

# *INNER WHEEL CLUB OF PAKENHAM* **FRIENDSHIP BOUQUET**



EDITION 11 JUNE 2025

*INC. A13212D*

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### **SECRETARY:**

Marcia Rook

### **TREASURER:**

Jan Ahern



### **IIW PRESIDENT:**

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### **IWA PRESIDENT:**

Julie  
Brzozowski

### **A62 DISTRICT:**

Chairman:  
Erica Peck

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Another month down! How quickly the year is going. I hope all our members are well and keeping warm today.

Our thoughts go out to our recently unwell member Pam Chalmers, also Margaret Macdonald who has had surgery this week. I have just spoken with Margaret, and she is doing well and will be transferred to Rehab, at SJOG when a bed is available. We hope that Gary Elliott is tolerating his Radiation treatment, and that Alma is ok as well.

During the last month or so, we have been very busy with Inner Wheel. On the 29th April, we hosted a very successful combined Meeting with the Inner Wheel clubs of Berwick, Narre Warren, Cranbourne and Warragul. Our Guest speaker, Sonya Hood was very popular with everyone. Thank you to all my club members who helped to make the night such a success.

At our May meeting we were inspired by the wonderful Toni Arfaras who has suffered a stroke and now is a Speaker for Stroke Foundation.

Our 2nd BBQ for the year was held on Sunday May 4th with the Funds raised, earmarked for Cord Blood Research. We made a



# FROM THE PRESIDENT



May General Meeting 1st May '25



Guest Speaker: Toni Arfaras - Stroke Foundation



profit of \$1500+

Thank you to all the Volunteers who made this day possible , especially Helen and Peter van Diemen who co-ordinate the whole process.

Planning has commenced for our Changeover on the 13th July'2025.

Thank you to Alwyn Williams who has agreed to step up a year earlier than planned, to be the incoming President, as Joy Board is

still not 100% and felt she would take a step back.

Morning coffee was well attended

this month, but I was an apology. On Thursday 22nd May, 4 members plus 2 other members who accompanied their husbands, attended the Stan Henwood Award night, for Volunteers.

Kay Morland's Step-up Dinner Dance planning is well under way, as the night of celebrations is set for Saturday 7th June, at the Pink Hill Hotel.

I did manage to take a short break in Bright, where the trees were so beautiful...





# FROM THE PRESIDENT



Presidents from  
each club in  
attendance lit the  
Flame of  
Friendship



Combined  
Meeting  
29.4.25

Officer Sports  
Club Room





# FROM THE PRESIDENT



got the 'Flu' and then shared it with me as well as our guests. It was nice to spend some quiet time away.

Yesterday, Wednesday, was Pasta Day, which did not go as well as planned. We used the pantry packs of sauce and had to cook each pack before filling containers. It was a very time consuming effort, and my heartfelt thanks go to Marcia, Jan and Maureen who helped prepare the packs. We did have a few problems in the supply, as we did not have enough sauces, so had to make several trips back to Viale to source more. Please REMIND

me never to offer to do this again!! Hopefully we will still make a profit on the day. Incidentally I purchased containers which were too large so will have some on Sale at our meeting next week if anyone is interested.

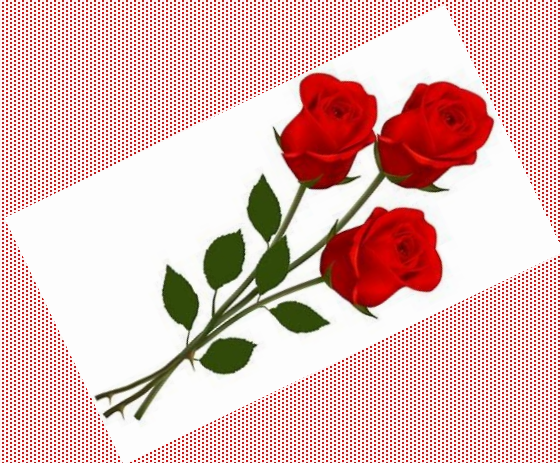
At our next meeting we will have a Guest speaker from Eating Disorders which will be via Zoom, as they do not have resources to send a speaker to Pakenham. Eating disorders affects so many people, so it will be interesting to have an update on this major problem.



