

EDITORIAL

1989 has been a significant year for the Australian Crime Prevention Council. The biggest single achievement was the successful conduct of its challenging biennial conference on crime prevention issues. This year, the conference was conducted in association with the Phillip Institute of Technology. The theme was "Crime: Inevitable or Preventable?". The importance of the conference was underlined by the fact that the Honourable Lionel Bowen M.P., Deputy Prime Minister and Attorney-General of Australia, agreed to take part in its discussions. Our cover photograph is of the Minister performing the opening ceremony.

In this issue of the journal, we have the pleasure to reproduce three of the papers presented to that conference. Mr. Michael King's paper on "Crime Prevention, French Style" makes particularly interesting reading in the light of the current trend in this country towards community-based programmes for crime prevention. The papers written by Dr. Jocelyne Scutt and Mr. Tom Gyorffy critically examine aspects of the judicial and legislative components of the criminal justice system. It is with pleasure that we commend each of the papers to you for your continuing education.

News from the States

The South Australian Government has recently announced a new, community-based crime prevention strategy. It seeks to address the underlying causes of anti-social behaviour and to propose practical crime prevention strategies based on overseas studies. The underlying theme of the strategy is that the community at large has a substantial role to play if the objective of crime prevention is to be successfully addressed. The strategy envisages the establishment of a broadly-based advisory committee on crime prevention to be chaired by the Premier of the State and to be known as the "Coalition against Crime". It is pleasing to report that the Chairman of the South Australian Branch of the Australian Crime Prevention Council has been invited to join that committee.

The Attorney-General for South Australia, Mr. C.J. Sumner, M.L.C. attended the Annual General Meeting of the South Australian Branch held on the 27th September, 1989 to explain the new strategy to members. The interest in the affairs of the branch was highlighted by the fact that there were more candidates for election to the State Executive than there were places to be filled. The officers elected for the ensuing year were His Honour Judge A.B.C. Wilson (Chairman), Mr. Gary Byron (Deputy Chairman), Mr. Raymond Kidney (Treasurer), Mr. P.F. Norman (Secretary) and Dr. Adam Sutton, Miss Helen Nicholls, Dr. Ken O'Brien, Inspector Phillip Cornish and Mr. David Bowyer (Executive Members).

I have not received any news from any of the other branches since the publication of the last issue. I have no doubt that all members would be grateful if each branch were to ensure that it appointed a person to act as its journal correspondent. This would ensure timely reporting of the activities of the Council, Australia-wide.

Judge D.M. Brebner
Editor

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