

# ORDER of AHEPA

Australasian Hellenic Educational Progressive Association



## MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the  
Australasian Hellenic ideal of  
Education,  
Philanthropy,  
Civic Responsibility,  
Family and  
Individual Excellence.

### Contact AHEPA

by email [ahepa@ahepa.org.au](mailto:ahepa@ahepa.org.au)  
or visit [www.ahepa.org.au](http://www.ahepa.org.au)

# ORDER OF AHEPA

Australasian Hellenic Educational Progressive Association



Kiwi bird of  
New Zealand

Come and join us at **AHEPA...**  
YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**AUSTRALASIAN HELLENIC  
EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE  
ASSOCIATION  
AHEPA**

**ROAD MAP**

AHEPA was first established in 1922 in Atlanta, Georgia USA. AHEPA is reputed to be the third largest society service Organisation in the world after Rotary and Lions. AHEPA exists in USA, Canada, Greece, Cyprus as well as Australia and New Zealand.

AHEPA was introduced to Australia in New South Wales in August 1934, in Queensland 1936, in Victoria 1942.

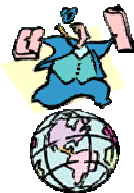
The unification of AHEPA was achieved throughout Australia in 1954 and has since expanded nationally with members in Western Australia, South Australia, ACT, Tasmania and in Wellington New Zealand. There is also a Chapter in Athens, Greece of the Australian branch.

**PURPOSE**

The major purpose of AHEPA is to bring a better understanding between the Hellenic people and the Australian society in general, and at the same time preserve, maintain and foster the traditions and culture of Hellas.

**ACTIVITIES**

There are many committees within AHEPA which organise educational, cultural, and charitable community activities. The Members of these committees work diligently to achieve their various goals for the betterment of the Community.



**ΑΥΣΤΡΑΛΟ,ΑΣΙΑΤΙΚΟΣ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ  
ΕΠΙΜΟΡΦΩΤΙΚΟΣ ΠΡΟΟΔΕΥΤΙΚΟΣ  
ΟΡΓΑΝΙΣΜΟΣ  
ΑΧΕΠΑ**

**ΟΔΟΙΠΟΡΙΚΟ**

Ο οργανισμός ΑΧΕΠΑ ιδρύθηκε το 1922 στην πόλη Ατλάντα της Πολιτείας Γεωργίας της Αμερικής και θεωρείται ως ο τρίτος μεγαλύτερος κοινωφελής οργανισμός στον κόσμο, μετά το Rotary και Lions.

Η ΑΧΕΠΑ λειτουργεί στην Αμερική, Καναδά, Ελλάδα, Κύπρο καθώς και στην Αυστραλία και Νέα Ζηλανδία.

Η ΑΧΕΠΑ ιδρύθηκε στην Αυστραλία τον Αύγουστο του 1934 στο New South Wales, στο Queensland το 1936, στην Victoria το 1942.

Η ένωση της ΑΧΕΠΑ Αυστραλίας επιτεύχθηκε το 1954 και στην συνέχεια επεκτάθηκε στις υπόλοιπες πολιτείες Δυτική και Νότια Αυστραλία, Τασμανία, στο ACT και στο Wellington της Νέας Ζηλανδίας. Επίσης δημιουργήθηκε Αυστραλιανό Τμήμα και στην πόλη της Αθήνας στην Ελλάδα.

**ΣΚΟΠΟΙ**

Κύριοι σκοποί του οργανισμού ΑΧΕΠΑ Αυστραλίας είναι η καλύτερη κατανόηση μεταξύ του Ελληνισμού και της ευρύτερης Αυστραλιανής κοινωνίας γενικά και συγχρόνως να διατηρήσει, να περιθάλπει και να προωθήσει την Ελληνική παράδοση και πολιισμό.

