

The Australian Rechabite

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Inside

- 2 Editorial
- 3 Letters to the Editor
- 4 New South Wales News
- 6 Victorian News
- 7 150th Celebrations/Region News
- 9 IOR Caravan & Holiday Club
- 10 Tent 2 Celebrations/Region Meeting Dates
- 10 A Toast to Good Health
- 11 Queensland News
- 12 District Executive Report
- 14 District Christmas Party
- 15 Rechabite Social Activities Committee
- 16 Ipswich Tours Gold Coast Cane Fields
- 17 Strictly Personal . . .
- 18 Obituaries
- 20 Medical Evidence
- 20 Alcohol Guidelines Inadequate

*Rechabites:
People who enjoy an
alcohol-free lifestyle*



The Australian **Rechabite**

is the official journal of the
Incorporated
Rechabite Fraternal Societies
in Australia

Keeping Rechabites in touch



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**Peace and Plenty
the reward of
Temperance**



Editorial

THIS magazine has a voice that needs to be heard. Have you shared yours with a friend who could also join our ranks in taking a stand against the inroads of alcohol? Do you need an extra copy to be sent to you regularly. Let your State Secretary know and it can be arranged. There will be no additional cost.

In the last few months it has been encouraging to have members and others who have seen our journal speak highly of its content and presentation. We do try to make it as inviting as possible.

Photographs

On this point may I ask that photographs for inclusion in the magazine be e-mailed to us at the address at the bottom of column 1 on this page. If this is not an option, send good quality copies to the Post Office Box, but please do not write on the back of them with a ball point pen as it indents the face of the photograph and renders it useless. Also, make sure any photo or copy of one, is not folded. We cannot take out the crease. See how good you are, the chin of one of deceased brethren has a crease line through his chin. Sad!

Another point is when taking photos try to avoid back-lighting, such as windows and open doorways, if at all possible, as this often makes the subject very dark and sometimes impossible to lighten without losing features.

Acknowledgement

I want to formally acknowledge Temperance Topic material included in this edition of the magazine. We are kindly permitted to reprint material from "The Globe" magazine, published in the UK by The Institute of Alcohol Studies for Global Alcohol Policy Alliance, London, and four arti-

cles or part thereof have been included. We thank them for this privilege.

More and more, governments are being asked to deal with the harm caused by the use of alcohol – directly by the consumer, but indirectly by – in many cases – the innocent bystander. On page 5 we have been able to reproduce part of an eye-opening article on this subject from The Globe, which speaks volumes.

The Fight Goes On

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Victoria, Inc., trading as WCTU Drug-Free Lifestyles has presented a six page document to the Victorian Government on these and other related issues which we would have included in this magazine but space and cost prevented it.

We must make our voices heard in all halls of government to stop the harm caused by alcohol that no one wants to know about. Encourage others to stand with us.

V (Ian) A Belcher
Editor

Action needed ...

Continued from page 5

The report presents evidence that, measured in terms of Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs), alcohol is the leading global risk factor for 15-59 year olds.

Health Implications

Harmful use of alcohol has many implications on public health.

- Nearly 4% of all deaths are related to alcohol. Most Alcohol-related deaths are caused by problems resulting from injuries, cancer, cardiovascular diseases and liver cirrhosis.

- Globally, 6.2% of all male deaths are related to alcohol, compared to 1.1% of female deaths. One in five men in the Russian Federation and neighbouring countries dies due to alcohol-related causes.

- Globally, 320,000 young people age 15-29 years die annually, from alcohol-related causes, resulting in 9% of all deaths in that age group. ■

Reprinted with permission from "The Globe" Issue 1 2011



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post Office Box 160, REDBANK QLD 4301
or E-mail: raeian@optusnet.com.au

Dear Sir,

The persistence of the illusion of 'responsible drinking' (of alcohol) is both a tribute to the skill of the 'word-smiths' who so publicise, and an indictment of critical judgement. Clearly, the more receivable an idea is, the more likely it is to be believed, and to persist.

Among the the earliest effects of the consumption of alcohol is a progressive and continuing diminution or impairment of critical judgement, a faculty essential to road safety and other 'responsible' action.

Thus 'responsible drinking' is an absolute oxymoron; for, in effect, it says 'the more we consume alcohol, the better are we able to discriminate between wise and unwise activity, even as we progressively become less responsible and less discriminatory'.

Any comparable suggestion that we are progressively better able to cope with increasing blood loss would be laughed to scorn.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Arthur W Hartwig
(M.B. B.S. Univ. Qld 1950)
Nerang Qld

Dear Sir,

There is an opportunity and an urgent need for Christians and other socially aware people to stem the cultural tide of teenage binge drinking and excessive alcohol consumption.

The Editors are not responsible for the views expressed in contributions, articles or communications.

**CLOSING DATE FOR
ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE IS**

15th July 2012

Now is the time for the Church to take the lead and work for bi-partisan political legislation to ban all alcohol advertisements. The Australian government needs to follow the lead of the French government and ban all alcohol advertising in all media and the internet.

This approach avoids the expense of the ineffective counter advertising method that Australian governments periodically employ.

The churches leading the bi-partisan approach can expect support from many quarters, including the Muslim community. However, in regards to the media, with their revenue streams from alcohol advertisements at stake, one could only expect grudging support at best.

The nation of France is well aware of the attraction of alcohol drinks and these products provide a huge source of export revenue, but they see that a ban on advertising is the best way to limit domestic consumption and the resulting economic and human cost that we see increasingly in Australia. Alcohol drink consumption per head in Australia is almost double that in France.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Doak
Lindfield NSW

Dear Sir,

While watching some black and white feature films from the past one notices the number of attractive film stars, both males and female, smoking cigarettes with style.

Together with clever advertising, this must have induced many young people of the time to begin the smoking habit.

In recent years, flavoured drinks with a low alcohol content were promoted as a refreshing drink for teenagers. This proved controversial and the advertising ceased.

Today's television advertising of beer is made to appeal to all ages, with flair. Also young people are now faced with an additional hazard from the invasive illicit drug culture.

Unfortunately adverse peer pressure can lead some teenagers into making unwise decisions leading to possible addiction. Here clear thinking is most essential.

In my opinion, the antidote to these pressures is education aimed at increasing awareness and building character. For example, beginning at an early age, play acting could convey a message of unfair discrimination and fair play or related themes.

One fine example of character education is seen in anti-bullying projects undertaken in many schools. In senior classes increased perception and enlightened judgement exercises could be incorporated in the Humanities Syllabus.

In time, this could also lead to improved human relationships in the community.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur W Glazner PCR
Tent No.73 Sale Vic



KEEP

WRITING

Jottings from Malcolm Campbell

AT the time of writing this year, the places in Queensland which were flooded in 2011 are, at present, closer to a dust bowl, having been without adequate rain.

The main focus for the period covered by this item was the NSW Rechabite Fraternity Annual General Conference held on 15th October 2011 at Berala. Sis Ruth Allen became the State Chief Ruler for 2011-12 and Sis Margaret Campbell the Deputy State Chief Ruler. Congratulations to you both.

Sis Gail Kalaitzis remains on the Executive as a Committee Member. No comment on other switchings. The financial results show a continuing deficit and concern about how long the funds in hand would provide, particularly as interest rates have reduced and income from this source will be less as a result.

Membership continues to decline with no new members for the year. After discussion, I went away thinking children under age 16 would be covered by the family fee. Then, upon signing the pledge, a membership fee of \$20 would be payable, but thereafter again be covered by the household payment. However, I could be wrong. The report of our Tents together with others was given at the Conference.

