



## South Australian Division

### Presidents Report 4/2009

Greetings fellow members, another year is fast nearing an end and I hope that your dreams and wishes have all come true. Sadly, we continue to be victims of our age and many members and wives are no longer with us and this is an appropriate time to reflect and remember. On a brighter note, we are still attracting new members and each one of us must be a recruiting Officer and take every opportunity to introduce new members and recover those who have ceased being financial members.

On a lighter note, I was pleased to be able to present a Life Membership Award to Bill Chappell, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Ubon Branch and the editor of this newsletter, at a recent function at the Elizabeth-Salisbury RAAF Association Branch. Bill is also a DVA Advocate; well done! To all those other members who have been recognised by Federal awards and Association Certificates, congratulations.

Earlier in the year I had the privilege to welcome our Patron, The Governor of South Australia; His Excellency Vice Admiral Kevin Scares and his wife Liz, at the Combined Mess. Both he and his wife reaffirmed the observations of many, that they are friendly down to earth people with the wonderful ability to put all at ease. Their Excellencies were only scheduled to stay for an hour, but it was almost two hours before they took their leave. In that time they both spoke individually to all those present. I think my comments are a true reflection of the thoughts of those members who were at the function.

You may recall I mentioned in my last letter that we will be selling the Entertainment book from next year. The cost will be about \$65.00 but as I mentioned before, this cost will be recovered after two or three uses of the coupons. I will be taking pre orders at any time so hop in and register your intention to purchase, as history indicated that they wont last long, as they are such a popular item. I have friends who also purchase this book and as they live in the southern part of Adelaide we swap coupons for venues in our area with them. This works out very well.



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**MEDICAL WARNING:** As a result of recent personal incidents, I think it is timely to caution members, particularly the older group that need to take medication. Over the past 12 months, I have, on three occasions been issued the wrong medication from a Pharmacy at a large suburban chemist in the Tea Tree Gully area. This is particularly disturbing as such an error in some cases could result in the death of a patient. There is a great danger for those less aware and those who are suffering chronic illness. I am therefore reminding all our members to **CHECK EACH PRESCRIPTION** and ensure it is the correct dose; if in doubt seek advice from your Doctor before taking the medicine. Should you wish to know the name of the Pharmacy ring me and I will advise the details.

In conclusion, on behalf of the National Council and The State Council may I wish all a very merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

Regards

Dave Helman