

2022 Conference Motions & Preambles

Association Activities

1a) Blue Mountains, Central Western, Far South Coast, Far Western, Mid North Coast, Monaro, Murrumbidgee-Lachlan, Namoi, Phillip, Sturt & Wanthella Groups:

“That the specific Health Research Fund Annual Project for 2022-2023 be Ovarian Cancer”.

1b) Northern Tablelands Group:

“That the specific Health Research Fund Annual Project for 2022-2023 be Macular Degeneration”.

1c) South West Group:

“That the specific Health Research Fund Annual Project for 2022-2023 be Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome”.

2. Bega Branch, Far South Coast Group

Preamble: Motions to State Annual General Meetings have undergone a vetting process at Branch, Group and State Executive levels. Conference motions are well thought out and cover issues that affect significant groups of people and/or communities and are areas of concern and relevance for it to be included on the AGM agenda. It is only respectful that all motions that have been accepted on the agenda have the opportunity for discussion with conference delegates voting either for or against the motion. The fate of a motion should not be decided by a member requesting conference delegates to vote that a motion 'not be put', which means that the branch putting forward the motion will be silenced, and the motion is cancelled and does not exist.

“That the policy of CWA of NSW be to amend its meeting procedure so that the motion ‘to not put’ a motion be excluded, to allow debate on all motions on the written agenda at the State AGM to take place”.

3. Kyogle Evening Branch, Far North Coast Group

Preamble: The State Motto of the CWA has served the Association well for 100 years, and we thank it for its service. The demographics of 100 years ago are very different to those of today, and it is clear from unsuccessful conference motions relating to the motto over the past 20 years, that a significant number of members would like to modernise the motto for the future. Our branch believes that in order for the CWA to flourish and grow in the future, it should be accessible to as many women as possible. Accessibility comes in many forms – holding branch meetings at different times of the day, posting minutes to members without email addresses, and it is also in the language we use. Using language which may exclude potential members makes the Association less accessible to those women.

“That the CWA of NSW, after a period of consultation with members, holds a referendum (format to be decided by the State Executive Committee) on the issue of amending or retaining the State Motto”.

Agricultural/Environmental

4. South Grafton Evening Branch, North Coast Group

Preamble: Fruit Flies are recognized as being particularly damaging insects that affect a wide range of commercial and backyard fruit and vegetables. Australian horticultural production is valued at over \$9 billion and employs over 60,000 people. A large portion of the production is susceptible to fruit fly attack. Commercial producers spend hundreds of millions of dollars on various control measures. Even harvested fruit is, at times, found to be infected, making the crop worthless, as it isn't possible to take

away the affected fruit on a commercial scale. There is a need for a coordinated national, state, regional, and on-farm approach, and clarity around who is responsible for what, when, and how. We need the government to recognize the importance of scientific research and education, particularly those in the off-farm sector (home gardeners, owners of properties with abandoned orchards).

“That the policy of the CWA of NSW be to advocate for ongoing scientific research into fruit-fly management, and increased funding for the coordination of fruit fly management in regional communities.”

5. White Cliffs Branch, Darling River Group

Preamble: Family farming businesses face the burden of risk for the exploration industry and any public benefit therein. This imbalance is not reasonable. A security deposit for possible environmental rehabilitation, set in 1992, is \$10,000. This does not reflect the actual costs associated with rehabilitation in 2021. Landholders are required to negotiate in good faith with miners to enter and explore on their farmland. This is an onerous task. The current gazetted amount for ‘reasonable costs’ is \$2,500 which is intended to cover landholder costs in negotiating complex legal documents, it is entirely inadequate to pay legal fees. Landholders are subject to a legal framework if they cannot successfully negotiate an Access Agreement with mineral explorers. The legislation provides that the costs be reimbursed by the explorer. This is a significant financial burden for landholders who must pay upfront legal costs for mediation and arbitration without any security for reimbursement.

“That the policy of the CWA of NSW be to advocate for:

- An increase to the minimum-security deposit for exploration required under Section 261BB of the Mining Act 1992;
- An increase to the gazetted maximum of ‘reasonable costs’ for negotiation of Access Agreements required under Section 142B of the Mining Act 1992;
- The creation of a security deposit system to cover landholder costs in mediation and arbitration pursuant to Section 148C of the Mining Act 1992”.

