



# Country Women's Association of NSW

*Incorporated in 1931 by an Act of NSW Parliament  
Constituent Society of the Associated Country Women of the World*

ABN 82 318 909 926

**Media Release**

**11<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

## **CWA comes together to debate policy for 95<sup>th</sup> time**

The Country Women's Association (CWA) of New South Wales will come together for its annual conference from 22-25<sup>th</sup> May this year for the 95<sup>th</sup> time. The largest women's organisation in Australia, since 1922 the CWA has been working to improve the living conditions and welfare of women and families.

Held this year at Mingara Recreation Club in Tumby Umbi on the New South Wales Central Coast, the conference brings members together to debate and discuss the organisation's policy via a list of motions proposed by branches throughout the state.

Close to 800 delegates, members, observers and visitors are expected to descend on the Central Coast during the conference week. The conference will be officially opened by His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of NSW, accompanied by Mrs Linda Hurley, who will also be delivering the keynote speech.

CWA of NSW President, Annette Turner, said she is looking forward to bringing members together to discuss and debate a range of issues via the proposed motions.

"We are a growing, passionate, committed and diverse group of women, and this will be seen clearly as we debate each motion. You only have to read through the list of proposed motions to see how much more there is to the CWA than tea and scones.

"There are too many to list individually but this year important and highly topical issues are included such as gambling and online gambling, marriage equality, women's health, foreign land ownership, access to blood donations and coal seam gas.

"We are delighted to be visiting the Central Coast this year and really looking forward to also taking some time out of the busy conference schedule to enjoy its beautiful surrounds," said Annette.

Conference speakers include Mrs Linda Hurley; The Hon Bronnie Taylor MLC, Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier and Southern NSW; Ms Dorothy Coombe, National President, Country Women's Association of Australia; Mrs Sandra Ireson, 2017 Winner NSW-ACT RIRDC Rural Women's Award and Mr Nick Arena, 2016 NSW Farmer of the Year.

For the first time, this year there will also be an expo on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May from 10am-3pm, prior to the conference commencing, open to anyone who would like to know more about the CWA. It will feature information and displays on the CWA's projects, along with specific committee information and the chance to join the CWA.

The conference program commences with a church service on Sunday evening (21<sup>st</sup> May), with the official opening on the morning of Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. The remainder of the program comprises business sessions, meetings and award ceremonies and will conclude with a Gala Dinner on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May.



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**Ends**

Further information or a copy of the agenda, contact Jackie Camiller on 02 8337 0200 or [j.camiller@cwaofnsw.org.au](mailto:j.camiller@cwaofnsw.org.au) or Virginia Johnstone on 0430 793 875 or [virginia.johnstone@seftons.com.au](mailto:virginia.johnstone@seftons.com.au).

**Contact number 22-25<sup>th</sup> May: Danica Leys, CEO**

**0488 735 351**

The State President, **Annette Turner**, will be available for interviews from Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May to Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May prior to 9.00 am and after 5.30 pm on **0407 783 861**.

Press are accommodated and welcome within the venue. Any television coverage equipment will need to be set up on the day by 9.00 am.

**Photos:**

1. CWA of NSW President Annette Turner preparing for the 2017 State Conference.
2. Delegates at last year's conference in Cowra.