

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In this issue of our newsletter I firstly wish to say a word of thanks to all our International partners for being such a great part of our lives. Whether it be Japan (CLAIR), China (CPAFFC), Sth Korea (GoAK), USA (SCI) or New Zealand (SCNZ) all have been wonderful partners to so many of our members over many years. They have also been regular contributors at our conferences and wonderful hosts to those fortunate enough to visit their countries. Just how many friendships have been forged over the years through these links would have to number in the tens of thousands and wouldn't it be so wonderful should we be able to convince everyone to tread the path of friendship and not conflict.

Over the years I have often been asked why I have continued with my own involvement in the Sister City movement and I guess it really comes down to

continuing the work of making friends. Why not introduce someone new to share the same experience?

Believe it or not but we are now open to expressions of interest to act as SCA Conference Host in 2018. For any cities that may be interested in showcasing themselves please contact myself or Secretary Mike if you would like to receive more information.

The AGM for 2017 will once again be held in Victoria at a location and date to be advised later. Full details will be in the next newsletter.

It would be remiss of me not to mention the recent retirement of Margaret Evans from Hobsons Bay Council. Marg has been a great supporter of Sister Cities for many years and held the position of Secretary of our organization for a number of terms. We thank you for all your work and wish you well in your retirement.

Several members of the Executive have been having a few health problems recently and to you Jan, Caisley and Christina I wish you all a speedy recovery and trust you will all be back to full health in no time. Give your loved ones a hug, tell them you love them and enjoy their company.

In closing I wish to comment on the wave of change that is sweeping through Local Government. Having served some thirty years as an elected member I do know a little about balancing the budget and providing the service but I also know there is a far greater balance that needs be taken into account and that is balancing what enormous benefit is brought to a community by involvement in International Relations. Ask any young person who has been on an exchange and then ask the parents of the change in their child that has occurred since their involvement. Guess you may also apply this same reasoning to adults.

Be kind to one another and stay safe.

Bill



## 2017 SCA NATIONAL AWARDS UPDATE

The 1st Sister Cities National Conference was held in Bega, NSW and annually up to the Blacktown, NSW Conference in 2015. Records state that at the 1983 conference held in Townsville QLD the SCA National Awards Program was initiated with four categories.

**The winning cities were:**

**Youth:** Orange, NSW

**New Affiliation:** Townsville, Qld

**Single Project:** Hobart, Tas

**Overall Program:** Rockhampton, Qld

With 36 years of networking at numerous conferences held in every state in Australia and resultant winners the success of Sister City related programs has certainly enhanced the communities in cities worldwide. Over the years the original four categories expanded to twelve.

In 2017 under the "New Look" SCA National Awards Program five categories are featured. Notices of intention to enter this year have been received and electronic forms forwarded to the participating cities. Date for the completion and sending of award submissions to the Judges is 31st July. These entries would be indicative of sister city activities held in your city.

Allocate a job to that special volunteer to take notes and pictures of those special moments in your next exchange, visit or activity involving the sister city communities. Why not enter them in the 2018 SCA National Awards Program. For more information contact me at [jan.teasdale@sistercitiesaustralia.com](mailto:jan.teasdale@sistercitiesaustralia.com).

Chair, SCA National Awards Program – Jan Teasdale

## NEW MEET YOUR COMMITTEE – Sim Hayward



Sim's involvement with the Sister Cities movement started in 1986 when former Mayor of Cairns, Ald. Ron Davies called for expression among the business and general community to come forward and assist with the planning and hosting of the very first Sister Cities International Convention to be held in Australia and the very first to be held outside of

the US, in 1988.

It was the beginning of a passionate 31 years with Sister Cities involvement - locally in Cairns, nationally with SCA (or ASCA in the early days) and internationally when attending conferences or visiting other sister cities.

