

SYDNEY MIDWINTER 1997

Midwinter 1997, the Jubilee year was celebrated in Sydney, in the presence of nine expeditioners from 1947/48. The call of the years "expeditioners from 1947/48 please" identified Bill Cook, Nocker White and Phil Law who sailed on the Wyatt Earp. Peter Blaxland, John Lavett and George Hinton on LST3501. David Eastman, official photographer and first ashore at Heard Island with Shorty Carroll and Arthur Scholes of the 1948 Heard Island wintering party completed the group. All present were moved and honoured by the presence of these heroes of the first ANARE.

In line with the Jubilee theme a selection of speakers told of their experiences in each of the six decades, the evolution of ANARE, In turn, special guest Tim Bowden introduced, with a degree of amusement, Christian Gallagher for the 1990's, Lynn Williams of the 1980's, Jim Milne the 1970's and Neville Smethurst the 1960's. Bill Storer presented a picture of the life at Mawson in that first continental year 1954. Pure spirit of ANARE was wonderfully created by Arthur Scholes who spoke of Heard Island and that first winter of 1948. Arthur is the author of "Fourteen Men" which highlights ANARE traditions established in 1948 and now so familiar to expeditioners over the past 50 years.

Fifteen expeditioners from Wilkes 67 enjoyed a reunion, most of whom had not seen each other for the past 30 years.

A stall selling Jubilee port, videos and "The Silence Calling" was very successful. Special guests Phil Law, Shelagh Robinson and Tim Bowden keenly responding to requests for book signing. Steve Symonds at his inimitable best sold raffle tickets to a willing audience, raising \$1200 which subsequently has been donated to Taronga Zoo. supporting the Leopard Seal program, the Mawson Antarctic Collection Appeal, Australian Associated Press for the Mawson's Huts appeal and the Club's own Jubilee Program.

An audio/visual display of 1947 films, slides through the years and the latest Internet picture from Mawson and Davis provided fascinating background atmosphere.

The evening was considered a fitting success for the Jubilee, attended by 216 persons in total and including 123 expeditions, a Sydney record attendance.

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