# FROM THE PRESIDENT



I hope I have covered everything.  
Hope your football teams are doing well; we are not discussing Carlton at the moment except to say that I haven't given up on them yet!!  
Stay warm, and well,  
Marlene.



Happy Birthday to

2nd June—Alma Elliott

21st June — Debbie James

22nd June—Alwyn Williams



# *VOLUNTEERS MAYORAL DINNER*



Stan Henwood Evening 22.5.25



On Tuesday 22nd May, 6 members represented IWP at a reception for National Volunteers Week . Cardinia Shire Council announced the years 2025 Stan Henwood Award at a reception at the Cardinia Cultural Centre.

Cardinia Mayor, Councilor Jack Kowarzik introduced 9 local volunteers and this year it was awarded to Geoff Young.

All volunteers on the night received a badge and native plant in recognition for community work.

**Report by Maureen Lindau**



# *PASTA DRIVE*



PASTA DRIVE 28.5.25







ISO Report for IWC Pakenham from Sue Blenkhorn club ISO



## News from Belgium – IWC Beauraing-Houyat

Hi Sue.

What a great revue!

So Many activities wow !

Thank you again for everything.

Happy birthday to the two members!

Take care

**Isabelle**

**Innerwheel Beauraing-Houyet Belgium d217**

**International Services**

## News from India – IWC Poona Downtown - Re Poroochi

Dear Sue,

It is so touching to see how affectionate our friends Downunder are towards us. Thank you ever so much for inquiring about Poroochi's health and my apologies for not keeping you all updated.

Yes, with God's Grace she is much better. She did give us all a fright but now her Cardiac condition has stabilized. It is her HyperThyroid which is still not completely under control but she is positively improving - in fact, I would say, I can see the change on a daily basis since the last week or so. Still a little weak but getting there for sure.

We have the next Dr's appointment for her check-up on the 24th after taking some tests. Hopefully by then with the medication that is being given she will be fine, fingers crossed.

We had the hottest month of April in the last 75 years with temperatures hovering around 42 and 43 degrees but now at last it seems to be cooling down a bit with the monsoon expected earlier this year.

You must have seen there is a lot of tension between India and Pakistan currently. God alone knows when terrorism will end, if it ever does. Hope things get sorted out between the two countries soon.

Poroochi joins me in sending all our friends lots of love

Yezdi



# INTERNATIONAL



*When I was in Broome I had a phone call from Poroochi  
She thanks all members who wished her a speedy recovery and  
happy birthday. She is so happy to be included as a member of  
our club even when home in India. She wants us all to know  
that her health is improving daily & she looks forward to catch-  
ing up with us all soon*

*Opposite is a message from Edwina Dais, Incoming President of  
Poona Downtown, Pooochi's club*



## News from The Netherlands - IWC Haarlem

Thank you, Sue, for the attractive and informative May Bouquet Magazine. So nice to see several photos with you, Alwyn and other IW friends. As promised I send you a picture of our Annual Day Out. This time we went to Aalsmeer to visit the Flower Art Museum where beautiful art was exhibited made by Polish women living in the Netherlands. After a delicious lunch on the waterfront we went to a Historic Garden with really old fashioned fragrant roses. We were lucky that the sun was radiant all day because our last activity was on an open boat on the Westeinderplassen. An unique water area with a versatile flora and fauna.

The end of May we have our last club meeting before we have our Summer stop. And you are entering the Winter season. Wishing you success with your projects.

Warm friendship greetings for all the members of Club Pakenham.

**Ilmy van der Ster**







## News from Sweden - IWC Örebro

Janice Karlsson<janicekarlsson44@gmail.com>

Thank you Sue for your mail. I received the recent Friendship Bouquet and forwarded it to our club's webmaster for publication on our website.

I will be relinquishing my post as ISO in June but will be sending a newsletter well before then with an update of our club's activities. I will also send details of the new ISO, who in actual fact had the position prior to me taking over two years ago.

All the best from a chilly but very springlike Sweden.

**Janice Jarlsson**  
**ISO Örebro IWC**

*Below is the newsletter*

**Warm greetings to all the ladies of Pakenham IW club.**

It's that time of the year when we sum up a very active winter/spring period and look forward to a long summer break. At least that's the Swedish way. We certainly hope that your club has been thriving as usual, which is something that reflects in your regular newsy issues of Friendship Bouquet.