Other Annual Meetings attended included: Leichhardt and Petersham United Friendly Society Ltd on 1st October, Combined Dispensaries Friendly Society Ltd on 25th October, and the Sydney Member Briefing of Australian Unity on 25th November 2011. The Dalgarno Institute forwarded the Summer 2011 issue of its *Fence Builder Newsletter*. The NSW campus is listed for contact as:

**Post Office Box 672
STRATHFIELD NSW 2135**
with telephone **1300 975 002**
and its e-mail address:

nswdal@dalgarnoinstitute.org.au

2011 - 2012 State Officers

Right to Left: - **The newly elected State Chief Ruler, Sis Ruth Allen, and the Deputy State Chief Ruler, Sis Margaret Campbell, with installing officer, Bro Greg Allen. The State Treasurer, Bro John Dixon is in the background.**



NSW State Committee

Back Row - Left to Right: **Bro Frank Pidgeon, Committee Member; Sis Marcia Pidgeon CM; Bro John Dixon ST; Sis Gail Kalaitzis CM; Bro Greg Allen Installing Officer**

Front Row - L to R: **Sis Jeanette Sheldon CM; Sis Margaret Campbell DSCR; Sis Ruth Allen SCR; and Bro Paul Sheldon, State Secretary**

Sadly, with the passing of Sis Nellie Jean Horrocks on 21st December 2011 at age 97, I attended the Service of Thanksgiving at the Bardwell Park Uniting Church on 30th December 2011, with Rev Graham J. Olsen presiding.

Sis Nellie (aka Jean) married Bro Stanley R. Horrocks at the Leichhardt Methodist Church in 1938 and then joined the Rechabite Order. Bro Stanley had been a Rechabite all his life and I attended his funeral Service at Bardwell Park Uniting Church in 1995.

They had been involved with the church from its inception when it was a Methodist Church. Their two daughters did not maintain their interest in the Order. Regretfully, interest by Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren has not resulted in membership.

Our Chief Ruler, Sis Helen Hanna has been unwell.

Malcolm Campbell

Secretary – Excelsior Tent No.8
Campsie Tent No.18
Tel: (02) 9558 9800

Action needed to reduce health impact of harmful alcohol use

THE latest edition of the *Global status report on alcohol and health* has been published by the World Health Organisation (WHO). It analyses available evidence on alcohol consumption and provides data in over 100 individual country profiles.

The WHO says that wider implementation of policies is needed to save lives and reduce the health impact of harmful alcohol drinking. The *Global status report* explains that, worldwide, harmful use of alcohol results in the death of 2.5 million people annually, causes illness and injury to many more, and increasingly affects younger generations and drinkers in developing countries.

Harmful use of alcohol is defined as excessive use to the point that it causes damage to health and often includes adverse social consequences.

"Many countries recognise the serious public health problems caused by the harmful use of alcohol and have taken steps to prevent the health and social burdens and treat those in need of care. But clearly much more needs to be done to reduce the loss of life and suffering associated with harmful alcohol use," says Dr Ala Alwan, WHO Assistant Director-General for Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health.

The report also recognises that there is a broad range of people adversely affected by the drinking of others. It presents Australian data to show that around 1% of the population was hospitalised due to another person's drinking in the course of a year, and about the same proportion suffered a domestic assault related to alcohol, according to police records. But much larger numbers report being negatively impacted by somebody

ON 5th December four members of the State Committee (John Dixon, Gail Kalaitzis, Frank and Marcia Pidgeon) travelled to Newcastle to join the members for their last meeting for 2011.

We were welcomed to a most interesting meeting which was preceded

by a wonderful display of 'William IV' maritime memorabilia by Bro Ted Septom who spoke about his collection.

A delicious Christmas afternoon tea was served after the meeting. It's always a pleasure to visit Newcastle Tent. ■



State Officers and Members at Newcastle Tent Meeting.



Tom Septom with 'William IV' display

Range and magnitude of alcohol's harm to others in Australia in 2008 Records based

Deaths due to another's drinking	367
Hospitalisations due to another's drinking	13,699
Substantiated child protection cases involving a caregiver's drinking	19,443
Alcohol-related domestic assault in police records	24,581
Alcohol-attributable assaults in police records	69,433

else's drinking in the work place, household or public place, and by a family member, friend, stranger or someone not well known to the victim. More than two thirds of the survey respondents were adversely

affected by someone else's drinking in the last year. The drinking of a stranger negatively impacted a total of 10.5 million people.

Concluded on page 2 col.3 ►



150th Anniversary Conference

THE Annual Conference was held in Ballarat on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th October, 2011 with all meetings being held at the Learmonth Bowling Club. The Conference was held over two half days with a President's Night on the Tuesday evening.

On the Tuesday afternoon, Bro John Flett addressed us telling us many things that had taken place over our 150 years of IOR in Victoria. It was a very interesting talk, one that many of us could have listened to for more than the three quarters of hour allotted. John has a great knowledge of our IOR history and we appreciated his time and expertise on this subject.

After dinner on the Tuesday night we were entertained by three ladies who played wind instruments, which was greatly enjoyed by all who attended.

The new **State Committee** elected at this Conference is:

Bro Graeme Hicks

- State President

Bro Don Legge

- Deputy State President

Bro Ron Pratt

- Past State President

Bro Allan Clark

- State Officer

Bro David McGee

- State Officer

Sis Gwenda Martyn

- State Officer/State Secy

Bro Innes Russell

- State Treasurer

Bro Alan Pell was the retiring member of the State Committee having just completed the year as Past State President. He was presented with a collar in appreciation of his time spent on the Committee.

A Certificate of Appreciation was also presented to Sis Dorothy Horn for her work as President of the Holiday Club for many years and a 50-Year Service Badge was awarded to Sis Gwenda Martyn.

As the oldest delegate attending the Conference, Sis Thelma Dyer was given the honour of cutting the special 150th Anniversary Cake.



Bro Graeme Hicks, State President (left) and Bro Don Legge, Deputy State President (right), who were elected to office at the recent Victorian State Conference.

There was an overwhelming agreement in the discussion groups that the Conference continue in its present form and that it served a useful purpose.

Temperance Resolution:

The following Temperance Resolution was passed by the Conference:

"An impressive percentage of Australians indicate that they have made a choice to follow an alcohol free way of life. At the recent Victorian Rechabite 150th Anniversary Conference, members, accepting the current Cancer Council position that alcohol use is a proven cause of cancers, resolved to enthusiastically continue to encourage consideration by people of all ages, particularly our young men and women to refrain entirely from alcohol consumption, or reduce current intake to no more than two standard drinks a day."

The Next Conference will be at **Nagambie in October 2012.**

From the State President

GREETINGS to all our fellow Rechabites. Now that we all have recovered from the seasonal festivities and have had time to relax and settle back to our every day duties it is pleasing to read the following item in the media:-

NEW ALCOHOL LAWS

"New road safety laws introduced by the Victorian Government mean anyone caught drinking alcohol while driving will now be fined \$244. The changes also make it an offence to drink alcohol while accompanying a learner driver, with a fine of \$1,220 attached. The laws were introduced in parliament in December and passed through under The Road Safety Amendment Act (Drinking While Driving) to start on December 14."



Unfortunately no harsher penalties were imposed upon Learner and P-Plate drivers as it was considered that the current penalties are strict enough. However, it is pleasing to note that at long last authorities are waking up and doing a little to combat the excessive drinking habits of people whilst driving. An interesting item in my local paper stated that in 2011, fifty (50) pedestrians were killed (State wide) whilst under the influence of alcohol - a very sad state of affairs indeed.

Some sporting clubs are imposing stricter rules on their members as regards the consumption of alcohol both on the premises and when representing the club. This is a good move and one we, as Rechabites, should encourage and lobby other clubs to follow suit.

With all the many advertisements on T.V. and other means, that encourage teenagers to drink, the task we have of getting our message of "An Alcohol Free Lifestyle" over to young people in particular, is a very challenging one indeed. How can we make our voices heard loud and clear during 2012? A thought that I shall leave with each and everyone reading this magazine.

Graeme Hicks
Victorian State President

150th Celebrations

THE Anniversary Celebrations were all very successful and attended by many more members than expected, which was most gratifying. We celebrated the 150 years of IOR in Victoria at each Region meeting and also at the State Conference.

The first Region Meeting was **Region 9** (Kyabram), followed by the State Conference, then **Region 7** (Harcourt) where a Service Badge was presented to Bro Ralph Michell, then **Region 6** (Morwell Gippsland) where a Certificate of Appreciation was pre-

sented to Bro Gordon Smith for his many years as Secretary of Region 9, the Region 4/5 (Mordialloc) and lastly **Region 1** (Wantirna).

