2019 Southern Highlands Conference on Heterocyclic Chemistry 25 – 27 August 2019

Dear Delegates

With a little over four weeks before the start of the 2019 Southern Highlands Conference, I am delighted to provide the following update, which contains important information that will make your participation and hotel stay more productive and enjoyable.

Confirmation of the Venue – Peppers Manor House, Sutton Forest, NSW

The Conference is fully residential, so accommodation and all standard meals, including lunches and dinners, standard conference beverages, and morning and afternoon teas, from 3.30 pm Sunday 25 August to 3.30 pm Tuesday 27 August, are included in the registration fee. Incidentals, such as refreshments outside these times, additional meals or snacks, telephone or office services, and certain resort activities, including golf club and buggy hire, will be charged to individual accounts.

Arrival and Check In

Check in will be available from 1.00 pm, when bags can be deposited securely, but room availability cannot be guaranteed until 2.00 pm on the Sunday. Delegates should check in individually and as family groups, and are likely to be asked to register a credit card holding deposit of \$1.00. This is in case of incidental expenses during the Conference. Check out will be required by 10.00 am on the Tuesday morning, when additional expenses can be finalized with the hotel and luggage again held securely.

The program starts with afternoon tea at 3:30 pm and the formal lecture program will begin at 4:00 pm. Delegates should be aware that Peppers Manor House is well known for fine dining, and the prices of meals and refreshments outside the conference can be high, so please plan your arrival appropriately. Nearby Moss Vale or, further afield, Bowral and Mittagong townships are attractive alternatives with many cafés, antique shops and galleries to keep one entertained.

Dress for dinner is generally a little more formal than at other times, and on each evening we will share a complementary drink at the Nook Bar and Great Hall before dinner. Those who have indicated special dietary requirements should make themselves known to the Katers Restaurant staff as your requirements have been given to the hotel and special meals will have been prepared.

Transport

Delegates are responsible for their own transport arrangements. However, for those who have indicated that they will travel from Sydney by rail, PLEASE BE AWARE that services have become very limited on weekends. Bearing in mind my comments above, there is a train departing from Macarthur Station at Campbelltown at 10.12 am (Southern Highlands Line) that arrives at Moss Vale at 11.29 am on the Sunday, in time for a wander through the township for lunch. CARS WILL MEET THE TRAINS scheduled to depart from Sydney Central Station at 12.06 pm (Southern NSW Line direct) and Macarthur Station (Southern Highlands Line SN45) at 12.12 pm and arrive at Moss Vale Station at 1:48 pm and 1.29 pm, respectively. These cars will gladly transport guests who arrive aboard earlier trains. Our thanks go to local resident chemist, Professor Palli Thordarson for coordinating this pickup.

For those who might need to take the later train, departing Macarthur Station at 2.09 pm (Southern Highlands Line SN49) and arriving at Moss Vale at 3.29 pm, please let me know in advance or call my mobile (0401 390 744) as you approach and I will arrange a special pick up. [Based on information published on Thursday 26 July 2019.]

Climate and weather

The Southern Highlands are a very pleasant 15-20°C at this time of year, although the temperatures can drop to 5-10°C, particularly in the evening, and wind and rain is not uncommon. The buildings are well heated, but please come prepared to rug up if you plan to spend time outdoors and bring a hat for those sensitive to the sun.

Recreation

A feature of the Southern Highlands Conference is informality and plenty of informal discussion and interaction. For this reason, lecture discussion times are more extensive than usual. Monday afternoon (1:30 – 3.30 pm) has also been set aside for leisure.

A range of on-site activities are available during free time, from spa treatments to walking, swimming in the heated, outdoor pool, or tennis (racquets and balls provided).

Also, Peppers is located adjacent to the beautiful Broughton Resort Golf Course, where delegates can charge course fees

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and separate club hire and cart hire to individual hotel accounts.

Others might like to enjoy a visit to the Bradman Cricket Museum in Bowral, a visit to a local winery or gallery, or a drive to one or more of the many picturesque rural sites in the region, including the township of Robertson and nearby Fitzroy Falls. Delegates are encouraged to participate together in small groups or are free to relax as they please.

Afternoon tea will be served for all SHC delegates and spouses at 3.30-4.00 pm.

Lectures

Those invited to speak have been notified, including postgraduate awardees. The Conference Room is equipped for digital projection, and white boards are available to expand discussion. Please bring along your own computer if you prefer, or your presentation on a USB stick. For those with their own computers or smart surfaces, please ensure you also bring the appropriate connection cables (dongles) as these can vary considerably and are not supplied. Be aware that lecture times in the attached Program Outline include total speaking and discussion times (70 minutes or 60 minutes). **All speakers have been advised of the times allowed for speaking**.

Posters

Contributed posters are encouraged; we have already listed a number but others are welcome and student poster prizes will be awarded. Please send titles and authors if you have not already done so.

Posters will be mounted throughout the Conference and there will be a formal poster session on Monday evening. Posters will be mounted on Velcro-receptive boards of 1.0 m x 1.2 m dimension mounted above about waist height. Pins and Velcro tabs will be provided.

Authors are also advised that there will be an opportunity for a 1-2 minute **formal oral presentation** of poster material with the aid of up to 2 Powerpoint slides at the beginning of the poster session. Electronic files will be assembled on one computer before the presentation session.

Internet Access

The Manor House and Conference Facility is equipped with complementary broadband internet, which will be accessible throughout the Conference. This is subject to reception, which is generally good, but can be a little patchy due to the location. Please discuss access upon check-in at the hotel.

Group Photo

As has been our tradition, a Group photo will be taken before Lunch on the Monday. We invite all attendees, formal delegates and family members, to participate, so please don't be shy, and bring along your best smiles.

Business Meeting

Our regular business meeting will be held on Tuesday 27 August to which all delegates are welcome. Associate Professor Jason Harper, University of New South Wales, who was elected President-Elect following our last meeting, will assume the role of 2020 President. Nominations are therefore sought for incoming President-Elect.

Finally, I wish you the very best in your final preparations for the Conference, and a safe journey for those coming from afar. Should you have any questions, please contact me by telephone or email.

Roger

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Venue Details

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TRANSPORT MAP FOLLOWS ON NEXT PAGE



