



# **SLOVENIA'S NATIONAL DAY 2007**

**&  
NSW AND ACT  
SLOVENIAN AWARDS  
2006**

**at  
St. John's Park Panthers  
Triglav**





## PROGRAM

12.30 PM

Arrive

1.00PM

Lunch is served

2.20 PM

Slovenian Male Choir

"Rosemary under the Southern Sun" sings:

Slovenian National Anthem

Australian National Anthem

Welcome and Introduction

by Mr Peter Krobe,

Chairman of the Advisory Board for

Panthers St. John's Park-Triglav

Address by

Mr Gregor KOZOVINC

Charge d'Affairs of the Embassy of Republic of Slovenia

Slovenian Male Choir

"Rosemary Under the Southern Sun"  
sings Two songs.

Walter Suber

President of the Slovenian of the Year Awards Committee,  
introduces the Awards

Presentation of the awards

Entertainment

(The Magician)

Dance

With "The Masters"

## PANTHERS TEAM



*Peter Krobe, Chairman of the Adv. Committee of Panthers Triglav, Danny Munk, Chief Operations Manager Panthers, Huy Vu, Operations Manager Panthers Triglav, Travis Colman, Duty Manager Panthers Triglav*

## JUDGING PANEL



*Martha Magajna, PR Panthers - Triglav, Ivan Rudolf, Planica Wollongong, Ivan Gerič, SD Sydney, Perina Keen, Drama Group Merrylands, Walter Šuber, Panthers -Triglav, Cilka Prinčič, Tivoli Newcastle, Marija Grosman, HASA,Tivoli Newcastle*



- **NSW – Slovenian Award for Primary student of the Year**
- **NSW – Slovenian Award for Secondary student of the Year**
- **NSW – Slovenian Award for Tertiary student of the Year**
- **NSW – Slovenian Award for Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year**
- **NSW – Slovenian Award for Entrepreneur of the Year**
- **NSW – Slovenian Award for Australian Slovenian Achievements**
- **NSW – Slovenian Award for Outstanding NSW Slovenian Volunteer**
- **NSW – Slovenian Hall of Honour Award for a Life's work**

## WALTER ŠUBER



The NSW and ACT Slovenian Awards have been a part of the Slovenian community for the last 6 years and every year they grow stronger, which is a reflection that the Slovenian community see these awards as recognition of work and effort of past winners and their contribution to the community in general or as individuals as students, or in business and the arts. It's a wonderful blend of ages and talented individuals who make up our community.

The awards are in conjunction with the Slovenian National Day a celebration of Slovenia's independence, giving the awards a fantastic vehicle to showcase our Slovenian community achievers.

Just to be nominated is a great honour and it acknowledges the effort and hard work of the nominees in their designated category.

The award categories have been developed to capture every walk and stage of life, of a potential nominee.

Please join me in congratulating this year's nominees and the winners.





**THE WINNERS FOR THE YEAR 2005****LOJZE MAGAJNA**

NSW Slovenian Australian Award for Achievement in the Field of Sports and Culture

**MIHAELA ŠUŠTERŠIČ**

NSW Special Award in the Field of Slovenian Culture and Heritage

**IVAN KLOPČIČ**

NSW Slovenian Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year

**MIRA SMRDEL**

NSW Equal winner for Slovenian Volunteer of the Year

**IVAN RUDOLF**

NSW Equal winner for Slovenian Volunteer of the Year

**NATALIE BRCAR**

NSW Slovenian Tertiary Student of the Year

**LOJZE MAGAJNA**

Over the last four decades Lojze has been involved in the Slovenian Community in Sydney with a variety of activities.

For many years he worked as a Committee Member at the Slovenian Club Triglav with special duties in connection with sports, like shooting, fishing and above all the Slovenian National sport, Bocce as it is called in Australia.

As a player he was very successful in interclub Competitions and the NSW Bocce Federation and in the year 2005 Lojze became NSW champion in doubles.