A special cake was cut at each of these meetings and enjoyed by all who attended. Sis Gwenda Martyn made and decorated all the cakes used.

Everyone agreed that the special medallion struck is really lovely and looks very nice on the dark blue lanyard. It is something that will be treasured for many years to come.



150th Anniversary Medallion

A Past Chief Ruler's collar and a long blue sash has been given (on loan) to each Tent and Region that is meeting so that they can be used at meetings and admired by members. The State Committee thought it appropriate for these collars to be used instead of just being stored away.

A large display of memorabilia was at each function and was admired by those present.

We now look forward to what the future holds for IOR in Victoria and indeed in Australia. We must think positively for the future because who knows what it will bring. ■



Part of the Memorabilia Display

Region News

Region 4/5 (Mordialloc)

THERE were about 30 Rechabite Members present at the 150th Anniversary Luncheon held at the Mordialloc Presbyterian Church Hall on Sunday 13th November 2011.

We were all very sorry that our Regional President, Bro David McGee and Sister Win were unable to attend owing to Bro McGee being in hospital. We all wish him a speedy recovery and that he will soon be back home again.

After a beautiful lunch and much chatter enjoying the fellowship and catching up with one another, our State Secretary, Sis Gwenda Martyn spoke about our years of involvement in our work of fighting alcohol. She spoke of the wonderful service given by former members, which brought back many good memories to me of very dear friends now departed.

I was very honoured to be asked to cut the Anniversary Cake and I must apologise for not congratulating those responsible for the preparation of and for looking after us at this beautiful luncheon. I should also have thanked Bro Alan Clarke and our Region Secretary, Bro Noel Robilliard, for doing such a good job and arranging this celebration.

I was delighted to receive the lovely pendant to commemorate our 150th Anniversary of Rechabitism in Victoria.

Stella Johnson PCR
Melbourne Tent No.1

Region 6 (Gippsland)

TO celebrate the 150th Anniversary of IOR in Victoria, Region 6 marked the occasion with the cutting of a special Anniversary Cake by our oldest member present, Sis Mavis
Continued over ▶▶▶

Coleman, who is over 90 years of age. A regular attendee of our Region Meetings, she has been with us since they first started.



Sis Mavis Coleman

Our Region President, Bro Ron Pratt, who is also the State Past President, welcomed the State President, Bro Graeme Hicks and State Officer Allan Clark and his wife, Sis Judy, as special guests for the day.

The Morwell Neighbourhood House provided us with a delicious lunch after our meeting. The memorabilia we brought was of great interest to all those who could remember the particular items on display.

After lunch we enjoyed a talk and picture show from one of our members who had worked overseas for many years in China and England. It is interesting to see pictures that are other than the usual touristy ones that we often see.

Region 6 is quite strong with members coming from a distance to attend. All in attendance were really happy with the Special Medallion we had struck and found it a wonderful addition to any historical items they may have.

Our next meeting is
Saturday 28th April 2012 at
Morwell Neighbourhood House.
Please contact

Gwenda Martyn on 5177 8144
if you would like to attend.

Gwenda Martyn
Region Secretary

Region 7 (Central Victoria)

OUR meeting, held on Sunday 16th October, was on this occasion, held in conjunction with the 150th year celebrations of the IOR Victoria District. It was followed by a light luncheon in the Harcourt Recreation Centre with 31 present including members of the Victoria Rechabite Committee. The Grace recited by the Secretary was the same one used for the Centenary Dinner of London District on 24th October 1970.

Several presentations were made during the afternoon. Bro G Hicks, State President gave a short history of service to the Order by Bro Ralph Mitchell and presented him with a Long Service Badge.

Brother Ralph joined the Juniors a couple of month short of the 'legal age' at *Sutton Tent*, Long Gully, so as of today he has been a Rechabite member for 84 years!

Bro Innes Russell also presented the 150th Year Medal to many of those present.

The attendance record including apologies were accepted as circulated and the minutes of the previous meeting were quickly read and received to save time. It was very pleasing to have members attending for the first time and several back with us again after an absence.

Sadly, however, the Region President had to report the deaths of three participating members. They were:

Bro Bert Walker of Maryborough,

ex Essendon on September 3;

Bro Lyle Truscott of Eaglehawk,

ex Bendigo on October 4; and

Sis Dorothy James of Newmarket.

All stood for a minutes silence in respect of the deceased members.

Bro McGee SO, reported on the Annual Conference just concluded in the previous week at Learmonth, speaking of the worthwhile discussions as well as the Dinner and Musical Evening that followed. He was pleased to see that this year there was an election required to fill a

vacant position, that of Deputy State President.

Bro Pratt PSP, told of the discussion groups regrading future Annual Conferences and the results that will give the Committee material to think about.

Sis G Martyn, State Secretary, spoke of the IOR Touring Club, of two trips per year and the last one that was to Apollo Bay.

The Committee had brought to the meeting a beautifully decorated birthday cake made by Sis Martyn to be shared by all. (The cake was lovely also.) Our most senior member in attendance, Sis Hazel Martin, was asked to 'cut the cake'. A lot of memorabilia was also brought to be on display.



Sis Hazel Martin

All in all, it was lovely day, but a word of advice: would all Spouses/Co-drivers carry a duplicate set of keys for their vehicle.

In closing the meeting, Sis Buckingham said the next Region 7 Meeting would be on **Sunday,**

18th March 2012 at 12.30pm at Harcourt. At that meeting we will have to consider the appointment of new Office holders for the Region. Please give serious consideration to this matter.

Again, please advise Bro John if you will be attending our next meeting by ringing 9306 4968 or 5446 8439.

John Flett
Region Secretary

IOR Caravan & Holiday Club

LEAVING “Salford Park” on Monday 24th October, the IOR Holiday Club set out on a five day tour of Cooma, with 32 travellers on board. Our coach driver, Ken Hanson told us he had at one time been a Rechabite.

We travelled through Lilydale, then on to Melba Highway to Yea, our first stop. It was good to see the regrowth of the forest, so devastated in the 2009 fires, but sad to see so many trees that have died.

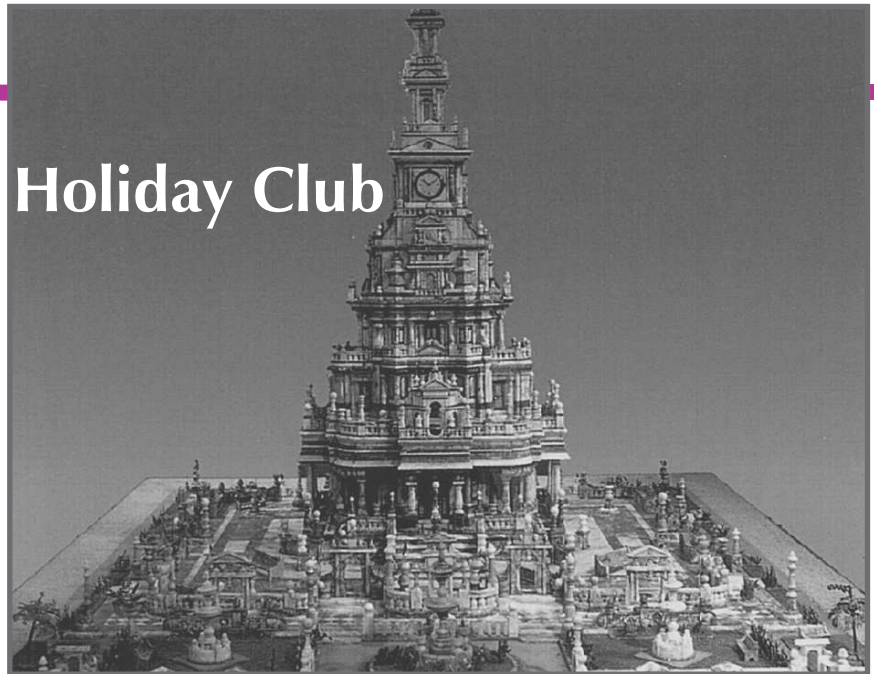
We were very impressed with the beautiful mural on the wall of the comfort station at Yea, which told the story of Yea and district. From Yea it was on to the Hume Highway to Seymour, travelling to Holbrook for lunch near the Big Submarine – with a small submarine nearby. Then it was on to Gundagai, our overnight stop.