**ΕΚΔΗΛΩΣΕΙΣ**

Η ΑΧΕΠΑ απαρτίζεται από πολλές επιτροπές που ασχολούνται και διοργανώνουν διάφορες εκπαιδευτικές, πολιτιστικές και φιλανθρωπικές εκδηλώσεις. Τα Μέλη των επιτροπών εργάζονται με επιμέλεια να φέρουν σε πέρας τους σκοπούς τους για μία καλύτερη Κοινωνία.

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**FURTHER INFORMATION**

Further information may be obtained from

**Web:** www.ahepa.org.au  
**or email:** ahepa@ahepa.org.au

Alternatively you may write to any of the following addresses:

**NATIONAL LODGE of AUSTRALASIA**  
P.O. Box 466 MATRAVILLE 2036

**NATIONAL LODGE MEMBERS in VICTORIA**  
8A Church Street, HAWTHORN, VIC. 3122

**VICTORIA**

**STATE LODGE OF VIC**  
8A Church Street, HAWTHORN, VIC. 3122

**DISTRICT LODGE OF VIC**  
8A Church Street, HAWTHORN, VIC. 3122

**NEW SOUTH WALES**

**STATE LODGE OF NSW**  
PO Box 225 ROCKDALE NSW 2216

**DISTRICT LODGE OF NSW**  
394/396 Princes Highway, ROCKDALE NSW

**ACT**

**STATE LODGE OF ACT**  
P.O. Box 393, Woden, ACT 2606

**QUEENSLAND**

**STATE LODGE OF QLD**  
PO Box 62 WEST END QLD 4101

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

**STATE LODGE OF WA**  
PO Box 239 NORTHBRIDGE WA 6865

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

**STATE LODGE OF SA**  
PO Box 40 KENT TOWN SA 5071

**NEW ZEALAND**

Chapter Phidias No.18, P.O. Box 27 553, Marion Square, Wellington NZ  
Chapter Olympia No.18, P.O. Box 14-352, Kilburnie, Wellington, NZ

## OBJECTS of the ORDER

The objects, principles and ideals of the Order are as follows:

- (a) To promote and encourage loyalty and patriotism to Australia/New Zealand, support its Constitution, obey its laws and respect its history and traditions.
- (b) To instruct the members of the Order by Precepts and examples, in the tenets and fundamental principles of government.
- (c) To instil in the members of the Order a due appreciation of the privileges and duties of citizenship, to encourage members to be interested and to participate in civic and social activities and always to strive for the betterment of society.
- (d) To oppose tyranny and oppression where it exists in any form and at any level and to secure the perpetual existence of liberty of the nation as well as the individual.
- (e) To promote a better and comprehensive understanding of the Hellenic people and to spread and cultivate the attributes, ideals and legacy of Hellenism.
- (f) To generate and champion a sincere love for education and culture by promoting and participating in the dissemination of both.
- (g) To promote and develop among members a moral code befitting our society.
- (h) To stimulate, promote and practise good fellowship.
- (i) To generate the spirit of altruism, understanding, co-operation and benevolence and to establish and encourage a strong sense of tolerance in the Order and society in general.

## JURISDICTION

- (a) The jurisdiction of the Order shall extend throughout Australia and all territories under its control, and the Dominion of New Zealand and Hellas.
- (b) The Order shall be non-partisan in politics and non-sectarian in religion. All partisan, political and all sectarian religious discussions shall be strictly prohibited at any meeting or convention of the Order or of any constituent unit, committee or Junior Order thereof.

## ELEGIBILITY

Any person who is over twenty-one years of age and who is of good moral character, a believer in the existence of God and in the Divinity of Jesus Christ, who believes in and advocates the preservation and promulgation of the objects, principles and ideals of the order, who is willing to subscribe to its constitution and to obey the authorities of the Order, who is a resident and citizen, or has declared his or her intention of becoming a citizen of Australia shall be eligible for membership in the Order.



### SUPPORT TO CHARITIES

AHEPA supports various charities: Multiple Sclerosis, Diabetes Australia, Special Kids, World Vision, Variety Club, Save the Children and more.

