

**Rural Social Work Action Practice
Group Membership Form.**

New member

Membership Renewal

Name _____

Workplace _____

Mailing Address _____

Work Phone No. _____

E-mail _____

Qualifications held _____

*Please find enclosed my cheque / money
order for the amount of:*

\$25.00 for Membership only

\$20.00 for Student Membership only

\$160.00 for Departments/Organisations

*Membership is per financial year-July to
June Includes GST*

Signed _____

Date _____

Are you a member of the AASW? _____

Return to Peter Quin RSWAG President
P.O. Box 238 Orbest Vic. 3888

**RURAL SOCIAL WORKERS ACTION
PRACTICE GROUP**

**Australian Association of Social
Workers**

RSWAPG is a practice group of the AASW (Victorian Branch) established to provide opportunities for rural and remote social workers to contribute to a rural practice perspective and broadening the AASW responses to include rural matters. RSWAPG provides rural representation on the Committee of Management (COM), is involved in varied rural / remote issues that may otherwise be neglected.

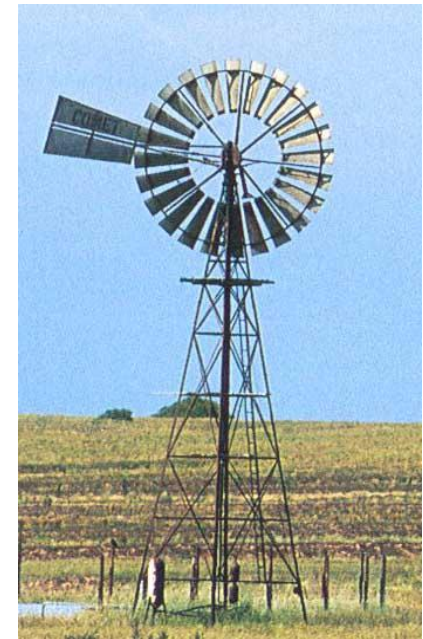
Through communicating issues that include current social policy, economic, social justice, clinical education, and other relevant matters, RSWAPG provides an opportunity for social workers to have input into the process of decision making. Because of diversity within Victoria, RSWAPG also depends on the important input from social work groups across the State. This strengthens RSWAPG involvement in more effectively addressing issues that are raised by these groups.

Membership is welcome from social workers, welfare workers and other professionals interested in rural welfare issues.



RSWAPG

*Rural Social Work
Action Practice Group*



Who can join?

Membership is open to social workers, welfare workers and professionals in the human services area employed on a full time, part time or sessional basis in a rural setting or rural-based organisation. Social workers employed in other areas with an interest in rural issues are also welcome to join for membership. Social work students are also eligible to apply for membership.

Why should you join?

As a rural practitioner, joining RSWAG provides many positive advantages:

- Reduces isolation
- Enables links across the state and interstate
- Keeps abreast of current developments in rural issues
- Provides opportunities to raise issues within various forums
- Provides opportunities to share skills and knowledge with other practitioners
- A positive way to meet other rural practitioners and establish a network
- Provides professional development opportunities
- Developing linkage with membership with New Zealand, Pacific and Asian countries.

AIMS FOR THE RURAL SOCIAL WORK ACTION PRACTICE GROUP

1. Increase the knowledge of rural social work and community service practice issues.
2. Raise the consciousness of rurality as an issue in social work and service delivery to the community.
3. Undertake rural social work / community service research to enable the group to effectively manage social economic and political matters.
4. Have input where feasible into the teaching or rural social work issues in schools of social work and welfare studies.
5. Encourage professional development in rural areas by promoting further training for social workers and other human service workers that is accessible and relevant to their needs.
6. Share information about rural issues, training relevant projects and provide support to practitioners in rural settings.
7. Enable social workers in the field to have access to the AASW Committee of Management (Victorian Branch).
8. Raise and meet a range of matters, which would require an AASW response.

RURAL SOCIAL WORK ACTION PRACTICE GROUP

- Established in 1990.
- Organised nine rural conferences and will continue to do so biennially.
- Actively involved in Continuing Professional Education through funding planning and promoting learning opportunities for rural social work practitioners.
- Provides input into social work and welfare courses.
- Provides the biennial Martin P Butler rural social work scholarship.
- Facilitates network across the state. Has established links with social work groups in the Grampians, Echuca, Murray / Goulbourn Region, Gippsland and Mildura.
- Links with other with other special interest groups which increases the network and enables other areas of expertise and practice be drawn upon.
- Regularly has representatives on the AASW (Committee of Management Vic)
- Called upon regularly by the AASW to respond in regards to rural issues.
- Promotes better awareness of rural practices through conferences and tele-conference networks.
- Is an informal employment brokerage service.
- Currently involved in developments for a National rural social work representative group such as Board of Practice.