

# The Australian Rechabite

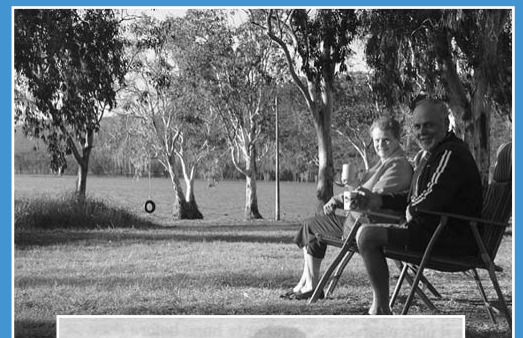
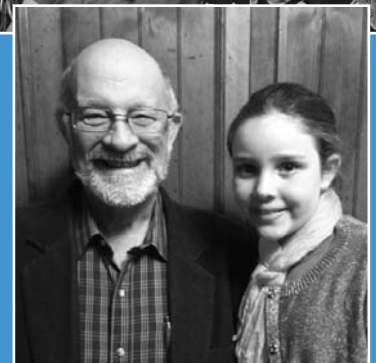
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*Rechabites:  
People who enjoy an  
alcohol-free lifestyle*



*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

**S**EPTEMBER this year brings up the 130th Anniversary of the founding of the IOR New South Wales District No. 85. Bro Robert G Ennever became the first District Chief Ruler on 24th September 1884.

It is interesting to note that forty-two years before, the first Tent to be established in Australia occurred on 20th April 1842, just seven years after the Society was established in Salford, England. It was *Star of Australia Tent No.1*, Sydney, in what was to be the Sydney District. A second Tent, *Morning Star Tent* was commenced a month later, in May. By September 1842 a third Tent was begun in Launceston, Tasmania, and it was from Tasmania that the Rechabite movement was to spread across Australia.

The founder of the work here in Australia was Bro John Garrett, who was High Deputy Ruler in England in 1836 and emigrated to NSW in July 1840. His move from Sydney to Tasmania resulted in the collapse of the Rechabite movement in Sydney.

It was not until 12th June 1878 that Bro Ennever, who moved up from Melbourne, established *Captain Cook Tent No.1* in Sydney and the work in NSW put down roots.

Establishing and maintaining the Independent Order of Rechabites has not been easy. Detractors in England said it would not last five years. Regretfully after a proud history of over 160 years the Order in England was forced to become an insurance company.

Although faced with similar government legislation here in Australia we have managed to survive in spite of the difficulties of the 1840s. So, here we are, over 170 years later, with a fine heritage behind us looking to – what kind of future?

Bro Phillip Ramsay, in his article opposite, lays down the challenge for Rechabites to keep going. The question is, 'In what form?' Are we just a WOWSERS Club, or do We Only Want Social Evils Removed, and if so, how are we going to go about doing it?

Are we presenting our cause clearly? Are we seeking new membership? We congratulate Bro Don Legge for winning the Victorian District's competition for signing up the most new members last year. We should all follow Bro Don's example.

Researching, yet again, the forgoing historical facts I came across an article I wrote in 1998 for *The NSW Rechabite* entitled "Why am I a Rechabite?" Yes, the financial benefits were good, but undersold, something I tried hard to rectify during my 23 years on staff, but the basic reason was the influence of other Rechabites, like Bro Horace Memory and the work of Ivy Biggs, nee Oates, in the Band of Hope meetings she ran back in 1943. Yes, I too signed The Pledge at age 10, fully knowing what and why I was doing it. I owe this lady, who is still living, a great deal.

We need more Ivy's and more Horace's. Will you be one?

*Vivian A Belcher*  
Editor

## A Life Cut Short

**H**E went to New Zealand for a great time, yet this 19-year-old, falling from a second floor balcony died because he chose to drink alcohol. What a waste of a life! What a tragedy for his family!

Yet so many of our young people think it's smart to drink! Yeah?? ■

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 2015**

# Rechabites Keep Going



The following article  
from **Rev Phillip Ramsay**  
is a challenge to us all.

**Y**OU will see by my title, that I am an optimist. An abstainer from alcohol all my 94 years, a single-minded crusader – as every Rechabite should be. Rather roughly, people generally regard us ‘temperance zealots’. We have no quarrel with that. Quite unfairly, we are labelled “wowsers”. What it really means is **We Only Want Social Evils Removed**. We believe in our product!

When I signed The Pledge with the Band of Hope in Christchurch, NZ at age 10, ‘By wise tuition, I knew what I was doing’ - a good start to my youth years, then to responsible citizenship. There is nothing like it for youngsters today – more the pity.

Today there is no alcohol instruction – its nature and effects – at Public Schools. True, there have been attempts; but scuttled by educators who could not agree on the definition of ‘moderate’ drinking!

In all kindness, I describe the sparsely attended “Tent” meeting. With few members under 50 years of age, there is the speedy conduct of business, then off to indoor bowls or some other social attraction, supper and home.

To employ the military metaphor, when the Tent meets, they are ‘enjoying’ AWOL. The meeting should have some time surveying the battlefield and be swift to patch up the wounded. We must give time and place for renewing our vision; upholding our first love, ‘Doing our rifle drill’. Making the meeting ‘count’.

There is a place for laughing, darts and indoor bowls, even friendly chatter, but we need to spend some time and energy, studying the battlefield,

learning how to be a straight shooter, a medal-winning soldier, brave and enquiring. There is no medal on offer for indoor bowls. As it is, the enemy is beating us ‘hands down’.

However, glad surprises come! Read our last magazine, March 2014, page 3: *Annerley Tent No. 67*, Brisbane, celebrated its centenary. But read on: “The future is unknown, but *Annerley Tent No. 67* plans to remain active for some time to come.” That’s the spirit.

Indoor bowls successes, an occasional banquet and nostalgic accounts “of the good old days we enjoyed” – when down our street, there are those struggling with alcohol addiction; which do we choose?

We know the present crop of youngsters will be thrown – or attracted – to the drinking culture. No longer in charge of himself, unable to resist social pressures – he begins “binge” drinking with so-called friends. What twisted thinking that getting drunk is fun, fun, fun! We could find the time to help him get the best from his zestful years. Without help, he has a dilemma: to swim or sink. Too often, it’s the latter.

Early in 19th Century England there was a severe economic depression – men drowning their sorrows in ale and cheap wine. The more sober ones decided on self-help. Members introduced money allowances for the ill, for burial costs, and they introduced a savings scheme. They held on to a ray of hope, The Rechabites, the Band of Hope, The Good Templars, the IOOF and the Ancient Order of Foresters devised a system of Alcohol Education for the young.

When these members migrated to Australia and New Zealand they took their “Lodges” with them. The Juvenile Department was a huge success. A sign of the harmony of lodges in my area was my attendance on three different nights! Almost team work!

