Australia-Britain Society

(NSW Branch) Inc

Incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act, 1984 (NSW)
Registered No CFN 15054 under section 16 of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991(NSW)
ABN 75 368 639 375

Patron: Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO, Governor of New South Wales

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Australia
- Britain
Society

CONTENTS	PAGE
TITLE PAGE	1
BACKGROUND OF THE SOCIETY	3
NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH STRUCTURE	4
2007-2008 YEAR IN REVIEW:	
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	5
SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS COMMITTEE MEMBERS	8
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	10
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	11
SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS COMMITTEE REPORT	12
GRANTS MADE	13
MEMBERSHIP REPORT	14
SAIL TRAINING REPORT	16
REPORT ON SAILING ABOARD THE SCHOONER LORD NELSON BY TOM CARR	17
REPORT ON SAILING ABOARD THE SCHOONER LORD NELSON BY TOM FISHER	20
TREASURER'S REPORT	21
BRANCHES OF THE SOCIETY IN AUSTRALIA	22
BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA SOCIETY IN THE UK	23
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	26
PHOTOS FROM THE YEAR'S EVENTS	Appendix

Some of the Committee at the grant presentation to Glenn Donnelly, viola scholarship winner. Commander Richard Tighe, Richard Nott, Janatha Adams, Glenn Donnelly, David Adams, Ken Bock, Terry Rich

Margaret and RADM Ross Swan greeting the Duke of Gloucester at the House of Lords

Ray Smee, Former Olympian and Captain of the Australian Water Polo team, Cynthia Parker, and Michael Mercer, Director Australian Olympic team 2008, in the Highlands.

Southern Highlands Committee: Virginia Baccarini, Jan Bell, David Brown, Mark Chiswell, Lynette Stephens, Ian Archer, Cynthia Parker, Malcolm Stephens

Lynette Stephens and Cynthia Parker reading the lessons at the Remembrance Day service at St. James' Church King Street

David Brown and Virginia Baccarini at the Bradman museum reception Bowral

Australia-versus-England Women's Cricket :Richard Nott President, Karen Rolston Australian Captain, Charlotte Edwards England Captain, Cynthia Parker Southern Highlands Co-ordinator and Terry Rich in the background

Andrew Tam, 2006 Sail Training awardee, and Pat Morath at the Christmas party

BACKGROUND OF THE SOCIETY

The Society was formed in 1971 under the auspices of Sir Robert Menzies, former Prime Minister of Australia, to nurture and promote cultural links that both Britain and Australia shared through their common heritage. This was reflected by the British Prime Minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home establishing a complementary sister society in Britain called the Britain-Australia Society.

The Society in Australia is made up of a Foundation and branches in Sydney, Canberra, the Gold Coast, Melbourne and Perth.

The Australia-Britain Society Foundation is based in Canberra ACT and holds reserves of around $260,000 being the proceeds of the former National body of the Society, wound up in 2007/8. The Foundation raises money in its own right directly and from investment earnings as well as contribution from Branches towards specific projects such as the Shakespeare in Schools programme. Members can make direct donations to the Foundation where a tax deduction is available. Branch Presidents are Trustees of the Foundation. Pooling of donations from branches enables the Foundation to make discrete larger contributions to worthwhile cultural activities that support our British heritage.

The majority of New South Wales members are based in greater Sydney or in the Southern Highlands where there is an active informal sub-branch. Most members are people born in Britain or who have lived there for some years. Conversely in Britain most members are Australians or British people with links to Australia.

The Australia-Britain Society is an independent non-political Australian organisation, whose role is to maintain, encourage and strengthen the numerous cultural links between Australia and Britain in a spirit of friendship. These bonding links are expressed through history, language, literature, education, sport and cultural events. The Society places emphasis on the role of youth in supporting a modern and evolving relationship between Australia and Britain.

The Society's aims are met through a range of events with an emphasis on fellowship and fun, which preserve occasions that both societies honour. These include Australia Day, and the Queen's Birthday as the flagship celebration events. Surplus proceeds enable grants to be made for a diverse series of programmes within the charter of nurturing our common bonds and with a focus on young people.

The committees of the various Society structures comprise a wide range of skills and energies given freely by their members.

NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH
PO Box 647, GORDON NSW 2072 Telephone/Fax (02) 9449 7532
Email : absociety@idx.com.au

STRUCTURE

Our branch has 383 members. (See the Membership Report for more details). Most members live in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs, North Shore and the Peninsula. Many members are retired and a large group is based in the Southern Highlands around Bowral, Moss Vale and Mittagong.

Function attendances range from 30-200 people, mainly members, guests and friends from collegiate societies including:

Anglo-Australasian Lawyers Society
Arthur Phillip Society
BBM (Big Brother Movement)
British Public Schools Alumni
Cook Society
Order of St. John
Royal Commonwealth Society
Royal Society of St George
Scots-Australian Council
Sydney-Portsmouth Sister City Committee
The Society of the Friends of St George's and The Descendants of the Knights of the Garter
The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire Association
The Navy League of Australia (NSW Division)
The English in Australia Association ("T Club")
The English Speaking Union

By affiliating some functions a better patronage is possible. This enables us to provide entertainment at events and enables friends of various groups with kindred interests to meet periodically. A large number of our members are also members of these various groups and it is expedient for us to share one major event rather than compete for attendances against other societies with a common membership who are unlikely to attend every similar function.

2007-8 YEAR IN REVIEW

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

For the benefit of newer members and as a reference point, the Committee membership details are listed. It may be useful for members to know the Committee members' roles and other interests the Committee has outside the Society.

President

Richard Nott
Dip FS(UK); Dip FP; BSc(Hons) (Manchester UK); Grad Dip Insce (Deakin); MBA(Wales UK); MCom (Sydney); MIRM (Deakin); ThA(Hons); ANZIIF(fellow); FCII(UK); SF Fin; FCIB(UK); FPNA; FCIS; CAHRI; FCMI(UK)

14 Wallalong Crescent, West Pymble NSW 2073 tel (02) 9449 2694 mobile 0439 944 926 email rnott@optusnet.com.au

President for past seven years, and Committee member since 1996. Member since 1977 via Britain-Australia Society London Branch. Chairman of the Australia-Britain Society Foundation in 2008 and Cook Society member.

Banking, Finance and Insurance working career in Australia and Europe. Based in London for four years. Currently a director of various insurance and venture capital companies in Australia and Bermuda. Treasurer of Sydney Spring Festival of New Music for five years until 2001.

