

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Sister Cities Australia Newsletter.



Over the last few years it has become increasingly difficult for Councils and Companies to make a decision to make the necessary commitment of funds and resources for their staff or representatives to attend events. This has become increasingly clear with the holding of a National event such as the SCA Conference has been over many, many years.

This has led to the unfortunate situation we now find ourselves in with Councils unwilling to underwrite these events and so it has become apparent that perhaps the shorter version is more likely to receive a favourable response. Hence we now have a Forum.

In recent years we have conducted this SCA Forum in Melbourne and Blacktown. Both were enthusiastically received and the content has been exceptional. Now we have a chance to see what the West has to offer and to see whether you, our readers of this newsletter, have enough interest in the Forum and the SCA AGM, to actually attend.

There is a tremendous amount of time being put in to the preparation for this event and I know the content will be second to none. International participants shall add their special flavour in joining with delegates from all over Australia.

Speaking of the AGM I should remind you that this is an election year for positions on the National Executive of SCA. These are two year terms and every position is up for election so should you have an interest I would suggest you contact Secretary, Mike Jakins, who will be happy to provide all the information you require.

I look forward to welcoming you to Perth in September and joining with us in celebrating the wondrous world of International Peace and understanding.

Yours in Sister Cities

Bill

THE 2019 SCA FORUM IN WA AND AGM ENGAGE – INFORM – ENTERTAIN

From **September 19 to 21, 2019**, Sister Cities Australia (SCA) will be holding an interactive Forum at the City of Perth Library Auditorium in Western Australia.



Sister Cities Australia invites you to join with like-minded people in discussing interesting topics and exploring new ideas aimed at boosting established relationships and encouraging new affiliations.

Join SCA in the beautiful City of Perth where we are planning to engage, inform and entertain you while you have opportunities to network with your colleagues from WA and across Australia. All of the venues for the Forum and the social activities are within walking distance within the Perth CBD - except for the optional tour on Saturday morning.

Make sure you arrive early on the Thursday so that you can soak up some of the relaxed city

atmosphere before commencing the Forum activities. Formalities will begin with a dinner to be held in a river front restaurant and the highlight of the evening will be the presentation of the 2018



SCA National Awards.

Friday is the day of the Forum and your chance to engage with colleagues to discuss important topics that affect all those involved in sister city relationships. Sessions during the Forum will not be full of PowerPoint presentations, rather we are encouraging conversations with the audience to stimulate thoughts and ideas.

Topics for discussion are:

1. Mayors for Peace – lead by **Fremantle**
2. Setting up, managing and promoting a Sister City Relationship – lead by **SCA**
3. Leveraging like-minded organisations to enhance relationships – lead by **Busselton**
4. Relationships and identifying economic benefits – lead by **Rockingham and Bunbury**
5. Engaging youth – lead by **Blacktown and Bunbury**

The 2019 SCA AGM will be held as part of the Forum and this year is an election year with all positions on the Executive Committee open. Emails will be sent out with all the AGM paperwork during July. Following the Forum we will have a networking reception where you will be able to continue the conversations started in the sessions earlier that day.

Saturday morning will be an opportunity to join us for a tour of the jewel in the crown of WA sporting venues - Optus Stadium. This state-of-the-art

facility will be shown to us through a guided tour, and there will also be a delicious breakfast included. The Tour will finish in plenty of time for those wishing to take an afternoon flight back home. Or, why not stay a little longer and explore Perth, Fremantle and a little further afield if you have the time to do so.

Unfortunately we are having to charge a small fee this year to assist with covering costs, but we believe that it is necessary. The fees are:

- Full Forum - SCA Council Member (for up to 3 nominated Delegates) - \$500.00
- Full Forum - SCA Council Non-Member (for up to 3 nominated Delegates) - \$600.00
- Full Forum - SCA Individual Member - \$200.00
- Full Forum - SCA Individual Non-Member - \$250.00
- Friday Only - SCA Member - \$100.00
- Friday Only - SCA Non-Member - \$150.00
- Saturday - Optus Stadium Tour (includes breakfast) - \$75.00

Registrations are available now using the Eventbrite link below. We very much look forward to seeing you there.

