



From the President

G'day All.

Hope the Dry Season is treating you well. I was very pleased to be elected as your President at the AGM in June and I will work hard to ensure that the organisation achieves its objectives.

We still have a little "cleaning up" to do with the need for a Special General Meeting to accept the audited financial reports.

According to our Constitution we need to have this meeting within 5 months of the end of our financial year which is 30 June. So, expect a notice sometime soon. I am very pleased to be starting my term with a full committee. I am looking forward to the fun times ahead. Talking about fun times ahead the National Conference will be held next year in the Barossa Valley. Have to say, don't know about you but that DEFINITELY sounds like a fun destination. Check out the details in this newsletter and set aside the dates. It would be great to lead a strong Territory delegation.

I have been pondering how we might get the most from this organisation. What is it that members would like to see happen? How can we get more people to join? If you have any suggestions I would love to hear from you I can be contacted by email to lord.mayor@darwin.nt.gov.au or by phone 89300517 or 0421 289 872 As we look towards encouraging more women to either run for elected members positions in 2016 OR to choose local government for a career path, I think we should look at some useful tools that we can develop to this end.

So, let us have a discussion...

What is the one thing you wished you knew before joining Council?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Cheers!

Katrina

Welcome to the first newsletter for the 2014-2015 year

Following the AGM in June and the Branch's great pleasure in welcoming our new President, Katrina Fong Lim, Lord Mayor of Darwin, I (Pam Robinson) happily continue in the role of Editor for the Branch Newsletter for the next twelve months.

In discussion with Committee Member Shenagh Gamble, who formerly was with the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory and where she produced a newsletter we have decided to trial a new format for our Newsletter. We hope you like it.

Actually, we want you to let us know if you would like me to continue the newsletter in the new format or whether you would prefer it to be in the format that we have provided up to now.

One thing to consider perhaps is whether it is more readable in the new format or whether the old format made ALGWA NT Newsletter stand out in ways that were different to the other local government or community newsletters you may be receiving.

Most importantly what would YOU like and what stands out so that you pick up a copy and read it! Please don't be shy to respond – and I/we will be guided by the majority of responses. Thank you.

It is always good to get information too to put in the Newsletter, so again I call to ask you to send in any relevant material you may have which could go in.

The next Newsletter will come out in the first week of October. Therefore I would need all or any items to come with good lead time if referring to a forthcoming event and by the week of 22 September. Thank you.

The Membership/Subscription Form is at the end of the Newsletter – please encourage others to join and also check to see if you are currently a financial Member – thanks.

Now for my Outgoing President's Report to the AGM in June!

Outgoing President, Pam Robinson's 2013 - 2014 Report to the AGM, 20 JUNE 2014

Firstly, I would like to thank Members for affording me the opportunity to be the President of ALGWA NT for the two years of 2012-2014.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my role and working towards the development of a vibrant Branch at the Top End of the nation. I would like to thank the outgoing



Executive for their participation and their support of me and our Association while we all worked towards making 2013-2014 an interesting and useful year.

I would also like to thank the City of Palmerston CEO and Mayor especially for their appreciation of my role as President of ALGWA NT and for making every opportunity available to me as President of our Association. Both have actively

promoted ALGWA NT. From the CEO's office, the circulation of each edition of the ALGWA NT Newsletter has been sent to All Staff. Through this alone, more staff have joined ALGWA NT. Thank you LGANT also, for taking up my ask that ALGWA information go out to Councils through their newsletter 'This Week @LGANT'.

Here are some of the highlights from the year with the other contacts and happenings from the year appearing in the by-monthly Newsletter which was produced and circulated during the year to all Members and many others such as Ministers for Local Government, other Member of Government and Opposition Government Members, LGANT, the LGMA NT Division Executive, the National Board of ALGWA and various other interested parties.

Activities throughout the year:

JULY 2013

1. Following the AGM in June 2013 a meeting between the Presidents of ALGWA NT and LGMA NT was initiated and the idea of a joint soiree was hatched to take place later in the year.
2. ALGWA NT and the Office of Women's Advancement made the link to have both organisations better known to each other, with the ALGWA website going onto the NTG hub and placed on their Facebook.

