharon



Hello ladies,

Oh my gosh — it's February already! Where on earth has the time since Changeover gone? It feels like it's flown by, but what a wonderful whirlwind it has been. These past months have brought new friendships, fresh challenges, growth and learning, and above all, the opportunity to contribute to our wonderful organisation in a broader and more meaningful way.



Am I enjoying the role of IWA Secretary? Absolutely. I feel incredibly fortunate to have such lovely ladies working alongside me, and I'm genuinely grateful for the encouragement and support from our delightful members.

Thank you — it means more than you know.



As many of you are now aware, we are stepping confidently into the electronic era. The introduction of the online voting system has proven to be both viable and very manageable. With only minimal queries from clubs, it seems most of you navigated the process with ease. I know that embracing new systems isn't always simple or easy, so congratulations to each -and- every one of you. Give yourselves a well-deserved pat on the back for your efforts

The future is changing, and we must be willing to change with it, ladies. Our growth depends on movement, adaptability, and the courage to embrace new ways of doing things. Stagnation is not and never has been the spirit of our organisation. We are destined to grow and lean into the coming years with vigour and excitement. I'm excited.

With Kind thoughts to you all.

IWA Secretary

Shazzie

From Immediate Past President Julie

What an incredible year we have had so far!

There has been great excitement with the chartering of our new club, the Wonthaggi Owls, welcoming 23 members. A very warm welcome to the Owls — we are delighted to have you join Inner Wheel.

Not only have we celebrated a new club, but we have also warmly welcomed many new members into Inner Wheel. As you know, Inner Wheel Australia, with the wonderful support of Robyn and Susan, has been working towards establishing a new club in Canberra.

Through our Facebook advertising and an initial enquiry, we are now very close to achieving that goal. I recently met with the ladies via Zoom, and what an amazing and enthusiastic group of women they are! Watch this space — exciting things are ahead.

As the saying goes:

“Goals are specific, desired future outcomes that individuals or organisations plan, commit to, and work towards with effort and determination.”

Our District Membership Officers are certainly kicking goals. They are leading by example — sharing ideas and turning them into action through advertisements, pop-up banners, and “Friendship Begins with a Cuppa” morning teas.

Sharing your personal stories with prospective members is one of the most powerful ways to connect, engage, and inspire involvement. Every conversation helps strengthen our friendship and grow Inner Wheel.



From Treasurer Jenni



New Year, New Goals? Let me think?

Its now March! I can't believe how quickly these past eight months of my final year as IWA Treasurer have passed. It's not that I am counting down, it's just that I have plans, lots of them. Such a lot to do, so little time!

Like a lot of people who take on roles in all sorts of organisations, I started my term with enthusiasm, drive and great plans to achieve something noteworthy.

I have realised that setting SMART goals is the way to go. Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound.

There is a difference between Wishing and Achieving. Improving my knee health to reduce pain is a wish, and a vague one at that. A dream even. Setting a SMART actionable plan, I have said my goal is to walk for 20 minutes three times a week. Not huge, or impressive, but achievable.

Every three weeks the Team who is supporting our son in hospital has a GPM (Goal Planning Meeting) with all the treating doctors, OT, Physio, Pain management, Clinical nurses, Social Worker, lots of others, our son, my husband and me. Its takes about an hour for everyone to listen to how things are progressing. Sharing concerns and seeing improvements. Small changes that make a difference. The big plans are still there – leave hospital, go home, drive, visit family and friends and the SMART goals are the ones that will get him there. Build upper strength, learn to use equipment to get into and out of a car, weight bear with use of rollator, take five steps, 20 steps, pivot. Little goals that really add up.

Not many people can do it all, but with the help of many, we can achieve so much more!

Looking forward to working with Tricia Cuming as the incoming IWA Treasurer 2026-2027.



Thank you all for your support and friendship.

Jenni