The next morning, we visited the Information Centre to view the superb marble model of a cathedral, and also a replica of the Altar of St. Marie’s Cathedral, Paris, made by Frank Rusconi. The Cathedral model took 28 years to build and consists of 21,000 pieces of marble, using 28 different varieties of marble, all of which came from New South Wales. Mr Rusconi was the sculptor of The Dog on the Tuckerbox.

From there it was on to Tumut, travelling into the town through a long avenue of poplars. We visited the Broom Factory; the only broom factory left in Australia. A few of our travellers purchased brooms here. (This was not to question Ken’s ability to return us to Melbourne.)

Travelling the Snowy Mountains Highway, we went through Talbingo, the birthplace of the authoress Miles Franklin, and made a whistle stop at Tumut 3 Power Station, but it was not open to visitors.

We drove on through Kiandra, a once thriving gold mining town of 1,500



Rusconi’s Masterpiece in Marble at Gundagai

miners. A stop was made at Adaminaby, a pretty little town near Lake Eucumbene, then on to our destination, Cooma.

During the afternoon, we were taken on an interesting tour of Cooma, with a local guide Richard Mould. We were told Cooma was first settled in 1826 with the railway coming to Cooma in 1888. Cooma has some lovely old buildings; in particular, the churches of various denominations.

Richard explained that Cooma has just come out of an 18-year drought, and so very few sheep or cattle were seen. Hundreds of manna gums died in this drought. He also told us that many descendants of the original settlers were still in Cooma and that in the early days of the settlement, each time a family had a child, they were allotted another 640 acres of land.

We passed through Berridale and another small town on the Snowy, named Dalgety. This town was put forward for the Australian Capital Territory, but was defeated by one vote, with Canberra being the winner. From there we went to Jindabyne, which is a new town, as the original Jindabyne (Aboriginal for ‘Valley’) was drowned by the Snowy Mountains Hydro Scheme in the 60s.

Our next stop was Thredbo and we were able to spend some time seeing this pretty little alpine town. The road to Thredbo was lined with willows to absorb water; each tree could absorb

80 gallons (364 litres) a day, but then, the CSIRO, saying they were not native, poisoned them. This has caused landslides including the disaster of 30th July 1997, in which 18 people died.

During the afternoon we travelled to Khancoban, sometimes on roads that are not usually available to coaches. Khancoban is another pretty little town, especially in the autumn, when the beauty of the deciduous trees can be seen in all their splendour.

On Thursday, we saw Lake Eucumbene from another site. It is a huge reservoir that holds nine times more water than the Sydney Harbour and is one of the main water storages for the Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers farm irrigation areas.

We travelled home on the Monaro Highway to Bombala and across the border to Cann River. The countryside all the way was just beautiful; the result of drought breaking rains.

Joining the Princes Highway at Cann River we proceeded back to Melbourne and the end of yet another great tour.

Mavis Kennedy

OUR NEXT TOUR

Join us for 5 days from Monday 26th to Friday 30th March, 2012 as we go to Ballarat and surrounding districts.

Tent 2 Celebrations

THE Bentleigh/Elsternwick Tent No.2 joined in the 150th Anniversary Celebrations of the Victorian District of IOR by holding an open Tent Meeting on 23rd November 2011 to hear Shane Varcoe of the Dalgarno Institute speak on 'Alcohol and Me'.

After briefly speaking on the origins of the IOR in the United Kingdom, why the name 'Rechabite' and showing off some of the Order's regalia to the assembled group of IOR Members and members of the public, Bro Allan Clark introduced and handed over the meeting to Shane, our guest speaker.

For forty-five minutes or more he kept us spellbound with facts and figures relating to alcohol-caused problems, which were now being much debated in the Australian community and with Dalgarno's work in educating and advocating an alcohol-free lifestyle.

A couple of interesting points made; that the cost to the Australian Government in financial terms of alcohol-fuelled problems relative to the income received from alcohol taxes is becoming so great that the authorities are being forced to deal with the issue.

The second point was that the major-

ity of Australians appear to accept that our society has a social problem of self abuse with alcohol, but they don't think of it as their problem. It is someone else's.

After a time of discussion, afternoon tea was served and enjoyed.

Allan Clark
Secretary

Region Meeting Dates for 2012 - Victoria

Date	Region	Contact & Tel. No.	District
February Sunday 12th	4/5	N Robilliard 9580 8614	Mordialloc
March Wednesday 21st	9	L Jukes 5763 5584	Kyabram
March Sunday 18th	7	J Flett 9306 4968	Harcourt
April Saturday 28th	6	G Martyn 5177 8144	Morwell
May Sunday 6th	4/5	N Robilliard 9580 8614	Mordialloc
May Thursday 17th	1	B Chandler 9879 0357	Wantirna
September Wednesday 19th	9	L Jukes 5763 5584	Kyabram
October Sunday 21st	7	J Flett 9306 4968	Harcourt
October Saturday 27th	6	G Martyn 5177 8144	Morwell
November Sunday 11th	4/5	N Robilliard 9580 8614	Mordialloc
November Thursday 15th	1	B Chandler 9879 0357	Wantirna

A Toast to Good Health
... but leave out the Wine

RED wine's reputation for preventing heart attacks has come under fire from health experts who have declared every drink of alcohol can do you damage.

The Alcohol Policy Coalition has challenged the red wine "myth" and recent international research showing that light drinkers are at less risk of heart disease than abstainers.

The coalition cites studies finding that the harms from alcohol are likely to outweigh any benefits. "Every drinking occasion contributes to the lifetime risk of harm from alcohol," its report says.

The coalition, whose members include the Australian Drug Foundation, the Heart Foundation and the Cancer Council of Victoria, have released the report to coincide with the United Nations meeting to promote international efforts to counter

non-communicable diseases. Alcohol plays a significant role in the rise of such diseases, which include cancer, diabetes and heart disease.

The coalition is also using the report to step up pressure on the government to rethink its refusal to give serious consideration to the reform of alcohol taxation at the next month's (last February) tax summit.

The chief executive of the Victorian Heart Foundation, Kathy Bell, said it did not recommend red wine or other alcoholic drinks to prevent or treat cardiovascular disease, cancer or liver cirrhosis.

"After reviewing all the scientific evidence, it appears any positive effects of alcohol in reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease have been hugely overestimated," she said. "In particular, red wine has no special protective qualities." ■

TEMPERANCE TOPICS

THE HOTEL BAR

It's a **bar** to Heaven, a door to Hell;
Whoever named it, named it well!

A **bar** to manliness and wealth;
A door to ruin and broken health!

A **bar** to honour, pride and fame;
A door to sin and grief and shame!

A **bar** to hope, a **bar** to prayer;
a door to darkness and despair!

A **bar** to an honoured and useful life;
a door to brawling senseless strife!

A **bar** to all that's true and brave;
A door to every drunkards grave!

A **bar** to joy that home imparts;
A door to tears and aching hearts!

It's a **bar** to Heaven, a door to Hell;
Whoever named it, named it well!!

We are aware that this was published last year but have been asked to reprint it. Ed.



District Chief Ruler's Report

YOUR Executive continues to meet on a regular basis to carry out the functions necessary to keep our Order 'ticking along'.

Our membership of the National Alliance for Action on Alcohol (NAAA) continues and we receive regular updates from the committee on their activities keeping this most important issue to the forefront.

Our website hit a few snags but we are currently working hard to get it up and running shortly.

New guidelines have been circulated to all Tents regarding *Life Membership* and *Meritorious Service Awards* nominations. We look forward to receiving any nominations you may think worthy of these Awards.