6. Bundarra Branch, Gwydir Group

Preamble: Cut flowers are the only fresh produce which is not covered by Country of Origin labelling. Our Branch feels it is very important to have cut flowers included in the Origin labelling so that consumers can make an informed choice when choosing that special bunch of flowers. They will not unknowingly be inhaling potentially toxic chemicals with each sniff of their beautiful bouquet. The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment require imported cut flowers to be sprayed with these chemicals so as to ensure that Australia is kept free of imported pests and diseases that might come in with or on those flowers if they were not sprayed prior to entry.

“That the policy of the CWA of NSW be to advocate for cut flowers to be included in relevant Country of Origin Labelling (COOL) laws”.

7. Bonshaw Branch, Gwydir Group

Motion withdrawn

8. Bonshaw Branch, Gwydir Group

Preamble: Residents & communities living along the upper reaches of rivers such as the Dumaresq and its upper tributaries receive very little information during and prior to flood events. The lack of real-time river height & flow data, and adequate information on rainfall makes adequate preparation impossible. Websites are often inaccessible, gauging stations stop working and there is no system in

place for transfer of information based on local observations. There is also a need for more river height and flow stations, and automatic rain gauges particularly in The Mole and Beardy Rivers As a consequence, lives are at risk, property and livestock damage is much higher than is necessary and people are traumatised. Bonshaw CWA moves those relevant agencies collaborate with each other and consult with locals in responding with their plan for how to address and improve this situation.

“That the policy of the CWA of NSW be to advocate that adequate rainfall, real time water flow and river heights data be available for residents and communities along flood prone river systems and their tributaries prior to and during flood events”

9. Tambar Springs Branch, Namoi Group

Preamble: We are already seeing the effects of climate change, which is caused by emissions of Green House Gases (primarily carbon dioxide) into the atmosphere when fossil fuels (gas, coal and oil) are burned. While the disaster is still unfolding, there is still a window of opportunity to do something about it if we take immediate and strong action. Coal seam gas is doubly damaging to the climate, first because of the damages caused by extracting it and then the GHG emissions that result from burning it. Every fracked gas well needs 30 million litres of fresh water and 18 tonnes of chemicals. The gas industry is responsible for 19% of Australia’s GHG emissions. For every 10 jobs created in coal seam gas industry, 18 jobs are lost in agriculture. With climate change accelerating at an unprecedented rate, we must immediately reduce our reliance on gas and other GHG-emitting fossil fuels.

“That the CWA of NSW lobby the NSW Government to urgently develop a gas decarbonisation roadmap for NSW, enabling business, industry and households to be resilient and sustainable in a decarbonising world”.

10. Tabulam Branch, Far North Coast Group

Preamble: During the Black Summer bushfires more than 12,600 landholders and agricultural producers in NSW lost over 88,000 km of fences, of which 50% adjoined Crown lands. In April 2020, the NSW Government committed \$209 million to help bushfire-affected landholders with the cost of rebuilding boundary fences adjoining public lands. Administered by LSS, this 'Supporting our Neighbours' program provides a one-off grant of up to \$5000 per kilometre of fencing to eligible landholders. Current provisions under the NSW Dividing Fences Act 1991 exempt the Crown from contributing to fencing work with adjoining neighbours. For example, the Forestry Corporation of NSW may make a voluntary contribution towards boundary fencing materials as a community service. Although landholders welcome the one-off grants, we assert that the cost of erection and maintenance of boundary fences under the Dividing Fences Act 1991 is an obligation and not an act of charity and should apply to the Crown just like any other neighbour.

“That the policy of CWA of NSW shall be to advocate for amendments to the Dividing Fences Act 1991 to give the Crown, and statutory bodies representing the Crown, the same responsibility and liability for erection and maintenance of boundary fences as is required of adjoining land owners”.

Education

11. Eugowra Branch, Central Western Group

Preamble: Schools have Careers Advisors helping students make choices for the beginning of their working lives. It is essential schools have qualified sexology teachers with information to benefit students for life. Trainee Primary and High School Biology and PDHPE teachers need to study Sexology. It’s essential the State Government provides financial assistance to existing teachers, wishing to upskill their qualifications, by undertaking Sexology courses. Several universities provide undergraduate and

post graduate courses, online or internally. Curtin University's Sexology program gives specialist sexology knowledge and skills. Students are entitled to have accurate, age-appropriate information, delivered by accomplished teachers with appropriate qualifications. Julie Szego commented the sons of her peers are "now watching rapey porn." The rapery porn site advertised free porn videos. Dr Jacqui Hendricks, Curtin University, explains sex education is giving young people the full science and all the evidence so they can make the safest decision for themselves.