Supervises function programme and represents the Society at various kindred group events.

Vice President and Sail Training Co-ordinator

Commander Richard Tighe, RFD, RD, RANR (Retd)

Tel (02) 9948 3479 mobile 0407 941 399 email tighe@bigpond.net.au

Commander Tighe is the longest-serving member of the Committee having served twelve years as Honorary Treasurer before being elected Vice President in 2000.

A retired senior banker, Commander Tighe served for over forty years in the Royal Australian Naval Reserve as a seaman Officer and Intelligence Officer, including a nine-year term as Honorary Aide-de-Camp to the former Governor of New South Wales, the late Sir Roden Cutler, from 1970-1979.

His prime function is chairing the Sail Training Selection Committee, co-ordinating the Sail Training programme awards and all the background work which goes in organising these awards. British awardees joining the *Young Endeavour* are provided with hospitality and local contacts by the Society. This is co-ordinated by Commander Tighe in conjunction with the Australian Sail Training Association and the Young Endeavour Youth Scheme. Mrs Barbara Tighe is a wonderful support in this Society work. It is a major task and the focus of the Society's awards programme.

Hon. Secretary

David Adams, LLB

Private Box 621 PO, Woollahra NSW 2025 Adams, Raves Marsh & Co, 9/219 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000
Tel (02) 9283 5121 email: djadams@unwired.com.au

Practising solicitor. Hon Director various boards and committees, who runs 23 retirement villages throughout New South Wales. David is a member of the Sail Training evaluation committee, and attends to secretarial and legal requirements of the Society.

General Committee Members:

Mrs Janatha Adams

Janatha is a registered nurse who manages her own catering business and assists with Society functions.

David Miller, OAM

Tel (02) 9969 9663 mobile 0429 984 965 email dandpmiller@hotmail.com

Retired Commonwealth shipping surveyor and Federal Investigator with various Commonwealth departments. Initiated the Mosman Highland Gatherings, the Celtic Australia Day Festival and Games and the Scots-Australian Council in Australia of which he is Deputy Chairman. David was awarded an OAM for services to the North Shore community.

David has initiated new functions for the Society including the Australia Day buffet luncheon and Remembrance Day services.

Treasurer

Ken Bock

BCom; ANZIIF(fellow); FFin; CPA

Tel (02) 9871 6869 Mobile 0411 705 036 Fax 9871 6841 email: kbandlb@optusnet.com.au

Ken Bock is a retired senior manager with AMP where he served throughout Australia and in London. He is an announcer with 2RPH radio, an actor in various suburban Sydney theatre productions, lay assistant of the Epping Anglican church, a member of the investment committee of Anglicare, a member of the supervisory board of the Scripture Union Deposit Fund, an active member of the Masonic movement and Royal Australian Historical Society.

In addition to being our valued Treasurer Ken acts as Master of Ceremonies at our major functions.

Membership Secretary

Terry Rich, JP

Tel (02) 9880 2408/ 0412 205 809 email belindarich@bigpond.com.

Terry Rich has been a member of the Society for many years and has assisted on the Committee at various times. He brings a wealth of experience to the Committee. He is very active in the finance sector, processing housing securities all over greater Sydney. Born in England, Terry arrived in Australia in 1953. He has owned and managed, with his wife Diana, numerous businesses throughout Australia.

Terry is responsible for the Membership Secretary role, managing records of new members and renewals, and monitoring the structure of the Society membership base

Mrs. Maureen Tegerdine

Tel (02) 99497001 email motegs@yahoo.co.uk

Maureen was born in Scotland and moved to England at age seven. She raised a family in England and since 1984 set up and managed a charity Crossroads Care that employed care-attendants. Maureen came to Australia in 2004 and has become an Australian citizen actively involved in charity work. Maureen assists with management of our functions.

Mrs. Betty Eaton

10 Cecil Street, Gordon NSW 2072 tel 94982723

Betty has been a life member for many years and has lived at Gordon for over fifty years. After the war she was attached to the Royal Navy and involved extensively in repatriating returning prisoners of war from the Far East. Her late husband started OCL, a major global container shipping company, and they lived in London for some years.

Secretariat

Mrs. Sue Labordus, BA

PO Box 647, Gordon NSW 2072 Tel/Fax (02) 9449 7532 email absociety@idx.com.au

Sue was born and educated in England, moved to South Africa where she had her own fashion agency business, thence to Australia where she has lived for thirty-four years. Sue has a degree in Modern Languages and has taught French and German on a voluntary basis at the University of the Third Age.

Since January, 2005, Sue has been the Branch programme co-ordinator, which involves receipt and banking of funds, organising printing and despatch of newsletters, flyers and membership renewals. This role has a direct involvement with function planning, table plans and programme organisation.

******

The future of the Society depends upon the depth, interest and vitality of the committee to share the service load and offer worthwhile programmes and organisation to its members. New committee members are always needed and appreciated. Vacancies exist for function support, and for general roles to provide for natural succession planning. Additionally, we need members to assist periodically with selling and collating of raffles and organising prizes. Please advise any member of the Committee if you believe you can help at some of these functions in this way or by manning the reception desk at our functions.

Southern Highlands

Southern Highlands is an informal sub-group which organises its own regional functions, makes grants from the funds raised and adds to our general reserves. This has worked well for many years, and whilst licensing regulations may require some formalisation of its structure, the current arrangements work smoothly and strong communication channels exist with the main branch committee.

Southern Highlands Co-ordinator

Miss Cynthia Parker, OAM

PO Box 997 Mittagong NSW 2575 tel (02) 4871 1267 fax (02) 4872 2921

Cynthia was born and educated in England. After holding a Royal Academy of Dancing scholarship for five years, Cynthia followed a career in education. Her teaching career started in the East End of London before joining the staff at Frensham, Mittagong in 1961. After five years at Frensham she returned to England and taught at a co-educational school in the dock area of London. In 1968 Cynthia was invited back to Frensham as Headmistress and remained in that position for twenty-six years until her retirement in 1993. She became a member of the Society and has co-ordinated the Society activities in the Southern Highlands since the inception of our activities there in 1995. Cynthia was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for services to education and to the community.

David Brown

David arrived in Australia in 1990 from New Zealand where his maternal grandparents had emigrated to in the 1840's. David manages a family business supplying processing equipment to the timber-based panel industry and specialises in the use of waste materials.