The Annual General Meeting was held in October 2011 and you will be able to read the Annual Report on page 12 of this magazine.

On behalf of the District Executive, I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and look forward to 2012.

Yours fraternally,

Margaret Andrews
District Chief Ruler



District Chief Ruler's Address to the AGM

MY first year as your District Chief Ruler has been a most enjoyable one. We, as an Executive, have implemented some strategies to further enhance our involvement in reducing alcohol-related problems in the community.

In July, we were accepted by the National Alliance for Action on Alcohol (NAAA) to join their organisation. The NAAA is a coalition of health and community organisations from across Australia working towards reducing harm from alcohol and creating a healthier Australia. We are proud to have taken this step as it provides a solid foundation to continue the work started in 1872 and assists us to achieve one of our objectives to promote voluntary total abstinence from alcohol and other drugs of dependence through temperance education and other activities in the community within Queensland.

The Australian Medical Association hosted an Alcohol Tax Forum in Canberra on 28th September 2011 on behalf of the National Alliance for Action on Alcohol (NAAA). Leading public health and not-for-profit organisations and experts, and Federal Members of Parliament attended the forum to discuss reforms that are needed in Australia's system of alcohol taxation to reduce the significant harms that can result from excess alcohol consumption. The Forum's outcomes propose reform priorities for consideration ahead of the Government's Tax Forum which was held on 4-5 October 2011. I table a Communique received from NAAA forum regarding the outcomes and agreements reached.

Continuing to fulfil our Objects, the District Executive recently resolved to provide some financial assistance to organisations working in the fields of temperance education and other related activities. Drug Arm Australasia, Teen Challenge Qld and Life Education Queensland were recipients of donations from the Order to continue their work.

Another innovation from the District Executive has been the establishment of a website which will show details of the Rechabite history, current and past issues of ***The Australian Rechabite*** and other information of interest to members. The website should be up and running shortly.

The wonderful work of Bro 'Ian and Sis Rae Belcher continues to produce a quality magazine, ***The Australian Rechabite***, twice a year for your enjoyment. It is interesting to see what activities Rechabites throughout Australia enjoy. Thanks go to these two members for all their good work.

It was with regret that the District Executive placed *Invincible Tent No 3* on the Inactive Tent list. Thank you to Bro Roy and Sis Olive Turner for continuing this Tent for as long as they could. We do hope to see members from this Tent at functions for many years to come.

Once again this year, the District Executive has resolved to post calendars to members on a one per family arrangement. Look out for your calendar towards the end of the year.

The District Executive noted since Census night, that there are five members of the Order who have celebrated, or will be celebrating, their 100th birthday in 2011 and 2012. We extend our best wishes to these members. What a wonderful achievement.

The Order's Christmas Party will again be held this year at the Uniting Church Hall, Cracknell Road,
Continued page 13 . . . ▶▶▶

Report of the District Executive Independent Order of Rechabites Queensland District No. 87 Inc.

1. PREAMBLE

THIS report has been prepared by the District Executive to cover those matters which the Rules place under the control and supervision of the Executive.

2. MEMBERSHIP

Prior to the membership accounts for 2011 and in accordance with Rule 10.4 (c), all original members who had not paid their 2010 membership fee, were terminated and purged from the membership system.

The membership system will again be purged prior to the despatch of the 2012 membership accounts.

2011 Wall calendars were provided to members last year, one to a family (so far as could be accurately determined) and 2012 calendars are being provided this year. Each family also receives *The Australian Rechabite* twice a year.

3. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The financial statement for our first reportable year has already been presented to the meeting however, for the information of members, balance of funds as at 30 September 2011 was \$112,632.98.

4. BY-LAWS & RITUAL REVIEW

There have been no Rule changes made or proposed. Some minor changes were made to the RSAC By-laws and these were provided to the Tents and Committee by circular 013_2011.

5. RECHABITE SOCIAL ACTIVITY COMMITTEE

A report on the activities of the Rechabite Social Activities Committee

and its sub committees will be given under the miscellaneous business item on the agenda which will also include the election of office bearers for the next twelve months.

6. THE AUSTRALIAN RECHABITE

The Australian Rechabite continues to be the main communication vehicle of the three Rechabite associations. All States have given approval for further editions with a further review to be considered down the track but not subject to any specific timeframe.

We again thank Bro and Sis Belcher for their efforts in bringing the popular magazine to production as well as extending our appreciation to those few contributors who have ensured that Queensland is well represented in the pages.

7. WWW. THE RECHABITES INTO THE FUTURE.COM.AU

The District Executive, together with the Rechabite fraternities in New South Wales and Victoria and possibly The Australian Rechabite Foundation are currently working to provide an internet capability. This will enable members to access the latest information from each District and, through a secure server, make membership payments and donations.

Links to organisations with similar ideals as ours will be provided as well, through internet search engines such as Google, Yahoo and Bing, to enable our story to be accessed by all other users of the internet.

8. ASSOCIATIONS

Bro Henderson continues as a director of Drug Arm Foundation and Drug Arm Australasia and the executive and finance committees of both organisations. Bro Cook resigned

from both boards effective 31 July 2011.

The Executive is proud to announce that in June 2011, the Association (Order) was accepted into membership of the National Alliance for Action on Alcohol, a representative lobby group seeking to highlight at the highest levels not only the dangers of alcohol and alcohol abuse but the significant cost to public health.

9. THE AUSTRALIAN RECHABITE FOUNDATION

The Executive occasionally receives enquiries from members asking about the Foundation and consider it appropriate to make some information available to the members.

The Australian Rechabite Foundation is a charitable trust registered with the Australian Taxation Office as a Private Ancillary Fund. An ancillary fund is a fund established and maintained under a will or instrument of trust solely for the purpose of providing money, property or benefits to Deductible Gift Recipients (DGRs) or the establishment of DGRs.

The aim of the Foundation is to build knowledge of the harmful effects of alcohol and to inform of lifestyle choices that enable, encourage and support change within communities and individuals.

The Foundation's policy on grants is to fund a mixture of research and community action grants and will issue periodic calls for grant applications, with the amount disbursed determined by the funds available and the merits of the applications.

Groups applying must have DGR status, as required by the Foundation's structure and tax status, and be involved in areas consistent with the mission statement.

In order to ensure that the heritage of

the Rechabites is retained and that approaches related to the concept of temperance and education on the harmful effects of alcohol can find new expression in the future, the Foundation will require ongoing support.

The District Treasurer, Bro Peter Henderson will, as Secretary of the Foundation, provide an update on current grants during the meeting.

10. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

This year, the Executive decided to expand our charitable base by including organizations with a philosophy similar, not necessarily identical, to ours.

Consequently, donations were made to Teen Challenge and Life Education, each organization receiving \$2,000 while the annual donation to Drug Arm Australasia was increased to \$3,000 to help fund a DVD education program.

11. TENT REPORT

During the year, the District Executive visited David Livingstone and Annerley Tents in June and Hope of Ipswich in July.

Of course the closure of *Invincible Tent No. 3* was a setback, however, Bro Turner must be congratulated on his efforts in keeping the Tent functioning for as long as he did.

12. 2010 CHRISTMAS PARTY

The 2010 Christmas party was well attended by 43 adults and 19 children. Obviously the torrential summer storm just as the party was about to start did not deter too many. Thankfully, the right number of children turned up for the pre-booked visit from Santa Claus.

Entertainment was again provided by a solo artist, John Cornelius.

The 2010 Christmas party resulted in a net cost of \$800.01 against a net budget of \$700.00.

As has already been advised by Tent Circular, the 2011 Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, 10 December 2011 in the Cracknell Road hall. Again thanks to the members of David Livingstone and Annerley Tents who quickly agreed to the request of the District Executive to host this most important function in our social calendar. A \$5.00 charge will apply to all persons other than school age and under children.

13. CONCLUSION

The Executive again sincerely thanks those few but staunch Rechabites who keep the spirit, the principles and the heritage alive.