"That the policy of CWA of NSW be to advocate to ensure that:

- Students studying teaching degrees in primary school education be required to complete a sexology module. For high school teachers of Sciences, Biology and PDHPE, the prerequisite would be a qualification in a sexology course.
- That financial assistance be sought, from the NSW Minister for Education, for all teachers wishing to undertake professional development in a specific sexology course".

12. Wagga Wagga Evening Branch, Riverina Group

Preamble: This motion has come from life experience of bullying and interpersonal relationships. A request for assistance led to being placed on a waiting list for nearly a month to see a counsellor, which added to distress and anxiety. In April three local teenagers took their own lives. We do not know anything about the background of these tragedies, but reality suggests that if more support was available, the outcomes may have been different. Counsellors are shared with two to three other schools according to many government school principals in Wagga and we believe also throughout the state. The ratio is approximately one counsellor to 750 students. We urge CWA to lobby the State Government for more funding so that there are appropriate numbers of counsellors and psychologists in our Government schools.

"That the policy of the CWA of NSW be to advocate for the appointment of more counsellors and psychologists to all government schools".

Health & Social Security

13. Belconnen Branch, Monaro Group and Dunedoo Branch, Castlereagh Country Group

Preamble: Every Australian should have access to sanitary disposal bins for their incontinence, and/or hygiene products. These bins are considered a normal inclusion in women's toilets. Men need to dispose of incontinence products discreetly as well. It's estimated that up to 10% of men and boys suffer some form of incontinence. Possible causes of male incontinence include prostate problems, cancer, intellectual and physical disabilities, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease. While there is no legislation compelling the provision of sanitary disposal bins in toilets, organisations like Workplace Australia do have guidelines for bins in women's toilets. Research indicates that there is a link between incontinence & depression. Lack of facilities to dispose of incontinence products privately and discreetly can exacerbate these problems and mean men and boys may not want to leave their home and join in everyday activities.

"That the policy of CWA of NSW shall be to advocate for the compulsory requirement to install incontinence bins in male public toilets."

14. Terrigal Evening Branch, Northumberland Group

Preamble: According to statistics from Endometriosis Australia, it takes on average a women 7 to 12 years to be diagnosed. Diagnosis is not simple and is sometimes long, painful and the financial burden can be horrendous. To be diagnosed it can require an MRI, CT scan, blood work, Internal and external

ultrasound, medication to see if this “calms” the pain or laparoscopic surgery. If you are not in a private health fund these tests add up, not to mention the loss of time from your job and family, and if you live in a remote or rural area you are more than likely required to travel. In 2018 Greg Hunt Minister for Health released the National action plan for endometriosis. The plan’s goals are to improve quality of life for women living with endometriosis and reduced burden of disease for individuals and for the nation. However, three years later there is still lag.

“That the policy of CWA of NSW be to advocate for women that are suspected of suffering with endometriosis to be able to access the following:

- (i) Access to diagnostic or imaging that is required for diagnosis and ongoing management of endometriosis be accessed under Medicare
- (ii) Medication that is required to assist with maintaining and treatment of endometriosis be accessible at a reduced rate or on the PBS”.

15. Woy Woy Branch, Northumberland Group

Preamble: “The supply of affordable housing for single older women is at a crisis point. Many older women are at risk of homelessness as they don’t have the security of independently owning their own home or are paying a high commercial rent. Women over 55 are the fastest growing demographic experiencing homelessness in Australia. Increased affordable housing is needed to alleviate the risk of homelessness and housing insecurity for these women. To achieve this, the supply of affordable housing needs to be increased in all areas of NSW. Many organisations supplying crisis housing services are experiencing more calls for help from older women than ever before. In 2019, the number of people over 55, waiting for Social Housing, is now 28% of all applicants. We ask that CWA of NSW lobby the NSW State Government for an increased supply of affordable housing, specifically targeting older women, across NSW”.

“That the policy of the CWA of NSW shall be to advocate for an increased supply of affordable housing, specifically targeting older women, in both the metropolitan and regional areas of NSW”.

