

# The Australian Rechabite

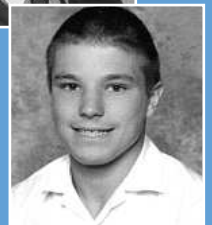
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*Rechabites:  
People who enjoy an  
alcohol-free lifestyle*



## *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

**T**HIS year we celebrate 170 years of the Independent Order of Rechabites in Australia. Bro John Garrett, who was High Deputy Ruler in 1836 emigrated to Sydney in July 1840. On 20th April 1842, just seven years after the founding of IOR in Salford, England, he established the first Rechabite Tent in Australia, *Star of Australia*, Sydney.

A second Tent, called *The Morning Star* was instituted in May 1842. Then as part of the Sydney District a third Tent was opened in Launceston, Tasmania and a fourth in September the same year.

The first officers of the Sydney District were Bro R Cowland, Solicitor, DCR; Bro Barr DDR, Bro John Garrett, DS, together with one Representative from each Tent.

Obviously the venture failed as no further records can be found of that Sydney District. We surmise that it all collapsed because John Garrett, the driving force behind the work, moved to Tasmania, where he was still involved with the Order, establishing the Tasmanian District, also now defunct, but from which the Society was established in Melbourne in 1861.

The work in Sydney was not to be re-established until Bro Robert G Ennever came up from Geelong and instituted *Captain Cook Tent No.238*, as part of the Victorian District No.82, the minutes say on Wednesday 18th June 1878. We know that date is not correct for 18th June was a Tuesday and from other evidence it would appear that 12th June is more likely. However, to confuse the issue further, *A Short History of the Order* published in 1934 puts the date as 13th June 1878. Which is correct, we will never know.

This Tent became *Captain Cook Tent No.1* of the new NSW District No.85 formed in 1884.

In the meantime as part of the Victorian District No. 82 two Tents were established in Queensland in 1869, *Pioneer Tent No.109* and *Hope of Ipswich Tent No.110*, which became No.2 when the Queensland District No.87 was formerly formed on 24th May 1872.

This is just a fraction of the history of an Order that has sought to combat the in-roads of alcohol in our Australian society.

Laughed at in England in 1835 and said it would collapse within five years; struggled here in Australia from 1842 but fought on, this Society and its aims continues when those who ridiculed us have disappeared from the scene. 'Tis true we are much weaker now because of changing Government legislation, but our mission to stand against the dangers of alcohol remain as strong as ever.

We have a proud heritage that needs our earnest support. You, it's members, need to encourage others to stand with us, enjoy our company and fellowship and make our voices heard in a society where murder, rape, and other heinous crimes are committed under the influence of alcohol.

For 170 years we have proved you can enjoy an alcohol-free lifestyle and whilst many opponents are still arrayed against us, I close with the words of Bro Garrett in his letter to England in August 1842, "However, we shall not despair".

**V (Ian) A Belcher**  
**Editor**

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

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

**15<sup>th</sup> January 2013**



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post Office Box 160, REDBANK QLD 4301  
or E-mail: [raeian@optusnet.com.au](mailto:raeian@optusnet.com.au)

Dear Sir,

A long time member of the IOR, I joined about 1947, which is a long time ago, and previous to joining IOR I was a member of the Sons of Temperance as a Junior. We used to meet each Tuesday night in the Labor Hall, Sheffield Street, Coburg.

All this, I might add, has had a significant influence on my life (I am now 90) and I am thankful for that.

I would like to add a comment regarding the IOR Calendar that you send out to members each year – they are excellent. The plain, large, black letters and figures are easy to read and your publication people still maintain Sunday as the first day of the week. I say this because the new trend in the other calendars, which I receive, show Monday as the first day of the week.

As a Christian, I accept the Bible as the authority on matters such as these

and we are plainly told that the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead was on a Sunday. Luke's Gospel Chapter 24, verses 1-3 confirm this. There are other places in the Bible that show plainly that Sunday is the first day of the week.

Thank you for the time you have taken to read this.

Sincerely,

**Barry Shackleton**  
Victoria

## iRechabite

### Rechabites advance into the 21st Century

**F**OLLOWING the current trend for everything under the sun to be "i" something, the Australian Rechabites have (finally) got a web site up and running. So **iRechabite** or maybe **e-rechabite** is available for those with the internet to access.

The URL is

<http://www.australianrechabites.org.au/>  
and the Home Page will come up as below



From the Home Page, you can access the pages for each State and the Australian Rechabite Foundation. The Queensland page, for example, gives



links to the history of the Queensland District, Committee members, the Constitution and Annual meeting information.

Take the time to have a look at the site. Feedback is always welcome. ■

## Hope of Ipswich Tent No.2

**THE** annual Election of Officers took place at the June meeting of the Tent with the following results:-

Chief Ruler:	Sis D H Mclvor
Past Chief Ruler:	Bro V A Belcher
Deputy Chief Ruler:	Sis I R Belcher
Secretary:	Sis C D Williams
Levite:	Sis E D Jordon
Guardian:	Bro N Mclvor

The above officers were inducted into their positions at the August meeting of the Tent by the District Chief Ruler, Sis Margaret Andrews.

## The Victorian State Committee

State President	Graeme <b>HICKS</b>
Past State President	Ron <b>PRATT</b>
Deputy State President	Don <b>LEGGE</b>
State Secretary	Gwenda <b>MARTYN</b>
State Treasurer	Innes <b>RUSSELL</b>
State Officers	Allan <b>CLARK</b> David <b>McGEE</b>





## Queensland News

### Rechabite Social Activities Committee

#### District Chief Ruler's Report

Dear Fellow Rechabites

**T**HIS will be my final column as your District Chief Ruler. I have enjoyed my journey and thank you all for your support.

Since the last *Australian Rechabite*, your Executive has met on three occasions – January, April and July.

Bro Cook has been very busy putting together our website. It is now up and running and can be accessed as follows:

[www.australianrechabites.org.au/](http://www.australianrechabites.org.au/)

Please take the time to have a look at it and if you have any comments or suggestions, please contact Bro Cook.

This year our Annual District Council (AGM) will be held in the Uniting Church Hall, Kadumba Street, Yeronga on **Saturday 13th October at 3.00 p.m.** We hope to see as many as possible in attendance. This year is an election year so you will meet your new District Executive.

The Order's Christmas Party will be held on **Saturday 8th December** in the Uniting Church Hall, 24 Pope Street, Tarragindi. If you would like to attend, please contact me on (07) 3208 18148 by the end of November for catering purposes.

Since our last *Australian Rechabite*, Bro Rob Dippel from *Invincible Tent No 3* and a previous District Chief Ruler has passed away. We extend our sympathies to his family.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

**Margaret Andrews**  
District Chief Ruler

**W**E have started the year off with our first bowls competition which was held on 21 April 2012 in the Lutheran Church Hall, Gatton.

A most entertaining day with 24 in attendance.

