

Government House Foundation of the Northern Territory Inc.

August 2009

Issue # 2

President's Message



I am very honoured to have been appointed President of the Government House Foundation.

I attended the AGM at Government House on the 29th May 2009. This gave me the opportunity to learn about the many projects the Foundation has undertaken, to meet with quite a number of members and witness the special farewell presentation to founding Chairman Hugh Bradley.

Unfortunately, I could not attend the Gala Ball on the 12th June. I understand it was a complete sell out. I have been told by those who did attend that it was a delightful occasion.

I congratulate the Committee for organising such a successful event and for the hard work they are doing with respect to a number of ongoing projects.

I am looking forward to my future involvement with the Foundation.

Sally Thomas
President

Chairman's Message

May I thank you, the members, for entrusting me with the position of Chairman for the next twelve months, a somewhat daunting task following in the footsteps of Hugh Bradley and Kerry Ambrose-Pearce.

I would like to facilitate a strategic planning session of the Committee to enable the Foundation to refocus its future. This has tentatively been set down for Saturday 17th October 2009. I would like to get input from the membership for this event. If you have any ideas, comments or suggestions I would appreciate if they could be put in writing to the Foundation either by mail to GPO Box 2718 Darwin NT 0801 or email to ghf.dcm@nt.gov.au. To assist you the aims of the Foundation are imbedded in the Constitution which can be found on our new web site (please take a few minutes to have a look) www.governmenthousefoundationnt.org.au. If you would like to discuss your ideas with a Committee member a list of them is contained elsewhere in this newsletter.

The Gala Ball held on June 12th was a huge success. We anticipate that profits will be in the order of \$29,000. Photographs taken at the ball can be found on line via our website. Also at the ball we recognised Andy Bruyn (Channel 9), Tony Pickering and Geoff Todd who have supported the Gala Ball auction every year for the ten years it has been held.

At the recent Annual General Meeting His Honour The Administrator Mr Tom Pauling AO QC unveiled one of our most recent acquisitions, the Ngarra photographs which make a stunning addition to the Foundation's collection. The photographs are hanging on the Drawing Room wall at Government House.

We have again in 2009 committed to sponsor the Portrait of a Senior Territorian, which will also be added to our collection. The winner will be announced by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly on Friday 9th October.

We have produced a rather striking promotional banner which was used for the first time at the Government House Open Days on May 22 and 23. Further open days are scheduled for August 14 and 15.

If you have not already done so would you please renew your membership and consider upgrading to Life Membership, as Dennis Bree, Cecily Bree and Xana Kamitsis have done this year. Congratulations.

Thank you all for your ongoing interest in and support of this Foundation.

David Pearson
Chairman



In this issue:

President's Message

Chairman's Message

AGM

Gala Ball 2009

Open Days

Water Gardens

Life Membership

Committee Members

Sponsors

woodhead™

AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Foundation was held on May 29th, and had an attendance of 24 people. The Foundation's new President was welcomed and His Honour unveiled the Ngarra paintings now hanging at Government House. The Chairman's report detailed the highlights of the year.

Water Garden's Project

The Water Gardens Project planning has continued and the project is almost ready to begin. Many hours of work have been invested in the planning of the project by Woodhead, TOGA Constructions, Rider Levett Bucknall NT, SKM, Cloustons Landscape and the Department of Planning and Infrastructure and buildings and Governance Construction Division. Thanks to the commitment of these people and we look forward seeing the finished project by the end of this year.

Membership Reminder

A reminder to members who may not have had an opportunity to pay their membership renewal that was sent out in March, please contact Jenny on 89996409 or ghf.dcm@nt.gov.au if you require another copy.

Congratulations!!

New Life Members

Mr Denis Bree
Ms Xana Kamitsis

Mrs Cecily Bree
Mr Peter Walker

Gala Ball

Darwin once again turned on a beautiful balmy night for the Gala Ball. Our theme of 'Celebrating 10 colourful years of the Foundation' was certainly in evidence with brightly coloured chairs, centrepieces and colourful lighting on the house throughout the trees. The Auction, as always, created some competitive bidding and raised over \$19,000. With four fantastic raffle prizes up for grabs, including accommodation and airfares to Marilynne Paspaley's new Pinctada Resort in Broome flying Airnorth, 2 nights at the fabulous Bamarru Plains, a table of 10 at Skycity's Wyndham Estate winemakers dinner and 2 tickets to the Turf Club Gala Ball - the majority of the raffle tickets were sold out on the night. In total, the Ball has raised approximately \$29,000.00 for the Foundation. Photos of the night can be found and downloaded from our website free of charge. As mentioned in this newsletter, the date has been set for next year - so put the date in your diaries now.



Government House Open Days

The next Government House Open Days will be held on Friday 14th August 4.30 - 7pm and Saturday 15th August 3 - 6pm. For those members who haven't attended an Open Day before the House looks at its best and it gives members of the public and our Foundation members an opportunity to wander through the House and look at some of the wonderful pieces of artwork and furniture the Foundation has purchased over the years.

Other Very Important Dates

Christmas Reception (by invitation)
Thursday 3rd of December

AGM 2010

Friday 28th May

GALA BALL 2010

Friday 4th June

Current Committee

President

The Honourable Justice Sally Thomas AM

Chairman & Public Officer

Mr David Pearson

Deputy Chairman

Ms Vicky Spence

Honorary Treasurer

Mr Clive Garland

Committee Members

Mr Kerry Ambrose-Pearce
Mr Keith Savage

Mrs Wendy Gordon
Ms Angelica Poulos

Sponsors and Supporters

The Foundation would like to sincerely thank the many sponsors and supporters who have donated through membership, auction items and raffle items for the Gala Ball and the Water Gardens project. With the support of our membership and our sponsors the Foundation can continue to support the conservation and enhancement of Government House.

Pinctada Hotels & Resorts, Bamarru Plains, Airnorth, Channel 9, Skycity, Fosters Group, Geoff Todd, Northern Territory Broadcasters P/L, Tony Pickering, Total Event Services, Darwin Turf Club, Hibiscus Shopping Centre, Finlay's Stonemasonry, Mr Dick Griffiths, ERA, OAMPS, Hang-it & Fannie Bay Supermarket.

Platinum Sponsor

woodhead™

Government Foundation of the Northern Territory Inc.

GPO Box 2718, Darwin NT 0801

Telephone: 08 8999 6409 Fax: 08 8999 6077

www.governmenthousefoundationnt.org.au