Our club has enjoyed some very interesting and fun meetings, always enhanced by a good meal in great company. Our winter has been fairly mild with very little snow. Global warming is making itself known most noticeably as our climate seems to be changing fast. However on those very dark winter evenings it is always good to have a goal, something to get us out of our warm homes, so our IW meetings are a good opportunity to enjoy each other's company and a very interesting programme.

We have welcomed new members which is always a joy but sadly have lost three very active members who have passed away, a reminder that life is fragile and that we must take every chance to live and give each day.



We had a good crowd with several guests that came to our International Inner Wheel Day meeting on 10 January. We were given a drama presentation of a recently written book (the size of a brick) where local authors have researched and told the story of a local orphan boy, Anders Lundquist whom Queen Hedvig took under her wing in 1810. He became an artist in Stockholm but died in early years.

We were also given an update on Panzi Hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo which our club has supported for some years. Congo is a country in constant conflict where women and children are raped and abused by militants in order to access the mineral mines and take control, destroying villages and the lives of the citizens. Panzi Hospital,





led by a very brave Dr Denis Mukwege 'mend' these mutilated women both physically and mentally and try to help them build up their lives again.

In February we were entertained by a melodious singing group of five young women who call themselves 'The Sirens'. Their name relates of course to the Sirens in Greek mythology, where the Sirens were birdlike women that tried to lure and tempt sailors at sea with their song in order to shipwreck them. We were however assured that our entertaining Sirens were not dangerous. We listened to songs by the Bee Gees as well as Swedish folksongs. There was something for everyone.

Our March meeting was held in a small boutique called 'Shoes and beyond' where we met the two young women who own this exciting boutique and actually design their own shoes under the name of 'The Shoe Bakery'. We were met by exciting designs of trainers that really catch the eye as well as other products such as textiles, candlesticks very snazzy shoe laces etc. The owners also sell products which other women design and try to help them on their way as entrepreneurs. They also support a women's co-operative in Kenya.



April saw a grand attendance of 39 ladies who were very interested in what our speaker had to say about food hygiene. Professor Marie-Louise Danielsson-Tham led us through all the different types of bacteria that can be found in the food we eat, both good and bad. She is often seen on Swedish TV and is a professor at the exclusive restaurant school which is an institute within Örebro University. She definitely gave us food for thought.

Finally, our last meeting before the summer break was held at a smallholding on the outskirts of Örebro called Berga Gård. A rainy and uninviting evening to drive out into the countryside, but 21 ladies enjoyed a super salmon meal followed by a presentation of the smallholding, which is completely ecological. Every day 12,000 hens lay 10,000 eggs which are sold in their farm shop and distributed to other buyers. They also have 85 sheep (in Australian eyes this must seem just a handful) which are of various races. The shop sells sheepskin rugs and of course meat from the lambs. They grow their own grain, both to feed the hens and sheep and also send wheat to a local mill and use the flour in their home baked cakes and bread which can be enjoyed in their coffee shop. One of the summer highlights is the field of sunflowers which they plant every year and where locals can come and cut their own bouquets at a nominal price. The smallholding is family run and everyone has to pitch in to do their bit.

There was of course lots of interest in the shop and the produce that it had to offer. Cheeses, meats including wild boar and elk, jams and chutneys, crisp breads and eggs of course.

We finished our evening tasting their home made ice-cream with our coffee after which we welcomed our new president for 2025-26, Lisbeth Wiker and thanked our president, Elisabeth for working hard and contributing to our club in a very positive way. I was also thanked for my two years as ISO and will be handing back the baton to Annika Sandén who is also DISO in our district.



# *INTERNATIONAL*



A super salmon meal was enjoyed by the ladies.



Welcome to our new President.

All that remains for me to say is how glad we are to have Packenham as a club in friendship. It has been fun to share with you some of our club's activities from January to May. We live in two different cultures and do things very differently but are joined together through the strong ties of Inner Wheel which is such a privilege.

Our best wishes to you all.

**Janice Karlsson**

**ISO, Örebro Inner Wheel Club**



Thanks to ISO Janice



Obrero Castle dating from the 14th century, situated in the centre of the town.





## Morning Coffee

On Thursday 22nd 12 members gathered at Heritage Cafe for morning coffee. We all enjoyed the catch up and 2 past members Janet and Kay were in the centre and we were able to talk with them. It's lovely to catch up between meetings with each other.