The morning competition saw mixed pairs play for the *White/Williams* trophy with teams from Gatton, Ipswich and two from Brisbane. The bowls were very competitive with some first time bowlers playing.

The Winners were Bro and Sis Williams from Ipswich with the Runners-up being Bro Henderson and Sis Swan from Brisbane 2.

After a delicious lunch served by the Lutheran Ladies, the *Juster/Nalder Competition* was held. This is played by any mix of pairs.

The Winners were Bro Anderson and Bro Turner from Gatton with the Runners-up being Sis Andrews and Sis Chapman from Brisbane 2.

Don't forget the **Household Fair** which is being held on the **8th September 2012** at the Progress Hall, Grange from 11.00 a.m. Come along and join in the Fair. If you would like a Schedule, please contact me on 3208 1848.

**Margaret Andrews**  
Secretary



Back Row; Bro G Williams, Bro P Henderson, Bro R Turner, Bro R Anderson  
Front Row: Sis M Andrews, Sis J Chapman, Sis C Williams, Sis J Swan

### Queensland Charity Donations

**M**OVING to continue to fulfil the Association Objects as stated in the Rules, the Queensland District Executive recently resolved to provide some financial assistance to organisations working in the fields of temperance education and other related activities.

The following general purpose grants were made;

Drug Arm Australasia	\$3,000.00
Teen Challenge Queensland	\$1,000.00
Life Education Queensland	\$1,000.00



# Independent Order of Rechabites Queensland District No. 87 Inc.

ABN: 46 618 348 081

District Office: 6 Colette Street Wakerley 4154

Telephone/Fax: 07 3893 2499

e-mail: [qldsecretary@australianrechabites.org.au](mailto:qldsecretary@australianrechabites.org.au)

Notice is hereby given of the **Annual District Council and Annual General Meeting** to be held on

**Saturday 13th October 2012,  
Commencing at 3.00pm**

Uniting Church Hall  
58 Kadumba Street, Yeronga

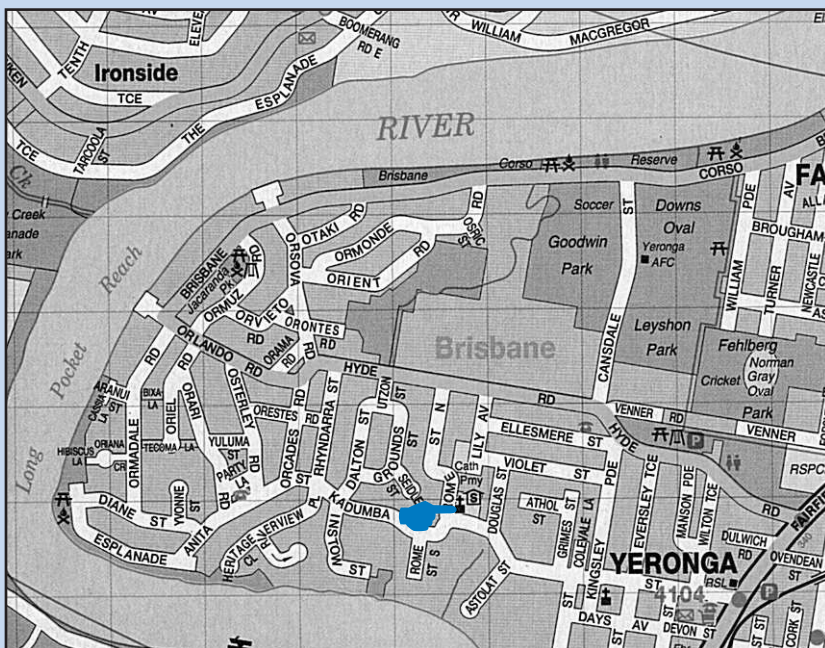
1. Adoption of Financial Statement and Auditors Report
2. Election of Officers
3. General Business

Note: There are no matters requiring adoption by special resolution.

A copy of the Financial Statements is available by sending a stamped (\$1.80) self addressed standard envelope to the above address.

Also available by e-mail or download from  
<http://www.australianrechabites.org.au/states/qld-rechabites/>.

**Robert A. Cook**  
District Secretary



## Touring with

**Norm McIvor**



## Wending our way to Wynnum

**L**EAVING Brassall on Thursday, 16th February at 8.25am our first stop was at Booval to have friends join us there before travelling down to Ebbw Vale to pick up Ian & Rae Belcher and Liz Jordan, our 100 year-old Member, who still enjoys a day out with her friends.

We travelled on to Garden City where we stopped for morning tea. A new experience for us, but the change was a good opportunity to see the shopping complex many on board had never visited. We had time to look at a number of the shops before re-boarding our coach to continue on our journey to Manly.

Some of us had never been to Manly, Queensland, but it certainly rivalled the one in New South Wales. It may not have rolling surf and harbour views, but it certainly has a great marina! Billions of dollars must float here. 'Twas a sight worth seeing.

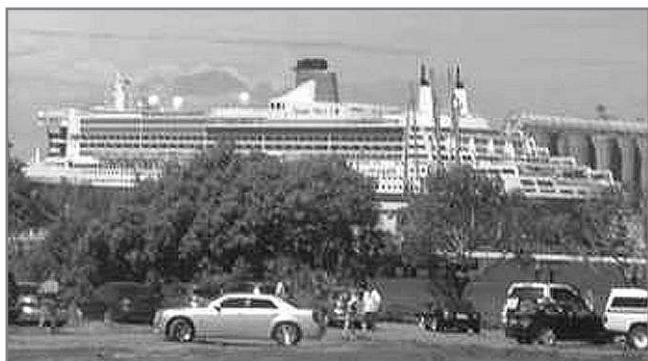
Having drooled long enough we headed back to Wynnum for lunch under the shade of the huge trees in the park. George & Cora Williams had organised for everyone to have a well prepared meat and salad lunch set out in plastic containers kept cool in ice-chests.

We all enjoyed a walk around the park watching children playing and enjoying the water spouts of the "concrete" whales. It was a great place to have lunch.

Our Coach Driver, Gordon, suggested that we take a look at the *Queen Mary II* at anchor in the Brisbane River and took to us to Luggage Point to see it.

Once there, many were keen to get off the coach and walk to the ►►





*Heading for a closer look at the Queen Mary II*

water's edge for a closer view. Many remarked on how it was our oldest passenger, who all but led those hurrying for a good look.

Then Gordon drove us safely back home to Brassall at about 3.45pm, after pointing out another cruise liner anchored at Hamilton.

We thank Cora & George Williams for arranging yet another great, but different day out.

## A Day in Redcliffe

**O**N Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April we were again on the move leaving Brassall at 8.30am on a Concorde Coach for a day out in Redcliffe. On the way we had to pick up some of our members from Booval and Ebbw Vale, then we travelled through Brisbane and on to Redcliffe.

We visited The Redcliffe Picture Palace to view some old black and white movies. At half time they put on morning tea for us, which we all enjoyed. During the second half the old film, "Tall Timbers" was screened, which I really enjoyed.



