

Government House Foundation of the Northern Territory Inc.

November 2009

Issue # 3



GOVERNMENT HOUSE FOUNDATION
OF THE
NORTHERN TERRITORY INC



President's Message

Recently at Parliament House, the Honourable Jane Aagaard, MLA Speaker of the Legislative Assembly hosted the Portrait of a Senior Territorian Art Award for 2009, which is sponsored by our Foundation. Thirty three excellent entries were received of a wide range of senior residents of the Northern Territory. The winning entry came from Alice Springs by artist Iain Campbell whose portrait was of Jose Petrick OAM. (see photos Page 2). Iain was also the winner in 2002. Unfortunately Iain was unable to be present in person but Madam Speaker was able to reach him by phone so that the very enthusiastic audience was able to hear his acceptance speech.

Such was the high quality of the portraits it gave the judging panel a difficult task to select the winner and to highly commend other entries. In association with the official winner the general public are asked to vote for the people's choice. After some 1800 votes were cast, this award went Dr Al Strangeways for her portrait of fellow artist Ron Talbot.

As part of the award presentation, attended by many of the senior residents of the Territory, guests were asked to come dressed in attire reflecting an art theme. Again the judging panel had a difficult time in selecting the winner from the over 70 people who decided to participate. Great fun was had by all. One of the other highlights of this relaxed and informal morning was the choral rendition by some of our members of Parliament of a new song "NT Seniors" penned by the Member for Barkly The Honourable Gerry McCarthy MLA.

Government House Foundation is very proud to have again been involved in this project and for the joy it brought to so many and we thank Madam Speaker and her staff for an excellent presentation.

Sally Thomas
President

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*Portrait of a Senior
Territorian Art Award*

Christmas Reception

Members of Government House Foundation may have already received an invitation from His Honour Mr Tom Pauling AO QC, Administrator of the Northern Territory, to attend a reception at Government House on Thursday 3 December.

During the wet season, all receptions at Government House are held indoors which limits the amount of people that can be comfortably accommodated. Therefore, this reception will be for a maximum of 100 members only.

Should you wish to attend, it is essential that you RSVP directly to Government House on 8999 5564 prior to 20 November. Please be advised that it is not possible for Government House to accommodate any member of Government House Foundation who has not advised their attendance.

The Administrator will host future annual receptions for Government House Foundation during the dry season, on the terrace at Government House where all members can be accommodated.

CURRENT COMMITTEE

President

The Hon. Sally Thomas AM

Chairman

David Pearson

Deputy Chairman

Vicky Spence

Honorary Treasurer

Clive Garland

Committee Members

Kerry Ambrose-Pearce

Keith Savage

Wendy Gordon

Angelica Poulos

Carmel Tuohy

Other Very Important Dates

CHRISTMAS RECEPTION (by invitation) - Thursday 3rd December

2010

AGM - Friday 28th May

GALA BALL - Friday 4th June

GOVERNMENT HOUSE OPEN DAYS - Friday 27th and Saturday 28th August

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Chairman's Message

Another year is rushing to an end with so much still to be done. However with the wonderful support of your Committee and our Administrative Support Officer, much has been achieved.

Our new President Sally Thomas is now in place and guiding us into the future.

The Foundation website is now up and running and since activity records began in August this year we have recorded over 2000 hits. Significant upgrades to the site are planned for 2010.

Our membership records are now close to being 100% accurate, no small task given that your volunteer committee is dealing with in excess of 250 individuals and corporations. If you have any issues we would be happy to address them so that we properly recognise all of you.

With this high level of membership our success also brings with it some problems. Traditionally the reception hosted by our Patrons, His Honour the Administrator and Mrs Pauling, at Government House has been held in the lead up to Christmas. This has some logistical problems given this is also the wet season. This year we will have to limit the number of guests to 100 and the reception may have to be rescheduled in 2010 so that more may attend. We ask for your understanding and cooperation.

The Water Garden Feature continues to progress though a little slower than we had hoped. However the end result will be worth the wait. A special thanks to our partners in this project being Woodhead, Toga Group, SKM, Rider Levett Bucknall NT, Clouston Associates, and DPI.

Over the Christmas period I plan to put together a presentation package which can be taken out to community groups, such as business associations, NGOs and the like to explain who we are and what we do. This will be done in association with the web site development so that members of the public have ready access to our objectives and activities.

Don't forget to put the 2010 Gala Ball date in your diary. It will be held on Friday 4th June.

I would like to join with our President in thanking the Speaker of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly, the Honourable Jane Aagaard, for hosting the 2009 Portrait of a Senior Territorian.

In closing I would like to send my very best wishes to each and every one of you, our very loyal supporters, for a happy, safe, holy and joyous Christmas and may 2010 be special to you and those you hold dear.

David Pearson
Chairman

Portrait of a Senior Territorian Art Award

THE WINNER



**Winning Portrait of Jose Petrick OAM
by Iain Campbell from Alice Springs**

Iain Campbell studied in Glasgow, and completed further studies in education in Scotland and the NT. His work has been in numerous exhibitions in Alice Springs and Darwin



**His Honour presenting the Winner's Award to
Ms Joy Draper, Iain Campbell's niece
who collected the Award on his behalf**



The People's Choice by Dr Al Strangeways



**The Hon. Jane Aagaard, MLA
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly**



The large crowd enjoyed the event

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