



## The Order of Australia Association Tasmania Branch Southern Regional Group Spring Meeting Notice

**October 28<sup>th</sup> 2015 - GUEST SPEAKER –** Our Guest Speaker on the 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 will be Dr. Robert “BOB” Clifford AO. In 1963, Bob Clifford was awarded the apprentice of the year award for printing. He began his boat building business in his backyard before expanding it to a commercial operation. Eventually he went into partnership with Philip Hercus, who helped him expand Incat into a serious shipbuilding operation. He spent much of his early years as a fisherman and turned his passion for the sea into a backyard boat building operation. He was immediately successful, and promoted the idea of fast commuter ferries and turned his company into one of the world's leading manufacturers of high-speed catamaran ferries. The Tasman Bridge disaster result in high demand Clifford's ferry business.<sup>[1]</sup> Developing much of the technology locally, Incat researched and designed high-tech, high-speed wave piercing catamarans.

By September, 1977, Incat launched their first high-speed catamaran at Prince of Wales Bay in Tasmania. Since then they have expanded their operation into 98- and 112-metre wave piercer production.

The catamarans have proved to be one of Australia's best industrial success stories of recent years, and during the dark days of the 1990s when Tasmania's economy was suffering badly, the product provided a ray of hope to the ailing state. Over twenty of the catamarans have been sold to European operators, and a higher number has been sold to the US military. At the height of their success, Incat held more than 40%of the world's high speed ferry manufacturing market. Although the market has slowed, Incat has moved into production of catamaran freight vessels, and they are developing the design for even longer, 150 metre ferries.

Clifford's catamarans have also broken the record for the Atlantic Ocean crossing and won many design awards. (Information sourced from Wikipedia).



## **October 28<sup>th</sup> 2015 – Annual General Meeting and Ordinary Meeting**

**VENUE:** Domain Athletic Centre

**TIME:** 10.00 am coffee / tea 10.30 am Meeting starts

**COST:** \$5.00 per person, including morning tea

You are most welcome to bring relatives and friends.

**R.S.V.P. to Dr John Thorne AM by Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2015**

Email: [thorne.hobart@gmail.com](mailto:thorne.hobart@gmail.com) or 62 254588

Your response will assist with catering and meeting room preparation

**PLEASE NOTE THE DATE OF THIS MEETING IS CONFIRMED AS THE 28/10/2015**

**I will be away for this meeting – can you please respond to Dr John Thorne AM if you are attending.**

As the next meeting of the Southern Regional Group will be the Annual General Meeting, nominations will be called for the following positions:

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT

SECRETARY/TREASURER

**SEPTEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> 2015 – Town Hall Reception** – a reception at the Hobart Town Hall was hosted by the Lord Mayor, Sue Hickey to congratulate those recipients that were announced on The Queens Birthday 2015 and were invested by Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner, AM Governor of Tasmania – around 50 people attended and a very enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

As a member of the Order of Australia Association would you like to be added to the list of invitees to join the Lord Mayor in congratulating new recipients on their awards, if so contact Maureen Rudge OAM JP on 62 253954 or email [maurk@bigpond.com](mailto:maurk@bigpond.com) – the date for the next reception, while still to be announced, is expected to be in June 2016.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** Southern Regional Group - October 28<sup>th</sup> 2015, full details elsewhere in this newsletter

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** State Group – November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015 RSL Ulverstone – please note that a bus is being provided from Hobart for this meeting at a cost of \$15.00 per person return – for further details contact Maureen Rudge OAM JP

**The Order of Australia Association 30<sup>th</sup> National Conference** is being held in Sydney from March 11-13 2016

**NEXT POST INVESTITURE DINNER:** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2016

**Venue:** TBC

**Cost:** TBC

**For Bookings or more information on this event please contact:** Sue Cox 0488 109 168 or email Sue on [sue\\_cox@bigpond.net.au](mailto:sue_cox@bigpond.net.au)

## **FUTURE MEETING DATES**



Wednesday 28 <sup>st</sup> October, 2015	Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February, 2016	
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May, 2016	
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> August, 2016	
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> October, 2016	Annual General Meeting

### **CHAIRMAN:**

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### **DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:**

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