



THE MASONIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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PREPARED BY: D.G. DAVIS

WOR. BRO. JOHN MICHAEL ARMSTRONG STRINGER OAM, JP, MCIT, ASO.

GUEST SPEAKER AT THE SOCIETY'S 'YEAR 2000 CELEBRATION DINNER' HELD AT 'LAURELBANK' MASONIC CENTRE, WILLOUGHBY, ON MONDAY 24 JANUARY 2000.

John Michael Armstrong Stringer is a fifth generation Australian. He was born on 16 January 1939 in Brisbane, Queensland, son of Captain John Rickard Stringer and Mary Elizabeth Stringer, JP.

Michael began school at Bellevue Hill Public School, shortly after his father was killed in the Middle East Campaign, 2/25 Battalion. He then attended St Andrews Cathedral School in Sydney. He was a good scholar and enjoyed study. He enjoyed sport and participated in cricket, football, athletics, swimming, fencing and tennis.

He became a school prefect and house captain for the House of York, and a chorister in the Cathedral Choir. He became a leading chorister and a member of the Royal School of Church Music. He sang at numerous State Services including the service on the occasion of the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and for Her Majesty the Queen on her first visit to Australia. He also sang at the funeral of The Honourable W.(Billy) Hughes.

He did not go on to higher education as the family could not afford it at the time.

Michael began his working life as an apprentice carpenter and joiner after leaving school at Intermediate Certificate level. He worked for A.W. Foreman on the construction of several cottages and a block of Doctors Rooms in the Manly Warringah area. He was appointed foreman on the site of Inder Motors new showrooms and workshop facilities in the same area.

On completing his apprenticeship, he was offered a position with Antill Ranger & Co. Pty. Ltd. as the foreman for the construction of the new transport depot at Alexandria. It was built on the site of an old foundry. He later became Branch Manager with Antill Ranger, a position he retained when the Company was taken over by Mayne Nickless Ltd. His interests in transport caused him to be included in the team that developed the northern Queensland road transport services of Antill Ranger.

Michael studied Transport Administration which included law, economics, accounting, personnel management, operational methods and management, fleet management for road, rail sea and air and transport safety. He became a Member of the Institute of Transport as a result of these studies.

In 1964, recognising the commercial potential within the emerging computer industry, he joined Data Card Australia, later to become the Computer Resources Company. He became the Company's first salesman with customers in New South Wales, the A.C.T. and Queensland. He later extended his sales activities to all the

