



Looking forward.

The next 60 years

**Branch Reports Supplement
to the Annual Report 2014/2015**



BRANCH REPORTS

Each year branches across the state are invited to provide a few words about their local activities during the financial year. These reports are interesting, not only for sharing of activities and ideas, but also as a record of Meals on Wheels branch history.

ALDINGA

It has been a steady year for our branch.

A number of long time volunteers retired and we wish them well and thank them for the years of support to our clients and MoW.

Our 41 volunteers serve 32 clients and in December, 36 volunteers and clients had a very enjoyable Christmas celebration lunch at the Alma Hotel in Willunga.

Christmas hampers were delivered to our clients by two of our volunteers with their grandchildren. Many appreciated seeing the young faces. Thanks to the Lions Club and local traders for inclusion of items in the hampers.

In March, Kate Manders, a long term volunteer was recognised in the annual Southern Suburbs Volunteer Service Awards at a ceremony attended by the Local and Federal MP's, and the Mayor of the City of Onkaparinga along with other prominent people.

Thank you to the staff at LifeCare Aldinga, who have supplied our excellent meals for over a year now and we receive many compliments on the quality.

ARDROSSAN

We currently have 84 volunteers with 14 clients receiving meals prepared by the Ardrossan Community Hospital and are delighted to have a vibrant and industrious committee and volunteers.

Two of our volunteers were nominated for Australia Day Awards on Central Yorke Peninsula: Wendy King, our Secretary, and Graham Moulds, for his work with the Heritage Trust/Ardrossan Museum, who was the overall winner.

During the year, a grant was won for the purchase of a laptop for our use and we conduct fundraisers with support

of volunteers such as the morning and afternoon tea at a private garden showing at Janet & Neil Edwards' home.

Our luncheons at the annual general meeting and the Christmas 'thank you' dinner for the volunteers are popular.

We were able to replace guttering and add security screen doors to our building. Our thanks to Kevin Betterman in this work.

BALAKLAVA

Another year of service to the community from an excellent team of volunteers.

We have purchased lanyards and new name tags for all volunteers this year, and have found them very easy to wear.

Four volunteers attended workshops at Riverton and Burra, which we found interesting.

Fresh fruit was delivered with the meal to celebrate MoW birthday, always appreciated by the clients.

Christmas gifts were coffee mugs containing sweets and Christmas cake, again much appreciated.

Clients seem to come and go but we have maintained a volunteer list of some 90.

BAROSSA VALLEY

2014/15 has been a year of significant changes for the Barossa Branch with the Angaston Hospital ceasing to prepare meals after 43 years. After much work and some 12 months of looking at alternatives, the Tanunda Hospital now operates as a Cook-Chill kitchen receiving meals from Meals on Wheels at Kent Town.

Due in large part to the Committee, Tanunda Hospital and volunteers, the change was well managed and a smooth transition achieved in proudly becoming the first Cook-Chill Branch operating

from a Country Hospital. The community connection with local hospitals remains and the service to clients increased.

This change has proven to be very positive for both clients and volunteers.

Volunteers now pickup meals from an easy to access point. Client numbers have increased and positive feedback from clients about the increased variety and quality of the Kent Town meals has been received.

We now move toward offering a choice of main meal, and options to expand the frozen meal service into the region.

We look forward to the challenges ahead and also to the continued support from our wonderful group of volunteers who remain the fabric of the service.

BERRI

Berri MoW continues to run smoothly, thanks to our dedicated committee of 10 and our wonderful team of around 65 drivers and deliverers. We are a hospital-based service working with a wonderful team in the kitchen at the Riverland General Hospital.

This year we have delivered 6481 meals, with a daily average of around 26.

Volunteers enjoyed the Movie Afternoon and High Tea at the Chaffey Theatre, which was a fitting gesture to thank our volunteers who have given many hours of service to the organisation in its 60th year. Everyone attending felt thoroughly spoilt!

Our clients again enjoyed the hampers which the Committee packed and delivered just prior to Christmas. They looked very impressive in the black MoW bags.

Finally, our thanks must go to the staff at Central Office. Your support is appreciated. And to all our dedicated volunteers here in Berri, thanks again for a job well done!

BLACKWOOD

This past year has been both busy and enjoyable. Thanks to the diligent committee and volunteers, the branch runs smoothly. Yes, we could do with some more volunteers, especially drivers, but we get by.

Our biggest issue is the exodus of volunteers chasing the sun during the winter months.

The branch celebrated its 23rd birthday with a barbeque in our lovely garden. We also observed Volunteers Day, and again our committee surpassed themselves with delicious homemade soup, which was shared with all volunteers at the kitchen.

At Christmas we enjoyed drinks and nibbles. Once again, Christmas hampers were assembled and small gifts for Easter, Mother's and Father's Day were greatly appreciated by the clients.

Our congratulations go to Marjory Gibson who received an Order of Australia Medal for 'Service to the community of Blackwood'.

Barb Capon and Bonney Tomlinson each celebrated milestones of 40 years of service to Meals on Wheels during the year.

BOOLEROO CENTRE

A special donation from Colorado USA in memory of a dear friend enabled each volunteer to receive a box of chocolates and a MOW shopping bag at Christmas.

We delivered 4529 meals with 73 volunteers this year. Wirrabara and Murraytown have no clients but 16 volunteers are still active, Booleroo Centre has 36 volunteers delivering to 14 clients, Melrose has 14 volunteers delivering to 2 clients and Wilmington has 7 volunteers delivering to 2 clients. Plus 2 clients collect meals from the hospital kitchen.

The branch was represented at the regional workshop in Port Pirie and police checks for all has been rolled out.

Thanks to Mrs Jenny Duke for baking and decorating our birthday cake, the kitchen staff for the preparing and packing of the meals and cheerful help to our volunteers and the Booleroo Bowling Club for the use of their club room and also to the ladies committee for catering for our birthday.

BRIGHTON

We finally joined the majority of branches who now provide a choice of the main meal for all our clients. The delay due mainly to our assisting with the upgrade of the MoWSA computer system. This project was tried, tested and finalised with magnificent work done by Clive Dennett, working tirelessly with MoW Head Office.

He was ably assisted by Colleen Littlefield who prepared the choice menus and also by Jan Pearce, who orders all food requirements, for the change.

It has been accepted by all kitchen staff and by all delivery staff. Clive will continue to work with other branches in the rollout of the new computer system.

Thanks should also go to our Volunteer Coordinators – David Carpenter and Lorraine Harvey who are helping our staff complete their police check requirements.

BURNSIDE

A year of changes and challenges. The Burnside Council lunch program ended due to a lack of patronage.

However our much anticipated Christmas/ Awards lunch was a resounding success. We were fortunate enough to be able to present Jill Hastwell with her 40 Year Service Award, as Jill passed away not long after. We also lost Peter Murray who organised our route sheets. He was the ultimate gentleman who is sorely missed.

Our clients received a much appreciated Christmas hamper with home-made jam/ marmalade, biscuits, chocolates and other goodies.

Choice meals started and after initial trepidation the kitchen team embraced the challenge as did the office team who mastered the added paperwork.

Volunteer numbers dropped to 166, the lowest we have ever had. And we currently serve some 66 meals a day.

