



March 2010

Issue 1

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION OF
HONORARY JUSTICES

Custodes

RVAHJ Centenary



THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MAYOR OF MELBOURNE, CR. BURSTON
(The First President of the Association of the Justices of the Peace of Victoria.)

JP review result; Australia Day Honors; Branch News; History of the RVAHJ;
JP in the Spotlight—Heather Gould JP; Centenary update; Training update;
Directors' 2009 activity statements; Financial statements 2009; Buckingham
Palace responds: Centenary merchandise order form

From the President's desk



Greetings to all members of our honourable association for 2010.

I would like to publically thank the Board of Directors for confirming my appointment as your President for a further 12 months.

It is a real honour for me to serve the Association as President and I will continue to recommend improvements for the benefit of all members.

By now you will be aware of the outcome of the Department of Justice review into the future of JPs in this state. I am delighted that the Attorney-General has listened to those who wrote submissions in support of continuing the role of JPs in Victoria. A great deal of work was done by your association to muster the 540 submissions which had a dramatic effect on the decision making process. Some maybe disappointed with the proposed removal of lifetime tenure; however I think this will provide greater accountability of Honorary Justices and lead to more enhanced opportunities in the future.

I am also very pleased with the cooperation the Association received from Senior Officers in the department who provided ongoing support during the review period.

Finally, I congratulate the Attorney-General for his positive approach to this review and the Association looks forward to a continued, constructive relationship with the department.

As we commence 2010, I am excited with the prospect of Honorary Justices celebrating 100 years of voluntary service to the community of Victoria and the great events planned for the year. I had the privilege of visiting many branches throughout the state during 2009 and some of the ideas suggested give me great encouragement that this will be a wonderful year for the RVAHJ.

With the role of the Justice of the Peace being traced back to England in 1195 under Richard the Lionheart when he appointed a number of knights to preserve the peace, they were known as *custodes pacis* (keepers of the peace), it is important that we continue our service to the community.

In this edition of *Custodes* is an insert which proposes changes to our Constitution. I encourage all members to read it and cast their vote either at the AGM or via proxy.

As you know training is a very important aspect of our role as Honorary Justices. The Board has approved a number of training sessions during 2010 and I encourage all members to avail themselves of these. I guarantee you that you will find them stimulating and enjoyable.

Legislation changes so rapidly and it is vitally important that JPs and BJs are aware of all these changes to enable us to do our job effectively and within the rules. Please make every effort to come to a training session near you during the centenary year and share a great experience with fellow JPs and BJs.

In conclusion I again reiterate how important 2010 is to the RVAHJ. The Board looks forward to a great year of celebrating 100 years of service. Congratulations to all Honorary Justices. Keep up your great work.

Garry Runge JP, President

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I have just received my edition of Issue 4 of *Custodes*.

Will you please pass my congratulations to Garry for his excellent Submission to the DOJ.

It is sincerely hoped that his (and others) submission are heard and I look forward with great interest to the DOJ response (expected early 2010?).

Well done to you all and Seasons Greetings to all @ RVAHJ.

Keep up the great work.

Regards
Brent Clyne JP12615

Hello Cathy, Sincere congratulations to President Gary and all members of the Board and yourself Cathy, for the news in RVAHJ e-news February 2010, which states that the position of J.P.'s will be retained. It has been hard work for all involved since Mr. Hulls dropped his bombshell last year, and I am thrilled that he has had to re-think his comments and we can continue on with our J.P. duties.....Will you pass on this message to all concerned at your next meeting and best wishes for the future.

Regards Joan Scott J.P.8635

Press release on JP review

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE OFFICE STRENGTHENED BY REFORMS **From the Attorney General**

Monday, 22 February 2010

Justices of the Peace will be retained and their role strengthened by reforms including a formalised code of conduct, a revised complaints process and a formalised training process, Deputy Premier and Attorney-General Rob Hulls said today.

Mr Hulls said a Brumby Labor Government review of JPs found strong support for retaining the office and title of Justice of the Peace but with important changes.

“The role and responsibilities of Justices of the Peace in Victoria have changed considerably over the last 200 years,” he said.

“Following an extensive public consultation process, the review recommended the introduction of term limits for Justices of the Peace, formalised training, a formalised code of conduct, revised complaints process and appointments based on regional demand.

“This review also found that more can be done to support current and future Justices of the Peace in carrying out their role, and to ensure people appointed as JPs uphold the rights and obligations of the office.”

Victoria’s 4,800 Justices of the Peace have the power to witness and certify certain legal documents, including statutory declarations and affidavits. They are volunteers currently appointed for life by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Attorney-General.

“About 540 written submissions were received – 97 per cent from Justices of the Peace – in response to our consultation paper, on top of consultation with 100 key stakeholders, including Justices of the Peace groups and police,” Mr Hulls said.

“The feedback showed strong support for the introduction of five-year term limits with the option of an extension to replace life-time appointments, ensuring that Justices of the Peace remain active in their roles.”

Mr Hulls said a revised code of conduct would be developed and a new complaints process set up for members of the public concerned about a Justice of the Peace’s conduct.

The appointment process for Justices of the Peace would also be changed, including a targeted recruitment process for the regions, and changes to ensure prospective appointees demonstrated knowledge of the role.

Mr Hulls said the review recommended more administrative support for Justices of the Peace, including formalised training and ongoing professional development.

“These changes will ensure Justices of the Peace continue to deliver an important service valued by Victorians seeking to have documents witnessed or certified,” Mr Hulls said.

