



# 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 2013**



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## **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 (02) 9449 7532**

**Email : [adminnsw@ausbrit.org](mailto:adminnsw@ausbrit.org)**

### **STRUCTURE**

Our branch has approximately 280 members. 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 30-150 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 Over-Seas League

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 Navy League of Australia (NSW Division)

The English in Australia Association ("T Club")

The English Speaking Union

By amalgamating some functions with collegiate groups, 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.

## **2012-13 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 and Treasurer:**

**Ken Bock**, BCom, ANZIIF(fellow), FFin, CPA

Tel (02) 9871 6869 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, Diocesan Reader of the Epping Anglican church, a member of the supervisory board of the Scripture Union Deposit Fund, and an active member of the Masonic movement.

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

#### **Vice President and Sail Training Co-ordinator:**

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

Commander Tighe is the longest-serving member of the Committee having served thirteen 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**

email: [djadams@unwired.com.au](mailto:djadams@unwired.com.au)

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

## **Membership Secretary and Administration Secretary:**

**Mrs. Sue Labordus, BA**

PO Box 647, Gordon NSW 2072 Tel/Fax (02) 9449 7532 email: [absociety@idx.com.au](mailto: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 since 1974. 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 running the Secretariat: communicating with members, collecting mail, receipt and banking of funds, and organising, printing and despatch of newsletters and flyers. This role has a direct involvement with function planning, table plans and programme organisation. She is also responsible for compiling, editing and arranging publication of our Annual Reports. In addition, as Membership Secretary, she is responsible for membership renewals and maintenance of the membership database.

## **General Committee Members:**

**Mrs Janatha Adams**

Janatha trained and practised as a registered nurse. She subsequently attended the Cordon Bleu Cookery Schools in London as well as Paris and obtained certificates from both places. She now manages her own catering business and assists with Society functions.

**Ian Plumb, B.Sc. Ph.D**

Ian is a semi-retired Research Scientist, having worked for CSIRO for 31 years prior to retirement in 2008. He continues to pursue research interests as Research Consultant with CSIRO. He is on the Committee for Friends of Swain Gardens, a bushcare volunteer and a volunteer with the NSW Cancer Council. He joined the Committee in 2010.

**Mrs. Barbara Plumb** B.Sc.(Hons), Dip.Ed

Barbara was born in Leicester and attended university in London and Birmingham before marrying and emigrating to Australia in 1972. She has been a high school teacher for 35 years. She became involved in the Society in 2004 after both her children were selected to sail on the Young Endeavour. She joined the Committee in 2010. She, with husband Ian, is on the Committee for Friends of Swain Gardens.

**Dayan Goodsir-Cullen** B.A. (Hons), M.A. (Syd), M. Phil. (Dubl)

Dayan Goodsir-Cullen is a solicitor. He has degrees from the Universities of Sydney and Dublin. He maintains close links with the UK through family and involvement with a number of cultural, alumni and business associations.

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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.

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## **Southern Highlands**

The Southern Highlands Committee 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 strong communication channels exist with the main branch committee. The Canberra branch of the Australia-Britain Society this year began to exchange programmes with the Southern Highlands group. It is hoped to have exchange of dates with each other as well as supporting Sydney functions.

Invitations from Bell Shakespeare to attend special events in Sydney for two committee members on occasion are appreciated and enjoyed. The Southern Highlands Committee contributes annually to Bell and feels welcome. Committee member, Jan Bell, is co-ordinating a primary school performance for local children with the local ADFAS Society.

### **Southern Highlands Co-ordinator: Miss Cynthia Parker, OAM**

PO Box 997 Mittagong NSW 2575 Tel (02) 4871 1267

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 1995. Cynthia was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for services to education and to the community.

### **Treasurer: Malcolm Stephens, CB, MA**

Malcolm was educated at St John's College Oxford and has an MA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics. He has had a distinguished career in the UK and other countries, beginning in the UK Diplomatic Service. He was the CEO of the UK Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) and of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He also worked for Barclays Bank and was the Secretary General of the International Union of Credit and Investment Insurers (the Berne Union). He was a Visiting Fellow at the IMF and was Group Chairman of International Financial Consulting, working with the World Bank, European Commission and more than 50 Governments and International Financial Institutions. He was made a Companion of the Bath in 1991.

He is married to Lynette Stephens and has lived in Australia since 2001. He is both an Australian and British citizen.