Our Committee unstintingly give their time and expertise to make ours a happy and efficiently run kitchen. Thanks also to the beautiful scones Armine and his helpers produced each day, which are appreciated by all; volunteers, visitors from Central Office and some lucky clients.

BURRA

We have a declining number of clients, currently just 4.

During the year Service Awards were presented to Judy Eberhard – 40 years: Celine Stockman – 20 years and Susan Boyes – 15 years. Congratulations on a job well done.

Our Client Services Officer, Marg Dunstall had to retire after 34 years of service due to health concerns and Volunteer Coordinator, Shana Nourse, resigned after 25 years of service due to relocation. These two volunteers set us a wonderful example. And we have been able to find people to fill these important positions.

The Christmas hampers delivered to each client were gratefully received.

Nine volunteers attended the regional workshop held in Burra where we were informed of the future directions and we benefitted through hearing the thoughts and ideas and learnings of other branches.

Regional Council of Goyder Citizen of the Year was Maureen Bevan, a MoW volunteer.

CAMPBELLTOWN

Another year of challenges. A shortage of volunteers for kitchen and delivery, saw a faithful few carrying the load during the early part of the year after the sudden passing of 'Kookie' Kronbergs. A good replacement was found in Katherine Exley and the operation now is running with a happy, helpful team of volunteers.

We grew to 146 clients daily, taking on 30 from the Modbury branch. Our Birthday/ Christmas Party (41st) was again popular and our millionth meal was delivered to client Mrs Betty Austin in Rostrevor, a former volunteer for 32 years.

We held a volunteers dinner which went very well and we hope to continue it. Thanks to MoWSA for their support in rewarding the volunteers for their dedicated service.

Over 1,008,840 meals since inception, averaging 2250 meals a month into the north-east community. Great effort.

We thank all the volunteers who assist with their generosity and time; serving their community...we value you! We also thank

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MoWSA support staff; Kevin Cunningham, Alois Staudacher and Rosslyn Andrews for their support in making our branch the success it is.

CHRISTIES BEACH

Congratulations to all volunteers who received service awards at our AGM last September, highlighted by our guest speaker from SAPOL on the topic of Safety in the Home and updates from Central Office from CEO Sharyn Broer.

Special congratulations to Kay Wickes who received her 40 year award presented by His Excellency the Governor of South Australia at the Awardee afternoon.

Volunteer Coordinator Jenny organised a 'thank you' lunch for our volunteers at a local venue which was enjoyed by all.

With no Kitchen Coordinator at our branch a special thank you must go to Brenton Dawkins our Branch Support Officer who has been able to help our dedicated kitchen volunteers provide the 2 choice meals to our clients. This is the second year of choice and our clients are very happy.

Special thanks go to committee members; Client Service Coordinators, Doris and Judith and a special thank you to Jenny and the drivers and deliverers for providing our wonderful service to the community.

CLARE

This year has included two major milestones.

Firstly, in January, we reached 45 years of Meals on Wheels in the Clare District. Over 90 past and present volunteers were able attend the recent afternoon tea, as a celebration of this event.

Three of our original members Janet Angus, Betty Beames and Coralie Haysman cut the cake. Unfortunately Beryl Pearse and Dela Schaedel were unable to attend – three of these ladies are still part of our delivery team.

24 volunteers were presented with awards from 5 to 45 years and another 10 for 1 year of service.

Our second milestone on 10th April celebrated the delivery of our 250,000th meal to Mrs Betty Scott, a former MoW volunteer for 20 years. We continue to

deliver 20 plus meals most days, which are supplied by our local hospital kitchen & are trying to encourage more people to become involved at committee level.

COWELL

Our branch continues to run smoothly, thanks to our dedicated volunteers and committee and the fantastic work they do.

Our client numbers remain around 12 and we have about 60 volunteers.

We have 3 new clients (2 in the country). Community Services delivers their meals once a week. Also we gained 2 new volunteers.

Our thanks go to; Cowell Hospital catering staff for preparing the meals, the Button Club for donating food for the Christmas hampers, the Lions Club for donating Christmas cakes for hampers and our local Council office for happily photocopying for us, free of charge.

We had a great time together at our Christmas luncheon at the Commercial Hotel, where some 30 volunteers attended.

Congratulations to Coral Wiseman, Helen Barlow, Lee Klingberg, Louise Klingberg, and Joy Smith for their 30 year awards. And Val Tonkin, a Foundation member, retired after 33 years of service.

Four of our committee went to Wudinna regional workshop.

CRYSTAL BROOK

We celebrated our 45th birthday and volunteers 'thank you' lunch with a 2 course meal, enjoyed by 71 volunteers, provided by Crystal Brook Primary School parent club with Year 7 students waiting on the tables.

David Smith, MoWSA Corporate Services Manager, attended and spoke to the group. Volunteers were thanked for their many years of service and the birthday cake was cut by Pat Worden a volunteer who has been delivering for 45 years.

CUMMINS

Our branch continues to run smoothly thanks to our dedicated volunteers and Committee Members, who are so supportive and compassionate with unselfish caring to our clients.

Our client numbers increased to 13 and our thanks must go to the Cummins Hospital administration and catering staff for the preparation of meals.

And a huge thanks to over 60 volunteers who cheerfully deliver as our clients enjoy seeing a friendly face when receiving a lovely meal. Christmas treats are also met with happy faces.

Our volunteer rosters prepared by Josie Hammond our Volunteer Coordinator are kindly printed by the District Council office free of charge, and we thank them for their generosity.

Our AGM/Service Awards Presentation with a complimentary morning tea and a guest from Central Office presenting the awards had, as guest speaker, Diane Graham from West Coast Home Care.

Sincere thanks to the committee members for their dedication and support and the capable ladies we have in our community who support it through voluntary work.

EDWARDSTOWN

This year had a variety of results for the branch, with the loss of volunteers, especially those with cooking skills, resulting in help from Central Office and Kent Town, received with many thanks.

Our client numbers fluctuate, but we still average between 90 and 115 meals per day which raises our total number from inception to 1,527,490. The commencement of choice meals has gone quite well and is very popular.

Twenty-one awards presented at the AGM ranged from one year to thirty years service, congratulations to all. Premiers Awards were given to The Edwardstown Rotary Club for their driver assistance every Thursday and The Castle Tavern Social Club for their donations which assist in both Easter and Christmas hampers.

ENFIELD

This year we were supported through community service hours by school students, Flinders University first year nursing students, as well as staff from Bunnings.

Our Christmas lunch had a good turnout and was enjoyed by all. Bunnings gave each MoW client a small gift at Christmas and donated more seedlings and seeds for our kitchen garden as well as a voucher for a door prize at our Christmas lunch.

The kitchen garden has been successful with pumpkins, silver beet and carrots as well as herbs such as parsley, sage, rosemary & thyme (remember the old song?). It's a real pleasure going out to pick fresh herbs for the chicken stuffing or herb crusted fish.

We had 2 successful sausage sizzles at Bunnings Warehouse Kilburn and were even lucky with good weather on both occasions.

A group of our volunteers also took part in the Volunteers' Day parade in the city in May.

