

**Minutes Annual General Meeting of the Sydney Branch, ASSLH
6pm Wednesday 24 March 2010, Gaelic Club Devonshire St**

Apologies: Verity Burgmann, Rowan Cahill, Lucy Taksa, Rae Frances, Brigid Griffin Foley, Senator John Faulkner, Greg Ashton.

President's Report

Sydney Branch Talks

16 September 2009 - *The Global Financial Crisis: Why did it happen? What lessons for labour?* **Geoff Robinson** came to Sydney from Adelaide and gave a talk relating to his new book *When the Labour Party Dreams: Class, Politics and Policy in NSW 1930-32* and **Luke Foley, Assistant General Secretary of the NSW ALP** gave a response to the work.

15 July 2009 - *The Administration of the Titanic Relief Fund 1912 – 1959.* talk given by **Sarah Gregson**, President of Sydney Branch ASSLH, lecturer in the School of Organisation and Management at the University of New South Wales

25 March 2009 - *A history of the mateship ideal in Australia: some preliminary thoughts.* Talk given by **Nick Dyrenfurth, Editor of Hummer**, Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Discipline of Work and Organisational Studies at the University of Sydney

Executive meetings were held: 15 April 2009, 15 July 2009, 21 October 2009 and 10 February 2010

Hummer – as planned, 2 issues were produced – Vol 6 No 1 has just been posted to members.

Future events

History Week – Sydney Branch is hosting an event which will be undertaken by members Terry Irving and Rowan Cahill. *On the Street: the Faces of Radical Sydney* which will be held in the atrium of Unions NSW at 6pm on 9 September 2010. Terry and Rowan will talk about some of the agitators, thinkers, artists and dreamers who appeared in their recent book.

Joint function with ALP to mark the centenary of the election of the McGowen government in 1910, the first majority labour government in the world. The talk will be held on 29 June 2010 in the auditorium at Unions NSW

Discussions with MUA and Maritime Museum about possibility of staging exhibition or event around centenary of Titanic sinking in 1912, focus on it as an industrial accident, workers' lives lost etc.

Overview of the situation in which the society finds itself?

Membership decline, attendance at meetings 'true believers', decline of labour history as course offering at universities

Future focus for the branch is to look outwards: joint functions with other groups

Website – Icons of Labour

LAWCHA – Ludlow memorial
Sydney Harbour Bridge memorial?
Discussions with Paul Doughty at Unions NSW about possibility of our members being talk givers at functions they are involved in where an historical perspective would add something.

Secretary's Report

Hummer.

Hummer is now on the new website. The migration of Hummer to the new website has been very labour intensive. The secretary, Sue Tracey did some of the work but more than half was still left to do by February 2010. The executive decided to employ Carl Power to complete the job and the cost has been \$1,000. Hummer is still not searchable by Google and the new webmaster Adeline Yaw will be asked to look at that problem when she returns to work at the end of the month.

Icons of Labour

The website is now up and running. There are images of Dr Evatt's House, Jim McGowen's memorial, Percy Brookfield's memorial, a banner from the Barrier Industrial Council, and the Housing Department block named for Louisa Lawson. Contributions have been received from: Sue Tracey, Damien Stapleton and Lawrie Daly.

Elections

Terry Irving conducted the ballot.
President: Sarah Gregon
Secretary: Sue Tracey
Assistant Secretary: Damien Stapleton
Committee Members: John Dean, Danny Blackman

No treasurer was elected. In the interim Sue Tracey will undertake the treasurer's role.

Margaret Walters has been the treasurer for a number of years and decided, because of other commitments not to nominate. She has carried out the role of treasurer with great commitment to the Society and has the gratitude of both the executive and the members for her com.

Address

Harry Knowles spoke on *Passing the Baton' : Fallon versus Dougherty and the struggle for control of the Australian Workers Union during the 1940s.*
There were about twenty people in attendance, a number of whom were not members of the Branch.

Treasurer's Report
 Sydney Branch ASSHLH - Financial Statement for
 2009/10

	2009/2010	2007/2009
Opening Balance 01/03/2009	5320.27	4063.12
Income 1/3/2009-28/2/2010	935.00	2061.90
Expenses 1/3/2009-28/2/2010	-1591.94	-804.75
Closing balance 28/2/2010	4663.33	5320.27
Petty Cash on hand	120.15	
Overall loss	-536.79	1257.15

INCOME

*Membership	920.00	1230.00
Donations	15.00	10.00
**Publications	0.00	561.90
***Event	0.00	260.00
TOTAL INCOME	935.00	2061.90

EXPENDITURE

Hall Hire	418.00	226.00
Catering	172.70	0.00
Event - payment to performer	0.00	210.00
Travelling expenses - speaker from SA	178.00	0.00
Rental of PO box	117.00	115.00
Federal ASSHLH Membership levy and annual dinner	0.00	128.90
Bank fees /charges	55.34	124.85
Hummer printing costs	458.00	0.00
Postage of Hummer	192.90	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	1591.94	804.75

*Membership

2008/09 3 conc 9 full = 12 \$210

2009/10 15 conc 27 full = 42 \$690

2010/11 1 full = 1 \$20

Note 2007/09 figures not broken down into previous
 Belated memberships of \$220 deposited March 2010.

**Publications

2007/09 figures include 18 sales of Turbulent Decade
 4 sold in 2009/10 but cheque not received until Mar 2010

***Event

Event held in 2008 was a concert that basically paid for
 itself