### **Mrs. Jan Bell**

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

### **David Brown**

David was born in New Zealand where his maternal great-grandparents had arrived in not-so-tall ships in 1840 and 1842; he is currently engaged in writing their biographies. He studied Economics at Victoria University, Wellington but preferred the challenge of a career in sales and marketing of technical raw materials and equipment; for the last 40 years he has represented leading world suppliers of equipment and technology to the timber based wood panels industry (MDF, LVL, OSB). At 80 David ceded the company to his son Simon but is still active in the business. David transferred to Sydney in 1980 and to the Southern Highlands in 1990, he and his wife Christa are both active members of the A-B Group and of St Judes Anglican Church, Bowral.

### **Mrs. Lynette Stephens, BA**

Lynette has a BA degree in English and Psychology from Queensland University. Her career in the Commonwealth Public Service led to her being selected as 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.

### **Barry Todd**

Born in Ceylon and educated in the UK, Barry joined the Royal Navy on leaving school. During his 20 plus years' service he was seconded to the Royal Australian Navy for 2 years, serving at sea in HMA Ships *Vendetta* and *Sydney*. He resigned from the Royal Navy in 1972 and returned to Australia. Based in Sydney, he spent the remainder of his career as a Management Consultant with a leading international management consultancy. He and his wife, Ola, have recently sold their country property in Exeter and now live in Bowral.

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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Society's activities fall into two main groups – those in Sydney and those organised by our very energetic Southern Highlands Committee.

For 2012/2013, the Sydney-based activities were socially very successful but, as a general statement, were not as well attended as many in the past have been. The smaller attendances have meant that the financial results have been modest and I have thus been concerned that these activities have not contributed to our financial base to allow your Society to expand its past practice of supporting other activities in addition to our "traditional" ones such as the Tall Ships events and the secondary schools Plain English Speaking Awards. Whilst we have continued with these latter activities in the year under review, we have had to decline funding requests from several very worthy young people to assist them in overseas studies. I regret this because our past support has gone to people in areas that do not attract wide publicity in the general community and it has provided the Australia-Britain Society with an opportunity to help fill a funding gap in these areas. The situation can be seen in the financial reports elsewhere in this Annual Report, in particular, the modest net results from our Sydney-based functions in the table attached to the accounting statements.

Our grants to young people's activities this year comprised \$850 as prizes in the annual secondary schools public speaking competition held under the auspices of the English Speaking Union and \$5,233 in awards to Tall Ships participants. The Southern Highlands Committee made Donations totalling \$2,150 to the Bell Shakespeare Company, the National Braille Music Camp, Frensham School and Wingecarribee Volunteers.

I must emphasise that I thank most sincerely our members and their guests who have supported our Sydney-located functions. Your support is greatly appreciated. However your Committee is concerned that it should endeavour to arrange functions and activities that members will enjoy and from which they will derive much benefit. Accordingly, your Committee is always keen to receive suggestions from members for possible activities. Please let us know what you would like to do.

I congratulate the Southern Highlands Committee for the excellent range of activities it has conducted during the year. Again you can see the results of their functions in the financial statements and also the various bodies to whom donations have been made. Chair Cynthia Parker, Southern Highlands Treasurer Malcolm Stephens and the other Committee members continue to organise an excellent range of activities for the entertainment of the local members. Well done!

I repeat that the Sydney functions were well organised and conducted and socially successful. In this regard, I thank Richard Tighe for his dedicated work in organising our Tall Ship activities both in leading the award winners assessment committee and the annual luncheon function aboard the Young Endeavour tall ship when the annual winner is either farewelled off to their "adventure" or welcomed home after it. A report by him on these activities is contained within this Annual Report. Please study it so you will appreciate what we are doing in this field.

I thank Janatha and David Adams for their organising of the 2012 Christmas Party at the British

Consulate in Vaucluse. This function necessitates a considerable volume of logistics in the bringing of drinks and other items to the venue and this was done by them in splendid fashion.

I thank also Sue Labordus who not only administers our membership records, but also looks after all the other secretarial-type matters that need attention during the year. In addition she also becomes involved in organising functions. All this is very time consuming and Sue handles all of it in an exemplary manner.

The other Committee members were also a tower of strength during the year – Dayan Goodsir-Cullen and Barbara & Ian Plumb. Unfortunately Barbara and Ian have found it necessary to relinquish their activities with the Society; their contribution to our activities will be greatly missed.