Updating contact details

Have your contact details changed? Please advise Cathy by

- Email at admin@rvahj.org.au
- Telephone on (03) 9525 7099
- Fax (03) 9525 7765
- Mail to PO Box 317, Elwood, Victoria, 3184

If you have changed address please don’t forget to include any change to phone numbers as this is how members of the public contact you.

Branch news

Sunraysia Branch News by Harvey Hilary-Taylor OAM JP

At the AGM of the Sunraysia Branch in December 2009, Harvey Hilary-Taylor OAM JP was appointed as Media Officer and has lifted the profile of the Branch in the local community.

At a Morning Tea held at the Mildura Police Station in December, members of the rostered team from the Mildura Signing Centre were present and their work was acknowledged by the local Police Superintendent. JPs take an enormous workload off the Police and as such their efforts are much appreciated.



Branch members Trevor Aust JP (Treasurer (L) and Harvey Hilary-Taylor AOM JP, Media Officer

Although the Signing Centre is only open for three hours on weekdays. Being in its first year of operation it has achieved well above the State average for signings and with the trend continuing, will far exceed expectations in 2010.

Mildura will of course, like other branches, celebrate the Centenary year and has planned some exciting events which will ensure the local community is aware of the JPs and the ongoing voluntary work they carry out.

North East Branch News by Robert MJ Ford JP

My name is Robert Ford (Bob) and I am a fellow JP and BJ or should I say BJ in waiting for a number as I was sworn in to office at the Myrtleford Magistrates Court on the 1st May 2009 and still await my number. That's the Justice Office and Mr Hulls.

Anyway why I am writing as a fellow JP, BJ and friend of retired Bail Justice Peter Hobson, who, after serving close to 16 yrs as a BJ in the North East Victoria, retired in January 2010 after turning 70 in mid January.

Peter was appointed a Justice of the Peace on the 07/06/1978 and a Bail Justice in August 1994. He covered a vast area in his role. Based in Wangaratta he travelled to Benalla, Wodonga, Myrtleford. Bright and as also Mount Beauty, some 220 kms return.



These areas will be covered by me eventually.

Peter was acknowledged by the Victoria Police at a presentation held at the Wangaratta Police station on February 5. He received a police plaque and certificate of appreciation from Superintendent Peter De Santo for service to the community and Victoria police.

This is well deserved and I had the pleasure of attending as a colleague and friend.



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Branch news

Glen Waverley Branch News by Mrs Heather MacGregor-Patrick Mahoney, the inaugural chairperson for the Glen Waverley Branch became the ripe old age of 70 resulting in retirement as a Bail Justice on the 10/1/10. Patrick was also involved with the Dandenong branch previously.

The Springvale Police organised a barbeque in honour of Patrick and made a suitable presentation of a "This is Your Life" comic drawing of Pat's face and the things with which he has been involved through out his life such as being a JP, Bail Justice, involved with football, cricket, a Councillor for the City of Oakleigh and also Mayor.

This was enjoyed by Pat, his wife Lyn and daughter Cheryl, Police and fellow JP's.

Wyndham Branch News by Trish Vejby JP

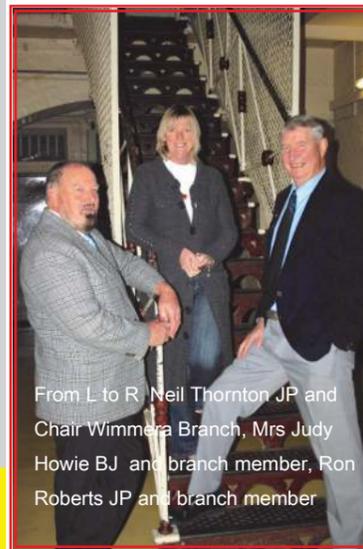
The Branch is now in possession of a photocopier, very kindly provided to us by Wyndham Council. They have been most generous.

It will live in the office in my home and will be connected to my computer for convenience, in particular for downloading anything relevant to be mailed out to you all. If any of you have anything you need to copy (stat decs, etc) in regard to your role as Justice, it is here for your use. Just ring me to make a time. It will be used mainly for our mail outs.

Ron Jones has done an excellent job with negotiating with the Council for the Grant and also with the North West Business Equipment in Cherry Street Werribee. Thanks also to Marie Brittan.

Wimmera Branch News by Shirley Smith JP

Members of the RVAHJ Wimmera Branch and their partners met at 'J' Ward in Ararat for their August 2009 meeting.



From L to R Neil Thornton JP and Chair Wimmera Branch, Mrs Judy Howie BJ and branch member, Ron Roberts JP and branch member

All enjoyed a two course meal in the dining room at the jail before the business meeting. Guest speaker and tour guide was member of the Wimmera Branch, Mr. Ron Roberts, JP, Ron is a member of Friends of J-Ward.

He explained the history of the jail and took us on a tour of one of the wings. It was very informative and he related some of the history of the judicial system during the life of J-Ward. Ararat jail opened in 1860 and the dining room is part of the original jail.

At first it was an ordinary prison but in 1887, due to the overcrowding of Aradale, it became known as J Ward - the jail for the criminally insane. The jail closed in 1991.

The Ararat community have worked hard to preserve the building and it reopened to the public in 1993.

Attention Signing Centres

Director Harry Gibcus has accepted a request from the President to act in Laurie Taig 's position liaising with the Signing Centre coordinators. It is expected Laurie will return to this position when he regains full health.