M. J. Andrews D.C.R.

C. M. Kilah D.D.R.

N. R. Andrews I.P.D.C.R.

R. A. Cook D.S.

P. G. Henderson D.T.

J. F. MacDonald D.O.

G. M. Harbottle D.O.

For a copy of the 2011 Annual Financial Statements, send a \$1.20 stamped, self addressed envelope to

The Secretary,

6 Colette Street

WAKERLEY QLD 4154

or request a copy by e-mail to
rlcook@bigpond.net.au.

District Chief Ruler's Address to the AGM

Continued from page 11

Annerley on Saturday the 10th December 2011 from 6.00p.m. We look forward to seeing as many members as possible at this event. If you wish to attend, please notify me by 3rd December for catering purposes.

In closing, I wish to place on record my appreciation for the support of my fellow District Executive members since our last Annual District Council and particularly to Bro Bob Cook for his continuing care of our Order in Queensland and to Bro Peter Henderson for watching over our finances. A thank you also to all members who support Tent meetings and the social functions organised by the RSAC.

I look forward to promoting the IOR in Queensland into the future.

Sis Margaret Andrews
District Chief Ruler

No longer a nation of beer drinkers!

BEER consumption in Australia has fallen gradually but consistently since the 1960s, while wine and spirits consumption has increased, according to figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

At the start of the 1960s, beer made up three quarters (76%) of all pure alcohol consumed, but in recent years this has fallen to under half (44%).

Wine has increased threefold over the same time (12% of all pure alcohol

consumed in 1960-61 to 36% in 2008-09) while spirits have nearly doubled (12% to 20%).

In 1960-61 Australians consumed the equivalent of 9.3 litres of pure alcohol per person, climbing to a high 13.1 litres in 1974-75. Consumption started to fall in the early 80s, hitting a low of 9.8 litres in 1995-96. Since then, it has crept up again to 10.4 litres in 2008-09, which is still a fifth lower than the 1974-75 peak.

In terms of volume, Australia's annual

beer consumption increased sharply in the decade after 1944-45, doubling from 77 litres per person to 155 litres in 1954-55. In 2008-09 Australians consumed an average 107 litres of beer. Wine was at its lowest after the war, at only 7 litres per person and has increased to 29 litres in 2008-09.

Further details are available in Apparent Consumption of Alcohol: Extended Time Series, 1944-45 to 2008-09 (cat. No. 4307.0.55.002).

From "The Globe" Issue 1 2011



Queensland District Christmas Party

THE 2011 Queensland District Christmas Party was hosted by the members of *David Livingstone Tent No. 5* and *Annerley Tent No. 67*, on behalf of the District Executive, on Saturday 10th December in the Cracknell Road Uniting Church hall, Annerley.

Thanks to Red Rooster and the invaluable help of the Tent members, a delightful chicken salad, followed by fruit salad, jelly and plenty of ice-cream was provided to 47 members, family and friends for the cost of \$5.00 adults with school age children free.

Entertainment was this year provided by solo artist, Patti Eyre.

After the meal, we were entertained with a variety of Christmas songs and carols as well as some popular music which saw some children and adults up dancing.

Our sincere thanks to those who worked so hard to make the evening a great success. ■

Gabriella & Luca having fun



The Man in Red!



*What did Santa say to
Bethany Harbottle?*

Although overall numbers were down this year, the visit from Father Christmas saw eleven excited children (and one excited mother Kathryn Nealon) receive their gifts.



*Kathryn Nealon receives
her child's gift from Santa.*



*Above L to R George Williams, Cora Williams,
Liz Jordan, Del McIvor, Relma Laverty,
Ian Belcher, Norm McIvor*



*L to R Keith Tune, Roy Turner, Olive Turner,
Eileen Devereux, Cec Devereux, Melissa Tune, Jean Tune*



@ Bob Cook Report.

Rechabite Social Activities Committee

THE RSAC continues to meet, be it mostly by email or phone, on a regular basis. It is becoming more difficult as time goes by to keep this valuable part of the Order functioning but another year has been planned.

At our meeting held on November 19, 2011, it was resolved that there would be a modified Interdistrict bowls competition and that only one venue would be required to the competitions – either Ipswich or Gatton.

Interdistrict Bowls

It has now been decided that the only venue for Interdistrict bowls competitions for 2012 will be held on Saturday 21st April 2012 in the Lutheran Church Hall in Gatton commencing at 10.00 a.m. If you require further details, please contact Margaret Andrews on 3208 1848.

Household Fair

It was also resolved to hold the **Household Fair** on **Saturday 8th September 2012**. Of course, details of this function will be advised closer to the time.

An enjoyable day was held on 30th July 2011 in Gatton. The winners of the Juster/Nalder were Bro Anderson and Bro Turner (sub) from Gatton, with Sis Jarvis and Bro Andersen from Brisbane 1 as the runners-up.

The Household Fair on the 10th September 2011 was held at the Uniting Church Hall, Cracknell Road, Annerley. Overall the entries were down but 35 members and friends attended during the day. This year, an afternoon tea was held in place of the usual dinner and was well received by members.

Bus Trips

On 11th June 2011, a bus trip was

arranged by the Ipswich Rechabite Social Club to Kingscliff. A very enjoyable day was had by the 47 members and friends who attended. Another bus trip on 1st September 2011 was organised by the Ipswich Rechabite Social Club to Jacob's Well and surrounds. Another full bus and another enjoyable day.

Coming Up

Our next year will present some challenges in carrying out our usual activities. Members playing bowls have decreased and it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Games Director to organise the teams. An example of this was to be seen at the HHF when the Lady's and Gent's singles were changed to open competitions, i.e. not representing districts, so competitions could be staged.

The Honorary office Bearers and Executive Committee of the RSAC are as follows:

Bro Noel Andrews
Chairman/Asst Games Director

Sis Margaret Andrews
Secretary/Games Director

Sis Glenys Harbottle
Treasurer

Bro George Williams
Executive Committee

Bro Keith Tune
Executive Committee

We thank all tents and members for their support during the year and look forward to their support in 2012. Thank you also to the office bearers and Executive Members for their support and as usual thank you to the District Executive.

Margaret Andrews
Secretary



Alcohol Guidelines Inadequate

... Continued from page 20

and breast. Based on the evidence, "there is no level of alcohol consumption for which cancer risk is nil".

"On the whole, alcohol is considered an avoidable risk factor for cancer incidence and, more generally, for the global burden of disease," stated Dr Paule Latino-Martel, French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), with co-authors from the French Institute for Prevention and Health Education (INPES) and the French National Cancer Institute (INCa). "Although drinking guidelines used in the context of a brief intervention have proven effective" to help people who have problems, due to their drinking habits, to reduce their alcohol consumption, they are inadequate to prevent all types of risks, including cancer risks.

Therefore, "their application to the general population should be revisited," write the authors. Canadian guidelines for "low-risk" consumption, set in 1997 at 9 drinks per week for women and 14 per week for men, may be modified when Canada releases its first national guidelines later in 2011.

"Although guidelines are currently practical for health professionals and health authorities, the time has come to consider them using a scientific basis independent of any cultural and economic considerations and to discuss the eventualities of abandoning them," conclude the authors. "Considering our current knowledge of the relationship between consumption and cancer risk, national health authorities should be aware of the possible legal consequences of promoting drinking guidelines that allow consumers to believe that drinking at low or moderate levels is without risk. ■

The full analysis can be downloaded from:

<http://www.cmaj.ca/site/embargo/cmaj110363pdf>

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"The Globe" Issue 3 2011

Ipswich tours Gold Coast Cane Fields



OUR reporter, Norm McIvor, being unwell, missed out of this most interesting tour, but we thank our Secretary, Cora Williams, for giving us a few glimpses of what was a most interesting and informative day.



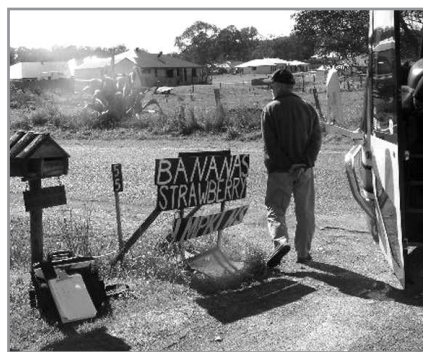
Commentator James Herbst

The Rechabite Social Club, Ipswich, enjoyed a day trip to the Northern Gold Coast Green Belt in September. Guide and commentator, James Herbst, a 5th generation local, boarded our coach to give a most interesting description of the area.

