



Victoria ALGWA Spring 2013

E – NEWSLETTER

(Volunteer Editor Cr Colleen Furlanetto ALGWA Rural representative)

Some dates for the diary !

- **10th October** North East ALGWA AGM & Dinner Enq: colleen.furlanetto@strathbogie.vic.gov.au
- **24th October** 50th Celebration of ALGWA VIC drinks and finger foods at Melbourne Town Hall @ 5pm Enq: Helen Relph hrelph@bigpond.net.au
- **27th November** Bursary award and afternoon tea at The Hotel Windsor Melbourne.
Enq: Helen.Harris@whitehorse.vic.gov.au
- **May 29th and 30th 2014** ALGWA State Conference for 2014 is to be held in Nillumbik. Enq: Helen.coleman@nillumbik.vic.gov.au
- **Membership enquiries to**
Cr Helen Harris OAM Secretary
Helen.Harris@whitehorse.vic.gov.au

WELCOME to this E- NEWSLETTER

I hope you find the newsletter interesting; we have tried to include as much information as possible for our members information.

We have highlighted a few events and items of interest, including the very successful State Conference.

We hope you enjoy the photos of the conference, for those who missed this years be sure to keep the May dates for the 2014 State Conference.

'If you want to go faster go alone if you want to go further, go together'

(African proverb)

State Conference 2013 `Going Bush` was held in May 2013 at Euroa in the Shire of Strathbogie.

There were two and half days of interesting speakers, celebrations and networking opportunities. Most reporting a great time and that everyone felt they gained something form the Conference.



Acknowledgement for the photos used in this newsletter from the 2013 State Conference taken for ALGWA these were provided by Ms Raylene Carr and Ms Kate Furlanetto ALGWA thank you both for your great photos.

Life membership

At the conference a life membership was awarded to past Councillor Mrs. Yvonne Jennings from Swan Hill.



Yvonne is a very generous lady, who for many years assisted community anyway she could. Yvonne played an integral role as a Councillor and Deputy Mayor for the Swan Hill Council. Yvonne's passion and commitment along with her strong knowledge in rural small business means she knows what she is talking about. Yvonne has opened her home to community members who needed a hand to get on their feet. Yvonne epitomizes the mission of ALGWA supporting Women in Local Government.

Congratulations Yvonne!

At the Conference the **ALGWA Vic AGM** was held with several changes made to update the Constitution. You are able to view the Constitution on the ALGWA website.

Thank you to the members who contributed to the updating of this important document.

www.algwa.com.au

Last year's ALGWA Vic bursary award winner

Ms. Sam Dureau

Presented at the Conference.



There were many speakers at the conference these included:

Minister Jeanette Powell MP

(Minister for Local Government)

Who officially opened the conference.



Mrs. Pam Robinson OAM.

ALGWA Life Member and former ALGWA President



Professor Kate Auty

(Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability)



One of panel discussions at the Conference

included the six women Mayors of the twelve North East Victoria councils



Mayor Fraser, Mayor Parisotto, Mayor Houlihan, Mayor Murdoch, Mayor Alexander and Mayor Swan

The ALGWA Executive have been meeting regularly to discuss issues and arranging representations at various events and meetings. This includes regular meetings with relevant Ministers wherever possible. Working on the '50:50' project and 'Women's Charter', the committee has had representatives attending and discussing these projects and providing feed back to the ALGWA committee. Also the Women's Participation in Local Government ALGWA has assisted to ensure this can continue with the two peak bodies for local government being, the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and Victorian Local Governance Association the (VLGA) will be assisting in supporting the WPILG work continues.

State Conference May 2014 in Nillumbik

Watch this space for more details.

Please share your ideas on what you would like to see at your conference for the organizing committee to consider.



ALGWA membership: Councillors and staff of local governments are invited to register; this can be an individual membership or council membership. There are different rates for Large City councils to Small Rural councils. To be a member of the Executive it is advised and preferred to have individual membership.

Enq: State Secretary: Cr Helen Harris OAM: Helen.Harris@whithorse.vic.gov.au



ALGWA Vic have new printed brochures please contact one of the Executive in your region to assist with supplying you with a copy or copies of the brochure.

<p>OUR VISION: 50:50 GENDER EQUITY</p> <p>The Australian Local Government Women's Association has always promoted leadership roles for women, and recognized the need to achieve greater representation of women as both elected members and employed in local government.</p> <p>We established a 50:50 Vision, and have developed national gender awards.</p> <p>A large number of councils around Australia are now enrolled in this initiative.</p>  	<p>JOIN ALGWA AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE</p> <p>To find out more about our activities, diary dates, news and events, or to apply to join the Victorian Branch, please visit our website at the address below</p>  <p>Contact the Secretary WWW.ALGWA.COM.AU (08) 93 92 0745</p>	 <p>AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION VICTORIAN BRANCH</p>  <p>Supporting Women in Local Government</p>	 <p>AIMS AND OBJECTIVES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → PROMOTE the interests and rights of women in Local Government, both as elected members and employees. → PROMOTE Local Government by furthering women's knowledge and understanding of its function. → TAKE ACTION in relation to any subject or activity affecting Local Government and Local Government legislation. → ACT in advisory capacity to intending candidates for Local Government elections. 	<div> <div data-bbox="1063 955 1193 1186"> <p>OUR HISTORY</p> <p>The Australian Local Government Women's Association is the peak body representing women's issues in Local Government across Australia.</p> <p>Formed in 1951, ALGWA is a not for profit, non-party political Association. Members are elected representatives, council officers and supporters of women's participation in local government, and Councils. The Victorian Branch was formed in 1963 and has several rural and regional sub-branches.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1209 955 1339 1134"> <p>OUR ACTIVITIES</p> <p>ALGWA offers Mentoring Networks and events, conferences, a study bursary, newsletters and the opportunity to participate in projects encouraging women in Local Government.</p> <p>ALGWA has branches in every State and the Northern Territory, and members can attend any activity or event in other areas.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1356 955 1485 1155"> <p>OUR BURSARY AWARD</p> <p>In 1989 the Victorian Branch of ALGWA established an Annual Study Award to encourage and assist women in the Local Government sector to further their education.</p> <p>The Award is open to permanent staff members in a Victorian municipality and is given each October, in memory of past ALGWA State and National President Marie Wallace OAM JP.</p> </div> </div> 
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The ALGWA Victoria Branch Executive are working to the develop a mentoring tool to assist our current and future members. Your ALGWA Victoria branch is here to assist you. ALGWA promotes in the interests and rights of all women in Local Government.