Guidelines for Authorised Witnesses and the Evidence Act 2008



ROYAL VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION OF HONORARY JUSTICES
DIAMOND VALLEY BRANCH

Invite you to an evening with
Guest Speaker:

Detective Sergeant Anthony Mercer

Anthony is an extremely well respected and decorated member of the Victoria Police Force and has been for 20 years. For most of that time, he has been an operational Detective at various suburban Police stations and Crime Investigation Units. Anthony served in the high profile "Purana" Task Force, which was established to combat the underworld gang wars that raged in Victoria. Anthony played a pivotal role in the taskforce and has been highly commended as a result. During Anthony's time at the Task Force:

- o 15 Offenders were charged with 29 counts of murder;
- o 6 Offenders were charged with conspiracy to commit murder; and
- 3 Offenders were charged with attempted murder.

Date: Monday, 19th April 2010
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Old Paradian's Football Club - Plenty Road Bundoora
Cost: Gold coin donation per person
Attendees: This event is open to family and friends

Finger food will be supplied and drinks available at bar prices

RSVP: Donna Spiller - 0419 327 841 or jp11923@rvahj.org.au by Monday 5th April 2010

The following Acts came into operation on 1 January, 2010:

- *Evidence Act 2008;*
- *Evidence (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1958;*
- *Statute Law Amendments (Evidence Consequential Provisions) Act 2009;*
- *Criminal Procedure Act 2009;*
- *Criminal Procedure Amendment (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2009.*

Some sections within these Acts will affect the performance of your role as a Justice of the Peace and Bail Justice. To view or download a copy of the Acts go to www.legislation.vic.gov.au and select Victorian Law Today.



Office of the Public Advocate

Volunteer Opportunity

Help protect the human rights of people with a disability.

The Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) seeks volunteers for its Community Visitors, Community Guardian and Independent Third Persons (ITPs) programs.

Community Visitors monitor services for people with a disability and/or mental illness and help resolve issues affecting residents and patients of services with 24-hour care.

Community Guardians are volunteers appointed by the Public Advocate to act as independent guardians for Victorians with a disability.

ITPs facilitate communication for people with a cognitive disability or a mental illness when interviewed by Victoria Police if they are an alleged offender, victim or a witness.

All three programs operate throughout the state, and volunteers are sought from all parts of regional, rural Victoria and metropolitan Melbourne.

The Office of the Public Advocate manages all three volunteer programs and provides training and support.

To find out more:

email your name and postal address to opavolunteers@justice.vic.gov.au or call 1300 309 337 (cost of a local call) and leave your name and number.

For further information about OPA or the volunteer programs, visit: www.publicadvocate.vic.gov.au and follow the links.

Australia Day honors

'It's a team effort'

By Kiel Egging

January 26 2010

Shepparton News

Shepparton identity Emilio Fiorenza has been recognised for more than 30 years of service to the Italian community by receiving an Order of Australia award.



Tribute: Emilio Fiorenza's work with Italian Services Advisory Council and the Shepparton Italian Social Club have been rewarded.

Since arriving in Australia in 1960, Mr Fiorenza has been providing advice, festivities and services for Italians in Shepparton and surrounding areas. Mr Fiorenza has also worked in most of Shepparton's schools as an art, photography, gold and silversmith and photography teacher. His efforts have also been recognised by his country of origin, with the Italian Government awarding him an Italian Knighthood (Cavalierato) in 2007.

"I don't see it as a requirement, I get a buzz out of helping my fellow man and I like to see locals assisting the more disadvantaged people in our community," Mr Fiorenza said. "There is always someone worse off than you, and if we can improve their day, it is an invaluable contribution to humanity itself."

Mr Fiorenza lists amongst his finest achievements getting Italian radio station Rete Italia broadcasting in Shepparton, developing the Italian Services Advisory Council, the Shepparton Italian Social Club and attracting Italian superstar Patrizio Buanne to last year's Cobram ItalFest. He paid tribute to the many volunteers who had helped him achieve his goals.

"I contribute to the community because I enjoy doing it, but I have a group of very good people around me who I rely upon," he said. "They allow me to do all things I've done for the last 30 years, and without them I wouldn't be receiving such an honour. It's a team effort, and I'd like to share it with all the people who have helped me over this time because I think it is a tribute to them as much as it is to me." Mr Fiorenza said he would always be thankful to Australia and the region for the opportunities he had received. "Australia has given me quite a lot in being able to study and work as an artist and teacher," he said. "The best way I can show my appreciation for that is to spend my time doing something I love, and that is putting . . . back into my community."

Citation: Mr Emilio Mario FIORENZA—PO Box 1625 Shepparton, Vic 3632—For services to the Italian community of Victoria.

History of the RVAHJ

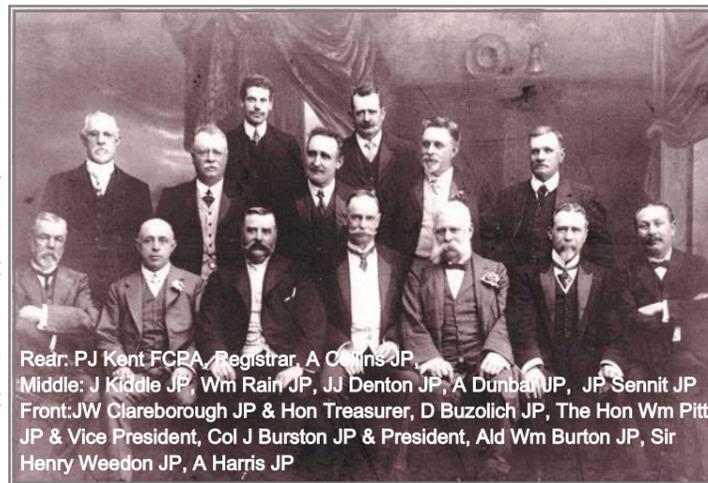
Justice of the Peace – an historic institution. By Helen Ward

Whilst there are some in the community who may question the role and value of JPs, there can be no ignoring the fact that the role of Justice of the Peace has been important in the administration of Law in this state.