Mrs. Jan Bell

Mrs Bell returned to Australia in 1997 after thirty-three years in Singapore raising a family after a teaching career. In addition to the Society committee, Jan is actively involved with the Deaf and Blind Children's Society at North Rocks and other groups involving children with disabilities.

Ian Archer

Whilst born in Sydney, Ian spent his first fifty-seven years at Gundagai after being educated at Moss Vale and Sydney. Ian's interests and career work involves breeding sheep, cattle, stock horses and working dogs. A keen horse rider, Ian has had mounts throughout Australia, Europe, China and Tibet! Ian lives at Robertson.

Malcolm Stephens, CB, MA, Treasurer

Malcolm assumed the local Treasurer role from Mark Chiswell during the year and he has had a distinguished career in Britain, Europe and Africa; initially in the UK Diplomatic Service, with Barclays Bank, and Director of the UK Civil Service Staff College. He was Chief Executive of the Exports Credit Guarantee Department, a member of the Overseas Project Board, and Chief Executive of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Malcolm continues a busy Consultancy practise in retirement, including visiting scholar to the IMF, World Bank and numerous Governments. Malcolm was awarded a Companion of the Bath in 1991 and was educated at St John's College Oxford where he earned an MA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics. He is married to Lynette Stephens and is both British and Australian citizen as well as a member of the Cook Society.

Mrs. Lynette Stephens, BA

Lynette has a BA degree in Psychology from Queensland University. Her career in the Commonwealth Public Service led to her being selected as an Australian Exchange Officer to the UK with the British Ministry of Labour. She met and married Englishman Malcolm Stephens, and they lived in Kent for twenty-eight years. They returned on regular visits to Australia, and permanently settled in the Southern Highlands in 2001. Lynette joined the local committee mid-2004.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

To attract new and younger members we have expanded the programme to include over a dozen events. New members have covered the natural member loss due to age and distance, giving as well a better mix of annual subscribers versus life members. Unfortunately only a few events attracted strong member support and the work involved in organising some functions is not economic. As well, similar groups have been actively holding similar events and are reluctant to participate with us. As a result, we will be forced to drop some events that are not popular.

The Membership and Treasurer reports cover these movements in more detail, however the net financial position this year is impacted by the one-off grant of $5,000 to viola player Glenn Donnelly out of $10,000 in funds given to us the previous year by the National body. The important factor is our "trading" or operations, and in that area we are positive. As largely a social club, our charitable grants are limited to the operating surplus we generate. Sail Training airfare grants are impacted by the oil shocks and we need to generate more surpluses to enable this to continue at the same level. Costs have reduced due to the use of emails and fewer hard copies of newsletters, plus donations from life members that give us a comfortable level of reserves. Like all kindred groups, we have an increasingly less active membership base and

difficulties in getting new people on the committee to help harness raffle prizes and take over function management.

The National body has been wound up apart from some outstanding taxation credit issues and its role will be taken over by the Foundation, which has around $260,000 in funds for grants and can accept tax-deductible donations. In 2008-9 your President will be the Foundation Chairman, supported by Mr. Rick Forster, Canberra, as Deputy Chairman, and Mr. Andrew Hilton, President of Victoria Branch, as Secretary/Treasurer. These roles will rotate every few years as Branch committees change. Mrs. Marjorie Turbayne and Mr. Malcolm Longstaff have both retired after many years of selfless work for the Society and I am grateful for their help and contribution.

I have been a member of this Society for thirty-one years and I enjoy being involved. As President for seven years I feel that I must give notice of my intention to stand down after a maximum of ten years to enable fresh ideas and new enthusiasm to carry on the work. If you have some spare time, please consider joining the committee, as formal meetings are only four times a year and we need some help with the position of Minute Secretary, together with raffle and function management.

I thank the Committee for its support and value it brings to the Society, many of whom are busy people and who give freely of their time and skills. The Secretariat is run by Mrs. Sue Labordus who does a wonderful job in organising events and our records as well as editing and despatching all the newsletters and function processing. The best way for you to reciprocate is to attend the functions or give us feedback on what you would like to see in the programme.

The BBC filmed the Queen's Birthday luncheon and this will be shown in September. Also, the BBC is to film the Young Endeavour on-board luncheon next year to be shown in the UK. I would like to spend more time on publicising the Society with an aim to attract new members.

Thank you for supporting the Society. We are a happy lot and it is such a delight to see people at events having a good time and catching up with friends.

With continuing good wishes,

Richard Nott.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For the year to 30th June 2008 the following programme of events was held:

. ***Victoriana!*** **Black tie dinner** and variety programme at St Paul's College, Sydney University

. **Plain English Speaking Awards. NSW finals** at NSW Powerhouse Museum

- **Spring Dinner/Dance at Mandalay Reception Centre Lane Cove**

- **Annual General Meeting and Cocktail Party with Sail Training reports**

- **Buffet dinner at Royal Yacht Squadron Kirribilli**

- **Elgar Commemorative Concert** with Woollahra Philharmonic Orchestra at Scots College Double Bay

- **Remembrance Day church service at St. James' Church, King Street** and luncheon at Parliament House, with Mr. Humphrey Dell recounting his experiences on the run in Germany as a shot-down Pathfinder pilot in World War II.

- **Christmas Party** at the residence of the British Consul-General at Vaucluse, Sydney.

- **Australia Day Buffet Luncheon** at the American Club, Macquarie Street, Sydney

- **BBQ Royal Yacht Squadron,** Kirribilli

- **Young Endeavour buffet at Fleet Base, Woolloomooloo.** Hosted by the Royal Australian Navy with the Maritime Commander, Rear Admiral Nigel Coates and the 2007 awardees Tom Carr and Tom Fisher.

- **Buffet dinner Royal Yacht Squadron**, Kirribilli

- **Queen's Birthday Luncheon** at NSW Parliament House Sydney with our guest of honour Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO, Governor of New South Wales, together with guests Daniel Swain, the 2007 National winner of the Plain English Speaking Awards, and Miss Hester Fraser, a music student playing and singing some of her own compositions.

In the Southern Highlands:

"We Open in Venice". A Music and Dance afternoon by young performers and teachers at Chevalier College Music Centre.

Beef and Bush Poetry in the paddock at Eden Park Robertson, with Bush poet Gregory North, and a carvery and picnic in the grounds.

Civic reception to welcome England and Australia Women's cricket teams at Bradman Museum. Followed by attendances at the matches on the oval between the two women's teams.

Beijing Olympics 2008 with guest speaker Michael Mercer, Australian Team Captain. Drinks and finger food at Bradman Museum.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Looking back on the financial year, the Southern Highlands group has had a pleasantly varied and financially successful twelve months. There have been a few new members join the Society, and local members plus friends continue to support our functions.

