



# **AUSTRALIAN FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

Number 7, April 2008

NJC Meeting 24 April 2008 was a busy day. The World Conference was our main topic, though the following item may create more excitement among members!

Another refund to Constituent Organisations. In 2006 this committee decided to refund \$10,000, divided on a proportionate basis of membership between our Constituent Organisations. This was from the balance of account, money which had been subscribed from members before 1995. It was left to each organisation to decide on its use.

Our most efficient Treasurer through careful management has met our 2005 - 2008 expenses from membership subscriptions received during that period, so maintaining the previous balance. The NJC therefore feel that a further amount can be refunded from the original balance to constituent organisations. We do not believe NJC need to hold a large bank balance, but should manage finances so that current receipts cover current costs.

The amount of this refund will be determined in July, and presented at the AGM.

World Conference. It has been a challenge to interpret the papers and program received as preparation for this event. Further discussion on some of the proposals was postponed until our next meeting. However, there is a proposal which we recognised as having a direct affect on Australia.

European countries are seeking to have the Chairman of each Region committee included as a member of the World Committee. This would seem to have merit but currently our ASPAC region has no committee. To ensure Australian/ASPAC was represented if this proposal were accepted, the NJC considered what we might do to initiate the reformation of the ASPAC Region. However, it also appears that the proposal for Chairmen to be members may carry increased expense for the Region. We are seeking clarification of the possible implications so we can act appropriately on behalf of Australian members

## Delegates to World Conference

We are pleased with the willingness expressed by attendees to help fulfil these rolls. It can be an onerous task. A delegate has the responsibility to attend and participate in all group discussion meetings. They need to be aware of the agenda and background information. Each country is allowed up to four delegates. Irrespective of the number of delegates or even of their attendance at the conference, each country has four votes.

The NJC receive papers, study same and discuss what they feel may best benefit our membership. The way Australia will vote has usually been determined before leaving for the conference. However, if an item is less clear and listening to further argument may better clarify how Australia should vote, then the delegates are given responsibility to change that instruction. Delegates therefore need to have the back ground knowledge which allows them to make a decision at the event.

The NJC has nominated three delegates. Yvonne James (current NJC Chairman), Jenny Nelson (current NJC vice Chairman) and Brian Jackson (current NSW B-P Guildmaster - the NJC will move to NSW in October).

### Changeover

Details are under way for the State changeover of NJC on 26 October. This will be held at Pennant Hills, NSW Scout Training Centre. Hopefully members of our three Constituent Organisations will be present. It will be a great opportunity for Delegates to report on their experience at the ISGF World Conference.

### AFOFSAG Constitution

Time was given to a further check for any wording now out of date - e.g. putting the "girl" back in Guides! It is expected the Constitution will be signed at the July meeting, then circulated. The Administration Notes are also being updated to match current practice.

### New Website

AFOFSAG has a new website - a place where you can read the latest AFN (Australian Fellowship News), information from ISGF Brussels, and see what our members have been doing. Spread the news -

go to <http://afofsag.webs.com>

There is also an E-mail address specifically for AFOFSAG

Contact [afofsag@live.com.au](mailto:afofsag@live.com.au)