I feel that I must restate my ongoing concern that our membership numbers are showing no growth. We need to encourage friends and acquaintances to see the merits of our organisation and join our ranks. Please seek such people out and encourage them at least to attend our functions so that they can see what we do.

*And* my other usual concern is that our Committee needs some additional hands to share the load of running the NSW Branch. Please consider this matter. It needs attention.

*Kenneth Bock*  
President

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For the year to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013 the following programme of events was held:

- . **Plain English Speaking Awards. NSW finals** at NSW Teachers' Federation
- . **Annual General Meeting and Cocktail Party with Sail Training reports**
- . **Remembrance Day church service at St. James' Church**, and luncheon at the Sir Stamford, Sydney
- . **Christmas Party** at the residence of the British Consul-General at Vaucluse, Sydney.
- . **Australia Day Luncheon** on a cruise ship on Sydney Harbour
- . **Young Endeavour buffet at Fleet Base, Woolloomooloo.** Hosted by the Royal Australian Navy with 2013 awardees, Jo Garsia and Peita McGoogan
- . **Queen's Birthday Luncheon** at Parliament House, Sydney with our guest of honour, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales.

## **In the Southern Highlands:**

The six committee members have once again had a successful financial year and presented three major speakers to local members and friends:

- . **“The Life of Hudson Fysh and the Birth of QANTAS”** presented by Mrs Wendy Miles, the daughter of Sir Hudson Fysh
- . **Picnic and tour of the Mittagong boarding school Frensham**, celebrating its centenary, founded in 1913 by two English women, Miss Winifred West and Miss Phyllis Clubbe
- . **“An End to Silence”** presented by Barry Todd, the great-grandson of Sir Charles Todd – the story of the overland telegraph line and the electric chain of communication connecting Australia and the rest of the world in 1872.

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## **SAIL TRAINING REPORT**

The Tall Ships Award Program, which is the Society’s major sponsorship, is part of the Australia Britain Tall Ships Exchange Program under the auspices of the Australian Sail Training Association. The Exchange Program is administered by the Young Endeavour Youth Scheme who also provide exchange berths for young Britons coming to Australia. The Jubilee Sailing Trust UK continues to support the Exchange Program by providing a berth free of charge of our Award Winner.

2013 marks the twentieth year in which the Australia-Britain Society has sponsored Young Australians to sail aboard British Tall Ships and the thirteenth year of the two-way exchange program between Australia and Great Britain inaugurated by the Prime Minister in 2001. The Tall Ships Award Program was founded by RADM Rothesay Swan AO CBE during his Presidency of the Australia-Britain Society and in subsequent years 27 young Australians have benefited from the experience of a lifetime.

The winner of the Tall Ships Award 2013 is Jocelyn Garsia, 24, a registered nurse, of Ryde, who sailed on two voyages aboard the British Tall Ship *Tenacious* from Gibraltar to The Azores to Southampton in April 2013, a voyage of some 32 days. Jocelyn’s report of her experiences aboard *Tenacious* is included in this Annual Report.

This year, to mark the twentieth year of the Tall Ship’s Award and the RAN Fleet Review in October 2013, to commemorate the Centenary of the first entry of the RAN Fleet into Sydney Harbour, a special Award is being made to enable a young Australian to sail aboard the British Tall Ship, *Lord Nelson*, on

the Sydney-Auckland sector of her round-the-world voyage following the Fleet Review celebrations. Lord Nelson is well known to a number of our past winners who have sailed in her in various parts of the northern hemisphere, most notably the Canary Islands, the Azores and the Mediterranean.

The winner of this Award is Peita McGoogan 19, an Early Childhood Educator of Epping.

The Annual Luncheon aboard Young Endeavour was held on 7 March 2013. The Guest of Honour was the Commander Australian Fleet RADM T.W. Barrett AM CSC RAN, who presented certificates to our Tall Ships Award winners, Jo Garsia and Peita McGoogan. It was a fitting occasion to farewell Jo Garsia who departed for the United Kingdom on 31 March 2013. It was a beautiful autumn day and a very successful occasion for those attending, including family members of both Award winners with an enjoyable finger food luncheon provided by our caterer. Unfortunately the number of members attending was less than in recent years.