"We Open in Venice" was an afternoon of delightful music and dance, showcasing talented young performers and their teachers. Co-ordinated and produced by our member Shirley Thompson, the programme included music from shows and films, plus instrumental ensembles, song and ballet. Held in the Chevalier College Music Centre, the Australia-Britain Society paid for the tuning of the piano used in the performance, and gave a donation to the College Music Dept.

Beef and Bush Poetry in the Paddock proved a popular Spring event at Committee member Mr. Ian Archer's property at Robertson. Bush poet, Mr. Gregory North, was a delight with his witty, amusing presentation of Aussie poetry.

It seemed fitting that the S.H. group donate $500 to the Bell Shakespeare Company programme, which takes drama to schools across Australia. This was done during the year.

At the Remembrance Day service at St. James' Church Sydney, Mrs Lyn Stephens and Miss Cynthia Parker were honoured to be invited to read the lessons at the service.

2008 brought a flurry of activity. Mr. Mark Chiswell, Committee member who has competently looked after our finances for several years, relocated with his wife to Sydney. In his place we welcomed Mr. Malcolm Stephens, CB, to the Committee. Two functions happened in February at the Bradman Museum of Cricket. The Executive Director, Ms Rina Hore, invited the Society to help co-ordinate a Civic Reception for the Australian and English Women's Cricket teams. This was prior to a four-day Test Match. Members enjoyed meeting the players and many people were inspired to attend match play in subsequent days, or act as voluntary helpers. The final outcome of the Test was a victory for England.

Beijing Olympics 2008, only two weeks later, was another excellent sporting opportunity, held in the Bradman Theatrette, on 29th February. Our guest speaker, Mr. Michael Mercer, Director Administration of the Australian Olympic Team gave a memorable overview of preparations necessary to get the Australian team to China. We shall view the games with a greater insight about communications, financial management, VIP liaisons, receptions, ceremonies, plus the Olympic village, team performers, dietetics, and support teams for our participants.

The S.H. Committee continues to ensure that some of the finance raised from functions is used to support local endeavour. To this end, $500 was donated to the Mittagong Playhouse towards the cost of a grand piano. A young Mittagong dancer was assisted with the expenses involved in taking up a prestigious

Ballet Summer School Scholarship in the USA. This could be a real career opportunity for the fifteen-year-old student as she pursues her dream towards the Australian Ballet.

We thank members and friends who support our functions, particularly our NSW President and Sydney based members who travel to the Highlands to join with us on many occasions. In return, we give assistance and support at Sydney functions. Our small committee of six works co-operatively and enthusiastically together. We are happy to receive ideas and suggestions from members to help us plan events that have an interest and appeal.

Miss Cynthia Parker OAM,
Southern Highlands Co-Ordinator

GRANTS MADE

The level of awards made is largely determined by the operating surplus from functions during the year, to preserve the society's capital and provide for some asset growth. Functions are held at a nominal surplus to give members value and provide a varied entertainment calendar at a low cost. If we can attract more corporate or private donations these grants can be increased.

This year grants totalled $14,260 and were made to support our main programme of Sail Training (see separate report), the Plain English Speaking NSW awards, and a grant to the Bell Shakespeare Company's Actors at Work programme that introduces Shakespeare and the theatre to thousands of primary and secondary school students throughout Australia, including those in regional and outback locations. The Southern Highlands strongly supported this Shakespeare programme. The Highlands as well made smaller grants of up to $500.00 to support the Bradman Museum that provides venues for functions at a low cost, the Mittagong theatre and a grant to help a young lady take up a dance scholarship in the USA. In 2007, a one-off grant of $5,000 was made to Mr. Glen Donnelly, a virtuoso viola player to take up a scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music in London. (The National Body gave us $10,000 in 2006 provided it was used to support young talent links with Britain and this grant fulfils some of that undertaking.)

The Plain English Speaking Awards comprise $100 to each NSW State finalist and a further $250 to the NSW State winner, in all $850. In itself this is a small contribution, but it is part of a collegiate award in conjunction with the BBM (Big Brother Movement), The English Speaking Union and the Sydney Morning Herald. This award enables the NSW State winner to compete nationally and the Australian winner to compete in the global awards programme in London. Our members are invited to attend the State finals at which our awards are made. It is a marvellous morning hearing young potential leaders arguing a sound case in such a spirited and decisive way using the English language at its best. In an age of truncated speech and communication via SMS and email messages, these presentations are a delight to attend.

This collegiate approach has been expanded via the Foundation of the Society which is harnessing funds to the Bell Shakespeare Company's education programme referred to above and a range of other grants. Grants

to the Foundation by States will enable a larger group grant to be made and save Branches managing smaller specific programmes.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

During the year we welcomed 24 new members. A warm welcome is extended to them and we trust that they enjoy their association with the Society. We lost 23 members during the year due to death or resignation because of age and inability to attend functions.

The subject of Renewals is a continual problem for us: around twenty members have not paid for last year and will drop off the membership base this year. A good many of our members are life members not paying subscriptions and this makes our reliance on annual membership renewals more acute. The fees have not increased for many years to encourage early renewals. Chasing up members for renewals is very time-consuming and disappointing. Please renew to remain on the membership list. Rates for 2008-9 are the same as prior years:

General (under 65)	$ 35.00
Senior (over 65)	$ 30.00
Family (includes partner)	$ 60.00
Corporate (five years)	$ 500.00

For new members joining after March, the annual payment covers this quarter and the whole of the next year.

Current membership numbers are:

General	29
Senior	86
Family (combined)	98
Life	133
Corporate	1
Complimentary	36 (8 Sail Training winners, various states and other bodies)
Total	383

If you have changed your address or would like to be re-added to the mailing list, please telephone me on (02) 9880 2408 or 0412 205 809 or email belindarich@bigpond.com. I will be pleased to make these changes. If you have an email address, please send us details as this is a far more cost effective and

quicker way of getting notices to members. (It's amazing the number of members who are now computer literate!)

New members are the lifeblood of the Society. Please bring along friends to our functions, as that is the best way to encourage them to join. Also, if you know of people interested, ring me and I will send them application forms and copies of our recent newsletters.

Whilst some members are remiss in sending renewals, it is gratifying to see the number of life members and others who send us donations to help keep the society functioning effectively. Thank you all.

