

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Sister Cities Australia Newsletter.



Hello to all the Sister City citizens out there in this big, wide wonderful World. Trust you and yours are happy and well, enjoying the company of family and friends and sharing your time with those of similar interests. I wonder when you last gave thought to your commitment to Sister City relations or actually explained to others as to why you are involved. I guess no greater lesson in International Relations would be than the recent meeting between the Presidents of the USA and North Korea. Just a short time ago no one would have believed this possible but now it is fact and maybe there will be

opportunities for links to be formed with North Korean cities.

In the last few years I have noticed the change with many Councils as to the importance of economics in their relationships. This is certainly not a bad thing but I do sometimes wonder whether the fact that many of the friendship links also have their own economic benefits. Whether it be an education, music, art or any other link there is also a large amount of income generated to a community through accommodation, transport, catering and entertainment. All groups that I have been involved with in my near thirty year involvement have contributed greatly to the commerce of the community visited and I know many a business owner that has had a smile on their face after these visits. Remember there is nothing that will ever replace being able to shake hands or to look one another in the eye when doing business.

On the 18th July SCA is fortunate to be co-hosting a SC Forum with the President and Speaker of the Victorian Parliament. A huge thank you to our local Melbourne Executive Member, Christina Despoteris, for working extremely hard to put this event together. Should you have an interest in attending there is further information later in this newsletter. I can assure you it will be a day to remember.

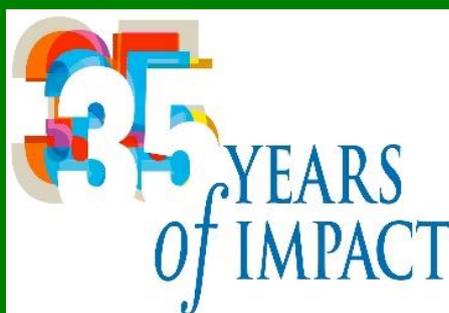
Just a reminder that we are always looking for stories to be posted to our Facebook page. In mentioning that please make sure you are linked to our new page, SCA Inc.

I look forward to meeting old and new friends in Melbourne next month.

Bill

2018 SCA NATIONAL AWARDS UPDATE

A TIME TO CELEBRATE – 2018 IS OUR 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL AWARDS FOR SISTER CITIES IN AUSTRALIA



Inaugural Winners back in 1983 were:

Youth Project:	Orange NSW
New Affiliation:	Townsville QLD
Single Project:	Hobart TAS
Overall Program:	Rockhampton QLD

History records that there were 4 categories in 1983. As the association grew that number increased to 12 giving cities a wider range of areas in which to record their special programs. Times change, and to make it easier for cities to enter an award the categories now are:

- Community Involvement,
- Youth Project,
- Tourism and Trade,
- New Affiliation,
- Overall Program.

In 2018 electronic entry forms have been requested from 6 member cities from NSW, QLD and WA. **Submissions must reach judges by: Friday 3 August 2018.**



It has been an exciting time for these cities to be involved in their very special programs showcasing the communities, youth programs and trade and tourism opportunities. Trophies will be awarded to the winning cities and their sister cities.

A special thank you to all for showcasing that extra special program in your city.

"Thinking of Entering an Award next year"

Eligible Projects would take place between 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Jan Teasdale

Coordinator SCA National Awards

IMPORTANT EVENT

The Victorian Sister Cities Forum

SCA and The Victorian Parliament will be hosting the Victorian Sister Cities Forum on July 18, 2018 in Melbourne. This will be an opportunity for all Australians interested in sister cities to hear about options and opportunities - and more importantly, to network with many other people who share these interests.

Please visit the Sister Cities Australia website Activities page ([CLICK HERE](#)) where you will be able to view the Program, check out some vital General Information, and then follow the

instructions on the Invitation to RSVP should you be able to attend.

When you RSVP please provide your name, the organisation you represent, and the position you have in that organisation. These are required for security reasons at Parliament House in Melbourne.

Thank you for your cooperation and the SCA Executive hope to see you there.