### FUND RAISING AND DONATIONS

AHEPA raises funds for research and medical equipment for illnesses such as Thalassaemia, Diabetes, Multiple Sclerosis, Cancer and Heart disease, and gives financial assistance to Children's hospitals Australia wide, and in times of national and International disasters such as bushfires, earthquakes, floods and drought is there to lend a helping hand. Your donations through the AHEPA foundation are Tax Deductible.



### RECENT PROJECTS

#### GREEK FIRES APPEAL



Most recent event being the disastrous fires in Greece where AHEPA in cooperation with SBS radio, launched an appeal that raised over \$137,000 for assistance to fire-stricken Greek Communities. AHEPA also raised over \$35,000 for the Victorian Bushfires.

Another National Project was **juvenile diabetes** where the sum of \$60,000 was raised for Royal North Sydney Hospital at St Leonard's, NSW for an Educator to teach the families of sufferers how to use Infuser Pumps.

### ΦΙΛΑΝΘΡΩΠΙΚΗ ΥΠΟΣΤΗΡΙΞΗ

Η ΑΧΕΠΑ υποστηρίζει διάφορα φιλανθρωπικά και κοινωνικά ιδρύματα: Multiple Sclerosis, Diabetes Australia, Special Kids, World Vision, Variety Club, Save the Children και άλλα.

### ΧΡΗΜΑΤΟΔΟΤΗΣΕΙΣ ΚΑΙ ΔΩΡΕΕΣ

Η ΑΧΕΠΑ συγκεντρώνει προσφορές και χρηματοδοτεί ιδρύματα για Ιατρικές έρευνες και εφόδια εναντίων ασθενειών όπως η Θαλασσαιμία, ο Διαβήτης, η Πολλαπλάσια Σκλήρυνση ο Καρκίνος, οι Καρδιακές παθήσεις και συνάμα παρέχει δωρεές στα Νοσοκομεία Παιδών της Αυστραλίας και σε περιπτώσεις Εθνικών ή Διεθνών καταστροφών όπως πυρκαγιές, σεισμοί, πλημμύρες και ανομβρίες είναι πάντα παρών και δίνει χέρι βοήθειας. Η προσφορά σας μεσο τις ΑΗΕΡΑ foundation είναι Tax Deductible.

### ΠΡΟΣΦΑΤΑ ΕΡΓΑ

#### ΕΡΑΝΟΣ - ΠΥΡΚΑΓΙΕΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΛΛΑΔΑ

Για τις πρόσφατες καταστροφικές φωτιές στην Ελλάδα η ΑΧΕΠΑ διενήργησε έρανο σε συνεργασία με τον Κρατικό ραδιοφωνικό σταθμό SBS και συγκεντρώθηκαν περίπου \$137.000 για βοήθεια των πυροπαθών Ελλήνων και περίπου \$35.000 για βοήθεια των Victorian Bushfires

#### ΔΙΑΒΗΤΗΣ ΑΝΗΛΙΚΩΝ

Τρέχον είναι επίσης και το έργο χρηματοδότησης με \$60.000 για τον Παιδικό Διαβήτη στο νοσοκομείο του Αγίου Λεονάρντο της Νέας Νοτίου Ουαλίας, ώστε να μάθουν οι οικείοι των ασθενών να χρησιμοποιούν την αντλία εμφυσήματος.

## NATIONAL ISSUES

In 1988 AHEPA presented the Australian Government with a painting entitled "The Immigrants" by George Hatsaturis, a Greek Australian artist, to commemorate Australia's Bicentenary. This painting is on exhibition at Parliament House Canberra.



The Hellenic Tribute "DISCOBOLUS" at Stockroute Park, Homebush Bay was erected through the initiative of AHEPA. \$600,000.00 was raised by the Hellenic community throughout Australia to erect this magnificent and lasting memorial to the spirit of Olympism and Hellenism for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. The executive on this committee were all AHEPANS.

