

**CLOSING DINNER and AWARDS****FRIDAY 4 September 2015**

The last activity of the Congress was the Closing Dinner for ICV26. It was held at the Royal Automobile Club of Australia, 89 Macquarie Street, Sydney. The evening started with pre-dinner drinks and canapés, which were served in the Imperial Services Club Room from 6:00 pm, followed by a three-course dinner, served in the elegant Macquarie Room.

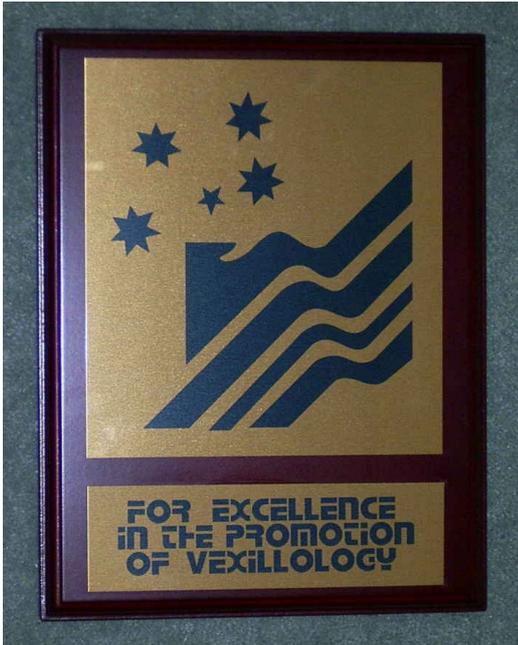
This was a last chance to socialise with fellow participants and companions. Other than the “official” table, everyone could choose their own table and seating arrangements.



Ralph Bartlett, as President of the hosts, Flags Australia, gave a speech thanking participants for their attendance and active involvement in the 26th International Congress of Vexillology. He then proceeded to transfer the FIAV flag and gavel to the hosts of the 27th ICV, The Flag Institute, represented by Graham Bartram.

A number of FIAV Awards were announced during the Closing Dinner.

VEXILLON AWARD



The *Vexillon* is awarded by the FIAV Board for the most important contribution to vexillology during the two years preceding this ICV. This award was inaugurated in 1989 at ICV13, and each ICV Flags Australia sponsors the giving of a plaque in recognition of the award. The criteria for the award of the *Vexillon* has narrowed from its original “a vexillologist who has achieved an outstanding work in the promotion and excellence of vexillology” to now be “a vexillologist who wrote the most significant vexillological publication of the past two years.”

The *Vexillon* in 2015 was awarded to **Dr. Frederick G. Brownell** for his PhD thesis “*Convergence and Unification: The National Flag of South Africa (1994) in Historical Perspective*”. This was the first occasion that a person was awarded two *Vexillons*, Dr Brownell having been awarded the *Vexillon* in 1995 for designing the national flag of the Republic of South Africa.

LAUREATE OF THE FEDERATION

A Laureate of the Federation is named by the FIAV Board for making an outstanding, original contribution to the science of vexillology. This is the highest recognition in vexillology. From 2003, the Board has chosen Laureates based on doctoral-level scholarship. A Laureate receives a certificate signed by the Board and a medal bearing the central knot device of the FIAV flag suspended from a neck ribband of blue and yellow, the colours of the FIAV flag, as well as a miniature ribbon and a lapel pin. A Laureate may use the post-nominal LF. A Laureate is named only when there is a worthy recipient.

At the Closing Dinner, it was announced that the award of Laureate had been given to **Dr. Frederick G. Brownell** for his PhD thesis “*Convergence and Unification: The National Flag of South Africa (1994) in Historical Perspective*”. This was the 6th occasion that a Laureate had been awarded. Dr Brownell did not attend ICV 26, though a telephone link to his home in South Africa was established for him to informed of the award.



BEST PAPER AWARD



The Best Paper delivered at an ICV is recognised by the Best Paper Award, which was renamed in 2017 as the Whitney Smith Award. The award recognises scholarship and presentation of a paper at an ICV. The awardee receives a certificate signed by the Board and a pewter tray sponsored by North American Vexillological Association - Association nord-américaine de vexillologie (NAVA).

At the Closing Dinner, it was announced that the Best Paper Award had been given to **Anne (“Annie”) M. Platoff** for “*Old Flags, New Meanings*”, which was co-authored by Steven A. Knowlton (who did not attend ICV26).

FELLOWS OF THE FEDERATION

The Board of FIAV also announced the award of new Fellows of the Federation, for the making of significant contributions to vexillology and/or for rendering significant service to FIAV or a FIAV member.



Fellows of the Federation awarded at the Closing Dinner (in order of photo):

Ron Strachan (Australia),
 Željko Heimer (Croatia),
 Gerald Naughton (Australia),
 Edward (“Ted”) B. Kaye (United States),
 Petr Exner, (Czech Republic) and
 Tony Burton (Australia).

Others awarded, but not present at ICV 26:

Hervé Calvarin (France), and
 Theun Okkerse (The Netherlands).



A Fellow receives a certificate signed by the Board and a medal bearing the central knot device of the FIAV flag suspended from a chest ribbon of blue and yellow, the colours of the FIAV flag, as well as a miniature ribbon and a lapel pin. A Fellow may use the post-nominal FF.



Closing Dinner bomboniere

“Job Finished”

Ralph Kelly – Chair of the ICV 26
 Organising Committee

Ralph Bartlett – President of Flags Australia

