

The ORDER



THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

EDITION 47 AUTUMN 2017

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75 YEARS SINCE “DARWIN HAS BEEN BOMBED – BUT NOT CONQUERED”*



Wrecked Civic Buildings after the raid - Centre building in picture was Bank of NSW (Westpac). Courtesy Australian War Memorial (AWM - P02759.009).

Australia Remembers Thursday, 19 February 2017

The morning of Thursday, 19 February 1942 dawned bright and sunny in Darwin. Shops and businesses were open as was the Post Office (now the site of Northern Territory's Parliament House). Just before 10.00am 188 Japanese aircraft which were launched from four Japanese aircraft carriers in the Timor Sea appeared overhead and bombs soon began to rain down on the town, harbour and airfield. The raid was planned and led by Commander Mitsuo Fuchida, the same man who planned and led the attack on Pearl Harbour ten weeks earlier. In comparison, there were more bombs dropped on Darwin, more civilians killed, and more ships sunk than in Pearl Harbour.

There were two raids that morning, which followed a reconnaissance flight on 10 February 1942. In the first attack Kate bombers hit shipping, infrastructure and the town; Val dive bombers, escorted by Zero fighters then attacked shipping in the Harbour, and the military and civil aerodromes. The raid ceased after about 25 minutes. The second raid of 54 land-based bombers, which began about 11.45am involved high altitude bombing of the RAAF base.

* Title of leaflet distributed to the Australian people by the Australian Government after the bombings on 19 February 1942.

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THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION OFFICE HOLDERS

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His Excellency General The Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK
MC (Retd) Governor-General of Australia

National Directors

National President: Mr. Philip Flood AO

National Chairman: Mr. William R. Galvin OAM
Mob. 0418 100 927

Deputy National Chairman: Prof. John McKellar AM ED
Tele: 08 8395 1030

National Secretary: Mrs. Colleen Wardell OAM
Tele: 02 9680 2618

National Treasurer: Mr. Alastair Douglas OAM
Tele: 03 6225 2012

National Membership Director: Mrs. Jane D. Arthur AM
Tele: 08 8391 2505

Branch Directors

ACT: Mr. Bruce Trewartha OAM
Mob: 0439 887 480
e-mail: btrewartha@grapevine.com.au

NSW: Mr. John Archer OAM
Mob: 0407 919 235
e-mail: archjohn@bigpond.com.au

NT: Dr. Tom Lewis OAM
Tele: 08 8932 2644
e-mail: talewis@bigpond.com

QLD: Prof. John Harden AM
Mob: 0418 988 659
e-mail: jdharden@westnet.com.au

SA: Mr. Ken Coventry OAM
Mob: 0428 999 483
e-mail: coventry01@internode.on.net

TAS: Dr. John Thorne AM
Mob: 0409 817 898
e-mail: thorne.hobart@gmail.com

VIC: Mr. Paul Wheelton OAM
Mob: 0418 534 418
e-mail: paul@wheelton.com.au

WA: The Hon. Bill Hassell AM
Mob: 0417 902 915
e-mail: hassell@arach.net.au

National Manager: Ms. Rosemary Everett CPA
Tele and Fax: 02 6273 0322
e-mail: oaasecretariat@ozemail.com.au

National Membership Officer:
Tele and Fax: 02 6273 0322

Overseas Regional Groups United Kingdom/Europe:

Chairman: Ms. Penelope Thwaites AM
Tele: 0011 44 020 7794 5090
e-mail: penelopethwaites44@gmail.com

Secretary: Anna Stanley
e-mail: annastanley72@gmail.com

North American:

Chairman: Mr. Gregory Copley AM
Tele: 0011 1 703 9094 167
e-mail: grcopley@aol.com



THE ORDER

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Editor:

Colleen Wardell OAM

Publisher for the Board:

Colleen Wardell OAM
(02) 9680 2618
oaasecretariat@ozemail.com.au

Please send material for publication, including letters to the editor and photographs, to: oaasecretariat@ozemail.com.au

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The Order of Australia Association, Old Parliament House,
18 King George Terrace,
Parkes, ACT 2600

Phone & fax: (02) 6273 0322

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THE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

The Association website is a source of important information: it is easy, fast, up-to-date and includes:

- The Association's aims and structure.
- Membership application and renewal.
- Editing your basic membership contact details.
- National Conference — Sydney 2016.
- National Committee membership and contacts.
- National publication — The Order.
- A link to each branch with current information:
 - Committee and contacts.
 - Upcoming functions.
 - Newsletter and local information.
- Frequently Asked Questions about The Order of Australia.
- Nomination process and documentation for awards.

Make the website your first port of call. If you want further information please talk to your branch committee.

If you have ideas about information you would like on the website please contact your branch committee.

www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Thank you for your continued support during 2017 as we move forward to the dawn of what promises to become a successful new trading year. We are grateful for your personal support and advice as we progress forward.

You will see the success of our concurrent membership year was brought about by a very large number of volunteer State / Territories Chairs and committee members

The established principle of 4C's – Care, Courtesy, Commonsense and Charity is as applicable today as it was a decade ago.

Whilst we operate in a successful environment of support, our mantra is about stability and cautious financial and operational management for our Association in urban, rural regions and outback areas.

The Foundation is tracking well with the strong leadership of Mr. Hugh Morgan AC and the Board. Witness the exciting recent Awards in Sydney and Brisbane.

There is no doubt that the winds of change are blowing in Corporate Governance and this argues well for progressive change in this Association.

We appreciate the combined efforts of the Association Directors for all of our members.

We have much to achieve together.

Best regards for your continued success



W. E. Galvin OAM
National Chairman

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

The 2017 National Conference in Brisbane was well attended and the Conference Committee is to be congratulated on the success of their organizing and planning of this event. For some Members it was their introduction to the Association's National Conferences and they are now looking forward to attending the 2018 National Conference in Adelaide.

Over the last few months it has been a difficult and very unfortunate time for some of our Members, including members of the community at large, due to the series of natural disasters that have affected them. In Queensland and Northern New South Wales there was Cyclone Debbie, followed by extensive floods in some areas, plus horrendous bushfires in several States. Our sincere best wishes go to them all.

The Branches and the Regional Groups are keen to introduce new interests and activities for their Members, plus to receive from Members their suggestions for activities that they would like to see introduced. The Branches endeavour to keep costs for the various events and functions as low as possible which is getting difficult to do in some instances, due to increased function centre costs, catering, and staff penalty rates.

There are many people in the community who deserve to be given the chance to receive an award in The Order of Australia. You can make this happen by nominating those special people. While all nominations are important, it is recognised that there is a need to see more women, people with disabilities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and people of ethnic origin nominated....so keep nominating.

Colleen Wardell OAM
National Secretary

CHECKING ALL EMAIL AND MAILING ADDRESSES

It is most important that we keep our data base as accurate and up to date as possible so if you have had changes to your address, phone contacts, both landline and mobile and if you have added or changed an email address please let us know through contacting the National Membership Officer at aanatmbrofficer@theorderofaustralia.asn.au or by phone (02) 6273 0322.

ADMINISTRATION UPDATES

Members will be able to access the Association's Updates via our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

OUTSTANDING MEMBERSHIP FEES

This is just a reminder to those members who have not yet responded to requests for their 2015/2016 Annual membership fees. We are so reluctant to lose any of our members - each one is important to our Association.

If you are unable to locate your invoice please contact the National Membership Officer at the National Office:

The Order of Australia Association, Old Parliament House,
18 King George Terrace, Parkes, ACT 2600

Ph: (02) 6273 0322

or by email aanatmbrofficer@theorderofaustralia.asn.au



FROM THE NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

As we prepare for this issue of 'The Order' we have Easter upon us and for those of our members who celebrate this season we wish you a happy time with your family full of Easter blessings.

The Queen's Birthday Honours announcement will soon be made and for those of us involved in membership of the Association we hope that there will be celebrations around the country and that many of those recipients will join our Association. As I have said before, but I think is worth remembering, once a recipient receives their reward there will be no further contact from the office of The Order of Australia, so that joining the Order of Australia Association gives each person the opportunity to meet and share experiences with others who have been honoured by our country in this way.

We continue to urge all of our members to nominate others known to them who have served their country and community in all walks of life. We have produced a short leaflet which is a guide to nominating a person for an honour in the Order of Australia. Please ask someone on your local committee for one of these leaflets, or maybe take some to

distribute to others known to you. There has been a change recently announced through the Prime Minister's Department that *'Her Majesty has agreed to changes that allow the Council for the Order of Australia to consider nominations of permanent residents of Australia for honorary awards'*. This is a different honorary award to that which has been available since 1980. These previous honorary awards are processed by the Honours, Symbols and Legal Policy Branch of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Prime Minister recommends awards to the Governor-General. In addition there have been increases granted in the number of Awards in each category except in the Medal category.

Our membership fluctuates around 8,000, excluding the more than 400 life members with no known address. It would be good to make a further gain on this number so we need to nominate more of the wonderful people in the community going above and beyond the call of duty.

Please use our web-site and if you have any suggestions for improving it, or what it has to offer please contact us. Also remember that Member Zone is up and running and has been upgraded in recent times.

Best wishes to all and travel safely

Jane Arthur AM
National Membership Director



UNITED KINGDOM

OAA UK/EUROPE DINNER AT THE ARMY & NAVY CLUB FEBRUARY 2017

On Friday, 10 February 2017 twenty members and guests of the Order of Australia Association UK/Europe attended a dinner at the Army & Navy Club, Pall Mall, London. A member of both the Club and of the OAA UK/Europe, Brian Cloughy AM had initiated the proposal to hold the dinner at this venue and it certainly proved to be an excellent suggestion.

Pre-dinner drinks were enjoyed in the impressive Wellington Room. Guests then proceeded to the Library where a magnificent candle-lit table awaited us. The beautifully presented meal was enjoyed by all.

The recently appointed Deputy High Commissioner to London, Mr Matthew Anderson PSM, was our Guest of Honour and guest speaker. Prior to taking up this appointment, Matthew had been Australia's Ambassador to Afghanistan and he gave a very informative insight into the often dangerous living and working conditions of the staff employed at the embassy in Kabul.

Matthew's excellent presentation was very well received and appreciated by all those present.

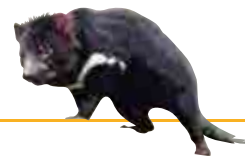
The UK/Europe branch will have its usual OAA Service at St Mary's le Bow in 27 September 2017. Travelling members and friends are most welcome to attend



The Branch continues its support for Aboriginal Students at Oxford University.

Local OAA Members give wonderful support to the Branch's events at Australia House.

Congratulations to Penelope Thwaites AM for her continued outstanding efforts together with other local members.



TASMANIAN BRANCH NEWS

The Branch AGM and Luncheon were held on the 26 February 2017 at "Entally House" Hadspen. Following the luncheon guests were taken on a tour of the historic home & gardens. Prior to the meeting a multi-faith service was conducted in the "Entally House" Chapel.

The Branch congratulates the 19 Tasmanians who received Order of Australia Awards on Australia Day 2017 especially our Branch Patron the Governor of Tasmania Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC.

DR ALAN NICHOLAS CHANTLER AM PHD, BSC, DIP TEACH, DIP CH

The son of Alan Chantler (clothier) and Wanda, née Cieniewska-Radziwill (artist and physiotherapist); Nicholas was born with a twin-sister in Cheshire on the 11th March 1950. He attended Rydal School in North Wales; and, then completed an Agricultural Apprenticeship at the Cheshire College of Agriculture.

The discovery of a letter, in a tin box in his grandfather's attic in Manchester, captured his imagination and excitement about Australia. This was further raised in school geography lessons on the Snowy Mountain Scheme and Australian agriculture. Then sometime later, meeting a vicar's daughter who was migrating to Australia, confirmed his desires.

An inherent interest in electronics, Sputnik and the Space Race, led him into amateur radio in the early 1960s, something which he is still passionate about today.

Nicholas arrived in 1973; and, after working as a trainee teacher, qualified at the University of Queensland. He then joined the Australian Regular Army (ARA) as an Education Officer in 1981. He then transferred to the corps of Signals. Some years later, as a hobby, he was monitoring a Russian imagery satellite with home-built equipment. This attracted the attention of the Australian Intelligence Corps (AIC) and Nicholas joined the corps in 1987.

He left the ARA in 1991, but stayed in the active reserves whilst lecturing at Queensland University of Technology and the Defence Intelligence Training Centre. He completed a PhD on computer hackers in 1996. From 2001 he worked with the UN for three years in Kosovo to rebuild information and communications technology. This was followed with projects in Kuwait and Korea to do with combating cybercrime.



Dr Nicholas Chantler AM and his wife Tanya.

Nicholas was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2010 "For service to computer science, particularly as a contributor to the development in security concepts and methodology, and as an educator."

Nicholas is married to Tanya; and they have two children Sophie and Marcus. They live in the beautiful West Tamar, near Launceston.

NATIONAL AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM OF TASMANIA



Brian Mathews OAM conducting a Museum tour for the OAA Northern Regional Members

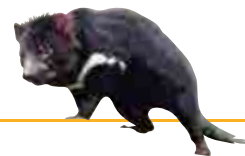
The Museum was established in 1987 by well known Launceston motoring identity Geoff Smedley. It was situated at Launceston's historic Waverley Woollen Mills complex in its early years until it was moved to its current site at Cimitiere St, near the CBD of Launceston, and opposite the beautiful City Park. It is a not-for-profit organisation; the NAMT Pty Ltd Trust Company owning the assets of the Museum. It is managed by a board of twelve (12) volunteer directors. The new Museum was officially opened in September 1996, and three (3) years later the seasonal theme display concept was introduced. This involves a three monthly cycle of exhibitions on the feature floor,

typically celebrating manufacture, era, nationality or specific theme. This ensures that the Museum is constantly refreshed and reflects the diversity of the collection.

Vehicles in the main hall of the Museum, along with the motorcycles housed on the mezzanine floor are also regularly rotated. All of the vehicles on display are privately owned. They belong to Tasmanian enthusiasts and collectors, and occasionally we have vehicles loaned by interstate owners. The success of the Museum is testament to the many hundreds of exhibitors who have made their vehicles available for display and to the directors and other volunteers who help in the day to day running and administration of the Museum.

The Museum plays host to various outside events during the year, often involving visiting car clubs. A Community Awareness Weekend is held annually, the purpose of which is to show the local community what Museum has to offer.

Also housed in the Museum is the Tasmanian Motorsport Hall of Fame, paying tribute to Tasmanians who have excelled in local, national and international motor sport. There is also a souvenir shop with a vast collection of rare and sought after die cast models available. The National Automobile Museum of Tasmania is respected as one of the finest of its kind in the country. It reflects great credit on those who originally established it and who manage it today, as it continues to delight thousands of visitors to our city every year.



A MOTIVATED AND CARING COUPLE



Jim Colville AM & his late wife Margaret Colville AM

Jim and Margaret Colville with the assistance of friend, Robert Gray, spent ten years bringing an otherwise dilapidated colonial wooden cottage, "Bangalore", back from the brink. See The Order, summer edition, 2017.

What else do we know of this wonderful couple who both were appointed as Members of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours in 2002 but for different reasons.

Margaret Colville AM was always an active community member, but when her third child was born with Down syndrome she became an advocate for other children with the syndrome and a strong supporter of their families. In her determination to provide services and support for other parents in her position she established "The Towers", a multi-functional centre for people with special needs; Toy Town, a toy library for children with disabilities; and the Down Syndrome Association of Tasmania with a goal to support families of children with Down syndrome and help these children realise their full potential.

For many years doctors referred parents of newly-born Down syndrome babies to meet with Margaret and she readily passed on her skills to others to continue this

important work. Margaret held office both locally and nationally with the Australian Association of Special Education and the Down Syndrome Association. She brought to all her work a great insight into the needs of those with special needs.

Margaret was appointed to the Tasmanian Honour Role of Women in 2009 and was a Finalist in the Tasmanian Senior Australian of the Year in 2010. The community was sad to lose a strong and passionate woman when she died in July 2014.

In 1973 Jim Colville AM was the founding Director of a very large and successful Community, not for profit, organisation, "Colony 47." After tirelessly working to raise the \$3000 necessary as a seeding fund "Colony 47" opened in a rented property, a closed historic church, at 47 Davey Street, Hobart. Right from the beginning he set up a coffee shop as a drop-in centre where young people could visit to receive assistance in a relaxed setting.

Jim recalls: "The young people who came to the service were all really involved and I learnt there that what's important is that people who are judged as being useless by society often have a lot to give if you tap into that potential. I've always felt it's not what you see but what the person can be, what the potential is in that person, and that's how we started."

He remembers a few of the early mistakes such as painting the front doors red as a statement, that there was something new there. Hobart people were very negative and the police also became involved suggesting they would charge Jim with running a house of ill repute based on the fact that some of the rough kids who came to the coffee shop had just been released from prison and were using the refuge to plan other crimes. Unfortunately this led to many people withdrawing their previously offered financial support.

Faced with this set back Jim realised that it was important to diversify. Colony 47 set up a Toy Library; LAMDA which was a support group for people in the gay community; and helped a lot of organisations that wanted to start but couldn't

afford a place to rent. The other aims of Colony 47 were working with unemployed young people; starting a community garden; developing contacts with places which could provide accommodation for young people.

Jim is warmed by the fact that nearly forty five years later when he meets some of these now adult people they thank him for the help he gave them to set them on a new path in life.

Postscript: Colony 47 provides support to 15,000 Tasmanian children, young people and families every year.

Article contributed by Sue Cox AM

TASMANIAN BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania

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Deputy Chairman:

Mr Clive D Lee AM, ASM;

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Mrs Maureen Rudge OAM, JP:
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The Hon Dr Frank Madill AM;
Mrs Therese von Samorzewski OAM;
Mr John Pease OAM;
Mrs Betty Hite OAM;
Dr Nicholas Chantler AM;
Mrs Maureen Oates OAM

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR ASSOCIATION
CHECK OUR WEBSITE www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

NORTHERN REGIONAL NOTES



Lunch organised by Betty Tasker OAM. Left to right Linda Madill OAM, Joan Green OAM, Betty Tasker OAM & Therese von Samorzewski OAM

The Northern Region continues an active and vigorous program of events into 2017. Members and partners attended a luncheon on 4th February at the beautiful home of Betty Tasker OAM. Dr Nicholas Chantler AM PhD gave an interesting and entertaining talk on his experiences while working in National Intelligence. The 26 attendees were delighted to be able to congratulate in person Mrs Linda Madill OAM on her Award received on Australia Day. Congratulations were also extended from the Northern Region to Awardees Mrs Robyn Dilger OAM of White-mark, Flinders Island and Mr Robert T Legge AM from Avoca.

The Northern Region AGM was held on the 16th of February at Glenara Lakes Hall and the current executive and committee were re-elected. Chairman Clive Lee AM gave special thanks

to retiring committeeman Graeme Barwick OAM for his great contribution over 12 years, having been treasurer for many years and major contributor to the success of the previous National Conference held in Tasmania and also for organising four branch AGM's. Clive also thanked Terry Heggaton OAM who was unable to continue on the committee, for his special contribution when the new committee came into being in 2013. A vote of thanks was moved for Terry and Graeme's commitment to the Association and their input to sustain the Northern Regional Group.

Special thanks and appreciation was also extended to Dr Frank Madill AM for his work over the last 12 months to achieve the production of the first information pamphlet promoting awareness and the importance of nominating citizens for Order of Australia Awards. The pamphlet will officially be on the agenda for the National Board Meeting at the National Conference in Brisbane in April. It is a great contribution from the Region to the Branches' commitment to promoting the Awards.

Clive, Frank and Nicholas attended citizenship ceremonies on Australia Day in Launceston, West Tamar and the Northern Midlands. At each of these ceremonies, the Mayors specifically spoke about Order of Australia Awards as distinct from Local Government Councils Australia Day Awards, and the new pamphlet was distributed to our newest citizens, friends, family and other persons who showed an interest. All seven (7) councils in the 03 telephone region had been approached during 2016 by the executive and we will be working to get the other four (4) on board this year to include the information on the Order of Australia in their citizenship ceremonies.

Particular thanks must go to our hard working secretary Therese von Samorzewski OAM for ensuring that all correspondence, meeting organisation and incidental matters (even including assisting with catering) runs smoothly.

BRIAN RAYMOND MATHEWS OAM

Brian was born in Tasmania on June 21st in 1940 and educated at Invermay State School, Launceston Technical High School and Launceston Technical College. After leaving school Brian worked at Kelsall and Kemp in the laboratory, working in industrial chemistry.