He also served as NSW chief referee in the State and National championships. As a qualified Bocce trainer of a youth group he has also been selected as the Australian National Coach for the Junior Bocce Team competing for the last two years for Australia in the World championships in Slovenia and Italy.

His involvement with Drama started 25 years ago with the Triglav drama Group. For the last five years he has also been involved with the Slovenian Drama Group at Merrylands, where he is one of the leading actors and where he has taken part in many successful plays. Lojze started singing with Triglav Choir in 1979 and he travelled with the Choir on a singing tour to Slovenia and southern Austria in 1982. Currently he sings with the Merrylands Church Choir and the Men's choir "Rosemary under the Southern Sun". He is also a member of the Board of Directors at St. Johns Park Panthers-Triglav Club, representing the Triglav Sports - Bocce section, where he serves as a coach, referee and technical organiser. If he finds any spare time he loves to go fishing and target shooting.

Congratulations Lojze.



## MIHAELA ŠUŠTERŠIČ



Mihelca Šušteršič was born in Slovenia and grew up at Lesce in the Gorenjska region. She arrived in Sydney Australia with her husband Ivan in 1959.

In 1962, Mihelca became a member of the Slovenian drama group. She is still a performer and one of the main driving forces in the Group. Mihelca's role is as the coordinator of the group, both within wardrobe as well as all of the other staging requirements. She also does the bookwork, promotional activities and is instrumental in the planning of the events and the invitation of its guests.

Since 1964, as a member of the Slovenian Association Sydney, she has helped with various cultural events, celebrations,

presentations and fundraisings.

In 1990 she assisted with collecting money and assistance for a new independent Slovenia, and was one of the first members of the Slovenian National Council for NSW.

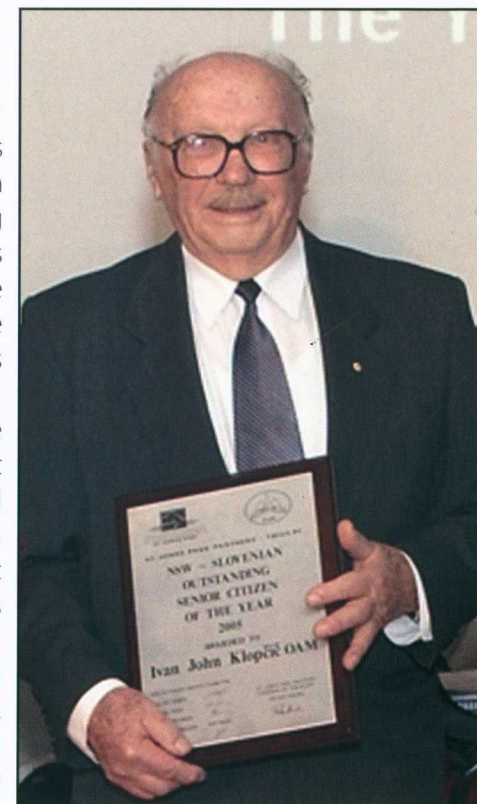
In 2002 Mihelca was instrumental in the establishment of HASA, the Historical Archives for Slovenian Australians for NSW, where she is still active as a volunteer researcher and collector of information for the archives. She is also acting treasurer for HASA.

Mihelca has also been involved with the St. Rafael's Slovenian Church at Merrylands, assisting with various presentations throughout the years. She was part of the 10th anniversary of the Slovenian independence, the Golden Jubilee Mass for Father Valerian and the 50th Anniversary of the Slovenian Religious magazine "Misli" or "Thoughts".

Last year Mihelca had also taken on the position of volunteer weekly bookkeeper for the St. Rafael's Slovenian church at Merrylands.

Congratulations Mihelca.

