



## **Chairman's Report to the 2010 Annual General Meeting of the ACT Branch of The Order of Australia Association**

**Held at 6.00 pm, Tuesday 7 December 2010  
at the Royal Canberra Golf Club, Yarralumla**

I am pleased to present my first report as Chairman of the ACT Branch of The Order of Australia Association.

The 2010 committee was elected at the AGM in November 2009 and comprises Mr Len Goodman, AO, (Chairman), Mr Bruce Trewartha, OAM, (Secretary), Mr Brian Acworth, AM, (Treasurer) and committee members, Ms Trish Keller, OAM, Ms Evol McLeod, OAM, Mr Andrew Lu OAM, Mr Ian Meikle, AM, Mr Derek Robson AM, Dr Caroline Turner AM, with Ms Liz Scrivener OAM as immediate past Chair, and co-opted member Dr Ray Newcombe OAM to continue his role in promoting the Student Citizenship Awards.

We are indeed fortunate that General Peter Gration AC OBE is our interested and active Patron – participating in many of our events and functions with his wife Ann.

I thank the committee for their hard work through the past year, and particularly retiring committee members Ms Evol McLeod, Dr Caroline Turner, and Ms Liz Scrivener who has committed six years of service to the Branch – including as Secretary and Chair.

Having in mind the diversity of our working and retired ACT membership, currently at 584, the Committee considered and adopted my proposals to widen the appeal of events and functions through “focus groups” viz business; industry; professions; public service; University/Higher Education; Defence; arts; schools. The aim is to provide a wider set of options from which members may choose. Some have been actioned with more to follow in 2011.

A summary of the events of the past year were:

**Australia Day Breakfast**, held at the CSC Yacht Club for the second time. This has proved a popular event, attracting 122 members and guests to fellowship and hear ACT Branch patron Gen Peter Gration AC OBE, who challenged the audience with his presentation “Active Citizenship” – available on our Website.

**National Conference and AGM** was held in Adelaide on 12-14 February, and the Branch was represented by Ms Liz Scrivener who completed her term on the National Committee. Liz served the ACT Branch well during her two year term on the National Committee, a term which embraced the 2008 National Conference in Canberra.

**Morning Tea at the National Library:** Evol McLeod and the Functions Sub-Committee arranged the popular “Behind the Scenes” morning tea with guest speaker Helen Kon, Deputy Director of the NLA who provided new insights into aspects of the library.

**First Reception for Australia Day Recipients** was held on 29<sup>th</sup> April at the Commonwealth Club, where Dr Jeff Harmer, AO, Secretary of Families, Housing, Community Services and

Indigenous Affairs was guest speaker. The club provided a wonderful atmosphere for the 82 attendees where eleven new awardees were introduced to the members.

**A Canberra Museum and Gallery** morning tea was organised by Dr Caroline Turner AM on 27 May to coincide with a presentation of '*Tomorrow Today: Innovation and Change in 1960s Canberra*', hosted by curator Kathryn Chisholm, followed by interesting talks by guest speakers, distinguished architect, Mr Enrico Taglietti and Mr Martin Gascoigne, son of artist Rosalie Gascoigne AM and astronomer S.C.B. (Ben) Gascoigne AO.

**Queen's Birthday Luncheon** was attended by 80 members on 16<sup>th</sup> June at the Boathouse when guest speaker new recipient Andrew Sayers AM, newly appointed Director of the National Museum of Australia, provided us with an overview of his vision for the NMA. Andrew invited questions from the floor which turned into a lively and thought provoking discussion about both the NMA and the honours system in Australia.

**This year's Multi Faith Observance** was held on 29 August at the Anzac Memorial Chapel of St Paul Duntroon - led by Air Commodore Royce Thompson (Ret'd), former Director General RAAF Chaplaincy. The observance was attended by over 50 members and guests, including invitees from the Australian Bravery Association led by National President James Long from Victoria. The afternoon tea was provided by committee members.

**At our second Reception for Queen's Birthday Recipients** held on 28 September at the Royal Canberra Golf Club His Excellency Mr Michael Bryce AM AE KStJ took the 72 guests on an enjoyable and at times humorous "Travels with the Governor General" complete with a pictorial Power Point show. Four new awardees were introduced to the members.

**The Inaugural "OAA-ANU Lecture"** was delivered by the ANU Vice Chancellor Professor Ian Chubb AC at University House on Tuesday 19 October. Professor Chubb gave a stimulating past, present and future address about the ANU's record of achievement measured against its founding principles – with his perspective on the University's place as a national centre for academic excellence, research and challenge. Prof Chubb's Lecture will soon be posted on our Branch website.

**Second year Citizenship Awards Presentation:** Over 100 attended The Branch's 2010 ACT Student Citizenship Awards presentations on Wednesday 17 November at University House by our Patron General Peter Gratton AC OBE to Phoebe Davies from St Francis Xavier's College, to Merici College and Radford College for their engagement with Black Mountain School, and to Kaleen Primary School skipping team for promotion of healthy lifestyle. Well done Dr Ray Newcombe OAM assisted by Trish Keller OAM.

