President’s Report by Earl James

After the AGM in March the new Council met for the first time a week later. All Councillors were present except one who apologised profusely the next day and could only offer failing memory as an excuse. Never the less much business was attended to including a decision that future meetings be held earlier in the evening. In the past meetings started at 7.30 pm and nobody got home before ten. In future they will start at six and if I were cynical I might say that even so, nobody will get home before ten. Hopefully my chairmanship will be as good as my predecessor’s and that problem will not arise.

At the AGM I announced that I intended to hold a function to commemorate the 50 year anniversary of the formation of the Society. Well the Administrator, the Hon Sally Thomas AC has agreed to host a function for invited guests at Government House on 12 June. Numbers are restricted so invitations will only be sent to members living in the Darwin and regional areas. The Administrator will make a speech and I will make some presentations that will make the occasion memorable.

Councillors are not happy with the present arrangements that we have with the National Trust whereby we store material and have council meetings in Audit House on Myilly Point. It is not airconditioned which is not a great help when meetings are in progress during the Wet Season. We are currently searching for alternate premises and the CWA headquarters building is under consideration. Neither location is entirely suitable so I would be pleased to receive any suggestions that members might have. I believe that after fifty years of operations it is time we had a permanent headquarters of our own. The Kununurra Historical Society was lucky enough to have a house bequeathed to them. Does anybody know of a prospective benefactor in Darwin?

The annual field trip during the Darwin Show weekend this year will take participating members and friends south of Katherine and east to the Roper River and the Limmen National Park where we will find much of historical interest to warrant the trip. I believe aboriginal art and petroglyphs will feature large as well as the remains of old police stations, cattle stations and shipwrecks. Past President Brian Reid is organizing the itinerary and this will make an appearance in the next newsletter or even earlier. He is looking forward to leading a large convoy so please consider coming.

The next Council meeting will be held at Audit House on Wednesday 7 May. If you have any questions or suggestions for discussion please advise me ASAP.
HSNT AGM
Our AGM this year was held over high tea in the beautiful gardens of Burnett House.
The elected Committee for 2014/2015 are –

President: Earl James
Vice President: Bev Phelts
Treasurer: Rosemary Chalmers
Secretary: Janie Mason
Councillors: Brian Reid, Alan Powell, Earl James, Clayton Fredericksen, Judy Boland,
Barry Russell, Kathy De La Rue, Robyn Smith & Stephen Hamilton

It is refreshing to have new faces on our Committee and we welcome Kathy, Robyn & Stephen

Forthcoming Events

Thursday 9 May – NT Literary Awards
The Awards will be held from 5pm to 6.30pm in the NT Library, Parliament House.
If you wish to attend, RSVP by 23 May by Phone: 1800 019 155 or Email: libraryevents.doam@nt.gov.au

Monday 12 May – Celebrating International Nurses Day
The Honourable Kezia Purick, MLA, Speaker of the NT Legislative Assembly together with Charles Darwin University’s Nursing Museum are celebrating Nurses Day at Speaker’s Green, Parliament House commencing at 4.30pm to 6.00pm.

Guest Speakers will be Dr Brian Reid, Historical Society and Professor Simon Maddocks, CDU Vice Chancellor and Her Honour Sally Thomas AC, Administrator of the NT. Janie Mason’s new book From Hospital to University: A Northern Territory Nursing Story will also be launched.
RSVP Phone: 89466554 or email: rsvp@cdu.edu.au

Wednesday  May 14 - Queer Histories Symposium, Darwin
Registrations are now open to attend the Queer Histories Symposium which is taking place as part of the Asia Pacific Outgames in Darwin.

Queer diversity across race, culture and gender will be proudly debated by speakers from Fiji, Indigenous Australia, New Zealand and Samoa. Initiatives to queer the archives will be discussed (Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines), and history practitioners will share insights into various technologies used in projects documenting queer life in the Northern Territory. Finally, to wrap it all up, an esteemed Hong Kong artist, Hiram To will encourage us to consider notions of memory and desire in cinema.

The Symposium will take place on Wednesday 14 May, 2104, at the Double Tree by Hilton (the former Beaufort Hotel), Esplanade, Darwin. Registration for the event is now open via the website, at $20 waged and $10 unwaged. http://3apog.com.au/human-rights/queer-symposium or contact Dr Dino Hodge on mobile: 0421 821 757

Thursday 15 May – Book Launch
Don Dunstan, Intimacy & Liberty: A Political Biography written by Dino Hodge will be launched by Clare Martin, our former Chief Minister.