We were surprised to find that a lot of sugar cane is still growing there. James revealed Aboriginal stories as well as the early European exploration much

of which involved early German settlers. The local history covers nearly 200 years in time. We were given an insight into the industries of the Rocky Point Sugar Mill (Australia's only privately owned sugar mill), the natural beauty and history of the Logan River, the scenic southern Moreton Bay Islands and the sleepy coastal townships of the Northern Gold Coast.

Before beginning our tour of the area we shared morning tea together. Our first stop was at a local farm to purchase some strawberries. From there James began his commentary as we travelled toward the coast.



Stopping to buy strawberries

Some passengers purchased some Gold Medal winning Gold Coast Tiger Prawns direct from the Prawn Farm. The Marinas of Southern Moreton Bay were a most interesting sight to see.

We were treated to a delicious mid-day meal in a tavern at Jacobs Well, a pop-

ular little fishing village. James continued his commentary as we travelled through more of the back roads to where he had boarded our coach. Our passengers commented that James had given the most interesting commentary they had ever experienced.



"Now you listen to me, young man" could be the title of the photograph above, if our Bro Noel Andrews IPDCR had been a naughty boy, but this was not the case; our 99-year-old (then) Sis Liz Jordan is just making a point before they re-boarded the bus. You can read more about this lovely, "Determined, Dedicated, Devoted, Dependable" lady, now 100, on page 17.



A History Lesson under the trees



Awaiting our meals at Jacob's Well Tavern



"Here we sit like birds in the . . ."

*Photography by
George Williams*

SHE was not in a wheelchair or a bed, as Ipswich Mayor's wife usually finds one celebrating their 100th Birthday, no, this West Ipswich born girl, **Sis Elizabeth Dawson Jordan (nee McKenzie)**, aka Liz, of *Hope of Ipswich Tent No.2*, was not only walking around in the beautiful dress she had made for the occasion, but had also made and iced the two tier birthday cake she is seen cutting in the photo below.



It was also noted that usually at age 100, there are few friends left to celebrate with you; not so with our Liz. Turning 100 on **Sunday 15th January**, almost 90 friends and family gathered at Swifts Sports Club to celebrate this important event.

Married in 1935 to Joe Jordan they moved into "a house in a street just off Brisbane Road, Ebbw Vale," a most unsatisfactory address for the postman. They soon had this rectified and because they were the first house in the street, Ipswich Council named it Jordan Street. Now a widow, Liz still lives in the same home and tends her vegetable and flower gardens, although she has recently given up mowing her lawns.

She has been a Sunday School Teacher, a Ray Leader and Church Organist; is a life member of the Blue Nursing Service; played Tennis, Bowls and Bocce. It was noted that she still plays bowls twice, sometimes three times a week, goes on bus trips, does her own shopping and attends her church weekly and her Tent meeting monthly.

Described as Determined, Dedicated, Devoted, Dependable, Deft and a Dynamo, she is also a joy to know and enriches the lives of all who come in contact with her.

Happy Birthday Liz!

STILL shooting straight enough was **Bro Rod Drysdale** of *Moe Tent No.488*, to win not one, but two (2) Silver medals for Archery at the Australian Masters Games.

Congratulations on a great effort Rod.

ON 22 January 2012, **Bro Ronald Evans Andersen**, of *Annerley Tent No.67*, celebrated his 90th birthday.

Late last year, Bro Ron "slipped on a grape" in a shopping centre and broke his hip and was quick to point out that, after all these years of keeping on the straight and narrow, it's ironic that his downfall was caused by "being in the grip of the grape". However, he is recovering well and is starting to get around again with his walker.

Bro Ron, on behalf of all your friends in the Rechabites, we wish you a very happy birthday and many more years of good health. Just keep off the grapes.

ON the sick list, a list none of us like adorning, was **Bro David McGee** (State Officer) of *Moe Tent No.488*, Victoria, but when going to print we understand our Brother is well on the way to recovery and was expected to be at the Tent Committee Meeting in February.

However, we have been given the sad news that David's wife, **Win**, suddenly passed away on Wednesday 18th January. Dear Brother we do convey our deepest condolences.

Strictly Personal ...



STOP PRESS

THERE was much rejoicing at the Manning Base Hospital on Wednesday 18th January when a new great grand-daughter was born for **Sis Dawn Hockings** of *Perservence Tent No.44*.

Dawn went up from Sydney to join her daughter-in-law, Marion and grand-daughter, Arna for a photo shoot as it the first time they have had four generations of girls in one place at one time. Congratulations!

AT 3.00pm on Tuesday, 24th January 2012, **Jonathan Francis Neil Belcher** was born at Ipswich Hospital, the first great grandson of your Editor and his wife, **Ian & Rae Belcher** of *Hope of Ipswich Tent No.2*.



Phone Photo

Jonathan is the son of Robert Ian and wife Charlotte Elizabeth Mary Belcher.

Robert is the third son of Allan Francis Belcher who is your Editor's second son. Before moving to Queensland, Allan was a Tent Officer of *Chatswood Tent No.116* in Sydney. Mum and Bub are both doing well, coming home from hospital the following Friday.

As you can well imagine, there has been much excitement over these two births. ■



In Remembrance



Bro Cyril Watson Gee, CR

WE had enjoyed the fellowship of **Bro Cyril Watson Gee** and his wife Elgar at *Hope of Ipswich Tent No. 2* for a number of years and it was pleasing to see Cyril elected to the office of Chief Ruler at the June 2011 meeting. He was duly installed by the DCR, Sis Margaret Andrews, at the July meeting and conducted his first meeting on 1st August.

It was with great sorrow that we learned of Cyril's hospitalisation and passing on Monday 22nd August, just three weeks later.

Bro Gee worked at Ipswich Railway Workshops as a Carriage Builder for 41 years. He is survived by two (2) children, nine (9) grandchildren and five (5) great grandchildren, with two more on the way. He was adored by his granddaughter Hayley who often joined us on our Tent Bus Tours.

Our thoughts are with Elgar and the family, and as a 'Tent', we too miss him greatly.

10/03/1934 – 22/08/2011



Bro (Bill) John Keith Weatherhead

MEMBERS of *Hope of Ipswich Tent No. 2* lovingly remember **Bro John Keith Weatherhead (Bill)**

who passed away on Saturday 1st October 2011.

Immediately prior to his death outside the Church Hall, where he and his family had worshipped for many years, Bill had enjoyed an afternoon of social indoor bowls.

Bill had given generously of his time in supporting Blue Nursing Service in Ipswich and other outreach programmes as well as commitment to helping all members of his church. Bill was always ready to help wherever he was, by using his car to transport people to church and to bowls. He had delivered 'Meals on Wheels' for over twenty-five (25) years to people of the community who are shut-in.

He was a regular passenger on the Ipswich Rechabite Social Club coach day trips, always ready to help at morning tea stops.

Having spent much time with Bill in many activities in which he was involved we are very conscious of his absence amongst us, but we give thanks for the happy times we shared with him over many years.

24/12/1921 – 1/10/2011



Sis Anne Sinclair Blyth

LONG time Queensland member, **Sis Anne Sinclair Blyth**, passed away on 6th November 2011, aged

102 years and 4 months. Her Funeral Service was held at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Ipswich, on Thursday 10th November 2011.

Born in London on 5th July 1909 the family came to Australia in 1912. Ann's father was offered a job cutting railway sleepers at Cheepie, so the family settled in Charleville. After their mother passed away the children were sent to boarding schools in Brisbane.