## IVAN JOHN KLOPČIČ



Ivan Klopčič's life in Australia was always firmly joined with the Australian-Slovenian Society "Tivoli" in Newcastle. From serving as a secretary of the Society in the years 1958-60 he moved to the status of the President of the Society and after more than 45 years of dedication, still holds this position.

While holding this demanding job, he was also involved with many different government and local bodies and had worked on a number of committees, such as at Migrant Resource Centre, Ethnic Community Council, Community Relations Commission, and others.

During his life's work, he had a special affinity for the sick, elderly, and those, who were less fortunate than most. In the framework of the activities of the Australian- Slovenian Society "Tivoli",

Newcastle, he has been in charge since 1992 of a special government sponsored program involving elderly Slovenians. He was and still is helping the sick and elderly, visiting them regularly, taking them shopping, to the doctors, on outings, visiting them in hospital and nursing homes, generally giving them a hand wherever it is needed.

For his work, he has received a great number of awards and recognitions from different government bodies and community organizations, the most distinguished being 'The Order of Australia Medal' for his service to the Slovenian Community of the Hunter Region, particularly in the area of aged care, and also the Premier's Award for Outstanding Services to the Community and to NSW. Mr Klopčič is continuing his voluntary work unconcerned with the passing of time, whilst many sit back and wait to be taken care of.

We salute you, Ivan, and wish you good health and many more active years among us.



## MIRA SMRDEL



Mira Smrdel, born in Pivka, Slovenia, arrived in Australia in 1972 with her husband Miro.

She became involved with the Slovenian community first at the Slovenian church at Merrylands and at the Slovenian Association Sydney. Here she had joined the Bocce group. Soon after she organized a volunteer group of ladies, who have helped with the organization of cultural events and who also looked after the kitchen, cooking and serving home-cooked meals. That was especially demanding during the building of the new club.

In 1999, Mira was elected as the President of the Slovenian Association Sydney, a position she held for 5 years. During her presidency, a number of important events took place, such as the well presented 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Slovenian Association and Sydney Olympics with its special demands. There were many visitors from high government officials, visiting Olympic

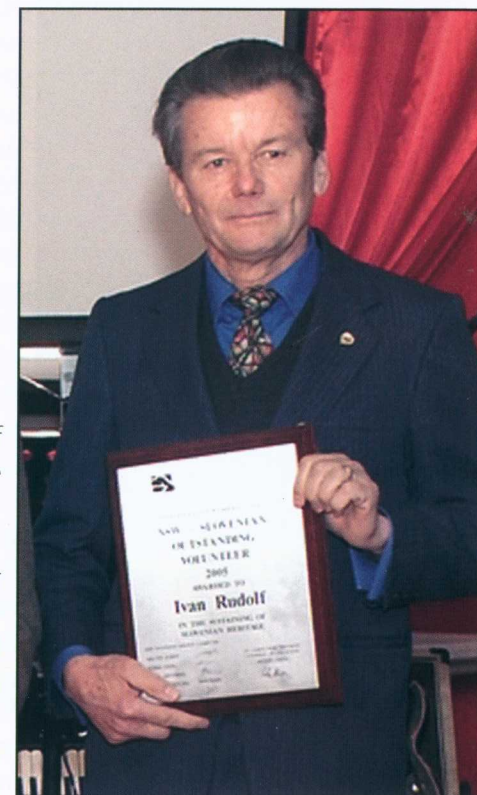
competitors, ensembles, and other cultural events.

Following a short break and after the club's president Ivan Kozelj passed away, Mira once again became a member of the Club's Committee, this time as the Vice President.

Mira has spent a great part of her life in Australia working for the preservation of the Slovenian Heritage and Slovenian culture. She was never afraid of hard work. She would do the cooking, cleaning, preparing of the hall for different cultural events, driving visitors around Sydney, and handling the ever more demanding administration of the Slovenian Club. Apart from that, she was regularly employed elsewhere, as well as being a caring and loving wife and mother.

Congratulations Mira.

