

MWD Report for Aurora 2016

The ANARE Club, South Australian Branch 2016 Midwinter Dinner was once again held at the Adelaide Royal Coach on Sat 26th June.

An attendance of 46 people was a welcome improvement on the 32 that attended in 2015, This is a particularly good result as we had no Station/Year reunions, however there was still a lack of younger members amongst us. Visitors were, Ian Mackie (Vic) and Mark and Micaela Maxwell who travelled from Queensland to be with us.

The Midwinter Dinner Survey results and the annual subscription payment method prior to the June 30 deadline were some of the things conveyed by President Ron Hann.

The AGM was conducted resulting in the same committee from last year being re-elected unopposed. President Ron thanked the committee for both their past years assistance and their willingness to do it all once again. The committee consists of:

- President Ron Hann
- Secretary Mark Spooner
- Treasurer Paul Marshall
- Committeemen Gil Barton
- Mostyn Hetzel
- Neil Moffatt

Unfortunately, we were unable to find a guest speaker for the evening but were able to make use of other opportunities that presented themselves.

The Antarctic Divisions 2015/2016 Season Overview video gave us a very informative 10-minute session.

We also had the pleasure of the presence of Brigid Bruer, widow of Michael Bruer, Heard Island, 1950 Met Observer. Brigid has published a book of Michael's diary of his wintering on Heard. (See Aurora Summer 2016 letters to the editor) President Ron also attended the launch of the book the following day, Sunday 27 July. The book is more like a journal than a diary and is reproduced in its original hand written form. Apart from a heavy and detailed description of each day's weather it is quite a good read. The book was self-published by Brigid and sells for \$60.00. Anyone interested in buying the book should contact Brigid direct at bruer@aapt.net.au

Each year we are surprised by the presence of people associated with ANARE or Antarctic history. This year was no exception when we were able to welcome Alan Thomas and his wife Kathleen. A guest of Dr Richard Willing, Alun is Sir Douglas Mawson's Grandson and enjoyed the proceedings of the Midwinter Dinner evening.

The call of the years had representations from 2016 and ending right back in 1953 with Jack Field, Cook, Macquarie Island.

Ron Hann President 1016-17 ANARE Club S A Branch