AUGUST 2013

1. Arrangements developed for two November ALGWA & LGMA social functions to be held.
2. Attendance at the Australian Institute of Management promoting ALGWA NT.

NOVEMBER 2013

ALGWA NT Branch joined with the Local Government Managers Association, Northern Territory Division, providing a social networking opportunity for current and new members within both organisations. With a view to always making such events available to the most people, the opportunity of the LGANT

conference taking place in Alice Springs at that time was chosen for one of the events.

1. Alice Springs 10 November: Alice Springs Town Council provided the venue and their CEO welcomed everyone to the Town. A small and interested number were able to be present and the event, which was held after the LGMA NT Division AGM. However, due to several other dinner meetings also on during the same evening and in an around the LGANT conference it tended to undo the opportunity of choosing that time for our event.
2. Darwin 25 November: Darwin City Council provided their Function Area of Council for the evening soiree. Again, not large numbers present but a great atmosphere and well worth promoting the two Local Government Organisations. We achieved some renewal of subscriptions along with gaining some new memberships. The Lord Mayor of the City of Darwin and Mayor of the City of Palmerston welcomed guests.

DECEMBER 2013

The ALGWA NT Newsletter, January edition went out thus tripping the 'every other month' to work well for events that were coming up and to take us through to the AGM in June.

FEBRUARY 2014

1. February ALGWA NT Annual Breakfast

ALGWA National President Kathy Benstead accepted the NT Branch invitation to attend.

As President of the NT Branch, I thank both Kathy and the National Executive for making it possible to have an official Territory Presidential visit a reality. The location of Il Lido Restaurant at the Darwin Waterfront provided good food, a cheerful venue both of which ensured a good attendance. The Lord Mayor and CEO of the City of Darwin, along with the Mayor and CEO of the City of Palmerston were in the audience.

John McNeur Regional Development Officer, Volunteering SA&NT was the Guest Speaker and he gave some excellent information and provided very good reasons as to why local government should engage volunteers through their organisation as well as heralding volunteers 'in general'. His line "statistics show that those local governments that encourage and promote volunteers within their ranks, have a community that better understands and supports their local government" struck a chord.

2. February Meeting with Minister for Local Government and Regions the

Hon. David Tollner MLA.

As ALGWA NT President, I was invited by the Minister of Local Government and Regions, David Tollner MLA to meet with him and his CE of his Department, Allan McGill to provide information about the work of ALGWA NT; Councils for Gender Equity and which Councils held Bronze and Silver level and that the City of Darwin was 'going for gold'.

3. February, Meetings with CEO LGANT, CEO's City of Palmerston and City of Darwin to progress discussion on the opportunity for the NT Local Government Councils to promote 50:50 Vision and 'get started' and for other Councils to progress from Bronze level to Silver level and also to encourage the City of Darwin to 'go for gold'.

Additionally, advice from both CEOs of the adjoining cities confirmed the City of Darwin will work towards the Gold Level and City of Palmerston will, later in the year, undertake requirements of the Silver Level in the Council for Gender Equity Program.

Also in attendance at those meetings along with the National and Territory ALGWA Presidents Kathy and Pam, was Vice President ALGWA NT Clair O'Brien. At the City of Palmerston, Executive Members, Alderman Sue McKinnon joined us and at the City of Darwin, Alderman Helen Galton was in attendance.

MARCH 2014

Vice President Clair invited me as President of ALGWA NT to accompany her to the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation, Rural Woman of the Year Award NT at Parliament House. Discussions with several attending provided an opportunity to showcase the Association and talk about the Council in their region.

ALGWA NT represented at the International Women's Day Parade.

From this participation came renewed discussion on the matter of ALGWA NT having its own Banner to march behind and to have available for other events. (Today we have the Banner which has been achieved through a donation from Lord Mayor Katrina Fong Lim) Thank you Lord Mayor.