He then worked for Gillette for 15 years and then after leaving the work force was employed for a further 15yrs as a consultant. Prior to retirement he worked internationally for the Gillette Company including assignments as President and Chairman of the Board of Gillette Indonesia and President of Gillette (Philippines) Inc.

Brian has always had a great interest in vintage and fine automobiles. He is a life member of the Veteran Car Club of Australia (Tasmania) serving on the committee in several positions including

17 years as its State Secretary. He is a member of the Jaguar Car Club of Tasmania. The Rolls Royce Owners' Club of Australia and has spent much of his life and retirement being involved with the National Automobile Museum of Tasmania (see article in this issue). He was the Chairman of the steering committee that facilitated its move to its present premise and the inaugural Chairman of the Board of the Trustee Company for the museum, serving on the board from 1996 to the present.

Brian was awarded the Order of Australia Medal in the 2009 Australia Day Honours list for "Service to the Community particularly in the administration of motoring clubs and the establishment of the National Automobile Museum of Tasmania Foundation."

He has owned close to 30 or more cars



in his lifetime. He owns 3 and at the moment, 1949 Rolls Royce, 1972 Rolls Royce and a 2002 British Green Jaguar of which he has been the only owner.

Brian Mathews has been and continues to play a major role in the continuing and growing operation of our Automobile Museum in Launceston.

Brian Matthews OAM with his Rolls Royce (National Automobile Museum of Tasmania)



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

When taking on the role of State Chair I wanted to have several achievable goals that could be realised in my three year term.

The first goal was the introduction of an inspiring Australians Oration which was delivered in February by Her Excellency Linda Dessau AC Governor of Victoria. This outstanding speech is published on the OAA website for all of you to read.

I am pleased to advise that our second Oration has been locked in for 23 February 2018 at Deakin Edge, Federation Square in Melbourne and tickets are available now at www.trybooking.com/267521. Susan Alberti AC, well known philanthropist, businesswomen and AFL power broker will deliver the oration.

The second goal was for our State to fund and award a scholarship via the Order of Australia Foundation. I would like to thank those regional groups, particularly North East Victoria and Goulburn Valley, who joined with the State branch to make this possible.

Our Deputy Chairman-Country, Duncan Stalker OAM, presented the scholarship with the Governor General to Jordan Eitler at the recent Queensland conference.

Jordan Eitler is a Deakin University (Geelong Waterfront Campus) student from Wodonga, Victoria. He is enrolled in the double Degrees of Bachelor of Criminology and Bachelor of Laws where he has achieved excellent marks. He completed his secondary education at Catholic College, Wodonga in 2013,

achieving an ATAR score of 87.4. He then undertook a gap year traineeship in a Certificate III course in Education Support. This led to a position as Department Manager. His main role was to support refugees and students with learning challenges. As a member of North Geelong Football Club, Jordan enjoys the community involvement, time apart from studies and consolidating his leadership talents. When he was 12, his father had a life-changing accident and Jordan took on the responsibility for the large family, helping generate the home finances. It was apparent that there was significant stress on his family during the time of pursuing compensation for his father's injury. It was this experience which kindled Jordan's interest in the law. He eventually hopes to start his own law firm where he can create an environment for lawyers who have similar community values to himself.

The third goal I set was improving the gender and diversity balance in those receiving the Honours under the Australian Honours System. This is certainly a longer term goal which we are slowly gaining traction on. I look forward to providing you with some improved statistics in the future.

Paul Wheelton AM



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
The Victoria Branch acknowledges the ongoing and generous support of the Royal Automobile Club Victoria

DAVID G. MANN OAM, PAST CHAIRMAN, ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION VICTORIA BRANCH



David Mann, a famous media personality, is best known as 'Mann About Town', has been part of 3AW, a Melbourne radio station, since 1973 when he joined as an office boy. Later he was promoted and given a cadetship in journalism, quickly moving onto an on air role as radio personality for a period of 20 years. For four decades now, David has held various roles within the Company, including Production Manager, Creative Director, and Promotions and Marketing Manager where he held the reins for more than twenty years.

David has been appointed to several Boards, both paid and unpaid positions, the latest being the Chair of the Victoria Police Blue Ribbon Foundation. As a member of many not-for-profit organisations, his efforts to help the community continue on many fronts.

David says that what motivates him is the belief that he can make a change in the lives of others. He loves working with people, learning from them and helping them when he can.

Contrary to general belief David was awarded his Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in January 2006 not for "Services to the Media" but *"For service to the community through a range of police, nursing, heritage and emergency services organisations"*. This was due to the fact that he has worked in a volunteer capacity for more than thirty years with Victoria Police Force, Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigade and Ambulance Victoria.

In March 2007, David was appointed to the Committee of the Order of Australia

Association (Victoria Branch) - and later, in November 2011 became Chair of the Order of Australia Association (Victoria Branch). In that role, David lists his main achievements as:

- Help raise awareness of the Order of Australia and its Association
- Organisation of the Melbourne Conference of the Association in 2014 which was a great success, and
- Putting together a succession planning in the Victoria Branch as well as totally re-organising the merchandising effort of the Association.

David thinks that there are many challenges ahead for the Association, including the need to operate it along business lines with staff, engaging with the community to raise awareness even further, continuously reinventing itself with initiatives such as the Oration. *"The Victoria Branch leads the way in many ways"* he says and suggests that maybe the Head Office would best be located in Melbourne rather than Canberra.

HONOUR A WOMAN; A GENDER EQUALITY GOAL OF 50:50 BY 2020

Ruth McGowan OAM



Women have consistently been under-represented in the Order of Australia honours since their inception in 1975. The Governor-General, Sir Peter Cosgrove and Lady Cosgrove, along with the Council for the Order of Australia are all concerned about the gender imbalance and have recently called for more nominations

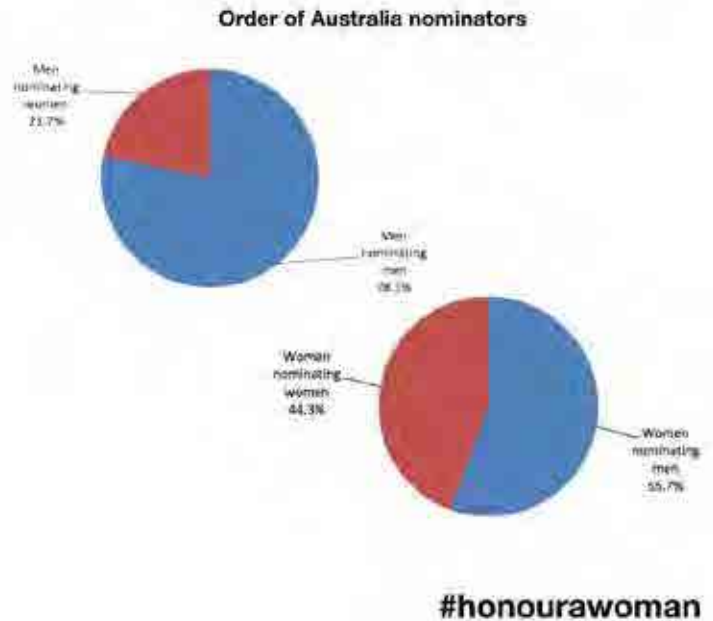
from the public for women. Chairman of the Order of Australia Association- Victoria Branch, Paul Wheelton AM has set working towards gender equality as one of his aims during his term.

A small group of Victorians, lead by Ruth McGowan OAM, began a movement to expand the pool of women nominated for an Australian Honour. Their project, *Honour A Woman*, began in March 2017 to assist other Australians to nominate a woman for an Order of Australia Honour. The group believes that outstanding women of all backgrounds should be represented equally in the Australian Honours and the goal is to reach 50:50 representations by the year 2020.

The movement is relying on social media to support and inspire other Australians to work on nominating a woman for an Honour. "We have set up a Facebook page "**Honour A Woman**" to provide resources, support and encouragement for people who wish to nominate an outstanding woman. The support we've received to date from men and women has been excellent" Ms McGowan said.

The aim of *Honour A Woman* is to increase the number of female applications by 300 a year over the next three years which will take women from a third of nominations to 50 per cent by the year 2020. *Honour A Woman* tries to connect nominees with suitable referees to support an application and there is also potential for help with the review process. "*Honour a Woman* has declared June as the month when past recipients of an Australian Honour are invited to 'pass it on' and nominate a woman" said Ms McGowan.

What's wrong with this picture?



For more information, see:

<https://www.facebook.com/Honourawoman/>

Or contact Ms Ruth McGowan OAM on ruth@ruthmcgowan.com

Graphics by Madeline Hawke, Honour A Woman.
Reference for Graphics: <https://www.gg.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/honours/HonoursBranchReportFinalOct2016.pdf>



Vision: Gender equality in the Australian honours

Aim: to support Australians to successfully nominate women for Australian Honours

Goal: 50:50 by 2020

<https://www.facebook.com/Honourawoman/>



INSPIRING AUSTRALIANS ORATION

The inaugural Oration was delivered by Victorian Governor the Honourable Linda Dessau AC on 24 February 2017 at an overflowing Deakin Edge, Federation Square, Melbourne. The Governor, who began her duties on 1 July 2015, is Victoria's 29th Governor and the first female in the role.

She began her speech by saying; "It is an honour to be presenting the INAUGURAL 'Inspiring Australians' Oration. It spares me the anxiety of looking back to see the illustrious speakers who have gone before me, with the added pressure it inevitably brings. On the other hand, it does occur to me that there is another, different pressure in delivering the first oration. That is, I wouldn't want to be the sole cause of the first one being the last!

This topic, of inspiring Australians, is both an easy and a difficult one: easy, because there is no paucity of people to choose from, and difficult for just that same reason.

The choice will often depend on context and perspective..." and concluded by saying "I hope this wonderful initiative of the Victorian Branch of the Order of Australia Association is repeated next year and each year thereafter. I have had to discipline myself to stop here because there is no end to the inspiring Australians to whom I would dearly like to refer."

The full text of the Governor's speech can be found at the Victoria Branch's web site and the link is: <http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/branches/vic/InspiringAustraliansOrationVic.htm>



The Honourable Linda Dessau AC is delivering her inspiring speech.



The Governor with Mr Paul Wheelton AM, Chairman of the Order of Australia Association-Victoria Branch.

GIPPSLAND REGIONAL GROUP PLEASANT DAY ON INLAND WATERS

On Sunday 26 March 2017 Gippsland members of the Order of Australia Association travelled to Sale to enjoy a leisurely two hour trip down the canal and river from the Port of Sale to the famous Swing Bridge, one of only four in Australia. The group travelled on the Rubeena, an electrically powered 1912 vintage vessel and was hosted by Alan Lewis, former Shire Engineer at Sale. Alan has a wealth of knowledge of the history and development of these waterways, as well as, expertise in the engineering side of the canal and the swing bridge construction. His talk was interesting and instructive, as was his knowledge of local wildlife seen along the banks.

The members were delighted to welcome newest addition to their ranks, Deirdre Relph OAM. After the trip in the morning the members were joined with the afternoon group for lunch at Equus Restaurant in Sale, where a pleasant meal and the great company of the members was enjoyed.



From L-R: Neil Terrill OAM, Lois Terrill, Beth Delzoppo OAM, John Delzoppo OAM, Margaret Bodman

VICTORIA BRANCH

OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron: The Governor of Victoria
Her Excellency The Hon. Linda Dessau AM

Chairman:
Mr Paul Wheelton AM

Deputy Chair Metropolitan:
Ms Diane James AM

Deputy Chair Country
Mr Duncan Stalker OAM

Honorary Secretary
Mr Fred Harrington OAM

Honorary Treasurer
Mr Julian Stock AM

Regional Groups Coordinator (Interim)
Mr Fred Harrington OAM

Members:

Editor- State Electronic Newsletter and Vic content of The Order
Dr John Basarin OAM

Events Coordinator
Ms Christine Unsworth AM
Ms Cathy Roth OAM
Mr Neil Soullier OAM
Ms Helene Bender OAM
Dr Michael Kennedy OAM

Co-opted Members:

Membership Secretary:
Mr Tony Smith OAM

National Merchandise Officer:
Mr Richard Rozen OAM

VICTORIAN REGIONAL GROUP CONVENERS

Barwon: Barbara Abley AM

Central Highlands: Jean Wise OAM

Central Suburbs: Suzette Gallagher OAM

Eastern Suburbs: Barbara Thompson OAM

Gippsland: Beth Delzoppo OAM

Loddon Campaspe: John Higgs OAM

Mallee: Vernon Knight AM

Mornington Peninsula: Brian Stahl OAM JP

NE & Goulburn Valley: Barbara Thomas OAM

North Central Suburbs: Fred Harrington OAM

South Central Suburbs: Roger Wilson OAM

SW Victoria: Peter Habersberger AM RFD

Western Suburbs: Vance Hilton OAM



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Our major focus recently has been organising and hosting the Association's National Conference. I wish to congratulate and thank the Conference Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr Mick Davis AM ASM for their considerable hard work in ensuring a stimulating and rewarding experience for all attendees.

My sincere congratulations to all those who have recently had their contributions to our society recognised by an award in the Order of Australia. They received their awards at ceremonies held at Government House in early May. I am pleased that there was a representative of the Queensland Branch Committee of our Association attending each of the ceremonies. My thanks to Carole Miller OAM who represented me at the awards ceremony recently held in Cairns.

In February members attended our adjourned Annual General Meeting held at the Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha and also enjoyed morning tea. This was followed by a briefing from the Gardens' Curator and staff. The conducted tours of the Gardens, which followed, provided a wonderful opportunity for members to gain an appreciation the very extensive collection of trees and shrubs being carefully nurtured in the wide range of environments included in the gardens.

We are looking forward to the coming combined event with the Victoria League Brisbane for Commonwealth Friendship to celebrate the Queen's Birthday and the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. This very special event will be a cocktail reception to be held on Friday 7 July on Level 41 William Street, Brisbane. You are warmly invited to attend.

John Harden AM, FAIAS

BUNDABERG REGIONAL GROUP

The Bundaberg Regional Group organised a lunch at the Hervey Bay QCWA rooms on Saturday 18 February 2017. The 22 guests in attendance enjoyed a lovely meal prepared by the Hervey Bay members of the Queensland Country Women Association (QCWA).

The guest speaker was Audrey Sorrenson who told us of her childhood growing up in a dairy farming family around the Kingaroy region and being the only girl in a family of five. She told us of the bursary she was awarded by the QCWA to further her education in Brisbane. She eventually became a teacher. On retirement she became a member of the University of the Third Age in Hervey Bay. She expressed her sincere gratitude to the QCWA for their vision in giving her the bursary to study and further her education - because without that bursary, she would not have had the opportunity to live the life she has led as an educator.

The next event for the Group is planned for mid-year and most likely somewhere in Bundaberg.

Donna Duncan OAM, Convener



The ten Order of Australia awardees at the Bundaberg Regional Group lunch. Back row from L to R – Theo Jamieson OAM, Doug McIvor OAM, Terry Meehan AM, Lex Roland OAM, Dr Darryl Gauld OAM and Judith Hunter OAM. Front row from L to R – Donna Duncan OAM, Dawn Kling OAM, Tom Jehn OAM and Don Jones OAM.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND A PLETHORA OF BRISBANE'S FLORA

The Queensland Branch held its adjourned meeting to complete the Branch's 37th Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the Auditorium at the Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha on Tuesday 21 February 2017.

To make this important meeting attractive for members to attend, a morning tea incorporating talks by Dale Arvidsson, the Curator of the Gardens and Wendy Peden OAM, one of the Gardens' most senior guides, was organised, as well as guided tours of these splendid Botanic Gardens. Forty-seven attended the event including 29 members.

The Queensland Branch Committee catered a delicious morning tea. Dale's talk dove-tailed the virtues of the two Botanic Gardens in Brisbane, this one at Mt Coot-tha, in the Brisbane western suburbs, and the older, more established one in the Brisbane CBD.

He explained how both complement each other with each providing important contributions to the Brisbane flora landscape in their own unique ways. He outlined the history of the Mt Coot-tha Gardens and provided an insight into the plethora of flora these Gardens have to offer the people of Brisbane and visiting tourists. Mary Peden OAM, who received her award in this year's Australia Day honours and who was a former winner of the Association's Senior Volunteer Award, spoke with great passion about why she was inspired to become a guide of the Gardens so many years ago and her love of the many floral exhibits that make the Mt Coot-tha Gardens so special today.

The 37th AGM held on Monday 21 November 2016 was adjourned because the national accounting period (financial year) of the Association had changed from "1 October to 30 September" to "1 January to 31 December". The last financial year



Enjoying the tranquility of the Japanese Garden, a feature at the Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha during the visit on Tuesday 21 February are from L to R – Professor Tony Webber AM, Geoff Cowles OAM, Rosemary Kennedy, Christopher Kennedy OAM, and Darryl Seccombe OAM.

therefore was extended to a one off 15 month accounting period from 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2016, so that future financial years will then reflect the new accounting period. The meeting held prior to the morning tea on Tuesday 21 February duly passed the Queensland Branch accounts to 31 December 2016 thus completing the unfinished business from the AGM held on 21 November last year.

Geoff Cowles OAM, Secretary



CENTRAL QUEENSLAND REGIONAL GROUP



At the Central Queensland Group's function (L to R) Dr Ray Boyle, Eleanor Dean OAM, Raymond Young OAM and Catherine George.

Twenty members and guests of the Central Queensland Regional Group met for morning tea in Rockhampton on 13 March 2017 and were addressed by Dr Ray Boyle, retired engineer, part-time academic and regional historian.

Dr Boyle's passion is for the history of the famous Mount Morgan Mine which closed in 1990 after operating continuously for one hundred and eight years. Dr Boyle spoke of some of the more significant initiatives made by Mount Morgan Mine, including those which had the most influence on local life. He said that from 1932 onward the mine supported the town in the provision of electric power, assisted with the provision and maintenance of the first reticulated water supply, constructed first class sporting facilities and donated the building which now houses the excellent Historical Museum.

Very importantly, the mine trained almost seven hundred trade apprentices and professional cadets, over ninety-one percent of whom completed their indentures. Many went on to hold important positions both nationally and internationally.

The meeting was also addressed by Catherine George, Chair of the Museum of Central Queensland Association. Catherine spoke of the Museum's projects to date including the production of "Researching the history of your Central Queensland house- a guide to uncovering its past" by Dr Barbara Webster. Catherine also spoke of the need for a venue to stage exhibitions of cultural, historical and sporting achievements of Rockhampton and Central Queensland.

Catherine applauded Mayor Margaret Strelow's recent proposal for development of a Cultural Precinct in Rockhampton and suggested it could include a venue to stage exhibitions.

Our Annual Dinner will be held on 11 September 2017.

Raymond Young OAM, Convener

DARLING DOWNS GROUP MEETS CONFERENCE VISITORS

Members of the Darling Downs Regional Group joined Order of Australia Association members and guests participating in a Pre-Conference tour to the Darling Downs when the visitors enjoyed a visit to the DownsSteam Tourist Railway and Museum on 18 April 2017. Following a guided tour of the many exhibits, all enjoyed afternoon tea before the visitors returned to Brisbane to attend the 2017 National Conference.

Paul McNally OAM, Convener

CELEBRATING OUR WONDERFUL SENIOR VOLUNTEERS

Nominations are now being received for the 2017 **Senior Volunteer Awards**. This is a great way to honour senior members of our communities (women and men sixty years and over) who devote so much of their time and effort to serving community organisations as volunteers.

The Senior Volunteer Awards were established by the Queensland Branch of the Order of Australia Association in 2013 as a means of providing public recognition to those thousands of senior volunteers whose unheralded contributions to the community are so vital to the organisation and operation of our society.

In the last issue of *The Order* (Summer 2017) you were able to read the citations for the three 2016 recipients of the Award, Tony Fox, Deirdre Hargreaves and Judy Muir. There are thousands of outstanding

volunteers like them who deserve our recognition and gratitude for the unselfish and valuable contributions they make.

Any Queensland member of our Association can submit a nomination. A flyer about the Award and a nomination form is included in this issue of *The Order*. The nomination form can also be found at the Association's web-site in the Queensland section www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/branches/qld. The form is only two pages long and is easy to complete. If you know of a senior volunteer whom you believe should be considered for a Senior Volunteer Award 2017, please nominate that person.

Don't forget nominations close on Friday 25 August 2017 with the Queensland Branch Secretary, Geoff Cowles OAM. So don't delay – act today.

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN YOUTH CITIZENSHIP

Initiated in 1999 by the Order of Australia Association, Queensland Branch, the annual **Secondary Schools Citizenship Award** is a jewel in our crown. In Term 2 each year all Queensland secondary schools are invited to nominate Year 12 students for these Awards. The schools select their nominees based on their involvement and commitment to the ideals of citizenship and community service and provide written examples to demonstrate what the student has undertaken and achieved.

