

SA Public Service Medal Association

President

Mr Don Plowman



Secretary: Mr. Andy McPharlin

Newsletter

Spring Edition 2017

Christmas Greetings 2017

From the President - Don Plowman PSM

Dear Members and friends,

Welcome to the 2017 Spring Edition of the PSMA SA newsletter and our final Newsletter for the year.

The visits and events organised by your committee for the year were both informative and entertaining. We have received excellent feedback from those who attended and we will continue the program into next year. The first of the events is to the new RAH, on 2 March. See the information below.

The success of an Association such as ours is the level of interest and support from members. I urge you to support the events organised and to give us your ideas as to activities for the future. We have many interesting visits to choose from, so please add to the list. I intend to meet with Erma Ranieri to explore how the skills and experience of PSM recipients might be best utilised to the benefit of the state and people in the public service. I will also meet with as many Chief Executives as possible to encourage them to celebrate success by nominating people from their agency for the Award.

The Association has had an excellent year, thanks to the enthusiasm and effort by our outgoing President, Val Smyth and your Committee. Who could forget the 25th Celebration at Government House and the dinner afterwards and the recent 25th Anniversary of the PSM Association. Val has worked tirelessly for the Association over the past three years as President, and I offer all of your thanks to Val.

Your Association is in good shape and my intention is to keep it that way.

Our next event is the Australia Day Celebration on Friday 26 January. Details are below. It is a great way to celebrate Australia Day, and the PSM Awardees announced on that day. So come along and enjoy the occasion.

I wish you all the best for the festive season, and if you are travelling, have a safe trip.

Don Plowman - PSM Association SA President

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Future Events

Notice for your Diary - Australia Day Event BBQ and Lawn Bowls



Friday 26 January 2018

Venue: Beaumont Bowling Club
71 Devereux Rd, Linden Park

Time: 11am onwards

Members, family & friends - all welcome

Flat shoes if you want to bowl

Salad or dessert to share - please let Andy know

BYO drinks

(Meat will be provided)

Cost (\$20 pp - includes lawn bowls - if you wish to play) Preferred method of payment:

- direct transfer to **SA Public Service Medal Association BSB: 805 050 Account Number: 4104701** (indicate for Australia Day BBQ); or
- by cash on the day

RSVP by 19th January to Andy McPharlin

Who can come?

Special requirements

What to bring

PSM Association SA

EXCITING ADVANCE NOTICE

**Tour of new Royal Adelaide Hospital
Friday morning 2 March 2018**



**Further details to follow in the New year
Come and join us for the tour**

To help us know how many people to expect please can you indicate to Val Smyth if you think you might be coming



Visit to Urrbrae House - September 29th

On 9th September a group of us visited historic Urrbrae House. The current house, a beautiful bluestone mansion, completed in 1891 was the home of Peter and Matilda Waite. This replaced a single story building believed to have been constructed about 1850 by Robert Forsyth Macgeorge. The land on which the estate was based has remained unsubdivided since 1839 and has been part of Adelaide University - known as the 'Waite Institute' since 1923.



Urrbrae House is now an accredited museum and we enjoyed a fascinating tour of the premises which including viewing the educational facilities. Children are able to visit the house as part of a specialised tour which allows them to dress in period costume and attend a school classroom set up as it would have been in the late 19th century so they can experience the lessons of the day and also to find out what it would have been like to be a servant in those years. As no Association outing is complete without coffee, following our tour we gathered together at the Amore Cafe on site.

Christmas Morning Tea - December 8th

For the second year running a pre Christmas morning tea was held at Val and John Smyth's house in Dernancourt. The weather was kind to us so we were able to enjoy time over good food and in good company in the garden. John and I felt it was a real privilege to have so many people come to our home and we especially welcomed our Patron Sue Vardon.





Annual General Meeting and Dinner 2017

The AGM/Annual Dinner this year was a very special occasion as 2017 marked 25 years since the association was founded. The event was held at Damien on Fisher Restaurant on Fisher Street Fullerton. It was a terrific evening with many members and family friends present. The evening included guest speaker Erma Ranieri, Commissioner for Public Sector Employment, Sue Vardon our Patron hosting an interview session with Valmai Hankel PSM and Mario Barone PSM, Presidents address (see below) and presentation of Life Membership to Dene Cordes for his services to the association of many years. The evening also included a pre dinner meeting with members of the Order of Australia Committee with whom we have developed good links as well as a short Annual General Meeting (AGM) - the report of which is provided below.



Annual General Meeting President's Report AGM SA PSMA 2017

October 2017 marks 25 years since the Public Service Medal Association of SA was first established and I plan to talk more about that during the dinner a little later tonight, but first we have a few important business matters to attend to.

Business matters - The association is now in its 25th year and continues to have a small but consistent membership. It is our desire to grow, so please encourage others to consider joining

Committee- During the last 12 months the committee has met on four occasions and I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the members for their help and efforts to make the association and tonight worthwhile.