EUDUNDA

Five founding members, Yvonne Schulz, Lorna Baumann, Val Goedecke, Hazel Jenke and Betty Marshall, all appreciated by our branch, were recognised with 40 year Service Awards this year.

The branch continues to work effectively with competent assistance from the Hospital Kitchen.

The Branch thanks our volunteers for their continued support and appreciates the assistance given by Central Office.

FINDON

We opened in June 1984 and have continuously offered exceptional customer service that enhances lifestyle and provides social contact within our community. Today we have several clients who have either been kitchen or delivery volunteers, which really says a big something about the service. Just goes to show that the big wheel keeps on turning!

We wish to acknowledge the tremendous support from our BSOs, Jason Webb and Anthony Medcalf. We may lack in

coordinators and leadership roles but with their guidance and assistance it is business as usual with everyone pitching in. Over the years we have prepared, cooked and delivered more than 900,000 meals for our clients. The choice menu offers quality, nutritious and nourishing meals. We are most proud of our standards and quiet achievements.

To all our volunteers we thank you for your support, dedication and commitment. We cannot do this without each of you! We also acknowledge our previous Chair, Angela Keneally, now Her Worship the Mayor for the City of Charles Sturt!

GAWLER

The year has been characterised by staff and committee vacancies. It began with a lack of Kitchen Coordinators and no Assistant Secretary. In November our Secretary resigned and our Assistant Treasurer died. In December our Acting Chairman retired.

The Assistant Treasurer has been replaced and an Assistant Secretary appointed. The Secretary and Chairman have not yet been replaced and we need kitchen leadership. Help from Kevin Cunningham has kept the kitchen running and this is very much appreciated.

The number of clients remains in the high 70's and low 80's with new clients continuing to replace those who finish.

Our Client Services Coordinator continues to receive compliments on our meals and services, and for this, we are grateful!

GILBERT VALLEY

With much help from Central Office, our Branch now delivers wholesome meals from the Hospital which are thoroughly enjoyed by our clients – a much needed change for the better. Our meal numbers have increased with these better quality meals.

Our Branch has participated in Regional Workshops during the year, even hosting one, as well as attending the Branch Officer's Conference and Annual General Meeting. Our Branch concluded two three year periods on the Country Hospital Based Committee, and found this to be a very rewarding time.

Four of our 40 Year volunteers were

fortunate enough to meet the Governor at the Awardee Afternoon, which was a highlight for them. These wonderful volunteers continue to deliver meals... one of them being 93 years old!

We continue to maintain good numbers of volunteers, and thank them for their input.

GLENELG

We have serviced the needs of 186 clients this year. Volunteer numbers have increased to 187 and our local recruitment banner in prominent locations has aided in achieving this peak.

Our Christmas party was held again and was popular. We had a successful "Oldies" Devonshire Tea at Kingston House for our clients and volunteers and they all enjoyed the occasion, especially the many door prizes providing a fun relaxing day out of normal routine. A new kitchen coordinator has ensured that the kitchen is running smoothly and the introduction of "Choice", increasing the variety has been implemented.

On behalf of all office bearers and committee members we thank all our dedicated volunteers for their commitment and support in providing a community service that is "more than just a meal" and we all look forward to what the coming year brings.

HALLETT COVE

What a year! Client numbers continued to grow to close to 70 whilst the number of people willing to give of their time to help has fluctuated.

Our Kitchen team is working well and have implemented new processes to minimise the wastage. Head Office has commented that we have a most efficient team.

The committee nurtures a team approach with quarterly events such as; pizza days, gourmet BBQs and sausage sizzles, which enable volunteers to spend more time getting to know each other. It is a simple way to show appreciation for effort and dedication.

New volunteers joined the committee, helping to spread the work load.

On behalf of clients and the community, we thank committee members, Kitchen

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staff and deliverers, for their continued dedicated support.

I am sure the branch can look forward to the 25th year being another year of growth.

HAPPY VALLEY

Our well-attended quarterly BBQs continued with the presentation of service awards including 3 new life members. Santa paid us an "official visit" at our Christmas lunch.

Choice meals are being well-received by the clients and, aside from a small increase in our labour at the front end management, has not impacted on preparation or delivery work; indeed we have incorporated this service into having every main meal route numbered and labelled with the recipient's name which has streamlined the whole process.

A new record of 25,700 meals saw an increase of 6,060 over last year with 18% of these being frozen. The oven is often filled to capacity but we haven't implemented additional heating sessions yet. Since inception in 1988, some 361,320 meals have been delivered. Client numbers at 151 have increased by 22 and we have some 120 volunteers.

Vice Chair and Kitchen Coordinator, Beverley Jackson, was recognised with a 'Southern Suburbs Volunteer Service Award' for her community work which was presented by Amanda Rishworth MP, Member for Kingston, at a special ceremony.

HENLEY AND GRANGE

Another busy year for our branch. Choice meals came in July and proceeded smoothly and appeared to be a welcome change for our more independent clients. The numbers of hot meals have remained constant with the addition of approximately forty frozen meals being delivered on a weekly basis.

Another successful Christmas luncheon was held in late November. In March our long-standing Secretary and Volunteer Coordinator, June Swan, announced her retirement after 43 years of continuous service.

In May, the branch hosted eight student

nurses from Flinders University Nursing and Midwifery for three weeks. Each was awarded a special "Certificate of Completion" at the end of their stay. Local MP, Matt Williams, visited and was keen to observe the workings of the kitchen and meet volunteers.

The Premier's Certificate of Appreciation in Recognition of Outstanding Volunteer Service was awarded to June Swan, and we presented this to her in May at a special luncheon held in her honour.

HINDMARSH

Paul Makin from "Today Tonight" spent 2 days at our kitchen making a segment on Meals on Wheels. It included interviews with Sharyn Broer, some of our volunteers and two clients. It was an excellent promotion for Meals on Wheels.

Once again our clients received hampers at Christmas and hot cross buns at Easter.

We had a kitchen refit and now have a state of the art stainless steel kitchen. During this time we had to make some changes in order to ensure things went smoothly so we still delivered meals to our clients.

We commenced the choice menu and have received positive responses from clients.

Our Kitchen Coordinator, Carmel Fairclough, received a Premier's Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Volunteer Service which was presented by the Mayor of Charles Sturt, Angela Keneally. A surprise afternoon tea was held at the kitchen to celebrate.

Thank you to our wonderful team of volunteers for your fantastic work.

JAMESTOWN

It has been a busy and productive year with client numbers steady. We celebrated the National MoW Day nourishing theme with baskets of fruit and place mats – well received.

A volunteer morning tea and pamphlets and advertising at the local library boosted our profile!

Volunteers enjoyed the "Movie Day" at Pt Augusta – good film and friendship.

Christmas plates and season's greetings were well received. We celebrated Easter with eggs and visit to clients and delivered homemade Anzac biscuits to 3 Anzac Veterans.

All are pleased with the packaging and meals served by our Jamestown Hospital.

Members enjoyed workshops at Crystal Brook, Pt Pirie and Burra – very informative and able to share with others. We also attended the Pt Pirie 50th and the Peterborough 40th birthdays.

We celebrated our milestone 45th birthday with a good attendance of retired and new volunteers including inaugural member Beryl Eckert – 45 years and still active assisting our Client Coordinator. We are very proud of her achievements. Thank you to CEO Sharyn and staff for their input and help during the year.