Students who are nominated may not necessarily be academic or sporting high-achievers but they will have displayed a commitment to bettering the world in which they live and will be excellent role models.

On Friday 15 September 2017, the students selected to receive Awards will be presented with them at Parliament House, Brisbane. When possible, the Awards are presented by His Excellency the Governor of Queensland. All members of the Association are warmly invited to attend the presentation ceremony and meet the young recipients. Please include the event in your diaries. An invitation will be sent in due course to all Association members.

GOLD COAST REGIONAL GROUP

Members of the Gold Coast Regional Group will hold a luncheon at the Southport Golf Club on Monday 5 June 2017. Invitations will be sent soon to all our members.

Bill Collins AO, Convener

SOMETHING DIFFERENT IS HAPPENING ON 7 JULY

A Cocktail Reception to celebrate the Queen's Birthday and the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games

The Queensland Branch of the Association is joining with the Victoria League for Commonwealth Friendship, for this exciting Cocktail Reception on sensational **Level 41 of 1 William Street** in the Brisbane CBD, from **4:30pm to 6:30pm**, as the sun sets over the Brisbane River and Mt Coot-tha.



The Towering splendour of 1 William Street with Queensland Parliament House in the foreground

His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland and Mrs Kaye de Jersey will be present

The cost is \$75 per person, dress code is Cocktail / Lounge suit and the RSVP date is Friday 30 June 2017.

A booking form is included with this edition of *The Order* or can be downloaded from the Association's website at www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

As part of security/entry requirements for 1 William Street you must bring with you photo ID (such as a driver's licence, passport or some other photo ID card such as a government proof of age card). Aim to arrive no later than 4:15pm.

For all enquiries please contact Geoff Cowles OAM, Secretary (phone 07-3351 4991 or secqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

THE GALLIGAN FAMILY – OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

According to Queensland Branch Committee member, Patrick Galligan OAM, community service is part of his family's DNA. Their community service has been recently recognised in Ipswich.

A newly constructed street was named Galligan Way by the Ipswich City Council to recognise the community service of his family (including his late father and himself) over several decades. Pat's father, Len Galligan, was a tireless worker for the community and was made a Life Member of four different associations.

The street is the last one in Goodna before the old Redbank Rifle Range where several of Pat's uncles and cousins trained when they enlisted to serve in the Army during the Second World War.



Ipswich Mayor Cr. Paul Pisale with Patrick Galligan OAM at the Ipswich City Australia Day Awards ceremony on Saturday 21 January 2017.

Pat was also honoured at the 2017 Ipswich Australia Day Awards ceremony. He was presented with a City of Ipswich Medalion by the Mayor, Cr. Paul Pisale, to recognise his contribution to the city over many years through Rotary and other community associations.

IN MEMORIAM

Michael Ruffin Aitkin OAM
Terrance Neil Betts OAM
Leo Owen Donovan OAM
Frederick John Faircloth OAM
Peter Sydney Fardoulis AM
James Bower Forwood AM
Horst Herman Frey OAM
Betty Patricia Grant OAM
Edmund Herbert Grohn OAM
Jack Holingsworth OAM
Marle Richard Juster OAM
Maurice John Kelly OAM

Douglas Gordon McKenzie OAM
John Joseph Newman OAM
Meryl Ellen Papas OAM
Raymond Kingsley Phippard OAM
Brian Keith Robinson OAM
Colin Taylor OAM
Thomas Hedley Robert Thomas AM
Joan Florence Urquhart OAM
Richard Fredrick Walker AM
Neil Harvey Weekes AM
Yvonne June Zardani OAM

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland

Chairman

Associate Professor John Harden AM, Tel: 07 3408 2005 (H); 0418 988 659 (M)

Vice Chairman

Mr Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ, 0408 887 923 (M)

Secretary

Mr Geoff Cowles OAM, Tel: 07 3351 4991 (H); 0413 833 720 (M)

Treasurer

Mr Royce Voss OAM, Tel: 07 3410 0348 (H); 0419 729 953 (M)

Membership Officer

Mr Patrick Galligan OAM, Tel: 3288 2276 (H); 0408 703 276 (M)

Newsletter Editor

Mr Paul McNally OAM, Tel: 4632 2286 (H); 0407 584 886 (M)

Conference 2017 Convener

Dr Mick Davis AM ASM

Emeritus Professor Mary Mahoney AO, Member

Mr Darryl Seccombe OAM, Member

Mrs Marjorie Voss OAM, Member

Emeritus Professor Tony Webber AM, Member

Mr Raymond Young OAM, Member

All correspondence to Geoff Cowles OAM, Hon. Secretary, 16 Kanturk Street, Ferny Grove, Qld 4055 or email secqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

QUEENSLAND REGIONAL GROUP CONVENERS

Bundaberg: Donna Duncan OAM – donna_dd@bigpond.net.au

Central Queensland: Raymond Young OAM – raymond@cyberoz.com.au

Darling Downs: Paul McNally OAM – pmcnally1@bigpond.com

Far North Queensland: Carole Miller OAM – carole.miller@bigpond.com

Gold Coast: Bill Collins AO – wmandrjc@qld.chariot.net.au

Mackay-Whitsunday: Carmel Daveson AM – carmel@ehw.net.au

Sunshine Coast: Contact the Branch Secretary – secqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Townsville: Mick Johnson OAM – michael.johnson25@defence.gov.au



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2017 promises to be a busy year for the Branch as we plan and look forward to the Order of Australia Association 2018 National Conference in Adelaide in May of that year. With a theme 'Challenges and Opportunities through Life – Youth to Ageing' we are planning a most memorable and information packed Conference. Based in the spectacular Adelaide Convention Centre it provides Conference amenities close to many great accommodation venues or if living in Adelaide, a readily accessible location by public transport or road network.

While it is a national conference we are very keen to see a large representation from our own South Australian membership. Brochures are now available and they and registration forms will be available at all functions and events that are to be held between now and May 2018. Firstly, I encourage you to join us and secondly, if you are able, invite you to consider helping as a volunteer in the final arrangement of and throughout the Conference. Your contribution as a volunteer – if you decide – will help share the load with others. Jan Forrest OAM has been appointed to work with volunteers in supporting the Conference and is keen to hear from you – Jan's phone number is 08 8297 8230.

Throughout the next three editions of The Order we will continue to update all Association members about the Conference as we encourage attendance from Association members and partners nationally.

I also take this opportunity to welcome all the new recipients following the announcement of Honours Awards on Australia Day. Our branch, our members and representatives of Local

Government – a number of metropolitan and near metropolitan Mayors – joined new recipients in a reception jointly hosted by His Worship the Mayor of Norwood Payneham & St Peters Robert Bria, his Council and I, on behalf of the Branch Committee, at the Payneham Library Complex recently. It is wonderful to meet new recipients and increase the participation in branch activities. We now await the announcement of recipients on the 2017 Queens Birthday holiday.

As I move around to various functions, events and regional group gatherings I note the interest of the attending members in our activities and their enjoyment in participation. I would encourage each of you, if you have not been a part of our functions and events in the last few years or at all, to consider joining us at an event in the near future.

As a Branch, we continue to maximise The Order to convey our messages and activities to our members. However irrespective of when The Order editorial closes and it is received by you, there will always be things that are happening in the period in between that cannot meet the deadline. We have the opportunity from time to time where we have the contact details to advise those who have an email address. I accept that it is an individual right to choose whether to have an email address or not, or if you have one, but do not wish to provide it to us.

However, if you have an address and have not advised us of it but would like to be listed on our data base I would invite you to email Branch Membership Director Jan Forrest on janforrest02@gmail.com. I have also suggested in the past that where there is an opportunity and it is appropriate that a buddy system apply – in other words you have an email address but your colleague who you might catch up with regularly does not, then you might pass the message/s onto them.

**My best wishes to all,
Ken Coventry OAM, JP.
Chairman, South Australian Branch**

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCH MONDAY 12TH JUNE

"Damien on Fisher dining room", Living Choice Complex venue, 123 Fisher Street, Fullarton, on Monday 12 June, at 12.00 noon.

(Car parking is available in the street nearby. Some public car parking is available on the grounds and drop off at the entrance is conveniently available)

Cost of \$55.00 per person. Please respond on reply slip by Friday, 26 May, 2017.

Members, partners and guests can enjoy sharing comradeship and celebrating the Queen's birthday (and her historically lengthy period of service) in the beautiful, spacious atmosphere of the "Damien on Fisher" dining room surrounded by adjacent, attractive gardens of the "Living Choice" venue in Fullarton.

Participants are asked to arrive at noon and be seated for the commencement of serving by 12.30. Diners are welcome to visit the gardens if they have time before or after the lunch.

The table staff provide a very friendly service and dietary requirements and limited mobility. are considered. Diners can also purchase their drinks at the bar located between the entrance and the dining room.

The program will include a guest speaker who is one of Adelaide's very significant community leaders. Members can wear large medals.

For any enquiries please contact Pamela Rajkowski OAM, email pamraj@bigpond.com, or ph 0400 810 196.

Check out our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

STUDENT CITIZEN AWARDS

An ongoing, successful community project of the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association is the Student Citizenship Awards (SCA). This project, which invites all schools and colleges in South Australia with Year 11 and 12 enrolments, is an opportunity to acknowledge students who have given exceptional and exemplary service and commitment to their schools and communities.

At the end of the year those students who qualify among the top ten in the state are presented with a Certificate by the Governor of South Australia and those and other students are presented with Certificates in front of their school assemblies by Branch members and other members who are situated geographically close to the relevant but more remote schools.

If any members would like to know more about this project or in participating in school presentations, please contact the Project Convenor Pamela Rajkowski OAM on 0400 810 196 or pamraj@bigpond.com

2017 AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCH

South Australian members enjoyed a pleasant lunch in the garden room at the Hackney Hotel where Vince Monterola AM, AFSM was the guest speaker. His title 'Heroes - Hot and Cold' in which he shared his experiences in bushfires and recovery.



Brent and Judy van Loenen OAM



John and Maree Anderson OAM



2018 Conference Secretary Richard House OAM and Peggy House



Guest speaker Vincent Monterola AM AFSM

IN MEMORIAM

Matthew Palmer TIDDY OAM
 Brian Crossley JEFFRIES AM
 Marion Betty McCARTHY OAM
 Heather Birt BONNIN OAM (nee McDonald)
 Basil HETZEL AC
 Barbara NIEMIEC-WARCOK OAM
 Mavis (May) Edna JACKSON OAM (nee MEANEY)
 Alan Carnegie SMITH OAM
 Raymond Harvey BUTTERY OAM
 Ian Arch FLETCHER OAM
 Beryle (Daph) Lorraine HALLIDAY OAM
 Daphne Lorraine GUM MBE, OAM

SOUTH AUSTRALIA OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia;

Chairman (and Regional Co-ordinator)

Mr Ken Coventry OAM;

Secretary

Mr Rob Clyne OAM;
 e-mail: rob@masonic-foundation.asn.au

Treasurer and Deputy Chairman

Mr Anthony Metcalf OAM;

Branch Membership Officer

Ms Jan Forrest OAM

Committee Members

Mr Ken Davis AM
 Professor Alan Johnson AM
 Ms Jenny Macintosh OAM
 Ms Pamela Rajkowski OAM
 Mr Francis Wong OAM

FOOTNOTE

We have the opportunity from time to time where we have the contact details to advise those who have an email address. We accept that it is an individual right to choose whether to have an email address or not, or if you have one, but do not wish to provide it to us.

However, if you have an address and have not advised us of it but would like to be listed on our data base I would invite you to email Branch Membership Director Jan Forrest on janforrest02@gmail.com. We have also suggested in the past that where there is an opportunity and it is appropriate that a buddy system apply – in other words you have an email address but your colleague who you might catch up with regularly does not, then you might pass the message/s onto them.



ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

2018 (32ND) NATIONAL CONFERENCE

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH LIFE YOUTH TO AGING

Thursday 3rd to Sunday 6th May 2018

West Building, Adelaide Convention Centre
North Terrace, City



We invite you to join us in Adelaide for the
32nd National Conference of the Order of Australia Association
“Challenges and Opportunities through Life: Youth to Ageing”

This page will be a feature of each issue of the Order until the conference so we can keep you up to date on all the exciting activities that we are planning, as details become available.

The conference will be located in the Adelaide Convention Centre on North Terrace, the major tourist area of central Adelaide where many forms of accommodation at all levels of standard are located.

Major sessions that we will be held are

- Conference Opening and Multi-Faith Celebration
- Welcome Reception
- Annual General Meeting and Members Forum
- A Panel Presentation on Challenges and Opportunities for Future Australia
- National Oration
- Lord Mayor's reception in the Adelaide Town Hall (Numbers are limited for this event and entry will require a special invitation)
- Topics of Interest on:
 - Ageing and Driving
 - Nutrition
 - Leisure and Fitness
 - Opportunities in Ageing
- National Awards other than Orders of Australia
- Student and Youth Voices
- Formal Conference Dinner including Presentation of OAA Foundation Scholarships
- Wreath Laying Service and Anzac Centenary Memorial Walk
- Farewell Lunch

Please see the registration brochure in this edition of the Order for timings and other information.

Queries can be addressed to Tony Metcalf OAM metcalf1942@optusnet.com.au or

Professor Alan Johnson AM info@rmsinternational.com



2016 AGM

A convivial AGM (that's not an oxymoron!) was held last October in the Foyer Gallery of the Entertainment Centre, hosted by Mr. Alan James OAM. The meeting was well attended, including by new members of the OA Association. After the usual formalities, Mr. James gave a most informative overview of the workings of the Darwin Entertainment Centre, and the Centre's contribution to the cultural life of Darwin. As our Chairman acknowledged, Alan's speech was *"personal, full of anecdotes which related well to the audience, and most listenable"*. We are most fortunate to have this facility in the Top End and a manager with Mr. James's skills and insights.



Ms. Sharon Mulholland AM with Mrs. Sharon Wilson and Mr. Robert Wilson OAM



Dr. Kevin Davis AM, Mr. Dom Fracaro AM, and Mrs. Fracaro, with Mrs. Lyn Martin



Alan James OAM



Cherry Wulumirr Daniels OAM with nephew Godfrey Blitner, Wendy James OAM, Salome Harris from the Ngukurr Language Centre and Jennifer McDonald from the CD University

SENIOR AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR 2017



OAA NT is delighted by the news that widely loved Bathurst Island community champion Sister Anne Gardiner AM, has been awarded **SENIOR AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR for 2017**

As a 22-year-old member of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Sister Anne Gardiner was asked to move to Bathurst Island to live among the Tiwi people. In the 62 years since, Sr Anne has devoted her life to enriching community, enhancing opportunity and supporting the Tiwi culture. An advocate of peace, love and the traditional Tiwi way of life, Sr Anne has worked tirelessly to document and preserve the Tiwi language for future generations. The Principal of the local primary school, Sr Anne has educated generations of children while also establishing community clubs, from mothers' groups to Little Athletics. The cornerstone of the community, Sister Anne has earned an enduring place in the hearts of the Tiwi people.

Check out our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au



AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS LIST 2017



MaryAnn Bin -Sallik (AO)

Academic, author and former nurse MaryAnn Bin-Sallik received the prestigious Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service of a high degree to Australia and humanity. She said she was honoured and humbled to be recognised for her contribution to tertiary education, particularly in the area of Indigenous studies and culture.

"As an Indigenous teenager growing up in Darwin in the 1960s, the only expectation on me was to be a domestic servant, but I didn't want to do that," she said. Within 10 years of starting her first job in higher education, she graduated from Harvard University with a doctorate – the first Indigenous woman to do so.



His Honour the Honourable John Laurence Hardy (AO)

His Honour the Honourable John Laurence Hardy (AO) is now an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to the people of the Northern Territory, and as a patron and supporter of a range of aviation, health, emergency service and charitable organisations.

Ms Constance (Connie) Lynne Spencer AM

Ms Constance (Connie) Lynne Spencer AM is rewarded for significant service to conservation and the environment through research into native plants of Central Australia.



Mrs Karen Ann Sheldon (AM)

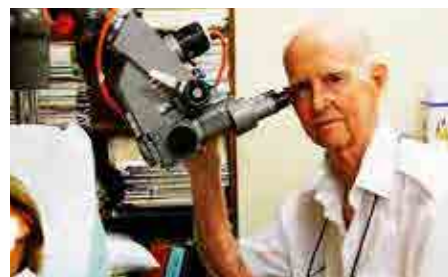
Ms Karen Sheldon has been recognised for significant service to the community through the development of Indigenous employment and training opportunities, and to the hospitality industry. Coming from hospitality work in Victoria, her work in the Territory started in 1975 as a cook in the Barrow Creek Hotel where she had her first contacts with Aboriginal people. Over 40 years later Karen Sheldon Training is committed to working towards Closing the Gap on Indigenous economic disadvantage by inspiring, training and mentoring Indigenous jobseekers to take their true place in the Australian economy.



Mr Allan Raymond McGill (AM)

Has been made a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to local government in the Northern Territory, to sport, and to the community, including in the roles of Chief Executive Officer, Northern Territory Department of Local Government, 2013-2014; Chief of Staff, Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, 2012-2013; Manager, Territory Alliance (housing construction), 2009-2012.

Alan has also made a big contribution to the development of Polocrosse in the NT, has been President of the Tiwi Bombers Football Club, AFLNT, 2007-2012 and Life Member, since 2014 and was on the Masters Games Alice Springs Committee, 1992-1994.



Dr Albert Foreman (OAM)

He has received the Order of Australia Medal for his service to medicine, particularly in rural and remote areas. In his 85 years, Dr Albert Foreman has treated countless patients from all over the world suffering with ear, nose and throat problems.

Originally an engineer, Dr. Foreman started practicing as a doctor only in his forties. He is still working with his receptionist wife in his museum-like clinic in Darwin, full of artefacts and treasures from a life lived in the Pacific, Africa, London and the Northern Territory.



Michael Foley (OAM)

Musician, long-time board member of the Browns Mart community arts group and founder of Seniors of Excellence, Michael Foley has been honoured with the Order of Australia Medal for his service to the community of the Northern Territory.

Mr. Foley is a specialist on the double bass, which took him to just about every venue in Darwin and all around the world. At 21 he toured with jazz legend Louis Armstrong. More recently, he saw a need for seniors to be acknowledged and celebrated for the volunteer work they do every day.

Janice Dawn Ferguson (OAM)

Has been awarded For service to the Indigenous communities of the Northern Territory. Janice has been Managing Director of Ninti One Ltd, 2005-2014, a national not-for-profit organisation which conducts research, training and research application in remote Australia. It manages the intellectual property from the former Desert Knowledge Co-operative Research Centre and administers the CRC for Remote Economic Participation.

ALICE SPRINGS NEWS – DRY SEASON 2016



Mr. Michael Martin OAM addressing the Alice Springs group

The long serving Mayor of Alice Springs, Damian Ryan regularly recognizes Awardees of the Order of Australia from the local community. On 26 July last year he organized a social function for awardees and the Association helped in ensuring that all recent recipients were invited and provided refreshments for the event.

The Mayor does not only invite awardees and members but he does all the cooking - with his able executive assistant Kate Walsh.

Our NT Secretary Michael Martin OAM provided a presentation on the nomination process for the Order of Australia, which generated much interest. Dr. Bruce Walker OAM thanked the Mayor for arranging a most pleasant evening attended by over 30 people and recognized the work of the Association. The Mayor and the Association hope to make this an annual event.

75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



Many members of the OAA NT were closely involved in commemorative events surrounding the 75th Anniversary of the arrival of World War 2 to Darwin – none more so than our Chairperson, Military Historian Dr. Tom Lewis OAM. Through special research and collaborative promotions, Dr. Lewis has spearheaded **The Territory Remembers** program of activities surrounding wartime events with a connection to the NT.

The Territory Remembers program increased awareness of the NT's involvement in WWII, recognised the contribution of Indigenous Australians to the war effort, and shared our military history with future generations to create an understanding of how the war shaped the Territory. The program culminated with the 75th anniversary service to remember the bombing of Darwin on 19 February 1942.

The memorial service at the cenotaph was attended by the Governor-general Sir

Peter Cosgrove, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, Opposition Leader Bill Shorten and dignitaries from Japan and the United States. Lord Mayor Fong Lim said the spirit of the Darwin defenders lived in the city.

Veterans received a standing ovation as they placed wreaths in honour of their fallen mates. The crowd applauded as the survivors made their way to the cenotaph, acknowledging the courage and sacrifice they showed. Veteran bomber gunner Brian Winspear AM was in Darwin on that fateful day and shared memories with many who spoke to him.



