

Young Ostomates United Inc. 25th Birthday



It was a bright sunny day when YOU celebrated its 25th birthday at the Nurses Memorial Centre on 29th November 2014. The weather depicted the mood of the day; it was a wonderful get together of friends old and new. Dave Sutton was in charge of the music, how can we have a party without music, so we had Dave on guitar, Andy on drums and Sarah playing & singing – what special friends Dave has – many thanks. This was followed by our own Bek who sang 3 beautiful songs that had us all clapping and cheering, special moment and only fitting that Kerrie, Bek's mum won the Christmas Hamper. With 8 trade displays we were grateful for the companies support and what a wonderful venue the Nurses Memorial Centre is, so much room & facilities first class, pity the parking is a nightmare! The food was yummy and varied, thanks to Helen's 2 lovely girls who worked in the kitchen, but the highlight was the Birthday cake, which Anne organised. The photo on the cake was taken at YOU'S first country visit at Rutherglen, all members wearing "I belong to YOU" T- shirts. Jane chaired the day's proceedings making sure we kept to time, particularly when Anne, Jane and I presented the Story of YOU over 25 years. This will be edited and available to members in the New Year and on the webpage. It was a pleasure to present Ros Mulholland and Dave Sutton with Life Membership certificates. Thank you to all who joined the celebrations, so much work goes into these events behind the scenes, thanks particularly to Helen, Anne and Jane, one of Helen's favourite expressions is '**there is no I in team**'.

YOU would not be viable today if it had not embraced social media, special thanks to Mike Petrescu who manages our webpage which is updated regularly and to the YOU Facebook family which is growing daily. To commemorate YOU's birthday all members were given a magnet with the YOU Logo with the web address. A few web stats:

[Website](#) Visitors since 3/10/03 – 12,000

[Major website visitor sources since Jan 2013](#) – 33.6% Australia, 30.9% USA, 12.5% Brazil

[Countries of Website visitors since Jan 2013](#) – 71

[Twitter](#) – 86 followers/18 tweets

[Facebook](#) – 48 likes

As the founder of YOU I feel justifiably proud of our achievements over the years, and that YOU is still giving Help & Support to younger ostomates and their families in their time of need.

Lilian Leonard