Report by  
**Bronwyn Kennett**



Morning Coffee, Heritage Cafe 22.5.25

## Sew & Chatter

On a lovely day 7 ladies gathered to sew and chatter making the walker bags and fiddle mats. The count on bags tells us that we have made enough for another donation to the community. We were delighted to have Alma pop in for a brief chat and check what we were up to. It was a lovely day with lots of laughter and making the items

Report by **Bronwyn Kennett**





# REPORTS



Happy 'O' Birthday  
Helen

love from your IW Friends xxxx

In the evening of 27th May 19 members and partners gathered to enjoy a lovely time celebrating Helen's 70th birthday. Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening and Helen gave a beautiful thank you to everyone who were able to attend. We all wish Helen many wonderful years ahead to enjoy with family and friends. Happy birthday again to Helen. **Report by Bronwyn Kennett**



# REPORTS



## **Bunnings BBQ report by Helen van Diemen**

*I am writing to let you all know that a very successful Cord Blood Fundraiser was held today at the Bunnings Store in Pakenham. The net profit for the club is \$1,524.00 and every single sausage was sold without needing to buy any more*

*Of course, events like this don't just happen as we know. There are many members and friends to thank for their help before, during and after the BBQ today.*

*Thank you to Jan and Tim Ahern who organised for the loan of the Rotary Tyro card machine, the loan of the very large Rotary eskies and the money tin and float.*

*Thank you to those who helped at Bunnings today, including Pam & Alan Chalmers, Nola & Ross Brooks, Pauline Morris, Marcia Rook, Jan Ahern, Marlene Burhop, Maureen Lindau, Jenny Watson, Bronwyn Kennett, Henry van Diemen and Peter van Diemen.*

*Thank you to Peter for counting and finalising the funds and getting them ready to go to the bank. A huge effort from everyone but a very worthwhile one.*



Bunnings  
BBQ

4.5.25







## Book club reports by Helen van Diemen

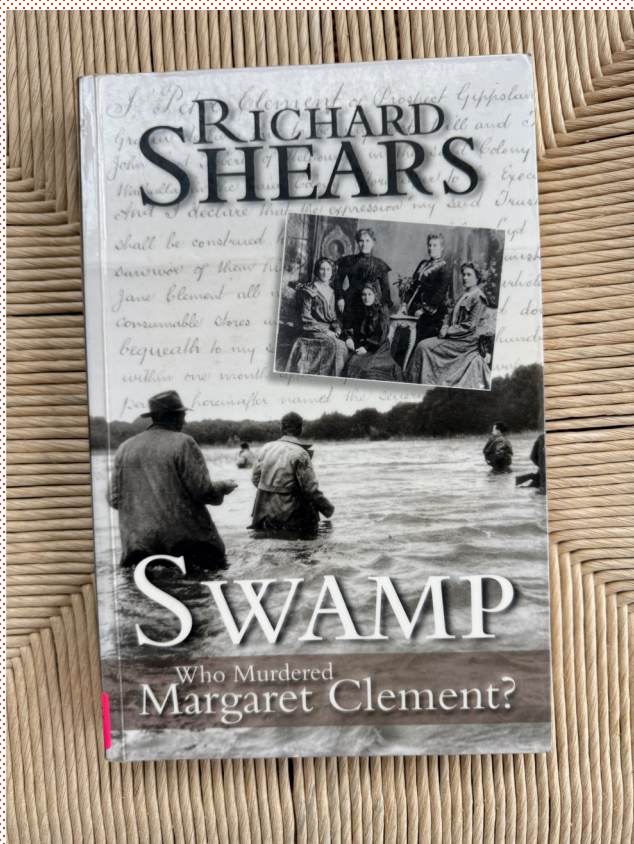
### April Book Club Report:

It was a great to have nearly a full house, with only two members absent in the month of April, ready to discuss the latest book "Shame! Who Murdered Margaret Clement?" by Richard Shears.

The get together was held at the home of Alwyn Williams. Thank you to Alwyn who had baked beautiful hot cross buns for Supper.

There was lots of discussion about this book, which was set in South Gippsland, near Buffalo and Leongatha. Members discussed....the fact that this story took place in a region with which we are all familiar and within some of our lifetimes, made it a pertinent book for discussion. Based on real people, this story was very different to a fictional mystery. Members felt it was a sombre read, very sad that the women, being Margaret and her sister, didn't learn how to adapt to a different set of circumstances. It was mentioned that the author, a journalist, needed to add some fictional links to create a readable story. There were many theories on what may have happened in the end. A very worthwhile discussion.