Now no study of alcohol problems is complete without the USA “Prohibition”. “It was a failure” is the tiring cliché. Truth shouts from the housetops that it was a fourteen-year success in daring social welfare (early 1920 to late 1933). The only Amendment The United States Constitution has ever repealed!

By “success” I turn to health and social statistics – greater savings, better health, even more drinking of milk! By “failure” I mean no curbing of Al Capone making a fortune out of guns and threatening. Hidden powers that be, including liquor traders, nominating people who were corrupt – determined to wreck law-abiding people and their hopes. Public servants yielding to bribes. It’s all documented! In a phrase, *Evil Intent* was top man on the totem pole. It is remarkable that all this corruption has been swept under the carpet.

No abstainers should fail, tire or limp. We must become single-minded! We as Rechabites, advocate temperance, education, and health issues! I put education first. Then, find ways to get alongside teenagers. We should be noticed by the community, not as a private social club, but as soldiers at war, salesmen who can “do the deal”. We believe in our product! We dismiss discouragement and despair.

We dare not follow the leader! Rechabites, keep going! But where? Not the business part of the Tent meeting, not time-wasting chatter, not even the indoor bowls or darts! In our figure, we should be studying the battlefield, be brave and enquiring. Why is the enemy beating us?

The Tent Meeting business is brief. Conversations, indoor bowls, reports of motor tours, darts - these can be long! Why allow our energies all work and no play? Nothing wrong, except we are AWOL! To “Remain active for some time to come”. That’s the spirit!

*Continued on page 4* ▶▶▶



## Rechabites Keep Going

*Continued from page 3*

Could it be that our low esteem, our elderly limping, our few attendees, and limited inter-Tent functions, can stage a reunion?

We are small in numbers, and tired. We are not keeping up with our nation's fast-moving social changes. Talking about alcohol problems prompts a yawn? Does our interest in the past cause us to neglect our future, the fast-living style of the teenager, his choice of values, his inability to choose? Are we turning our backs upon the proven good and going along with the heresy of drunkenness as fun, fun, fun?

By Census, ten percent of Australian and New Zealand adults are abstainers! That gives hope, even in spite of the vigorous liquor advertising.

Pleasant as our social programmes are, they can divert us from our primary mission: Giving our thirsty nation an antidote! Take, for example, the youthful 'binge' drinking: The hero is the fastest to intoxicate! His peers give him a prize of more beer! Young people have had no teaching about the nature and effects of beverage alcohol. We should not blame them. We should try to help them. Rechabites could fight for its beliefs from the front trench!

In a modest way, Rechabites can assist those young people. A Friendly Society teaches me to act: Helpfully. I do that, not for duty's sake, but because I have a deep interest in the teenager's well being - more so than the barman or licensee! I have a deep interest in the teenager and his parents. Education is the door to sobriety and health. One to one teaching is not easy - but very rewarding. Disagreements soften; common ground is found. First, it clashes with our common talk. The nearest to our subject is the ill-defined "Moderate" drinker. We as Rechabites need not argue the point. Our first concern is a study of the main "problem", alcohol and its distribution. So Rechabites, keep going! ■

## Victorian News

### The State Committee Report

**O**UR 18th Annual Conference will be held at Belmont (Geelong Area) on Tuesday 21st October 2014. This is a great time for all members in Victoria to get together and discuss many aspects of our Order.

This year a donation of \$1,000.00 has been sent to the Dalgarno Institute from all our members. The prize of \$100.00, that was won by Bro Don Legge for signing up the most members last year, has also been given to Dalgarno.

In future the State Committee will only be meeting every 2nd month (or at least once a quarter) unless needing to meet otherwise. We are finding that we do not have as much business to attend to as we have in previous years.

*Gwenda Martyn  
State Secretary*

### Region News

#### Region 6 MORWELL (Gippsland)

**O**UR Region had another successful meeting in May this year, although we were few in number with many apologies.

We meet at the Morwell Neighbourhood House, which is a lovely building with equipment suitable for most of our speakers. As the ladies of the House could not do a lunch for us, we catered for ourselves with thanks to Gwenda and Peg for the work they did.

We all have a great social time together with lots of chatter and laughter. The meeting commences at 11.00am,

lunch at 12 noon and a speaker in the afternoon.

We have members who travel as far away as Bunyip and Bairnsdale (which is approximately 200 kms apart) so we cover a large area. Meeting in Morwell is about half way for both of these towns.

After lunch we had a DVD called "Mooramong - Private Hollywood" shown to us. This is a property now owned by the National Trust that the Holiday Club visited on their last trip. Further information about "Mooramong" is noted in the Holiday Club Report. Gwenda also talked about the other places that the Holiday Club visited.

We are lucky to have at least four of the State Committee Members present who live in the area. Our meeting is of great importance to people in our Region as this is sometimes the only IOR meeting that they can attend. The only Tent meeting in the Region is *Hope of Moe Tent No. 488*.

Our **NEXT MEETING** will be held on **Saturday 25th October, 2014**. It is hoped that we will see a film about a trip to Vietnam and Cambodia that was taken at the end of 2013.

Our meeting is open to all members in the area, but please ring me on (03) 5177 8144 so adequate catering arrangements can be made.

*Gwenda Martyn  
Secretary Region 6*

#### Region 7 HARCOURT (Central Victoria)

**O**UR members and friends met on March 16th at Harcourt starting with a lovely cold luncheon prepared by Jan Jenkins and we welcomed our State *Continued on page 5* - ►►►

## Region News *Continued* - >>>

President, Bro Geoff Legge and his wife Gillian to our gathering.

Following our vittles, our President Betty Buckingham opened the 'Formal' part of the afternoon by welcoming all present with a special welcome to Eric and Pat Loader who were back after illness. Eric again came with some beautiful multi-coloured Dahlias and Gladies from his garden. Bro George of Bendigo, present for the first time, also received a special mention. Eric and Pat come from Waubra, a town noted for the Wind Farm and they are explicit that they are not troubled by them and have to look for them to remember they are there.

It was with some sadness that we learnt that Sis Betty Paull is finding complete recovery slow following her knee problems and cannot sit comfortably for long. The Secretary also advised that the Queensland District had lost, after a short illness, Bro Bob Cook. An Obit was in the last issue of *The Australian Rechabite*.

Reports of the October Conference were given and it was noted how the address from Bro Bruce Legge R.A.N. on Naval life was terrific. Bro Geoff also spoke of the Conference and was very pleased that Alcohol in the Navy was not now as prolific as it seemed to be. When questioned why the Victorian Committee was asking for places to hold future Conferences up to 4 years hence, the reply was that they were finding suitable places difficult to locate.

A very enjoyable afternoon drew to an end with afternoon tea. Bro Geoff was very informative and will be welcomed back again at our

**NEXT MEETING** to be held on **Sunday, 19th October, 2014**

at 12.30pm at Bingham Road, Harcourt.

This is the Sunday before our Annual Conference.

