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## The Top Wire Report

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**Madam President, distinguished guests, fellow members of ICPA, ladies and gentlemen. It is with great pleasure that I present The Top Wire Report.**

In the February edition of last year's Top Wire, our past Memberships Officer, Irene Lund, wrote an article about Life Members and Certificates of Appreciation where she concluded that article with "we look forward to spotting another deserving name in coming Top Wires". So it has indeed, been a great pleasure to include articles about Life Memberships being awarded to Ellen Walker from Rankins Springs branch in 2022 and Duncan Taylor in the more recent February 2023 edition. Both Ellen & Duncan are well deserving of these Life Memberships and would love to continue to report on more additional Life Members who have contributed significantly to their branch or ICPA-NSW in future editions. I also found it inspiring, and I'm sure you all did too, to include in the September edition, an article on a Walgett branch Life Member & ICPA-NSW Life Member, Rory Treweeke about being included in the 2022 Queen's Birthday Honours list and presented with an Order of Australia award.

I thought it would be an interesting study to see which branches have contributed to The Top Wire over the course of 2022 and came up with the following list: Moree, Monaro, Bourke, Balranald, Tibooburra-Milparinka, two from Collarenebri/Mungindi and three – yes three from Rankins Springs branch! These branches are often contributors and I Thank you for continuing to contribute and support The Top Wire. However, it would be great to hear from all the remaining 22 branches with something that is happening in your branch. It mightn't be anything especially significant, but simply the 'usual' hum drum of life. Whatever it is doesn't matter, nor does the size of the article as ICPA-NSW members are interested to learn about what goes on in the lives of rural and remote families.

For something a little different last year, we ran seasonal themes for each edition of The Top Wire and included Shout Out to Summer, Autumn Awakenings, Winter Wanderings and Step In To Spring themes. I would like to thank our Past President, Kate Warby, for her suggestion of making this idea a feature throughout 2022 and for her enthusiasm with starting the ball rolling with this notion. It was great to see the assortment of photos and even recipes that members contributed to this section.

Thank you to Claire Butler who has come on board this year with some new ideas on how to more efficiently collate information from the schools in readiness for the bumper November edition of The Top Wire. While there were some humps and bumps to navigate (as there inevitably always is with any new concept), the new system of school's inputting their scholarship and advertising requests into a survey means a LOT less work for our Memberships Officers. It is anticipated that this year, all this be a seamless operation!

Once again, many thanks to the Rankins Springs Branch who brave every sort of extreme weather challenge that is thrown at them to come together every three months to package and post each edition of Top Wire to all our members.

Finally, congratulations to ICPA-NSW State Council for another year of tenacity and writing reports for The Top Wire! We love reading about where things are up to after motions are passed at State Conferences and what transpires throughout the year on the advocating front. Thank you to each and every one of you for all your updates.

**Kerrie Johnston**  
**Top Wire Editor**