Ann trained as a nurse at Ipswich General Hospital where she met her future husband, William (Bill) Blyth, who was in hospital due to a motor bike accident. They were married on 21st December 1935. Now as a married woman, the hospital had no alternative but to dismiss her to comply with the Government ruling at the time; that no married woman was to be a member of the workforce. The hospital lost a dedicated and faithful nurse. She used her skills being available to friends and neighbours when help was needed. Later on she put her caring instincts to good use at home when she became the Mother/carer etc. of two little Blyths - one boy and one girl. She also did volunteer work for many charitable organisations.

With Bill already a Rechabite, Ann also joined the Order. They both enjoyed playing indoor bowls and going on bus trips.

Thanks to Cora and George Williams of *Hope of Ipswich Tent No. 2* for taking Ann to bowls, bus trips and other Tent events after Bill passed away.

Ann is survived by one son and one daughter, four (4) grandchildren and five (5) great grandchildren.

5/07/1909 – 6/11/2011





Bro Harry David Rumble

IT is with sadness that we report the passing of our **Bro Harry David Rumble**, a life-long member of our Order.

Harry and his late Brother John were both Secretaries of south-eastern Victorian Tents during the 70s and 80s and were involved with the then newly formed Regions. Bro Harry was Secretary of *Carnegie Tent* from 13th December 1976 and *Oakleigh Tent* from 28th February 1977 until their closure. He was President of **Region 4/5 (Mordialloc)** with his then wife, Margaret, as his assistant until her passing.

After the winding up of the Hay & Cornstore he and his brother had in Moorabbin, he and his wife Mary bought a Holiday Village in Bright but did not compete with the IOR Holiday Units that were also there.

After Bright, Harry moved up to the Murray Valley to Pastor a Christian Community.

Harry and Mary were living in a Retirement Village at Garfield at the time of his passing. A Thanksgiving Service was held at the Baptist Church, Pakenham on December 20, 2011.

8/06/1930 – 14/12/2011



Bro Douglas Gordon Chapman, PDCR

THE following tribute was presented at the funeral of **Bro Doug Chapman** by the Queensland District Treasurer, Bro Peter Henderson.

Rechabites are caring people. They care for themselves, for their families and for their communities. Rechabites have promised to refrain from drinking alcohol in any form as they believe that drinking causes problems to the individual, family and community.

Doug Chapman was a Rechabite. He was introduced to the Rechabite Society by his wife Joan. Her family were Rechabites and Doug joined the *Annerley Tent No. 67* in June 1948 following his marriage to Joan in April of that year. This was the start of a life-long involvement with the Society. Doug attended fortnightly meetings of the Tent for more than 60 years, a terrific achievement.

Doug served as Treasurer of the *Annerley Tent* for many years and was the Chief Ruler on more than one occasion. However, he served the Society at the State level also, joining the District Executive in April 1966 and being appointed District Chief Ruler from 1st April 1972. During his leadership period, Doug hosted the High Chief Ruler and High Secretary from the parent English Society who were visiting to celebrate Queensland IOR's centenary.

Doug continued to serve at the State level continuously through various legislative changes to Friendly Societies until the late 1990s includ-

ing being Chairman of the Board of Directors from 1994 to 1997. Doug was a leading figure in the establishment of Salford Waters Retirement Estate at Victoria Point.

Doug Chapman served in virtually every office of the Independent Order of Rechabites except that of District Trustee. He was involved in social activities of various kinds over the years, including indoor cricket, indoor bowls and the annual Household Fair. He was granted a **Meritorious Service Award** in November 1998 and was granted the highest honour, **Life Membership**, in October 2009.

I first met Doug at *Crystal Spring Juvenile Tent No. 50* when I joined in September 1959, where he was an Assistant Superintendent. This was the start of a life-long friendship. Doug became my mentor and supporter for the next 50 years or so and I valued and appreciated his friendship and wise counsel over all those years. I think he was proud to be my mentor and I hope I did not disappoint him too often in my progress through the Society ranks. Not only was Doug a Rechabite friend but a personal one too. He spoke at our engagement party and at our wedding and he and Joan attended the weddings of our three children.

The Rechabites will miss Doug very much. However, we will continue to enjoy the friendship of Joan and Judy at our Tent meetings and in that way we will stay in touch with Doug's memory. To Joan and all the family, your Rechabite family express our condolences and prayers during this time of sadness.

Well done, good and faithful servant.

Doug is survived by his wife Joan and children Judith and Rob, five (5) grandchildren and two (2) great-grand-children.

9/08/1924 – 25/12/2011

Medical Evidence 'Shows Drinking Age Should be 21'

A NEW report examining the medical evidence argues that the drinking age should be raised to 21.

The report 'YOUNG PEOPLE & ALCOHOL: What does the medical evidence tell us about the legal drinking age in New Zealand?' was commissioned for the pro-family lobby group Family First NZ, and prepared by UK psychologist Dr Aric Sigman.

Dr Sigman argues that alcohol policies and decisions about a legal drinking age should be firmly based on the health and wellbeing of New Zealand's young people.



Dr Aric Sigman

However, the medical evidence is of global relevance, and Sigman comments that the effects of alcohol on the brains and bodies of young people in New Zealand are the same as they are on young people on the opposite side of the world. And the social consequences are also highly similar.

Sigman shows that a new generation of evidence from a wide variety of medical and biosciences including neurophysiology, genetics, neuropharmacology, molecular neurobiology, forensic pathology, toxicology, hepatology, teratology, epidemiology and developmental psychobiology have brought into sharp relief the full range of new found effects of alcohol on young people.

"A new generation of evidence from a wide variety of medical and biosciences have brought into sharp relief the full range of new found effects of alcohol on young people".

"New medical evidence on accident probability, disease and brain devel-

opment makes it absolutely clear that delaying the age at which teenagers and young people have easy access to alcohol will reduce the level of damage they and society suffer at the moment as well as contributing to their future health and well-being," Sigman says.

"While children legally become adults at the age of 18, a child's brain doesn't actually reach physical and functional adulthood until they're almost 25 years old."

He concludes that New Zealand would benefit from adopting a single legal drinking age of 21, even if this is difficult to enforce. "This will send an unambiguous message to young people and society about what is good for young people and will make it easier to exert authority over those of them who increasingly feel entitled to drink."

Family First is welcoming the report which will form part of their submission to the Justice and Electoral Select Committee considering the Alcohol Reform Bill being debated in the New Zealand parliament.

"New Zealand would benefit from adopting a single legal drinking age of 21."

"This report provides compelling evidence that the politicians should immediately increase the drinking age to 21, not for political reasons, but in the best interests of our young people and society," says Family First's Bob McCoskrie. Dr Sigman is a fellow of the Society of Biology, an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society, and a recipient of the Chartered Scientist Award from the Science Council. He recently addressed the European parliament Working Group on the Quality of Childhood in the European Union in Brussels.

The Full Report can be downloaded from www.familyfirst.org.nz

Alcohol Guidelines Inadequate

*Alcohol consumption guidelines 'inadequate for cancer prevention':
"No level of alcohol consumption without risk"*

CURRENT alcohol consumption guidelines are inadequate for the prevention of cancer and new international guidelines are needed, according to an analysis by French researchers published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal.

The analysis in the Canadian journal follows on from research on alcohol and cancer in Europe, and a position statement on the subject by the Cancer Council of Australia, which also advised that **there is no safe threshold of alcohol consumption for avoiding cancer.**

The Canadian analysis argues that guidelines on 'safe' or 'sensible' drinking in some countries are not currently based on evidence for long-term harm. Most guidelines, it claims, are based on studies that assessed the short-term effect of alcohol, such as social and psychological issues and hospital admissions, and were not designed to prevent chronic diseases. As well, in some countries, "alcohol producers were either part of working groups defining sensible drinking or instrumental in dissemination of the guidelines".

The analysis continues:

"There is increasing evidence that links alcohol consumption to cancer." The WHO international Agency of Research on Cancer has stated, based on evidence, that alcohol is carcinogenic in both animals and humans. Several evaluations of this agency as well as the joint 2007 report of the World Cancer Research Fund and the American Institute for Cancer Research warned of the link between alcohol and cancers in the mouth, throat, oesophagus, liver, colorectum

Concluded on page 15 ▶▶▶