Vet Brian Winspear AM



Mrs. Judy Boland AM with Darwin High students Drew Holloway, Alanah Hardy and Benjamin Perez, with His Honour the Hon John Hardy AO and Mrs. Hardy at the reception after the Ceremony



Vet Alan Day, Senator Malarndirri McCarthy, MHR Luke Gosling OAM



Mrs Marion and Alderman Bob Elix AM at the ceremony.

PERSONAL SPOT

As Chairman of the Board of the Darwin Symphony Orchestra Ms Dawn Lawrie AM, has been enjoying her association with this wonderful organization. She confesses to being a 'Classical Music fanatic' who has followed the development of the DSO since its inception with great enthusiasm. She was inspired, along with many others of us, by the imaginative program of outdoor performances in its earlier days, under Professor Martin Jarvis OAM, in iconic settings from Katherine Gorge to Uluru. However, her passionate advocacy of the Orchestra surrounds its community status: it is an orchestra consisting of local musicians – mostly unpoaid - who are drawn from this community, represent the community, and promote the community. Details of the orchestra's 2017 concert season is on their website, but the first concert of the year will be a gala fundraiser featuring specially-selected highlights from the whole season in the newly refurbished Charles Darwin University Theatre on April 1.





CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The 2016 year was rounded out with a successful Christmas Lunch, again at the RAAF Association facilities and combined this time with some guests from the Royal Commonwealth Society.

Our first 'newly aligned' Annual General Meeting was held in conjunction with a brunch in February. It went well, with a handsome quorum present. No office bearer positions were contested so our leadership group remains as was last year.

March saw a very welcome visit from the National President, Philip Flood AO accompanied by his wife, Carole. A Committee dinner was held to welcome them and they attended the reception for the Australia Day recipients of awards in the Order the following night.

The Australia Day recipients' reception was hosted by Parliament, and was a most enjoyable occasion which gave due respect to new members of The Order. We are most grateful to Hon Barry House, MLC and Hon Michael Sutherland (MLA at the time) respectively, the President and Speaker for facilitating the event. Parliament's staff showed great professionalism in the conduct of the event and were unfailingly helpful.

In early March in response to suggestions from members in our 2016 survey, the first of our new series of semiformal, morning, information sessions was held at the State Library. The challenging topic was the legal and taxation changes to superannuation. It was not well attended and we are wondering if we have something wrong in the formula, although those who attended provided positive feedback. At this stage we will continue the pilot while evaluating the concept. The next topic will be Cybercrime. The date will be advertised in our next newsletter.

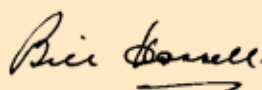
Our two community programmes continue. The Police Mentoring programme at the Police Academy is still valued by the authorities. Our Senior High Schools' Aspirational Career Program for Year 9 students has been extended successfully to three schools; the limit of our capacity to manage. Consequently, the basis of the program's success will be reported on the Education Department's Career Centre Website, for use by other schools throughout the State. A video on the programme is also being produced for circulation amongst those schools needing more information on its content and impact.

The programme for the year ahead is in hand and includes a display and promotion stand at the Government House Open Day at month's end (with the support of Her Excellency the Governor), an ecumenical Evensong at the Cathedral, a reception for the Queen's Birthday recipients, the annual dinner in September, continuation of our volunteer community work and a re-engineered information day event.

I record as Chairman, that without the amazing commitment and reliability of every member of our WA Committee this busy programme could not be achieved.

We now have email addresses for some 77% of our members. The ability to use these email addresses for most communications, rather than the post, considerably reduces Branch expenses. The use of email saves \$1 on every communication, makes a significant saving in printing costs and reduces the time spent stuffing envelopes. A very special thank you to all those members who have provided the Branch with an e-mail address.

Chairman



Bill Hassell AM JP
Branch Chairman, Western Australia



BIG OR SMALL?

The dilemma of the correct medal to wear on each occasion when they are required continues to daunt some of our members.

The normal protocol is:

- . Neck decorations are worn on all occasions
- . Large medals are worn to daytime functions
- . Small medals are worn to evening functions (usually from 6:00 pm)

WA Branch invitations will always indicate which medal option is appropriate

COMING EVENTS

Ecumenical Evensong
at St Georges Cathedral
Sunday 18th June.

Queen's Birthday Reception
9th August hosted by
City of Melville.

Annual Dinner will be held
at Royal Perth Golf Club
13th September with
The Hon Kim Beazley AC as our
Guest Speaker.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDEES 2017 RECEPTION

The Presiding Officers of the Parliament of WA were the hosts of a Reception to welcome 31 recipients of Australia Day 2017 Honours.

It was a great pleasure to have the National President of the Association, Mr Philip Flood AO and his wife, Carole visit WA to attend this Reception.

We were delighted that of the 48 recipients of Australia Day awards in Western Australia 31 were able to attend this Reception. In particular it was pleasing that 10% of the awardees were women. Encouraging more nominations, particularly of women, is a strong focus of the WA Branch of the Association.

Dr Fred Norman Affleck AO,
Ms Jennifer Claire Aramini OAM,
Prof Alan Holland Bittles AM,
Mr Russell Damien Boaden OAM,
Mr Branislav William Bratich OAM,
Mrs Robin Lynette Bromley OAM,
Mr William Hedley Bunbury OAM,
Dr Fiona Lee Bush OAM,
Mr Paul Stephen Clarke OAM,
Mr Graham John Cooper OAM,
Mrs Jill Elizabeth Cross OAM,
Mr John Ross Cunningham OAM,
Mrs Jennifer Joan Davis OAM,
Mr Ronald Charles de Gruchy OAM,
Mrs Alison Betty Doley AM,
Dr Susan Downes AM,
Mr Jack Miller Fletcher OAM,
Prof Leon Flicker AO,
Mr John Andrew Forrest AO,
Mr Wayne Darwin Gardiner OAM,
Mr Eric Mervyn Giblett OAM,
Mrs Sandra Campbell Gorringer OAM,
Mr Vaughan Mark Harding OAM,
Mr Colin Anthony Harrison OAM,

Mr Terry Alan Hewett OAM,
Prof Tracey Ann Horton AO,
Dr David John Hough OAM,
Mr Ian Gordon Kealley OAM,
Prof Makhan Singh Khangure AM,
Mr Graham Noel Lewis OAM,
Mr Francis Jeffrey Lewis OAM,
Mrs Kaye Florence Lewis OAM,
Mr Neil Hugh MacDonald OAM,
Mr Bruce Roger Maslin AM,
Mr Norman Leslie McKenzie AM,
Mrs Cynthia McMorran AM,
Mr Andrew John Newland OAM,
Mr Colin Alexander Philippson OAM,
Mr Gary John Pritchard OAM,
Mrs Gaynor Iris Pritchard OAM,
Mr Christopher Robert Pye AM
Hon Eric Stephen Ripper AM,
Mrs Margaret Elizabeth Rudwick OAM,
Mrs Alice Lillian Rule OAM,
Hon Barbara Mary Scott OAM,
Mrs Marion Frances Sewell OAM,
The Very Reverend John Harley Shepherd AM,
Mrs Kirsten Frances Tannenbaum OAM.

“LET’S TALK ABOUT ---“

In March the first of these functions was held at the Alexander Library and our speaker was Mr David Alder of Alder and Partners. David gave a most informative talk on the upcoming changes to Superannuation which will come into effect in July of this year.

There was time for questions and members present took the opportunity to clarify this very complicated topic. David has offered assistance to members of the Association to understand their own circumstances.

The morning concluded with a light morning tea which gave those present an opportunity to chat to other members as well as with the presenter.

The next of these functions is planned for May when the topic will be “Cybercrime” how to recognise and deal with telephone scams and computer scams. Full details of this gathering will be included in future email news. For those without email, information can be obtained about this function by phoning Bettine Heathcote on 0407 195 040.

WA BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

Her Excellency
Hon Kerry Sanderson AC

Chairman

Bill Hassell AM JP

Secretary

Professor Robin Watts AM

Treasurer

Ian Williams AO

Committee

MAJGEN Barry Nunn AO RFD ED
Michael Bleus OAM
Mark Bonsor AO CSC
Bettine Heathcote AM
Professor Odwyn Jones AO
Helen Smith OAM
Terence Barritt OAM

Regional Coordinators

South West Region

Mrs Glenys McDonald AM

Great Southern Region

Mr Ken Pech AM JP

Contact Information

WABranch@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Mail: PO Box 4222,
MOSMAN PARK WA 6912

**You can find an online copy of The Order magazine at
www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au**



PHILIP FLOOD AO VISIT TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE

The Floods Wrapped up their visit to Western Australia Friday 24 March with a call on Her Excellency The Hon Kerry Sanderson AC who received the Floods and WA Branch Chairman Bill Hassell AM with customary courtesy.

Mr Flood raised the themes being discussed all round and made the point that people are not only not nominating enough women but that many recipients are being honoured far too late in life – as he said, good people are good at 25 and they should not have to wait until they are 80 to be recognised.

Chairman Bill Hassell expresses his appreciation to all who contributed to the visit and the reception.



WA Chairman Bill Hassell AM at Government House with Her Excellency The Hon Kerry Sanderson AC



National President Mr Philip Flood AO and his wife Carole on the occasion of his visit to Government House

POLICE PATRON REPORT APRIL 2017

Two new Squads, Gold and Blue commenced on Monday 13th March. Patrons have been allocated.

Green and Grey Squad graduated on Thursday 16th March, another night ceremony.

This is the first time since the academy has changed the course duration from 13 weeks to 28 weeks (which happened 10 years ago), that 40 recruits were sworn in and 40 officers graduated. Squad supervisors and instructors were very proud of this achievement. Both squads worked very hard and were very supportive of each other

With the changeover of Government there was not a Police Minister at the Graduation, to her credit the outgoing Minister attended, but in no official capacity.

Her Excellency the Governor officiated for the Government.

Patrons have been allocated for the June squad intake, due in part to previous Patrons willing to take up another round.

There may be 2 additional squads going through toward the end of the year as a



Michael Bleus OAM patron, Karl O'Callaghan WA Police Commissioner, and Her Excellency Hon Kerry Sanderson AC together with the most recent squad of graduating police officers

result of the new Government's commitment to 100 additional officers.

Organising another visitation day for the 2nd week in May, once I have received confirmation from the academy.

Please contact Michael Bleus on M 0417 948 959 as soon as possible if you are interested in a tour of the Academy Facilities or becoming a Patron.



**Order of Australia Association
32nd National Conference**

***Challenges and Opportunities through Life
Youth to Ageing***

Thursday 3rd to Sunday 6th May 2018

**WEST BUILDING, ADELAIDE CONVENTION CENTRE
North Terrace, City**



Welcome

As Chairman of the South Australian Branch I take this opportunity to welcome Association members and guests from all parts of Australia to the 2018 National Conference of the Order of Australia Association. We have the opportunity to showcase the wonderful Adelaide Convention Centre where a vast majority of the conference will be held. With a theme 'Challenges and Opportunities through Life – Youth to Ageing' we are planning a memorable conference that will enable us to renew old and build new friendships with colleagues and stimulate us by hearing from a range of high profile speakers on topics of interest to us all. We have enjoyed the support of a number of sponsors and supporters in convening this conference and to them I express our deep appreciation.

Ken Coventry OAM, JP.

Chairman, South Australian Branch



Adelaide Airport

The airport is 7 kms from the city centre. A shuttle bus, taxi or public transport are available to take you to your accommodation.

Adelaide Weather

May has some cool periods with light showers. We recommend layering your clothing and carrying a small umbrella with you on activities outside the Adelaide Convention Centre (ACC).

Parking and Transport

There is parking available from North Terrace at the ACC. Your accommodation venue also has parking facilities – please check the day rate. A free tram runs from South Terrace to North Terrace past the ACC – the alighting stop is just past Morphett Street Bridge. There are steps or a lift to the entrance of the West Building, ACC from North Terrace.

Cancellation Policy

All alterations or cancellations to your registration must be made in writing to the Conference Committee at: Order of Australia Association SA Branch, PO Box 1065, Clearview SA 5085 or email metcalf1942@optusnet.com.au.

An administration charge of \$30 will be made to any participant cancelling on or before 3rd April 2018. After 3rd April 2018, the full registration fee will apply to all cancellations or non-attendance. Substitutes are welcome at no additional cost. The Conference Committee will confirm receipt of your cancellation in writing. By submitting your registration you agree to the terms of this cancellation policy.

Special Conference Activities

The highlights of the conference will include:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Friday afternoon | A presentation where a panel of experts will discuss the topic <i>Challenges and Opportunities for future Australia</i> which will then be followed by questions and answers. |
| Saturday morning | Topics of interest presentations on <i>Health and Well Being</i> to promote discussion, followed by a topics summary and overview. |
| Saturday afternoon | Two presentations where we will hear about <i>National Awards other than the Order of Australia</i> and hear from and meet some of the awardees, and then we will have the opportunity to meet some talented young citizens in the <i>Student and Youth Voices</i> session. |

Accommodation Venues

The ACC does not have accommodation. You are asked to book accommodation of your choice and there are many hotels in the CBD within walking distance of the ACC. The following hotels are nearby:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ***** Mayfair Hotel, 45 King William Street (08) 8210 8888 | The Playford Adelaide, 130 North Terrace (08) 8213 8888 |
| **** Miller Apartments, 16 Hindley Street (08) 8410 1888 | Adelaide Rockford Hotel, 164 Hindley Street (08) 8211 8255 |
| **** Oaks Horizon Adelaide, 104 North Terrace (08) 8210 8000 | Mercure Grosvenor, 125 North Terrace (08) 8407 8888 |
| *** Adelaide Paringa Motel, 15 Hindley Street (08) 8231 1000 | Ibis Styles Adelaide Grosvenor, 125 North Tce (08) 8407 8888 |

Partners and Guests Program

This program offers opportunities to enjoy the surrounds and sites of Adelaide at no cost.

On **Saturday morning 9.00am to 12.00noon a free guided tour** will be conducted. Commencing from the ACC, the tour will follow the iconic riverbank promenade along the River Torrens passing Adelaide's skyline, entertainment areas, casino, Elder Park, gardens and riverbank cafés, and rooftop venues. Comfortable shoes and bottled water are recommended.

Registration is required for this optional Guided Tour, on page 4 of this brochure.

Our friendly Registration/Information desk volunteers will be available to assist Partners and Guests to take full advantage of visits to places of interest around Adelaide. These may include the Adelaide Oval, Chinatown, Adelaide Central Market, North Terrace Cultural Precinct, Rundle Mall, the Botanic Gardens, Adelaide Zoo and tramway to Glenelg.

Dress Code and Medals

Details of the dress code and medal requirements for each activity will be provided on receipt of your registration.

Tours

Pre- and post-conference tours will be managed through the RAA. Details will be provided closer to the conference.

REGISTRATION FORM

IMPORTANT: Please refer to the back page for details of each event for which you are registering
NB: Each delegate and each guest attending must register below:

MEMBER INFORMATION

(if more than one member or guest, please complete a separate form for additional member or guest)

PLEASE PRINT

Title _____ First name (for badge use) _____ Surname _____ Post nominals _____
Street/Box _____ Suburb/Town _____ State _____
Postcode _____ Telephone _____ Mobile _____
Email _____
Specific special requirements (please list individually) _____

GUEST INFORMATION

Title _____ First name (for badge use) _____ Surname _____ Post nominals _____
Street/Box _____ Suburb/Town _____ State _____
Postcode _____ Telephone _____ Mobile _____
Email _____
Specific special requirements (please list individually) _____

FOR ALL CONFERENCE INQUIRIES

Prior to the conference: Tony Metcalf OAM, phone 08 8262 4384 / 0412 774 122 or metcalf1942@optusnet.com.au

During the conference: Ask at the Conference Registration/Information desk.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED REGISTRATION AND CONFERENCE PAYMENT FORMS TO:

Registrar 2018 OAA National Conference, PO Box 1065, Clearview, SA 5085

or email metcalf1942@optusnet.com.au.

Payments options are:

1. By cheque to 'OAA Conference 2018', together with both sides of Registration Form.
2. EFT to Bank SA, Account Name – Order of Australia Association. BSB 105-900 Account No 147028640, together with your surname as a reference.

Please email or post your completed Registration Form to Registrar 2018 OAA Conference, PO Box 1065, Clearview, SA 5085 to confirm your bank deposit and your selection of activities.



Images L to R: **National War Memorial, North Terrace; Three Rivers Fountain, Victoria Square; Adelaide Town Hall, King William Street; Anzac Centenary Memorial Walk, Kintore Avenue.** Cover Photo: Adelaide Convention Centre from Adelaide Oval. All photos: Jan Forrest OAM

CONFERENCE PAYMENT FORM

Please select your Activities/Functions options for each person by indicating with an X beside the Member or Guest option.

REGISTRATION FEES

Registration can be for the full conference, or either of Friday and/or Saturday. **Please note that each option includes all functions and lunches for Friday and/or Saturday. The cost of the Saturday formal dinner and the Sunday farewell lunch is additional.**

On every line please indicate with an X against Member and/or Guest which activities you wish to attend.

Your early registration with payment is encouraged.

Registration Fee – Full conference excluding Saturday dinner and Sunday lunch	\$250pp	Member	Guest	Total \$
Registration Fee – Single day rate Friday 4 th May	\$150pp	Member	Guest	Total \$
Registration Fee – Single day rate Saturday 5 th May excluding Formal Dinner	\$150pp	Member	Guest	Total \$

THURSDAY 3rd MAY Adelaide Convention Centre, West Building

12.30pm to 7.00pm	Registration/Information Desk open		
6.00pm	Conference Opening and Multi-Faith Celebration	Member	Guest
7.30pm to 9.30pm	Reception	Member	Guest

FRIDAY 4th MAY Adelaide Convention Centre, West Building

8.00am to 4.00pm	Registration/Information Desk open		
9.00am	Annual General Meeting of the Association	Member	Guest
10.30am	Members Forum	Member	Guest
12.30pm	Buffet Lunch	Member	Guest
1.30pm to 3.30pm	Panel Presentation <i>Challenges and Opportunities for future Australia</i>	Member	Guest
3.30pm to 4.00pm	National Oration	Member	Guest
5.00pm to 6.00pm	Lord Mayor's Reception - by invitation only Adelaide Town Hall, King William St, City - (Numbers are limited) Transport – own arrangements. FREE tram stop on corner of Pirie Street, or taxi – no parking available. <i>Delegates own arrangements for evening dining afterwards if found necessary</i>	Member special invitation requested	Guest special invitation requested

SATURDAY 5th MAY Adelaide Convention Centre, West Building

8.00am to 4.00pm		Registration/Information Desk open			
9.00am to 12.00pm		Partners and Guests Guided Tour- Riverbank and North Terrace		Guest	
9.00am to 12.00pm		Special Conference Activities - Topics of Interest Challenges and Opportunities through Life – Youth to Ageing		Guest	
9.00am		<i>Ageing and Driving</i>			
9.30am		<i>Nutrition</i>			
10.30am		<i>Leisure and Fitness</i>			
11.00am		<i>Opportunities in Ageing</i>			
11.30am		<i>Topics summary and overview</i>			
12.00pm		Buffet Lunch	Member	Guest	
1.00pm		National Awards other than Orders of Australia	Member	Guest	
2.30pm		Student and Youth Voices			
3.30pm		Conclusion	Member	Guest	
Formal Conference Dinner. Presentation of OAA Foundation Scholarships Adelaide Convention Centre					
6.00pm		Pre-dinner drinks and conference dinner			
10.00pm		Conclusion			
		Full Conference Registrants	\$125pp	Member	Guest
		Association Members, other guests or Formal Conference Dinner only	\$150pp	Member	Guest

SUNDAY 6th MAY

9.00am to 12.00noon Registration/Information Desk open					
War Memorial North Terrace					
10.00am	Wreath Laying Service	Member	Guest		
10.30am	Anzac Centenary Memorial Walk, Kintore Avenue				
Adelaide Convention Centre, West Building					
12.00noon	Farewell lunch	\$50pp	Member	Guest	Total \$
Handover to 2019 Conference Hobart, Tasmania					

TOTAL: FULL REGISTRATION COSTS | \$



OAA-ADF ORATION THURSDAY 25 MAY 2017



Now in its seventh year, the OAA-ADF Oration embraces military and general recipients of The Order to create a closer understanding of each other's commitment to service - as recognised through the Australian Honours system. For this reason, all Branch members are strongly encouraged to attend regardless of whether you have a naval or military background and, with Australia's Vice Chief

of the Defence Force (VCDF) as our VIP Orator this year, to invite family and guests to accompany.