KADINA

After revising our systems, the liaison with Moonta Fresh Cook Kitchen has been most successful. The couriers deliver the meals in a timely manner using the loan car from Rosewarne's. And all clients in the region are benefiting from hearty fresh cooked meals and a daily choice of main course. We are grateful to the kitchen staff in Moonta who have taken on a lot more work.

Our client numbers have greatly increased since the change!

Client Service Coordinator, Joan Bavington, was accredited to do the 100 point check sign for new volunteers, much easier for all. Especially after a letter to the editor of our local paper brought a swift response and the vacancies were quickly filled for retirements and absences due to ill-health. Made easier because of this new process.

This Christmas we organised a local cake maker to design and bake individual cupcakes in covered containers with a Christmas motif. Very festive and well received!

Despite change everything is running very smoothly.

KAPUNDA

We continue to build a wonderful rapport with our clients and volunteers alike, with some 22 clients we have about 57 volunteers.

Our volunteers generously support our fund for small gifts to our clients on special occasions. Easter sees clients receive a small egg or bunny. Birthday cards are given during the year. Our Christmas in July luncheon at a local hotel for our clients and volunteers saw 45 people attending. Local singing identity Jeanette Mickan entertained us and Father Christmas made a surprise visit. Clients were thrilled to receive a box of chocolates from him. It was a wonderful day for our all. On Christmas Day we delivered a traditional Christmas dinner courtesy of the Kapunda Hospital.

Congratulations and thanks to the Kapunda Hospital kitchen staff who continue to cook and provide an extensive range of nourishing meals for our clients.

We look forward to another successful year in this great community volunteer organisation, which we know is much appreciated by so many.

LAURA & DISTRICTS

Laura & Districts, one of the four inaugural hospital based kitchens, reached our 35 year milestone in 2014.

We are well served by the staff at the Laura & Districts Hospital and we take this opportunity to thank the Hotel Services team for their co-operation, friendly manner, professionalism and meal preparation.

During the years we have been very fortunate to have enjoyed the companionship of some truly wonderful and quirky personalities, many of whom are sadly no longer with us, however we remember them with a smile, a word or a phrase or a small job we assisted them with.

The past year has flown by with very few ripples disturbing our well-oiled team.

Members have attended regional workshops and have been rewarded with the information gleaned and a positive networking experience.

We acknowledge and congratulate our Service Award Recipients for the 2015 year, of whom we are most proud, well done and thank you for your continued contribution.

MAITLAND

We continue to provide a valuable service and are indebted to the Maitland Hospital for supplying tasty, nutritious meals.

Our volunteer numbers are not an issue and they give so willingly of their time to deliver meals. Their commitment is appreciated and the community sincerely thanks them.

Client numbers continue to decline due in the main to people taking up more formalised residential care.

Our branch is well served by Head Office and we appreciate their advice and cooperation.

A regional conference this year was successfully held at Maitland with good representation from neighbouring branches.

Understandably Meals on Wheels is having to make all volunteers have a current police check and aims to achieve this goal by the end of the year, requiring a large effort.

MCLAREN VALE

Our branch has 42 years of meals service to the McLaren Vale and McLaren Flat areas.

This year we have served 7,932 meals, a 53% increase from last year, and have served 115,540 meals since the branch's inception. Our daily service run serves up to 40 meal deliveries to usually 46 recipients.

The branch has nearly 60 volunteers and we presented awards to volunteers, representing 126 years of combined service!

Our continued praise and thanks go to Vicki Zimmer and the staff of the McLaren Vale Hospital for their continued support in meals preparation and for the high quality

of meals that are served, and the continued frozen meal option.

We thank the staff at Meals on Wheels Central Office for their support and assistance with recruitment of volunteers this year.

We also praise the work of our volunteers for the tremendous effort they give on their regular delivering roster.

MEADOWS

We continue to serve our 10 clients who live in Echunga, Macclesfield, Meadows, Prospect Hill, Kangarilla and Clarendon and travel 40-50 km to deliver these meals three days a week. Our clients are grateful and the meals are very well received as they are able to remain in their homes partly due to our friendly and reliable visits. Our Kangarilla volunteers pick up frozen meals at Meadows for local clients. A system with very little change or interruption. Our volunteers also travel from all these towns to our kitchen, so it is a big commitment. We have 26 volunteers in all who are willing to work as a co-operative team. One of our volunteers celebrated her 91st birthday recently and it's great she is still able to fulfil her volunteer role. We are well served by good service of frozen meal deliveries from Kent Town and from our support officers.

MILANG

We operate from the Milang Old School House Community Centre (MOSHCC) and serve Milang and Districts.

It has been consistent in the last 12 months in providing frozen meals to clients in Milang and Clayton Bay – an average of about 21 meals per week.

The MoW Coordinator June Dolling, retired towards the end of the financial year, after 6 years in the role. A handover of this role was given to Pamela Francis, A MOSHCC Volunteer and Board Member of Milang and District Community Association (MDCA). June needs to be commended for her consistent support of MoW during her years of service as Coordinator.

BRANCH REPORTS

MILLICENT

The 2014-15 Annual General Meeting failed to secure enough nominations for some of the committee positions. Thus our committee was elected with a need to take on extra responsibilities. When this predicament became known in the community, volunteers came forward and we were able to fill all positions!

We now have some committee members that are trained in more than one position and it has enabled us to continue our work while volunteers were on holidays etc. We continued to send birthday greetings and Mothers and Father's day gifts organised by Fay Gentle to our clients, who are most appreciative. Five volunteers retired this year with twelve new volunteers coming on board. Again we have gratefully received support from the Lions Club and the Credit Union members delivering meals.

The volunteers social account donated a dishwasher/steriliser to the Hospital kitchen worth some \$5000, for which the hospital covered the installation costs. We currently have 130 dedicated volunteers delivering to 42 clients. This was our twentieth year as a member of Meals on Wheels, after another preceding 20 with Domiciliary Care.

MINLATON

The services provided by this Branch continue to be valued by the clients and indeed the community. Delivery numbers remain at their lowest for many years which is certainly not a reflection of the quality and quantity of the meals so carefully provided by the kitchen staff of Melaleuca Court Nursing Home.

Although MoW is well known locally, some people perhaps prefer meal packs available elsewhere or family members provide for their elderly and frail loved ones with preferred food choices.

Having to be home ready to receive food deliveries could also be a factor. It has also become clear that we now receive very few local doctor referrals for our services. Accordingly, our local surgery has been reminded of our presence.

Volunteers are still loyal, willing and able. Interest has been shown in attending regional workshops and information sessions conducted by Central Office staff.

Our Branch AGM's are only just attended by enough to fill committee positions, few of which are very demanding. Our annual Christmas luncheon is always well attended.

MITCHAM

This year we have been very busy, with more meals being delivered this year than last.

We commenced the choice menu and the clients appear to be happy with their meals, albeit with increased work for the kitchen staff.

We asked one lady what she thought of choice menus and she said "I may not remember what I ordered, but I know that I did order that meal".

Our volunteers at the Royal Show were very happy meeting so many different people most of whom had heard of Meals on Wheels.