Terry Rich
Membership Secretary

SAIL TRAINING REPORT

The winners of The Tall Ships Award 2008 were Tom Carr, 21, a commercial projects analyst of Pennant Hills NSW, and Tom Fisher, 23, an agribusiness graduate of Dubbo NSW. Both of the winners sailed aboard the Schooner Lord Nelson, operated by the Jubilee Sailing Trust, from Gran Canaria to Southampton in March/April 2008. This is the first time both of the winners have sailed on the same voyages.

The Tall Ships Award, which is the Society's major sponsorship, is part of the Australia-Britain Tall Ships Exchange Programme under the auspices of the Australian Sail Training Association, inaugurated by the Prime Minister in 2001. The award provides the return airfares to London for each of the winners as well as contributing towards the living expenses whilst overseas.

As the Tall Ships Youth Trust is not sending a young Briton to sail aboard Young Endeavour this year, it has been necessary for the Australia-Britain Society to meet the berth cost aboard Lord Nelson and air fare London to Tenerife of one of our award winners. It is hoped that in 2009 arrangements for two young Britons to sail aboard Young Endeavour will be resumed.

As part of the Exchange Programme, the Association of Sail Training Organisations UK sponsored a young Briton, Campbell Greer, a trainee ships officer from Glasgow, 20, to sail aboard Young Endeavour from Mackay to Cairns in June 2008.

A number of members of the Society attended a luncheon aboard Young Endeavour on 18 March 2008 at which the Fleet Commander, Rear Admiral Nigel Coates, AM RAN, presented award certificates to both of the young Australian award winners. We record our thanks to the Executive Director of Young

Endeavour Youth Scheme, CMDR Steve Moss, CSC RAN (Rtd), for facilitating the luncheon on board and to the Commanding Officer, LCDR Gavin Dawe, OAM RAN.

The Australia-Britain Society is strongly committed to the Tall Ships award programme as a part of its objectives to foster relations between Great Britain and Australia with an emphasis on youth. It is encouraging that most past winners of the award have joined the Society and have ongoing contact through various events during the year.

A significant number of our award winners have been invited back to the ships on which they sailed to serve on later voyages as volunteer crew and watch leaders. This is testimony to the very high standard of our award winners and is an indication of their commitment to sail training and its value for ongoing personal development. In addition, four award winners, Felicity Cox (2002), Madeleine Jacques (2005), Philippa Enkelmann (2005), and Andrew Tam (2006), attended the annual Sail Training International Conference in Liverpool UK in November 2007.

To enable our members to hear more of their experiences at sea, Tom Carr and Tom Fisher have been invited to address members at a reception following the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 23 September 2008 at the American Club. They will be happy to answer members' questions.

The ongoing viability of the Tall Ships award programme is dependent upon the Society's fundraising activities throughout the year. With increasing costs of the programme, members are again encouraged to support our various fund raising functions which will enable us to continue our support of the programme.

Commander Richard Tighe, RFD, RD. RANR (Retd)
Vice President and Sail Training Co-ordinator.

REPORT ON SAILING ABOARD THE STS LORD NELSON BY TOM CARR

Lord Nelson Rules the Waves

There are some experiences in life that are so amazing that they are impossible to forget, and some still that are hard to believe they are happening even at the time. Voyage LN691 from Las Palmas, Gran Canaria to Southampton, England without any doubt fell into this category. Not only was it the most successful voyage ever in which the Captain had taken part (by sail-time), but it was a time of constant personal discovery for myself.

I have been very passionate about sail training as a tool for developing young people, since my first experience last year on the Young Endeavour. This voyage, despite being very different to that first time reinforced that feeling. Nothing compares to sitting out under the stars in the still of the night, days from civilisation in any direction, sharing a joke with other watch members or just sitting quietly in self-reflection. This incredible isolation ensures that everyone's mind is focused solely on the ship, free of distraction.

From the moment that Tom (Fisher) and I stepped aboard the STS Lord Nelson, it was obvious that there was going to be very little in common with either of our experiences of the Young Endeavour. We found ourselves, barely 5 minutes on board, having a beer with a very diverse group of crewmembers in the ship's bar. The crew on the Lord Nelson spanned three or more generations unlike the age-limited crew of the Young Endeavour. The youngest aboard was 18 and the eldest, 83. It was there in the bar that I first met some of the crew that were to be my shipmates for the next 23 days.

The first few days before the voyage commenced were spent docked in Las Palmas as the crew arrived one by one from all over Great Britain, one even coming from Poland. I was amazed by the varied backgrounds, how they had heard about the ship, and why they decided to join the voyage. Initially the challenges were social: to learn the crew's names, to try to get to know everyone and make some connection, in preparation for the long voyage ahead. There were no formal ice-breaking activities to introduce ourselves to one-another, so Tom and I (who already knew each other well after the 41 hour journey to Las Palmas) got to know the British whilst undertaking some maintenance work on the ship. It wasn't until the day of departure that all the crew was on board and we were allocated to our watches. The foreigners were separated (I'm sure not intentionally!) in one "cabin", Tom, Jarek (the Polish man) and myself, and it would be together that we would spend the majority of the voyage.

Less than 2 hours after leaving port I was reminded just how much of a luxury it had been to have spent the last two days moored on a Spanish island. The seas outside Las Palmas quickly became rough, and the queasiness (unfortunately still too familiar from the Young Endeavour) returned to me. Jarek and I were the first to succumb, but still from that moment we were able to see the positives. *Nic tak nie łączy jak wspolne puszczanie pawia* he declared proudly, which loosely translated means "Nothing brings people together like communal vomiting". And that it did. The mutual sympathy meant that we weren't sitting on our own in self-pity, but were able to encourage each other to get on with the work at hand and get as much as possible out of the trip.

Luckily the sickness was quick to pass and if nothing else, the elation of overcoming it was enough to make those first two days at sea worthwhile. To sit recovered on the deck of a ship slowly sailing through

the Atlantic as the sun sets, doing something as simple as having a laugh with some of the crew on the deck is like ecstasy. That very experience became an essential ritual for me to end each day, even if just for a few minutes.

As time progressed (and seasick crew emerged from their cabins), it became more apparent that forty people were confined to the relatively small bounds of the ship. While one might normally take some moments of quietness and to relax occasionally, this was not as possible on the ship as on *la terre ferme*, it was necessary to be able to confront challenges rather than avoiding them. Certain situations could not be escaped once on the ship, such as sitting out on watch on a cold Northern Hemisphere night, keeping warm and passing the time by telling stories and jokes! Occasionally a sudden onset of gale force winds would help to defrost a frozen sailor by way of a strict course of rope-heaving.

