

# MHACA AGM in our New Home

ON WEDNESDAY, 7 November MHACA's Annual General Meeting for 2007 was held in our new 'home' at 65 Hartley Street. All the formal requirements of the meeting went smoothly, with Alderman Meredith Campbell acting as Returning Officer. The majority of members from the outgoing committee were re-nominated and appointed unopposed. Their ongoing commitment to MHACA, dedicated voluntary time and wide-ranging skills are greatly appreciated. We welcome a new consumer representative (and are seeking a second consumer representative) and the two new committee members in the new General Member positions.



Dale Wakefield (AS Women's Shelter), Laurencia Grant (LPP) and Lindsay Morley (Treasurer)



Some light refreshments in our new consumer recreational area following the formalities

## New committee members for 2007-2008 are:

- ◆ Chairperson - Mardijah Simpson
- ◆ Deputy Chair - Trish Van Dijk
- ◆ Secretary - Jill Deer
- ◆ Treasurer - Lindsay Morley
- ◆ Public Officer - Maya Cifali
- ◆ Org. Rep - Trish Fernley, Mental Health Carers NT
- ◆ Org. Rep - Jenny Black, Salvation Army
- ◆ Consumer Rep - Darren Farr
- ◆ Consumer Rep - Vacant
- ◆ General Member - Marg McAlavey (CAMHS)
- ◆ General Member - Lee Ryall (NYP Women's Council)

Comprehensive Reports on MHACA's activities over the past year were presented by senior staff - General Manager Claudia Manu-Preston, and Senior Managers Laurencia Grant and Rangi Ponga - accompanied by a condensed version of a Life Promotion's suicide awareness presentation developed by Kristy Schubert. This was followed by a delicious supper. ☘



Returning Officer, Meredith Campbell with MHACA General Manager, Claudia Manu-Preston



Rangi Ponga welcoming Darren Farr to the Committee as a new Consumer Rep

A big thank you to all the staff for their work over the past year

## Sarah on National Advisory Board

CONGRATULATIONS to Sarah Chunys who returned from Brisbane in early November, where she was appointed to the National Advisory Board for the Australian Mental Health Consumer Network. This is the peak board that advises the government on mental health issues and, as Sarah says, "I know I'll learn a lot."

"Through the board, we get \$3000 for mental health services in the Territory.

Sarah has also been selected as an advisor for Headspace, a 'hub' for young people experiencing mental health, drug & alcohol and other health problems that we hope to establish in Alice Springs in 2008.