16. Berry Branch, Wollondilly Group

Preamble: As an Association we presently have policy from 2015 encouraging organ donor transplant. Transplant Australia recently alerted the general public to a significant decline in donations by living donors to their transplant programme. Numbers have dropped from for example 327 in 2009 to 238 in 2018. The wait for cadaveric organ donation is upwards of two and a half years. This year there has only been 183 donations. The process for a living donation takes approximately six months to complete. Rigorous tests are carried out on both donor and recipient. And on a practical side there is government support for a living donor if they need to take time off work. As the motion points out dialysis and transplant of either type is a treatment not a cure, but it gives unimaginable freedom to live a more normal life unattached to a machine.

“That the policy of CWA of NSW be to support Transplant Australia’s programme to encourage live kidney donations”.

17. Exeter Branch, Wollondilly Group

Preamble: Domestic violence and abuse is an issue across New South Wales. Total DV assaults rose by 2.4% during the last 5 years, with increases of 7% in intimidation, stalking and harassment incidents, and in breaches of AVO orders. 70% of adult victims of DV assault are female. The Wingecarribee Shire, which recorded 109 DV assaults in the last 12 months, has no dedicated refuge facilities for crisis or transitional accommodation. The nearest such accommodation is frequently far away, putting even greater burden on services in adjoining LGAs, which have their own considerable caseloads to manage.

Crisis and transitional accommodation outside the region uproot children from their schools, and frequently results in women losing their jobs. The lack of these basic support facilities is inequitable and detrimental to women and their families. It inhibits avenues for transitional accommodation planning, and for safe emergency escape when needed.

“That the CWA of NSW advocate for increased funding to establish and operate women’s refuges, particularly within rural areas.”

18. Jervis Day Bay Branch, Wollondilly Group

Preamble: Australia has a history, during colonization of violence against women. In 2022 the history continues. Women are still employed in unsafe workplaces and violence continues in homes. We must take action to prevent this abuse. How can this be achieved? In 1985 Brazil opened its first Women’s Police Stations which implemented innovative and successful areas where women who are victims of domestic violence are listened to and supported by women. This model has now been adopted by Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay, Sierra Leone, India, Ghana, Kosovo, The Philippines, South Africa and Uganda. These police stations/hubs have encouraged women to leave abusive relationships where they often lack economic and family support; allowing women to gain confidence and leave shame behind. These hubs have been effective overseas and we would encourage CWA of NSW to advocate for a similar model to be adapted in NSW to cater for Australian needs.

“That the policy of the CWA of NSW be to actively support the establishment of Police Hubs (stations) in domestic violence hotspots, and to strongly advocate for specialist and appropriate domestic violence training programs for all staff working in these hubs (stations)”.

19. Kiama Branch, Wollondilly Group

Preamble: Australian law supports the right of residents to the quiet enjoyment of their homes be they privately owned or tenancies including public housing. Landlords and tenants have significant responsibilities. We hear of residents in public housing clusters subjected to anti-social behaviours as well as to vexatious disrepair of their dwellings. NSW public housing governing authorities in recognising the need for more efficient means of resolving problems have restructured by combining the former NSW Department of Families and Communities Services (FACS) with Department of Justice into the NSW Department of Community Justice (DCJ), since 1 July 2019. The DCJ is the lead agency in the new Stronger Communities Cluster. Clearly there is a need for a robust network of public housing management including connectivity with social welfare and health services, policing and community initiatives in all NSW Local Government Areas. CWA of NSW is well-placed to be involved in restructuring matters.

“That the policy of CWA of NSW shall be to advocate for the support of the safety and well-being of residents in public housing clusters in all NSW and ACT local government areas”.

20. Bundarra Branch, Gwydir Group

Preamble: “Dyslexia is not a disease. The word dyslexia comes from the Greek language and means difficulty with words.” That is a direct quote from the Australian Dyslexia Association website. Also, this website states that approximately 10% of the school age population has dyslexia. Children who suffer from whichever form of dyslexia will have trouble with reading and writing unless they have access to the special-coloured lenses for glasses which help them with their learning. Also, the teaching techniques for the best results with learning to write, read and spell are different to mainstream teaching. Currently these lenses are not covered by Medicare, with the cost of \$360 being a starting point for these lenses and may be much dearer. We seek your support to have them added to the Medicare Rebate Scheme.

“That the policy of the CWA of NSW be to advocate for inclusion of glass lenses in the Medicare Rebate Scheme for school age children with eye conditions pertaining to dyslexia.”