## IVAN RUDOLF



Ivan Rudolf became an active member of the Slovenian Community soon after he came to Wollongong in 1970.

On becoming first the Secretary in year 1976 and then the president of the Slovenian Club Planica in 1979, he worked hard for the Club to move into its own premises four years later.

In 1995 he was also a driving force in securing a regular Slovenian program on the Community Radio Vox FM 106.9 Mgh, of which Ivan is the co-ordinator. The Slovenian segment is heard every Sunday morning.

A cultural event, called "The Country Wedding", was organized twice on the streets of Wollongong. It was a huge success, especially amongst other Australian people. Here, too, Ivan was the main organizer.

Throughout his leadership, Ivan has co-operated with other Slovenian organizations in Australia, and many social and cultural performances have been organized at the Club Planica.

He also spends a lot of his time visiting sick and elderly Slovenians and helping them. For his work he has received a number of Awards and this award gives him a well deserved recognition from the Slovenian community for the Outstanding Volunteer work he is doing so well.

Congratulations Ivan.



## NATALIE BRCAR



Natalie has had a number of outstanding achievements in her professional career. She studied at UTS and graduated with 1st Class Honours from a Bachelor in Architecture in 2006 which took 2 years to complete and preceding this a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture (4 yrs) graduating with a distinction average. For Natalie's bachelor degree she was nominated by the University for The Royal Australian Institute of Architects Final Year Student Medal Award.

During both degrees Natalie worked (and continues to) at Tzannes Associates in Chippendale as a student architect whilst working towards the degree.

For Natalie's final year dissertation (major work) she has chosen Cockatoo Island, a disused industrial site on Sydney Harbour and it was titled: (re) discovering Cockatoo Island: Finding 5 places of Cultural Interest in and around Sydney. The design incorporated a new temporary arts gallery, theatre and civic/public space on this site, the aim to reincorporate the site back into the public domain of Sydney. In her fourth year Natalie worked on a research project

(as a team member of 3) for a subject Urban Studies looking at urban concepts of 'The Street' and 'The Square'. Her selected site was the Three Bridges (Tromostovje) and The Markets by Joze Plecnik in Ljubljana.

For experience Natalie traveled extensively around Europe, the USA and Mexico visiting various architectural buildings and cities of interest.

Natalie has worked on a number of major Architectural projects in and round Sydney, like:

