

## NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS OF WEF

### SA SECTION

*Judith Ann  
President WEF SA*

WEF SA Section is presenting an interactive workshop highlighting the significance of rice as arguably the world's most important food on May 27<sup>th</sup> prior to the Annual General Meeting .

**Rice the Global Crop** will be presented by: Mark Wildey an Education Officer Global Education Centre. This will celebrate the International Year of Rice and will introduce the participants to activity ideas, resources and cross curriculum approaches for R-10 teachers. The workshop has attracted 80 participants.

The next public meeting will be held in August entitled "The What Works Program: A practical strategy for improving the learning outcomes for Indigenous students".

Jacque Taylor, who is presently working on the topic with the Commonwealth Government, will lead the workshop.

Members of WEF in SA are working collaboratively with other groups on the November/December UNESCO conference to be held at Adelaide University.

Committee members have been actively responding to international initiatives and have forwarded responses to other sections and members of the International Task Group.

## TASMANIAN SECTION

*Elvin Fist  
Tasmanian Section*

### **Mumbai World Conference of WEF**

The Tasmanian Section assisted three people to attend the conference: Eve Mills who presented a paper, and Anne Kilpatrick and Miranda Baptist. Anne reported to a dinner meeting of the section in March about her experiences and their effect on her thinking, and it is expected that Eve and Miranda will speak at meetings later in the year.

### **The Brian Pirkis Awards**

The Section annually makes awards to outstanding B.Ed. graduates of the Faculty of Education in Tasmania in memory of the late Brian Pirkis, a former Chairman of this section. This year the Brian Pirkis Memorial Medallion was won by Patricia King and the Brian Pirkis Prize by Sharryn-Lee Crothers.

### **The Broomhalls' Visit**

At the March meeting of the section, we welcomed home for a brief visit Dr and Mrs Edward and Noel Broomhall, long standing members of the section who have been working in Haifa for several years.

### **The April Dinner Meeting**

The Guest Speaker at the April meeting of the section was Mr Peter Richardson, a senior Project Officer with the State Library of Tasmania, whose subject was *The Study of Local History: Its impact on Community Values*.

### **Children, Online Learning and Authentic Teaching Skills**

Mr Ivan Webb, a member of a University of Tasmania research team, reported to the May meeting on this research with the title, *Using ICT in Primary Schools*. Full details of the project can be seen at [www.edu.utas.au/users/ilwebb/Research/index.htm](http://www.edu.utas.au/users/ilwebb/Research/index.htm)

### **Memorial Lectures**

A great deal of work has been done on the organization of the Section's major projects for the year, the Honora Deane Memorial Lecture which is given in Launceston, and the William Oats Memorial Lecture, given in Hobart, on successive nights in August. This year, these will be presented in association with the University of Tasmania and with the endorsement of the Minister for Education. We are fortunate to have as our lecturer Dr Jennifer Butler. Her subject will be *Working with Marginalised Communities in Today's World: Attitudes and Actions*.