*Next month we will be discussing the murder mystery novel titled "The Seven" by Chris Hammer at Marilyn's home in Berwick. Happy Reading*







## May Book Club Report:

Another book club with almost all members present which was great, who met at Marilyn van Diemen's home in Berwick. The discussion found this a very believable story line and the entire group enjoyed the book, which was well researched and presented. It contained relevant country areas with which some members were familiar. The issue of the water rites is very pertinent to farmers, even today.

Thank you to Marilyn for sharing her home and providing supper. Special thanks to Alwyn Williams who brought along a fresh passionfruit sponge which was just out of the oven. A delightful surprise to celebrate Helen's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.

*Next month we will be discussing the novel titled "**Honeybee**" by Craig Silvey at Judy Giles's home in Tooradin. Happy Reading.*



**Report by Helen van Diemen**



# SOME LIGHT HEARTED THOUGHTS



## Church bulletin board

The following appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing 'Break Forth Into Joy'.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm – prayer and medication to follow.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

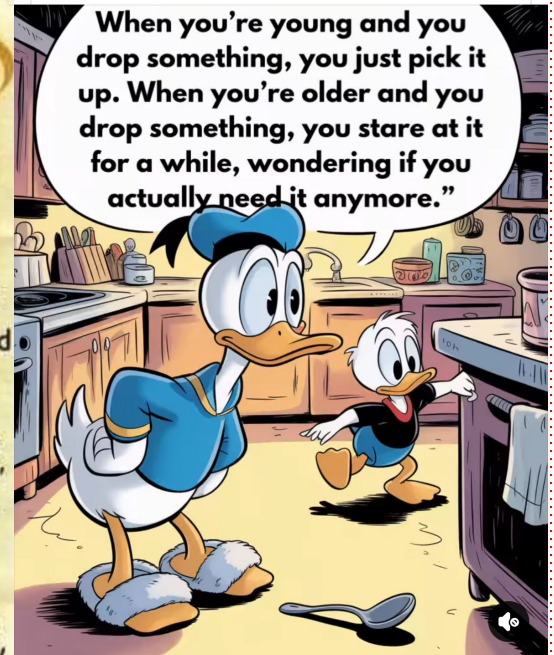
This evening at 7pm there will be hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge – Up Yours.'

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Compiled by Max Bowen



**“Old age showed up at the worst time... Just when I was finally starting to understand everything, I'm now forgetting it all.”**



**The challenge of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and Fake photos!**

**This is an example. Can you see why? Answer opposite.**

Do you know how to check if an image is real?

**Answer:** in Google do a **reverse image search**. In google you don't need to enter an email to get results.



Check out the Chooks feet—or should we say Duck feet



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES



**Inner Wheel General Meeting** — Thursday 5th June, 10am @ RSL. Guest speaker from Eating Disorders via Zoom.

Remember to bring priced items for the trading table.

**Paddy's Kitchen** Saturday 7th June— Pam Chalmers and Jan Ahern  
Saturday 21st June— Jenny Watson and Maureen Lindau  
Saturday July 5th— Bronwyn Kennett and Marlene Burhop

## Dates for your Diaries —

**Stepping up Dinner** re Kay Morland 7th June, Pink Hill, \$55pp Black Tie.

**Sew & Chatter, RSL** – Wednesday 11th June @ the RSL 10am.

**Movies:** tba at the meeting

**Morning Coffee:** Thursday 19th June, 10 am. Heritage café.

**Invitations to our district's club changeovers have been circulated via email.**

**Our Club changeover** 13th July 1:30pm @ Meadowvale Village, Pakenham

**NGV— French impressionists** Wednesday 13th Aug. \$39 concession

**National conference:** Corowa, Oct 15th—18th

**Archibald visit:** Geelong, Monday 27th Oct \$20 concession.

## Inner Wheel Club of Pakenham -Email addresses

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Could you all please add these addresses to your contact list and use them when contacting the relevant office bearer on Inner Wheel business. It will allow continuity of contact when the people holding the position change, keeps information in one Gmail file and frees up our personal accounts where sometimes specific messages can get “lost” among other personal messages.