Steeped in tradition, this honorable and ancient British institution spanning some 600 years evolved from what was originally known as the Frank Pledge, a system implemented by King Richard 1st (Richard Coeur-de-lion) in 1195. The actual title of Justice was first given to Peace Officers – certain good and lawful men appointed to keep the peace and assigned by King Edward III – following passing of a statute in 1327. It seems they became known as Justices of the Peace around 1361. The statute which assigned the title of Justices of the Peace defined and recognised their duties and gave them enormous powers in a judicial capacity.

“Instead of being merely a rudimentary policeman and an inferior judge, the Justices became the General Factotum of the State, responsible for everything from conscribing sailors to maintaining the highways, from fixing wages and prices to vetoing the betrothals of curates. In addition, they combined the functions of County Councils and a half dozen government departments as well.” Recent book review.

Coming closer to home, in late 1909 three Justices of the Peace in Melbourne called a meeting of their colleagues to discuss, amongst other matters, the formation of an association. As a result of this meeting, The Honorary Justices' Association of Victoria was formed in 1910. The Association's office was established in Swanston Street and by September 1910, 350 Justices had enrolled as members. Twenty-eight years later the Association was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee and it was in 1961 that the inclusion of the title “Royal” was added following approval from Queen Elizabeth II.



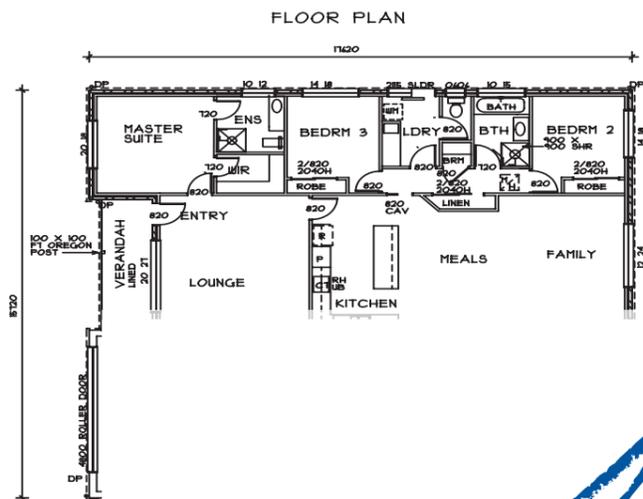
The new name – Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices was registered in November 1961.

From its inception until 1946, successive Lord Mayors of the City of Melbourne held the position of president (see front cover of this edition of *Custodes*). Subsequently, Lord Mayors have granted Patronage. It is an association that has always been held in high esteem and it speaks for the vast majority of Victorian JPs.

The power to appoint and administer the Honorary Justice system in Australia rests with respective State Governments. Throughout their long history, the duties of Honorary Justices have decreased and increased as governments saw fit. In September 1990, the Victorian State Government made sweeping changes to the system which saw Justices of the Peace no longer empowered to sit on the bench of the Magistrates Court or issue summonses or warrants. Also at that time a separate office was established for Bail Justices to hear bail applications.

And here we are again, at this very defining moment, awaiting the outcome of a Victorian state government review that will dictate the future of the Victorian Honorary Justice system.

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JP in the Spotlight, - Heather Gould JP

Heather Gould hails from a long line of JPs going back generations in her family. Of particular interest is the story of Heather's great grandmother who ran the Strathbogie North Post Office and who came face-to-face with Ned Kelly and his gang as they watered their horses at the trough outside the post office one day. Possibly unaware of who they were, she offered them scones and tea for which they reportedly paid.

Why did you become a JP and how long have you been one?

There was a lack of JP's in the Birchip area. The police were not always available and doctors and chemists were always busy so when I was asked to become a JP in 2000 by a retiring JP, I agreed hoping that I would be able to help out.

Have you been a JP in the same area?

I was living in Birchip when I was appointed. In 2006 my husband and I moved to Portarlington. I decided to offer my services in my new location and now work once a month at the Geelong Police Station on a roster system and work locally when required. I find the work challenging but get the sense that our work as JPs is appreciated, particularly by the police.

Tell us a bit about your life.

Whilst JPs go back generations in my family this fact did not influence me to become one. To be honest I didn't know, apart from my father, of others being JPs until I started to research the family. My grandfather on my father's side and great grandfather on my mother's side were all JPs.

Tell us a bit about your family and hobbies.

I married Harold Gould in 1967 and we farmed grain, sheep and ran a 100 sow piggery. We have four children and nine grandchildren. My hobbies include reading, craft work particularly crochet, but I also do cross stitch, tapestries and knit for family and charities. I also love travel, particularly around Australia, meeting lots of interesting people and seeing our beautiful country.

What are the major changes you have seen over the years as a JP?

The main change I have noticed is the amount of extra paper work. I wonder sometimes if it is really necessary.

What are the challenges faced by JPs today?