21. Coonamble Evening Branch, Macquarie Group

Preamble: Expectant mothers in rural NSW are disadvantaged for obstetrics care. Evidence shows a deterioration of safe maternity and neonatal care. To paraphrase an obstetrician in the recent NSW Rural Health inquiry - we have ‘reached crisis point’. Statistically, mothers from rural areas are more likely to have early induction that isn’t medically indicated, to require obstetric intervention, emergency caesareans and require neonatal care. Tragically they’re more likely to experience late term miscarriage or stillbirth. General Practitioners qualified in obstetric services are increasingly rare. Specialist obstetricians are in high demand and difficult to access locally. Women across rural NSW often travel hours to the closest obstetrician and delivery hospital. Many rural hospitals and midwives do not have access to equipment as basic as a CTG scan or ultrasound. The inquiry into rural health allows a chance to redesign rural obstetrics and we hope the CWA will help lead the charge.

“That the policy of CWA of NSW be to advocate for improved obstetric services and care in NSW, especially rural and remote areas”.

22. Coonamble Evening Branch, Macquarie Group

Preamble: The recent inquiry into NSW Rural Health has made it clear, expectant mothers in rural NSW are disadvantaged for obstetrics care. While it will take time to effect changes in rural access to obstetric and maternity services, as an interim measure increased support, in the form of a dedicated hotline, to navigate currently available services would deliver tangible outcomes. For expectant parents understanding their options – eg local delivery hospitals versus referral hospitals, private versus public patient, midwifery or private obstetric services, is confusing and difficult. Rural parents require help navigating housing support (should they be required to move closer to the delivery hospital or a tertiary hospital) as well as access to additional specialists and services often not available locally, such as birthing courses, lactation consultations and paediatrics. A dedicated rural obstetrics planning hotline would help support expectant parents, as well as provide support to rural midwives and General Practitioners.

“That the policy of CWA of NSW be to advocate for the establishment of a dedicated helpline to support rural and remote women in NSW to navigate available obstetric services”.

Transport & Telecommunications

23. Oura Branch, Riverina Group

Preamble: Back in 2009 the NRMA presented a submission to the State Government that that called for the use of low beam headlights during the day by drivers (as is the case with motorcyclists) until DRLs become standard. Currently there is a shortage of new cars in Australia due to manufacturing and importing problems therefore many cars, due to their age, are not fitted with Daylight Running Lights. Most new cars come with Daylight Running lights or lights which automatically come on when the engine is started, although this can be overridden and is not mandatory. There are many cars of all sizes on the road today, often in dull colours (grey, charcoal, black and silver). These colours tend to blend in with the colour of the road surface leading to accidents. Early in the morning, late in the day, on overcast days be it rainy, fog or mist visibility is poor and while NSW regulations recommend lights should be on, it is not mandatory.

“That the policy of CWA of NSW shall be to advocate for the mandatory use of parking lights or low beam headlights by all vehicles in daylight hours”.

24. Uranquinty Evening Branch, Riverina Group

Preamble: Registration of caravans has increased dramatically since March 2020 to over 140,000 vans. Between 2014 and 2018, 239 crashes involved a caravan resulting in 12 fatalities and 121 serious injuries. In the past, caravans were a bed and small area to eat meals. Now they are longer and heavier, as heavy as buses and trucks that require a Heavy Vehicle License. Education is the key where the driver of the caravan is required to be tested on-line like all learner drivers and then tested for competency on the road. It is so important to correctly load a caravan, and for the car to have the correct towing capabilities. To also have the correct tow bar and coupling capacity. Our visual acuity, reflexes, and ability to concentrate diminishes with age. With testing, the driver will then be more aware of the hazards and responsibilities of towing a large vehicle.

“That the policy of the CWA of NSW shall be to advocate that all caravan drivers undertake appropriate testing and licensing to reflect what is currently required for all heavy vehicles”.

25. Illabo Evening Branch, Hume Group

Preamble: Trains are a common cause of bushfires. Machinery failures such as brakes and bearings, exhaust embers, and steel on steel produce sparks. These are all contributing factors of bushfires that are started by trains. During extreme and catastrophic weather conditions this greatly adds to the danger of fire risk if sparks land on long, dry, overgrown grass and vegetation in the railway corridor. Human lives, livestock, homes, property, and infrastructure can quickly be lost. As the population grows and housing close to railway stations increases, more lives are in danger. With the completion of the Inland Rail and its faster, longer, and heavier trains, the risk of fires that are started by the passage of trains increases. Fuel and hazard reduction policies should be improved, and maintenance implemented regularly.

