



State President's Message

MARCH 2018



Lynette Harris
State President

March, the beginning of Autumn and hopefully a good autumn break for farmers everywhere. With the hot days in summer it is something to look forward to - cold nights and wood heaters and being able to snuggle under blankets.

Preparations are well underway for CWA of Victoria 90th Birthday Celebrations launched with a Garden Party at Umina for invited guests on April 11th to launch the CWA of Victoria 90th Birthday Friendship Rose.

I especially encourage Branches/Groups to celebrate in their areas and how good would it be to join other Groups to make an exciting day of celebrations.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service is also celebrating its 90th Birthday this year and would very much like to join with CWA and have offered to bring their aircraft simulator to areas around Victoria.

2019 ACWW 29th Triennial Conference plans are now well underway. The Registration Fee of \$750 has been decided by the London Committee and will include lunch, morning and afternoon tea, Gala dinner, registration bag, programs and other information to be included. Tours for spouses and non delegates are being organized and end of conference tour is optional.

The fee is on a par with all other ACWW World Conferences and I hope that members will get behind our 2019 committee to support and attend. Because of the cost and the work load organizing, it could be many years before we have another chance to attend one in Victoria and how wonderful it would be to have at least 800 Victorians to attend.

Donations are still needed to sponsor Island Women to attend the Conference and potential stall holders are being contacted, names of guest speakers have been presented and the design for the program booklet has been finalized.

At a later date information and forms will be sent out to all junior members/parents regarding the Opening Ceremony and the Flag Bearers with 75 juniors carrying the Flags and other juniors to follow in the procession.

Group Presidents and Branch Secretaries by this time will have all information on the State Conference to be held in Williamstown.

Thanks to Ian Vesey the garden improvements are progressing well with Ian just about having the automatic watering system up and running, which Lynne Jordan will attest to after innocently standing over one of the strategically placed sprays in the lawn, when it was suddenly turned on and Mandy, hearing a loud scream,

came running out (without a towel) to see what the commotion was all about.

Last but not least a tale of my first visit to London many years ago to stay with my son Ashley. On planning to catch a bus to visit my cousin in Cirencester, it was decided that Ash would take the door keys and I then would just close the door behind me.

Scenario - two storey house, the upstairs owned by someone else. This should have been a simple task but carrying my case, I locked the door from the unit and continued on through the porch and - oops- the woman upstairs went out and dead locked the outside door.

Well! All I had for company was a pushbike. What a dilemma! Luckily there was a rather nice brass letterbox with a flap in the door so there was only one thing to do - call for help.

On looking through the flap I drew the attention of some workmen over the road who wandered across wanting to know what the problem was and, handing them my address book, I said please ring the number and tell my son to come with his key.

Now this should have been quite a simple task but when they were speaking in a foreign language, not so simple.

The next thing two rather handsome young policemen (do you remember 'The Bill'?) came to the door and wanted to know what was wrong. The explanation - I am locked in and I need to catch a bus to Cirencester and they thought it hilarious with them peeping through the flap on one side and me on the other and laughingly they told me that I would not starve because they could feed me through the flap.

With much relief they went and got the key from Ash and then kindly took me to catch my bus before returning the key.

On explaining to my cousin what had taken place she then, in fits of laughter, told everyone we met what had happened.

On returning to London I decided to walk to the school to meet Ash's pupils and all of a sudden a passing police car did a u turn and lo and behold the two policemen pulled up to inquire about my trip to Cirencester. I patted my pocket where the keys were safely put.

My motto is "it is always good if you can laugh at yourself".

It would be great to hear of other embarrassing moments from members so please send in some but they will be "censored." I will choose one story a month to go in the magazine. Please send your contribution to cwamagazine@cwaofvic.org.au

My best wishes and stay safe.