Sunbathing à la Northern Hemisphere

By the time we reached dry land for our first port of call, everyone felt as though they had known each other for much longer than the two weeks it had taken to get there. All the jokes about Australians had been exhausted, but Tom and I only became more proud of our home and enjoyed representing our way of life, whether it be positivity, sense of camaraderie, or simply the ability to spin a good yarn. Here is the ships log that Tom and I wrote on the 6th of April, just over a week into the voyage. It is titled "Riding the Bull" in reference to the difficulties in having a shower in a ship sailing on a seven-metre swell:

> Ship's Log: 6th April 2008
>
> "Riding the Bull"
>
> A Sunday in the life of an Australian interned on the prison ship Lord Nelson. Awoken to a somewhat horizontal Dunmore Suite, the 6th day of April was not to be the same as any other. Manacled to the bridge for the first 4 hours of the morn, the absence of wind threatened to lengthen the term of our sentence. To our great relief, the 4am change of guard meant we could hand the sails and awaken the diesel dragon. Spared 3 more hours to rest, the day took better form, with a Nor-Easterly gale building in the distance. The two Australian prisoners made light work of a short 3 innings of on deck cricket,

hardly surprising even the English. A good day's pick pocketing netted the Australian contingent a healthy yield of 2 pounds and a sheep.

In other news: “Cereal” Assassin murdered in the fo'c'sle + Dolphins, Birthday, Dinner, Jarek singing, sailing (?).

Tom Carr

REPORT ON SAILING ABOARD THE STS LORD NELSON
BY TOM FISHER

After a plane trip that seemed to go for eternity, Tom Carr and I landed at Las Palmas airport Gran Canaria, after thirty-six hours in transit. I was to embark on one of the most memorable and unique experiences of my life.

The Lord Nelson English crew took no time in labelling us as *Colonial ring-ins and convicts.* We convinced them that the proper welcome should be over a few pints at a Spanish pub in the heart of Las Palmas! The crew were to be our comrades as we sailed north up the coast of Africa past the strait of Gibraltar into the Bay of Biscay and eventually to Southampton in England. The crew varied from a seventy-year-old widow who had just taken up sailing, to an ex-Royal Marine commando, amongst a group of high school and university students from around the world. We were in for a wonderful three-week adventure!

After a day’s maintenance, we set off late in the afternoon and motor-sailed well into the night, to ensure we gave Tenerife a wide berth before heading into open water and beginning a journey under sail. The first three days had an expected mixture of seasickness and excitement. I was placed in the forward starboard watch and found myself quickly slipping into the routine of four hours on and eight to twelve hours off, similar to being aboard the Young Endeavour. Here the similarities ended. Our team leader Pam told us that the weather was expected to deteriorate with a heavy swell of six metre waves and force eight seas. This was a real test! With a mixture of fear and excitement, my watch took over at four a.m. for a four-hour stint. At daylight, the crew discovered that the ship was covered in a coating of red dust across the bridge and starboard decks. The dust was fine particles of sand that had been blown from over three hundred and fifty miles from the coast of Africa and the Sahara desert. It reminded me that I was thirty-six hours from home, and so far from land, floating in the middle of the Atlantic, cleaning desert sand off my boat.

In the first fifteen days sailing, the Lord Nelson travelled over two thousand nautical miles, accompanied by whales and dolphins, up the English Channel where we finally came alongside in St.Malo, France for a short break before heading to Cherbourg and England.

This long trip gave me the chance to build on my prior sailing experiences. It enabled me to develop perseverance, tolerance and a mutual interest and respect amongst the crew. This was the most rewarding

and memorable part: being able to meet and bond with fellow crew members from all around the world. Many of them had been in Australia.

This trip was one of my greatest life experiences to date, particularly the experience of mixing with like-minded people from all over the United Kingdom, being the highlight.

I thank the Jubilee Sailing Trust and the Australia-Britain Society for this experience of a lifetime, that has taught me valuable life skills that I apply in my daily life with work and friends. This voyage gave me the chance to work outside my comfort zone and push myself to new boundaries. I look forward to working with the Society to promote this programme to other eligible Australians.

Tom Fisher

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Society's annual Financial Statements appear elsewhere in this Annual Report and once again I thank our Honorary Auditor, Mr. Keith Salt, for his expeditious completion of the audit for this year.

As was the case last year, this year has seen a further contraction in the Society's finances, culminating in its incurring another deficit amounting to $4,420 compared with $3,197 for 2007. I hasten to add, however, that the Society's liquidity reserves are entirely adequate to ensure that it can meet its financial obligations as and when they fall due.

Areas where the "contraction" can be observed are in the Members' Subscriptions, which showed a small decline, and in the interest earned on bank deposits. Despite rises in interest rates in the economy, we had to recall a portion of those deposits during the year to replenish liquidity in the working account.

However, the main reason for this year's deficit can be attributed to a one-off grant of $5,000 paid to the very talented viola player Glen Donnelly to enable him to extend his studies and take up a scholarship in London.

It was pleasing to see that Functions provided an increased surplus although the turnover from these functions was considerably reduced. It is to be hoped that support for our functions can be improved in the current year. Particularly pleasing, however, was the reduction in several of the expense items resulting from the increased use of the Secretariat's computer and email facilities. Many of our members are now receiving regular communications by email and this is providing a saving in Printing, Postage and Stationery. Without these savings, our deficit would have been considerably higher.

As I said in my report for 2007, and I know this is supported by the President and Terry Rich as Membership Officer as well as the other Committee members, it is to be hoped that the Society's members

can increase support for the Society at its various functions, and especially, encourage their friends to join the Society and thus expand our activities.

Ken Bock,
Treasurer

BRANCHES OF THE SOCIETY

Whilst branches operate autonomously within a common charter, there is warm welcome awaiting our members wishing to attend functions held by other branches of the Society. For members travelling interstate, details of the local offices are listed here and the Secretariat can assist in advising forthcoming events in that centre. In reciprocation, the New South Wales newsletters and programme is issued to other states in the event that visitors to Sydney are able to join our functions.