We are indebted to the Executive Director, Young Endeavour Youth Scheme, CMDR Steve Moss and the Commanding Officer of Young Endeavour LCDR Michael Gough, for facilitating the luncheon on board.

To enable members to hear more about her experiences at sea, Jocelyn Garsia has been invited to address members at the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 24 September 2013 at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron. Peita McGoogan has been invited to address members at the Christmas Party – date and venue to be advised. Both Award winners will be happy to meet members and answer their questions.

The Society acknowledges the support of the Association of Sail Training Organizations UK in sponsoring a young Briton to sail aboard Young Endeavour. This year, Emma Harley, 20, of Falkirk, Scotland, a student at Strathclyde University, sailed on two voyages aboard Young Endeavour out of Gladstone and Brisbane in June 2013.

The Australia Britain Society is strongly committed to the Tall Ships Award program as a part of its objective of fostering relations between Great Britain and Australia with an emphasis on youth. It is encouraging that Award Winners from previous years continue to support the Australia-Britain Society and the Young Endeavour Youth Scheme in various ways after their return. It is always good to see representatives from this group at our functions throughout the year and to hear of their ongoing achievements, both in their careers and in their personal development.

The ongoing viability of the Tall Ships Award Program continues to be dependent upon the Society's fund raising activities throughout the year. Members are again encouraged to support our various fund raising functions which will enable us to continue the financial support of our major sponsorship program.

*Richard Tighe,*

Vice President and Sail Training Co-Ordinator

**REPORT ON SAILING EXPERIENCES ABOARD THE “TENACIOUS”  
BY JOCELYN GARSIA**

A phone call from Richard and goodness gracious,  
I’m sailing from Gibraltar to Southampton aboard Tenacious!  
After months of countdown excitement and anticipation,  
I packed and repacked until there was no more time for preparation.  
After many hours flying at 40,000 feet,  
Spotting the three masts of Tenacious was such a treat!  
Up the gangway- so nervous and unsure,  
What exactly had I got myself in for???  
I had absolutely no idea, truth be told,  
What amazing experiences the next 5 weeks would hold.  
Safety briefings complete and our ship loaded with stores,  
We sailed into the setting sun- next stop the Azores!  
We bid farewell to Gib, the apes and the rock,  
Time to sail around the clock!  
Spain on our starboard, Morocco on our port,  
I’ll try summarizing the next 37 days in this short report.  
Surrounded by 360 degrees of ocean I suddenly found,  
The earth, in fact, is actually round!  
Other facts became quite clear quite fast,  
Like sleeping is not simple and it's a very tall mast.  
By day two I was feeling quite queasy,  
And I remembered this sailing gig isn’t so easy.  
If nothing else seasickness is a great ice breaker,  
No greater conversation maker!  
But soon queasiness was a thing of the past,  
And we were scurrying up and down the mast.  
Climbing aloft, furling sails  
Tying clews, sanding pinrails.  
Cleaning heads and scrubbing decks,  
Vacuuming and safety checks.  
Taking the helm and navigation,  
Sunrises for contemplation.  
Card games and great sunsets,  
Birthday cakes and egg contests.  
2, 6 heaving and setting squares,  
Cuppa soups and overboard scares.  
Evacuation drills and learning knots,

Keeping watch and eating lots.  
Galley duty and looking for whales,  
Hoisting jibs and force 9 gales.  
Racing dolphins, rope splicing  
Buddy checks and potato dicing.  
The Jubilee Sailing Trust is unique carrier,  
Age and physical impairments are no barrier.  
I very quickly learned that mobility and agility,  
Are just minor aspects of ability.  
Amongst our crew were people from all walks of life,  
Who'd been challenged with all kinds of strife.  
Loss of limbs, trauma or a degenerative condition,  
Combat, stroke, loss of hearing or vision.  
Whatever their story, the overwhelming similarity,  
As characters defined by resilience, not disability.  
Unanimously there was great admiration,  
For these crew members who were such humble inspiration.  
The moods of the Atlantic were varied and vast,  
She is big, she is strong and she changes her mind fast!  
You could go to sleep thinking all is well,  
Only to awake to a stormy hell.  
The wrath of the Atlantic,  
Made tasks like eating, sleeping and standing rather frantic.  
I found myself thinking in the midst of the commotion,  
How foolishly I had underestimated this ocean!  
At the mercy of the sea,  
Is perhaps as powerless as we can be?  
Jaw dropped and eyes opened wide,  
At times hard not to be terrified.  
But the bunch of strangers which on the ocean were thrust,  
Had formed a phenomenal trust.  
You're in it together and no storm is too strong,  
If you thought you were alone, you were so very wrong.  
And then she would settle and be so charming,  
Lapping on the hull so gentle and calming.  
When the sun shines bright and the wind is just right,  
We sail the sea, quite triumphantly.  
What you learn is a great respect,  
And that you never know what to expect.  
Land ahoy! Exciting news,  
For the permanent and voyage crews.  
Exploring the Azorean streets of cobble,  
My sea legs had a distinctive wobble.  
As we explored the sights of the volcanic isles,  
The safety of land brought many smiles.