Vice Admiral Ray Griggs AO, CSC, RAN joined the RAN in 1978 and entered the Royal Australian Naval College at HMAS Creswell in 1979. He commanded the Anzac Class frigate HMAS Arunta, including service in border protection duties and the Persian Gulf; and later commanded the Australian Amphibious Task Group. He has served as Deputy Maritime (Fleet) Commander and he led the development of the Force Structure Review leading to the 2009 Defence White Paper. On promotion to Rear Admiral, he was appointed Deputy Head Strategic Reform and Governance, and later served as Deputy Chief of Joint Operations. He was appointed Chief of Navy in June 2011 and VCDF in June 2014.

Vice Admiral Griggs was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross in 1997 and a Commendation for Distinguished Service in 2003. He was appointed a Member in The Order of Australia in 2009 and an Officer in The Order in 2012 *"For distinguished service to the Australian*

Defence Force as Deputy Head Strategic Reform and Governance, Deputy Chief of Joint Operations, and Chief of the Royal Australian Navy."

The Oration will be held on Thursday 25 May 2017, commencing at 5.30pm, in the Ngunnawal Theatre. Members and guests are asked to be seated by 5.25pm. The Theatre is accessed from the foyer of Building R1, Russell Offices - the large block to the rear and to the left of the Russell Hill complex, looking from the "Eagle" monument, and backing onto Constitution Ave.

There is no charge for this event, and light refreshments will be served after the Oration courtesy of the ADF - with the event concluding at 7.00 pm.

DRESS: Jacket, tie and lapel pin. Military personnel: dress of the day **or** jacket, tie and lapel pin.

REGISTER NOW for the "Oration": Members (Guests very welcome) please register at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/50447> or advise attendance no later than Monday 22nd May - to Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM at 0467 719 020 or email mandmcrane@live.com

THE HON DR BRENDAN NELSON AO TO BE GUEST SPEAKER AT THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON TUESDAY 13 JUNE 2017

The Branch is looking forward to hosting The Hon Dr Brendan Nelson AO as guest speaker at the Queen's Birthday Luncheon, to be held at The Royal Canberra Golf Club on Tuesday 13 June 2017, commencing at 12.00pm.

Dr Nelson commenced as Director of the Australian War Memorial on 17 December 2012. Prior to this, he was the Australian Ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg, the European Union and NATO (2009-12). He was National President of the Australian Medical Association before being elected to the Federal Parliament as Member for Bradfield. Dr Nelson served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence, Minister for Education, Science and Training, and Minister for Defence. In November 2007 Dr Nelson was elected leader of the Liberal Party of Australia,

serving as Leader of the Opposition until September 2008. The following year he retired from federal politics before taking up his ambassadorial appointment.

Dr Nelson will discuss the connections between citizenship, love of country and the service of the more than 2 million Australians who have worn their country's uniform since Federation.

COST: \$70.00.

DRESS: Jacket, tie, daywear and lapel pin.

REGISTER NOW for the Queen's Birthday Luncheon: Members and guests please register and pay at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/51675> by Thursday 9 June 2017 - any enquiries to Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM at 0467 719 020 & email mandmcrane@live.com





COMING EVENTS

Sunday 13 August 2017

The OAA Act Branch Multi Faith Observance will be held at the chapel of The Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Barton. The Observance will be co-hosted by The Order of Australia Association and the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture and moderated by the Executive Director, Rt Reverend Professor Stephen Pickard. Contact for this event is Mr Sam Wong AM on 0433 947888 or email samson.sl.wong@gmail.com.



Rev. Pickard

Thursday 26 October 2017

OAA-ANU Lecture – Guest Speaker Distinguished Professor Chennupati Jagadish AC – Topic ‘Nanotechnology: Opportunities and Challenges’ at the Australian Centre on China in the World, ANU, Acton. In January 2016, Professor Jagadish was appointed a Companion in The Order of Australia *“For eminent service to physics and engineering, particularly in the field of nanotechnology, to education as a leading academic, researcher, author and mentor, and through executive roles with national and international scientific advisory institutions.”*



Professor Jagadish AC



Duncan Smith OAM

Wednesday 18 October 2017

Morning Tea at The Royal Canberra Golf Club – Guest Speaker Mr Duncan Smith OAM. Duncan is a Wiradjuri man, founder of The Wiradjuri Echoes, a Canberra based dance group, and a member of the ACT Branch Committee. Duncan was awarded an OAM in June 2016 *“For service to Indigenous youth, and to the community.”*



2016 Award winner
Aidhon Kirk

Thursday 23 November 2017

The annual ACT Branch Student Awards presentation at The Royal Canberra Golf Club. These awards are judged from nominations by ACT schools and colleges and honour students for their community activities which reflect the aims of The Order of Australia Association.

MORNING TEA AT THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM

On 28 March, Branch member Max Bourke AM hosted the morning tea for members at the Terrace Room at the National Arboretum with a wide ranging talk on the history of the establishment and development of the Arboretum and a comparison with Arboretums worldwide. Max noted the passionate support of the ACT Government through former Chief Minister Jon Stanhope AO to establish the Arboretum following the 2003 bushfires.

Max is an agricultural scientist with a commitment to biodiversity conservation and environmental protection, with 10 years connection with the Arboretum as a member of the Friends of the National Arboretum and former committee member.

He gave a history of the selection of trees for the 250 hectare arboretum noting that of the 94 forests established at the arboretum, 31 are growing rare and endangered species, and these forests adjoin the existing mature Cork Plantation, Himalayan cedars forest and the remnant pine plantation.

Following the talk, Max led a Conservation Walk on a beautiful Canberra autumn day to the Southern Tablelands Ecosystem Park (STEP), a section which is different from the single species forests, and was established to showcase native trees, plants and grasses from the local region. He was able to provide much detail on the range of flora and has expressed a passion for preserving native grasses.

In 2004 Max was appointed a member in The Order of Australia *“For service to heritage and arts organisations and to the development of government policy for the preservation of Australia’s historic and cultural environment.”*

For further information on the National Arboretum, go to <http://www.nationalarboretum.act.gov.au> A story was also featured in the 2016 winter issue of ‘The Order’ magazine.



A COCONUT ODYSSEY



On 21 February 2017, Branch member Dr Dan Etherington AM presented an inspiring story he called **"A Coconut Odyssey"** which detailed his journey over four decades in inventing the simple unique technology to produce Virgin Coconut Oil and establishing its use at a farm level and thus empowering village communities.

Dan explained the remarkable change in the understanding of the health impact of coconut oil, from being viewed as 'dangerous' to becoming a new 'super-food' and the range of coconut products available. He concluded his talk by briefly mentioning the Niulife Foundation. 'Niulife' is a play on words. 'Niu' (pronounced 'New') means 'coconut' in the Pacific, and in a real sense Virgin Coconut Oil brings

'New Life' to both the producer and the consumer. Dan was appointed a Member in The Order of Australia in 2008 *"For service to international trade, particularly the design, manufacture and distribution of coconut oil extraction technology, and through contributions to sustainable agricultural and economic development in the South Pacific region."*

The Niulife Foundation was formed in 2013 by Kokonut Pacific

It is registered it with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission.

A prime objective of the Foundation is to support the **Coconut Technology Centre (CTC)** which we have established in the Solomon Islands. The building phase was completed in 2016 and attention has turned to training and research. Through the Foundation, Kokonut Pacific Pty Ltd, as a for-profit Social Enterprise, is providing the CTC with core funds. However, we are seeking additional funds and support for specific projects. These include:

- Developing and introducing computer tablet education resources.
- Establishing a coconut seedling nursery and training farmers to do the same.
- Developing & testing DC graters with solar panels and battery storage
- Trialling Postie bikes for extension workers
- Charcoal production
- Continuing gasifier trials
- Developing coconut shell powder
- Testing Mobile phone reception boosters



VALE TO PAST MEMBERS

The ACT Branch extend our sympathy to the families and friends of the following past members and honour their contribution to our society.

Mr William Harris AO - Australia Day 1995 - for service to public administration particularly in the Australian Capital Territory and to the community.

Mr George Kelly OAM - Australia Day 1998 - for service to the community, particularly through the Southpaw Stroke Club and the Lions Club of Canberra Valley.

Donations can be made by cheque made out to the **Niulife Foundation** and sent to PO Box 4088, Hawker, ACT 2614. Or, you may donate by Direct Debit to the **Niulife Foundation's** account with ANZ Bank: BSB 012964 Account # 3887 19045. Please send an email confirming your payment to: dan@kokonutpacific.com.au with an address for posting a receipt.

For those needing a Tax Deductible Receipt please send the funds to Australian Relief and Mercy Services (ARMS) at Westpac BSB: 032730 Account: 184565 specifying NIULIFE (i.e. give NIULIFE as the Reference) and send a confirmation email to canberra@arms.org.au with address for posting the receipt.

Under its **Niulife** brand, Kokonut Pacific sells Virgin Coconut Oil and a wide range of other coconut-based food products. Our slogan is **"This is the oil that changes lives"**. This is true for both the enriched lives of village producers and the improved health of Western consumers.

Visit www.niulife.com.au for more information.

ACT BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

Gen Peter Gratton AC OBE

Chair

Bruce Trewartha OAM
btrewartha@grapevine.com.au
62310281 (H) 0439887480 (M)

Treasurer

Phil Morrall AM

Membership Secretary

Lynne Duckham OAM

Committee Members

Brian Acworth AM
MAJ GEN Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM
Ray Newcombe OAM
Derek Robson AM
Duncan Smith OAM
Sam Wong AM

Immediate Past Chair

Trish Keller OAM



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am pleased to say, that our year has been a very busy one so far, commencing with our annual Australia Day Cruise on Sydney Harbour. 140 of our Members and guests enjoyed a marvellous day taking in the spectacular sites of Sydney and the wonderful events including the Sydney Harbour Ferry Race, a race by the traditional Tall Ships, and a fly past by the RAAF Hornets. A full report on the day can be found elsewhere in this section of the magazine.

On 21st March, the NSW Branch held its adjourned AGM to pass the audited Financial Reports. The Branch had agreed earlier at its AGM in November to change its financial year to end on 31st December of each year to bring it into line with the National Association. Consequently, it was necessary for the March Meeting to have the new accounts adopted. In future, the Branch AGM will be held approximately March each year.

I extend a warm welcome to our Branch's new Honorary Secretary, Mrs Carolyn Lyons, from Gulargambone in Western New South Wales. Carolyn is settling in well to the position and doing a great job and we all appreciate what she is doing for the Branch.

On the evening of 21st March the Branch Committee held a celebratory farewell dinner at the prestigious Australian Club for outgoing Branch Secretary, Colleen Wardell OAM. It was a wonderful evening and I thank our host, Deputy Chairman, Peter Falk OAM and his wife, Suzie, for making all of the arrangements. Eighteen Committee members and guests attended including National Chairman, Bill Galvin OAM, and his wife, Elizabeth. Colleen was accompanied by her husband, Dr John Wardell. On behalf of our Branch Colleen was presented with a beautiful plaque citing her distinguished service to the New South Wales Branch covering sixteen years. A further presentation of a bouquet of flowers was also made to Colleen.

I recently had the pleasure, of sending out 290 congratulatory letters to NSW Recipients of the Australia Day Order of Australia Awards. The Investitures will be held over four days at Government House in May and the Branch will be holding its Investiture Luncheon for new Recipients at Parliament House on 4th May.

Please check our Coming Events in this magazine and on the website, as we would like to see as many of you as possible at our events.

John Archer OAM
NSW Branch Chairman

SHARING THE JOY

Stalwarts of the Far South Coast Group gladly shared in welcoming our area's newest citizens at a ceremony at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanical Gardens on 29 March. Ten happy people took their pledges and publicly declared their loyalty to Australia before families and friends, the Mayor of Eurobodalla, Councillor Liz Innes, Councillors Maureen Nathan and Rob Pollock OAM and community representatives. With a backdrop of eucalypts glistening in the morning sun and the gardens full of birds, the venue was ideal for the occasion.

As fostering pride in Australian citizenship is a prime goal of the Order of Australia Association, Eurobodalla Shire Council's invitation to us to join the citizenship ceremony was particularly appropriate and tied in with Council's formal acknowledgement of our newest honours recipients, Bruce and Barbara Smith of Moruya. Bruce and Barbara will be invested with OAMs at Government House, Canberra, on 28 May in recognition of their services to the community of Moruya.

Over morning-tea, Councillor Innes congratulated the couple and outlined their manifold contributions. Bruce has been involved with the voluntary fire service in various capacities for 55 years, served with the SES and was involved with the Blue Light Disco—a huge success in past days. Barbara has been involved with the Show Society since she was 14 years old, helped cater for the Rural Fire Service in times of emergency and, as a renowned cook, has been part of catering teams for the Moruya primary school, high school and the Country Women's Association. Her beautifully decorated cakes are legendary and have often contributed to special functions and helped in fund-raising.

The Mayor also paid tribute to John Cullen, of Bemboka, who received an Australian Fire Service Medal in the Australia Day Honours List for his dedication and service to Eurobodalla and Bega Valley Shires over the last 39 years. John, well-known Manager of Far South Coast NSW Rural Fire Service, was elsewhere on business, but our group plans to catch up with him to celebrate soon.



Mayor of Eurobodalla Shire, Councillor Liz Innes, (centre) with recent honours recipients, Barbara Smith and Bruce Smith of Moruya.



New citizens of the Eurobodalla

“YOUNG ENDEAVOUR” GAVE OPPORTUNITY TO BROTHER AND SISTER TO EACH RECEIVE INDIVIDUAL VOYAGE AWARDS

Since the time my brother won his Order of Australia Association – NSW Branch “Young Endeavour” Voyage award, I knew that one day I wanted to put my name into the ballot and fulfill my own aspirations of sailing on board the “Young Endeavour”. As someone who loves the water and being around ships and boats, I attained my boat license at the age of 14 and awaited the time when I could apply for a place on the “Young Endeavour”.

In 2010, our grandmother advised my older brother, Anteo, of a coming ballot for places on the “Young Endeavour” to sail from Sydney to Melbourne with the Young Endeavour Youth Training Scheme. Knowing his passion and love for being out on the ocean, and having grown up sailing and boating with our Dad from a young age, as well as working as a deckhand on a charter boat, she suggested he enter the coming ballot and try to get a place on the ship.

As he eagerly awaited the results of the ballot and he was excited when he found out that he had secured a spot and would be sailing from Sydney to Melbourne on the 18th voyage that year with the “Young Endeavour”. During his time aboard, he gained valuable new skills, friendships and thoroughly enjoyed being a part of an active crew and responsible for sharing the running of the R. A. N.’s tall ship, especially on command day when he was voted in by his fellow crew mates to be Sail Master. He was always eager to do any additional tasks on deck as well as spending as much time as he could inside the engine room to further his knowledge of the running of the ship.

At the end of his time on board he was voted by his fellow crew members to be awarded the Order of Australia Association – NSW Branch Medallion. This was a big honour, and he felt a huge sense of pride and privilege to sail with the crew.

After sailing with the Young Endeavour, he went on to put in an application to the marine conservation group Sea Shepherd where he has completed seven campaigns. These campaigns allowed him to sail through every one of the world’s oceans (excluding the Arctic). One of these campaigns included engaging in the longest pursuit of a pirate fishing vessel in maritime history, totalling 110 days. He has recently returned home from his second voyage to Antarctica as the 2nd Officer.

When I found out I had also been selected to join the crew of the “Young Endeavour” I was excited for the opportunities that I would be given. Being on the ocean surrounded by like minded sailors was a great platform for me to learn new skills and apply them. I really enjoyed learning to navigate and all aspects of seamanship. From sitting up on the top gallant yard in the early morning observing the beautiful sunrise with dolphins coming along side, diving up out of the water, to sailing past isles of basking seals. These moments profoundly reinforced my love of the natural world and truly how lucky I was to have had this experience.

When I found out that I was receiving the Order of Australia Association – NSW Branch Medallion, I was speechless. It is an incredible honour to take with me for the rest of my sailing life. It is unheard of for two people of the same family to be awarded this Medallion, and I feel very proud to have achieved that.

Moving forward with my passion for sailing and the maritime world, I have cemented my ideals and love for working and living at sea. I am eager to gain more experience in working with tall ships, and hopefully also work within marine conservation.

Looking at what my brother has achieved since gaining his medallion gives me excitement for my own future and what will come next for myself.

Growing up on the Northern Beaches of Sydney gave us well rounded exposure to interact with the ocean and opportunities to go down any path relating to our passions.

In the future, we wish to sail together on some ships and combine our skills and passion for the oceans.

Luna Brown

NSW BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd.)

Chairman

Mr. John Archer OAM
Mob. 0407 919 235

Deputy Chairman

Peter Falk OAM
Mob. 0411 141 103

Honorary Secretary

Mrs Carolyn Lyons OAM
Mob. 0427 374 744

Honorary Treasurer

Mr James Mein AM
Mob. 0408 660 591

Committee Members

Mr Garth Doyle OAM
(Regional Groups Co-ordinator)
Mob. 0409 850 511

Mr Andrew Gullotta OAM
Mob. 0418 440 680

Rear-Admiral Tony Hunt AO RAN (Rtd)
(Young Endeavour Co-ordinator)
(02) 9332 4976

Mrs Silvana Vidoni OAM
(Merchandising Officer)
(02) 9550 0049

Mr Ian McKnight OAM
(Events Manager)
Mob. 0407 598 588

Mr. Edward Selwyn OAM
Mob. 0488 601 480.

Peter King AO



HUNTER REGIONAL GROUP LUNCHEON

The Order of Australia Association – NSW Branch, Hunter Regional Group held its Annual Luncheon at Cardiff RSL Memorial Club on Saturday, 18 February 2017 with 160 members and guests enjoying the event.

20 Hunter residents received Awards on Australia Day 2017, and the following 7 attended. They were welcomed and congratulated. They were Mark Longworth AM, James Bennett OAM, Edward Clarke OAM, Leonard Graff OAM, Wing Commander Geoffrey Peterkin (Retd) OAM, Jack Sullivan OAM and Joyce Watt OAM.

Councillor Kay Fraser, Mayor of Lake Macquarie City, added her welcome and congratulations to all who contribute to the life of the community.

Garth Doyle OAM, Regional Groups Coordinator, from the NSW Branch of the Order of Australia Association also brought greetings. It was also a pleasure to welcome Rear Admiral Peter Sinclair AC AO KStJ, former Governor of New South Wales and former Chairman of the Council for the Order of Australia and Mrs Sinclair.

The Guest Speaker was Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie AO DSC CSM (Retd). He also congratulated all Order of Australia recipients and acknowledged the time given in support of the community.

His own story showed how he enlisted into the Australian Army as a 15-year-old apprentice brick layer and during the next 43 years he worked his way up through the ranks and can claim to be the only fully qualified bricklayer to achieve the rank of Lieutenant General until his retirement as Chief of Army in 2011.

Currently he is the Chairman of the NSW Centenary of ANZAC Advisory Council. The Council has planned the celebration of 100 years in uniform which is being highlighted in these ways:

2014 centenary of the outbreak of World War I and the fighting in New Guinea.

2015 centenary of Gallipoli and ANZAC.

2016 centenary of the deployment to the Western Front and the battles at Fromelles and Pozieres.

2017 centenary of the battles in Flanders and Palestine.

He reminded us of the myths and legends that are part of the ANZAC story and referred to Simpson and his donkey at Gallipoli. He noted that it is important to continue to educate the population of the sacrifices that were made in all communities during World War I when 10% of the population was in uniform. He also highlighted the fact that Aborigines could not officially enlist during World War I, but many enlisted without acknowledging their ancestry.

He challenged us to remember that in a cosmopolitan community like ours it is important to teach migrants our Australian history, but to also value and appreciate their losses as well.

In speaking of his experiences involved with the establishment of the war grave site at Pheasant Wood, other places on the Western Front as well as Gallipoli, he talked about the *living spirit* or spirituality of the places and events he has witnessed. To highlight this, he shared the following stories.

The remains of five Australians had been found and were interred in the War Cemetery at Polygon Wood, Belgium in 2007. As the ceremony began a butterfly landed on the first coffin and proceeded from coffin to coffin and when the five coffins were about to be lowered, a light rainfall came from a cloudless sky.

Fromelles was hell on earth on the night of 19/20 July 1916 when nearly 2000 Australians were killed. Many were buried in mass graves. The 250 bodies buried



L to R: Rear Admiral Peter Sinclair AC AO KStJ, June Cameron AM, Convenor, Order of Australia Association – NSW Branch Hunter Regional Group, and, Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie AO DSC CSM; Hunter Regional Group luncheon at Cardiff RSL Memorial Club, Saturday 18 February 2017.

in one of the mass graves were exhumed in 2009, numbered and later buried in the new Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) War Cemetery. Three Wilson brothers were in this battle and two were killed. When remains were finally identified by DNA, it was found that the two Wilson brothers had been buried side by side.