Australian Capital Territory
10 Canterbury Crescent, Deakin ACT 2600
Captain Bob Nattey, LVO RAN (Rtd), President
Telephone (02) 6273 3197 Email: bnattey@ozemail.com.au

Queensland
64 Manly Drive, Robina Qld 4226
Mr. Ian Forrester, President
Telephone (07) 5593 3476 Email: forrester@optusnet.com.au

Victoria
PO Box 587, South Yarra, Vic 3141
Mr. Andrew Hilton, BA, MAICD, President
Telephone (03) 9815 0041 Email: ahilton@redcross.org.au

Western Australia
57A Conochie Crescent, Manning WA 6152
Mr. David Shannon, President
Telephone (08) 9450 7715 Email: dshannon@iinet.net.au

Branch event diaries can be accessed on the Society website: aust-britsociety.org.au

****

BRITAIN–AUSTRALIA SOCIETY

Members visiting Britain are extended an open invitation to attend functions of our sister society in England and Wales. Members with family working and living in Britain may have an interest in joining the British body.

The Britain-Australia Society, Swire House, 59 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AJ
Telephone 0207 630 1075 Fax 0207 828 2260 Email: natsec@britain-australia.org.uk
Website: **www.britain-australia.org.uk**

Patron: HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, KG KT OM GBE AC QSO
President: The Rt. Hon The Lord Carrington KG GCMG CH MC PC
Vice Presidents: Sir Roger Carrick KCMG LVO, Sir John Leahy KCMG, The Viscount Slim OBE DL, HE The High Commissioner for Australia (ex-officio), Mr.Rohan Courtney OBE, Mr. Brian Harris.

Hon Vice Presidents:
Sylvia, Countess of Limerick CBE, Sir Charles Mackerras AC CBE,
Ms June Mendoza, AO OBE RP, Mr Rupert Murdoch AC, Sir John Swire CBE DL,
The Rt Hon Baroness Thatcher LG OM PC FRS, Mr Barry Tuckwell OBE

Board of Management:
Sir Christopher Benson FRICS, DL (Chairman), The Rt Hon the Earl of Buckinghamshire (Deputy Chairman), Mr Noel Ashcroft (ex officio) Ms. Frances Adamson (ex-officio), Mr Dale Eaton, Sir Geoffrey Errington Bt OBE FRSA (Director-General), Mr Brian Hall, Ms Paula Hardgrave, Mr. Richard Pavitt, Mr. Richard Walduck OBE JP DL,
Mr Michael Whalley

National Director: Mrs Kim Hemmingway

Honorary Chaplain: The Revd George Bush

Independent Examiner: Mr Richard Link

BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA SOCIETY BRANCHES:

LONDON (National Office):

Mrs Kim Hemmingway
59 Buckingham Gate
London SW1Y 6AJ

Tel 020 7630 1075
Fax 020 7828 2260
natdir@britain-australia.org.uk

CAMBRIDGESHIRE:

Mr. Malcolm Cockcroft
17 Westwood Road
St Ives Cambs PE27 6DT

Tel 01480 464653
j.cockcroft1@ntworld.com

LEICESTERSHIRE:

Mr Michael Kirk
Elms Cottage, 46 Shirley Road
Leicester LE2 3LJ

Tel 01162 709 988
michaelkirk@btopenworld.com

LINCOLNSHIRE:

Dr John Alwyn, AM
Ivy House
Ingham Lincs LN1 2XT

Tel 01522 730038
jstaceyalwyn@yahoo.co.uk

NORFOLK:

Mr Martin Parker
Old Farm, Merton
Thetford Norfolk IP25 6PX

Tel 01953 883492
par.ker@virgin.net

SUFFOLK:

Mrs Diana Whayman
22 Tovells Road
Ipswich Suffolk IP4 4DY

Tel 01473 723793
Dianastw@aol.com

WALES:

Mr John Wyn Owen, CBE
Newton Farm, Cowbridge
Vale of Glamorgan
South Wales CF71 7RZ

Tel 01446 775113
johnwyn@btinternet.com

WEST COUNTRY:

Mr Richard Pavitt
The Clerk's House, Pound Lane
Martock Somerset TA12 6LU

Tel 01935 824045
rwpavitt@aol.com
website: www.britozwest.org.uk

BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA SOCIETY BRANCHES (Contd)

PORTSMOUTH:

Mr Brian Hall
40 St Matthews Road
Cosham
Portsmouth PO6 2DL

Tel 0239 237 141
b_m_hall@hotmail.com

Members are reminded that we receive at the Secretariat monthly BRITOZ news bulletins that show current activities in the UK. These bulletins are available upon request. Members are warmly welcome to attend functions at any of the branches whilst in the UK as is done reciprocally here in Australia to visitors from the UK and interstate.

Lee and Sandra White, Chris and Susan Gorring, Malcolm and Lisa Purnell at the Christmas party

Enjoying the luncheon aboard "Young Endeavour", Marilyn Jenner and Dale Eaton visiting from the UK

Richard Nott and Sue Labordus with Britain-Australia Society members at a tour of the House of Lords London

Current and previous Sail Training awardees at a Royal Yacht Squadron BBQ with Commander Richard and Barbara Tighe and Sue Labordus

AUSTRALIA-BRITAIN SOCIETY (NSW BRANCH) Inc
Reg No CFN 15054 under Section 16 of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)
ABN 75 368 639 375

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS TO 30TH JUNE, 2008

Contents:

INCOME & EXPENDITURE …….. 27

BALANCE SHEET …… 28

ANALYSIS OF FUNCTIONS …….. 29

STATEMENT BY THE TREASURER
and AUDITOR …….. 30

****

AUSTRALIA-BRITAIN SOCIETY (NSW BRANCH) INC.
ABN 75 368 639 375

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 2008

	2008				2007		
INCOME	**$**	**$**	**$**		**$**	**$**	**$**
Functions	36,535.40				38,070.10		
Raffles	2,180.50	38,715.90			2,015.00	40,085.10	
less:- Costs							
Functions	30,813.78				35,983.90		
Raffles	651.35	31,465.13	7,250.77		835.04	36,818.94	3,266.16
Members' Subscriptions		5,930.00				6,350.00	
Donations		1,790.50				1,151.40	
Interest		3,472.91				4,584.67	
Tie Sales		0.00	11,193.41			80.00	12,166.07
TOTAL INCOME			18,444.18				15,432.23
EXPENDITURE							
Insurance & Returns		1,221.40				1,720.32	
Secretarial Services		3,785.00				3,720.00	
Postage & Stationery		1,047.12				1,293.34	
Printing		1,864.50				2,878.71	
Telephone		240.00				240.00	
Other		446.22	8,604.24			586.75	10,439.12
OPERATING SURPLUS			9,839.94				4,993.11
GRANTS & DONATIONS							
PESA			850.00			850.00	
Sail Training			7,110.20			6,840.74	
Glen Donnelly Music Scholarship			5,000.00				
Donations By Sth							
H'lands Group							
Bell Shakespeare		500.00				500.00	
Mittagong Theatre		500.00					
Breama Spearman Ballet Training		300.00	1,300.00				
			14,260.20				8,190.74
NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)			**-4,420.26**				**(3,197.63)**
OVERALL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)			**(4,420.26)**				**(3,197.63)**