Members of AHEPA attend Citizenship Ceremonies and welcome new Australian citizens. The Greek Welfare Centre also is supported by AHEPA.

AHEPA has been in the forefront for Justice for Cyprus since the invasion in 1974 and is continuing its involvement with the Cyprus Issue, as well as the Macedonia (FYROM) Issue through its AHEPA INTERNATIONAL Committee, here in Australia and in the USA.

The AHEPA RESTITUTION OF THE PARTHENON MARBLES Committee has been in existence since 1981 and has been very vigorous in its approach for the return of the Parthenon Marbles to Greece.



## ΕΘΝΙΚΕΣ ΥΠΟΘΕΣΕΙΣ

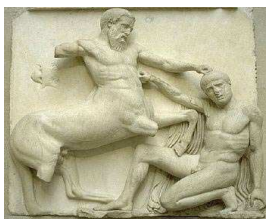
Το 1998 η ΑΧΕΠΑ Αυστραλίας δώρισε στην Αυστραλιανή Κυβέρνηση τον πίνακα «Μετανάστης» έργο του Έλληνο-Αυστραλού ζωγράφου Γεωργίου Χατσατούρη για την επέτειο των Διακοσίων χρόνων Ιστορίας του Κράτους της Αυστραλίας και είναι αναρτημένος στην έκθεση το Κοινοβουλίου της Καμπέρας.

Με πρωτοβουλία της ΑΧΕΠΑ οι Ελληνικές κοινότητες της Αυστραλίας συγκέντρωσαν \$600,000 με την ανάληψη των Ολυμπιακών αγώνων 2000 στο Σύδνευ, για την ανέγερση του μεγαλοπρεπούς μνημείου του «Δισκοβόλου» στο πάρκο Στοκρουτ του Σύδνευ, το οποίο συμβολίζει το Αρχαίο Ελληνικό πνεύμα και την Ελληνική πολιτιστική κληρονομιά που μεταλαμπάδευσαν οι Έλληνες εδώ στην Δεύτερη πατρίδα τους την Αυστραλία. Όλα τα εκτελεστικά μέλη της επιτροπής αυτής ήταν ΑΧΕΠΑΝΣ.

Μέλη της ΑΧΕΠΑ παρευρίσκονταν στις τελετές πολιτικογράφησης των Ελλήνων μεταναστών και τους καλωσόριζαν ως νέους Αυστραλούς πολίτες.

Η ΑΧΕΠΑ Αυστραλίας ήταν και είναι πρωτοπόρος στον αγώνα για δικαίωση της Κύπρου μετά την Τουρκική εισβολή το 1974 και δια μέσου της Διεθνούς Επιτροπής της Αχέπα, συμβάλλει στα Εθνικά θέματα όπως το Μακεδονικό και άλλα.

Η Επιτροπή της ΑΧΕΠΑ για την Επιστροφή των Μαρμάρων του Παρθενώνα υπάρχει από το 1981 και αγωνίζεται σφοδρά για την επαναφορά τους στην Ελλάδα.



## ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

The AHEPA organisation structure is very flexible and it caters for all States of Australia and New Zealand.

Its setup is similar to Government in Australia. National (National Lodge), State (State/District Lodge) and Local Government (Chapters).

**Figure 1** is designed to cater for States that have a large number of Chapters in a City ie. Sydney and Melbourne.

Also to address the country towns (ie Geelong, Newcastle ...) and chapters where there are not enough members to make a separate Male and Female Chapters, hence a combined Chapter can be created.

In this structure, the State will have a State Lodge and a District Lodge.

The structure also allows for combined Youth Chapters to be formed.

Chapter Presidents move to the State/ District Lodge by gender.

Figure 1 is the current structure for Victoria & NSW.

**Figure 2**, will cater for States that have smaller number of Chapters and therefore do not require to have a separate STATE & DISTRICT Lodge.

A combined Chapter may be formed in one of the Country Towns or where there are not enough members to create separate male & female chapters.

In this structure a combined State Lodge will satisfy.