For catering purposes, please advise your intended attendance at our next meeting by ringing 9306 4968. Thank you.

**John Flett**  
*Secretary Region 7*



**F**ROM Monday 17th to Friday 21st March 2014 twenty-nine members travelled on the Coach Tour to Hamilton and its surrounds staying at the Bandicoot Motor Inn.

We travelled to Ballarat, visiting the recently opened Museum of Australian Democracy of Eureka (M.A.D.E.). The museum is also the home of the original Eureka Flag. The museum combines historic artefacts with high-tech displays to convey the central theme of Democracy = People + Power. The museum also gave us an insight into how democracy evolved in Australia as well as making us think about where we stand in shaping the future.

After lunch in Ballarat we continued on to Skipton, where we visited the fascinating Mooramong Homestead. "Mooramong" was built in the 1880s and was a large, successful property owned by the Mackinnon family.

It became the stuff of legend in the 1930s when Scobie Mackinnon, Skipton's most eligible bachelor, married silent screen star Clair Adams after a whirlwind affair of three weeks. After a 12 months honeymoon travelling the world they arrived at "Mooramong".

The home was remodelled in 1938 to reflect the Hollywood style and included an in-ground swimming pool, which was at the time, the largest private pool in the Southern Hemisphere. Scobie and Clair had no children, so on their death their home was donated to the National Trust to become a reserve for native animals. Several trusts from their estate still continue on today, with the Skipton School receiving a very large donation each year. The home today is essentially as they left it, allowing us an insight into their lives and a time long past.

*Continued over* >>>

### Region Meeting Dates for 2014-15 - Victoria

Date	Region	Secretary	Tel. No.	District
September Wednesday 9th	9	L Jukes	5762 5584	Kyabram
October Sunday 19th	7	J Flett	9306 4968	Harcourt
October Saturday 25th	6	G Martyn	5177 8144	Morwell
November Sunday 9th	4/5	N Robilliard	9580 8614	Mordialloc

#### 2015 (Dates to be confirmed)

February Sunday 8th	4/5	N Robilliard	9580 8614	Mordialloc
March Sunday 15th	7	J Flett	9306 4968	Harcourt
March Wednesday 18th	9	L Jukes	5762 5584	Kyabram
April Saturday 25th	6	G Martyn	5177 8144	Morwell
May Sunday 3rd	4/5	N Robilliard	9580 8614	Mordialloc

## IOR Caravan & Holiday Club

*Continued from page 6* ▶▶▶

From here we passed through Lake Bolac and Dunkeld before reaching our home for the next four nights – Hamilton. A prosperous and pleasant city, Hamilton is known as the “Wool Capital”, as a 50km radius around the city contains more sheep per hectare than anywhere else in the world!

**Day 2, Tuesday**, we departed from Hamilton and enjoyed a delightful two hour “Lunch Cruise” on board the “Nelson Endeavour”. We cruised up and down the Glenelg River enjoying the scenery on either side of the banks.

Back on dry land we re-boarded the coach and made our way to Portland. As the only deep-sea port between Adelaide and Melbourne it is a major exporting centre for the produce of SW Victoria and SE South Australia. Local contributions to the local economy are made by an aluminium smelter, the fertiliser industry, wool stores and the fishing industry focusing particularly on crayfish, lobsters, shark, abalone and deep-sea trawling.

In the afternoon, we boarded Portland’s fully restored 19th Century Cable Tram for a 8km return journey. A must do for cable car enthusiasts.

**Day 3, Wednesday**, we explored the Grampian’s, the natural heart of Victoria, with a local guide. We explored this amazing landscape with its spectacular views, luxuriant fern gullies, man made lakes, famous wineries, rugged Australian bush, olive groves, rare and enthralling flora and fauna and waterfalls, which tumbled down mountainsides, carving through ancient rock. The Grampian’s is Australia’s richest floral area, with one third of Victoria’s indigenous flora, over 1,000 species, 26 of which, do not occur naturally outside of the area.

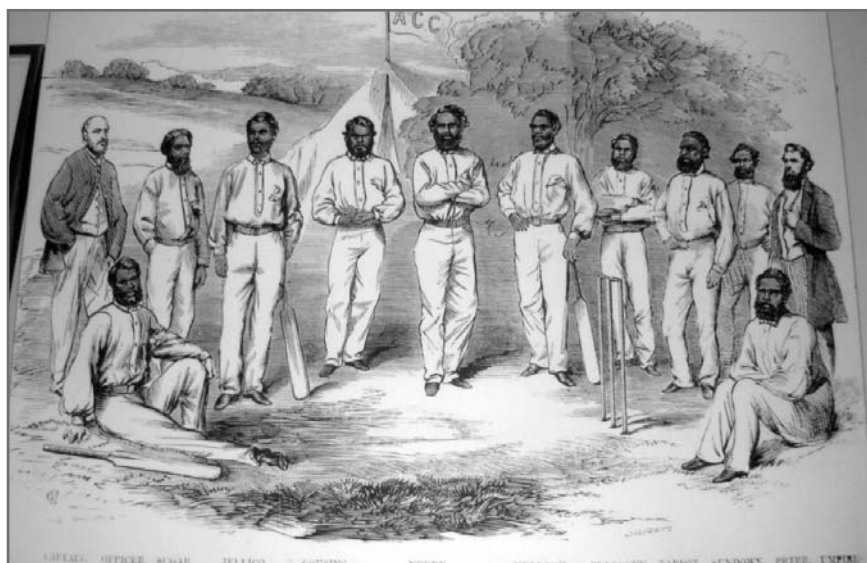
On returning to Hamilton we visited the Sir Reginald Ansett Museum, which displays a range of memorabilia reflecting the history of Australia’s first airline and the story of how it all started.

**Day 4, Thursday**, we made our way through the little township of Coleraine to Harrow. Nestled in a valley beside the picturesque Glenelg River, historic Harrow lays claim to the title of Victoria’s oldest inland township.



*President Kenn Bingham with “Madame” at Harrow*

Also the first cricket team to visit England came from Harrow, the team were all black aboriginal cricketers of the 1860s. The whole day was a step back in time to the era of ration cards.



*The first Australian Cricket Team to play England in the 1860s. (All Black)*

Our guide for the day played her part well and we all had a most fantastic day.

**Day 5, Friday**, was the last day of our tour, but before we left Hamilton, we visited Campe’s Motor Museum, which houses approximately 70 old cars, trucks and memorabilia. There are also 78 cars with full registration in the museum and all start with the turn of the key. Many of the cars

prompted a walk down memory lane from the first driving lesson or “that’s just like the one Dad used to have”.

We then travelled on to Terang where we visited the “Modelbarn”, where a huge collection of model cars, trucks, toys and collectibles really did thrill the inner-child in us. Described as an automotive history in miniature, the barn caters for collectors and hobby builders of most wheeled vehicles. The museum included a working model train layout and a diverse display of cars, trucks and tractors.

