

Housing People

AHI NSW Branch Special issue

Celebrating the 10th Year Anniversary of the Australasian Housing Institute
2001- 2011



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From Hope to Achievement: A Decade of AHI Branch Committee milestones in NSW

The NSW Branch Committee - who are we?

- Housing professionals from a diverse background who are Members of AHI
- Passionate about housing and supporting the AHI as our professional association.
- Collectively seeking to make a difference by building social inclusion

Events hosted in 2011:

The Branch Committee (BC) hosts 4-6 events a year that create a time and place for people working in housing to share experiences and stimulate learning. 2011 was a year of spectacular successes in a number of long standing events:

International Women's Day event (held on 9/3/11) in partnership with Housing NSW where funds were raised for flood relief to Queensland. This is the 4th year of successful partnership.

My Address - diversity in homelessness, supporting ex-prisoners in the community (held on 1/8/11) in partnership with Homelessness NSW. A successful partnership for the 5th year. This year, the event received financial sponsorship from NSW Corrective Services.

Living Community - (held on 31/5/11) leaders in community renewal projects shared their lessons and stimulated an active debate amongst practitioners.

High energy and enthusiastic conversations about housing policy and housing reform happen at these events, which attract participants to become AHI members.

Membership in NSW has steadily grown to a total of 235; 31% of the national membership of 800.



Highlights of the Branch Committee's role in supporting housing professionals:



Launch of the Professional Recognition Scheme in Sydney at the AGM, 2010



Susan Ring, Housing NSW awarded the inaugural Certificate of Professional Housing Recognition, 2011



Susan Ring being presented the Certificate by Neil Sandall, Chairperson of the Education & Practice Committee, 2011

1. NSW members **Neil Sandall, Unis Goh** and **Sarath Matararachchi** were represented on the **AHI's Education and Practice Committee** steering the development of the **Professional Recognition Scheme** launched in December 2010.
2. **Col James** and **Mick Mundine** were awarded an **AHI Life Membership** in recognition of their life time contributions to social housing reforms. They have made incalculable contributions to housing indigenous people, the homeless, squatters and other disadvantaged people over four decades.
3. BC members **Greg Budworth, Mark Singer** and **Dr Tony Gilmour** are regular contributors to **HousingWorks**, the magazine of the AHI.
4. The BC has been building a collegial partnership with the **Asia Pacific Branch (Hong Kong)** of the **Chartered Institute of Housing (UK)** over the past ten years. We contributed an article on housing management standards for their Year Book. In June this year we facilitated the AHI President's presentation on Australasian Housing Management in Macau for their 45th Year anniversary celebration Forum.



Tony Gilmour's and Mark Singer's articles in HousingWorks magazines, 2010-2011



Inspirational Members:

Some of our BC members have achieved distinguished milestones in their careers:

Churchill Fellowship Scholars:

1. Lynden Esdaile (2009)
2. Sue Cripps (2011)
3. Galina Laurie (2011)

Public Service Medal (PSM) for outstanding services in NSW

1. Unis Goh (2009)
2. Pauline McKenzie (2010)
3. Paul Vevers (2011)

Federal Social Housing Advisory Committee member

1. Nazha Saad, CEO, St George Community Housing, was appointed in November 2011 to the Federal government committee to advise the Australian Government on improving the current social housing system.

Acknowledgements

We wish to acknowledge the loyal support of members in continuing to foster good will and support, particularly **Mike Allen, Chief Executive of Housing NSW**, a founding member since 2001. He has been a pillar of courage, vision and support for the AHI NSW Branch Committee over the last decade.

We wish to thank our major corporate sponsor Housing NSW, together with other industry sponsors such as **Compass Community Housing, Global-Mark, NSW Corrective Services, Lake Maintenance Pty Ltd** and **Hi-Tech Inspect Pty Ltd** for their dynamic support to AHI.

From photo archive



Breakfast with leaders at Parramatta, 2008



Conversation with Housing Practitioners at Newcastle: "Social Housing United", 2010



Winning Team of the Director General's Trophy at the International Women's Day Fund Raising Event for the Queensland Flood Relief, 2011



Lunch hour Housing Practitioners' seminar at Ashfield " Sustainable social households: Strategies, tools and initiatives", 2009



Breakfast with Leaders at Newcastle, 2010



Housing Practitioners Forum: "Community Renewal: Living Communities- Lessons Learned" at Parramatta, 2011

What is the Branch Committee aspiring to in 2012 & beyond?

- improve engagement with members in rural and regional areas of NSW, particularly with Aboriginal housing professionals;
- explore opportunities to develop the Branch's capacity in decision-making;
- strengthen the continuous professional development program;
- follow through with decisions to provide members with a more enriching experience and fellowship.

Branch Committee Members are:



NSW Branch Committee Members, 2010



NSW Branch Committee Members, 2006

- Lynden Esdaile – Executive Chair of Housing Appeals Committee (2001)
- Donald Proctor- Director Asset Operations (2001)
- Unis Goh PSM – Member of Disability Council NSW(2006)
- Greg Budworth – CEO, Compass Community Housing (2007)
- Ivan Simon – Deputy CEO, Aboriginal Housing Office (2007)
- Mark Singer – Housing & Sustainability professional (2008)
- Stephanie Ring – Regional Manager, Social housing professional (2008)
- Rebecca Pinkstone – A/Manager, Social Housing Strategy (2009)
- Sue Cripps – Director, Homelessness, Mental Health & Disability , Catholic Community Services NSW/ACT (2009)
- Dr. Tony Gilmour – Affordable Housing Consultant (2009)
- Laurinne Campbell – Regional Manager, Aboriginal Housing Office (2010)
- Nicholas Loder - Senior Housing Asset Project Officer (2011)