Where the number of Chapters increase, this structure can eventually grow and become the same as in **Figure 1**, if required.

Both structures allow for combined Youth Chapters to be formed. All Past Chapter Presidents are permanent members of their respective Lodge.

## STATE CONVENTIONS

The State Convention is the highest legislative body in the State and is held yearly.

At State Convention, each chapter has three votes and all lodge members have one vote.

At combined State Lodges, Sisters can be voted to any office, including State President.

## NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

The National Convention is the highest legislative body in Australasia and currently is held yearly.

At National Conventions, all past State Presidents (Male or Female) and past District Presidents are eligible to be voted to the National Lodge and have one vote.

Lodges and Chapters will have three votes and may elect up to three delegates.

## AHEPA CELEBRATIONS

On "AHEPA Day" which is held nationally in August, the AHEPA family celebrate a festive occasion commencing with church service followed by a lunch.

We also participate in the celebration of ANZAC Day and Greek National Days.

**STRUCTURE OF AHEPA**

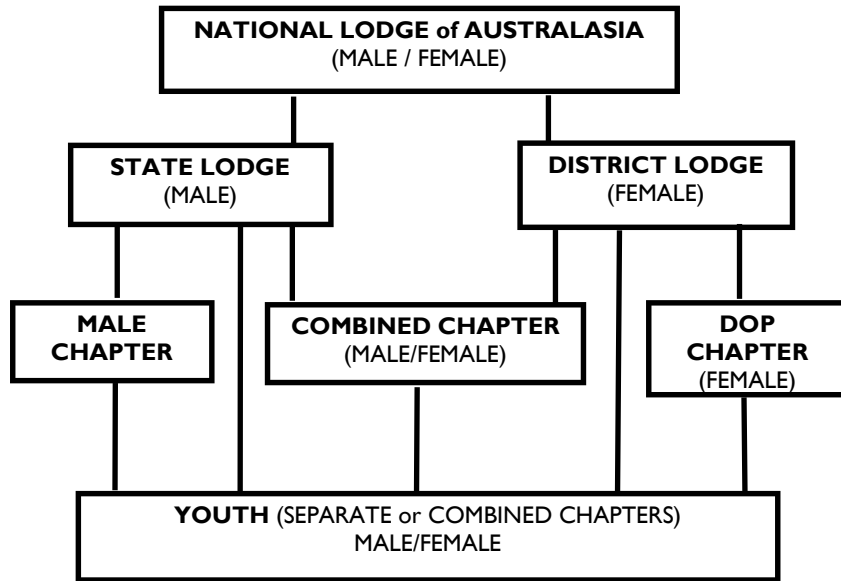


Figure 1.

**NATIONAL LODGE of AUSTRALASIA  
(MALE / FEMALE)**

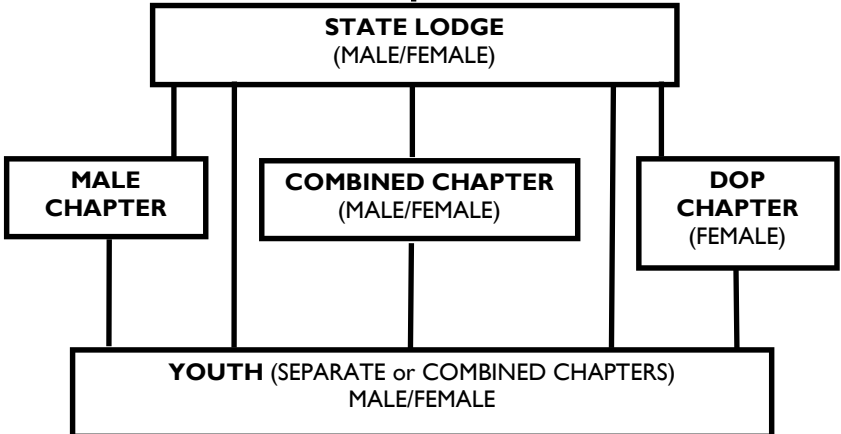


Figure 2.