Visits/Events- This year's the association has been involved in eight events. These have included:

- Pre-Christmas morning tea at my home on Dec 9 and as this was so successful we plan to do this again this year on Dec 8 - come and join us. Information is in the newsletter and we will send out another newsletter in the near future
- On Australia Day we held our annual BBQ and Lawn Bowls event at the Beaumont Bowling Club which as usual was also very popular. Come and join us next year.
- Attendance by the President on behalf of the association at the medal investitures at Government House in April and September
- Attendance as President on behalf of the association at the Order of Australia Reception evenings in May and September.
- March - A visit to the state Library
- June - A visit to the David Roche Museum

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Newsletter - We continue to produce the newsletter 3 - 4 times per year and as indicated you will find the latest copy available on your table. A new edition will be published before Christmas and Electronic, webpage and mail out copies will be available.

Website- We have now had a website for over 12 months and hope you are finding the site interesting and informative and Andy will give you more information about the site in his report.

Where should we be heading? I am stepping down from the role of president as from tonight and handing over to a new president and I am looking forward to seeing the visions and ideas that I am sure our next president will have for us for our future. As I step down, it is still my desire that we continue to be an association that has a strong focus is to its members and for those numbers to grow. I would also like all of you to think about ways that we can perhaps give back to those who follow in our footsteps, to consider how we might be able to assist a young emerging leader in some way as they grow in maturity and knowledge. I believe there is a wealth of knowledge and experience that we can share.

I would like to thank all of you for your support to me personally and encourage you to continue to give that support to our next president as he or she takes over this role.

At the close of my report I want to again say thank you to our committee members and especially Andy McPharlin our secretary who has worked many hours to help with this event and managing our committee meetings so admirably. Thank you Andy.

Thank you to you all. Val Smyth - Outgoing President

President Speeches - 25th Celebratory Dinner



Outgoing Presidents Speech - Val Smyth 2017

Ladies and gentlemen what a great evening we are enjoying. As I look around this room this evening, I feel very humbled by the great wealth of experience, expertise, innovation and honourable service that is represented here. I see here people who received their award way back 25 years ago as well as a new recipient from this year

We may be only a smallish group as an association but we come from so many walks of life and areas of service. Let me inspire you with a few of these:

- Local Government leadership
- The field of agriculture
- Establishment and support for community participation in the management of South Australian National Parks
- Security and emergency management
- Ariel surveillance and mapping
- Radiation protection,
- Economic, social and environment policy reform,
- Water management,
- Clinical pharmacology,
- Aboriginal employment training
- Development and field deployment of infrastructure in relation to increased protection for ADF aircraft
- Health and disaster management; and
- I especially would like to mention our newest recipient- Rosie Antenucci who received her award earlier this year for services to education and to the teaching of English as an additional language - congratulations -
- and of course there are many more examples from among you all - these are just a few

As you would know the Public Service Medal (Australia) is a civil decoration awarded to Australian public servants for outstanding service. The PSM was introduced in 1989 as part of the range of the Order of

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Australia Awards introduced in 1975 when the Imperial awards were discontinued. Recipients of the Public Service Award are entitled to use the post-nominal letters "PSM". Awards are made by the Governor General on the nomination of the responsible Minister in each state or territory and at the federal level. Local Government employees are also eligible

The first Public Service Medals were awarded in South Australia in 1990 after nominations were sought by the Public Service Commissioner Andrew Strickland through the Government Gazette and Dene Cordes was one of those award recipients that first year being recognized for his work introducing a volunteer program in the National Parks.

History of the PSM Association

As mentioned before our gathering here this year is yet another milestone event as we celebrate 25 years of our association and I cannot let this day pass without sharing with you some of that story. In SA, the Public Service Medal Association was established at an inaugural meeting in 1992 and still today is the only PSM association of its kind in Australia. The first beginnings were largely due to Dene Cordes initiatives. He had been awarded a Winston Churchill Memorial Fellowship in 1985. For the new Public Service Medal Association, Dene had in mind the model of the Churchill Fellows Association of South Australia of which he became President in 1986 and had seen how successful such an organization had become.

Dene tracked the other 16 recipients of the PSM at that time and invited them to a meeting in November 1992 at the Department of Environment and Planning Head office in Grenfell Street a meeting he chaired to consider the formation of an Association of Public Service Medalists. Six people came to that first meeting, they were: Brian Bartlett (1991); Dene D Cordes (1990); Desmond J Hughes (1991); Andrew Keeves (1991); Douglas J Lane (1990); Michael F Penny (1990) and Des and Dene are here tonight.

There was enthusiasm from the group and they agreed to set up an association. Doug Lane was elected President and Dene was appointed Secretary/Treasurer/Editor

The Objectives were set and it was decided that at that stage there should be one main event each year, a dinner for medalists and their partners which could also double as the AGM. The committee met regularly to keep the association thriving and from this small beginning it has continued to grow.