Meeting people from all walks of life, different nationalities, different temperaments, and the list goes on. It just gets busier and Mr Hulls thought he didn't need us!

Any highlights or memorable moments in your role as JP?

I just enjoy helping people who need help, for example the elderly who think a problem is too large or the people who have lost loved ones. I enjoy helping where I can.

What traits make for a good JP?

To be a patient listener and not talk about the jobs you are involved with. You must be firm and not allow yourself to be bulldozed into hurrying through a job.

Are JPs more relevant in small country towns than in larger communities and cities?

I don't think so. The need is considerably different. Sit at the Geelong Police Station

and the need is great in so many ways. For example in one 3.5 hour session I signed my name more than 230 times. In country towns it is more spasmodic but the need is just as great.

If you could send a message to the world what would it be?

I feel every adult, politician, lawyer and the list goes on, should take on the innocence and trust of a baby and young child into their lives. I am sure the world would become a better place.

What is the future for JP's as you see it?

I do see a future for JPs but we must be prepared to keep up the training sessions in order to keep up with the different aspects of the law. It is becoming so complicated that I query if chemists, school teachers etc can keep up the correct procedure if not doing a refresher course.

Would you encourage young people to seek appointment as a JP?

Yes. We need people of all ages to help. The law should not be seen just as an older persons area of interest.

Who are the five people you would invite to dinner?

Peter Ustinov, Meryl Streep, John Williamson (so much of his music brings back many happy memories), Michael Crawford (loved his show "Some Mother's Do Hav Em"), and Andrew Bolt.

Your imagination can run wild just thinking about the conversation around the dinner table. I'm smiling and loving it already!



Centenary plans on track

Congratulations! We are now into our centenary year and much is underway. Feedback from branches informs me that local activities are progressing and support is coming from local councils with civic receptions and the like being planned.

Merchandise – *Custodes* has a great list of merchandise including a tie, cuff links, tie bar, lapel badge and a pre-paid Australia Post envelope. The pre-paid envelopes are a great investment while also showcasing our anniversary. Purchase some of the merchandise to advertise and celebrate our centenary. It is interesting to note that the first run of ties have already been sold out, More stocks have been ordered to meet the demand. The pre-paid envelopes are a great saving for you. You pay for a stamp and envelope in one charge and you never have to add to the postage if the costs rise. You can still post the envelope in ten years time without adding extra postage – a great investment.

Branches holding local events – Branches are underway planning their own celebrations, with perhaps a BBQ or dinner or other activity during the year. Local councils and dignitaries are also joining in. Branches should contact their local council and see how to work together to celebrate this special landmark.

History book – Historian Fred Kent JP has completed the history of the Association and we are now about to publish copies.

Travelling Display – Norm Gibbs JP has kindly taken over chair of the Travelling Display committee. Many thanks to Norm for taking on this important task.

Many branches have registered their interest in participating. We are working on the production of the actual display at the moment. Norm can be contacted on 0412 000 244.

Anniversary Seminar – It is timely that we should hold a seminar to seek the way forward. Given the name “ Quo Vardis ”, this seminar will seek to look at what initiatives are open to Honorary Justices in servicing the community well into the future. This fits in well with the current working parties of the Australasian Council of Justices ’ Associations who are also looking into our future.

Media coverage – Centenary chairman, Michael Cheshire JP is also putting together stories for the media which will help showcase the work of justices while building on the local media plans which many branches are now using.

Centenary Awards – The Board has just approved an initiative to provide Centenary Awards at the end of this year. Details will be sent to all branches in the near future.

The Centenary Committee is warmed with the enthusiasm shown by so many Justices throughout the State. We shall in many ways celebrate and enjoy this landmark occasion.

President Garry Runge JP and Vice-Chair Harry Gibcus JP have both been active in their support to the chairman, which comes as a most welcome and constructive contribution.

Let us not forget our great heritage going back over 800 years and the great part justices have played in the first judicial system in Australia. Enjoy the year ahead!

Michael Cheshire JP—Chair, Centenary Committee

Advertise in *Custodes*

Reach a state wide audience of influential community leaders and business professionals by advertising your business in *Custodes*. Very competitive casual and yearly advertising rates available starting at just \$20.00. Don ’ t miss out on this important business opportunity. Contact the editor for further details at hiward@bigpond.com or on mobile 0438 594285

Ad Size:	Yearly Rate(4 editions)	Casual Rate
Business card size	\$20.00 per edition	\$30.00
Quarter page	\$45.00 per edition	\$55.00
Half page	\$75.00 per edition	\$90.00
Full page	\$100.00 per edition	\$150.00

New members and training update

President Garry Runge JP extends a warm welcome to the Association's most recent new members.

Ross Briggs JP	Dederang
Lilian Li Hau Hou JP	Prahran
Daniel Francis Jordan JP	Jeeralang Junction
Meir Shlomo Kluwgant JP	St Kilda East
Donald James McGregor JP	Ouyen
Richard Sluggett JP	Mt Waverley

Training Update

New Training Dates

Date: 8 May, 2010
Location: Aspendale/Edithvale RSL, Kinross St Edithvale.
Registration: 8.45 a.m. for a 9 a.m. start. Finish at 3 p.m.

This course covers your duties and legal responsibilities when Document Witnessing (Affdavits, Statutory Declarations, Certified True Copies and Powers of Attorney) .

Cost: Free for members or those who have applied for membership.
 \$100.00 for non-members.

Full course notes are supplied. Morning tea and lunch are provided.