*At the Redcliffe Picture Palace & Museum*

Back on the coach we drove down to Scarborough to Morgan's Fish Shop for a fish & chips lunch. (Anyone who loves fish should go to Morgan's Fish Shop.)

After lunch we rejoined the coach and our driver, Mark, drove us over the Gateway Bridge and back up the Logan Motorway to bring us home to Ipswich and out to Brassall. We had a good day out.

Our thanks again go to George & Cora Williams for arranging a very interesting day out.

## Ipswich Motorway Tours

**O**PERATED by the Department of Transport and Main Roads these tours were presented to keep the general public informed about the plans and progress on the upgrade of the Goodna to Dinmore section of the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade.

When Bro George & Sis Cora Williams learned of these tours they arranged a booking for Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May for eight Tent members to see what has been done over the last four years.

Arriving at the Visitor Experience Centre, Redbank, at 9.45am we were welcomed by our tour organiser who

opened up the Centre and provided morning tea or coffee for us before giving a most interesting and informative talk about the work that has been put into the project, including many new innovative initiatives that have saved time,

money, lives and the health of workers. These initiatives have been studied and copied by other authorities in other states. One thing that was included was having all the staff engage in exercises before work, which reduced work related strains dramatically.

We were then taken by mini-bus to look at what has been done. The first stop was at the Law Street Pedestrian Bridge, Redbank, where we were taken onto the bridge to view the six lane road below. Here various aspects of the road construction was explained to us. We were shown how it can be easily turned into an eight lane highway when future demands require it.

Several pedestrian bridges, all painted different colours, have been built to span the Motorway giving people safe and easy access from side to side.

We continued up the southern side of the Motorway along the newly constructed Brisbane Road to Dinmore being shown the many drainage ponds that have been put in to help keep Six Mile Creek clean.

Passing under the Motorway at Dinmore we were taken down the Service roads on the northern side until we reached Goodna, being shown the many changes that have taken place and the reasons for them.

Back at the Visitor Experience Centre we were given further refreshments and another briefing that included video footage of demolition projects preparing sites for the new road as well as "work in progress" recordings.

It was almost 11.50am by the time we returned to our cars to go home after a fascinating and informative couple of hours.

The last of these tours took place on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012. ■

**"Norm's Tours" are arranged about every two to three months by the Rechabite Social Club of Hope of Ipswich Tent No.2. Contact Sis Cora Williams on 3201 5946 to book your seat.**

# Tent Excursions

with Marcia Pidgeon

## New South Wales News

**T**HE *Strathfield Day Tent* has been active with two excursions. In April some members visited the Observatory. I can't report on that as Frank and I were unable to attend.

May was another walkabout arranged by John Dixon. We met at the Sydney Town Hall and while waiting we learned an interesting bit of trivia.

Near the main entrance is a lion, which was carved with one eye shut. It's thought to be a joke of the stonemasons whose supervisor always checked the line of stonework by closing one eye.

It wasn't discovered until the building was completed. There's a challenge for you Sydney - Siders next time you

go to the city, see if you can find it, we did.

John planned to take us to the GPO to observe the refurbishments. While reading the history of the building he realised that the architect, James Barnett, had designed many more buildings in Sydney, so, we set out to see some of these as well.

Our old buildings are rich in detail. We developed a crick in the neck from looking up at the beautiful designs and motifs missing from today's modern styles.

We saw the GPO, very highly decorated, the Colonial Secretary's building, Department of Lands building, with statues of explorers in niches.

Interesting to see many empty niches. I suppose a combination of finance and maybe we ran out of explorers as by the turn of the century Australia had been crossed north, south, east and west.

We ended our tour at the Customs House, which had two excellent photo exhibitions. These are only a few of Barnett's designs that we had time to see.

Although some of the buildings are not accessible to the general public the security personnel were very knowledgeable and gave us an impromptu history of the building.

We're looking forward to our next adventure. ■

### Future Outings Planned for NSW Rechabite Families & Friends

#### Saturday

**24th November 2012**

#### Family Picnic

at Campbell Hill Reserve  
Chester Hill.

Bring Picnic Lunch,  
Sausage Sizzle Tea provided,  
Gifts for children.

**RSVP** to

Bro Paul Sheldon 4730 1639

#### Saturday

**23rd March 2013**

"If you go into the woods today ..."

#### Picnic at Cumberland State

**Forest** off New Line Road, Dural.

UBD Map 151 M 1

#### Saturday

**8th June 2013**

"Somewhere over the rainbow ..."

#### A Lunch in Eastern Suburbs.

**September 2013**

"We're bound for Botany Bay ..."

#### Picnic at Doll's Point. ■

### 2012 – 2013

#### Calendar for Friendship Tent No. 20 Strathfield

**6th October 10.00am**

Meeting at Uniting Church Hall  
Carrington Street, Strathfield.

**20th November**

Christmas Luncheon  
North Ryde RSL & Community  
Club.

#### 2013

**19th February 10.00am**

Meeting at Uniting Church Hall  
Carrington Street, Strathfield.

**19th March 10.00am**

State Committee Visit  
4th Birthday Celebration  
at Carrington Street, Strathfield.

**16th April 9.30am**

Meeting at Sydney Town Hall for  
A Visit to the State Library.

**5th - 9th May** (To be confirmed)

Bus Trip - Batemans Bay & Mogo  
Zoo as guests of Friends of Guiding.

**21st May**

Tour of Hunters Hill  
led by Dorothy Cubbin  
Meet at the Circular Quay  
Hunters Hill Wharf.

**18th June 10.00am**

Meeting at Uniting Church Hall  
to plan 2014 Calendar.

**16th July 9.30am**

Tour of the Sydney Town Hall  
led by a Tour Guide from the  
Friends of the Town Hall. Fee \$5.00

**25th August**

Kokoda Track Concord  
(To be confirmed)

**17th September**

Wolli Creek Walk or  
Botanical Gardens

**15th October 10.00am**

Meeting at Uniting Church Hall  
Carrington Street, Strathfield.

**19th November**

Christmas Luncheon  
Dooley Restaurant, Lidcombe  
meeting at John Street, Entrance.

More details available by phoning  
**Sis Dorothy Cubbin on 9816 1805**  
or  
**Bro Frank or Sis Marcia Pidgeon**  
**on 9645 3458.** ■

## Jottings from Malcolm Campbell

**A**LTHOUGH winter at the time of writing, with usual winter time ills prevailing, (another different strain of the 'Flu has received special mention this year), by the time this is read it will be springtime with days becoming warmer as well as longer.

Our Chief Ruler, Sis Helen Hanna is now well. She has to be fit to look after husband Bassem and daughters Chloe and Tammy. Family gatherings also involve her sister Cristy and son Jaydon.

Changes implemented from 01/07/12 by the Australian Government include the Income Testing of the Rebate on Private Health Insurance. The amount received is governed by income as well as age. The Medicare Levy Surcharge, an additional tax on Singles who earn over \$84,000 per annum and do not have Private Health Cover, will increase.