Over the past 31 years, Sim has chaired the Cairns Sister Cities Committee on different occasions working with different Mayoral and Council terms, as well as a period when the committee was independent and incorporated (with 2 observers from Council for 10 years)

Cairns currently has 7 sister cities. Sim was appointed Ambassador for Cairns Sister Cities in 2016 under the current term of Council. Her role is to represent the Mayor and Council where required with visiting delegations, as well as working with community groups and individuals to ensure that

Some background information:

- Born in Malaysia of Chinese descent in 1954.
- Completed High School and Tertiary education in Melbourne (B. Bus, Hospitality)
- Career in Resort Management and Training till 1988

the 7 sister cities links with Cairns are meaningful and active in the areas of Education, Arts and Culture, Sports and Tourism as well as Trade exchanges.

This is the 6th year as an Executive member of SCA. It is with the same determination and interest that Sim hopes to be able to play a role on the committee - to contribute and bring to the wider sister cities membership around Australia and hopefully promote the vision of the sister cities movement - International Peace and Understanding through 'People to People' exchange programs.



The SCA Executive Committee and Sister Cities Australia as an organization can only be successful with involved feedback, communication and support from membership around the country.

- Operated own business in Retail, Wholesale, Import, Export and Manufacturing focusing on Asian Food
- Currently managing family business interests
- Widowed with 2 children (26 and 29) and a granddaughter (2.8 years)

- Hobbies: Travelling, Cooking and Interacting with people from all walks of life, cultures and countries

**Other past positions also included:**

- Chair of Queensland China Council
- Board Member of the Queensland Food Advisory Council
- Steering Committee - Cairns Region Economic Development Corporation

**Awards received:**

**1996** - Australian Sister Cities Association (ASCA)

'Dedicated Service to the Sister Cities Movement'

**1999** - Australian Institute of Management (AIM), Owner Operator, Manager of the Year - North Queensland

Plus AIM, State Finalist, Manager of the Year

National Ethnic Business Awards , National Finalist

- Vice President of Cairns Chamber of Commerce
- Secretariat of the Cairns Food Group
- TV Asian Cooking Presenter 'Radiant Living' on Channel Ten

**2006** - Queensland Multicultural Achiever Award

Queensland Multicultural Small Business Award

**Other achievements:**

**2000** - 'Stars Under the Southern Cross' - The Untold Stories of Queensland's Family Businesses.

**2004** - 'Women of Taste' - A collection of real life stories of women in the food industry

**2007** - 'Who's Who' listing in Queensland

## SCA SPECIAL ARTICLE FROM LOGAN CITY

### Top marks for Taiwanese lesson in Logan.



Local educators have shared teaching tips with visiting Taiwanese school principals as part of an initiative to further develop sister city ties between Logan and Taoyuan City in Taiwan.

A delegation of 23 secondary and elementary school principals arrived in March, visiting Canterbury College and Marsden State High School (SHS).



Canterbury College principal Donna Anderson and Marsden SHS principal Andrew Peach accompanied the delegation on tours of their schools' campuses and facilities.

Senior representatives from the Department of Education & Training also met with the group in Logan to provide the visiting principals with an overview of Queensland's school system.

A highlight for the group was the chance to see students at work in Marsden SHS's trade training



centre, a purpose built workshop designed to give students practical experience and a head start in developing a trade skill.

The group finished the day-long visit to Logan with a stop at Council's Wembley Rd offices.

The City of Logan has sister city, economic and friendship agreements with seven cities in China, Japan and Taiwan.



# NEWSLETTER

[www.sistercitiesaustralia.com](http://www.sistercitiesaustralia.com)

April 2017

These ongoing relationships provide opportunities to build global connections in the Logan community and share cultural understanding and knowledge

across the fields of business, education and government.

## 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](#). There are cities in China, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Uganda, Kenya and the USA waiting – and more to come.

Are you seeking an Australian sister city? Fill out the details on the request form and return to SCA as per the contact information at the end of the document, [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](#)

**Secretary** - Mike Jakins

Mobile: 0417 176 568

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

**Executive Member** - Sim Hayward

Mobile: 0417 784 341

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

**Executive Member** - Christina Despoteris

Mobile: 0413 943 796

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

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](http://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](#)

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

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