Many of those early members have served the Association loyally for many years including Des Hughes, Brian Bartlett, Barbara Parker, Gerald Edwards and David McGowan who became the longest serving President. From the outset, there was a determination to keep country members informed, so a newsletter was started and Barbara Parker was the editor for many years and there was also a determined effort to take the meetings out to the country and Berri, the South East, Barossa and the Riverland were visited.

In 1996 Sue Vardon AO who at that time was heading up the Office of Public Sector Reform, was invited to take on the role of Patron. She accepted and remains our Patron today and we thank her for the many years of support that she has and continues to provide.

In 2015, as you are all aware, the Association celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Public Service Medal with a reception at Government House and a formal dinner which was addressed by the Chief Executive of the Premier and Cabinet Department. Val Smyth as the President at that time presided over the event. This was for us a real watershed event and will be long remembered by us all.

In 2017 we have welcomed three new recipients

Ms Joyleen Joan Thomas In the area of employment, cultural inclusiveness and Indigenous events.

Mr Robert Glen Schwarz In the field of intergovernmental fiscal relations, taxation policy and economic policy: and

Ms Rosina Antenucci (who is here today) for Services to education and to the teaching of English as an additional language

Sadly we have also lost several award winners in the last 12 months and they include:

Dr Alice Rigney one of our very early days award recipients in 1991 - for outstanding public service to Indigenous education

Doug Lane awarded - His award was in 1990 - for outstanding public service over a period of 37 years as a water scientist, 17 at senior management level in the State Water Laboratories.

Arthur (Mate) Osborne - PSM Award 1998 for outstanding services to the community of South Australia in the field of Conservation Park management

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Richard Hicks - PSM Award 2006 for outstanding public service in the development of innovative policies in the area of community health. in the development of innovative polices in the area of community health.

Lindsay Best - PSM Award 2004 for outstanding public service to nature conservation.

We also acknowledge Dianne Cordes - wife of Dene Cordes who passed away earlier this year and was known to many of you and was indeed a tireless volunteer in so many areas herself.

Over the years the association has consolidated and grown into a small but friendly and interesting group with purpose and future and the association president is invited to Members attend the Government House ceremonies to welcome new recipients.

In the last year we have continued to enjoy a number of events and visits and these have included:

Dec 9 - Pre-Christmas morning tea at my home and as this was so successful we plan to do this again this year on Dec 8 - come and join us. Information is in the newsletter and we will send out another newsletter in the near future.

Australia Day we held our annual BBQ and Lawn Bowls event which as usual was also very popular. Come and join us next year. March saw us visit the State Library and Valmai Hankel was able to be with us and in June - The David Roche Museum.

In recent times I am also pleased to say that we have developed growing relations with the Order of Australia Association SA Branch and it is with pleasure we welcome the SA Branch Chairman Mr Ken Coventry here today.

As I hand over the presidency to Don Plowman from today, I would like to thank the committee, Don Plowman, Chris Dearman, Sue Ireland, Stuart Hocking and Debra Rowett for their support and a very special thanks to Andy McPharlin who has worked tirelessly as Secretary.

Also thanks to Sue Vardon for her support as our Patron, John Thompson for his work on our website, Jeff Preiss as Auditor and to my husband John Smyth for helping as temporary treasurer this year.

It has been a pleasure to serve as President and I am delighted that Don has agreed to take on this role after me. Don is a very skilled executive and has all the best attributes to lead us well. I would love to see the association to grow in number and as a result be able to use the many skills and experiences that so many of you - our recipients have to be of value in some way to the young potential leaders in our public service today.

Thank you all so much

Post note - A winner

During the evening, thanks to Valmai Hankel tickets for the State Library Lottery were available and I am delighted to inform you that this year's winner was Andy McPharlin who won this fabulous bottle of Penfold's Grange - Congratulations Andy.



Newsletter items

If you have interesting articles that we can share with members please submit them to Val Smyth. We welcome the opportunity to share knowledge with each other.

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SA PSMA website.

Don't forget our website is now live and can be found at: <http://www.sapublicservicemedal.asn.au/>

It is still in its infancy and over the next few months we will be loading more information. If you have something to share - especially photos please let Andy know. This site belongs to all of us, so let us make it of value to us all.

Christmas Recipe to enjoy



Yoghurt, Raspberry and White Chocolate Loaf

Ingredients

1 ½ cups SR flour☆
½ cup caster sugar
2 tbsp vegetable oil
2 eggs, beaten lightly
1 cup low-fat natural yoghurt◇
1 cup frozen raspberries
100 gm (or more!) white chocolate◇

Method

Preheat oven to 180 degrees (160 for fan-forced). Combine flour and sugar in bowl. Add remaining ingredients, mix until just combined. Bake in either a loaf pan or muffin pan (I prefer loaf). Bake for about 30 minutes.

*We do wish you all a very Happy and
Blessed Christmas this year- 2017*

If you have a new or changed email address- please let Andy McPharlin know