But back to sea to continue the fun,  
 Searching for the elusive sun.  
 Visiting Ireland and France on the way back to the UK,  
 Unexpected bonuses of my adventure away.  
 Far out- no hiding I was from Australia,  
 But to be sure I decorated my bunk with Aussie paraphernalia.  
 In this award cultural exchange is an important part,  
 But when given this task it's hard to know where to start.  
 After Scottish Jonny's rendition of the Neighbours theme,  
 My cultural exchange challenge soon became quite extreme.  
 After passionate defense of our sporting teams,  
 I keenly described AFL, lamingtons and monotremes.  
 Then when asked if Australia really is 'paradise'?  
 Confused, I kept the reality check relatively nice.  
 Yes, we do have koalas, Kylie, vegemite and SUN,  
 But there's a serious side, as well as the fun.  
 The many days at sea gave me the chance,  
 To describe Australia past the well known first glance.  
 From our challenge of trying to 'close the gap',  
 To asylum seekers, and hung parliament in a flap.  
 And in return I learned from our chats together,  
 There's a lot more to Britain than a queen and bad weather.  
 In an Irish pub we caused quite a commotion,  
 As 600 years of British history was re-enacted by the Bosun.  
 Discussions of Scotland's upcoming independence poll,  
 And the London bombings legacy still having it's toll.  
 The accents of the British Isles,  
 Each told their stories in unique styles.  
 A personal Aussie highlight for me,  
 Was celebrating ANZAC Day morning at sea.  
 A minute's silence with a gentle ocean sway,  
 A unique marking of an important day.  
 The story of Gallipoli was told,  
 Shared with a deck full of new friends braving the cold.  
 The light was low as our flag was proudly raised high,  
 Followed by ANZAC biscuits for all to try!  
 The absence of Google prompted much deliberation.  
 Deprived of text messages- we rediscovered conversation.  
 Beneath the stars, in the freezing cold,  
 The past was relived and many stories told.  
 People spoke of memories, hurdles, ambitions and fears,  
 Telling stories of mistakes, achievements and careers.  
 We shared opinions, riddles, jokes, dreams and hopes,  
 While keeping lookout, washing dishes and pulling some ropes.  
 And in finding out a more and more about each of the crew,

You slowly discover more and more about you!  
I had never known,  
Just how quickly a ship could become home.  
Eight hundred and eighty eight hours after first climbing aboard,  
In Southampton we were safely moored.  
All too soon the adventure was done,  
So many memories of great people and of such a lot of fun!  
It was time to post the many postcards that had been written,  
And make plans to visit new friends all over Britain.  
Enriching my life in so many ways,  
I will always hold dear my Tenacious days!

My experience aboard Tenacious and into the wonderful world of tall ship sailing pushed me out of my comfort zone and achieving things I could never have imagined. I would like to say a big thank you to The Australia Britain Society, The Young Endeavour Youth Scheme, The Jubilee Sailing Trust and the Association of Sail Training Organisations for supporting the Tall Ships Award and making this experience possible.

*Jo Garsia*

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

The accounting statements and supporting documents are set out on pages 21 to 24 of this Annual Report. The operating result for the year was a Deficit of \$4,780. The major factors causing this result were:-

- A reduction of \$668 in Interest earnings consequent on general reductions in Interest rates in the economy
- During 2011/2012 the NSW Branch received a Donation of \$2,000 from the Australia-Britain Society Foundation and also a legacy of \$5,000 under the will of a deceased member. These extraordinary items were not repeated during 2012/2013.
- An increase of \$527 in Printing and Stationery costs
- An increase in our contribution to Sail Training activities. Given the Donations from the A-B Foundation mentioned above, the Committee was of the view that an extra award be made during 2012/2013. This amounted to just under \$2,000 and details are set out in Richard Tighe's Report.

