



Australian American Association Queensland Division – Brisbane

NEWS FLASH 7 - 2nd June 2021

Patron: His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland

Address: PO Box 148 Coopers Plains Qld 4108

Phone: (07) 3554 1039

Email: admin@aaabrisbane.com

Web: www.aaabrisbane.com

Awarding of Life Membership of the Association to Gail Young.

Under our Constitution amended on 14th January 2021, Life Membership pertains to an honour conferred upon an Ordinary Member, having special entitlement thereto by virtue of Outstanding Service on the recommendation of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors is proud to announce Gail Young as our newest Life Member. This was proposed and unanimously approved of at the meeting of the Board held on Wednesday 19th May 2021. Gail has been involved as an active member of the Association for over 36 years, which included the roles of Secretary and Immediate Past-President.

We thank Gail for her solid contribution and commitment over those many years, and for her always friendly and warm demeanour. In her role as 'Master of Ceremonies' at the recent 'Battle of Coral Sea' and 'Memorial Day' Commemorations, she conducted herself as the genuine professional and certainly earned the respect of all who attended these two separate events. The Association congratulates Gail on achieving her well-deserved Life Membership.

Appointment of Chaplaincy of the Association to the Reverend Father Bill Pearson.

The Board of Directors is honoured to announce that Fr. Bill Pearson has kindly accepted to act as our Association's Chaplain. Fr. Bill and his wife Lorna have been avid attendees at the Association's events for many years. In fact, Fr. Bill's involvement has included the saying of the Prayers and Benedictions at our Association's Commemorations, and the performance of Grace at Dinner Functions. As well, he was the Key-Note Speaker at our Association's 2019 Thanksgiving Dinner, and has a reputation for telling a good Nautical joke or two.

On 30th September 2019, the Redland City Bulletin reported that Fr Bill was honoured by the highest figure in the Brisbane Anglican Church, for 45 years of service to the Mission to Seafarers, including his work helping to honour fallen sailors. He was presented with a certificate by Brisbane Archbishop Phillip Aspinall at the 2019 Annual Seafarers' Memorial Service, which also marked his retirement from the Seafarers' Day Committee. It came as he prepared to celebrate 60 years in the church, having been ordained as a Deacon in Townsville on December 6, 1959.

After serving with the Royal Australian Navy and in various Queensland parishes for nearly three decades, he was recalled to Mission to Seafarers as a senior chaplain and head of the Mission to Seafarers, Brisbane. Fr. Bill said he had always had a connection to the sea, having been born in the great British Seafaring City of Liverpool. The Association congratulates Fr. Bill for all of his outstanding lifetime achievements and further wishes him a very happy and healthy 85th Birthday.



Photo taken at the happy celebration of Fr. Bill Pearson's 85th Birthday Lunch held at Raby Bay on 4th May 2021. He is seen seated with our new Life Member Gail Young and the Association's Treasurer & Assistant Secretary Teresa Pokoj and President Mike Harris standing behind.

Mike Harris,

President,
Australian American Association, Brisbane.

03.06.2021*

The Australian American Association - Brisbane, thanks all of its most generous Partners:

- ❖ *The Brisbane City Council.*
- ❖ *The Hon Trevor Evans MP - Federal Member for Brisbane Central, and*
- ❖ *The Hon Tim Nicholls MP - State Member for Clayfield.*



RSL Cooparoo



Veterans Care Ass.