Many members felt that this tour was one of the best they had encountered and a big “Thank You” is given to Joyce Wallace and her “crew” for all the work they undertook in the planning and execution of this trip.

Our coach diver, David, has also to be thanked for all his patience with everyone on the trip. He was only too willing to get the “walkers” on and off the coach each time we stopped. He was also a wealth of information. ■

## 2015 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.

*Continued on page 7*





# 2014 Victorian Scholarship Winners



**A** GAIN the State Committee is truly heartened by the very high standard of the students who apply for the Scholarships and it promises well for the future of our Society with these young adults. We are pleased to advise that this years Scholarship winners are:



**Nicholas CLARK**  
Grandson of Stan and Edna Davey  
School: Warragul Regional College

**C**URRENTLY in Year 11, I am attending Warragul Regional College studying Year 12 Drama, Music, English, Math Methods, History and Biology.

My interests include music, drama and sport and I have just completed the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award. I play a variety of instruments including piano, guitar, bass, drums, ukulele and banjo, with aspirations to learn more. I also write and perform original music with my sister and friends.

I have been in many different theatre productions ranging from pantomimes to big local musical productions and alternate theatre pieces.

Many sports greatly interest me, but I choose to participate in soccer and basketball.

I attend Warragul Uniting Church where I am regularly involved in singing and in various aspects of worship.

The IOR Scholarship will benefit me as I continue to further my skills and knowledge in music, possibly buying more instruments or updating some of my old ones.

I would personally like to thank IOR for this Scholarship and for your support of youth in their pursuits.

I would also like to thank my grandparents for nominating me and for encouraging me to pursue this opportunity. ■



**Brendan CROUCH**  
Grandson of Bruce Crouch  
School: Wanganui Park Secondary College, Shepparton

**A**T THE moment I am attending the Wanganui Park Secondary College in Shepparton. After Secondary School I hope to attend University and obtain a Law Degree or a Degree in Physical Education.

Currently I am participating in sport at a competitive level – Cricket – Seniors and Country Representative Cricket. I am also a Cricket umpire for the Cricket Umpire Shepparton Association.

I compete in athletics at a State level and enjoy cycling, riding daily to keep fit. For leisure I compete in Motor Cross Sport and also enjoy playing golf.

I am interested in photography and enjoy taking photos, so purchased a good quality camera to enable me to take good quality photos. I also collect movies and television series.

Engaged in a Voluntary Activities-School based programme, I help increase awareness of underprivileged members of our society through art. ■



**Frida DRYSDALE**  
Daughter of Rod Drysdale  
School: Lavalla Catholic College Traralgon

**I**AM studying at Lavalla Catholic College in Traralgon and plan on using my IOR Scholarship to hire a tutor to assist me with my Maths and Science subjects.

I enjoy reading and listening to music, but my favourite subject, unusual, though true, is Maths.

My aims for the future are to become either an officer or an engineer in the Australian Defence Force. I believe I have the determination to reach my goals.

My hobbies include Archery and exercise, as I believe there are more ways than one to push your mind and body further towards new personal bests. I enjoy going to Archery with my father and both of us have won many awards over the past few years.

## 2015 Victorian Scholarships

Students in Year 10 this year (2014) 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 2014** from:

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

## From the Queensland District Chief Ruler

**M**AY I introduce myself, my name is Sister Glenys Harbottle (nee Colston) and I am now the current District Chief Ruler. Although elections are due to be held later this year, I became DCR following the death of our late District Secretary, Bro Bob Cook. Bro Bob's death required a complete reshuffle of the Queensland Executive.

At age sixteen I became a Rechabite, joining *Lutwyche Tent No. 99*. My late aunt, Sis Grace Law, introduced both my siblings and I to the Rechabites. I was initiated into the Tent in April, 1986 (I think!) and went through the offices up to Chief Ruler of the Tent.

Towards the latter days of our Tent, I helped Sis. Grace with the books and when the Tent officially closed, I became a member of *Hearts of Oak Tent No. 29* where my husband, Bro Ian Harbottle and his parents attended. Within a couple of years, I became secretary of the Tent. During my time, starting from Lutwyche, I joined the then *Rechabite Sports & Social Association* holding the positions of Assistant Secretary and later Treasurer.

Some Members may remember me from the time I started working at the Queensland District Office in 1988. I met many people during that time and have made many friends throughout the Order. I am honoured to be the District Chief Ruler of the Queensland Rechabites and I know that my family would be proud to know that I have reached the highest position in the Independent Order of Rechabites, Queensland District No. 87.

**Glenys Harbottle DCR**

## For You to Know

*How does the Queensland District use the membership dues of its 586 members?*

**A**PART from necessary administrative costs, the provision of this twice yearly magazine and your calendar at the end of the year, the most exciting use is to support worthwhile organisations in their work.

The Queensland District Executive in the 2013/2014 financial year donated a total of \$4,000 on behalf of Queensland members to three organisations: Drug ARM Australasia, The Australian Rechabite Foundation and Teen Challenge Queensland.

Drug ARM Australasia will use its \$2,000 donation to purchase over 40 publications on topics including addiction and healthcare for its Resource Centre. This will assist its commitment to reduce harms associated with alcohol and other drugs as it serves the community by providing hope, healing and recovery.

*The Australian Rechabite Foundation* (ARF) was established to perpetuate the name and legacy of the Independent Order of Rechabites. The \$1,000 donation will only be a small part of approximately \$50,000 that the ARF is required to spend each year.

In 2014/15, the ARF is supporting two main activities:

- \* Scholarships to support postgraduate students in PhD research on a topic which will contribute to reducing the negative health and social impacts of alcohol consumption in Australia.

- \* A small-grant programme for community action projects, which hold the promise of reducing drinking and its harm in the community.

Our gift of \$1,000 to Teen Challenge Queensland will be used to help

young men and women who are struggling with the effects of addiction, self-harm, eating disorders, depression and other life controlling issues. The Executive Director of the organisation reports that 'According to the California Drug and Alcohol Treatment Assessment, for every \$1 invested into the treatment of substance abuse there is a return of \$7 from social benefits including reduced health costs, crime and lost productivity. When young men and women have the opportunity to improve their lives, everyone benefits.'

For more information on ways to further support these organisations, please use the following contact details:

Drug ARM Australasia  
GPO Box 590,  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

The Australian Rechabite Foundation  
PO Box 4001  
Eight Mile Plains, QLD, 4113

Teen Challenge Queensland  
PO Box 3376,  
South Brisbane QLD 4101

Donations of \$2 or more to these organisations are tax deductible.

**Bro Peter Henderson,**  
**District Treasurer**

## Help!

**W**E are looking for two Queensland members who made membership payments in June but didn't provide either their name or membership number. If you think this could be you, please telephone the District Secretary, Sis Cynthia Kilah on (07) 3392 9431. Thank you.