APRIL AND MAY 2014 were months of many public holidays and busy commitments, so whilst no specific public events were undertaken due to both these aspects, the ALGWA NT Executive Committee meet as did the National ALGWA Executive.

JUNE 2014

Extract from Hansard on 10.6.14 shows ALGWA NT and 50:50 Councils for Gender Equity mentioned. Questions came from Lynn Walker, Member for Nhulumbuy and Shadow Minister for Local Government to the Minister for Local Government and Regions, Minister David Tollner MLA.

Both Question and Response appreciated and provides the opportunity for further communication between both Government and Opposition in the NT.

Meetings of ALGWA NT Executive 2013-2014

15 July 2014. ALGWA NT Planning Meeting – Pam and Amber (a couple of others could not attend as unexpected last minute commitments)

5.00pm –6.30pm (Pam's Place)

7 August 2014 ALGWA NT Handover of documents and Update/Planning – Pam, Helen and Amber

1.00pm – 2.30pm (Cornucopia Café)

31 January 2014 ALGWA NT Meeting and Planning for events – Pam, Helen, Sue and Amber

4.00pm – 5.00pm (Alderman Room City of Darwin)

7 February 2014 ALGWA NT Meeting with Kathy Benstead National President – 6.00pm – 8.00pm with a meal (Cullen Bay) - Pam, Sue, Clair and Member Alderman Seranna Shutt.

19 May 2014 ALGWA Meeting – Pam, Sue and Amber 5.00pm – 6.30pm Planning for the AGM and other business (Arch Rival Restaurant, City of Palmerston)

Meetings of ALGWA National Executive 2013-2014

During the year, as President ALGWA NT and the delegate to the National Executive, I attended the National Executive Ordinary Meetings in November and February. Where Items required response between meetings, this was attended to through emails and in the form of a Flying Minute process – in other words a quick response by return.

The National President Kathy and National Secretary Karen and National Treasurer Alwyn provided a wonderful year of support and active business routine to ALGWA whereby all the States and the Northern Territory delegates achieved a great deal together in the past year for the Association.

My attendance at the meetings has been through Telephone link-up and there have been three meetings attended to this way during the twelve months.

The Annual General Meeting on Saturday 23 November, was attended to through Telephone link- up by Vice President Clair as proxy for me as President of

ALGWA NT.

Business included a review and updating of the ALGWA National Constitution, the setting of the 2013/2014 subscription fees be set at 35% of the Branch fees collected, review and updated advice to meet the requirements of the 50:50 Vision – Councils for gender equity which will encourage more Councils to participate, work on the Strategic/Corporate Plan, and a review of the ALGWA National Conference Guidelines.

ALGWA NT has provided the National President and Secretary the most current information of Mayors and Presidents in the NT (November 2013) and Council Contact information of senior officers for the purposes of the picture across the nation of women in local government with work being undertaken by LGQA with the 50:50 Gender Equity Program.

National ALGWA matters of general interest were transmitted to ALGWA NT Members through our Territory Newsletter.

The next meeting for ALGWA National Executive is Monday 25 August with the final one for 2014 on Monday 24 November. The morning teleconference time will confirmed in due course.

Following our AGM today the name of our new President and Secretary will be forwarded to the National Secretary to update the National Executive (all States) Contact details.

We will not I think ever be a big organisation in the NT, numbers wise, but certainly there is room to grow both our membership and the activities we undertake. Regardless of size, what I believe is, we are and can increasingly be a most useful organisation for elected and officer members of local government and to foster greater interest in local government generally within the community.

Additionally there is the opportunity for us to continue providing an insight to students to consider local government as a future employer of choice - there is the opportunity to promote local government within youth organisations - particularly to those showing leadership skills already within those organisations and who could be encouraged to stand for election in future years - and there is always the continuing opportunity to link all levels of those working with different aspects of local government, between elected and officer and within different local government organisations.