“That the policy of CWA of NSW shall be to urge the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) to maintain railway corridors in NSW for hazard reduction”.

Miscellaneous

26. Coolamon Branch, Riverina Group

Motion withdrawn

27. Tambar Springs Branch, Namoi Group

Preamble: This motion seeks to eliminate the undue influence of money in politics. Weak regulations around political donations and lobbying may allow the buying of political influence. Research clearly shows that corporate donations to politicians and political parties have grown significantly over the past decade; these donations are intended to influence politicians and policy and undermine democratic institutions by giving wealthy donors more say in government. Some progress has been made. In 2009-10, the government banned donations from property developers, the tobacco, liquor, and gambling industries, and also imposed caps on expenditure by political parties, candidates and third parties. The legislation also changed how public funding of elections is distributed. While the NSW government introduced legislation in 2014 that puts some limits on corporate political donations, we need to build a fair system where wealthy donors – especially fossil fuel corporations – cannot have excessive influence on policy because of political donations.

“That the policy of CWA of NSW be to advocate for the implementation of legislation to ban fossil fuel companies from making political donations.”

28. Lismore Branch, Far North Coast Group

Preamble: The Uluru Statement from the Heart is an invitation to the Australian people to work with First Nations people to create a better future. It is a gift, a strategic roadmap to peace, where First Nations people take a rightful place in our own land. It is a moment where all Australians can come together to realise our nation’s true potential. The need is to show the government and the parliament that the Australian people (represented by the Country Women’s Association) are ready to accept the invitation of the Uluru Statement to walk together to a better Australia. The Country Women’s Association of New South Wales can make a difference. Lend your voice.

“That the policy of the CWA of NSW be to accept the invitation of the Uluru Statement from the Heart and support a First Nations Voice to Parliament being enshrined in the Australian Constitution.”

29. Old Bonalbo Branch, Far North Coast Group

Preamble: Rural arterial roads (including Clarence Way) are in poor condition; existing maintenance is unable to manage ongoing damage and deterioration. Kyogle and other Rural Councils are limited to repair and upgrade only as funding becomes available. A comprehensive redevelopment plan with, established funding channels for complete upgrade is essential. Residents within the Upper Clarence Valley experience; vehicle damage, pain, and discomfort in travelling long times and distances over jolting, swaying, rough surfaces, inadequate width and edges causing danger negotiating with large vehicles. Rural arterial roads provide the only physical means of connectivity to larger centres with the movement of people outside the valley to access goods and services (essential medical services) and inward human support services (for aged and people with disabilities), trades and tourism. Accessible roads enable efficient movement of freight to and from primary producers, local business to city or interstate.

“That the policy of the CWA of NSW be to advocate for collaborative government action to develop a comprehensive re-development plan, with established funding channels, for the renewal and upgrade of essential rural arterial roads”.

30. Scone & District Branch, Hunter River Group

Preamble: In 2019 the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that 14 years be the minimum age for criminal responsibility. In Australia the age for criminal responsibility remains at 10 years of age, and only the ACT is currently acting to raise the age to 14. The number of children aged 10 to 13 in detention in Australia in 2020 was 600. The cause for raising the age of criminal responsibility is based on the rights of the child, the ability of the child to fully understand criminal responsibility, and the increased likelihood of continual incarceration for the rest of the child’s life following the first detention experience. Dr Mick Creati said “children (10-13) have relatively immature brain development when it comes to decision-making, organisation, impulse control and planning for the future. We shouldn’t criminalise actions that may be developmentally normal for children of this age and they should not be incarcerated as a consequence.”

“That the policy of CWA of NSW be to advocate to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 10 years to age to 14 years of age”.

First Special General Meeting

Monday, 2 May 2022 commencing at 1.15 pm.

The following motions on the agenda will be considered and voted upon, subject to legal advice:

Held Over from 2020 and 2021 State Conferences

1. Bowral Branch, Wollondilly Group

“That Rules XXII and XXIV of the Association’s constitution be amended by the words ‘two Vice Presidents’ where appearing in those Rules being deleted and being replaced by the words ‘three Vice Presidents.’”