Another amazing moment occurred when an Australian battalion commander was identified, and it was found that he was buried at the highest point in the front row still leading his men.

Trooper David Fisher was killed in action in Vietnam in September 1969 aged 23 years. His grave was discovered in 2008 and his remains brought home for him to rest in peace. During the service, there was a severe storm. A former soldier who was serving with Fisher commented that the storm was more than a coincidence as there was heavy monsoon rain at the time of his death.

In closing General Gillespie suggested that when visiting Commonwealth War Graves in Belgium, France and other battlefields, people could identify Australian graves in the books which are available near the entrance. Find a grave and say hello. He believes the thoughtfulness may be heard and confirming that they are not forgotten.

The presentation brought tears to many eyes and was most thought provoking.

Charles Stevens OAM RFD ED

OAA (NSW) MEMORABILIA FOR SALE

Item	Price incl. P/H		
Neckties Traditional style	\$27.00	Association lapel badges	\$17.00
Neckties Corporate: Maroon/Black/White	\$27.00	Cufflinks (boxed)	\$35.00
Neckties Corporate: Navy/Aqua/White	\$27.00	Car Stickers (57mm x 78mm)	\$ 6.00
Neckties New Style	\$27.00	Please mail your order and accompanying cheque payable to 'The Order of Australia Association NSW to: Mrs S Vidoni OAM, 68 Carlisle Street, Leichhardt NSW 2040. Telephone (02) 9550 0049 for further information	
Scarves (Chiffon) Navy	\$32.00		
Pens	\$12.00		
Association Brooches	\$17.00		

NSW MEMBERS CELEBRATE AUSTRALIA DAY IN STYLE ON SYDNEY HARBOUR

Sydney Harbour was the magnet for over 130 OAA members and their guests as they celebrated Australia Day in style. Our large gathering met at Circular Quay where some were among a huge throng of people who were entertained by a number of performers prior to boarding one of the bigger Captain Cook Cruise Boats that were plying the Harbour on the day.

The weather on the day was on its best behavior remaining fine but somewhat overcast which was really a blessing and a relief from the extremely hot weather that most of New South Wales had been experiencing at the time.

Following a short delay the gathering eagerly boarded the vessel and ventured out onto the Harbour to enjoy the festivities of which there were many on the water. There were several P & O cruise ships anchored in the Harbour which allowed many of their guests to enjoy the celebrations. The HMAS Canberra was the early centre of attention during the

salute to Australia which was marked by a 21 gun salute and concluded with RAAF fighter planes flying in low and frightening the life out of everybody with the noise as they flew overhead.

Other highlights were the race between Sydney's first ferries that were cheered on as they strove towards the finish line under the Harbour Bridge. Another race of note was between the tall ships which included the beautifully restored 19th century "James Craig" and it was a great sight as the ships with their sails hoisted racing towards the finish line. Then there was the Harbour Parade featuring many boats large and small which were very colorful and there was additional entertainment both in the air and on the water which maintained one's interest.

Refreshments flowed as the OAA group enjoyed a sumptuous luncheon and the sweets array was something to behold with many of the group returning for seconds and it was obvious that everyone



Decorated Yacht

was having a great time and were celebrating Australia Day in style. All too soon the cruise came to a conclusion with many remarking they had a wonderful time and would certainly be returning for the Branch's 2018 cruise.

Ian McKnight OAM



Tallships lined up ready to race



Decorated Harbour Ferry



Margaret Cunneen SC, and Malcolm Kerr OAM



Fort Denison and Tall Ship



Hornets Fly-past



NSW Water Police racing by

NEW HONORARY SECRETARY APPOINTED NSW BRANCH:

Carolyn Lyons OAM of Gulargambone NSW has taken over the role and responsibilities of NSW Branch Secretary from Colleen Wardell OAM whose term of Office was completed.

Carolyn looks forward to meeting Members, both from NSW and other States and Territories who may be visiting our great Harbour City.

Carolyn may be contacted – Tel. 6825 4391 or Mob. 0427 374 744 or e-mail: carolynlyons97@bigpond.com



Colleen Wardell OAM holding Presentation Plaque.



William Galvin OAM, John Archer OAM, James Mein AM.



Peter Falk OAM, John Wardell, Colleen Wardell OAM, John Archer OAM.

NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH HONOURS LONG TERM HONORARY SECRETARY AND COMMITTEE MEMBER

The New South Wales Branch committee members and guests that included National Chairman, Mr. William Galvin OAM and his wife, Elizabeth, gathered at the prestigious Australian Club (founded in 1838) in March to pay tribute to Colleen Wardell OAM who recently stepped down after serving 16 years which included two terms as Honorary Branch Secretary and as a Committee Member. Despite deplorable weather that prevailed on the night everyone managed to arrive and the evening was a resounding success mainly due to the sterling efforts of the convener, Branch Vice Chairman, Peter Falk OAM, in organizing the function.

The guest of honour in company with her husband, John, duly arrived and following pre dinner drinks everyone then proceeded to enjoy a wonderful three course dinner in the historic Macleay Room. At the conclusion of dinner, several speakers, namely, Branch Chairman, John Archer OAM, William Galvin OAM and Peter Falk OAM espoused the virtues of Colleen describing in detail what a tower of strength Colleen had been to the NSW Branch for the past 16 years not only as Branch Secretary but also filling other Committee positions. Colleen's knowledge, experience and assistance had indeed been invaluable over time, and she was offered best wishes for the future.

While the gathering was sad that Colleen had stepped down from her position in the Branch Mr. Galvin announced that all was not lost as Colleen would be continuing on in her positions as the National Secretary and Editor of "The Order" into the future. Colleen's husband, John, was also thanked for providing her with strong assistance during her time in the Branch.

In appreciation, John Archer OAM presented Colleen with a suitably inscribed plaque as a memento of her service to the Branch. She was also presented with a lovely large bunch of flowers to mark the occasion. Colleen suitably responded by thanking everyone who attended on the night and those who had assisted her over the years. While she was sad to have stepped down from the Branch she said that she would be continuing on at National level and would be only too happy to offer any assistance she could if required.

All too soon a wonderful evening in a very historic and fitting venue for the occasion came to an end and the gathering was very thankful that the terrible weather had abated which allowed everyone to travel home in reasonable safety.

Ian McKnight OAM

COMING EVENTS:

Sunday, 21 May 2017 12 noon to 3.00pm

Blue Mountains/Hawkesbury-Nepean Regional Group

Lynwood Country Club, Pitt Town.

All Welcome. Further details: Lindsay Callaghan OAM

Tel 4739 4128 or Mob. 0412 280 975

Wednesday, 26 July 2017 11.30am for 12.noon

Annual Luncheon NSW Parliament House, Sydney

Special Guests: NSW Governor and Branch Patron

His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) and Mrs Linda Hurley

All Welcome. Further details: Ian McKnight OAM

Tel 07 5599 8588 or e-mail: ianmckni@tpg.com.au

Thursday, 7 September 2017 12 noon for 12.30pm

Queen's Birthday 2017 New Recipients Welcome Luncheon

NSW Parliament House, Sydney

All Welcome. Further details: Ian McKnight OAM

Tel 07 5599 8588 or e-mail: ianmckni@tpg.com.au

Thursday, 26 October 2017 10.00am

Morning Tea – Seminar

NSW Parliament House "Jubilee" Room (Historic Parliamentary Library)

Guest Speaker to be advised

All Welcome. Further details: Ian McKnight OAM

Tel Mob 0407 598 588 or e-mail: ianmckni@tpg.com.au

Friday, 17 November 2017

Preliminary Notice

Visit to Australian War Memorial, Canberra.

Address to be given by Dr Brendon Nelson AO

Additional details to be advised at a later date.

Saturday, 18 November 2017

Illawarra Regional Group Regional Luncheon

Dapto Leagues Club Dapto

All Welcome. Further details: Lynn Wilson OAM

e-mail: lynnewilson@loaded.com.au

YOUNG ENDEAVOUR IN EDEN

The romance and elegance of the tall ship Young Endeavour captured the imagination of all who went aboard on open day in Eden on 25 March.

Members and guests of the Far South Coast Group were curious to hear how the young sailors had coped on the voyage from Sydney during high swells and rough sea. Captain Lieutenant-Commander Mike Gough reported the voyage had gone well, despite some sea sickness. However, there's no doubt that bad weather adds an extra dimension to the adventure of a lifetime!

Immediately apparent aboard Young Endeavour was the discipline, order, humour, skill and team work required to sail such a vessel in any condition. This, of course, is what the Young Endeavour Youth Training Scheme, run by the Royal Australian Navy, is all about. A voyage of eleven to thirteen days provides young participants with plenty of opportunity for the building of team and leadership skills, co-operation, community spirit and mentoring as well as the forging of new friendships. Young Endeavour carries an experienced crew of five to eight and usually around 24 young Australians.

OOA members looked wistfully at exciting possibilities— perhaps with a desire to be young again— but further gaze at the high and intricate rigging, raised a hint of apprehension.

Mike said some young participants were as nimble as monkeys, nearly all would have a go climbing aloft, but none were forced. Going out on the yards is taken seriously and he demonstrated the state-of-the-art safety harness mandatory for going out on the yards.

Mike gave Akela Nev Cowgill OAM, of Eden, and his Far South Coast Club Pack a special behind-the-scenes tour, intriguing

them with glimpses of the workings of the vessel and colourful descriptions of the routine and fun at sea.

Delicious fish and chips at a café on the Eden Wharf added to our members' enjoyment of the open day. We are hoping, through the RAN and the OOA state branch, soon to sponsor some young people from our region to benefit under the Young Endeavour Training Scheme.



Akela Nev Cowgill, OAM, of Eden, with some youngsters from of his Far South Coast Cub Pack enthusiastically inspecting the Young Endeavour. The cubs are (left to right) Korban, Ethan, Lochie, Jaydyn and Jasman.



Lieutenant-Commander Mike Gough demonstrating the sophisticated safety harness.



Manager Far South Coast NSW Rural Fire Service, John Cullen, and Nev Cowgill OAM. John received an Australian Fire Service Medal in the Australia Day Honours List and will receive his award in Canberra in May.

REGIONAL GROUP CONVENERS

Blue Mountains/Hawkesbury/Nepean: Mr Lindsay J Callaghan OAM (02) 4739 4128

Central Coast: Mrs Patricia Slattery OAM (02) 4341 3188

Central West: Mrs Audrey Hardman OAM (02) 6367 5034

Clarence/Richmond: Mr Don Johnston OAM (02) 6628 0055

Coffs Coast: Vacant

Dubbo: Miss Ruby Riach OAM (02) 6882 0658

Far South Coast: Dr Eleanor Robin OAM (02) 4476 5906

Hastings/Macleay: Mr Laurie Smith OAM Mob 0416 221 147

Hunter: Mrs June Cameron AM (02) 4954 7005

Illawarra: Mr John O'Dwyer OAM (02) 4297 2582

Manning: Wing Commander Greg Hartig AM (Retd) (02) 6556 3158

New England North/West: Mr Frederick Edwards OAM 02 6767 1112

Riverina: Mr. John Mueller OAM (02) 6922 3614

Co-Convenor: Mr. Wayne Geale OAM

Shoalhaven: Mr. Rod Gibb OAM (02) 4446 0226

Southern Highlands: Mrs Virginia Adlide OAM (02) 4861 1331

Southern Tablelands: Mr Mark McRae OAM (02) 6227 5739

NSW Regional Groups Co-ordinator:

Mr Garth Doyle OAM 15 Nimbin St

Russell Vale NSW 2517

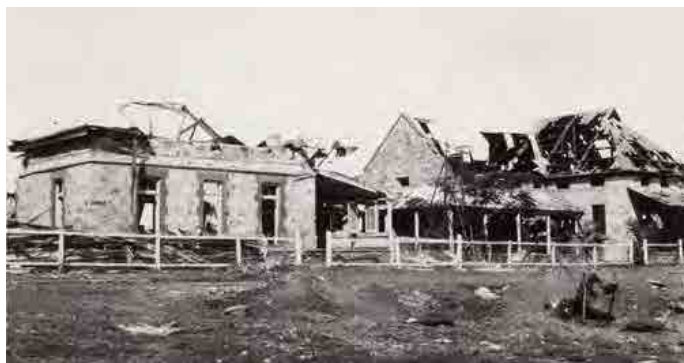
Tel: (02) 4284 0111 Mob: 0409 850 511



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"Melbourne Argus" Newspaper report. Courtesy Australian Geographic.



Darwin Post Office after bombing. Courtesy Northern Territory Library



Zealandia on fire Darwin Harbour. Courtesy Australian War Memorial (AWM 134959).

The two raids killed 250 people with a further 300 to 400 wounded. Among those killed was Darwin's Postmaster, Hurtle Bald, his wife, Alice, and their daughter, Iris, and six young women Post Office telephonists, all killed when sheltering in a slit air-raid trench when the Post Office building was hit. The Residence of the Administrator of the Northern Territory was hit, killing a young aboriginal woman who was employed by the Administrator's family. Bombs killed at least 21 wharf labourers, some trapped on the open wharf when a section was destroyed. Wing Commander Archibald Tindal, after whom the RAAF base south of Katherine is named, was also killed.

Eight ships in the Harbour were sunk, two were beached and later refloated, and many of the other thirty-five ships in the harbour were damaged by bomb or machine-gun fire. Among the ships sunk were the American destroyer *USS Peary*, the transport ship *Zealandia*, and the munitions ship *Neptunia*. The wrecks would remain for many years, including the *USS Peary*



Wreckage of Sgt. Toyoshima's crashed Zero on Melville Is. Courtesy Australian War Memorial (AWM P00022002).



Sgt. Hajime Toyoshima after capture Melville Is. Courtesy Australian War Memorial (AWM P00022001).

which is today a war memorial. Among the ships in the Harbour was the Hospital Ship *MV Manunda* which was damaged and 12 people on board were killed.

The Japanese lost four aircraft to a spirited defence, two Val bombers, and two Zero fighters. One of the fighters crash-landed on Melville Island to Darwin's north, and its pilot was captured by a local Aboriginal man, to become the first prisoner-of-war to be captured on Australian soil.

Contrary to a widespread belief at the time, the attacks were not a precursor to an invasion. The Japanese were preparing to raid Timor, and anticipated that a disruptive air attack would hinder Darwin's potential as a base from which the Allies could launch a counter-offensive, and at the same time would damage Australian morale. The Japanese also planned to take New Guinea, cutting Australia off from United States' support. Denying Darwin's ability to act as a base would help achieve this aim.

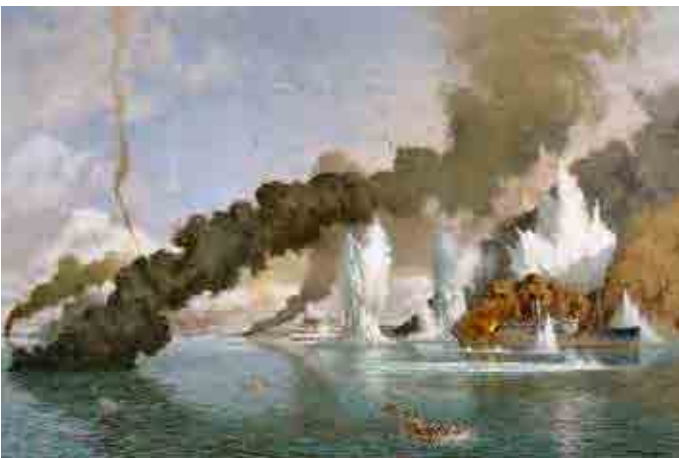
In the hours following the air raids of 19 February 1942, believing that an invasion was imminent, some of Darwin's civilian population began to stream southwards. Approximately half of Darwin's civilian population at the time ultimately left the town. Prior to the air raids many mothers and children had been evacuated by ship on 15 February 1942 and by aircraft – the last aircraft leaving on 18 February 1942. (The polling census of Darwin conducted by the Government in 1941 had shown 1,066 women and 969 children). The panic in the town was paralleled by confusion at the RAAF base where personnel were directed in difficult circumstances to other areas in great numbers. Looting and disorder, and impact of the first raids, subsequently



Sinking destroyer USS Paery with Hospital ship MV Manunda to the left. Courtesy Australian War Memorial (AWM 012970).



RAAF Headquarters after the Raid. Courtesy Australian War Memorial (AWM P0179.010).



Darwin after raid 19 February 1942. Artist Ray Honisett. Courtesy Australian War Memorial (AWM ART 28529).



Lone Kittyhawk on Darwin's RAAF airfield. The only Allied fighter to survive the raid. The pilot Lt. Robert Oestreicher is credited with shooting down two Japanese Dive-bombers. Courtesy Australian War Memorial (AWM P05303.003-P40).

led the Government to hurriedly appoint a Commission of Inquiry led by Mr Justice Lowe, which issued two reports, one on 27 March 1942 and the other on 9 April 1942.

However, within a few months, Darwin was mounting an even more credible defence, which grew to a coordinated response involving fighters, radar, and searchlights. The response grew steadily to involve counterstrikes from bombers, largely manned by United States forces. Other squadrons involved Dutch and British aircraft joining the Australian effort, and naval units combined to operate against the enemy. By the end of 1942 the tide was beginning to turn and the Japanese started to be pushed back from the lands they had taken in what is now Indonesia and Timor.

The air attacks across northern Australia, centering on the Territory, continued until November 1943, by which time the Japanese had raided the Top End over 200 times. The last enemy aircraft was shot down over the Territory in June 1944. During the war other towns in northern Australia were also the target of Japanese air attack, with bombs dropped on Townsville, Katherine, Wyndham, Derby, Broome, and Port Hedland.

The National Australian Archives and the Australian War Memorial hold a wide range of records relating to the bombing of Darwin.



Sinking of Neptune as tonnes of depth charges and other explosives detonate. In front is tiny auxiliary vessel HMAS Vigilant carrying out rescue work. On the right Zealandia has already begun to list before sinking. Courtesy Australian War Memorial (AWM 134955).

(Courtesy of National Australian Archives and the Australian War Memorial)

Editor's Note: There have been very informative books written on the bombing of Darwin. Two that deserve to be widely read are: *Carrier Attack* by Tom Lewis AM published 2013 and *An Awkward Truth* by Peter Grose first published 2009 and later 2017.

Check out our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au



INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS OF FILIPINO DESCENT TRACE THEIR PEARL DIVER FILIPINO RELATIVES OVER A CENTURY LATER

The publication of *Re-imagining Australia: Voices of Indigenous Australians of Filipino descent* (Keeaira Press, Southport, Queensland, 2016) by Dr Deborah Ruiz Wall OAM with co-author, Dr Christine Choo was the catalyst that prompted Aboriginal man, Kevin Puertollano; his sister, Roma Puertollano; and his first cousin, Carol Davidson to fly to Manila, attend the book launch, and look for their Filipino relatives in October last year.



(Front row): Roma Puertollano (3rd from Left) & Kevin Puertollano (4th from left) finding the relatives of Tomás Puertollano, their pearl diver forebear who sailed from the Philippines 127 years ago, married an Aboriginal woman, and never returned to his country of origin, Island of Marinduque, Luzon Philippines, October 2016.



(L-R): Roma Puertollano (Chile Creek, WA), Carol Davidson (Derby, WA), Deborah Ruiz Wall (author), Kevin Puertollano (Broome, WA), Australian Ambassador Amanda Gorely, Peter Sabatino (Torres Strait), Josephine Petero-David (Torres Strait) and Dr Raul Sunico, CEO of the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP). Manila, October 2016.

The book recounts the story of 'Manilamen', one of the first migrant Filipinos to northern Australia in the late 1800s working in the pearling industry. A large number of Indigenous Australians are their descendants. The oral stories featured in the book represent the deep people-to-people contact between Australia and the Philippines.

Commemorating the 70th anniversary of the diplomatic ties between Australia and the Philippines, the Australian Embassy and the Cultural Center of the Philippines hosted the book launch and exhibit in October 2016. The book was also launched in Western Australia, Sydney University, and the

National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra. The Philippine Embassy and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade hosted the book launch and exhibit in Canberra.

BACKGROUND

Labour was scarce for the emerging pearling industry in the 1870s so some pearlers resorted to blackbirding or kidnapping of Aboriginal people and Pacific Islanders to make them work in the pearling fields. Laws were passed to regulate the industry more closely and protect Aboriginal workers from gross abuses. Pacific Islanders Protection Act 1872 – Imperial; Polynesian Labourers Act 1868 – Queensland; and Pearlsheil Fishing Regulation Act 1871, 1873 – Western Australia were some of these laws.