At our last Annual General Meeting, Mrs Joan Teagle was awarded with a Premier's Certificate for her 14 years of working for Meals on Wheels and for most of those years held at least 1 position on the committee.

We are looking forward to a great year for 2015-2016.

MODBURY

The year started on a busy note with the branch celebrating 40 years of service with a dinner at the Modbury hotel. During the dinner Ruth Dallow was presented with her forty year badge and flowers by MoWSA CEO Sharyn Broer.

Several Parliamentarians were also in attendance as well as some of our past Chairpersons and members.

The year has seen a significant rise in meal numbers and due to heating problems and late deliveries, we asked Central Office for a review of our boundaries. The Campbelltown branch came to our rescue and took over part of our area and we thank them for their cooperation.

Due to the longer Christmas break our number of frozen meals almost doubled this year.

We again distributed our Christmas hampers and our thanks go to the Lions Clubs for their donation of cakes and volunteers for their donations towards the hampers.

MORGAN

Another successful year, despite a slight drop in our volunteers, but an increase in clients.

Special thanks to the Cadell Training Centre for preparing the meals.

In November we held our Christmas Social for volunteers and clients, at the Caldwell Club. Everyone attending had an enjoyable time. It was lovely to have Fay Bampton return for the day and be able to thank her for 18 years service to the branch.

Congratulations to all volunteers who received awards. Three from our branch attended the workshop at Burra. Thank you to Central Office for another informative and enjoyable day.

A **big** thank you to all volunteers and committee members for helping us maintain an excellent service.

MOUNT BARKER

Once again we have had a successful year, thanks to our dedicated committee and all our volunteers, our grateful thanks to all.

Since our inception we have delivered 446,189 meals. Service awards presented at the AGM in 2014 ranged from 1 year to 35 years!

Easter gifts and Christmas hampers were appreciated. Thanks to the local Lions Clubs for their generous donation of Christmas cakes.

Our Christmas Luncheon at Auchendorrach House at Mount Barker was well attended including special guests.

Our 40th Birthday on 7 April was celebrated with an afternoon tea held in the Lutheran Church Hall at Mount Barker with special guests including CEO Sharyn Broer, Mayor Ann Ferguson of District Council Mount Barker, Mark Goldsworthy MP, Member for Kavel, and BSO's Linda McDonald and Jason Webb. We were entertained by 'Simply Women' and CEO Sharyn presented Chair Chris Monck with the 40 year plaque and Ann Duell with her 40 year badge. A very enjoyable afternoon and we are looking forward to another year of service.

MOUNT GAMBIER

This has been a busy year, as many volunteers went away for the winter and Volunteer co-ordinators struggled to keep up replacements. A **big** thank you to all volunteers who kept us afloat!

We were all saddened by the passing of our Past Chairman Les Cunningham.

A welcome addition was BSO Peter Davis, who has continued to face all difficulties as they come, and support our volunteers.

This financial year we served 26,830 meals and 1,222,583 since inception.

Treasurer Barry McBride was awarded a Commonwealth Bank Certificate of Merit for Volunteer Treasurers.

We have received good volunteer support from our community, with Bunnings, Credit Union, and one real estate firm, taking their turn on our rosters.

At Easter clients received a Hot Cross Bun and Easter Eggs and at Christmas committee and volunteers provided a bag of goodies for them.

A big thank you to Gambier City Lions Club and the local businesses, for their continued support.

MURRAY BRIDGE

We celebrated 45 years on 8 June 2015. On the 10th we held a 'Movie and Afternoon Tea' for volunteers to commemorate this milestone at the local Cameo Cinema with President Leon Holmes AM.

Thanks to the local businesses who donated goods for lucky door prizes.

This year Tony Pasin MP, Federal Member for Barker, visited our Hospital kitchen and went on a delivery run with our President Mary Rowley and Volunteer Coordinator Maureen Klau and in return some 30 volunteers attended a morning tea hosted by Tony as his way of saying thank you.

MoW received an invite for volunteers to the Clipsal V8 Super Cars and long standing Treasurer and Client Services Coordinator Sandra Walding, a huge fan, attended.

We are also very fortunate to have 3 original volunteers still delivering meals; Gwen Parbs, Joan Schick and Helen Schubert.

Since inception we have delivered 869,042 meals and currently have 140 clients and

163 volunteers on our books.

A very sincere thanks to all our volunteers for your time and effort in delivering meals to our clients 5 days a week.

NARACOORTE

The Naracoorte branch is functioning well, without any major issues and is in good shape.

Up to 30 meals are prepared and packaged by the Hospital kitchen staff each weekday, delivered by over 100 rostered volunteers.

We have established a sound, practical working relationship with the head of the Hospital kitchen and her staff, with on-going communication a key factor in this.

The appointment of Peter Davis as our SE Branch Support Officer has provided a local contact, always ready to respond to any query that may arise and to keep us better informed and advised on matters such as WHS, meal quality issues etc. He has also improved our line of communication with Head Office considerably and we applaud this move.

The recent regional workshop in Mt. Gambier was attended by four of our Committee members and it was reported as a very constructive event.

NORWOOD

We held our combined luncheon, annual general meeting and presentation of service awards, at a local hotel and it was attended by around 50 volunteers.

Our custom is to have a Christmas celebration for volunteers at our kitchen, with catering by a group of volunteers and we cover costs with a raffle on the day.

We held a BBQ at Bunnings to raise funds towards our 60th birthday celebrations, which we celebrated with a high afternoon tea, to mark the occasion. In addition to current volunteers we were able to share the day with several of our clients and past volunteers.

Our clients received small gifts at Christmas and Easter donated by local shops and volunteers.

Two of our long serving kitchen volunteers retired and we have yet to replace them. This has necessitated support over a number of months from our BSO's. Thank you! Thank you to everyone for the time given over the past year.

ONKAPARINGA VALLEY

2014/15 has been a year of consolidation and teamwork at our branch. New procedures have been introduced as they have become available, including the new quarterly audit on Workplace Health and Safety.

Members of our branch have been involved in functions held by the state body including the Royal Adelaide Show and the Volunteers March held in Adelaide.

Due to the advertising campaign by Meals on Wheels volunteer and client numbers in our branch have increased. Meal numbers are up over 30% this year while we have had 16 new volunteers commence. We are very fortunate to have a very active committee who all put in to make the day to day operations run smoothly.

Support for our clients who have different needs through delivering their meals while providing a genuine care for their wellbeing is what encourages us in our service to the community.

ORROROO

We have a small number of volunteers at Orroroo who have continued to provide excellent service for up to 15 clients throughout the past year. We held a recruitment drive this year and managed to pick up three new drivers, we also farewelled one during the year.

Kitchen staff have done an exemplary job providing healthy, hot meals to clients throughout the year. A survey of clients was conducted earlier in the year with positive feedback obtained. Grant monies have gone towards purchasing office furniture to help with the maintenance and running of MoW. All food containers are now purchased directly through MoW.

Christine Bertram and Ray Sims have reached their 5 year and 20 year service milestones, respectively, throughout the year and we will celebrate with a morning tea in recognition of this service in mid-September.

BRANCH REPORTS

OSBORNE

Well another year has gone, new faces coming, old faces going.