2. Canimbla Branch, South West Group

“That Rule III of the Association’s constitution be amended by adding, immediately before the penultimate sentence of Rule III, the words: ‘If a person is a member of the State Executive Committee by virtue of having been elected under Regulation 48, and that person also holds the position of Group President or Group Secretary or Group Treasurer, the relevant Group Council may nominate an additional Annual General Meeting Delegate to represent the Group at the Annual General Meeting in addition to the person who is entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting in her capacity as a Group President or Group Secretary or Group Treasurer.’”

3. Canimbla Branch, South West Group

“That Regulation 85 of the Association’s constitution be amended by adding the words: ‘after first having given to both their Group Council and also to the Group Council of the Group they wish to join, three (3) months’ notice in writing of that intended application’ after the word ‘join.’”

4. Kingscliff Branch, Far North Coast Group and East Maitland Branch and Morpeth Branch, Hunter River Groups

“That the Constitution of The Country Women’s Association of New South Wales be amended by Rule XXIV (b) being deleted and in its place a new Rule XXIV (b) in the following form be inserted:

- (b) Nominees for the positions of Honorary State Secretary, Honorary State Treasurer and the two positions of State Vice President must have previously served on the Executive Committee for at least twelve months. Nominees for the two positions of State Vice President will be elected from the State Executive Committee members elected by Group Conferences or the retiring Officers of the Association”.

5. Sydney City Branch, Phillip Group

“That the Constitution of The Country Women’s Association of New South Wales be amended by:

- (a) Regulation 14 being amended by, after the words “shall have power to”, inserting the words “make payments using electronic banking and”; and,
- (b) Regulation 89 being amended by, after the words “shall have power to”, inserting the words “make payments using electronic banking and”; and,
- (c) Regulation 109 (b) being amended by, after the words “pay such amounts by cheque”, inserting the words “or electronic banking”; and,
- (d) Regulation 109 (e) being amended by deleting the word “passbook” and in its place inserting the word “bank”.

6. Umina Beach Branch, Northumberland Group

“That the Constitution of The Country Women’s Association of New South Wales be amended by:

- (a) Regulation 68 (a) being amended by:
 - (i) after the words “The Group Secretary shall also:” inserting the words “subject to the control and instructions of the Group Council”

(ii) and by deleting Regulation 68 (a) and in its place inserting the words:

“68 (a) Keep or cause to be kept the minutes of all proceedings of Group Council meetings and Group Conference and shall record in the Minutes the amount of bills passed for payment at said Meetings”.

and

(b) Regulation 107 (a) being amended by:

(i) after the words “The Secretary shall:” inserting the words “subject to the control and instructions of the General Committee of the Branch”

(ii) and by deleting Regulation 107 (a) and in its place inserting the words:

“107 (a) Keep or cause to be kept the minutes of all proceedings of Branch Meetings and shall record in the Minutes the amount of bills passed for payment at said Meetings.”

7. Milton District Branch, Wollondilly Group

“That the Constitution of The Country Women’s Association of New South Wales be amended by Regulation 111 being deleted and in its place a new Regulation 111 in the following form being inserted:

“111 Only members of three months’ financial standing shall vote at a Branch Annual Meeting or Branch Special Meeting.”

8. State Executive

“That Regulation 6 of the Constitution of The Country Women’s Association of New South Wales be deleted and replaced with the following:

A Branch may give to the following outside organisations:

- (a) CareFlight and/or the Royal Flying Doctor Service,
- (b) Royal Far West,
- (c) Charities providing programmes for homeless women, youth, and children, and
- (d) Charities providing guide dogs and/or assistance dogs.”

and that Regulation 92 be amended by the deletion from it of the sentence:

“A Branch may give to Association aims or outside organizations provided a similar amount is given to the Association fund”.

and by in its place the insertion of the following sentence:

“A Branch may give to Association aims or to outside organisations provided an amount equal to at least 25% of any such gift is also given at the same time to the Association Fund”.

9. Manilla Branch, Namoi Group

“That the policy of CWA of NSW be to change Regulation 40 to read: The cost of Life Membership shall be based on a sum calculated at five times the annual subscription of a full member as fixed in accordance with Regulation 31, together with the cost of the Life Membership badge. The total cost to be paid by the Branch in the case of Branch Life Membership, except where the nomination has been adopted by the Branch’s Group, in which case the cost will be borne by Group.”