

ALP Abroad AGM House of Commons Wednesday November 18th 2015

- 1) Introductions and Welcome.**
- 2) Finalisation of memberships.**
- 3) Apologies-**
- 4) President's report.**
- 5) Treasurer's Report: Includes proposal about membership period**
That membership of ALP Abroad be
 - 1) From December 1 to November 30th of each year.*
 - 2) £15 pound waged and £8 unwaged be the fee payable in the membership year*
 - 3) Where a new member joins after September 1st their membership fee covers the next full membership year.*
- 6) Election of Officers conducted by returning officer Angelo Sommariva**
President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Booth Co-ordinator
Campaign Co-ordinator
Social Media Co-ordinator
Executive Members (as many as people are interested)
- 7) Christmas Party with Senator**
Wed Saturday 5th at Blue Posts 3-5
Special Guest National ALP President Senator Mark Butler
You can renew for the year and receive free food and £5 worth of raffle tickets
- 8) AOB**

Presidents Report 2014 -2015

2014-15 has been an eventful year ALP Abroad. Straight after our AGM in November last year we launched into the 2014 Victorian State election which saw ALP Abroad play its part in the triumph of the Victorian Labor Government lead by Premier Daniel Andrews.



Nicholas Hurley, Bruno Friedel, Paul Smith, and Mike Steele at Australia House campaigning in November 2014.

Thanks in particular to Mike Steele, Bruno Friedel, David Saunderson, Nicholas Hurley, Jeff Kelland, Robbie Tilleard, and Jim Round for making a major effort in making sure the roster was fully staffed polling shifts at Australian House.



We watched the result at our Victory Breakfast at Penderel's Oak pub on November 24th. Seated at the Victorian Victory breakfast Left to Right Nicholas James Hurley, Jim Round, Nadia Harrison, Barb Mosshall, former Senator Don Farrell, Gretel Reynolds, Paul Smith, Melissa Birch and David Saunderson.

One of the achievements of ALP Abroad I am most proud of is the memorial service conducted to Gough Whitlam in London. We approached the High Commissioner Alexander Downer to hold a memorial service and he agreed to hold an occasion in the High Commission. We had the same service as the Sydney with the speakers being Alexander Downer, the Shadow Foreign Secretary Douglas Alexander, former Labor Minister Roz Kelly and myself representing ALP Abroad. We then maintained the rage after at Ye Old White Horse pub.



The London Whitlam Memorial Service was had the same photos and music as the Sydney Town Hall service

State elections followed in 2015 in Queensland in January and New South Wales in March. Members including Lucy Gannon, Mike Steele, Jeff Kelland, Claire Daly, Lorna Clarke, Ken Penton, Laurence Coleman, Dean Thompson, Charles Brukner, Sam Manion, Paul Blackmore, and Adam Jogee staffed the booth at Queensland House.

In New South Wales, the government broke with over a century of tradition in closing the polling station in London and our protest was covered in the Sydney Press.



Above: Melissa Birch, Mike Steele, Gretel Reynolds and Paul Smith protesting closure of London p
Left: Lucy Gannon at QLD House polling station

One of our most memorable events was the standing room only speech that former Treasurer Wayne Swan gave on the how Australia alone avoided the Global Financial Crisis through the Keynesian stimulus package. This event at the Grafton Arms was followed by a dinner in the restaurant next door. Thank you to Lucy Gannon, Gretel Reynolds, and Melissa Birch for their help with renewing memberships and raffle tickets on the night, and Gareth Myton for obtaining the signed Labour poster as a prize.



Wayne Swan speaks to a packed crowd at The Grafton Arms

Special thanks to Sam Wills for hosting in August ALP Abroad's Pilgrimage to Oxford to find the true story of Bob Hawke's Yard Glass record which again proved popular this year.



ALP Abroad at the Dining Hall at Oxford College where it happened

Membership is the main source of income that pays for our campaigns. It is worth considering that if you paid your membership at our last AGM, you would have received at no cost,

- Hot and cold buffet at our Christmas Party last year,
- Entry to our talk by Wayne Swan and invite to exclusive speech dinner,
- Invitation to join our Anzac Day commemoration,
- Access to our meeting with visiting ALP delegation in June,
- A guided tour of Oxford as part of our Hawke Pilgrimage,
- Invitation to join our trip to the Ashes,(OK they didn't make day 5)
- Question and Answers session with former speaker Anna Burke MP
- Discounted theatre tickets to "Beautiful One Day".

Thank you to the forty plus members who paid memberships this year. We have also grown in activity around the world with active supporters groups in Hong Kong, Singapore, Paris, New York, and Jakarta. Our Facebook supporters list grew by a net 65 to 414 this year.

I would like record my appreciation to all the outgoing executive for their support in over the past year including Nick James, Mike Steele, Bruno Friedel, Lucy Gannon, Sam Wills, David Saunderson, Russell Bennett, Sascha Nanlohy and Melissa Birch.

Irene Rheinberger our Treasurer who has again shown great patience in managing our bank accounts and membership. We would owe her a great deal for ensuring we have the sound position outlined in her report.

I would like to specially thank our secretary Gretel Reynolds for her works and for Angelo Sommariva for being our returning officer again this year.

Lastly, a word of thanks to Catherine West MP for hosting our meeting tonight.

I hope you take the opportunity to be involved in ALP abroad in what will be an election year. There are plenty of spots on the executive so why don't you nominate.

Lastly, come to our Christmas Party at the Blue Posts on December 5th, 3-5 pm.

If you renew your membership, not only do you get to meet ALP National President Senator Mark Butler and enjoy our all you can eat buffet, but you receive free tickets in the Aussie Christmas treats raffle.

The prizes from last year were awesome.

Look forward to seeing you there.



You could win a prize like these at the Xmas Party