



THE BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA SOCIETY

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Chairman: Brian Harris

From Rohan Courtney, Deputy Chairman

Dear Potential E-Pals Supporter

November 2003

E-PALS – AUSTRALIA AND BRITAIN

The Britain-Australia Society and its sister organisation, the Australia-Britain Society, have launched a nationwide scheme to link school children in Australia and Britain via email. A number of schools are already operating the scheme, the most recent being St. John's College in Southsea with Balgowlah Heights Public School in New South Wales. Our ambition is to achieve 100% E-pals ('pen friend') contact between the children of Britain and the children of Australia.

HE Mr Michael L'Estrange, Australian High Commissioner to the UK, and HE the Rt Hon Sir Alastair Goodlad KCMG, British High Commissioner to Australia both enthusiastically support the Scheme.

I am writing to you to seek your help in one or more of following areas:

- a) To make this scheme work we will need a full-time administrator to act as the point of contact. This person will be active in advising schools about the scheme and promoting it, and in keeping records of the schools already operating a scheme. Do you know of someone willing to take this on or would you or your company be prepared to help?
- b) This initiative needs funding of around £50,000 per annum. Can you help? We will acknowledge in all of our scheme materials the help we receive. Charitable status will be sought. Payments should be sent to the Britain-Australia Society and made to the E-Pals Scheme Account.
- c) We need information on existing schemes and contact with schools. Can you talk to your old school or provide a contact with an Education Department or other interested body?
- d) We propose to promote the scheme through an annual awards scheme for participating children. Can you help with prizes?
- e) We want to advertise the scheme around Britain and around Australia. Can you help with space in an in-house magazine or other corporate publications?

With your help this scheme will promote a renewed understanding and friendship between our two countries, by encouraging contact and friendship between the children of each.

If you can assist in any way, please write to me at the office in Swire House.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Rohan Courtney