



Y SERVICE CLUB- WOMEN AUSTRALIAN REGION

Regional Director – Michelle Janssen

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ANNUAL REPORT 2018 – 2019

It is my pleasure to present my Regional Director's report for the year 2018 – 19. My year started after being inducted at last year's Regional Meeting hosted by Eaglehawk. Thank you for a lovely day enjoyed by many. The combined Picnic was also hosted by Eaglehawk at the Peter Krenz Centre on a very balmy summer evening. Again, I thank you all for your hospitality.

Membership has slightly risen over the past year now with 114 members, including three members at large. We have been saddened to lose some valued long serving members with the sad passing of Muriel Miller from Bendigo and the resignations of Krystyna Stigger and Robyn Phillips from Ararat and Sandi Stiles from Eaglehawk. I thank them for their many years of dedicated service to the YMCA, Y Service Clubs and their communities.

Donations I am astounded at the hard work and generosity which all our clubs have demonstrated throughout the year. All Clubs have continued to support our Y's Menettes International Project with \$2300 being donated. Y's Men's International Projects are also being well supported and this year \$400 was donated to Rollback Malaria. This project by Y's Men International, undertaken with Red Cross under the auspice of the United Nations, is due to finish in 2020. \$1500 was donated to the YMCA and almost \$12,500 to our local communities for worthwhile causes. Congratulations to you all.

Communication Thank you to all Bulletin Editors who have continued sending me their Bulletins through the year. I enjoy sitting and catching up on all the happenings from all the clubs. Bulletins continue to be the main source of communication for Club members as well as keeping other Clubs up to date with what is happening in their Clubs. I presented a half-yearly Newsletter to keep you informed of Regional and International happenings.

International Congratulations to Jennifer Cameron, from the Kangaroo Flat Club, who took on the role of our International Director for Y's Menettes for a second term after some years. She started by attending the International Council Meeting in Yeosu, South Korea at the beginning of August and represented Y's Menettes on this Council followed by the International Convention where she met up with Y's Menettes from around the world. Jennifer is currently in Sendai, Japan attending the Asia Pacific Area Convention and where she is continuing to connect with Y's Menettes from far afield. It is at this convention that Jennifer Jones from Adelaide will be inducted as the Y's Men's International President. A wonderful feat to have both of the International leaders from Australia (and both named Jennifer!!).

Weekend Retreat A special thank you to my Bendigo Club for hosting such a great weekend at Camp Wyuna, Queenscliff at the beginning of May. The theme 'Let's Get Physical' certainly had us raising our heart rates over the weekend with energetic shopping and then passive/active games on the Saturday evening. Thank you Bendigo! Congratulations to Kangaroo Flat and Eaglehawk for winning the prestigious awards. We look forward to next year when Eaglehawk will be our hosts.

Regional Website This website continues to be updated weekly and each month club bulletins are uploaded to the site. The site has about 1000 visits each month. It is well worth a visit. www.yserviceaustralia.com

Y's Menettes International Project Our project for 2018 -20 is **The Coaching for Youth Employment and Starting of Social Business** in Tirana, Albania. Our International Project Co-ordinator, Joy McNamara from the Kangaroo Flat Club, has kept us well informed of the progress with this project. It is wonderful to see our financial contributions making a difference in the lives of these young people.

Thank you

Thank you to our Regional Treasurer Glenys Buchanan for again keeping our finances up to date over the past year. Glenys does an amazing job of making sure our monies are sent where they need go. Glenys also looks after our supplies.

Thank you to Barb Peterson who has continued to keep our Sister Clubs up to date. If your club would like to establish a new Sister Club connection, Barb would love to help you with this.

Lastly, when I started in my role as Regional Director, my working commitment at my job increased dramatically and this meant I have not been as committed to my 'Y' role as I should have been. I apologise for this. I am grateful for the wealth of wisdom many of our members possess and thank you all for your support and guidance through my first year. I would also like to thank my family and my husband, Ben, for supporting me during the year.

Thank you.

Michelle Janssen

RD Y Service Clubs - Women