## Benefit Information

**N**EEDING information about your Funeral Benefit and Death Benefit Funds?

Please contact Foresters Friendly Society who manages these funds. ►



Foresters Friendly Society  
GPO Box 4702  
MELBOURNE VIC 3001  
(03) 9329 1611 or  
Free call: 1800 645 326



## Tent News

**M**EMBERS of David Livingstone Tent No. 5 and Annerley Tent No. 67 are enjoying their varied, additional program in 2014. This year we have enjoyed a number of outings but one highlight was the fish and chip picnic lunch at Wynnum. Good food, bright sunshine, beautiful surroundings and good companions – what more could you ask for?

Apart from our Tent meetings the following activities are planned for the rest of the year:

### 21 September

Picnic lunch at Roma Street Parklands.

### 21 October

Dining Out – to be advised.

### November

Live Theatre – to be advised.

### 13 December

District Christmas Party.

Please contact Bro Peter Henderson on 0419 640 493 or Sis Judy Swan on 3376 3773 if you would like to attend or require more information. The invitation is open to all, not just Tent members.

## Pitching their Tents Elsewhere

**C**OMMENCING on Tuesday, 5th August 2014, David Livingstone Tent No. 5 and Annerley Tent No. 67 will meet in the Wellers Hill Tarragindi Uniting Church House, Pope Street Tarragindi at 7.30pm.

Meetings will be held on the **first Tuesday of the month** with another activity during the month.

For more information please contact Sis Margaret Andrews on 3208 1848 or Bro Peter Henderson on 0419 640 493. ■

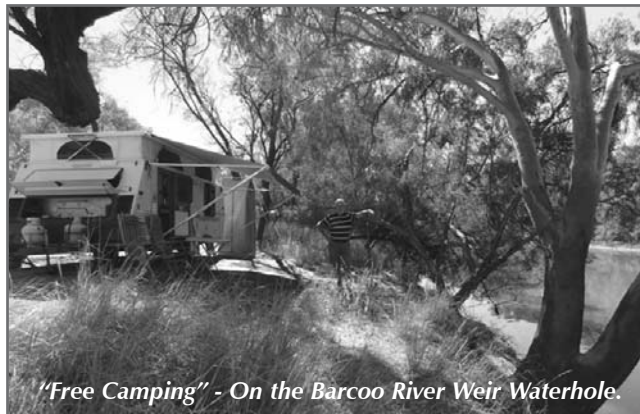


**O**N Wednesday, 7th May, 2014, we, Bro Noel and Sis Margaret Andrews, ventured out with our caravan to tour Queensland for eight weeks.

Starting at Brisbane, we travelled through Gympie, Kilkivan, Mundubbera, Collinsville, Burdekin Falls Dam, Malanda, Karumba, Adel's Grove, Mt Isa, Boulia, Winton, Isisford, Emerald, Theodore, Leyburn and back. There were many other towns in between.

We had great weather and only struck really cold weather when we ventured south of Isisford.

Free stays were our main accommodation where we stayed on the banks of rivers and creeks with no power. A couple of weeks with friends at Malanda and Mt Isa and some caravan parks were our other accommodation.



From the caves at Chillagoe, the Undara Lava Tubes to sunsets over the Gulf of Carpentaria at Karumba, seeing tree climbing kangaroos and

platypus in the wild, visiting many museums in small outback towns, cruising down rivers and seeing crocodiles sunning themselves on the river banks, watching families of magpie geese pass by our front door at Leichhardt Lagoon near Normanton, attending the Normanton rodeo (something we hadn't done before), showering with snakes and frogs, talk-

*When there is no other way to see what you want to see, - take a Canoe!*



ing to gold fossickers about their finds and seeing what they found during that day, hearing complaints from fishermen that the weather is too cold, too windy, too low a tide and

many other excuses as to why they didn't catch any fish, and so it goes on.

The people we met were wonderful, many from below the border as it was the time of the year when the 'Mexicans' come north.

We are looking forward to our next trip after we fix our caravan. ■

*Lucky ducks! Ed.*

# Queensland's AGM

THE Queensland Annual District Council and Annual General Meeting will be held on  
**Saturday, 18 October 2014**

Wellers Hill-Tarragindi Uniting Church Hall Pope Street, Tarragindi Commencing at 3.00pm  
All members are encouraged to attend.

Your present officers are:

**District Chief Ruler– Glenys Harbottle**

**District Deputy Ruler – Noel Andrews**

**District Secretary – Cynthia Kilah**

**District Treasurer – Peter Henderson**

**District Officers – Margaret Andrews - Jim MacDonald**

## TEMPERANCE TOPICS

# Earlier pub closing times key to reducing alcohol-fuelled assaults

**By Kypros Kypri**

*Professor, Public Health,  
Epidemiology & Prevention of  
Alcohol-related Injury and Disease  
at University of Newcastle*

**E**ARLIER pub closing times have a large impact on curbing alcohol-fuelled violence, according to research my colleagues and I have published today in the international peer-reviewed journal *Drug & Alcohol Review*.

Along with systematic reviews of the scientific literature, these findings suggest the New South Wales government's new laws requiring most pubs, bars, and clubs in Sydney's central business district to stop serving alcohol at 3am are likely to reduce assault rates.

The research published today shows the large positive effects of the March 2008 restriction in pub closing times in Newcastle's central business district continue while "softer" measures (including lockouts) introduced in neighbouring Hamilton from 2010 have been ineffective.

Previous research showed the late-

night assault rate in central Newcastle fell by a third in the 18 months to September 2009, without evidence of violence being displaced to the earlier hours of the evening or neighbouring areas. This latest study shows the effects have been sustained in the five years to March 2013.

### A successful experiment

Due to frequent episodes of alcohol-related violence and other disorder in the central business district of Newcastle, the NSW Liquor Administration Board (since abolished) imposed restrictions on 14 venues in 2008. Pubs and clubs were required to close at 3:30am, and to implement a 1:30am lockout to prevent new patrons from entering the venue.

Lockouts, in which patrons can remain drinking but cannot enter new premises after a certain time, are unique to Australasia. They've only been studied a handful of times, and some of the research published in scientific journals has significant design limitations. Indeed, the most we can say about lockouts is that they're not supported by scientific evidence.

What occurred in Hamilton — no significant reduction in the assault rate over five years — is consistent

with this view of lockouts being ineffective. Clearly, earlier closing times or at least stopping alcohol sales earlier is the key to preventing assaults.

Regrettably, there's confusion among media commentators about the distinction between the cessation of alcohol sales and lockouts.

### Confusing two measures

Last week for instance, public policy fellow at the University of Melbourne and former senior policy adviser to a Victorian Labor government, Nicholas Reece published an opinion piece in Fairfax newspapers in which he criticised NSW's alcohol laws based on just such a misunderstanding.

Reece conflated lockouts, which now come into effect at 1:30am in Sydney's central business district, with the cessation of alcohol sales, which now occurs at 3am, citing a study of lockouts in Ballarat (not available online).

