

A HOBARTIAN FRANCOPHILE PAR EXCELLENCE
Dr. T H GODDARD, CBE, BA, MB

The first President of the constituted French Circle (1933), Dr. Goddard continued on to become the first President of the Alliance Française de Hobart following the name change in 1938. He remained in that position until 1960, an amazing total of 27 uninterrupted years of service discharged with dedication and fervour.

During the dark days of WWII, he was the prime mover in ensuring help and assistance to France with monthly food parcels, knitted goods, cash donations: proceeds from many fund raising events which he organized through "The Children of France Fund". In a ceremony on the 26 September 1947, the French Government awarded him the French War Service Medal in recognition of the Alliance Française de Hobart's highly valued support under his tireless leadership. Upon his retirement from active life, France conferred upon him the Légion d'Honneur for outstanding services through the promotion of French culture in every way possible during his long presidential tenure.

Dr. Goddard was a physician and specialist surgeon. A wall plaque erected in 1967 can be seen at the X Ray Department of the Royal Hobart Hospital as a tribute to him for his services to that hospital as House Surgeon (1915-17), Honorary Physician Chest Specialist (1930-46) and State Director of Tuberculosis (1945-50).

Dr. T.H. Goddard gave new and full meaning to the word "juggling" and "achievement".

*Research: Attila Ürményházi
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