**EDUCATION AND CULTURE**

The E in AHEPA stands for Education and many scholarships are awarded annually to schools, to Universities and to Cultural Establishments nationally. AHEPA Members are very involved in many aspects of Education and Culture in their home states.



AHEPA helped establish the Theological Library at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in Sydney, supports the St Andrews Theological College, St Basils Nursing Homes, Castellorizian Nursing Home in Sydney, St Nicholas' Nursing Home in Brisbane. Members of AHEPA are also involved in their parish committees.

AHEPA Victoria has established and operates successfully the AHEPA GREEK SCHOOL. It is an afternoon Greek language school held every Monday in class rooms of Ivanhoe Girls Grammar. The school is registered with the Ethnic Schools Council.

**ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΑ ΚΑΙ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΜΟΣ**

Το γράμμα Ε στα αρχικά Α.Χ.Ε.Π.Α σημαίνει Εκπαίδευση (Επιμόρφωση) και ο Οργανισμός επιβραβεύει με ετήσιες υποτροφίες μαθητές, φοιτητές σχολείων και πανεπιστημίων σε όλη την Αυστραλία. Μέλη της ΑΧΕΠΑ συμμετάσχουν σε πολλές και διάφορες Επιμορφωτικές και Πολιτιστικές εκδηλώσεις στο χώρο που ζουν.

Η ΑΧΕΠΑ βοήθησε στην δημιουργία της Θεολογικής Βιβλιοθήκης της Ιεράς Αρχιεπισκοπής Αυστραλίας και προσφέρει στην Θεολογική σχολή του Αγίου Αντρέα, στα Γηροκομεία του Αγίου Βασιλείου και Καστελλοριζιακής Αδελφότητας του Σύνδνευ και του Αγίου Νικολάου στην Βρισβάνη. Μέλη της ΑΧΕΠΑ επίσης πρωτοστατούν σε πάρα πολλές κοινοτικές επιτροπές.

Η ΑΧΕΠΑ Βικτωρίας ίδρυσε το ΑΗΕΡΑ GREEK SCHOOL και λειτουργεί κάθε Δευτέρα με επιτυχία το απογευματινό Ελληνικό Σχολείο σε αίθουσες το Ivanhoe Girls Grammar. Το Σχολείο είναι αναγνωρισμένο από το Ethnic Schools Council.



## The Beginning of AHEPA in Australia 15th August 1934

The creation of the Hellenic ideal in Australia is born.

In the north-west country towns of New South Wales, the Greek migrants had a need to maintain and perpetuate the Hellenic ideal.

Fortunately, in the country town of Scone, lived a family by the name of Andronicus, whose son Nicholas had travelled to North America and had spent a considerable time in Atlanta Georgia, where he became involved with an organisation called "Ahepa", the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, whose ideals and principles impressed him so much that he felt it would fulfill the needs of all and any migrant in integrating into their new country, and yet maintain that love of their motherland.

He returned home to Australia full of enthusiasm and began to praise with words of wisdom of the organisation.

As a result of numerous advertisements in the Greek newspapers (the Hellenic Herald) the first meeting was called on the 15th August 1934 and held in the country town of Werris Creek, NSW.

At this meeting, the aims, principles and ideals of the Order of Ahepa were conveyed to the 320 Hellenes who had gathered there for this inaugural meeting.

They came from towns near and far.



**The Founder of AHEPA Australia,  
Brother Nicholas Andronicus**

Why was a country town selected as the venue for this meeting, one might ask?

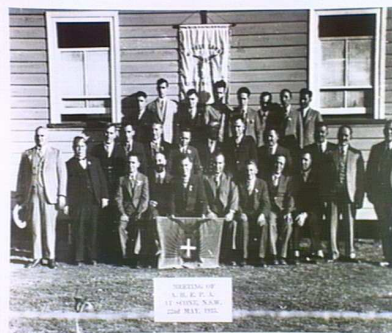
The answer is that the needs of these people in the country areas was common, their vocations were similar their needs the same.