**SPONSORSHIP:** It is with sincere appreciation that we acknowledge ACTEW Corporation as proud Sponsors of these Awards for the three years 2010-2012. Their support enables us to promote submissions from ACT students and schools, including the presenting of a quality colour brochure, launch and presentation functions.

**Canberra Symphony Orchestra function** The Branch held an arts focus event on Saturday 20 November in conjunction with Tea and Symphony, the last concert of the CSO's 60th anniversary season with the Canberra Symphony Orchestra and the Australian Ballet. The OAA had 50 guests in attendance and Dr Nicholas Milton, the Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the CSO, addressed our OAA reception prior to the concert, Committee member Andrew Lu OAM, who organised this wonderful initiative, represented the CSO Board as acting Chairman.

**Newsletter:** We have continued to enhance our Branch Newsletter through the editorial and entrepreneurial skills of Editor Ian Meikle AM – a major and consistent undertaking. We acknowledge Ian, as publisher and editor of “City News”, making available resources to deliver the Newsletter by email and we encourage more members to join the growing list of email recipients.

**Committee Meetings:** Our thanks to Derek Robson AM for hosting our meetings at the National RSL HQ.

Looking forward to the new year, it is intended to continue the popular events, beginning with the Australia Day Breakfast, where the guest speaker will be MAJ GEN Michael Jeffery AC, AO (Mil), CVO, MC (Retd), talking on “Australia, Challenges and Opportunities” – and to pursue further “focus group” options.

The 2011 National Meeting of the OAA will be held in Hobart on 10-11 February 2011. Details are on the website. The 2012 Conference will be in Darwin and the ACT Branch will host 2013 as a feature of Canberra’s Centenary. As Branch Chairman I sit as a member of the National Committee.

A National Gallery event is proposed early in the year in conjunction with the “Ballets Russes” exhibition and the Branch will engage the interest of military awardees with the inaugural “**OAA-ADF ORATION**” delivered by branch member Chief of Defence Force Air Chief Marshall Angus Houston AC AFC on Tuesday 19 April – full details in our first 2011 Newsletter.. The new committee will explore other opportunities for unique activities for members in various fields of interest.

The ACT Branch continues to strongly support the **National Foundation** in support of the next generation of talented young leaders achieving their potential for the benefit of future generations of Australians and locally, strengthen our **ACT Student Citizenship Awards** to recognise and encourage “outstanding individual leadership achievement” by year 11 and 12 students and for meritorious group activity in community service and citizenship projects for students between Kindergarten and Year 10.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Branch Chairman in 2010 – it has been a privilege to work with a splendid team who I sincerely thank for their support and encouragement. While everyone willingly undertook various responsibilities – may I particularly thank Secretary Bruce Trewatha OAM for his diligence and “pinch hitting” for me over recent times. Treasurer Brian Acworth AM has been assiduous with financial arrangements and investments and sincere appreciation to Evol McLeod for her attention to detail as Convenor of the Functions Committee.

2011 will offer new challenges and opportunities and I wish the incoming Committee every success.

Through the Order of Australia Association we share common bonds and values. In that spirit I thank all members for your involvement and wish you the compliments of the season.



Len Goodman AO  
Chairman  
7 December 2010

## 2010 TREASURER'S REPORT

### The Order of Australia Association ACT Branch

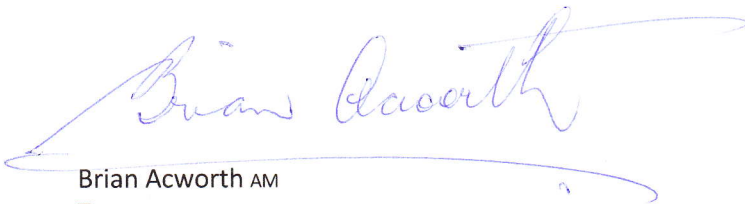
I'm pleased to present to the members the Annual Financial statements of the Order of Australia Association (OAA) ACT Branch in respect of the year ending 30 September 2010. It is particularly pleasing to be able to report a sound financial close with cash assets of \$12,344.54. Property valued at \$1,407.50 (Retail value - Club ties, scarfs, decals etc) was held as the close of the financial year.

The cash position is a reduction of \$3,461.00 when compared to the year-end position in September 2009. The main reason for the differential is our ongoing commitment to newsletters and function invitations. Newsletter expenditure in 2010 was \$5,860.00 (postage was an extra \$786.00). The Board decided that the mail-out was necessary to keep members informed of activities and to help promote greater involvement in the Association.

Net assets, after allowing for end of the financial year receipting and un-presented cheques totalled \$13,751.00. This compares with \$16,529.00 for the previous year.

It was positive to see the increase in functions usage. Receipts for the 2010 year totalled \$19,712.00 compared to \$12,110.00 in 2009.

In conclusion I would like to thank my fellow Committee members, President and the Club members for their contribution in making my job as Treasurer a rewarding experience.



Brian Acworth AM  
Treasurer  
03 November 2010