Perth's city centre is only a short bus, taxi or shuttle ride from the airport. There are a multitude of shops, restaurants, bars and places to explore



during your stay in our fair city.

Keep an eye on your emails, the SCA Facebook Group (why not join if you aren't already a member), and the SCA website for further details, as they are confirmed.

CONTACT US - For more details:

Website: www.sistercitiesaustralia.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/SCAust

Email: mike.jakins@sistercitiesaustralia.com

To register please go to our Eventbrite page,

<http://eventbrite.com.au/e/60171393257>

DO NOT MISS THIS CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE, SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE, MEET NEW PEOPLE, AND INCREASE YOUR NETWORK.

WHY BE A MEMBER OF SCA?

What are the membership benefits of being in the SCA?

We often get asked the question of what are the benefits of being a member of Sister Cities Australia. At present the following list itemises the benefits that membership brings:

- 1) **Support, Advice and Experience**, from your Executive, who have many years of hands-on experience with sister cities, building relationships, and helping others to do the same.
- 2) **Quarterly Newsletter**, have it delivered directly to you and others you nominate as soon as it is produced. You are also invited to share the stories of your committees, relationships and other sister city related activities with our readers.
- 3) **Host the SCA Annual Conference**, each year SCA seeks a member city to host the annual conference, including the AGM. SCA will provide whatever support it can to help ensure the total success of the conference.
- 4) **Have a Display at the Annual Conference**, the opportunity exists at the annual conference to have a display stand to allow you to showcase the achievements of your sister city relationship. Share them with others and enjoy stimulating conversations about those achievements and how they came about.

5) **Enter the National Awards**, only SCA member cities are eligible to enter the National Awards, which recognise excellence in sister city programs and relationships, your chance to highlight your city, your programs and your people.

6) **Participate on SCA's Executive**, be a voice on the Executive to determine the role of SCA and the future direction of the organisation. SCA is a member organisation and needs to have proper representation and input from you.

7) **Voting Rights at the AGM**, only members are eligible to vote on any motions at the AGM. These maybe anything from electing Executive members, changes to the constitution, to ratifying Life Memberships.

8) **Networking with Other Cities**, SCA is able to provide direct one-to-one contacts or bring together groups at events such as State based forums. Networking is the ideal way to share ideas, exchange information, make people aware of pitfalls and how to avoid them, and to even start new relationships.

If you would like to join SCA then please visit the SCA website by [CLICKING HERE](#) to download the Membership Application Form.



2019 SCA NATIONAL AWARDS UPDATE

WELCOME TO THE SCA NATIONAL AWARDS - 2019.

An award is something given to a person, a group of people, or an organization in recognition of their excellence in a certain field. A SCA National Award can be given in 5 categories listed below. Sister City awards are given for Community, Youth, Trade & Tourism and Overall Programs. We also give an award for a New Affiliation.

Four cities have advised that they will enter in a variety of categories, **Closing date for entries in the 2019 SCA National Awards is: Friday 3rd August 2019.** To be eligible the participating city must be a member of Sister Cities Australia and is given the opportunity to enter via the Annual National Awards handbook distributed via email in February.

Recognition is given by way of two trophies for each entry. One for the Australian city and one for its sister city locally or overseas. **The SCA Award**

winners will be announced at the WA Forum Awards dinner in Perth on Thursday September 19 2019. Venue to be advised.

Sister Cities have been a part of my life since I walked down an avenue of Japanese primary school children waving Japanese and Australian flags in our Sister City Adachi in 1984. That was 35 years ago. As Vice President and Awards Coordinator for 18 of those years, the inspiration contributed from the many, many cities who have entered the awards is just so rewarding.

Yes, Rewarding! There is a special glow that people have who are part of a sister city exchange and these are reflected in the SCA National awards.

- To our judges Mike Jakins in WA and Mike Greenwood from Parkes in NSW thanks for the task you are about to complete.



NEWSLETTER

www.sistercitiesaustralia.com

June 2019

- To all member cities who have entered each year it has been my pleasure to have been fortunate to know about the magnificent outcomes of signing the establishment of your sister cities.

To this year's award cities: All the very best for a successful entry

Jan Teasdale: Awards Coordinator

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.

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.