

We warmly congratulate him on being ordained a deacon, and pray for the success of his further preparation to achieve his goal of the priesthood.

He is the son of **Peter Walsh** (38) of Falls Creek. Peter and his wife, Jean, were present in St Patrick's Cathedral for their son's ordination.

NSW FARMERS' ASSOCIATION CERTIFICATE OF HONOUR

At a meeting of the NSW Farmers' Association General Council on 16 October 1997 **Jim Gleeson** (58) was presented with a Certificate of Honour "in recognition of your long and outstanding service to the Association and the industry as a whole."

Jim owned property in the Mullaley district until 1987 when he moved to Lane Cove. He was a General Councillor of the United Farmers & Woolgrowers Association from 1966 to 1976 and after amalgamation with the Graziers Association in 1976 was a General Councillor of the Livestock & Grain Producers Association (now renamed NSW Farmers) from 1976 to 1981. He served a total period of fifteen years representing the Association in negotiations with both State and Federal Governments. He also served on the grains committee, the education committee and was chairman of the land and local government committee of the Association.

In 1977 Jim was elected to the NSW Grain Sorghum Marketing Board as a growers representative and served continuously until 1986, being Deputy Chairman 1982-86.

The President of the NSW Farmers, Mr Ian Donges, in presenting the award highlighted some of Jim's achievements including being influential in heading off

changes by Tom Lewis, the Minister for Land and Local Government in 1974, to leasehold land which would have displaced many farmers, being part of the advisory panel to the Minister for Agriculture in 1969 on wheat quotas, and as a Member of the NSW Sorghum Marketing Board pushing for rights of growers to make their own marketing choices.

Mr Donges said, "Your work on behalf of the Association has been highly valued and has made an important contribution to the welfare of both the organisation and the industry."

Congratulations to Jim, President of the OBU, on this well-deserved honour.

AN AWARD FOR BRAVERY

Congratulations to Captain **James Ryan** (83) on being presented with the Bravery Medal by the Governor General, **Sir William Deane** (47), at a ceremony in Government House, Canberra on 23 May, 1997.

James is the son of **Tony Ryan** (52) and his wife, Kay, and is the brother of **Matthew Ryan** (85) and **Luke Ryan** (86).

A Gosford newspaper reported as follows:

"Out of the ashes of the tragic Blackhawk helicopter disaster which saddened the nation last year, a Gosford family has been consoled by a feeling of tremendous pride.

Kay and Tony Ryan, and sons Luke and Matthew, were one of the proud families in Canberra last month when personnel involved in the mid-air army helicopter collision received bravery medals.

Their son and brother Captain Jim Ryan was one of the first men at the crash site south-west of Townsville on June 12, 1996.

A member of the elite SAS, Captain Ryan was awarded the Bravery Medal for his actions in the crash.