

## **1851 Alumni Association**

### **E-mail Newsletter - December 2002**

Dear 1851 Award winner,

Firstly, I should like to thank you for your positive and supportive response to the Commission's proposal to form a web-based Alumni Association, the aim of which is to allow you communicate with fellow award winners and to retain a link with the Commission and its work.

Of the 750 or so active award winners world wide, I have now received responses from 30 per cent, and they are still coming in. The Association web site has now been created and is under test, with a view to going live on the web early in the New Year. On it will be the names of all active alumni, including the information you sent me in your questionnaire responses. Necessarily, some of the longer entries have had to be condensed, because of limitations of space, but we have included as much detail as we can. Alumni information will be accessible both alphabetically and by year batches. At the same time there will be a means of providing feedback and (for the few who have not returned questionnaires) joining the association.

I plan to send out e-mail newsletters about quarterly, keeping you up to date with latest developments at the Royal Commission and other news. You can also see details of our current awards programme from the Commission's main website. Many of you have said that you appreciate the start that your Commission award gave you in your scientific careers and I hope you will enjoy both keeping in touch and learning what the Commission continues to do in support of science, art and productive industry.

At the same time we will be looking at ideas for further alumni activities, including virtual – or even real – reunions. Let me know if you have any suggestions, although please remember that we are a very small team and we will not be increasing our staff to run the Alumni Association!

Above all, though, we are delighted to have re-established contact with so many 1851 award winners, and we much look forward to the web site being a means of communication not only with us, but between yourselves. A true association.

So until the website goes live, may I offer from the 1851 Royal Commission every good wish for the Christmas period and the New Year.

Malcolm Shirley,  
Secretary to the Commission