It was not possible to fit another social event into during April- May due to everyone's heavy commitments. However, that just means it can be 'on the table' for discussion in the new ALGWA NT year and consideration of a good fundraising event should be considered so as to bolster our bank account. It is also time 'again' to contact all Councils to encourage their staff to join ALGWA . It is time too to find a location where our records can be kept as one Executive transfers to another.

So in closing my Report, I would like to again say thank you all for the privilege of being President of ALGWA NT for the past two years.

I wish the new President and the incoming 2013-2014 Executive an interesting and successful year. Thank you, City of Darwin for making your Chamber available for our AGM today. I will make my Report available to all our Members through the August edition of our Newsletter.

Pam Robinson, President ALGWA NT 20 June 2014

August Profile: ALGWA NT Treasurer Alderman Kate Worden



I was born and raised in the UK, immigrating to Adelaide for my dad's employment when I was 13. I spent my teenage years attending Unley High School and made my first trip to the NT in 1984 where I found myself living in Ngukurr in a shed, through the wet season. A few years later I moved to Katherine but returned to Adelaide in the early 90s where I gained a Bachelor of Indigenous Affairs at UniSA. I have also gained formal qualifications in negotiation and Commercial Studies. I made my last and permanent move to the Territory in

1995 with my partner, Wayne seeking employment opportunities on a 5 year adventure!

I joined the NT Government later that year and I helped Wayne establish a small painting business. We have never looked back. I have worked in the Departments of Mines, Education and Health, the Office of Consumer Affairs and headed up the Secretariat at the Department of Children and Families. I was fortunate to spend 8 years as a Political Adviser to the former Labor Government advising on matters ranging from sport, to Employment and Training, Women's policy, and Worksafe.

On a personal level, I co-founded the Waratah Netball Club in 1998 and have sat on the Waratah Football Club Board for 3 years as Secretary. I was the President of the Pints Football Club for 4 years and continue to play and volunteer with my netball club. I have been on the Wanguri and Jingili School Councils and am a regular Seabreeze Festival volunteer.

I have four great kids and two beautiful granddaughters. Tarrise lives in New Zealand and is an Indigenous artist, Sarrita lives in Canberra and is an Indigenous Artist running her own art gallery, Russell is in IT and works for a local business, and our baby Alekna attends Nightcliff Middle School, sings, and is a long term member of Corrugated Iron. I continue to support Wayne with his painting business and he enjoys playing Masters AFL after a long period playing and coaching in the AFLNT.

This is my third year as an Elected Member on the City of Darwin Council and I have been fortunate enough to have the opportunity to Chair the Community and Cultural and Arts and Cultural Development Committees for the last 14 months. I represent LGANT on the Board of Neighbourhood Watch NT, and am a member of the Anchorage Sister Cities committee.

In my day job, I am the Director of Compliance at the Department of Housing and this year I am lucky enough to be heading to ANU for a week after being awarded a partial scholarship on the Excellence in Local Government Leadership Program run by ANZOG.



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CONTACT DETAILS

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New Members 2014-2015 and Renewal 2014-2015 Subscription Period paid now is to 30/06/15

(Subscription fee is Non-GST) \$30

Cheques: please make payable to: ALGWA Northern Territory Branch Inc.

Direct Credit: Westpac Darwin – The Mall – 035302 152130 (please advise Alderman Kate Worden as below if making a direct deposit at any Westpac Branch)

(ALGWA NT does not have Credit card facilities)

Please pay by Cash, Cheque or directly into ALGWA NT Account.

POST to:

Alderman Kate Worden

Treasurer ALGWA NT Inc.

38 Rothdale Road

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Email: Kate5000@live.com.au

Phone 0400 74669

Privacy Requirements:

The Executive advises that due to the Privacy Act, we are required to have your authorisation to be able to release any information pertaining to your membership or to include your details in any publication.

We ask that the following authorisation be agreed to:

I authorise ALGWA NT Inc. Executive Committee to release my contact details to ALGWA Members, other organisations, or persons for matters pertaining to the Association's interests.

Signature.....Date.....

ALGWA NT 2014 -15
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