These laws exacerbated labour shortage and opened work opportunities for Asian workers including seamen from the Philippines. Asian divers were recruited from British ports in Singapore, Hong Kong and Colombo. At that time, Australia and the Philippines were under colonial rule. The colonies within Australia were governed independently. Around the world, borders were relatively porous and not centrally controlled. Ports along the northern coast of Australia between 1875 and 1882 were free ports. Immigration policies were non-existent.

However, the Western Australian government was determined to restrict the social ties between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people (that is, between Whites and Asians). The 1905 Aborigines Act prohibited cohabitation between Whites and Asians. It gave the Chief Protector the right to 'remove Aboriginal adults to any district or institution if he believed that it was in their interests.' Only those with work permit were exempt.



(L-R): Manila man, Severo Corpus and Emma Nyobing married in 1898, W.A.

CORRECTION

"The Order" Edition 46 Summer 2017 – page 38 Column 2:
The Ballarat School of Mines was founded in 1870 - not as shown in article.

COLIN WATSON OAM (EXPLORER)

Colin Watson, 93, was a passionate bush walker, and campaigner for the Budawangs (Mountain Range) and the National Park system. Living in Sydney most of his life, and working his trade as a cabinet maker, building and restoring wooden furniture, and sometimes repairing damaged stock for the department stores of Sydney. Every moment that he could spare he packed his backpack, met up with his mates, and took to the bush to explore, and record as much of the bush tracks that the indigenous peoples of our land knew so well.

Colin has been visiting the South Coast since the 1940's to walk in the Budawang Range, devoted a lot of his time taking photographs, recording with sketches, and notes of every track he and his friends walked. He told us that he was the first to use colour film to record the wonderful scenery that they were privileged to see. Colin and his friend, George Elliott, with the notes and sketches helped to draw up a map known as the 'Budawang Sketch Map' in the 1950s and '60s. The Budawang Committee published the map in 1960 to promote the area, and hoped that it would be used by bush walkers to make their experiences safer, and more interesting and enjoyable. Colin said that when he and his mates bush walked, all they had was the old parish maps to guide them which were very limited on information. The feedback from walkers, said that the maps provided by Colin to be invaluable to them and made their weekend in the bush more enjoyable. They said that without the maps they would have missed such a lot of beautiful scenery that was on offer. The Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife named Colin "AGL Friend of the Century" in 1999.

Colin and his walking companions also walked tracks that lead them into Burruga-

rong Valley long before the Cox's River was flooded to hold water for Sydney, now known as Warragamba Dam. In the days that Colin visited the area there was a township on the floor of the valley which consisted of homes, the post office, a school, a church and grave yard, a guest house with cabins as it was the holiday favourite for some Sydney folk who wanted to holiday in the surrounds of the mountains of the Great Dividing Range. They could fish, swim in the pristine clear water of the Cox's River, and enjoy the hospitality of the towns people. There has recently been published a book on the indigenous families that lived in the settlement, "The Aboriginal People of the Burrugarong Valley". Colin was asked by the writer if he would contribute by supplying photographs for the book which he was happy to do.

For many years Colin has been on numerous committees that are connected with the Australian bush all working to make bush walking safer for those who venture out on a weekend, but also for the native flora and fauna, and helping to educate the public to respect, and enjoy their time with nature. "1964-1967 Colin was on the **Nowra District N.P.W.S Advisory Committee.**" To read more of his achievements http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/quiet_Australians/database/extra/extra300.PDF

Until a few years ago Colin has accepted invitations to be guest speaker at various schools, and functions to talk about his experiences in the bush. Colin has always felt that the best way to protect what he loves most is to give out as much knowledge as possible about it. Since he has reached his 90's he has decided to slow down and enjoy his hobbies, one being his love of classical music – he has collected hundreds of records since the 1960's and is a member of a Record Club. He



Colin Watson OAM, 93 years at his Birthday Afternoon Tea on 22 February 2017.

has always enjoyed the performing arts, reading, film, and recording his memories for those to come – these are in the safe hands of the State Library. Colin has written a number of books and has been a consultant on many more. His wide knowledge of history, conservation, and the Australia landscape can be of value to a new author. He said that he wishes that he had some more time on his hands as he has more books in his head, but just not able to find the time to put them on paper, his life's experiences are many.

Colin received the honour of being recognised for his work by being awarded the Order of Australia Medal in 1989. He recently retired from the Committee of the Order of Australia Association – New South Branch Far South Coast Regional Group on which he was a member for the past five years. The Group changed Convenor and Committee in November 2016.

Colin retired to Moruya and turned 93 years old on the 22nd February 2017, he spent the day with visitors calling to wish him 'Many Happy Returns' of the day, and enjoyed a small party with his family, and close friends for afternoon tea where he blew out candles on his birthday cake. His birthday wish for the day was the fellowship of his closest friends.

REPLACEMENT OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA LAPEL PINS AND LADIES BROOCHES

These are available to purchase by contacting the Honours Secretariat, Government House, CANBERRA.

The prices for these can vary so it would be advisable to telephone for current prices prior to requesting purchase.

The telephone number: 02 6283 3617. Payment for these can be made by cheque/money order to "The Collector of Public Monies" or over the telephone by quoting your credit card details.

Should your insignia be stolen you may request the purchase of a replacement from the Honours Secretariat. The request is to be accompanied by a Statutory Declaration and, if possible, a copy of the Police Report.



LIVING WITH ISLAM AND A DIVIDED AMERICA – CHALLENGES FOR CONTEMPORARY AUSTRALIA

This is a summary of the address by OAA National President, Philip Flood AO, to the Order of Australia Association on Australia Day, 26 January 2017.

Philip provided a personal view of some current issues that Australia is facing, noting the crucial benefits of Australia being a stable liberal democracy firmly founded on the rule of law, and the only nation with sovereignty over an entire continent.

We should be more concerned than we are about the extent and depth of our understanding of our Asian neighbours and what it means for Australia to live with Islam. In the last two decades, we have learned forcefully that we have no choice.

The largest Islamic country in the world is our neighbour Indonesia. It is a complex country with a population of over 250 million, the fourth most populous country in the world. Some 87% of Indonesians (or 220 million) are Muslim, nearly 10% are Christian and 3% identify as Buddhist, Hindu and other religions.

Islam came first to the province of Aceh, in the north, and developed in a way that was very different from countries such as Saudi Arabia and Iran. Islam in Indonesia was less strict in form and in practice, including dress.

Militant Islam has recently become stronger in Indonesia. Saudi Arabia has used its oil wealth to spread the pernicious Wahhabi form of Islam to Indonesia. But benchmarked against other Muslim-majority countries, Indonesia is a beacon of tolerance and pluralism. Indonesia has shown that Islam is compatible with democracy, economic development, and capable of peaceful coexistence with other religions.

All major political parties in Australia have supported strong measures against terrorism, irrespective of its origin. Public concern has also led to calls to prohibit Muslim immigration to Australia.

Banning immigration by members of any religious group would be an admission of a lack of confidence in our values, but we should not be timid about acknowledging that there are issues with Islam that worry Australians.

The overwhelming majority of the approximately half a million Muslims in Australia are good citizens contributing to our society. We expect their leaders to denounce Islamist terrorism and to cooperate fully with authorities in dealing

resolutely with those who seek to inspire or commit terrorism. We expect our Muslim community to accept unconditionally that there is no place for sharia law in Australia. Our message to Muslims should be the same as that to all: we will not tolerate those who want to mess with our values and our freedoms.

Philip also addressed Australia's relationship with the United States under President Donald Trump whose inaugural address gave a broad picture of his ambition, but it will be some time before we know the precise direction of his strategic, economic and trade policies. America will have to share greater space with a resurgent China, but the US will remain for many decades the strongest strategic power globally.

He said that Australia's alliance with the US is robust, our political and military standing in Washington is high, and certainly high enough for us to speak frankly with the Americans if we believe

their policies risk threatening elements of the global order of value to us. The alliance is an expression of many values held in common, of core shared interests between our peoples – including investment and trade – and reflects the fact that the United States is the most important shaper of our strategic environment. America's presence has been a net positive in terms of peace in our region.

He believes it would be extraordinarily foolish to move away from the alliance and that any such move would be rejected by an overwhelming majority of Australians. There are powerful reasons why we should have a good relationship with the Trump Administration.

The full text of the speech is at The Order of Australia Association website at:

<http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/branches/act/documents/ACTAustdayB-FastSpeech-PhilipFlood.pdf>

INTRODUCING THE DIGITAL GARAGE

As the world goes increasingly digital, the skills that people need to grow successful businesses have changed.

The Digital Garage is a free training platform from Google to help anyone increase their knowledge of all things digital, from website creation and online marketing, to social media, e-commerce and beyond.

Why use The Digital Garage?

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HONORARY SECRETARY, WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

**Emeritus Professor Robin Watts AM PhD M Hlth Sc BA
Nurs Ed Diploma FACN**



Robin was appointed a Member in the General Division of the Order in 2010 in acknowledgement of her service to nursing through the development of nurse education, promotion of evidence-based health care and the establishment of ethical research standards. She joined the Association that year and in 2014 became the Secretary to the Western Australian Branch.

She had her heart set on becoming a nurse from around the age of five and nothing

could deter her from pursuing nursing as a career. Her initial training was at the Princess Margaret Hospital for Children and Royal Perth Hospital in WA. Once she had gained her general nursing certificate she moved on to Sydney to undertake her midwifery certificate at Royal North Shore Hospital. At this stage she was bitten by the travel bug and headed to Atherton in North Queensland before immigrating to Canada as so many other nurses and teachers did in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

It was here that Robin developed a wish to work in developing countries and after 2 years in the interior of British Columbia, she was accepted by CARE-Medico to work in Honduras, initially as midwife then as the director of the nursing auxiliary program. Her introduction to Honduras was more than a little exciting. Soon after her arrival Honduras and Salvador went to war – the short lived ‘football war’ – and the hospital was close to the front line. Not an experience she wishes to repeat.

On the positive side it was here that she found she really enjoyed teaching and her career path turned to nursing education. On returning to Perth she returned to her

training hospital to teach for several years before becoming a paediatric nursing instructor in the pilot tertiary education nursing program in WA. During these years Robin was part of the political push by the profession to move nursing into the higher education sector and for the nursing courses to be granted an appropriate level of educational recognition i.e. a degree. Other than two breaks for overseas study at McMaster University in Canada and the University of Colorado in the USA, she has been on the staff of Curtin University since 1975. During that time she has held various academic positions, including two periods as Head of School, Executive Director of University Planning and the first Professor of Nursing appointed by Curtin University. She has also undertaken overseas consultancies and projects in a number of countries including Thailand, Rwanda, Taiwan, Brunei and Hong Kong.

While in university management Robin was appointed to the Australian Health Ethics Committee (AHEC). Given the calibre of the individuals she worked with on this and other NHMRC committees and working parties as the AHEC representative for eight years, Robin regards this as one of the most stimulating experiences of her career.

Her so called retirement commenced in July 2010. When her OAAWA secretarial duties allow, she divides her time between volunteering, gardening and travel.

THE AUSTRALIAN HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY IS RAPIDLY EXPANDING

In general terms, turnover has been increased by established hospitality enterprises.

During the past ten years, the industry has welcomed major new players – *Elizabeth Keys in Perth, Crown in Melbourne, Barangaroo in Sydney, The Urban Purveyor Group* across the East Coast – all of these major players have sought increased staff. The Cruise industry has trebled its product sales, local resorts have re-emerged in rural, regional, and outback areas, and the registered Club industry is growing through consolidation. Tourism and Hospitality now employs more than **1.3 million** people in all sectors.

As in the retail industry, trained staff are hard to source. The solution – Increase on the job training (in house), increase entry level and mature age training (apprenticeships and trainees), re-train experienced staff, increase incentives for staff and reduce staff turnover.



Staff and graduating Students from the TAFE Illawarra Bega Campus Tourism Hospitality Commercial cooking class.

The industry will continue to grow in all sectors during the next decade and let us not forget – the fast food industry, growth of catering services and the explosion of coffee shops.

An exciting future for Tourism and Hospitality for Australia.

**How to become a Member of our Association
check our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au**



A HISTORY OF HUNTERS HILL

Hunters Hill in 2017 is a suburb of Sydney.

It was the home of Australians of the Wallumetegal (Wallumdegal) tribe for untold numbers of years.

Hunters Hill was described by early explorers as "a high rugged peninsula between two rivers", known now as the Lane Cove and Parramatta rivers, which enter Sydney Harbour from the west, and about 10 kilometres (as the crow flies) from the city of Sydney.

Early descriptions of Hunters Hill include the terms "rocky and wooded, thick with eucalyptus, ironwood, stringybark and blackwood trees".

The name used by the Wallumetegal (Wallumadegal) people may have been 'Moco Bou La', which is understood to refer to 'the meeting of the waters'.

In 1951 the Hunters Hill Council adopted a new design for its insignia and seal, which included 'Moocooboola', and an annual Moocooboola Festival is widely supported by residents and visitors. Situated in Alexandra Street, is a private residence of that same name.

A memorial to the last of the first Australians to live in Hunters Hill/Gladesville is in place in the Field of Mars cemetery.

Many of the present building and street names reflect the origins of the early European immigrants who arrived in the 19th century, and who contributed much to the developing community, as builders, stone masons, ferry masters and public figures, Joubert, Jeanneret, Garibaldi, Cuneo, Bondietti, Tornaghi and many others who formed the emerging municipality of Hunters Hill. Later names include artists such as M. Pugenit, Nora Heyson, (first woman war artist), both hanging in the NSW Art Gallery, and Hal Missingham. Composers include Lindley Evans, John Antill. Writers include Maybank Anderson, Kylie Tennant, and R.D. Fitzgerald III, AM OBE. His awards were for service to literature. The grandfather of Fitzgerald above was a distinguished botanist who discovered and identified the first Australian orchids, and corresponded with and is mentioned by Charles Darwin in Darwin's written works.



Figtree St Marks Anglican Church.

The importance of learning and education was recognised early, and Hunters Hill has been significant for the number and variety of schools it has benefitted from.

The Sydney Morning Herald, on Saturday January 5, 1861, states:

Hunters Hill-The duties of Mrs. Clapham's school "will be resumed Thursday 17th inst."

Over time up to at least 12 different non-government schools were available in Hunters Hill, including the Chapel schoolhouse, which was used as a chapel on Sundays. It stands in Figtree Rd, as St. Mark's Anglican Church, and is the oldest public building in Hunters Hill. One of these schools was a preparatory school for Sydney Grammar School, another, Malvern School, operated until after 1961. St Joseph's college opened in 1881.

Assent for construction of the Hunters Hill Public school was received in 1869, and it was opened by Sir Henry Parkes in 1870, Woolwich Public School opened in 1892.

The early settlement was known by some as "The French Village", due in part to the large European style buildings that were being constructed from local sandstone by new residents. An example, still occupied today, is the house called "Passy". Built in 1855 for the French Consul, in the Hunters Hill street of the same name, Passy is the name of a Departmente of Paris, and an official 'twin towns relationship' is maintained between Hunters Hill and Passy.

In the early years of settlement by Europeans, the whole of the north shore of the Harbour, opposite the "settled" southern shore, was called Hunters Hill. The Wells Gazetteer of 1848 clearly separates the early days from the latter day Hunters Hill.

The name Hunters Hill gradually localised to refer to the peninsula between the two rivers, and now includes areas to the west as far as Pittwater Rd.



"Passy" Mid 20th Century.

By 1831 the Secretary of State wrote to Governor Darling stating that grants (of land in Hunters Hill) were to be suspended.....and that in future land would be auctioned (10 % deposit, with a minimum price of five shillings per acre).

Hunters Hill was described in The Government Gazette of September 24, 1920 as a residential area. However, until the 1960s there was a presence of heavy and small industries mainly in the Woolwich end of the peninsula, associated in the main with ship building and maintenance. Most are no longer operation, but did in the past provide a good living for skilled artisans. The former dry dock was the largest in the Southern Hemisphere.

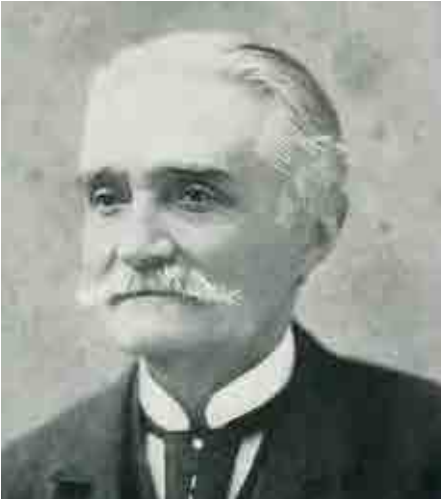
Early Hunters Hill was difficult to access by both pedestrians and vehicles, due to the two rivers. Until bridges were constructed, travel by water was the norm, and the ferry service was essential. By 1835-36 ferry services with regular schedules began, operated by competing owners- Joubert, Jeanneret and others. The ferry is still preferred by many residents going to Sydney, (or upstream to Parramatta), as reliable, relaxing and efficient.

In 1829, a punt across the Parramatta River was approved by Governor Darling. Called the Bedlam Ferry, it allowed traffic to proceed along the Great North Road.

In 1856 a meeting was held in Ryde to consider the best means of establishing direct and regular communication with Sydney. By 1881 a newspaper reported that a bridge over the Parramatta River between Five Dock and Gladesville was opened for public traffic on Tuesday February 1. On 24 October, 1885, the Bridge over the Lane Cove River was opened.

In 2017, new bridges over both rivers are constantly in use.

Postal services were requested in 1840, and the penny post and telegraph service was connected in 1858. The telephone



Joules Joubert

exchange was set up in 1870s. It had some private subscribers and also connected St. Ignatius School and the Mental Hospital. Direct dialling telephones arrived in 1940s.

Electricity was provided in 1920, following agreement with the Council over distances between light pole installations, and details of liability for damages of various types.

In 1914 the Hunters Hill War Fund was formed. Its driving force was Alderman W. Windeyer, who served as Mayor for a number of years.

402 residents of Hunters Hill volunteered for active service—a similar range of family names, (many brothers) appear in the lists – as already noted as street names. 44 were killed or died of wounds.

The following statement by writer JMC Boulton in “Cavalcade of Hunters Hill” (1938) gives an indication of the patriotic feeling at the time...

“... Municipality of Hunters Hill had the greatest response in enlistment in proportion to its population of all municipalities in Australia” 1939 - 45 saw a continuous contribution by fund-raising and volunteer effort in many spheres of activity throughout Hunter Hill.

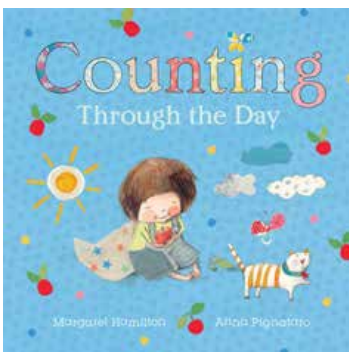
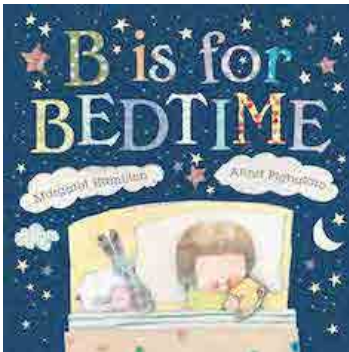
A memorial service was first held in the Town Hall in 1920, and is still held every year, in memory of all lost or damaged by war.

In the 1960s, when under pressure from the state government to increase residential housing in the municipality, local female residents banded together with the Builder’s Labourers Federation to implement the world’s first Green Ban. This prevented the construction of housing on the site of Kelly’s Bush a remnant piece of harbour-side native bushland. Kelly’s Bush was preserved and remains today a sanctuary for native flora and fauna and is popular with locals for its walking tracks and harbour views.

In 2017 Hunters Hill is a quiet, multicultural, mainly residential garden suburb valued by all its residents for its amenity and proximity to the harbour and the Sydney CBD. It has excellent schools, parklands, shops and restaurants and other community facilities within its boundaries.

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THE JOY OF READING

No doubt many members of the Order of Australia Association are grandparents. As someone who has worked with children and their books for over four decades, I’m writing to share with the grandparents among us, or even the aunts and uncles, the joy of reading to children. Sharing a book with a child, no matter what their age, is one of life’s greatest pleasures. Having their undivided attention for even a short time is invaluable for establishing a warm and loving relationship. How wonderful for you and your grandchild to share this precious time together, for reading a book together to become an eagerly awaited part of your time with them. Nothing can replace that very special feeling of togetherness. It’s a proven fact that children who are read to from an early age develop their literacy skills earlier and those in whom an early love of books and reading is instilled become readers for life. In this day of widespread technology and the ready availability of time-consuming devices, it is even more important that children are introduced to books at an early age. Children’s books are as essential to a child’s life as eating and sleeping.