However, there is no change in either for Singles earning less than \$84,000

p.a. or Families who earn less than \$168,000 p.a. Further information is available on the Government Website: [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au) When a Hospital Cover is held for 10 continuous years the loading is removed.

"The Fence Builder" is the newsletter of the Dalgarno Institute. The Summer 2011 issue (Vol.3 Issue 2) includes advice that negotiations with a tertiary Institute north of Sydney were commenced with a view to pre-graduation students assisting to grow young adults into Drug and Alcohol Prevention. Gifts of \$2 and over to COADE Inc. (Delgarno Institute) are tax deductible. Send to

Post Office Box 7005  
Dandenong VIC 3175

Our prayer is that there will have been no drug and alcohol incidents or problems at the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

**Malcolm Campbell**  
**Secretary – Excelsior Tent No.8**  
**Campsie Tent No. 81**  
**Tel: (02) 9558 9800**

## NSW Bowlers' Night Out

*Sis Marcia Pidgeon e-mailed the following just in time -*

**T**HE NSW Bowls group celebrated Christmas in July with dinner at our favourite smorgasbord, Bankstown RSL. The food and company was good as always, and we will be planning an excuse to do it all again soon. ■



Left from the back wall - **Frank Pidgeon, Colin Lewis, Maureen Lewis, Christine Dixon (chatting), John Dixon, Lorraine Allerton.**

Right from the back wall - **Greg Allen, Julie Allen, Marion Allen (hidden), Ruth Allen, Heather Muir, Jim Blackbell, Robert Allerton.**

## Alcohol Sponsorship of Sport

**A**LCOHOL sponsorship of sport and a boozy culture in sporting clubs have long been a matter of concern, so it was heartening to learn that twelve of the country's leading sporting organisations agreed on Saturday (23rd June) to break their ties with alcohol sponsorship and instead receive funding totalling \$24 million from the Australian National Health Prevention Agency (ANPHA) in a deal with the Federal Government announced by the Sports Minister, Senator Kate Lundy.

The sporting associations have agreed to promote safe alcohol consumption to adults, provide alcohol-free sporting environments for minors and to reduce alcohol promotion in their codes with the "Be the Influence, Tackling Binge Drinking" health campaign.

Soccer, basketball, cycling, volleyball, netball, swimming, hockey, athletics, skateboarding, equestrian, triathlon and canoeing associations have all signed the deal. Unfortunately, AFL and NRL have not signed up and the AFL has signed a 10-year contract with Carlton and United Breweries.

While this agreement does not go as far as we might like, it is a good step towards removing alcohol sponsorship of sport and creating a safer atmosphere for young sports people.

**Anne Bergen**  
**WCTU E-Issues Coordinator**

*The most tiring thing in the world is  
idleness – because you can't stop  
and rest!*

\*\*\*

*When is a cricketer impolite?  
When he bowls a maiden over.*

\*\*\*

*It doesn't matter how much money  
you have, everyone has to buy  
wisdom on the instalment plan.*



## From the Victorian State President

**S**INCE last writing, our yearly duties have fallen due and I am pleased to say we have had some former members rejoin our Order as well as a few new folks joining our ranks. Welcome to each and every one and we trust that you will enjoy our fellowship.

I have heard that some members have written to our Police service encouraging them in their efforts in curbing the alcohol binge drinking. Congratulations to those who did and I also encourage others to continue this worthy work.

Unfortunately the manufacturers of alcoholic beverages have "cemented" themselves firmly with many sporting organisations and continual adverts that are seen on the TV coverage's of sporting events must be a great influence to our younger generation to think that drinking alcohol is the "in thing" so they don't want to be left behind in "keeping-up" with everyone else.

Please note that our State Conference in October has been shifted from Nagambie to Shepparton. This was something that was beyond our control. Arrangements for the Conference are progressing very well and I am sure will be of great interest to the delegates.

It is with deep regret that I have to report the passing of Sis Lila Stanway, wife of Bro Ivan Stanway. For many years Sister Lila has been a stalwart Rechabite and her passing will leave a very big gap in our Order. On behalf of all our members I extend our heart-felt condolences to Brother Ivan and ask the Great Chief Ruler of the Universe to comfort him during this time of grief.

As this will be the last opportunity of writing to you I wish to thank everyone who has assisted me during my term of office and I know all will assist Bro Don Legge during his term as State President. I also wish him an enjoyable time in that position.

**Graeme Hicks**  
Victorian State President

## Victorian News

### Walhalla Diamond Jubilee

**O**N Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012 the Walhalla Heritage & Development League Inc. staged a once-in-a-lifetime event, to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of our Queen, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and because of Walhalla's historic nature, to re-create the Diamond Jubilee celebrations for Queen Victoria, which were held in Walhalla in 1897.

In 1897 Walhalla was a thriving gold-mining town with a population of thousands, whereas today they have a population of – you won't believe this – just twenty-two (22) people!

Nevertheless, their passion makes up for numbers as they re-live the town's glory days and honour both Monarchs as the strains of brass bands echo through the hills once again.



*The Star Hotel – Walhalla*

The Independent Order of Rechabites were a participant in the Grand Parade held in Walhalla in 1897 along with many other organisa-



*Gwenda & Alan Martyn represent IOR Victoria*

tions of the day. Only one of those organisations that marched in 1897 did not march in 2012. In 1897 there were 1,200 people in the parade and over 3,000 people watching. In 2012 the whole town was decorated as it was in 1897. The sun shone on this day for this little tourist town between the hills in Victoria, not far from Moe and Traralgon.

They again paraded the Long Tunnel's pyramid of gold (made out of wood!). In the 1897 parade the inscription read: "United Gold Mines of Walhalla, 1865 to 1897, Standard Gold, 22 carat, weight 44 tons, 3 cwts, 3 qtrs, 10 lbs. 2 oz."

Our ambassadors Alan and Gwenda Martyn marched on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012 and represented the Independent Order of Rechabites of Victoria. ■

### Region Meeting Dates for 2012/13 - Victoria

Date	Region	Contact & Tel. No.	District
September Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	9	L Jukes 5762 5584	Kyabram
October Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	7	J Flett 9306 4968	Harcourt
October Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	6	G Martyn 5177 8144	Morwell
November Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	4/5	N Robilliard 9580 8614	Mordialloc
<b>2013 (Dates to be confirmed)</b>			
February Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	4/5	N Robilliard 9580 8614	Mordialloc
March Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	7	J Flett 9306 4968	Harcourt
March Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9	L Jukes 5762 5584	Kyabram
April Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	6	G Martyn 5177 8144	Morwell



## 2012 Scholarship Winners

**W**E are finding the young people who apply for our Victorian Scholarships are of a very high calibre and we are sure they will go on to bigger and better things in the future. The following young people received Scholarships this year valued at \$1,000 each over two years.