President: Cr Coral Ross coral.ross@booroondara.vic.gov.au **Secretary** Cr Helen Harris OAM Helen.Harris@whitehorse.vic.gov.au

Treasurer Mrs. Jean Wise OAM honeywise@bigpond.com **Metro Vice President** Cr Helen Coleman Helen.coleman@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Rural Vice President Cheryl Bromfield Cbct3@internode.on.net **Interface Representative** Pam McLeod pam_mcleod@bigpond.com

Committee Member Mayor Jennifer Yang Jennifer.yang@manningham.vic.gov.au

Committee Member Helen Relph hrelph@bigpond.net.au

Rural Representative Cr Colleen Furlanetto colleen.furlanetto@strathbogie.vic.gov.au.



HISTORY OF ALGWA A SNAPSHOT

Celebrating 50 years in 2013

The Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) was created in October 1951, during the Jubilee Year of the Commonwealth of Australia, at the Women's Convention chaired by Dame Enid Lyons. Attendees included representatives of women's organizations throughout Australia, several of whom were involved in local government. The first national president was Cr Ellen Weeks of Alexandra Shire and the secretary-treasurer was Alderman Maisie Watt of Holroyd NSW. It would appear the federal body did not meet again until October 1966, when the first National Convention was held in Canberra, a National Board was elected and a constitution drawn up.

In September 1952, Councillor Violet Lambert of Ferntree Gully Shire Council, together with nine other women Councillors, from Eltham, Portland, Mirboo North, Kew, Caulfield, Chelsea, Mulgrave, Richmond and Heidelberg, met for afternoon tea at the Windsor Hotel and formed the Victorian Women Councillor Committee. This organisation lapsed after two years, primarily because many members lived in the country and arranging meetings was difficult.

A one day conference on Local Government, arranged by the National Council of Women of Victoria, was held on the 13th June 1963. As a result, the idea of an organisation was reborn. The driving force was solicitor Philippa M. Hallenstein, who became the Convenor of the Local Government Women's Promotion Committee. She drew up a Constitution, and organised the first Annual Meeting of what became ALGWA. It was held on the 24th October 1963 at the Council of Adult Education, Flinders Street, Melbourne. The guest speaker was Mr. J.A. Hepburn, Chief Planner for the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works who spoke on 'Metropolitan Planning'.

Hallenstein became the first president of the Victorian Branch of the national organisation, Jean Manning, a councillor at the City of Hawthorn, was elected secretary; both were to serve in those positions for the next two years. (A listing of all known office bearers is available on our website.) Membership had grown from fifteen to over sixty by the second AGM and stabilized at around hundred for many years.

The Constitution emphasized the non-party political nature of the organisation, which was open to all women interested in local government. (Men were admitted in 2005, and Council rather than individual memberships were also allowed in 2008.)

From 1964 onwards, an Annual Conference has been held, rotating between the city and country. (A listing of all Conferences held is available on our website.)

As a result of a suggestion at the 1968 Ballarat Conference, a tree planting ceremony was incorporated into the Conferences for a number of years; it is not clear when this was discontinued. In 1988 president Pam Robinson proposed establishing an Annual Bursary Award. The Award continues today and is for women working in local government and undertaking tertiary study, and is of financial assistance. (The winners of all Awards are also listed on our website.)

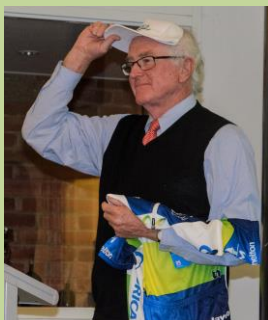
Website: www.algwa.com.au (Prepared by 2013 ALGWA Executive Committee)

On the 13th of September the City of Greater Geelong hosted a 50th Celebrations event. All who attended spoke highly of the event and the importance to recognise this milestone. Those who attended appreciated the speech from Mrs. Pricilla Prescott OAM (ALGWA Victoria 'Royalty') Congratulations and thank you to those who supported the event.

ALGWA VIC State Conference.

Captured with these great
photos.

Thank you Raylene and Kate!









2013 State conference = Women, inspiring,
networking, sharing, supporting, respecting,
committed, compassion, smiling and crying but
most of all time together.

Thank you to all who contributed to the conference to make it a success.

This Scroll below was shared to attendees at the
conference by Speaker at the conference

Mrs. Valda Martin OAM

*(The beautiful quilt was one of Valdas master pieces and was admired all weekend, some felling it
represented women in local government a patchwork of color and diversity but connected)*

