



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all members in the wonderful family of SCA.

As previously advised, your National Executive met last weekend (June 4th) and it was a very busy and productive time. The weather was absolutely shocking and for a boy

from sunny Tasmania it was a real eye opener.

Items of business included a myriad of subjects including: a review of our rules; the constitution; membership; website; communications; finances; awards program; roles and responsibilities; secretariat; associates and the National Conference.

The Association has been operating without a dedicated Secretary for the last six months or so and it has been decided that this shall be the case until elections are held at the 2017 conference. Speaking of which - does your Council have an interest in being awarded the hosting rights for this event? We are now calling for Expressions of Interest and these will close on the 31st August 2016. All relevant documentation is available on the website and should be returned directly to myself. Any questions please ask because as you all know, the only dumb question is the one you don't ask.

Membership is always a point of discussion and many times I am asked, what's in it for me? Perhaps the best answer I can give is "what can you give to us"? There are some out there whom we hear and see at the conference each year but nothing in between and of course to be successful an organisation requires the membership to be part of it all the year through. How about you?

Our need to communicate with each other is greater than ever and I ask you to use our Facebook page to do just this. If you have not placed a tick in the box and asked your friends to do likewise you are not best utilising a great source of information and knowledge. Likewise with our website. When did you last visit? When did you last share a Sister City story?

Sometimes an opportunity crops up that is just what you have been waiting for and if you read on this may just be yours. SCA is interested in talking with an interested person who would be capable of being remunerated for a part time role running a secretariat. Ideally you will be an employee of a

Council and have the full support of your GM and Council. Should this sound like you, please contact me directly.

With all Executive having been involved in the awards program we fully realise the time and effort required in compiling and submitting an entry and to this end we have decided to fully review the entire program. We are determined to reward those who make the effort and to this end there will be some exciting changes made for next year.

Whilst in Sydney I was to meet with our great friend the Director of CLAIR, Katsunori Kamibo, however he was admitted to hospital the previous day. Thankfully he was discharged after three days and is now back to his best in the office.

With my recent visit to Nelson for the NZ Conference I met with their Board of Directors to discuss the future for our organisations. Thanks are due to President Hiromi Morris for an excellent event where the positivity of the contributors was paramount. The Conference organiser, Lyndal McMeeking looked after yours truly from the time I arrived in Nelson and the entire Board was most welcoming. I should also mention the warm welcome and hospitality I enjoyed from Mayor Rachel Reese and the City Council. Nelson is truly a lovely city. Items discussed at our business meeting were the MOU and the idea of a Trans Tasman joint award. Both parties are now working on a new MOU to be initiated in 2017 and further investigating the possibilities and opportunities of an award. The SCNZ conference for 2017 will be held in Invercargill in May and I can assure you a warm welcome will be extended to any Aussies that care to cross the ditch.

Mike Jakins needs a special mention. His enthusiasm is infectious and the way in which he is attacking his role is great. In addition to taking on the role of preparing the newsletter he has also put in countless hours in the compiling of an "Affiliation Directory". This may not be 100% correct so should you have something to add or delete please advise Mike and he shall make the amendments.

We currently have a Mexican city looking for a link in Australia and should you have an interest please contact me and I shall provide further details to you.

Thanks to you all for being members of this great movement and for doing your bit to assist in bringing peace to some of the World. Wouldn't it be great if we could get everyone to join.

May your God be with you and may your World be one of peace.

Bill



SCA SPECIAL ARTICLE

Directory of Australian Sister City Affiliations

SCA is compiling the definitive list of ALL sister state, port and city affiliations in Australia so that we have a source of truth to go when asked questions by researchers, the media and our membership. The directory will be available very soon and will be emailed out to all our members, but will also be available on the SCA website for general download.

As it is not always possible to verify all of the data we have been given, SCA would ask that you contact Mike Jakins should you find any errors or omissions and they will be corrected in the next edition. The intention is to make this an annual publication but if there are a flood of corrections then the edition on the website may be updated more frequently. If this occurs we will let you know in the newsletter.

LOOKING FOR, OR TO BECOME, A SISTER CITY?

Check out the SCA website where there is a list of cities actively looking for affiliations, [click here](#).

STAY IN TOUCH WITH SCA

Your SCA Committee

President - Bill Wilson

Mobile: 0439 363 149

Email: [Click here to email Bill](#)

Vice President - Jan Teasdale

Mobile: 0407 442 136

Email: [Click here to email Jan](#)

Treasurer - Caisley Graham

Mobile: 0412 571 041

Email: [Click here to email Caisley](#)

Executive Member - Sim Hayward

Mobile: 0417 784 341

Email: [Click here to email Sim](#)

Executive Member - Mike Jakins

Mobile: 0417 176 568

Email: [Click here to email Mike](#)

Full contact details for any of the above are available on the SCA website on the Administration page, accessed through the About Us link.

SCA has a website – www.sistercitiesaustralia.com

Visit the association's website for: information about us; what activities we are involved with; any events that are of interest; all the details on the annual awards; access to our publications and images; and how to contact us.

If you notice any changes that need to be made to the website, or if you have any suggestions for improving the site please let us know. Send an email to the [Website Editor](#) (click on this link) with your comments and/or your suggestions.

SCA on Social Media

In essence the goal of every Sister City program is to understand and appreciate other cultures and ways of life. Join us on **Facebook** ([link here](#)) and embark on this journey together. SCA invites you to

contribute stories, photos, successes and even failures to our Facebook page so that we can all learn from one another and take our relationships to a higher level.

SCA Newsletter Options and Contributions

[Sign Up for the Newsletter](#)

[Submit a story \(plus up to 4 images\)](#)

[Opt out of receiving the Newsletter](#)

Please forward this newsletter on to interested colleagues and friends, thank you.

Have your contact details changed? [Click here to email the editor if they are incorrect.](#)