### Laura ACKERLEY

Granddaughter of Don Wheatland

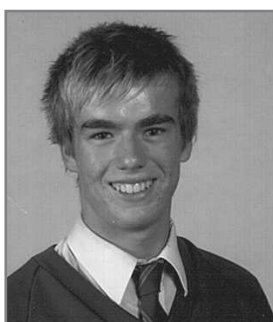
**H**i there! I'm Laura and at the moment I'm studying Year 11 at the Maranatha Christian School. The subjects chosen for this year are: History, Biology, Art, English, Maths and Year 12 Indonesian.

I am absolutely loving it, well, apart from Maths. I love finding out how amazing God is through seeing the talent He has given the students in Art, learning about His creation in Biology and seeing His hand at work throughout history.

Amazingly enough I had the incredible opportunity to go on a mission trip earlier this year. I joined a group from my church and ventured to a small island of the Philippines called Coron. We helped out a church there by teaching English at a school they run, painting one of their buildings and evangelising at the local university and hospital. After meeting some of the people who go to that church I was in awe of how much joy they had even though they had so little.

They had such a passion and desire to serve God, it really humbled me and gave me inspiration to do the same. I had plans to only go on this one mission trip but God had other plans and now I have been given the opportunity to serve Him again in Indonesia. This will be another awesome way to give God glory, along with being able to practice a bit of my Indonesian. God has really stirred up a desire in my heart to continue serving Him in this way and I hope He will give me further opportunities to do so.

I'm not certain of what I want to do with my life just yet but I do know that God does and I'm so excited to see what He has in store for me. ■



### Kane STEPHENS

Grandchild of Kenneth Stephens

**C**URRENTLY I attend Cheltenham Secondary College studying English, Mathematical Methods, Outdoor and Environmental Education, Biology and Physical Education.

My aims are to work to the best of my ability through my final years at school and to challenge myself by undertaking new tasks that I'm not usually comfortable in doing.

Some of my goals are to:

1. Be part of a premiership winning football team at my club.
2. Completing my VCE with a result I can be proud of to give me confidence for future success.
3. Sustain a fun and healthy lifestyle

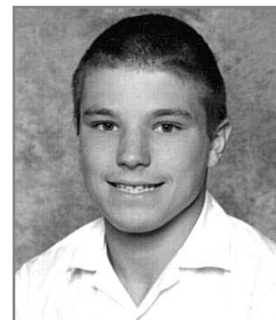
that I can pursue with no regrets.

4. For people to see me as role model, someone they can look up to.
5. To decide my own career path that I enjoy which also challenges me for future endeavours.

I spend many hours participating in sport; football (Aussie Rules) and Tennis have been my most loved sports as I have competed in both for many years.

Having fun with friends is another strong hobby of mine; we like to engage in various activities to keep ourselves entertained. I also like to play the guitar whenever I can as I like the challenge of learning something new. In 2011 I was awarded the Coaches Award for the season.

I am also a member of the Peer Group and work closely with students in Junior Levels, attending Year 7 Camps and numerous other timetabled activities through the year.



### Samuel TUCKER

Grandchild of Norman & Lynette Tucker

**A**T the moment I attend St Andrews Christian College in Wantirna South, Melbourne. This year I am in Year 11 and heavily involved in school sport.

The subjects I am studying are: English, Maths Methods, Physics, Woodwork, PE and Business Management. ►►

I have travelled as part of a work party to the Philippines and am often called upon to help out with practical tasks in various ministry/program areas. I regularly lead in the children's ministry at the local church and I attend the Youth Group weekly.

My favourite sport is wake-boarding, which I do occasionally in the summer. I have represented my school in basketball, soccer, AFL and volleyball.

When I finish school I plan on doing a trade, most likely carpentry, as I did this for the work experience program in the first semester last year and thoroughly enjoyed it. For some weeks last year I was casually labouring for a carpenter and I enjoyed this also.

I plan on doing a wide range of subjects in VCE in order to keep my options open.

Last year I was selected by my school for a leadership program, run by the Knox City Council. I completed this successfully having learned lots about leading. I was also Home Captain at my school last year.

My thanks to Victoria IOR Fraternity for this Scholarship. It will assist me in my future goals. ■

## 2013 Victorian Scholarships

**T**HE IOR Fraternity (Vic) is offering three (3) Scholarships valued at \$500.00 each per annum for two (2) years to the Children, Grandchildren or Great Grandchildren of Victorian Fraternity Members.

Students in Year 10 this year (2012) who are attending a State or Registered Secondary School and who do not hold any other award, are eligible to apply.

The Scholarships will be awarded after consideration of the applicant's scholastic results and school reports.

Application Forms for these Scholarships can be obtained after **1st November 2012** from

IOR Fraternity (Vic) Inc.  
Post Office Box 4532  
KNOX CITY CENTRE VIC 3152

# Region Meeting News

## Region 1 (Wantirna)

**A**T THE Region 1 meeting on Thursday 17th May, it was resolved that the Region would be dissolved and Tent 100 would now have four (4) meetings per year. Previously it was two Tent meetings and two Region meetings per year. As the same members attended these meetings it was resolved to have all the meetings as Tent meetings.

Bro Bill Chandler, who was the Secretary for both the Tent and Region offered his resignation from the position as he has not been well. The State Committee extends to Bro Bill our thanks for the position he has held for the past few years and wish him well for a quick recovery.

Also in attendance at the meeting was Sis Doreen Gordon. She was presented with a cake and a box chocolates as she will be turning 100 shortly. She thanked everyone for their good wishes. Over the past few years Tent 100 have had several members reach their centenary year.

Arrangements have been made to find a new Secretary to take over Tent 100 and at the moment we are hopeful for someone from a younger generation who may be willing to take on the role.

**Gwenda Martyn**  
State Secretary

## Region 6 (Gippsland)

**G**OOD attendances continue at our Region 6 meetings. We meet twice a year in April and October at the Morwell Neighbourhood House where we have our meeting starting at 11.00am and then the ladies at the House provide us with a lovely lunch. The rooms at the neighbourhood house are open rooms and are a great

place to meet with lots of chatter and laughter. It's great to meet some members that you have not seen for 6 months.

After lunch we had a very informative talk by a friend of mine who had recently stayed several weeks in Mauritius. It was very interesting to hear all about the way people live away from the touristy areas.

We have a good gathering of State Officers at our meetings, Bro Don Legge, DSP, and his wife Rhondda, Bro Ron Pratt, PSP, who is our President, Bro David McGee, State Officer, and Gwenda Martyn, State Secretary. Bro David was our only visitor.

Members join in with great discussions at the meeting, actually it is the only IOR meeting that some of our members can attend, distance and ageing being a big factor.

Our next meeting will be on **Saturday 24th November, at 11.00am.**

Please ring Gwenda on 5177 8144 if you would like to attend if you have not already attended before.

**Gwenda Martyn**  
Region 6 Secretary

## Region 7 (Central Victoria)

**I**AM pleased to report that we had an enjoyable meeting on 18th March last with 16 people present for a self-catered luncheon in the Harcourt Recreation Centre.

