

Email Letter to Members 24042020

Dear Members

Anzac Day 2020 will be very different for all of us. I have included the website notice below. The website also includes an Anzac biscuit recipe and the photos and story from the April 2019 Magazine.

ANZAC DAY 2020 FOR THE COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
Members of the Country Women's Association of Victoria acknowledge with gratitude the sacrifice of service personnel, war veterans and their families in all theatres of war and peace keeping.

Normally on ANZAC Day, Members of many Branches are involved in the organisation and presentation of commemorative services. This year, 2020, we are unable to keep that commitment in the usual way. However, we will all mark the day in some of the ways that have been suggested.

At 3 Lansell Road Toorak, the flag will fly at half mast, a poppy wreath will be placed at the gate and the members on duty in the house will stand to at dawn.

Lest We Forget

Marion Dewar

State President

CWA of Victoria Pop Up Shop is an initiative for Saturdays and/or Sundays. After permission was gained from Stonnington Council and the Streatrader website updated we were set to go for this weekend. A Facebook event was created by Deputy State President Pam and plans became reality.

I have two photos to include that I omitted to include from Rosanna in a previous email letter. Your responses follow. Thank you for writing to share with your fellow members.

Marion E Dewar

State President



Dear State President Marion

We have been keeping in contact with each other via a messenger chat group. As we are unable to meet for Women Walk The World, we are having a corona raffle raffling a roll of toilet paper, roll of hand towel, disposable gloves, some chux, cleaning spray, some chocolates, crochet top handtowel teatowel all in a reusable cotton shopping bag, tickets sold on line to our members. We of course have to take IOU's.

Yours In CWA Friendship

Dear Marion

Thank you for the latest Email to Branches. Our members stay in contact via the telephone as only 2 of us have electronic devices.

I have been knitting mittens for the Mission to Seafarers. Attached is a page from their Winter 2019 issue with the instructions under 'Please keep them coming.' These are easy to do but the casting on and off needs to be tight so that they don't unravel. I see some CWA branches and groups have done some previously. [It is a square folded over and sewn up with a small gap for the thumb] Also, they need beanies.

Dear Marion,

Hello from all the Ladies at Neerim District CWA. We haven't had any meetings as per the rules but continue to keep in touch.

Before Easter the committee realising some of our ladies couldn't access Skype or computers we decided to do an Easter delivery. We made up 22 baskets, with Easter eggs and hand delivered to all, (from the garden gate, keeping our social distance) giving us a chance to see every one and to see if anyone had any issues or just a chat.

We also finalised our community garden honouring past and future CWA groups in the district. The beautiful mural was done by our member Margery Price and plaques were organised by Glenys Randal, Alison Johnson and Kay Cousins. Painting and plaques were installed by our Treasurer June Edyvane's husband Graham.

We have had 2 birthdays this month, Julie Breeden and Cathy Johns who both received email birthday cards.

Please find attached some pictures of our garden and Easter baskets.



Dear Marion

Thank you for the latest Email to Branches. Our members stay in contact via the telephone as only 2 of us have electronic devices. I have been knitting mittens for the Mission to Seafarers. Attached is a page from their Winter 2019 issue with the instructions under 'Please keep them coming.' These are easy to do but the casting on and off needs to be tight so that they don't unravel. I see some CWA branches and groups have done some previously. [It is a square folded over and sewn up with a small gap for the thumb] Also, they need beanies.

Hi Marion,

Hope you are keeping safe.

A Branch newsletter was circulated by email and snail mail to our members this week. It corresponded with our monthly meeting date. Members submitted news of their activities during isolation. One member has mastered using the chainsaw to cut up fallen limbs after a storm. She even submitted a photo! Other members sent in photos of their preserving and craft accomplishments. The International Officer submitted an interesting article on the Coat of Arms of Botswana. We hope more this newsletter assists communication within branch members as well as phone calls.

Hello Marion

Life continues in a different way for us all at the moment and I know you are keen to hear what members have been doing. I have recently completed 20 Trauma Dolls which will be delivered to Umina when the time is right. I have also made six 'marble mazes' for dementia sufferers. These have been given to the local Nursing Home that is in lockdown and not allowing visitors. Otherwise we are enjoying gardening in these lovely Autumn days after the trauma of living with fires and smoke filled atmosphere for several weeks, which has all taken a back seat from the coronavirus. We know both will take several years to full recovery.

Hi Marion

Thank you for all your emails.

I would like to share with you and am happy for you to include this in your emails to the Branches, about our Easter Sunday surprise.

Our nine year old Grandson decided that he would like to bake an Easter Cake and share it with both sets of Grandparents and the neighbours across the street where they live, who apparently don't have any family living nearby. According to his Mum he made the cake from scratch, it was a lovely buttery vanilla ring cake iced with chocolate butter icing, decorated with stars and mini Easter Eggs. So that we complied with the social distancing rule we stood in our garage doorway, our son-in-law backed their car up the driveway opened the back of the Toyota Kluger and all 3 grandkids jumped into the boot so that we could talk to them. Our Grandson handed us our piece of cake all wrapped up in a plastic container and cling wrap. Then much to our surprise our son-in-law started up some music on his iPhone and the twin granddaughters, four and half years old going on about 14, began to sing a lovely little song. It was hard to hear as they were leaning against the back seat, but when it came to the Chorus they sang this a bit louder. We are missing our Grandkids a lot as right from the time they were born we have shared fortnightly babysitting duties with the other set of Grandparents. We had a lovely chat and I said to one of the twins when this was over we will have to have a party to which her reply was a 'ginormous party.' Their Birthday is in July so I hope the restrictions have been eased enough for us to have our 'ginormous party!

As only half of our Branch are on email they are receiving any information as soon as it comes in. Those that are not on email I'm saving up your emails and any other information and mailing it out monthly.

Marion

Willenabrina Branch sent out a newsletter to members. Our farm members received theirs in the post and our President Judy got some exercise walking around town delivering the remainder.

Hi Marion,

Hope you are keeping safe.

A Branch newsletter was circulated by email and snail mail to our members this week. It corresponded with our monthly meeting date. Members submitted news of their activities during isolation. One member has mastered using the chainsaw to cut up fallen limbs after a storm. She even submitted a photo! Other members sent in photos of their preserving and craft accomplishments. The International Officer submitted an interesting article on the Coat of Arms of Botswana. We hope more this newsletter assists communication within branch members as well as phone calls.

Hi Marion

You have been asking branches what they were doing in the community during coronavirus (well I guess any time really!). This is something that we have been doing in that vein, worthwhile putting into your regular newsletters...

The Branch had a special request again this year - for knitted articles for a group of enthusiastic parishioners from the local Anglican Parish called 'Winter Warmers'. Our branch helped them out with many and varied donated goods last year and received a great thank you letter. This group works through primary schools in the general area of their parish – and at the start of winter each year they donate hampers of warm blankets and appropriate



clothing to families in need. They source from the actual schools how many in those families, the ages, the genders, and give whatever is needed – so always request various sized beanies, for male and female and children. They also run fundraisers (concerts, usually, at one of the churches or fashion parades) and with any funds raised they have an arrangement with a blanket company in the area and purchase polar fleece very good quality blankets with that money.



Members have had many projects in hand since Coronavirus lock down – but in a short space of time since being asked to assist Winter Warmers group again this year, members have provided 3 large blankets made of squares crocheted together, one smaller crocheted rug, one large scarf, 23 berets and 35 beanies of various sizes, colour and gender.



Hi Marion

One of our members texted Telstra this morning to express thanks and then found it put up on their board on the building in Geelong. Here's the photo, I thought you might like to see it!