Although the table showing the financial outcome of functions reveals a net result of \$4,457, a major component of this was the good results from the Southern Highland activities contributing \$2,479. The balance of \$1,978 was earned from the Sydney functions; as can be seen the amount raised from raffles was quite meagre and reflects the reduced attendances at the functions as mentioned in the President's Report. Fortunately, many of the raffle prizes were donated by members otherwise the result would have been even lower.

I express my appreciation to those members who made Donations during the year. Amounting to \$875, they provided a useful offset to operating expenses.

As was reported in a Newsletter during the year, the Committee was of the view that the Annual Subscription rate having remained unchanged for many years, the time had come for an increase. This was seen as necessary to provide a cushion for expenses and to compensate for reduced attendances at functions. This increase will benefit the 2013/2014 year although will not completely offset our overall income sources if function attendances do not increase.

Your NSW Branch of the Society remains financially solvent. We have adequate cash reserves and they will benefit future operations for some time. But we do need to look to the future and an increase in membership is essential to ensure on-going viability.

Finally I thank our Honorary Auditor Mr. Ian Jagger of Steel, Jagger & Co. for his prompt and assiduous attention to the conduct of his audit. His report is also included in this Annual Report adjacent to the accounting statements.

*Ken Bock*  
Treasurer

## **BRANCHES OF THE SOCIETY IN AUSTRALIA**

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 are issued to other states in the event that visitors to Sydney are able to join our functions. Branch event diaries can be accessed on the Society website: [www.ausbrit.org](http://www.ausbrit.org)

### **Australian Capital Territory**

10 Canterbury Crescent, Deakin ACT 2600  
Captain Bob Nattey, LVO RAN (Rtd),  
President  
Telephone (02) 6273 3197  
Email: [adminact@ausbrit.org](mailto:adminact@ausbrit.org)

### **Victoria**

6/1 Muir Street, Hawthorn, Vic 3122  
Mr. Andrew Hilton, BA, MAICD, President  
Telephone (03) 9815 0041  
Email: [adminvic@ausbrit.org](mailto:adminvic@ausbrit.org)

### **Western Australia**

P.O.Box 226  
Bull Creek WA 6149  
Mr. Richard Savage, President  
Telephone (08) 9310 6365  
Email: [adminwa@ausbrit.org](mailto:adminwa@ausbrit.org)

## **BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA SOCIETY IN THE U.K.**

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. Apart from in London, the Britain-Australia Society has branches in Cambridgeshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Hampshire and Somerset and if you are in the UK and wish to attend functions, it is suggested you contact the Head Office in the first instance. Their details are:-

The Britain-Australia Society, Swire House, 59 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AJ  
Telephone 0207 630 1075 Fax 0207 828 2260 Email: [natdir@britain-australia.org.uk](mailto:natdir@britain-australia.org.uk)  
Website: [www.britain-australia.org.uk](http://www.britain-australia.org.uk)

**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 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2013**

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**AUSTRALIA-BRITAIN SOCIETY (NSW BRANCH) INC.**

ABN 75 368 639 375

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2013**

	2013			2012		
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>						
Functions	20,044.20			23,300.09		
Raffles	920.00	20,964.20		1,318.20	24,618.29	
less:- Costs						
Functions	16,507.36			21,754.76		
Raffles	0.00	16,507.36	4,456.84		21,754.76	2,863.53
Members' Subscriptions		3,290.00			3,110.00	
Donations		875.00			7,265.00	
Interest		3,530.60			4,198.58	
Tie Sales		0.00	7,695.60			14,573.58
<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>			12,152.44			17,437.11
<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>						
Insurance & Returns		1,379.62			1,376.86	
Secretarial Services		4,800.00			4,800.00	
Postage & Stationery		1,254.60			727.80	
Printing		1,045.00			1,031.40	
Telephone		220.00			240.00	
Other		0.00	8,699.22		70.00	8,246.06
<b><u>OPERATING SURPLUS</u></b>			3,453.22			9,191.05
<b><u>GRANTS &amp; DONATIONS</u></b>						
PESA			850.00			850.00
Sail Training & Others			5,233.20			3,834.50
<u>Donations by Sth Highlands C'tee</u>						
Bell Shakespeare	1,000.00			}		
National Braille Music Camp	500.00			}		
Welby Garden Centre	500.00			}	2,050.00	
Frensham Sch & Wingecarribee Vol'teers	150.00	2,150.00		}		2,050.00
			8,233.20			6,734.50
<b><u>NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</u></b>			<b>(4,779.98)</b>			<b>2,456.55</b>
<b><u>OVERALL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</u></b>			<b>(4,779.98)</b>			<b>2,456.55</b>