The tables were beautifully decorated with multi-coloured Dahlias and Gladioli from the Waubra garden of Pat and Eric Loader. At the conclusion of the meal and the 'cleaning up' led by Colin and Lyle from Ballarat, our President Betty Buckingham, welcomed all present and opened the formal part of the afternoon. ►►



Items from the last issue of *The Australian Rechabite* and Committee Circular were discussed with emphasis on members submitting items of interest for publication in our magazine.



**Nancy Flett presented with a floral arrangement by Eric Loader.**

Sis Hazel Martin spoke on how thrilled she was to see her photo in the Magazine and how she had cut it out, with the item, and placed them in a frame for future family record purposes.

Sis Joan Loader told of the 73rd Wedding Anniversary of Bro Ken and Mrs Matthews now in a care facility in Ballarat and the little celebration they had with family and some Ballarat IOR friends.

took all the 'gloss' off her 90th birthday and all in a three week period in June.

Bro Flett mentioned that Bro Cook of Brisbane was building an IOR website to cover all States and he hoped members with the technology would be able to access it soon.

Members indicated their wish to be able to continue having our bi-annual meetings in the present format but having them catered for on the same regular 3rd Sunday in the months of March and October. Also, that we hold over the election of Officers until the Victorian Committee visitor is present.

The meeting closed with an afternoon tea of scrumptious cakes from Sis Pat Loader; a pleasant social Sunday afternoon.

Our next 'meeting' will be on **Sunday 21st October at 12.30pm**

at Harcourt and is open to all members in the area. As Ballarat is the only operating Tent in Central Victoria I will appreciate a call on 9306 4968 from any other members who would like to attend or require any IOR information.

**John Flett**  
**Region 7 Secretary**



**Standing L to R: John Flett, Colin Loader, Joyce Loader, Shirley Ford, Pauline Jervies, Lyle Jervies, Nancy Flett, Audray Page, Eric Loader, Pat Loader, Betty Buckingham.**  
**Sitting L to R: Hazel Martin, Betty Paull, Winsome Cordy.**

Bro Glen Ford reported that his mother, Sis Joyce Harris has had a fall and broken her arm. She is recovering now and in respite care. Since our last meeting it is both very sad to report Sis Joyce has lost a daughter and Glen a sister after a very short illness which

## Region 9 (Kyabram)

**F**OURTEEN Members attended the half yearly meeting at Kyabram

Fauna Park. As we meet in the café, there can be other noise, but it is a pleasant spot as we look out onto the Park and see and hear some of the inhabitants.

Our guest speaker was the Park Manager. He told us about the care of his 700 'guests'. When they have a breeding program the excess are exchanged with zoos or some are returned to their natural habitat. There is also a busy educational program for school children.

Bro Don Legge, Deputy State President and his wife Rhondda were welcomed by our President Bro Graeme Hicks, who is, of course, our State President. It was noted that the medallions were a great success. Bro Graeme sensibly had his mounted onto a small bar in order to wear it on his lapel.

A minute of appreciation was placed on our books thanking Bro Hicks for his continuing support of IOR Fraternal and in particular being once more State President, and to Bro Don Legge for accepting the role of Deputy State President. Until recently he was also a member of Region 9.

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 19th September 2012** commencing with lunch at **12.30pm** at the Kyabram Fauna Park.

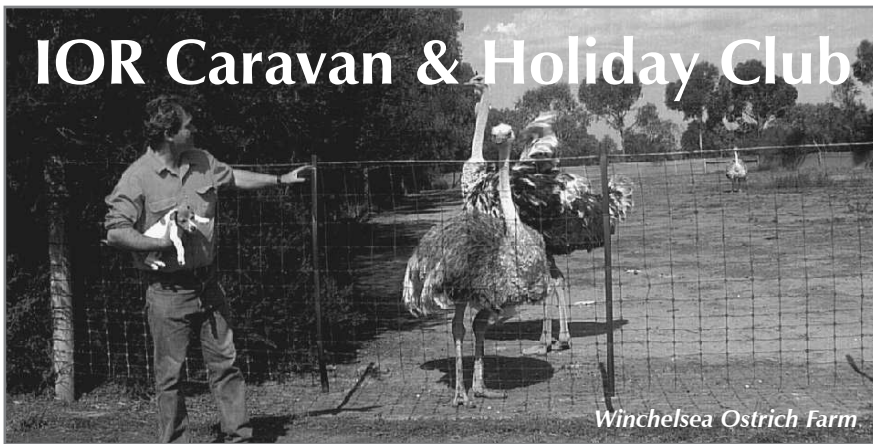
**Lois Jukes**  
**Region 9 Secretary**

**FOR** the education of the rest of us, the following is a extract from the Park's website. (Ed.)

### Kyabram Fauna Park

Located in the Goulburn Valley of northern Victoria, the Park covers some 55 hectares of open woodland, wetlands and lakes. Rehabilitation of degraded lands and re-vegetation programs for many areas of the Park have provided habitats that now attract over 140 species of native birds, animals and amphibians. Add 105 species of Australian animals, birds and reptiles, which form part of the Park's permanent exhibits, and you have an outstanding and unique community project. ■

# IOR Caravan & Holiday Club



**T**HE Victorian IOR Holiday Club departed on Monday 26th March 2012 for a five day coach tour of Ballarat and surrounds. We travelled through Kyneton, Harcourt (Victoria's apple growing area) and on to Bendigo, one of the State's famous gold mining towns. We boarded the Vintage Talking Tram for a ride along the 8km track terminating at the Chinese "Joss House" where we were given a guided tour of the Joss House. Then it was on to Ballarat for the next four nights staying at the Gold Sovereign Motor Inn.

On Tuesday we travelled to Daylesford and Hepburn Springs in the heart of Victoria's Spa Country. We then visited the "Cricket Willow" the traditional home of the Australian Cricket bats. Features included a picturesque cricket bat workshop, where we learnt how cricket bats are made.

Back in town we visited the Convent Gallery. The origins of this splendid building date back to the Gold Rush era of the 1860s when it was built as a private residence. During the 1880s it was purchased by the Catholic Church and converted into the Holy Cross Convent and Boarding School for Girls.



*Convent Gallery – Daylesford*

Closing in 1973, the building and grounds fell into disrepair and in 1988 prize-winning artist and ceramicist, Tina Banitska bought the property with great plans. Today we explored the gallery, admiring the beautiful artworks while learning a little more of its interesting history. The buildings are used for wedding receptions, a small restaurant and a small shop. It is an interesting place.

Our final stop for the day was at the "Chocolate Mill" where the finest Belgian chocolate is used to create their all-natural hand-made chocolates. Many purchases were made as this is the only outlet for this beautiful chocolate.

Wednesday found us visiting another historic town in the heart of the Goldfields – Maryborough. We visited the historic Maryborough Railway Station. The station is reported to have the longest platform in country Victoria. We admired the highly polished timber ceiling and beautiful tessellated floor in the main entrance.

