

*The OTVA Committee  
extends to all our visitors  
and members, their sincere  
thanks and appreciation  
for joining us today.*

*We trust you enjoy  
your afternoon!*

## **OTVA Foundation Committee 1956-7**

President: Jack Cameron  
Secretary: Wilf Atkin  
Treasurer: Bill Stevenson  
Committee: Arthur Shepherd  
Bill Jenvey  
Frank Marsden  
Hilton Robertson

**The Overseas Telecommunications  
Veterans Association**



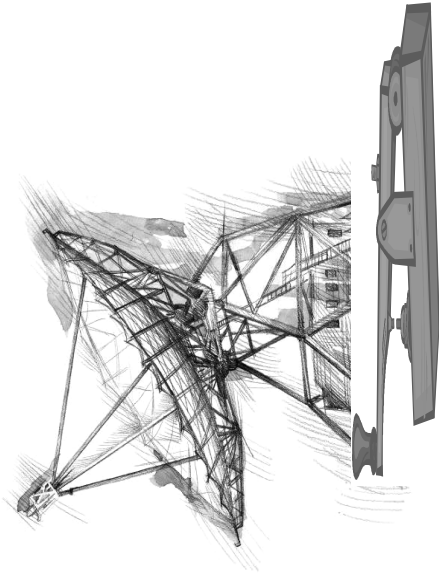
## **OTVA Committee 2006-7**

President: Henry Cranfield  
Vice-President: Bob Lions  
Secretary: Will Whyte  
Treasurer: Bernie White  
Committee: Jeff Hinwood  
Peter Bull  
Ray Hookway  
Bob Murray  
Brian Curran  
Allan Hennessy  
David Richardson

# *Golden Anniversary Celebration*

*17 November 2006  
NSW Bowlers Club*

*Sydney*



**O**scar   **T**ango   **V**ictor   **A**lpha

## Highlights from OTVA's History

- 1956 OTVA founded on 19 July with the adoption of its constitution and election of officers.  
First social function 14 December in the form of a "Buffet Tea" held at the State Ballroom, Market St, Sydney.
- 1957 Victoria Association formed in Melbourne. R. Freeman elected as President and Charlie Carthew as Secretary.
- 1971 OTC GM Harold White offers support to Vets. National Secretary position proposed but rejected by Victoria Association.
- 1972 National Secretary position approved and Charlie Carthew elected. Gordon Cupit commenced OTVA's "Newsletter" as editor and publisher.
- 1973 South Australia Association formed in Adelaide. Members' history sheet produced for record of service.
- 1975 Queensland Association formed in Brisbane and Western Australia Association in Perth.
- 1976 It was agreed that spouses be invited to social functions.
- 1981 OTVA's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary functions held, with 118 attending in Sydney and 88 in Melbourne.
- 1985 AWA Retired Officers form their own Association.
- 1988 Australia's Bicentennial Exhibition at OTC Paddington Terminal much assisted by veterans acting as guides and loaning material.
- 1992 MD Steve Burdon approves production of five OTC History booklets covering OTC's foundation and services; these distributed to all staff and veterans.
- 1996 Telstra cancels OTVA funding support and use of their facilities.
- 2000 No Spring or Autumn Socials due to 2000 Sydney Olympic Games.
- 2002 OTVA participates in "Centenary of Pacific Cable Opening" celebration at Southport School, Queensland, in October. Items from OTC collection lent to Museum, together with cable samples.
- 2004 Life memberships awarded to Gordon Cupit, Jim Anderson, Pam Helps (NSW), Derek Walker (WA), Robert and Elaine Hall (VIC), Max Lang (SA).
- 2005 OTC collection of nearly 400 separate historical items stored at La Perouse identified, listed and tagged. This included material from 1988 Bicentennial Exhibition at Paddington. These were all added to "The Telstra Collection" for showing (on loan) at Museums around Australia and remain permanently owned by Telstra.
- 2006 OTVA's Golden Jubilee! Celebrations held 17 November in NSW Bowlers Club, York Street, Sydney.
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## A Tribute

*In celebrating our "Golden Jubilee" today, OTVA pays tribute to all those people who commenced Australia's international telecommunications on 22 October 1872 with the opening of the first Telegraph service between London and Adelaide, and to those who accepted the challenges of telegraph cables, HF and ship to shore radio, satellite, fibre optics and other technologies to bring us to the present day.*

*"They followed not the well-worn path, but made their own, so that others may follow."*