AUSTRALIA-BRITAIN SOCIETY (NSW BRANCH) INC.
ABN 75 368 639 375

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th JUNE 2008

ASSETS	**2008**		**2007**	
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at Bank:-				
N.S.W.	8,606.54		7,083.82	
Southern Highlands	2,350.24	10,956.78	2,250.98	9,334.80
Petty Cash on Hand	1,000.00		1,000.00	
Function Expenditure in Advance	0.00		250.00	
		1,000.00		1,250.00
		11,956.78		10,584.80
INVESTMENTS				
HSBC Term Deposit		25,000.00		25,000.00
Westpac Term Deposit (incl Sth H'lands - $7K)		54,388.17		60,656.41
		79,388.17		85,656.41
TOTAL ASSETS		**91,344.95**		**96,241.21**
LIABILITIES				
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Subscriptions paid in advance		-		-
Function subs paid in advance		-		-
Other - Sundry Creditors		-		476.00
		0.00		476.00
NET ASSETS		**91,344.95**		**95,765.21**
MEMBERS' FUNDS				
Accumulated Funds as at 1st July, 2007		95,765.21		98,962.84
Add/(Subtract) Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		-4,420.26		-3,197.63
		91,344.95		**95,765.21**

AUSTRALIA-BRITAIN SOCIETY (NSW BRANCH) INC
ABN 75 368 639 375

ANALYSIS OF FUNCTIONS FOR THE YEAR TO 30th JUNE 2008

Function	Income - $			Expenses $	Surplus/ (Deficit) $
	Charge to Members	Net Raffle	Net Income		
Victoriana	1,805.00		1,805.00	1,710.00	95.00
Oaks Lunch	930.00	0.00	930.00	550.00	380.00
Mandalay Dinner Dance	2,400.00	0.00	2,400.00	1,950.00	450.00
AGM	945.00	0.00	945.00	1,074.50	129.50
RSYS Dinners	3,795.00	0.00	3,795.00	3,306.00	489.00
Remembrance Day	3,600.00	0.00	3,600.00	2,700.20	899.80
Christmas Party	3,075.00	260.00	3,335.00	2,268.75	1,066.25
Elgar Concert	0.00	173.05	173.05	0.00	173.05
Australia Day	7,795.00	478.00	8,273.00	7,653.00	620.00
YEST Lunch	800.00	0.00	800.00	1,017.75	217.75
Queen's Birthday	7,425.00	618.10	8,043.10	7,245.20	797.90
Southern Highlands					
Chevalier College	2,804.20		2,804.20	838.38	1,965.82
Bush Poet Picnic	398.10		398.10	0.00	398.10
Beijing Olympic Reception	763.10		763.10	0.00	763.10
TOTALS	36,535.40	1,529.15	38,064.55	30,313.78	7,750.77

1. STATEMENT BY SOCIETY TREASURER

I, Kenneth William Bock, BCom, ANZIIF (fellow), FFin, CPA, Treasurer of the Australia-Britain Society (NSW Branch) Inc, declare that to the best of my ability, in my opinion:

a) The Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the financial outcomes of the Society for the year to 30th June, 2008.
b) The provisions of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991, under which the Society was granted a continuing approval as a charitable body, approved no CFN15054 by the Office of Charities Department of Gaming and Racing on 2nd May 2003, have been complied with.
c) The internal controls exercised by the Society are appropriate and effective.
d) The Society is solvent.

Kenneth W. Bock; BCom, ANZIIF (fellow), FFin, CPA,
Treasurer
8th July 2008

2. STATEMENT BY SOCIETY AUDITOR

I, Keith Salt, ACA, report to the best of my ability and I believe that:

a) The accounts of the Australia-Britain Society (NSW Branch) for the year to 30th June, 2008, show a true and fair view of the financial results.
b) The accounts and associated records have been properly kept in accordance with the fundraising law.
c) The Australia-Britain Society (NSW Branch) Inc is solvent.

Keith Salt, ACA,
Hon Auditor,
10th July, 2008

Bob Woods and Mary Caucino at the Christmas party

Claire Daly, 2006 Sail Training awardee, with her own oil painting of Sydney Harbour, won in the Australia Day raffle by Maureen Tegerdine, here receiving the prize

Mark and Mary Langrell with David and Janatha Adams at the Mandalay Centre dinner/dance

Her Excellency the Governor and Daniel Swain, the 2007 Plain English Speaking Australian winner at the Queen's Birthday luncheon

Shelagh French, Margaret and David Hartley, and Mervyn French at the Mandalay Centre dinner/dance

Part of the large group at "Eden Park" Robertson for Bush Poetry in the Paddock

Jane Fraser, Her Excellency the Governor, Hester Fraser and Hugh Fraser at the Queen's Birthday luncheon NSW Parliament House

Diana Rich and Ken Bock at the Christmas party

Father John Stewart, Humphrey Dell a World War 11 Mosquito pilot, Jillian Skinner MP, and Richard Nott at the Remembrance Day luncheon in the Members' dining room at NSW Parliament House

Rick Forster, Acting Chair Australia-Britain Society Foundation, and Carolyn Forster, who journeyed from Canberra for the Queen's Birthday luncheon, with Her Excellency the Governor at NSW Parliament House

Sydney Harbour and the Tall Ships. A view from the American Club where the Australia Day buffet is held

Nancy-Bird Walton, an Honorary Life Member and famous Australian aviatrix, presenting Membership Secretary Terry Rich with a photograph of Nancy-Bird being made a Freeman of the City of London

Malcolm Purnell, Marilyn Taylor and Tom Jackson at the Australia Day buffet

Tom Fisher and Tom Carr, 2007 Sail Training awardees at the Royal Yacht Squadron BBQ

Certificate presentations aboard the Young Endeavour: Lt Commander Gavin Dawe, RADM Nigel Coates Fleet Commander, Tom Carr, Commander Richard Tighe, Tom Fisher

Margot Markiewicz and Joan Holdsworth at the Oaks BBQ

Australia
- Britain
Society