The launch will be held at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel (the former Beaufort Hotel), the Esplanade at 12.30pm. The book will be on sale for $39.95. If you wish to attend, RSVP by 12 May to Phone: 08 83628800 or Email: charlotte@wakefieldpress.com and include “RSVP Dunstan” in your subject header.
Friday 16th and Sunday 18 May – Sir Tony Robinson's Tour of Duty

WTFN Australian History Productions is currently in production on a series commemorating a centenary of war service called Tony Robinson's Tour of Duty. Tony is well known from Blackadder, Time Team, Worst Jobs in History, Time Walks around England and Australia. His Tour of Duty is a documentary for the History Channel commemorating a centenary of military service from 1914 to the present day. The company will be filming in Darwin focusing on the impact of war, whether on the battlefield, behind the lines or on the home front on people in or from the Northern Territory.

Here is your chance to be on film -

**Friday 16th May** there will be shooting schedule -

8.30-10.30am- people are needed to hear the story of Carrier Pigeons in the Second World War. Location to be announced but most probably in Darwin CBD

1.45-3.45pm - A story about the Darwin Rebellion at the Vic Hotel, including a march to Liberty Square. The producers are hoping for 20 or so people.

If you are interested, contact Bev Phelts on 89818236 (leave a message), or 0417868827 or email the Historical Society.

**Community Day Sunday 18 May at the Military Museum 11.30 to 5.30pm**

Anyone who has any war memorabilia such as medals, diaries or family stories of war service is welcome to visit to enjoy a sausage sizzle and share their memories with Tony and our panel of military experts. Besides a sausage sizzle, there will be talks by historians and other activities.

The producers of the show would dearly like volunteers to form a small crowd for Sir Tony to address for the show while stories are told. **Please note that your memorabilia does not have to be relevant to the Northern Territory.**

The HSNT will be holding a book stall, so come down and say hello. If there are any volunteers willing to help out at our bookstall - even just for an hour, it would be appreciated. Just turn up

**24-26 September 2014 – Strehlow Conference in Alice Springs**

Topics will cover language, literature, forensic linguistics, religion, health, history, story telling, anthropology, employment, missions and cultural mapping. Cost of attendance for three days is $330. For information and a program, contact John Strehlow by email john@strehlow.co.uk

**WANTED – Photos and Stories from HSNT Field trips 1970s -1980s**

Brian Reid is putting together a small book on the HSNT field trips. If you have any great photos and stories from the 1970s to the 1980s, he would love to hear from you.

Send your memorabilia to bandlreid@bigpond.com or ring Brian on 0429 389 840
HSNT Annual Field Trip 25-27 July

This year we will be going to Limmen National Park. Details of the trip will be available in the next newsletter.

Singles/doubles looking for a ride and willing to share costs - we can try and find you a share 4WD.

If you are interested in coming along, please email Janie Mason at janie.mason@cdu.edu.au or phone 89466385.

Limmen National Park

The Lost City, Limmen National Park
Ruth Kerr & Bev Phelts

Old Roper Bar Police Station constructed during the late 1800s

The boiler & crankshaft of the Young Australian, Roper River. The Young Australian bought in supplies and the telegraph poles for the construction of the Overland Telegraph Station.
Highlights from the National Trust’s Heritage Week

The National Trust ran another magnificent Heritage Festival in Darwin. Some of the events included a mystery tour which ended at the 1934 Qantas Empire Airways Hangar, a ghost walk through the Goyder Road Cemetery, a mini history symposium, an old railway corridor walk at the back of Palmerston, a Humpty Doo Rice farms self drive, a Darwin Heritage walk, Myilly Point Precinct garden walk, and an open day of the Mines, Audit and Magistrates Houses. Thanks to Judy Richardson for providing the wonderful photographs.

Rob Wesley-Smith, Judy Boland, Lyn & Brian Reid at the Barbara James Memorial Lecture

Gary Grey giving the Barbara James Memorial Lecture at the NT Library

Colin & Judy Beard on the ghost tour of the Goyder Cemetery

Ghosts at Goyder Cemetery
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<td>Penny Baird &amp; Chris Millowick</td>
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