That study was poorly designed and not published in the peer-reviewed scientific literature. It shouldn't be the basis of a news item, let alone public policy.

Reece argued that in the same way the supposed benefits of lockouts in  
**Continued on page 12** ▶▶▶





## From the NSW State Chief Ruler

**GREETINGS** everyone, the year is flying by. Earlier in the year I was very busy visiting all the NSW tents and attending another funeral of a good Rechabite friend.

I was greeted warmly at each of the four tent meetings I attended. Each meeting was different from the others but all were promoting the Alcohol Free Life.

My long time Rechabite friend, Bev Williams, passed away in February and I had the honour of attending her funeral.

By the time you are reading this we will have been to Mt Annan Botanical Gardens and will be very close to celebrating 130 years of Rechabites in NSW at a luncheon at Hornsby RSL on Saturday 13th September.

Our Annual meeting is planned for 18th October at Uniting Church Hall, 11 Carrington Ave., Strathfield and our Annual Family Picnic is planned for Lake Gillawarna, Georges Hall on Saturday 29th November at 10.30am. We are meeting in the Garrison Point Carpark.

This is the last article I will be writing this year so I wish everyone a Glad Christmas and New Year greetings.

**Jeanette Sheldon**  
State Chief Ruler NSW



# New South Wales News

## Friendship Tent No.20 Strathfield

**O**UR *Friendship Tent* is just a small group, but we are quite active and enjoying our monthly outings. There are so many interesting places to visit.

In April, *Friendship Tent No. 20*, with invited friends, went on a tour of the ABC. We were shown various studios and TV sets.



*Getting heads together in the Wig Room at the ABC Studios.*



The photos are of the wig room and make-up room. Our tour was finished by 11am in time for morning tea. Refreshed, we looked for something to do till lunch time.



*Members enjoying the new Light Rail.*

The newest section of the light rail had recently been finished and operating, so we made good use of our \$2.50 travel tickets and experienced the new carriage (very roomy) and the new section to Dulwich Hill. On the return trip we alighted at the fish markets for lunch.

In May we visited Moving Mannequin Magic at Oakville near Windsor. This establishment is owned and operated by the gentleman who used to make the moving models for the shop Christmas window displays, David Jones etc., Checkers nightclub, Jo Jo Ivory a robotic pianist. The models are housed in a huge barn and we were entertained with stories of his experiences, and weak jokes. His latest addition is a recreated grotto with the story of Cinderella, bringing back memories of childhood Christmas.

Our June outing was a tour of Carisbrook House, Lane Cove.

Carisbrook House is the oldest surviving house in Lane Cove. We started with morning tea in the garden with the hosts telling us about its history.

The caretaker escorted us through the house giving detailed descriptions of the contents, then a short walk around the garden.

We found a walk next to the property that took us down to Burns Bay which would have been a great place to have a

*Continued on page 12*



## Friendship Tent No.20

▶▶▶ *Continued from page 11*

picnic, but we didn't bring lunch, so, we met at Hunter's Hill bowling club for lunch and conversation. Another enjoyable day.

Our July outing was a ferry from the Quay to Parramatta. A visit to the museum to see the latest exhibition, then walked to Westfield shops for lunch.

August will be a tour of Sydney Town Hall.

*Marcia Pidgeon*

## Coming Events in NSW

### Saturday 23 August

You are invited to join us for a picnic at:

#### Mt Annan Botanical Gardens

From 10:30am

Meet at the Kiosk

### Saturday 29 November

#### Lake Gillawarna, Georges Hall

From 10:30am

Meet in Garrison Point Carpark

Bring your lunch and join some friends

**Other events for 2014  
are**

### 130th Anniversary Luncheon

**13th September 2014**

At Hornsby RSL

### Annual General Meeting

**18th October 2014**

At Uniting Church Hall

11 Carrington Ave, Strathfield

***Don't miss out. Help your  
Society strengthen and grow.***

## Jottings from Malcolm Campbell

**S**URE enough, my article for the March 2014 magazine was sent to the old Post Office Box address with the result it did not get included. So, indulge me as I include just an echo of the missed article.

It included the usual 2013 Annual General Conference matters as well as the visit to Newcastle and appreciation, particularly to Bro Ted Septom and his for his collections.

Special thanks to Sis Rae Belcher who compiled an article for the March 2011 magazine about the Late Bro George McDonald, PDCR and to Bro Dennis Quinlan, PSCR, who gave the eulogy at the church at his passing.

The expected visit by the Executive to Tents 8 and 81 at Padstow took place on 11th March 2014 with concern being expressed for the future of the Fraternity.

Mr Shane Varcoe, Executive Director of Delgarno Institute (C.O.A.D.E Inc.) being a coalition of Alcohol and Drug Educators has forwarded his sincere appreciation for the donation of

\$2,000 sent by the NSW Rechabite Fraternity for that institute's on going advocacy and education work. He has highlighted some 'Signature Products' developed over recent years with the comment that some impact is beginning to be seen from the Alcohol Prevention Online Resource, [www.greaterrisk.com](http://www.greaterrisk.com), as well as the no brainer education "I wish I never ..." program and the recently added 'Heads Up' blog on the [www.nobrainier.org.au](http://www.nobrainier.org.au) site for Teachers/Educators under current news. He also spoke about the growing campaign to raise the Drinking Age back to 21 at this site: [www.21bethere.org.au](http://www.21bethere.org.au)

Secondary Schools are being contacted and it is hoped to raise the Profile of the Drug Advisory Council of Australia.

A circular has been sent to members of the Fraternity by Sis Sheldon, SCR seeking an ideas person to advise as to the future direction in continuing to promote the Alcohol Free Lifestyle. See:

[nsw.one@australianrechabites.org.au](mailto:nsw.one@australianrechabites.org.au)

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

### ... pub closing times ...

▶▶▶ *Continued from page 10*

Ballarat didn't translate to Melbourne, the findings from Newcastle will not translate to Sydney.

### Keeping perspective

But Reece's op-ed obscures two important facts. First, Ballarat is a large town with a population of 95,000 people, while Newcastle is Australia's sixth largest city, with more than half a million people. While Ballarat to Melbourne may be a stretch, it's not unreasonable to expect that effects observed in Newcastle will generalise to other large metropolitan areas in Australia.

Second, the intervention in Newcastle produced large and persistent benefits and the research has

been subject to robust peer review with findings that are consistent with a growing body of international literature.

Indeed, the Newcastle findings are comparable with those of a recent study of changes in closing times in Norway in the 2000s, the most comprehensive such research so far because many localities could be studied contemporaneously.

That study found that in eight cities where trading hours were extended, there was an average 20% increase in assaults per additional hour of trading. Conversely, in 15 cities where hours were restricted, there was an average 20% decrease in assaults per hour of restriction.