After lunch we called in to the historic Maryborough Flour Mill Gallery. If you take a blend of antique sewing machines, add a pinch of love, mix in a flour mill and you would have a recipe for one of Victoria's quirkiest museums. Housed in the old Flour Mill building, the gallery is actually home to a range of unique collections from antique, Art Deco and Retro furniture and collectibles to vintage sewing machines, a display of local artists, as well as a historical display of the local area and a display pertaining to the industrial side of Maryborough, featuring the printing industry. The display of antique sewing machines enthralled all the ladies on tour.

On Thursday we stayed in Ballarat and visited the Art Gallery where we were taken on a guided tour of some of the major collections. After our morning tea we visited the Ballarat Aviation Museum – a truly unique collection of aircraft, engines, wartime relics and equipment from the 1920s to the present day. All the men folk on the tour were in their element with all the engines and relics.

After lunch we made our way to the Ballarat Botanical Gardens, the home of the famous Ballarat begonias. The size and colour of these magnificent plants are just such a wonderful display and many photographs were taken of them. Before heading back to our accommodation we took a ride in a vintage tram along the shores of the lake.

On our last day we travelled to the Winchelsea Ostrich Farm where we had the opportunity to see the world's largest bird and learn all about them on the farm tour. We also had the opportunity to visit a shop where we could see some of the unique leather products made from Ostrich. Other exotic leathers made from emu, crocodile, barramundi and kangaroo were also on display.

All the meals on our trip were wonderful and the motel meals were all home cooked and served by very pleasant staff with the chef making sure that everyone was satisfied with his cooking.

We arrived back at Wantirna at around 5.30pm, extremely happy with the trip which was so well organised by the company with which we travelled.

**Mavis Kennedy**  
*Club President*

## OUR NEXT TOUR

takes us to Phillip Island, Mornington Peninsula and Gippsland from **Monday 29th October to Friday 2nd November 2012.**

For details contact:

*The Secretary,*

Sis Joyce Wallace (03) 9807 4044

or

*The Club President,*

Sis Mavis Kennedy (03) 9887 1057



**W**E know quite a lot of copy was devoted to the *Hope of Ipswich Tent No. 2* member, **Sis Elizabeth (Liz) Jordan**, in the last issue of TAR, but when there was a 20½ X 14 cm (that's 8 x 5½ inches) colour photo of this lively centenarian in the May 21, 2012 and a different slightly smaller version (7¾ x 5 inch) in the May 25, 2012 edition of the *'Queensland Times'* with the accompanying story of her ongoing association with the Ipswich Show over 50 plus years, we just had to say something in this one. Beside all that, we have to record the Tent's Celebration of her 100th Birthday at its February meeting, that was too late to include in the last issue.

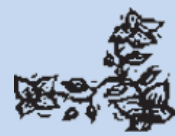
A large cake was set before this lady who officially cut it for our consumption. Our District Chief Ruler, Sis Margaret Andrews and her husband Bro Noel, also came along to mark this wonderful occasion.



*The Cake*

At the 2012 Ipswich Show Liz won Three (3) 2nd Places for Knitting Two (2) 2nd Places and A Highly Commended for Crochet.

## Strictly Personal ...



She has begun work on her entires for the 2013 Show. You can't keep this smart "girl" down! And if you haven't noticed, last June Sis Liz was elected Levite of her Tent. Congratulations on all your achievements.

**I**N THE recent Queen's Birthday Honours list, **Bro Captain Bruce Legge RAN** was awarded a C.S.C. (Conspicuous Service Cross) for outstanding achievement whilst C.O. of HMAS Warramunga.



Bro Legge is presently in Bahrain with NATO as the co-ordinator of the warships of the many nations that are trying to control the pirate situation both off Somalia and in the Persian Gulf. Congratulations to Bro Bruce, he will have many stories to tell on his return.

Bro Bruce Legge is the son of Bro Don Legge, Deputy State President of Victoria IOR.



*Celebrating together*

**O**N A more sombre note our Sis Gwenda Martyn (Victoria State Secretary) reported on the earthquake that shook most of Victoria on Tuesday 19th June. The Martyn's only had one item fall from a book case and whilst no one was hurt and very few buildings were damaged it was nevertheless very scary as **Bro Ron Pratt** the Past State President reports:

**19th June 2012 - 8.55pm**

Wam!

My armchair bashed me in the back!

I thought the house had been hit by something VERY big.

Then the whole house started to madly jump about.

Heck!! It's an earthquake!!

The whole house – floors, fireplace, walls and ceiling were violently shaking.

I was bouncing up and down in my armchair.

**I WAS SCARED!**

Would the house start to breakup? Photos, ceramics, books were falling from the mantelpiece.

Pelmet, shelves and the top of cupboards were on the floor.

The large mirror in the bathroom was in a thousand pieces on the floor.

It seemed to go on a long time, but it was stated that it only lasted 40 seconds!

There appears to be no structural damage to the house.

The earthquake was 5.3 on the Richter Scale and its epicentre was north of my house.

Reports vary from 2-10 kilometres. A truly frightening experience that I would not like to repeat.

### The Editor's Error

**HOW** could he get it so wrong! He loves playing with the initials, so how could Charlotte Elizabeth Mary Belcher in the last issue, spell what Charlotte Olivia Mary Belcher, the mother of his first Great Grandson, spells?

Sorry Charlotte, will you forgive me?





## Bro Robert (Rob) Noel James Dippel PDCR

**B**ROTHER Rob joined *Invincible Tent No 3* in Toowoomba on 15 April 1940. He was to remain a member of this Tent for his whole life.

He was elected to the District Executive on 11 November 1995 and went on to become District Chief Ruler on 20 October 2001 and again on 22 November 2008. On 21 October 2001, Bro Rob was elected to the Board of Directors.

A Meritorious Service Award was awarded to Bro Rob on 2 April 1998 to recognise his service to the Order as part of the Board as well as a very active member of his Tent in Toowoomba and the Rechabite Social Activities Committee (previously the Rechabite Sports and Social Association).

As a member of the RSAC, he was very involved in the social side of the Order. His bowling expertise was well known and he and his wife Thelma made a formidable team whenever they competed. Their names appear on many of the bowls trophies, with one trophy in their names – the **R J & T Dippel Trophy**.

One of Bro Rob's great loves was working in his workshop at Bribie Island making wooden toys for needy children. At the annual Household Fair, Bro Rob judged the Woodwork section of the Fair and brought along some of the toys that he made for the members to look at.

On behalf of the District Executive and members of the Order, we extend our sympathies to Sis Thel and her family.

25/12/1923 - 27/02/2012

## 'Drug Legalisation is a Policy in Search of a Disaster'

*"Permissibility, availability and accessibility - all increase consumption."*  
*Dalgarno Institute.*

### Prof Neil McKeganey - Director

Centre for Drug Misuse Research Scotland and author of "Controversies in Drugs Policy and Practice". Macmillan 2011.