Australia has developed a reputation for publishing some of the best children’s books in the world. Australian authors and illustrators are world-renowned, highly creative and they produce wonderful books for children of all ages. Classic children’s books like *Snugglypot and Cuddlepup* by May Gibbs, *Blinky Bill* by Dorothy Wall and *The Magic Pudding* by Norman Lindsay are still available today. More recently, bestselling books like *Possum Magic* by Mem Fox & Julie Vivas, *There’s A Hippopotamus on our Roof Eating Cake* by Hazel Edwards & Deborah Niland, *Diary of a Wombat* by Jackie French & Bruce Whatley, the amazingly popular *Grug* series by Ted Prior, are readily available in bookshops and libraries. Also hugely popular are books by Andy Griffiths, Aaron Blabey and Leigh Hobbs.

That’s not to say that there are not books from England and elsewhere that are also hugely popular. Wonderful classics like *Winnie the Pooh* by A A Milne, *Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter, *Paddington* by Michael Bond and even the bestselling *Harry Potter* series.

The Children’s Book Council of Australia was established in 1945. They have been presenting the CBCA Book of the Year Awards since 1946. The 2017 awards will be announced on 18 August, the beginning of Children’s Book Week. These award-winning books, and any recommended at Readingtime.com.au would be suitable for children. It’s free to subscribe to the weekly newsletter. Joining a library with your grandchild or shopping in bookshops is also a good idea. Regular visits could become an outing to look forward to. Take advantage of this precious time in their lives. They will be grown up too quickly, but they will treasure the memories you create by giving them the joy of reading.

Margaret Hamilton AM
Deputy Chair, The Children’s Book Council of Australia



THE TERRITORY REMEMBERS



Wendy James OAM.

Talk presented by Wendy James OAM at Darwin during the commemorative week of the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Darwin – 19 February 2017.

Good evening everyone, thank you for inviting me to talk about the place I have loved and lived in almost continuously for over seventy years. Tonight I want to share with you some of the memories I have of my life in pre war and post war Darwin and the extraordinary experience of being a Refugee in our own country.

This week we will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Darwin. This historical event changed my family's life and was a pivotal influence in making us who we are.

The commemoration each year is a significant reminder to Australians that on the 19th February 1942 nine ships were sunk, 251 people were killed and the town of Darwin was devastated in an unprovoked attack by 188 Japanese fighter aircraft and bombers in all. This was the beginning of 77 raids made on the Northern Territory in World War II that lasted for nearly two years. I have quoted these facts from Dr. Tom Lewis's book 'A War at Home'.

I was born in Western Australia in 1935 and moved with my parents, Stan and Poppy Secrett and brother, John, to live in Darwin in late 1937. My father flew from Perth in a Catalina Flying Boat, my mother, brother, and I sailed up the West Coast on the MV "Koolinda", a journey that took two weeks.

Darwin at the time was described as "The last outpost of Australia", an isolated hard-ship posting which suited the then small

slightly eccentric population. These hardy souls were a mix of European, Asian, local Indigenous people and other unusual citizens who found refuge in being anonymous.

My parents immediately fell in love with the lifestyle, climate, tolerance, and friendliness that this small remote outpost offered them and made the decision never to leave. Their families in West Australia direly predicted they would never see them alive again.

My father had been offered work with the Department of Works and Housing. Accommodation was limited at the time and we finally settled permanently into a small cottage tucked under the hill beside the road that led to the wharf. The house was next door to my father's office.

My brother and I made the coastal rain forest our playground and would sometimes catch a ride on the small train that shunted cargo to and from the ships moored at the wharf. We loved to run to the water's edge to watch the Flying Boats land in the harbour in a flurry of spray. The passengers in their hot southern clothes would stagger up China Man's Walk, a steep dirt track that took them to the town.

My mother and I would also use China Man's Walk as it took us through China Town to the township to shop and post mail. I would hold on tight to my mother's hand as we walked past the Chinese men relaxing under the veranda sitting on long stools at the front of their shops.

They wore loose cotton clothes, their long black pigtails hung down their backs. I remember the strange smell of spices that came from food cooking in giant woks balanced over glowing fires at the back of the shops. At night I would fall asleep to the sound of clap sticks, didgeridoos and singing from the aboriginal people camped below the railway station.

These were peaceful settled years. A baby sister was born in the hospital overlooking Doctor's Gully. John and I started school, my parents were very settled and made a firm decision that they would never leave Darwin.

These plans came to an abrupt end when the threat of war moved closer to Northern Australia. Singapore was expected to fall

to the invading Japanese army and an attack on Darwin was imminent. Soldiers in uniform filled the town, air raid sirens wailed day and night. People waited in suspense until the all clear sounded. John and I would sit on the back steps of our home in the dark and watch searchlight beams crisscross in patterns over the sea.

In December 1941 the Australian War Cabinet ordered that all women and children in Darwin be evacuated to the south.

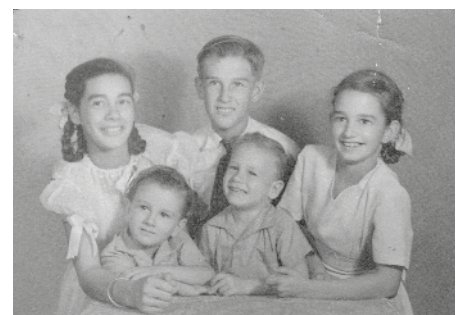
On the 19th of December 1941 John and I were playing with our toys in the house, our parents were arguing. Both were very upset, my mother was crying, and refusing to leave, my father was insisting she must go. John and I did not know what was happening or why she was crying, they put their arms around each other.

There was a loud bang on the wall, a huge military policeman stood in the doorway, he demanded that my mother leave immediately, she told him very forcefully she was not going anywhere, he shouted at her and told her he would put her over his shoulder and carry her to the ship. That ended the argument.

Our angry, tearful mother pushed clothes into two string bags, packed our two-year old sister into the pusher and hurried us over the dirt track to the wharf. Our dad stood on the back steps and we lost sight him. John and I held a string bag in one hand and hung onto the pusher with the other, our



Wendy with her mother and her brother before they left Perth to travel to Darwin 1937.



Wendy and siblings L to R Wendy, John, Lorilee, twins Robert and Peter (Surname Secrett).



SS "Koolinda" – cargo and passenger ship that took Wendy and family to Darwin in late 1930s. The same ship evacuated them to Perth in December 1941.

feet barely touched the ground as our mum rushed us along to the waiting ship.

We boarded the MV "Koolinda" just before the anchor was raised. The journey to Perth was hazardous, the civilian women on board took turns on deck for long night shifts to watch for mines in the sea and the threat of Japanese planes above.

The cabins were blacked out, I was six years old and did not understand why we had to leave all we loved.

Approximately 1,000 women and 900 children were sent south by sea, road, rail, and air, some to unknown destinations, some never returned. Many women disembarked in strange cities, most received little support and, as a last resort, had to put their children into care. No news came from Darwin, some lost their husbands in the first bombing raids, sadly they did not receive this news for some time.

My mother, Poppy, with three young children found life as a refugee unbearable. The Government provided no assistance having been advised by the Administrator in Darwin that the European refugees from Darwin did not need help.

With little money our independent mother managed to keep us together by moving from rented verandas and back rooms for nearly a year until a kind lady in Bunbury offered to share her house with us. My father sent us a letter, but it fell out of the envelope in pieces having been censored heavily by war time security. Apart from one newspaper headline that declared Darwin had been bombed no other information was available.

John and I had moved from school to school learning very little and we finally felt secure in the coastal town of Bunbury.

Unknown to us however, our mother was making plans to return to the Northern Territory. John and I were enrolled in Boarding schools and she flew to Alice Springs with our young sister. We had never been separated before, and I remember how devastated I was.

My beautiful strong willed mother then convinced my father to take her and my young sister to Darwin, an impossible task due to maximum army security in place on the Stuart Highway.

However, they got as far as Dunmara Station before being stopped by two angry Military Security Officers. The Station owner, Noel Healy, stepped in and offered to employ her as housekeeper and she stayed.

Dad's work supervising the construction of army and work camps took him past Dunmara and he called in when possible.

The inevitable happened, a year later he drove mum and my little sister back to Alice Springs where she had twin sons in the Military Base Hospital.

In 1944 John and I joined her and met our new baby brothers in Alice Springs. They are now 72 years old.

On the 15th August 1945 the war ended and peace was declared, we all celebrated and cheered hysterically with everyone else in the town.

Five weeks later our dad drove John and I from Alice Springs to Darwin in the front

of his work ute. It was a quiet journey, he did not know his children and had forgotten how to talk to us.

I realised in later years my father had suffered Post War Stress. Recurrent attacks of Malaria left him weak and ill. Dad had been co-opted into the Civilian Construction Corp in 1941. He was at the wharf when the first bombs fell and narrowly missed being killed then and on other occasions. The experience aged him, he seemed old and tired at 36 when the war ended.

He died aged 46. Forty years after his death he was posthumously awarded The Civilian Service Medal 1939-1945.

Four years after we had been evacuated our family was reunited in Darwin. I was ten years old when our family moved into a slightly worse for wear 1930's Beni Burnett house that became our home for seven years.

Darwin was still a garrison town totally under Military control. There were no civilian facilities or shops so mum and I had to walk to the Larrakeyah Barracks Army stores with our ration books and money to buy the family groceries. Once we were whistled and shouted at by a truckload of Japanese prisoners, that was a rude shock that really upset us.

The public school did not open for nearly a year so John and I would ride our bikes to town looking for places we remembered. We searched for China Town but it had disappeared, there were bombed wrecked buildings everywhere in town and the remains of sunken ships in the harbour, the house where we had lived was gone, nothing was the same.

We found an ammunition dump that was carelessly covered and learnt how to tap 303 bullets to remove the cordite, we climbed the rusty ladder on the concrete water tank at the abandoned Vestey's Meatworks and swam in the dark green water, we roamed the town riding our bikes through abandoned army camps that had housed the troops. I could straighten a buckled wheel in the fork of a tree and mended countless punctures.

My parents never knew of our many escapes which was just as well.

The town was still under Military control and thousands of men and women were waiting to join the great convoys of trucks travelling South to be demobbed.



Catalina crash – photo c. 1946. Wendy and brother, John are perched each end of a group of family friends. Catalina Flying Boat was a casualty of the Bombing of Darwin.

The Government gave civilians money to buy salvaged household furniture stored in the Bond Store. We learnt later that the furniture my mother bought had belonged to a woman who later told us she owned it before the war.

One morning a truck stopped at our front door loaded with pianos, a young soldier offered one to us and we accepted, then

he told us the rest were to be bulldozed and buried at East Point.

One day my dad came home shaken and grey with shock, he had gone to the wharf to welcome a ship carrying Australian ex prisoners of war who had suffered in Japanese Prisons. He wept as he told us they were like walking skeletons and barely alive.

Finally Darwin became civilised again. Schools opened, business resumed, the scars began to disappear both on the landscape and in the heart.

For some reason the attacks by the Japanese on Northern Australia were never publicised by the Government and generations of Australians remained unaware that their country had been violated.

I believe Darwin has outgrown its “last outpost of Australia” reputation. It is now a modern, vibrant expanding region that has managed to retain its unique tropical character.

I am reminded of my childhood each year when the Poinciana, Cascara, and Mango trees burst into bloom and I get a warm feeling of nostalgia when I see the stone walls, and remains of buildings that represent the few fragments salvaged from the past.

Darwin is still the place where I love to live, despite its high rise skyline.

I must confess though I do get lost navigating anywhere outside the city and have to rely on a GPS.



MELVA STONE OAM

Born in Perth, Western Australia, Melva has spent a lot of her life in the remote Pilbara and Kimberley regions. During that time she became the first permanent female resident in the remote iron ore-

mining town of Newman, worked as a Radio Operator for the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia and was employed in a managerial role in the aviation industry.

After moving to Perth, Melva became the first female manager in WA for the giant Mayne Nickless Group, following which she established herself in the self-made role of Fundraising Manager for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. In 2009, for her work with the RFDS, she received the Order of Australia Medal (OAM).

Her CV shows a very long list of achievements, Honorary Memberships and “firsts”.

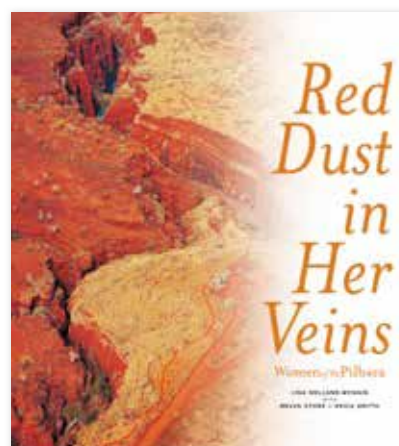
Three Ministerial appointments have involved Melva in working with government.

Her book “Red Dust in Her Veins” was noted as a best-seller for a self-published book. In 2008 the book was featured at a launch in New York as a part of the “G’Day USA” program. Sales of the book raised in excess of \$150,000 for the Royal Flying Doctor Service – all sold from public speaking engagements. Melva is still an Ambassador for the Service.

As a public speaker Melva has impressive referrals. Winning numerous awards when training as a public speaker with the Dale Carnegie Foundation, she went on to achieve accreditation with the National Speakers Association.

Melva is a cancer survivor, a widow and has had to overcome multiple life challenges – her inspirational feature talk, “Falling off Rainbows”, is a candid look at her life and gives an honest, sometimes humorous view, of what it is like to be the first female resident in a very remote mining town in the outback of Australia, living in Australia’s hottest town (Marble Bar) and how to survive the said fall(s)!

Melva currently resides in Broome, in the Kimberley region of Western Australia.



Book (“Red Dust in Her Veins”) can be purchased by e-mail to melva.stone@bigpond.com or by calling Melva on Mob. 0419 861 213. Book is \$20.00 plus \$15.00 postage to anywhere in Australia.

Book is also available in e-format from Amazon, Kindle, and i books.

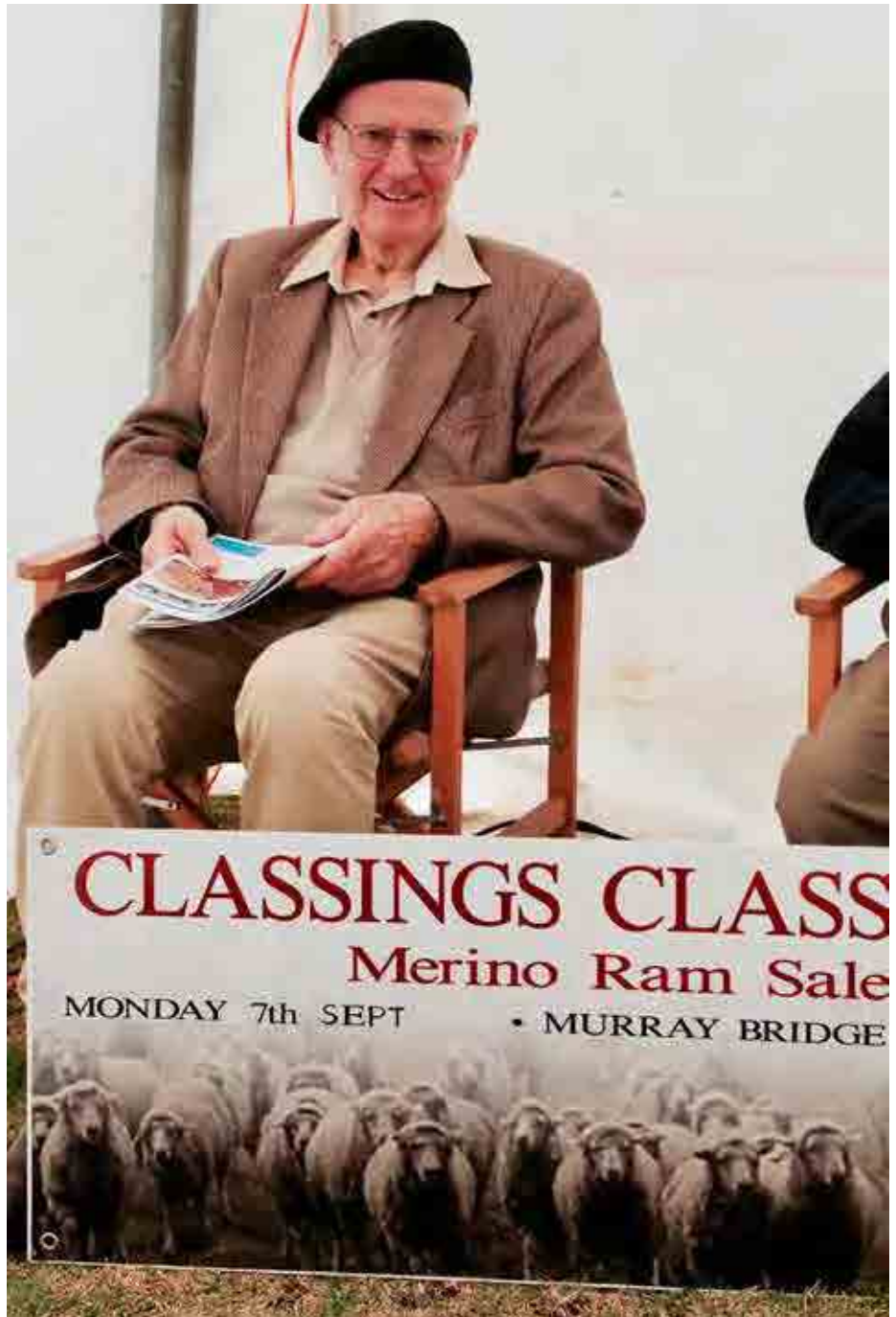
HIS FIELD WAS WITH SHEEP BREEDING:

Brian Crossley Jefferies AM died on 6 January 2017. His field was with Sheep Breeding.

Brian received the Ridley Memorial Scholarship (2 years) which enabled him to go to Adelaide University and study for the 3-year Bachelor of Agriculture Science degree. He obtained a credit for genetics, a subject he loved. He was awarded a Wool Corporation Scholarship which enabled him to complete his 3rd year at University as well as provide a 9-month Post Graduate study in the Eastern States which he completed in 1955. Brian was awarded an athletics blue, both at Roseworthy and at the University of Adelaide. He also won the State 3-mile race in 1957 receiving a Bronze Oscar.

Brian joined the SA Department of Agriculture in 1953 as an Assistant Adviser in Animal Production. In 1956 he led a team of Australian Shearers to Uruguay. They went to demonstrate the Tally-Hi shearing method, and with Brian as the wool-classer, demonstrated wool handling and preparation. This experience whetted his appetite for working in developing countries to help these people learn and progress. His desire to work overseas in developing countries led him to his next job with the United Nations FAO in Argentina for a 4-year project. He and his family moved from Tasmania and lived in Bariloche, a ski resort town at the base of the Andes in the Northern part of Patagonia. While in Argentina, Brian established a series of 8 ram breeding nucleus flocks of 10,000 to 115,000 sheep and fulfilling his boyhood dream to work with huge flocks of sheep. He also started the *Corino* breed of sheep in Southern Patagonia with John Fenton – *Merino Rams X Corriedale ewes*.

Brian returned to Argentina several times in the years following the 4-year project to visit friends and follow-up with work started. Some of these trips led to speaking engagements at Conferences and at field days, which led to more work and the start of the development of three new sheep breeds in Chile – *Patagonian Poll Merino*, *Patagonian Meat Merino*, and the *Patagonian White Suffolk*. He handed over this project to Andrew Michael of Leahcim Stud Snowtown in 2006.



Brian was made a Fellow of the Waite Institute. He gave lectures and demonstrations to Agriculture students, retiring from this work in 1993.

He had faith and was a devout Christian and set out an objective for his life to demonstrate that faith in The Living Lord works. With his faith he believed if one door closes there is an arrow on it pointing to another open door or opportunity. He ministered and shared his faith in ten different countries during his life and was respected for his devotion to God. He wrote "*Book of Miracles*" about the miracles which had occurred during his ministry over a period of 50 years.

His second book was "*The Seriously Funny Bible*" - a book of limericks. He was encouraged to write a book of 52 devotionals, one for each week of the year.

Awards that Brian Crossley Jefferies received include:

- 1950 Gold Medal RAC as well as his Diploma.
- 1987 Medal of Agriculture Technology of Australia.
- 1988 Medal of The Order of Australia (AM) for services to the sheep industry in Australia and overseas.
- 2003 Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Order of Merit.

Margaret Lange OAM



Order of Australia Association

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9	OAA Tie Navy/Aqua/White	25.00	2.00	
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