**AUSTRALIA-BRITAIN SOCIETY (NSW BRANCH) INC.**

ABN 75 368 639 375

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2013**

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2013</b>		<b>2012</b>	
<i><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></i>				
<i>Cash at Bank:-</i>				
N.S.W.	11,902.60		13,789.29	
Southern Highlands	2,737.37	14,639.97	3,975.71	17,765.00
Petty Cash on Hand	1,000.00		1,000.00	
Pre-Payments	0.00	1,000.00		1,000.00
		15,639.97		18,765.00
<i><u>INVESTMENTS</u></i>				
Westpac Term Deposit - Sth H'lands		9,000.00		7,000.00
Westpac Term Deposit - Sydney		61,345.05		65,000.00
		70,345.05		72,000.00
<b><u>TOTAL ASSETS</u></b>		<b>85,985.02</b>		<b>90,765.00</b>
<i><u>LIABILITIES</u></i>				
<i><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></i>				
Subscriptions paid in advance		0.00		
Sundry Creditors		0.00		
Grants Fund - ex Donation Aust-Brit Foundation		0.00		
		0.00		0.00
<b><u>NET ASSETS</u></b>		<b>85,985.02</b>		<b>90,765.00</b>
<b><u>MEMBERS' FUNDS</u></b>				
Accumulated Funds as at 1st July, 2012		90,765.00		88,308.45
Add/(Subtract) Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(4,779.98)		2,456.55
Members' Funds as at 30th June, 2013		<b>85,985.02</b>		<b>90,765.00</b>

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

**ANALYSIS OF FUNCTIONS FOR THE YEAR TO 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2013**

Function	Income \$			Expenses \$	Surplus/ (Deficit) \$
	Charge to Members	Net Raffle	Net Income		
AGM	1,150.00	0.00	1,150.00	1,200.00	(50.00)
Remembrance Day	3,380.00	0.00	3,380.00	2,878.48	501.52
Christmas Party Australia	3,655.00	505.00	4,160.00	3,691.43	468.57
Day	4,410.00	0.00	4,410.00	4,230.00	180.00
Queen's Birthday	4,970.00	415.00	5,385.00	4,507.45	877.55
<u>Southern Highlands Functions</u>					
Qantas (Wendy Miles)	789.45		789.45	0.00	789.45
Frensham School Visit	689.75		689.75	0.00	689.75
An End to Silence	1,000.00		1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	20,044.20	920.00	20,964.20	16,507.36	4,456.84

## **1. STATEMENT BY SOCIETY TREASURER**

I, Kenneth William Bock, Treasurer of the Australia-Britain Society (NSW Branch) Inc declare that in my opinion:-

- a) The Financial Statements for the year to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2013 give a true and fair view of the financial operations of the Society for the year to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2013;
- b) The Provisions of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 under which the Society was granted a continuing approval as a charitable body, approval no. CFN15054 by the Office of Charities, Department of Gaming and Racing on 2<sup>nd</sup> may 2003 have been complied with;
- c) The internal controls exercised by the Society are appropriate and effective;
- d) The Society is able to meet its debts as and when they fall due.

**Kenneth W. Bock B.Comm. ANZIIIF (Fellow), F.Fin, CPA**  
Treasurer  
15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013

## **2. STATEMENT BY SOCIETY AUDITOR**

We have examined and audited the books and the records of the Australia-Britain Society (NSW Branch) Inc. for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2013.

It is our opinion that the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2012, together with the Balance Sheet as at that same date, are properly drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the financial results and the position of the Society for that year ended and as at that date.

Further, the accounts and associated records have been properly kept in a manner appropriate to the Society's needs. We believe that the Society can meet its debts as and when they fall due.

**STEEL, JAGGER & ASSOCIATES**  
Certified Practising Accountants

**Ian Maxwell Jagger RFD, FCPA, JP**  
Registered Company Auditor  
24<sup>th</sup> August 2013

