

DIVISION 6 NEWS

DECEMBER 2013

By Peter Jackson

We were once again pleased to accept the hospitality of Ray and Gael Brownbill and met at their home at Forreston to celebrate the Xmas season and a successful year for the NMRA. The Div Super welcomed 29 members and guests as well as the Cherrypickers band who were to provide music during the afternoon. A special welcome was given to new members Michael and Jane Robinson and Craig and Connor Chidgey.

It was noted that SA had seen a total of 16 member meetings during 2013 – 11 DECCA SIG meetings averaging 9 attendees and 5 NMRA meetings with an average attendance of 19 members – overall a pretty active and enjoyable year for all. The June AMRE Exhibition was well supported by volunteer member participation and thought to be one of our best and we intend to participate again in 2014.

Thanks to all who hosted meetings and supported the NMRA in SA in various ways during the year – in particular, Max Wright, Ron Solly, Ray Brownbill and Bob Bevan in their various leadership roles.

Ray Brownbill gave his AP report for the year and it was pleasing to note that 5 AP Certificates had been awarded to SA members during 2013. On the day, Ray presented Geoff Chatwin, Ron Solly and Brian Hutchinson with various AP Certificates. The Div Super spoke about several members who had contributed significant time and effort to the NMRA in SA, but took the opportunity to single out Max Wright on this occasion to be the recipient of the Hopkins/Bone Award for outstanding service to the NMRA over the past two years – well done Max!

We were blessed with warm, pleasant weather on the day as well as plenty to eat and drink. And the afternoon was complemented very nicely by the music from the Cherrypickers (with Max on base).

Thanks to all for the arrangements and the Brownbill's, in particular, for their generous hospitality – a great way to celebrate the year and the Xmas season.



Ray Brownbill (AP Assistant Manager for SA) presenting Geoff Chatwin (right) with his AP Certificate – Association Volunteer



Max (in the red hat) with the Cherrypickers – great bluegrass music all afternoon



Brian (Hutch) Hutchinson gets his AP Certificate – Master Builder -Scenery from Ray (left)



A well deserved AP Certificate – Chief Dispatcher presented to Ron Solly (right) by Ray



LEFT: Peter Jackson (left) congratulates Max on receiving the Hopkins/Bone Award

