

# IBM Australia Quarter Century Club

## Sydney Chapter

### President's Report 2009/2010

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 44th Annual General Meeting of the Sydney Chapter of the IBM Quarter Century Club and to present my report for 2009/2010.

The past year has seen continued success for the Sydney Chapter of the IBM Quarter Century Club. Some of our 2010 events were less supported than expected and we will review the 2011 program to gain greater involvement from members.

In 2009/10 we held 3 dinners with guest speakers.

- Last July, Bob Davis spoke about “The natural superiority of left-handed people”
- In October, Patti Howson told us about her career as an entertainer and in
- In February, Marcelle Tanner OAM also known as Bubbles the Clown spoke about her 60 years as a clown
- In July of this year we held a very successful Trivia Night hosted by Jock Marks and
- Tonight we continue that direction with some interactive puzzles and challenges.

We make a donation to a charity or community group for each of our speakers. The Salvation Army, Cancer Council and the RSPCA have each received a donation of \$200 from the Quarter Century Club Chapter.

The two major QCC activities for the year are the Annual Induction Dinner and the weekend away.

The 2009 Annual Induction Dinner was again a great success highlighted by the address by Glen Boreham, the CEO of IBM Australia and New Zealand. Glen will again be the keynote speaker at our 2010 dinner and his attendance demonstrates his strong interest in the QCC. This year he has invited his entire executive team to attend.

Valerie Percival has the organising team well advanced in preparations and we have met twice with the STC staff at Rosehill. Valerie and I also met with Robert Orth the IBM HR Director and secured additional funding for an even bigger event next year.

On behalf of the QCC members I'd like to give special thanks to Robert Orth, IBM A/NZ's Director of Human Resources, for his continued support of the QCC.

The Annual Induction Dinner invitations are out and hopefully you have all responded. A reminder of the location and date – Rosehill Racecourse on the evening of November 5<sup>th</sup>.

The 2010 weekend away was in Canberra and Clyde Lee and Geoff Nash again created a memorable event. Geoff and Rhonda and Clyde and Connie spent considerable time in Canberra planning the event and even more time on the phone finalising the arrangements. We are indebted to them for their efforts.

The feedback is all praise for an “excellent weekend”. and the highlight report is on the web site entitled “Yes we Can - berra”

Geoff and Clyde are very interested to hear your suggestions for potential locations for the 2011 weekend away.

On the communications front, the web site continues to be our prime communications vehicle. You can visit this site by going to [www.qccaustralia.org](http://www.qccaustralia.org) The site is hosted by the Sydney Chapter, and contains information on our Chapter's activities as well as the Club activities in the other Australian states. The site is the best source of QCC information. My thanks to Hugh Buckle for his role as webmaster.

Mike Hall has kept the communications flowing and we aim to send out 3 or 4 short email newsletters each year to keep members aware of upcoming activities. The next newsletter will be sent prior to the Annual Dinner.

We urgently need some younger committee members so if you know of anyone who may be interested please contact a member of the committee.

The QCC Committee has and continues to work hard in your interests.

I am pleased to inform you that all the current committee members are offering themselves for re-election this evening. We will of course be pleased to accept any new nominations from the floor.

Jerry Kay passed away at the beginning of September and we lost a valued committee member. Jerry had battled cancer for a number of years. We will greatly miss his advice, experience and cheerfulness.

The QCC key services and events have again operated smoothly and successfully. Mike Hall, our Secretary, has ensured that correspondence and communications have flowed in the proper manner and Lorraine Tacouni has maintained her high standard of financial management, resulting in a well managed set of accounts. I appreciate their involvement and on behalf of the members thank them for their contributions.

The Annual Dinner continues to set very high standards and I thank Valerie Percival for her leadership and organisation skills. Alex Partington from IBM HR and Rosie Iannelli from IBM Communications continue to make valuable contributions to the success of the Annual Dinner.

Also as previously mentioned, on behalf of the members I thank Clyde Lee and Geoff Nash for their organisation of the annual weekend away.

2011 sees IBM complete 100 years. Special events will be held to commemorate this milestone. The event list is still to be finalised and we will review our program to take advantage of any events for QCC members.

Your committee members for 2009/10 were Hugh Buckle, Mike Hall (Secretary), Jerry Kay, Clyde Lee, Jock Marcks, John Mence, Geoff Nash, Peter Norman, Valerie Percival, Lorraine Tacouni (Treasurer) and John Watts.

Please join me in applauding their efforts. This meeting means that we have completed another year and I thank you for your support and encouragement. The Chapter is in strong shape and the credit for this goes to the energetic enthusiasm of the committee and the support of the members.

We will continue the QCC traditions while tuning the program to ensure it remains of interest to our members. We would be pleased to hear of new ideas. The success of our program is the result of hard work and I thank each committee member for their contribution.

In a short while I will declare all offices vacant, and your Returning Officer will call for nominations for the new committee. I am pleased that all of the current committee have offered themselves for re-election.

Finally I want to thank you, the Chapter members and partners for the support you have given the Chapter.

In summary the Sydney Chapter of the IBM Quarter Century Club is in good shape and I look forward to seeing you at our 2010/2011 events.

Thank you

Ian Miller  
President, Sydney Chapter  
IBM Australia Quarter Century Club  
5 October 2010