**T**HE proposal to legalise illegal drugs is a policy in search of a disaster. This is a policy that is often called for by well-meaning middle class professionals who live their lives many miles from the communities that have been most affected by the problem of illegal drugs. It is a call that one rarely hears from those living cheek by jowl with the drugs problem. When those people speak what one hears most often is not the call to make drugs more available in their community but to make them less available and for protection against the drugs trade not a green light to its further extension.

Drug abuse is not like a social cancer, it is a social cancer. There is nothing that so profoundly harms individuals, destroys families, and tears the heart out of communities as drug abuse. The fear that ones own children will become involved with illegal drugs is the fear that stalks every parent and the reality, when that happens, is every parent's worst nightmare.

When the drug addict in the family is the parent then nobody, other than the children involved, know the heartbreak that brings, the lonely nights of utter despair, of fear, silence unending neglect and the dull realisation that nobody is coming to help. When a child becomes dependent upon illegal drugs you see the relationships within the family torn apart as parents are eaten up by their sense of fear, recrimination, guilt and frustration. Brothers and sisters find themselves in a world where their own needs are totally eclipsed by the

single-minded focus on the addict child. And every night is a long drawn out trial waiting for the knock on the door that tells the parent that their child has been found dead from a drugs overdose.

In the face of the unending nightmare that is drug addiction we have the repeated calls to legalise illegal drugs. Those arguments are deeply flawed and profoundly risky. We are told that the war on drugs has failed because drug abuse continues in countries across the world, and that we need now to explore the alternatives of legalisation. Claiming that the war on drugs has failed because drugs abuse continues makes about as much sense as saying that the laws against murder have failed because homicide continues in every country across the world. We have the laws against murder not to eradicate murder from our societies but to express in the clearest possible terms that murder is wrong and that when it occurs those who murder should expect to be punished.

But why do we even think that the war on drugs has failed. Indeed the notion of a war on drugs is unbelievably crass - it is a straw man used by those who wish to see the legalisation of illegal drugs. What we have in most countries across the world is not a war on drugs but a policy that combines treatment, prevention and drug enforcement. Those who recommend legalising drugs want to see the role of enforcement diluted and much greater emphasis on drugs treatment. That would be fine if we had effective treatments for drug addiction but we do not. What we have instead are doctors telling us that the best they can offer is life-long methadone for those who become addicted to illegal drugs. It is ironic that some of the most ardent supporters of legalisation in Australia are the very same doctors who are the most ardent supporters of the harm reduction policy of prescribing methadone to heroin addicts.

We are often told that the policy of drugs legalisation would enable the government to make hundreds of millions in tax revenue; raking in the profits presently enjoyed by the criminal gangs running the drugs trade. The idea of governments across the world trading in some of the most addictive substances on the planet is a grotesque image. But the advocates of legalisation will tell you we already have that in the tobacco and the alcohol industries whose taxes swell the exchequers across the world. And of course they are right but do we really want to extend that misery? And what would we be spending all that money on other than more and more treatment for those who had become addicted?

Those who support the legalisation of illegal drugs now find themselves turning with increasing enthusiasm to the situation in Portugal where since 2002 all drugs have been legalised. But drugs legalisation in Portugal has not been the unquestioned success that many would have us believe. From 2003 to 2009 Portugal has seen a 2% increase in recorded crime, a 3% increase in murders, a 4% increase in drug trafficking, and an 18% increase in robberies.

Aside from those statistics it is very dangerous for countries across the globe to replicate what has happened in one place on the basis that it offers them a template to pursue similar policies in their own area. Within the UK we were recently led down the road of 24-hour a day alcohol sales on the basis that this would enable our country to adopt a Mediterranean style café culture that would effectively tackle our legendary alcohol problem. What that policy has delivered instead is a night-time economy of alcohol fuelled harm, chaos, violence and criminality from which our country is now reeling. We now have politicians struggling to reverse a policy they should never have implemented in the first place.

But suppose for one minute that Australia followed the enthusiastic counsel of Dr Alex Wodak and others who favour legalisation. What you would have is either heroin for sale in

your local pharmacy, which most people would not support, or doctors given responsibility for prescribing the drug to those who want to use it. In the face of such government sponsored heroin prescribing it is hard to imagine that the existing criminal gangs would simply pack up their bags and move into some other area of illegal activity. What they would do instead is seek to undermine the government regulated scheme by vigorous promotion of their own drug dealing networks. Faced with that competition the government would find itself back where it started - only this time they would be fighting not to eradicate the drugs trade but to control it.

Legalisation of illegal drugs is a policy heavily promoted by those who see it as delivering a liberal nirvana in which everybody gets the high they desire and nobody pays the price for other peoples' pleasure. We need to ask ourselves though what are the positives of using illegal drugs? In what way does drug abuse actually benefit society, strengthen individuals, and enliven communities? If the fight against illegal drugs is long and costly and may never be won that is not a reason to give up but to continue in the face of that challenge because the alternative of widespread drug abuse is a liberal nightmare not a liberal heaven.

What we are now seeing in laboratories across the globe is the production of new legal high drugs whose effects mimic the illegal drugs but whose chemistry is subtly different to take these drugs outside the realm of law enforcement. We are facing new challenges in relation to a drugs trade that is chasing profits with little regard for the harms that are caused. The response on the part of government cannot be to provide a green light to the drugs trade but to do all it can to reduce the scale of that problem. To provide treatment, prevention, and vigorous enforcement and to set aside the counsel of those who, for whatever reason, are happy to see drug use proliferate in our communities. ■

**Neil McKeganey - CDMR Director**  
[www.drugmisuseresearch.org](http://www.drugmisuseresearch.org)  
**Dalgarno Institute 0400 984 288**

## Young People Don't Know!

**Y**OUNG people do not possess the knowledge or skills required to adhere to Government guidelines for responsible alcohol consumption. This is the conclusion of a new British study published in the journal *Drug and Alcohol Review*.

Led by Richard de Visser, PhD, of the University of Sussex, researchers examined young people's knowledge of, and use of Government guidelines for safe alcohol consumption. A total of 309 secondary school students and 125 university students in England completed a survey regarding knowledge and beliefs. The university students also reported their alcohol consumption and completed tasks in which they poured their 'usual' drinks and what the Government guidelines for maximum 'unit' consumption on a daily and weekly basis.

Most respondents lacked the knowledge and skills required to drink in accordance with the Government guidelines.

Participants' 'usual' drinks were substantially larger than one unit, and participants tended to underestimate the unit content of drinks.

For 5 of the 7 items examining knowledge and guidelines, fewer than half of the respondents gave correct responses.

Although university students gave a significantly greater number of accurate estimates than did school students, only a quarter of their estimates were within plus or minus 10% of actual content. The majority of estimates were underestimates: 52% among school students, 65% among university students.

"Our results mean that people's reports of drinking patterns in research may lead to inaccurate estimates of the health effects of different levels of alcohol use," de Visser notes. "There may be a need for more and/or different alcohol education in schools and the media." ■

**Alcohol Alert Spring 2012.**