RSVP: April 8 2010
 Post (PO Box 317 Elwood, 3184) ,
 Email admin@rvahj.org.au,
 Fax (03) 9525 7765

Training Registration Form

Training location:

Name:

BJ/JP Registration no:

E-mail:

Contact Ph: (landline and mobile).....

.....

Help wanted urgently!

Your local Signing Centre needs you.

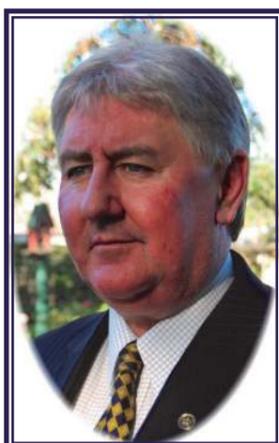
Volunteers are light on the ground at Signing Centres around the State. This is a very worthy community service and relies on a roster of JPs prepared to spare a little of their time at their local Signing Centre. If you can spare a couple of hours please contact Cathy on (03) 9525 7099 to discuss.

Directors' 2009 activity statements

Reflecting the Board's commitment to accountability and transparency to Association members, each RVAHJ director has provided a brief summary of their activities and achievements as board members for the year 2009.



Current RVAHJ Board



Name:	Garry Runge JP
Position:	President
Appointment to Board:	October 2008
Activities and achievements—2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with the Attorney General, senior DOJ officers and other government representatives, State Trustees and Society of Notaries throughout the year. • Attended branch meetings around the State and chaired several AGM 's, chaired all executive committee and board meetings. • Chaired the Board of Directors workshop, visited signing centres and attended several training days. • Represented the RVAHJ at the annual ACJA conference. • Hosted the RVAHJ annual dinner.
Objectives for 2010:	To build a stronger, modern association for the benefit of all members whilst celebrating the Association 's 100 years service to the community.

Name:	Linda Rainsford
Position:	Vice President
Appointment to Board:	May 2008
Activities and achievements—2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Executive Committee in charge of membership. • Training program coordinator. • Managed RVAHJ website upgrade. • IT consultant for the RVAHJ office and supervised purchase of new equipment. • Contributed regularly to <i>Custodes</i>. • " Official photographer " at the RVAHJ annual dinner.
Objectives for 2010:	To establish a team of members who will provide a supported environment for the provision of training.

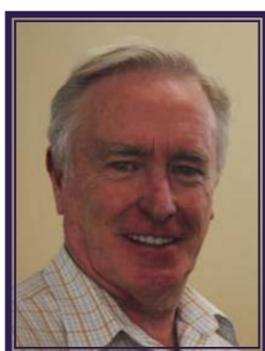


Directors' activity statements cont



Name:	Michael Tse JP
Position:	Director and secretary
Appointment to Board:	May 2008
Activities and achievements—2009	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of the Executive Committee • Secretary 	

Name:	Michael Cheshire JP
Position:	Director and Honorary life member
Appointment to Board:	1989
Activities and achievements-2009	
<p>Served as Chair of various committees namely the Ethics Committee, RVAHJ Centenary Committee and Communications Committee, Registrar and current President of the Australasian Council of Justices ' Associations.</p> <p>Contributed to several RVAHJ programs throughout the year including the promotion of the role of Honorary Justices through the media, a program designed to identify potential Honorary Justices and an initiative designed to enhance the development of existing Honorary Justices.</p>	



Name:	Rod McConnel JP
Position:	Immediate Past President
Appointment to Board:	2003
Activities and achievements - 2009	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended all board, executive and various branch meetings. Chaired four branch meetings and Awards and Member Centenary Committees. • Assisted in constitutional review. • Represented RVAHJ president as required. • Organised Australia Post centenary envelopes. 	
Objectives for 2010	
Continue supporting the branches, to assist with the promotion of the RVAHJ centenary and help raise the profile of JP ' s throughout the community.	

Name:	Laurie C Taig JP
Position:	Director
Appointment to Board:	April 1996
Activities and achievements-2009	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited activities due to ill health. • P rosters coordinator. • Established new JP signing centre at Moorabbin police station. • Attended directors and some branch meetings as Liaison Director. • Served as a BJ and JP roster member and coordinator at Melbourne East, Moorabbin and Oakleigh police stations. • Provided support to State Trustees and members as required. 	

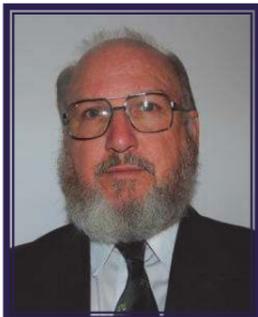


Directors' activity statements cont



Name:	Michael Tiliacos JP
Position:	Director, Chair Audit and Governance Committee
Appointment to Board:	May 2007
Activities and achievements - 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Took six months leave of absence from June to Dec 2009. • Attended several board meetings. • Chaired the Audit and Governance Committee. • Presented issues paper on behalf of the Audit and Governance Committee at February 2009 Directors Planning Day.
Objectives for 2010	Celebrate the centenary year and to contribute to the further growth of the Association into one that is more vibrant, focused and relevant to members and one that will leave a legacy for the future.

Name:	Norman William Wittingslow JP
Position:	Director
Appointment to Board:	2007/08
Activities and achievements - 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair of the Constitution Committee and helped with the constitution review. • Attended Board workshop and several branch meetings. • Assisted in the preparation of documentation namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ criteria for the use of JP initials, ○ the RVAHJ submission in response to the DOJ review of JPs, submission to AICD regarding RVAHJ sponsorship.
Objectives for 2010	Continue as an RVAHJ director and in doing so, assist in the advocacy, development, image and status of the office and the role of justices for and on behalf of JP and BJ membership of the RVAHJ.



