



# 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)*

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**Patron: His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley, AC DSC (Ret'd)  
Governor of New South Wales**

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**Administration Secretary: Sue Labordus**

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**NEWSLETTER MARCH-APRIL 2018**

**2018.02**

## **1. COMING EVENTS**

There has been some fragmentation of our event calendar due to the Hilary Kay luncheon being held earlier than we would have preferred but needed to fit in with our guest timetable. Also, our Patron the Governor cannot join the Queen's Birthday Dinner planned for May which has now been re-scheduled for late June, as well partly due to some of your committee being absent from Australia for the first half of June. The following summary is to enable you to note your diaries of events planned, for which more details will be sent closer to the date along with the flyers for bookings.

### **a) Queen's Birthday Dinner Wednesday 27 June, 2018 from 6.00pm at Australian Club**

This dinner is being restricted in numbers to 130 by the venue club to avoid crowding and to provide efficient services. It will be a black-tie event in conjunction with other collegiate bodies and will include a focus on the end of World War I, with some reflective readings and music. Also, there will be entertainment including concert pianist Glenn Amer and two emerging opera talents, Ayako Ohtake - Soprano and Barbara Jin - Mezzo Soprano who will be singing popular arias, and some audience participation. We hope that His Excellency the Governor and Mrs. Hurley will arrive at around 6.15pm to meet as many guests as possible before the dinner.

We are aiming to consider the joy of the British cinema, especially of the 1940/50's era that debuted musical gems such as "The Dream of Olwen" and "Cornish Rhapsody" that we will present if time allows. Also we have invited some well-known actors from this period to attend and hopefully age will not preclude this happening. St. George's Day on 23 April presents too many conflicts with Anzac Day and Easter so this event will be encompassed into the evening toasts. Overall it will be a grand evening along similar lines to previous years with the wonderful services of the Australian Club.

**b) Last Night of the Proms Saturday 18 August 7.00pm and Sunday 19 August 2.00pm  
Chatswood Plaza Cost \$47.00**

We have secured 100 tickets for this event, most of which are for the Sunday afternoon and with either stalls or box seating options. The programme will involve more audience participation and your Committee will be manning the large flags similar to last year and will aim to keep flags intact to avoid parts flying off and hitting the third violinist as happened last year! This is a fun time and great if you can dress up in red/white/blue and bring flags along especially for *Jerusalem* and *Land of Hope and Glory*.

**c) Annual General Meeting and Tall Ships awardee reports Monday 24 September 2018**

The venue for this has not yet been confirmed and will be either at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron Kirribilli as in prior years or the Royal Exchange Club, 1 Gresham Street (close to Bridge Street). Location will depend upon costings and member preferences and will be at 5.30pm to allow for an early dinner for members interested.

**2. RECENT EVENTS**

**Hilary Kay Antiques Roadshow luncheon February 2018**

This event attracted almost a full major dining room attendance at the UUSC and Hilary held a captive audience, including Mrs. Hurley representing our Patron the Governor and various dignitaries from collegiate friends, particularly from Friends of St. George's and Descendants of the Knights of the Garter. Glenn Amer and Imogen-Faith Malfitano provided delightful entertainment. Since then, Imogen has been awarded a prominent role in a major operatic production in Sicily in the European summer. We will continue to give opportunities to emerging talent that I am sure will delight you, and note that one of our early performers was José Carbó who is now appearing on world stages and will be in a joint Sydney concert with Korean world soprano Sumi Jo later this year.

**3. PASSINGS**

We regret the passing of Sir Nicholas Shehadie, AC OBE, a great Australian who will be very much missed. Condolences on behalf of the Australia-Britain Society have been sent to Dame Marie Bashir and her family.

**4. FREE MOVIE TICKETS**

We have been given 10 double passes to the initial screening of a new British film "The Party" opening in Sydney on 12 April. If you would like tickets please ring the Secretariat on 94497532 or email on [absociety@idx.com.au](mailto:absociety@idx.com.au) and send in a stamped addressed envelope (by then we will then have details of the cinemas showing the production).

With continuing best wishes,

*Richard Nott*