Christina Despoteris

Executive Member of SCA and Coordinator of the Victorian Forum

SCA SPECIAL ARTICLE FROM HOBSONS BAY

Hobsons Bay Delegation to Anjo, Japan.

Thirty Years ago the Altona Council signed a sister city agreement with the City of Anjo. To acknowledge this significant event, in April 2018, a



Hobsons Bay Delegation with Anjo City hosts

delegation of 16 Hobsons Bay citizens travelled to Anjo for a six day visit. Leading the delegation was

Mayor Cr Angela Altair, with Bill Millard, Council Director for Strategic Planning, Joy Martin President of the Hobsons Bay International Friendship Association, Vice President John Whittington, Treasurer Janet Nicholls, Japanese Writing Coordinator, Sue Gauci, Assistant Secretary Glenda Curtis, past chaperone Kaylene Stiles, past Australian Sister City Association Secretary, Margaret Evans, and HBIFA members Lyn and Graeme Smith, Rhonda and Paul Taig, Jim Nicholls, Paul Gauci, Darren Stiles, Bob Martin along with Denise Millard. The group was warmly welcomed at the airport by members of the Anjo International Association and the Anjo City Council.

The delegates were taken on guided tours of factories in Aichi Prefecture. A factory producing

many products using locally farmed squid, the Nakano Saki Brewery in Handa, founded in 1844 built along a canal and has been used for sake brewing for 200 years.



At a shrimo factory

Close by, the delegates were greatly impressed by the largest vinegar factory in Japan, Mizkan, an interactive museum, which presented an excellent understanding of the development of their products. The Toyota Plant was of great interest due to the Toyota production established in Altona in 1978, which has since ceased manufacturing. This highly automated factory produces 370,000 vehicles a year. After a visit to the Toyota Museum the group had a five course meal in the Toyota Stadium.

The Anjo City Council and Anjo International Association provided an outstanding cultural feast where the Hobsons Bay delegates participated in a range of Japanese cultural activities; wearing kimonos while learning the traditional Sakura fan dance, enjoying an onsen, listening to traditional Japanese musical instruments, experiencing a school lunch with Anjo-minami junior high students, participating in tea ceremonies both



Learning the Japanese fan dance "Sakura Sakura"

"Sencha " at the Ishikawa Jozan (renowned sixteenth century samurai, and later scholar and poet), designed gardens and tea house and "Matcha" at the Anjo community centre and making lanterns at Denpark, a botanical park. Anjo City Council is very proud of the services provided to their community. During the stay a comprehensive tour took in, recycling, environmental protection and beautification facilities, sporting, welfare, museums, cultural and community centres.

The Anjo Mayoral Reception was held at Denpark, as Anjo has been known as the Denmark of Japan. The Hobsons Bay group gave a cultural presentation of "We are Australian" with an audio/visual backdrop and Japanese translation provided. The Mayor Angela Altair presented Mayor Gaku Kamiya with a sunrise photo of Williamstown; HBIFA President, Joy Martin presented the citizens of Anjo with the Hobsons Bay logo carved by a local artisan of Australian woods.



President of the Hobsons Bay International Friendship Association presents President of the Anjo International Association with a carving of the Hobsons Bay Logo made from Australian timbers.

At Koto, a tearoom at the Anjo Historical Museum, many delegates were reunited with past friends from Anjo; some they had hosted or had home stayed through the annual student exchange program or the Anjo triennial citizens delegations. Many of these firm relationships were formed decades ago.

Anjo proclaimed itself an "Environmentally and Globally -Friendly City" and has two other Sister City Friendships, with Huntington Beach, USA, 1982 and Kolding, Denmark, 2009. This October on the actual 30th Anniversary of the signing of the Sister City Agreement the HBCC and HBIFA have the pleasure of returning the hospitality and warm welcome we received from our sister city with the visit of the Anjo Mayor, President of the AIA and



NEWSLETTER

www.sistercitiesaustralia.com

June 2018

Anjo citizens. The aim to build goodwill between the citizens of Anjo and Hobsons Bay is not taken lightly.

Joy Martin, President
Hobsons Bay International Friendship Association

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

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Secretary - Mike Jakins

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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

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 Group 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.