Name:	Ray Walker JP
Position:	CFO
Appointment to Board:	2006
Activities and achievements - 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attended branch meetings at Buloke, Wimmera and Sunraysia. ▪ Reappointed as Chair of Buloke branch.
Objectives for 2010	To ensure the audit process is carried out in a timely manner.

Name:	Chris Reside
Position:	Director
Appointment to Board:	November 2006
Activities and achievements-2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supervising editor of <i>Custodes</i>.



Directors' activity statements cont



Name:	Glenda Frost JP
Position:	Director
Appointment to Board:	November 2006
Activities and achievements-2009	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Attended Dandenong rostered JP 's event and received certificate of appreciation. ■ Ongoing liaiason with RVAHJ admin and contractors to maintain reliable computer system. 	

Name:	Harry Gibcus JP
Position:	Board Member
Appointment to Board:	June 2009
Activities and achievements-2009	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Vice chair of Ballarat branch. ■ Duty roster at East Melbourne and Ballarat Police Stations. ■ Signing centre coordinator (temporary). ■ Assisted Centenary Chairperson. 	
Objectives for 2010	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Implement JP Review. ■ Have rural JP concerns discussed at board meetings. ■ See centenary year activities achieved successfully. ■ Meet with all Signing Centre coordinators. 	



Easter Office Closure

Members are advised that the office will be closed for the
Easter break from Friday 26 March to Tuesday 6 April
2010 inclusive.

Financial accounts 2009

These are the unaudited set of accounts for the year 2009.

RVAHJ Profit & Loss	<u>Jan - Dec 2009</u>	RVAHJ Balance Sheet	<u>Dec 31, 2009</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income		ASSETS	
Membership Subscriptions	94,527.25	Current Assets	
4050 · Sales Income	31,270.51	Current/Savings	
4999 · Uncategorized Income	<u>72,500.00</u>	Main Cheque Account	2,074.17
Total Income	<u>198,297.76</u>	NAB Cash Management Account	<u>167,272.42</u>
Cost of Goods Sold		Petty Cash	228.39
Stock Adjustment A/c	-496.48	RVAHJ-Internet Account	<u>2,718.01</u>
5000 · Cost of Goods Sold	<u>18,339.78</u>	Total Current/Savings	172,292.99
Total COGS	<u>17,843.30</u>	Accounts Receivable	
Gross Profit	<u>180,454.46</u>	1200 · Accounts Receivable	<u>-2,399.19</u>
Expense		Total Accounts Receivable	-2,399.19
Branches	200.00	Other Current Assets	
Delivery Inward	39.00	Investments	<u>90,000.00</u>
Functions and Seminars	5,604.59	Pre Paid Expenses	1,807.50
Payroll	47,667.31	1120 · Inventory	12,037.49
6120 · Bank Charges	1,581.14	1205 · Provision Impairment of Receiv	<u>-1,706.11</u>
6130 · Discounts	38.77	Total Other Current Assets	<u>102,138.88</u>
6140 · Donations & Gifts	253.83	Total Current Assets	272,032.68
6160 · Dues and Subscriptions	200.41	Fixed Assets	
6175 · Fees - ATO	40.00	Leasehold Improvements	<u>7,483.00</u>
6180 · Insurance	4,862.23	Property Plant & Equipment	<u>22,778.13</u>
6195 · Interest Paid	11.35	Total Fixed Assets	<u>30,261.13</u>
6245 · Motor Vehicle Expenses	827.27	TOTAL ASSETS	<u>302,293.81</u>
6250 · Postage and Delivery	3,915.59	LIABILITIES	
6260 · Printing and Reproduction	27,176.74	Current Liabilities	
6270 · Professional Fees	13,642.53	Accounts Payable	
6300 · Repairs & maintenance	8,102.03	2000 · Accounts Payable	<u>6,357.58</u>
6340 · Communications	5,323.00	Total Accounts Payable	6,357.58
6350 · Travel & Attendance	69,712.39	Other Current Liabilities	
6390 · Utilities	2,663.50	Creditors & Borrowings	5,500.00
6550 · Office Supplies	<u>15,578.13</u>	GST Suspense Account	<u>-62.73</u>
Total Expense	<u>207,439.81</u>	Provisions	<u>18,601.92</u>
Net Ordinary Income	-26,985.35	2200 · Sales Tax Payable	-1,810.85
Other Income/Expense		2200 · Tax Payable	<u>-3,052.25</u>
Other Income		Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>19,176.09</u>
Other Income	<u>18,934.85</u>	Total Current Liabilities	<u>25,533.67</u>
Total Other Income	<u>18,934.85</u>	TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>25,533.67</u>
		NET ASSETS	<u>276,760.14</u>
		EQUITY	
Net Income	<u>-8,050.50</u>	1110 · Retained Earnings	300,538.77
		3000 · Opening Bal Equity	-15,728.13
		Net Income	<u>-8,050.50</u>
		TOTAL EQUITY	<u>276,760.14</u>

Centenary merchandise

Don't miss out on this limited edition merchandise specially created to commemorate the Association's first 100 years. Fill in the special order form now to ensure you don't miss out.

Also don't forget our regular items are also available such as business cards, stamps badges and our updated Oath cards. See the merchandise order form on the reverse of the address sheet

Australia Post pre-paid centenary envelope
NOW AVAILABLE



Centenary lapel badge, tie bar and cuff links.

