

COMMITTEE 2017—2018

TREASURER

Executive Committee

NAME:	Tina Dichiera
DOB	1st January 1944
Place of Birth	Sant'Eufemia d'Aspromonte
Province	Reggio Calabria
Date of emigration:	October 1955
Date of arrival in Australia	18th November 1955
Australian citizen:	Italian Citizen



Immigration experience:

My name is Tina Dichiera (nee Cutri) born 1st January 1944 at Sant' Eufemia d'Aspromonte Pro.R.C. Italy . I am still an Italian Citizen.

In October 1955 at the tender age of 11yrs old I left Italy with my mother Francesca and my brother Cosimo Cutri with the MV Neptunia of the Lloyd Triestino Fleets from the Port of Messina, Sicily to come to Adelaide S.Australia to be reunited with my father Damiano Cutri who migrated in 1950. It was a very long journey on the boat, but we had a 4 persons cabin and this made the journey a bit more comfortable.

18th November 1955 we arrived in Port Melbourne where we were met by my father, after which we all travelled by train to Adelaide. Soon after arriving at our new address -Findon Rd. Kidman Park-I went straight to school at St. Joseph's Primary, Flinders Park and as in Italy I had completed all my Primary School (1-5), I was placed in year 4-5 without speaking or understanding the English language..but as my knowledge of most subjects was more advanced than their teaching of year 4-5 I didn't find it very difficult. Very soon I mastered the language and then continued onto St. Joseph's High School, Grange Rd. Hindmarsh, taught only by nuns. It was through the school, and the nuns' contacts with various companies at the time, that I got my first office job with a Insurance Company as a Stenographer and Interpreter. In the 50s and 60s there was a lot of Italians who spoke little or no English, and there were not too many office employees who spoke both English and Italian. I was lucky to be one who was able to speak both languages fluently which was to my advantage.

In 1965 I married Peter Dichiera from S. Nicola di Caulonia R.C. who was in Adelaide since 1949. Out of this beautiful union, 5 children (boys) were born.

Pino 1966 - Danny 1968 - Robert 1970 - Cosimo 1971 - Maurizio 1974. Within 10 years all the boys got married and altogether we have 8 Grandchildren - 7 boys and 2 girls. They are all our pride and joy.

I have been, and still am, involved in many Charitable Organizations as a volunteer which I enjoy very much. I am an Honorary Member of S. Hilarion Society and Aged Care of which I have been involved for 45 years.

Having our Family Gatherings and keeping our Italian traditions, whether be food or friends, is my greatest happiness.