2006 RAIA NSW Chapter Final Year Student Design Medal nominee

2002 RAIA NSW Chapter Third Year Student Architecture Award nominee

2003 Completed course: Italian for Beginners

2000 Second Year Design Project selected from Studio to be presented to Client

## THE WINNERS FOR THE YEAR 2004

### STEPHANIE ŠUBER

NSW Slovenian Primary Student of the year

### REBECCA KEEN

NSW Slovenian Secondary Student of the year

### DANIEL ŠUBER

NSW Highly Commended Secondary Student of the year,

### ROBERT MIKULETIČ

NSW Slovenian Tertiary Student of the year

### DANICA PETRIČ

NSW Slovenian Outstanding Volunteer of the year

### MARIA GROSMAN

NSW Slovenian Outstanding Senior Citizen of the year

**THE WINNERS FOR THE YEAR 2003**

**CHERIE ŠAJN**

Slovenian Primary Student of the year

**ROBERT RUDOLF**

Slovenian Tertiary Student of the year,

**IVAN KOŽELJ**

Slovenian Outstanding Volunteer of the year,

**ANTHONY TOMAŽIN**

Slovenian Entrepreneur of the Year

**MARK KOBAL**

Slovenian/ Australian Achievement Award

**FATHER VALERIJAN JENKO**

Slovenian Outstanding Senior Citizen of the year

**SONJA FIŠER**

Slovenian Highly Commended Volunteer  
of the year

**THE WINNERS FOR THE YEAR 2002**

**STEPHANIE ŠUBER**

Slovenian Primary Student of the year

**JOSHUA BLEESING**

Slovenian Highly Commended Primary Student of the year

**REBECCA KEEN**

Slovenian Secondary Student of the year

**DR.LILIJANA MIKULETIČ**

Slovenian Tertiary Student of the year

**NATALIE BRCAR**

Slovenian Highly Commended Tertiary Student of the year

**MARTHA MAGAJNA**

Slovenian Outstanding Volunteer of the year

**JULIE BRCAR**

Slovenian Highly Commended Volunteer of the year

**JOZE KOŠOROK**

Slovenian Highly Commended Senior Citizen of the year

**MIMI DE ROOY**

Slovenian Entrepreneur of the year

**IRENA STARIHA**

Slovenian/ Australian Achievement Award



**THE WINNERS FOR THE YEAR 2001****STEPHANIE ŠUBER**

Slovenian Primary Student of the year

**BRIGITA BEZJAK**

Slovenian Tertiary Student of the year

**DRAGO OSTRIC**

Slovenian Young Entrepreneur of the year

**DR. SEAN PARSONAGE**Slovenian Highly Commended  
Young Entrepreneur of the year**ELEONORA WHITE**Slovenian Outstanding  
Senior Citizen of the year**MILKA STANIČ**Slovenian Highly Commended  
Senior Citizen of the year**SLOVENIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS NSW AND ACT  
ST JOHNS PARK PANTHERS TRIGLAV for the year 2007**  
Closing date; 18th May 2008**AWARD CATEGORIES:**

- NSW – Slovenian Primary Student of the Year
- NSW – Slovenian Secondary Student of the Year
- NSW – Slovenian Tertiary Student of the Year
- NSW – Slovenian Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year
- NSW – Slovenian Entrepreneur of the Year
- NSW – Australian Slovenian Achievements
- NSW – Slovenian Outstanding NSW Slovenian Volunteer
- NSW – Slovenian Hall of Honor Award for a Life's Work

*(Please tick to indicate the Award Category you are nominating for)***Name of person nominated:**.....  
.....**Address:** .....  
.....**Tel.**.....**FAX**.....**Email**.....**Contact Name**.....**Business/Organization/Individual proposing:****Address:**.....**Tel.**.....**Fax**.....**Email**..... **Contact Name** .....

Send the proposal to  
 "Slovenian of the Year" Awards  
 St Johns Park Panthers Triglav  
 80-84 Brisbane Rd St Johns Park NSW 2176  
 Email: huy.vu@panthers.com.au



## SLOVENIAN ANTHEM



Prijat`lji, obrodile  
so trte vince nam sladko;  
Ki nam oživlja žile,  
srce razjasni in oko;  
Ki vtopi vse skrbi,  
V potrlih prsih up budi,

Žive naj vsi narodi,  
ki hrepene dočakat dan,  
Da koder sonce hodi  
Prepir bo iz sveta pregnan  
Da rojak prost bo vsak  
Ne vrag le sosed bo mejak!



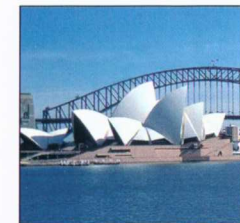
Slovenian Male Choir "Rosemary under the Southern Sun"

## AUSTRALIAN ANTHEM



Australians all let us rejoice  
For we are young and free.  
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,  
our home is girt by sea.  
Our land abounds in nature's gifts  
Of beauty rich and rare.  
In history's page let every stage  
advance Australia Fair.  
In joyful strains then let us sing  
Advance Australia Fair

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross  
We'll toil with hearts and hands.  
To make this Commonwealth of ours  
renowned of all the lands.  
For those who've come across the seas  
we've boundless plains to share.  
With courage let us all combine  
to Advance Australia Fair.







**Proudly Sponsored  
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**Panthers St. John's Park  
Triglav**



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