Centenary Merchandise Order Form

Name: _____

Delivery Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Envelope - No.:	@ \$0.65 each	\$
Tie - No.:	@ \$33.50 each	\$
Lapel badge - No.:	@ \$9.95 each	\$
Tie bar - No.:	@ \$14.95 each	\$
Cuff links - No.:	@ \$19.95 each	\$
<i>Plus postage/handling @ \$6.00</i>		<i>\$</i>
<i>Plus postage for the envelopes @ \$3.00</i>		<i>\$</i>
TOTAL:		\$

Please make your cheque out to: "RVAHJ".

Credit Card Type: VISA MASTERCARD

Credit Card No. _____

Card Expires: ____ / ____

Cardholder's name: _____

Signature: _____

Buckingham Palace responds



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

3rd March, 2010

Dear Mr. Runge,

I have been asked to thank you and the Members of the Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices for your kind letter to The Queen, sent on the occasion of the Association's Centenary which is being celebrated in April this year.

Her Majesty was interested to learn about the company and appreciates your thoughtfulness in writing as you did. In return, The Queen sends her congratulations and best wishes to all concerned on this most special anniversary.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Ryan".

David Ryan
Director, Private Secretary's Office

Garry Runge, Esq.

Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices



Address: PO Box 317 (53 Broadway), Elwood, 3184

Telephone: (03) 9525 7099 Facsimile (03) 9525 7765

Email: admin@rvahj.org.au Website: www.rvahj.org.au

ACN 004 226 448

CHIEF PATRON

Professor David de Kretser, AC
The Governor of Victoria

PATRON

The Rt Hon Cr Robert Doyle
The Lord Mayor of Melbourne

PRESIDENT

Garry Runge JP 0400 335 251 pres@rvahj.org.au

VICE PRESIDENT

Linda Rainsford 0418 333 568 vicep@rvahj.org.au

COMPANY SECRETARY

Michael Tse JP 0403 732 185 sec@rvahj.org.au

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Rod McConnell JP (03) 9435 0573 ipp@rvahj.org.au

HONORARY TREASURER

Fred Kent JP

CUSTODES EDITOR

Helen Ward 0438 594 285 custodes@rvahj.org.au

COMMITTEES

Membership members@rvahj.org.au

Merchandise goodies@rvahj.org.au

Training training@rvahj.org.au

DIRECTORS

Michael Cheshire JP (03)5345 3777 jp33@bigpond.com
Glenda Frost JP (03)9764 2239 jp9774@rvahj.org.au
Chris Reside (03)9741 4521 bj1763@rvahj.org.au
Laurie Taig JP (03)9585 8244 jp8016@rvahj.org.au
Michael Tiliacos JP 0438 358 107 jp11146@rvahj.org.au
Ray Walker JP (03)5497 1693 jp10845@rvahj.org.au
Norman Wittingslow JP (03)9331 1088 jp10236@rvahj.org.au

AUDITOR

CHN Herold Ross (Chartered Accountants)

ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

Cathy Owens JP (03)9525 7099 admin@rvahj.org.au

Branch network

Metro

City & Northern
Mr Bob Williams JP
(B&H) 5427 3366
Dandenong
Mr Nigel Carter JP
(H) 9795 8798
Diamond Valley
Ms Donna Spiller JP
(H) 9432 6979 (M) 0419 327 841
Glen Waverley
Ms Heather MacGregor JP
(H)9706 1386
Maroondah
Mr Brian Ross-Soden
(H) 9874 7793
Monash
Miss Kaylene Kachel JP
(M) 0417 717 744
Mornington Peninsula
Ms Fay Hunter JP
(M) 0427 267 607
Western Suburbs
Mr John Boles JP
(H) 9311 8931 (M) 0418 102 701
Wyndham
Mrs Marie Brittan JP
(M) 0403 258 776

Country

Ballarat
Mr Bob Coleman JP
(H) 5342 0941 (M) 0408 519 500
Benalla
Mr Stephen London JP
(H) 5762 3077
Bendigo
Mrs Helen Yorston JP
(H) 5442 8859
Buloke
Garry Larmour JP
(B&H) 5491 1647
Central Gippsland
Mr Don Ferguson JP
(B&H) 5127 1718
Geelong

Deema Johnston JP
(B&H) 52811106
(M) 0430 211 916
North East Vic
Ms Nancye Byrne JP
(H) 5722 3281
South Gippsland
Mr Ron Hateley JP
(B&H) 5956 9357

South West

Mr Bruce Turner JP
(03) 5562 1324 (M) 0408 509 174
Sunraysia
Mrs Jenny Bennett JP
(H) 5025 2757
Upper Murray
Carol Allen JP / Jane Mulloy JP
(02) 6076 2050 / (02) 6059 7691
Wimmera
Mrs Shirley Smith JP
(B&H) 5385 7491
Yarra Valley
Mrs Wendy Booth JP
(M) 0407 051 757

EDITORIAL POLICY

The official journal of the Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices has appeared in various formats since 1910. As is common practice in publications, the current *Custodes* does not necessarily represent the views of the RVAHJ since it encourages contributions from a wide cross-section of members and beyond. Articles and letters are most welcome, but are subject to the discretion of the editor.

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

Advertising in *Custodes* reaches a statewide audience of influential community leaders and business professionals.

Attractive advertising rates are available.

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Spring - July 21 Summer - October 21