At Osborne we supply our clients on average about 100 meals a day and between 18 to 30 frozen meals for the weekend.

We have had an influx of new people coming into our system both clients and volunteers.

The choice menu is going very well and we adapted to it extremely well with no problems at all.

We have just recently had our WHS audit and it went well too.

For those who aren't aware our kitchen has been operating for 35 years which surprised some of us when we received the 35 year plaque!

We have just had a new gas combi oven installed and all of our kitchen staff are extremely happy with the way it works.

Our kitchen runs very well thanks to all; committee, kitchen team, drivers and 'runners'.

Without your time and devotion the branch wouldn't run as well as it does!

PAYNEHAM

We had a good year and delivered meals to some 90 clients, up from about 80 last year. We had an average of 100 volunteers preparing and delivering meals.

During the year we lost two of our important volunteers, our Volunteer Coordinator and one of our Kitchen Supervisors. However we reorganised ourselves and gained our current very valuable Volunteer Coordinator, Garry Colquhoun.

At our AGM, all committee positions were filled with the exception of Vice-Chairperson, Assistant Secretary and Volunteer Coordinator.

Our Annual Awards Luncheon was held in the Buckingham Arms Hotel where Service Awards were given out. The luncheon was attended by approximately 70 volunteers. A great time was had by all.

We thank all of our volunteers, and the staff at Central Office, and look forward to another successful year in 2015/16.

PETERBOROUGH

We delivered 3,824 meals this year, 215,422 since inception in 1975.

Thank you to our 52 volunteers who delivered meals to 17-20 clients daily.

Our annual Christmas lunch for clients and volunteers was popular and we celebrated our 40th birthday with an afternoon tea, cake and musical entertainment with some 80 guests.

Peter Neal from Central Office was a guest speaker along with our Mayor and past MoW volunteers. Two volunteers, Eryri Davis (92 years young) and Marlene VanDenEnde received recognition for 40 years dedicated service.

We delivered bags of donated Easter Eggs to all clients.

Five committee members attended a work shop in Burra and were able to pass on information to our volunteers. We were represented by two volunteers at the Port Pirie Birthday Celebrations.

A lunch was held in June with 22 volunteers in attendance.

Our volunteer Mrs Marlene VanDenEnde was honoured with Citizen of the Year at our local Australia Day Awards.

PLAYFORD

We started our year with challenging low numbers of volunteers and vacant positions on our committee. We now have all the committee positions filled and a wonderful team of approximately 73 volunteers.

Our average number of clients has dropped. We currently deliver an average of 88 hot meals a day and about 65 frozen meals a week. This financial year we delivered 25,264 meals. Since inception we have delivered 622,579 meals.

Several volunteers received awards at the 2014 Christmas luncheon. We have five awards to be presented at our 2015 AGM.

We do two sausage sizzles a year at Bunnings; one a year for our volunteer social fund and one for MoW. We had several small fundraising events that were very well supported by our volunteers.

A heartfelt thank you to; our fantastic volunteers, our support officers and Central Office, who have all played a part in our progress this year.

PROSPECT

Barbara Healey retired as Chairperson after many years in the role and 40 years of service. And Pat Hunt with 25 years service and Secretary for 14 also retired. Bronte Donaldson resigned as Chairperson in January, due to ill health.

Winnie Pretorius, a recent addition from South Africa, is our new Chairperson and she has embraced the Branch, its clients and volunteers.

Christmas saw a total of 300 frozen meals delivered to our clients for the extended holiday period, with 110 for the Easter period. Grateful support came from Beerenberg, Coles Prospect, the Lions Club and from volunteers for our client Christmas hampers. Woolworths sponsored the Easter eggs.

We currently have 134 volunteers and are always looking for more! Joyce Crick recently celebrated 45 years with us and was recognised by the Prospect Council during Volunteers Week. Client numbers fluctuate, but we increased by some 4,000 meals this year.

We were an early starter for police checks and all our volunteers now have them. Two newsletters were sent this year from a new email data base.

Volunteer appreciation was shown through a Christmas drinks function and a sausage sizzle during Volunteers Week. Our Committee remains committed to our clients and providing the best possible outcomes for them.

PORT ADELAIDE

This year we celebrated our 60th birthday with an afternoon tea at the Port Adelaide Town Hall. Volunteers and invited guests attended and were presented with a special 60th birthday pen. All were entertained by the SA Police Big Band.

Our volunteers capably managed the choice menu introduction. We included extra treats at Christmas with hampers, Easter with hot cross buns, Anzac with cookies, and also special meals at Christmas in July and Christmas in December! A special birthday meal in August commemorated our 60th birthday.

We participated in the Port Adelaide Christmas Pageant and at our Christmas

party, recognised and honoured many of our volunteers who reached milestones in their years of service.

This year three of our volunteers were recognized by the Hon Mark Butler MP. Judy Hunter, a volunteer of 49 years, was named as a 'Local Hero', Cheryl Karnaitis and Margaret George each received a Volunteer Recognition Award.

PORT AUGUSTA

The Branch has had one of the most difficult years since its inception with the continual decline in the number of meal recipients because of the quality of meals supplied by the Hospital kitchen. Present figures indicate that the meal numbers delivered have decreased from around 90 – 100 a day to an average of 37 over the past couple of years. Meetings with the Hospital management and kitchen staff have not resulted in any change.

The Branch held a successful Christmas Raffle and BBQ in front of the local Woolworths, just prior to Christmas. This was well supported by the Store Manager and many small businesses in the main street.

Branch members had the opportunity to attend the regional workshop at Crystal Brook and were most impressed with the presentations and meeting with volunteer groups from around the northern region. Volunteer numbers have increased slightly and there are always enquiries from interested parties willing to give of their time.

PORT LINCOLN

We continue to serve between 70 - 90 meals daily and have some 100 volunteers. We held an afternoon tea for clients and volunteers before Christmas, where each client and volunteer was given a nice calendar. Bunnings Warehouse also donated small puddings and sweets to each client.

We established an updated fire procedure relating to our out of town volunteers for them not to come into town on Catastrophic Days and thankfully have not had to use it.

Some committee members attended the regional workshop at Wudinna in June.

Our AGM and Awards Day was held in July. Awards from one year to 35 years were presented. Our Chair Julie Low has been invited to fill a casual vacancy on the board at Head Office.

PORT MACDONNELL

Port MacDonnell branch has been operating as a Fresh Cook Kitchen for 34 years and will celebrate reaching its 35th year on the 13th July 2015. We have had a reduction in volunteers to 57 through the year and with a smaller team of volunteers we have had some wonderful people helping out on a regular basis. In particular Pam Brown Volunteer Coordinator and Debbie McCarthy Kitchen Coordinator have lovingly cooked whenever the need arises. We have 6 clients and have served 88,142 meals since the 14th July 1980.

Our branch had four volunteers; Amanda Altorfer, Debbie Breen, Gisela and Reiner Dietsch, reaching 10 years service. We had two volunteers; Sue Button and Judy Jennings, reaching 15 years service. Debbie Lewis, our Client Service Coordinator, reached 20 years service with Meals on Wheels Port MacDonnell.

PORT PIRIE

We are now into our second year in the new kitchen. Thanks must go to our dedicated committee and volunteers who keep things running smoothly.

