

The Queen's

Platinum Jubilee Ball Government House, Canberra

Patrick Medway AM

Our Patron of the Society, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and Her Excellency, Mrs Linda Hurley, invited the President and Secretary of the Society to be their guests at the Platinum Jubilee Ball at Government House, Canberra, on Saturday 11 June 2022 to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty The Queen.

The President, Dr Julie Old, was accompanied by the Company Secretary, Patrick Medway AM. They were immensely proud to represent the

Society among the 250 other guests invited from a wide range of community service organisations across Australia.

We were welcomed into Government House by the sound of bagpipes and a military guard of honour when we arrived at the portico entrance. Attendants formally welcomed us, and souvenir photographs were taken before being escorted into the lounge area to see a display of historic royal tour photographs dating back to 1954 and the first Royal tour to Australia by Her Majesty The Queen.



His Excellency welcomed everyone to the Platinum Jubilee Ball in his opening address and thanked every organisation for their tremendous voluntary community service work for the wider community. He then proposed the loyal toast, and we proudly acknowledged Her Majesty the Queen of Australia and her long reign as our Monarch and Head of the Commonwealth of Nations.



L to R: Patrick Medway AM, Candice Lambert, Andrew McQuiggin, and Dr Julie Old.



Company Secretary, Patrick Medway AM, at the Platinum Jubilee Ball.



President, Dr Julie Old, at the Platinum Jubilee Ball.

Her Excellency, Mrs Linda Hurley, wrote and then sang a special song to mark the momentous occasion and was accompanied by the Australian Army Band.

We were seated at table twelve and hosted by Assistant Manager, Andrew McQuiggin. Other guests at our table included Robert de Castella AO, MBE (former world champion marathon runner and 1983 Australian of the Year), and his wife, Theresa, John Sharples and Peter from the Australian Men's Shed Association based in Cessnock, and Ahalya and Jodi from the Emergency COVID-19 Response Team in Canberra.

The Platinum Jubilee Ball menu was an exciting and exotic one with a delicious three-course meal accompanied by local wines from Canberra, Margaret River in Western Australia, and a Hallmark Cuvee from Tasmania.

After the formalities, His Excellency invited all guests to join him and Mrs Hurley on the dance floor for his favourite dance – the Scottish reel 'Strip the Willow' to the rousing music from the military band. Over one hundred guests did their best in this traditional dance routine, a very enthusiastic dance designed for a cold evening.

The Jubilee Ball was held in a large, specially constructed marquee with purple lighting and excellent heating. The large dance floor adequately handled the enthusiastic dancers throughout the evening.

All too soon, the night came to an end, and guests started to depart but not before passing an impressive array of tea, coffee, port, and chocolates to enjoy on the way out.

We are incredibly grateful to our Patron for his very kind invitation to attend the 2022 Platinum Jubilee Ball at Government House, Canberra, and to the Society's Board of Directors for approving our acceptance of the invitation.



President, Dr Julie Old, and Company Secretary, Patrick Medway AM, on arrival at Government House, Canberra.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Australia 2022



Patrick Medway AM signing the guest book at the Platinum Jubilee Ball, Government House, Canberra.



Dr Julie Old signing the guest book at the Platinum Jubilee Ball, Government House, Canberra.



A portrait of Her Majesty The Queen on display at Government House.



The beautiful heart-shaped jubilee dessert in royal purple – a salted caramel mousse with blueberry gel, meringue, and gold leaf.



Guests on table twelve at the Platinum Jubilee Ball, Government House, Canberra.