The short-term effect in Newcastle (22% per hour restricted) and the  
***Continued on page 16*** ▶▶▶



## In Remembrance

prepared by The Editor & Bro John Flett



### Bro Kevin Angus Bagot

**B**ORN on Australia Day, 26th January, 1937, **Brother Kevin Angus Bagot** always maintained it was *his* day and celebrated accordingly. His parents were both God fearing Presbyterians and members of *General Havelock Tent No. 27, Auburn*, and he followed in their footsteps.

Kevin grew up to be a true Christian gentleman, following his Saviour to the end and caring for others along the way. He joined *General Havelock Tent No. 27* where he commenced his long association with the Rechabites.

As a teenager he went to Queensland for the Christmas holidays and while his parents visited relatives he attended the Alexander Headland Presbyterian Church Camp, where in 1958 he met his future wife, Rosslyn. Engaged the following Christmas they were married on 1st October 1960.

Employed as a salesman with James Hardie he studied at night for his accountancy exams. Promotions saw Kevin in Newcastle for three years and then on to Melbourne for a period before ending up in Perth in 1971.

He returned to Sydney as Manager of Spicers NSW paper and stationery firm, a subsidiary of Hardies, in 1979. During this time this time his three children, Neville, Ross, and Merryn, were born.

During his absence from Sydney Kevin maintained his association with IOR and once settled back in Sydney

at Wahroonga he joined the IOR Board of Directors, becoming it's Chairman on the death of Bro Eric McPherson.

His knowledge and expertise was greatly valued as he represented the NSW Rechabites when dealing with the Government and the changes that were being considered from the mid 1990s. Even after his stroke in 1996 he carried on with this work until his impaired speech forced him to retire.

His last 14 years have been difficult, confined to wheel-chair spending his latter years in a Nursing Home, but Kevin was honoured by many. At his funeral it was said that Kevin was:

- \* Always in good spirits – shown through his smile and his laughter,
- \* A man of prayer,
- \* At peace with God, himself and others,
- \* and he was appreciative.

The Rev Frank Van Der Korput said, "Kevin's faith was strong when he was well and able and successful in business, but he was as strong – if not stronger – when he was not well and able and no longer successful. Kevin had an all-weather faith in Jesus – because he knew that Jesus walked with him through times that were fair and foul."

Kevin was a true Christian and a faithful Rechabite and we thank God for him. He is greatly missed. It has been a privilege to have known him.

26/01/1937 – 03/04/2014



### Bro Frederick Phillip Wilkinson, PCR

**I**T IS with sincere regret that we advise that **Brother Frederick Wilkinson** passed away on Wednesday, 11th June and was interred at Harcourt on the 13th.

Bro Fred was a lifetime member of *Hope of Australia Tent No.104, Harcourt* and held offices in the Tent, being the Chief Ruler in 1951 when a big inter-tent meeting was held. He took a great interest in the history of the area and from information supplied by Fred, our Assistant Editor, Rae Belcher, was able to include in the March 2003 **TAR** a fine article on the history of the Harcourt Tent.

A disappointment for Fred was not seeing the Roundabout entry to Harcourt from Calder Freeway named after Lieut-Col Gartside, a Harcourt Rechabite member, who was killed at Cape Helles at the Dardanelles and whose home farm disappeared when the new freeway changed the area of Harcourt forever.

Bro Fred collapsed in his car in the carpark of Castlemaine Hospital four and half years ago. He had been in care in the adjoining Aged Care Facility since that time. Fred was well enough to have a great time on 15th May last, when he and Thelma celebrated their Diamond Wedding anniversary with relatives and friends.

To Thelma, a member of the stalwart Rechabite Jenkins family, we do extend the sympathy of your Rechabite friends in Region No.7.

21/07/1930 – 11/06/2014

**O**NE does not make the news every day of the week, but our **Sister Gwenda Martyn**, Victoria District Secretary/Officer, was written up in The Latrobe Valley Express on 26th May, 2014 when she won a local award for services rendered.

## Strictly Personal ...



**LCHS Volunteer of the Year 2014 Gwenda Martyn (centre) with LCHS CEO Ben Leigh and Chairperson John Guy. (The Latrobe Valley Express Photo).**

"The LV" said; "Filing, typing and other administrative work are not everyone's cup of tea, but Latrobe Community Health Service (LCHS) Volunteer of the Year 2014, Gwenda Martyn, loves nothing more.

Her extensive skills and attention to detail, as well as her bubbly personality and dependability saw the Traralgon resident recently honoured by LCHS. "It was a lovely surprise being named Volunteer of the Year," said Mrs Martyn. "I really enjoy office work and like things being in the right place."

Mrs Martyn has worked across several program areas in the 10 years she has been a volunteer at LCHS.

Volunteers like Gwenda are an integral part of LCHS. The organisation has a strong volunteer base, with approximately 200 volunteers in a variety of LCHS programs."

Actually this is Gwenda's 13th year of service. A gift card for \$600.00 came with the award and she purchased an iPad to keep in touch with her family while she was overseas.

In her usual efficient way, Gwenda made sure all the Victorian IOR material for this magazine was in the Editor's hands before she left. We trust she had a wonderful time – free of all office worries.

**S**ISTER Cynthia Kilah, who is currently the Queensland District Secretary and a member of *Annerley Tent No. 67*, celebrated a very significant birthday in March this year.

Sis Kilah was joined by her husband, Rev Harold Kilah, two brothers and a sister, a sister-in-law and a brother-in-law for a week long holiday on Norfolk Island to celebrate. It was a beautiful venue and a most memorable occasion.

We are so pleased Cynthia had a very happy birthday. She has taken on so much following Bro Cook's death. (You don't ask a lady her age and we won't tell. Ed.)



**David and Rosemary Simmons, Sis Cynthia Kilah, Bro Peter Henderson, Rev Harold Kilah, Sis Sharyn Henderson and Bro David Henderson (Sis Janet Henderson was unable to attend)**

**N**OW this is something we all need to do, and that is to cultivate in our young people an interest in the Order so they will carry on the work that needs to be done.

**Bro Peter and Sis Janet Henderson** of *Annerley Tent No 67* were delighted by the recent visit of their son, Bro Mark Henderson, his wife, Cassy and grandchildren Annabelle, Emily and Imogen. The younger Henderson family lives in Hong Kong and while Mark returned to work, Cassy and the girls enjoyed a longer stay.

While just 9 years old, **Annabelle Henderson** is always keen to attend IOR meetings with her grandfather.



**Bro Peter Henderson and his granddaughter, Annabelle Henderson**

The members of *Annerley* and *David Livingstone Tents* enthusiastically welcomed Annabelle to a tent meeting in July and look forward to her next visit. Members were very impressed with the delicious cake that Annabelle had made for supper. Isn't it great to see an interest in the Order at such an early age?