Christmas hampers were again delivered to all our clients thanks to Nyrstar who are our major sponsors.

The garden in front of our building, designed and planted by volunteers, Kevin and Roxanne Cattermole, was opened.

The MoW regional workshop was held in Port Pirie and was well attended and a day later our 50th birthday celebrations were held also. The highlight being, a presentation to Nancy Jaeschke for her 50 years of service.

Choice was been introduced and a 5th round has started, and both are working well.

We would like to thank Central Office for their continued help and support.

REMARK

On the coal face it has been pretty much 'business as usual' again this year with our diligent and dedicated volunteers preparing and delivering around 280 meals a week.

No brief report can be sufficient to pay tribute to all those who give tirelessly of their time and skills in the interest of providing nutritious meals and social contact with the recipients. In addition to the in-house volunteering many of our local organisations and individuals provide goods, services and discounts magnanimously. One can't get much cheaper service than the commercial carrier who never sends a bill! In addition we thank the local Council for their continued support.

Behind the scenes there are the ups and downs of maintaining a volunteer service. One week the deliverer roster is looking decidedly tenuous then that resolves itself and we are looking for cooks then lo and behold the heavens open and we have cooks abounding.

Remark, possibly like many of our sister kitchens, has agonised with the "innovations" being rolled out as new policy from Greenhill Road. A goodly number of our long standing, dedicated volunteers have wrestled with the implementation of the choice menu and frozen meals policy and believe more consultation should be sought at branches before implementation.

Our committee continues to work to resolve new challenges and keep delivering those wonderful "home cooked meals".

MoWSA would like to thank the Remark Team for organising a very special High Tea & Movie Day for all Riverland Volunteers, to celebrate our 60th and their 50th!

BRANCH REPORTS

SALISBURY

This has been a wonderful year for our branch. On Monday April 13, we celebrated our 50th birthday with a special afternoon tea at the Salisbury Bowling Club, with the Governor His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le and Mrs Le as our special guests.

President Leon Holmes AM, Vice Presidents Marg McKenzie and Bill Coomans, CEO Sharyn Broer and representatives from Northfield, Prospect, Happy Valley and Elizabeth Branches, members of the Board as well as our volunteers were also amongst the over 100 guests. Including two 90 year olds, Doris Wright and Norma Post, both original volunteers!

The Branch has prepared and delivered 35,641 meals over the past 12 months with client numbers at over 172.

In December we again held our Christmas luncheon at the Salisbury Bowling Club with an attendance of over 110 volunteers. After a delightful luncheon the Annual Service Awards were presented.

SOUTHERN YORKE PENINSULA

Our branch delivered 1471 meals during the last financial year. We reached our 100,000 deliveries "milestone" in January 2015.

Client numbers continue to dwindle, but those who do receive meals are appreciative of the service and enjoy the meals provided.

The branch thanks the kitchen staff at both Melaleuca Court Nursing Home and the Yorketown Hospital, for the work they do.

The branch is well served with an enthusiastic bunch of volunteers and a Committee who have given many years of service to ensure the branch runs smoothly.

This year we formed a "Social Club" and funds from this account will be dispersed to some worthwhile community organisations during the next few months.

The branch thanks the various officers in headquarters for their support and guidance during the year.

STANSBURY

Our small branch held our 25th anniversary this year! To celebrate the event at our AGM our chairperson kindly made a special cake. Our oldest clients, Bette and Alec Daniell cut the cake and commented on how much the Meals on Wheels volunteers brightened up their day with not only the meal but the companionship even though it was for a short time.

In our small community the Daniell's were held in high esteem. Sadly Alec passed away earlier in the year and Bette is now residing in Stansbury's nursing home.

Much to our delight we received a letter from Senator Bob Day congratulating us on reaching our 25th year milestone.

Again this Christmas a band of volunteers made hampers for the clients. They are always appreciated. Our local Lions Club again kindly donated Christmas cake.

One of our volunteers, Clinton Roberts was named Stansbury Citizen of the Year on Australia Day.

STIRLING

This year we served our "half millionth" meal since we commenced operations. A great achievement for a relatively small kitchen. After a few teething problems, choice is running well and reports from our clients are very positive.

Long-time volunteer Gwen Harslett retired and several volunteers have left the district, causing some difficulties for our Volunteer Coordinator Julie Clamp. However some positive local promotions have helped relieve the situation somewhat.

Our luncheon at the "Old Mill" in Hahndorf to recognise our volunteers was attended by some 50 valued volunteers and a great time was had by all.

Christmas hampers for all of our clients received fantastic support from local businesses such as Romeo's to help make the Christmas season a bit special.

It was a privilege to have students undertake work experience and many were amazed at the service we provide. This initiative may inspire young people to continue the great legacy of Meals on Wheels.

Our Client Service / Kitchen Coordinator, Lois Allen, has returned to membership of the BOS Committee.

STRATHALBYN

Our celebration of 40 years of service is a chance to thank and appreciate many; the Strathalbyn Rotary Club and the initial committee who set up the service, the over 75 local volunteers delivering to up to 35 local people, the loyal long-time supporters, as well all who have and continue to volunteer, some for all our 40 years!

We organised a special Christmas hamper to be delivered in the week before Christmas to all clients, with the help of Father Christmas.

We thank the Hospital, as we could not provide our service without their skill and support. We also acknowledge the work of Lyn Kearvell, Pauline Wittwer, Derry Proud, Dawn Armstrong, Sue Proud, Peter Radford, Tanya Richardson and Jenny Thomas our hard working committee, all volunteers and of course the people who are on a list of emergency drivers.

Without them all, we would not run as smooth a service as we do.

STREAKY BAY

We have 60 people deliver to our clients in the town, which means we still have a 6 week rotation, same as when our branch began 38 years ago. Sadly, Mrs Atholy Holland the "oldest" client we delivered to, passed away this year. She was always bright and cheerful and full of fun whenever or whatever she was involved in, she is missed by all.

Our 38th birthday was celebrated in May with morning tea at our local restaurant "Mocean", with our committee and 3 of our awardees present. We all enjoyed the "coffee and cake" spread which they had provided. This idea has been tried for the past 3 years now and has worked quite well but when we turn 40 in 2 years time, we hope to have an BIG celebration, open to all, with special guests etc.

We had the pleasure of meeting Jason Webb when he was visiting branches on Eyre Peninsula, thanks Jason for waiting for us at the hospital!

TUMBY BAY

We have experienced a "cruising year" with exceptionally strong support from the Committee, volunteers, and clients.

National Meals on Wheels Day saw four secondary school children being involved helping deliver meals and handing each client a special 'placemat'.

We attended the regional workshop in Wudinna and found it most informative on changes and process. It was also a chance to catch up with others from Central Office and Eyre Peninsula branches.

Every year the Hospital kitchen staff and our Committee prepare and serve a Christmas dinner for our clients at the Tumby Bay Medical Conference Room. We entertained the clients and presented them with a small hamper.

We have 93 volunteers, average 30-36 meals a day and delivered 6116 meals this year. Since inception 190,331 meals have been delivered.

VICTOR HARBOR

The Branch is going well, though we have lost some of our people. Maureen Bennett left after 20 plus years of service. Maureen had been our Client Services Coordinator for a number of years and decided to take a break. We found a replacement and we are very happy to welcome a new person into this role.