With this, their unity was obvious and Ahepa was the vehicle which filled that requirement.

As a result of this meeting, AHEPA was born in Australia on the 15th August 1934..

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**AHEPA Meeting in Scone, N.S.W.  
22nd May, 1935**

The Order of AHEPA was first established in Australia in Werris Creek, a country town of New South Wales, on Wednesday 15th August, 1934. A 15 member committee was elected with Nick Andronicos as its President.

After four General Meetings, held in Armidale, Gunnedah and on Wednesday the 22nd May 1935 in Scone (see photo above), the Bylaws and Ritual of the American AHEPA, with the necessary alterations to comply with the laws of this land, were adopted. On the 25th August, 1936, a Foundation Meeting was called by Brother Nick Andronicos, President of the Mother Lodge, at Scone, NSW. On the 26th August, 1936 a banquet was held to celebrate the foundation of AHEPA in Queensland. The name of the first Chapter was Hellas. The Order of AHEPA was established in Victoria in 1942. The first meeting was on the 1st September 1942 and this was held at the Freemason Hall in Flinders Street Melbourne. Chapter Prometheus was founded, followed by a second Chapter, Athenian in 1944.

In 1945, Chapters Prometheus and Athenian amalgamated under the name of Athenian. The Supreme Lodge of Queensland was formed in 1948 and Brother P. ARONEY was its first Supreme President. The Order expanded in QLD with the formation of five Chapters in Kingaroy, Rockhampton, Townsville, Innisfail and Brisbane. AHEPA was resurrected in NSW in 1953, with the establishment of Chapter Prometheus.

## Ahepa history.

This Chapter grew in numbers rapidly, initiating a further two chapters to be formed - Anatole in 1956, and Diogenes in 1957, both in Sydney. The unification of the Order was achieved throughout Australasia in 1954.

The formation of Chapter Archimedes in Perth W.A. in 1957 and the Grand Lodge of WA in 1965. Chapter Aristotellis was formed in Melbourne, in 1958. Chapter Phoenix was inaugurated in Canberra in 1972 and Chapter Heracles in Belmore, NSW, in 1972.

Chapter Anaxagoras then followed in Adelaide, SA in 1973 with the the Grand Lodge of SA in 1977. Chapter Solon was formed in Melbourne, in 1976, and Chapter Apollon in Paramatta, NSW, in 1977 followed by Chapter Atlas 1978 (Hobart, Tasmania). Chapter Omiros in Athens 1990 and Chapter Phidias in NZ 1992 and Chapter Poseidon in Melbourne 1994 and followed by Chapter Ippokratis in Sydney 2007.

### Daughters of Penelope

The introduction of the Daughters of Penelope (D.O.P.) took place in Brisbane in 1953, with Chapter Themis being the first Chapter of the Senior Ladies Auxiliary, followed by Chapters Athena, Melbourne and Arete, Sydney both in 1954. Chapter Aphrodite, Perth, W.A. in 1959. Chapter Persephone, Adelaide, S.A. and Chapter Elya, Canberra, ACT, both in 1974. Chapter Antigone, Belmore, NSW in 1975, Chapter Ismene, Athens in 1990. Chapter Olympia, NZ in 1993, Chapter Nafsika, Melbourne in 1995 and Chapter Daphne, Gold Coast, QLD in 1996. The District Lodge of the Daughters of Penelope, NSW was formed in Sydney in June, 1978 and the District Lodge of the Daughters of Penelope, Victoria was formed in Melbourne in March, 2006.

### Junior Chapters

Junior Chapters were started in Victoria. The Maids of Athena in 1975 and The Sons of Pericles in 1976. Other Junior Chapters were then formed throughout Australia.

**In total, 35 Chapters and 8 Lodges were formed with 23 Chapters and 8 Lodges still active. There is still no other Greek organisation in Australia to match our AHEPA.**