**I**N this issue's Editorial, mention is made of the first New South Wales DCR, **Bro Robert Ennever**. Now one of Robert's sons married a bonny lass from Vermont, Virginia, USA, the lovely Joanne May whom my wife, Rae Belcher, and I met not long before I retired from the NSW Office and we have been friends ever since.

The bust of Robert Ennever, seen in the photo of the NSW Executive in the March 2013 edition of **TAR**, was a gift from **Mrs Joanne M Ennever**.

This gracious lady turned 80 at the end of January this year and her whole family: 3 Children, 8 Grand-



children, 2 Great 'Grandes', plus 2 husbands and a girl friend all celebrated with her. She was thrilled.

A great man, who has a great legacy in more ways than one.



*Joanne Ennever & Great Granddaughter Rose*

**M**ANY folk have said to me, **Vivian A Belcher**, your Editor, known as 'Ian', "you ought to show and tell about your hobby in these pages". So, as I have the space in this issue and this might, I say might, be my last magazine, I decided to share it with you. And no, it's not producing this magazine, although I do enjoy doing that. So, what is it? It's "Playing trains!"

Since our return to Queensland in 2000 a dream of a larger Model Railway layout is being fulfilled. My interest in Model trains began with my 6th birthday when I was given an O Gauge wind-up Hornby train set. A catalogue was also given to me that illustrated and told about the new Hornby-Dublo electric trains that came on the market the year before, in 1938. That was a mistake.

Being the pedantic perfectionist I was already becoming I longed for the more realist models shown in that catalogue, which is still in my train room. Nevertheless, I persevered for many years with my crude O Gauge tin plate trains that my parents added to as they were able, buying second hand items as they became available during World War 2. No new ones were made during those years.

However, in 1963, at age 30, my

longing began to be fulfilled when I bought my first Hornby-Dublo electric train set and one might say the rest is history. From an 8 x 4 foot layout to a 12 x 9 ft one when we moved to Birrong, NSW, to a 14 x 10 ft when it moved from the Lounge room extension to the garage to the current 25½ x 14 ft (7.8 x 4.7m) train room that was added to the house plan we chose when we returned to Queensland.

My love of English trains was fostered by my English mother and my original LMS Goods Train. Models of Australian trains were hardly off the drawing board in 1963 and few were available.

With the demise in 1964 of the original Binns Road, Liverpool, Meccano Company, who made the Hornby-Dublo trains, which at the time were making the best, I was faced with a dilemma, which a friend, who owned a Hobby Shop and for whom I worked part-time, solved for me.

Armed with a loan from my mother, my friend sent me to buy whatever I could from the Wholesaler in Sydney, who was selling everything less 40%, and put it on to his account. I'm glad I did. I would never be able to have the stock I currently own otherwise.

Coaches I paid \$1.05 for can sell, second hand, for \$90 now. I knocked the trader down to \$80 for one three years ago and thought I did very well.

If you can find one, a rare Restaurant Car I also bought for \$1.05 is now worth \$440.

There are many aspects to this hobby. Knowledge of the trains that interest you is essential. But one also has to develop skills in layout design and carpentry, understand basic electrical principals, and have some artistic abilities, as one modeller friend of mine once said, "My wife paints in two dimensions, I create in three". You can imagine how I felt when an English lady viewing my layout said, "Oh, I like your hills over there, they are just like the ones back home".

From the photos taken with a mobile phone for this article, you can see there is still much to do. A 10 year-old from across the road asked my wife recently, "Why doesn't he finish it". A good question. It is a matter of time and energy of which, at 81, I do not seem to have a surplus of these days.



*'Ian, the "Fat Controller" controlling at the main board.*

The layout has three control centres and, if they know what they are doing, up to six "controllers" can be attending the running of three trains on continuous lines, with the other three messing about in the marshalling yards.



*Terminal station "Ericstoun" with engine sheds.*



*Heading up-grade to "Allandale"*

My son Allan, and my wife and I are members of the British Railway Modellers of Australia Inc. (BRMA) of  
**Continued on page 16** ▶▶▶

## Strictly Personal

Continued from page 15

which there some 400 members Australia wide. We belong to the Queensland Westside Group, one of four up here, who meet monthly at one of the member's homes. We normally host the December meeting where an annual group photograph is taken and distributed to members in the New Year. So yes, I do like *Playing Trains*, it is a great hobby.

**B**ACK in 1978, when **Bro Ted Peachey** had settled in as NSW District Secretary, he felt he had found the pedantic perfectionist he had been looking for.



Bro E (Ted) D Peachey



*'Ian Belcher with his new "toy".'*

He bought a small A B Dick Offset Printing machine, sent **'Ian Belcher** to do a four year apprenticeship course in three days, gave him paper and ink and told him to go to it.

We did produce many fine pieces of work the machine was supposed not to be capable of doing. Even Reps from A B Dick asked for samples to show what the machine could do, when pushed to its limits.

For a short time an Office Junior helped in the Print Room, the very sweet and lively **Narelle Chadwick**. In 1980 she also modelled our IOR T-Shirts and Sloppy Joes.



*Narelle Cook – nee Chadwick*

Today Narelle is a grandma and lives in Katherine, N.T. with her husband Richard Cook. They have a daughter here in Ipswich and the last time they were down we had the joy of entertaining them to dinner. We also keep in touch with Bro Ted who lives with the tulips in Bowral, NSW. Well, not with them, but near them.

So being a pedantic perfectionist was useful for IOR as well and whilst they can be a pain, we do have a lot of fun too. ■

## Earlier pub closing times key to reducing alcohol-fuelled assaults

▶▶▶ **Continued from page 10**  
effect estimated for the following 3.5 years (21% per hour restricted) are remarkably similar to the Norwegian experience.

### Giving credit where it's due

In a media release late last week, the Australian Hotels Association cited Reece's article in support of its position, again conflating cessation of sales with lockouts:

*We've always been sceptical that blanket lockouts won't work in a city like Sydney, and this week a former senior Victorian public servant involved with the failed Melbourne lockout confirmed that view.*

Of course, there are things the New South Wales government could have done better. It makes no sense to exclude two areas close to the city with very high alcohol-related crime rates (Oxford St and Darling Harbour) from the restrictions, for instance, but credit should be given where it's due.

The Sydney intervention is a step in the right direction, acknowledging the need to balance the interests of the alcohol industry with public health.

### A leap forward

The Newcastle intervention has prevented between 3,000 and 4,000 assaults in the six years since it was put in place. Such large effects are rare in population health interventions.

It would be worthwhile costing these assaults in terms of emergency response, medical care, disability, foregone income, and lost productivity, and to assess the public's willingness to continue bearing the cost of late-night trading.

In addition to redrawing the Sydney central business district boundary to include all assault hotspots, the New South Wales government would be wise to stop consumption (rather than just the purchase) of alcohol at 3am, or even 2am, as has been the case in California for many decades.

And other states considering legislation to help address the problem of late-night assault should clearly focus on earlier cessation of drinking rather than lockouts. ■