Earlier in the year we received a very large donation in the form of a bequest and the Committee decided to place solar panels on the roof of the building. After much discussion, 40 panels were installed on the building. These panels are now generating power for the branch.

Like others, we rely on volunteers and find difficulty in getting people to take on responsibilities at the AGM. We are able to continue with the help of stalwarts willing to continue giving service to the branch.

Our teams in the kitchen continue to serve tasty and healthy meals for our clients and our delivers and drivers do their tasks for clients who are always pleased to see them.

WAIKERIE

It has been busy again this year with an average of 35 clients.

We adopted the choice menu. Volunteers were well briefed via a Q&A session which proved valuable as all were very well equipped to deal with introduction of the new menu and we had minimal problems.

Earlier in the year a few long serving volunteers retired. We again conducted a newspaper and radio campaign with 5 new volunteers as a result! We did it again as more long standing volunteers also retired. We were able to find able replacements for two Kitchen Coordinators. We thank these and all volunteers for their dedication to Meals on Wheels.

To raise our profile we also sent a pamphlet individually to all the local foreign, country resident and student doctors, so they were made aware of our services. This also went to the hospital and the community health teams. The hospital was very interested in the gluten free meals as these meals are so specialised.

Ten of our volunteers attended the regional workshop in Renmark, a great day as the information provided was very good. We are looking forward to continuing to serve our community in the coming year.

WALLAROO

This year the number of meals has reduced by 620 and the number of clients down to twenty. Volunteer numbers have remained static enabling the roster to be complete.

With the assistance of Central Office staff and the Moonta Branch, we were able to change our supply of meals from the Wallaroo Hospital, so that effective from 1 September, all meals are now supplied by the Moonta kitchen.

We thank the Moonta Branch for their support and extend many thanks to all our Volunteers for their support and also Central Office staff.

WARRADALE

As we approach our 25th year, our client base remains stable and our volunteers continue with a high level of service excellence. Committed to the changes introduced by central office, despite the increased workload, we are sure our kitchen crew, drivers, deliverers and admin team, will adapt. Our thanks to Brenton Dawkins for his assistance and for putting up with the occasional "dummy spit".

Marion Council's "Unsung Heroes" Awards for community spirit were presented to deserving volunteers Jan Green, Peter and Mary Burford, and Pam Boulden.

Our clients appreciated the Christmas hampers, Easter eggs, Mother's and Father's day and National Meals on Wheels day gifts, and they make it a pleasurable experience for our volunteers too. Thank you to Marion Lions club for their continuing donation of Christmas cakes.

At the start of our 25th year our admiration and thanks go to Peter Collyer, Judith Wirtz, Allan Vowels, Betty Brown, Yvonne Curran, Ann Pope, Elizabeth Fairlie, Fay Quinn, Audrey Ward and Mona Spyksma. All founding members of the Warradale Branch. The kitchen volunteers have welcomed a new addition in the form of an upgraded air conditioning unit, with our thanks to CEO Sharyn Broer and the team, along with the cooperation of the Marion City Council.

BRANCH REPORTS

WEST TORRENS

Our year started well with Premier's Certificates of Recognition being presented to Anita Watts and Pat Barnes by Matt Williams MHR.

Client numbers have increased, but not volunteers. The work of all our volunteers, in particular; Carol, Margaret, Rosemary, Dick and Roy, who have been delivering two to three times per week to fulfil our obligations is appreciated. And we have corporate volunteers on a regular basis. We would like to see younger volunteers joining too.

Three areas of discussion over considerable time are; lightweight hot boxes, choice and refurbishing our kitchen. We are aware of activity, and remain patient!

Anita Watts passed away about a month before her 45 year badge was due. We presented it to her family at a memorial service. Fortunately Christine has been able to fill the void. She has embraced the role of Kitchen Coordinator.

Help for the environment has been in the form of 40 solar panels, which should decrease our energy consumption and our costs.

We have delivered 26,414 meals and since inception 1,206,970!

To all volunteers, thank you for your continued effort and commitment.

WHYALLA

We are in our 57th year and with our great Committee we have few problems.

Chairperson Allan Lipschinski is now on the MoWSA Board for a three year term so we feel even more involved with what is happening with the other branches.

One of our volunteers, Peter Slaven, was awarded a Community Service Award on Australia Day.

Our Treasurer, Barry Thomas, has been busy with our Drivers Direct Credit and Sundry Purchases by committee members. We have replaced our office phone with an updated system.

In November, Rick Coronica, from Central Office attended our AGM along with our Mayor, Jim Pollock and Merton Hodge from City Council; they presented twenty four Service Awards to Volunteers.

Four Committee Members attended Port Pirie Branch 50th birthday party celebration in May.

Our two Lions Clubs again donated Christmas cakes for our clients, with the Rotary Club continuing to provide two members for deliveries, monthly.

We would like to thank Central Office for their assistance and all of our volunteers for a wonderful job.

WOODVILLE

After a rocky start to the year, we have become a very happy, productive group. The kitchen staff has produced over 4,500 more meals this year. Our client numbers are rising. We have a wonderful volunteer in Brian Hill, who makes sure the numbers are right each day and no one misses out on their required meal choice.

Our AGM and Awards Night at the Eagles was enjoyed by all who attended.

Each client received a bag of goodies at Christmas time. Lions gave us cakes as usual, which we appreciate so much and both Woolworths and Coles also kindly donated. Of course we added extras! Thanks to two of our volunteers, Enid Boucout and Lola Cockington who gave bags of sweets to go in each Christmas bag as well as eggs at Easter, to which we added Hot Cross buns.

Volunteer numbers fluctuate but that's life.

We do appreciate every one of them for their time, and hope we can welcome more in the future.

YANKALILLA

As is no doubt the case with other Fresh Cook branches, this has been a year of changes in the way that we operate.

The move to the choice menu was smoothly handled by our kitchen volunteers, despite some trepidation in the lead-up to the change.

The required use of frozen meals from Kent Town for clients who have meals for the weekends has not been well received by our 'cooks of the day', because they are sure that our kitchen's meals are of better quality than those that are now being supplied.

Until recently our soup has been made on days when the least number of meals were being prepared. The soup was then frozen in serve-size containers and delivered frozen to clients. The Central Office policy, which we resisted for some time, means that we make soup every day, including on the traditional busiest days, which has put extra pressure on volunteers who work on those days.

The frozen berry health scare, was a concern for this branch as we had used some of a product related to the officially recalled brand. All clients were made aware of the situation. Fortunately nothing came of the scare.

New volunteers have come forward to replace those who, because of health or other commitments, have to give up MoW.

Our client numbers remain relatively stable as has the number of meals delivered during the year.

A FEW HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES, FROM THE YEAR...



Some of our volunteers who marched to celebrate Volunteers Day!



A special cake celebrated where it all began in Port Adelaide!



A special 'High Tea' celebrated 50 years in Renmark and the MoW 60th with a regional volunteer movie day.



Peterborough stalwarts volunteers, Eryri Davis (92 years young) and Marlene VanDenEnde received recognition for 40 years dedicated service and cut the cake at the Peterborough branch 40th!

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