

The ORDER



THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

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West Coast Wilderness Railway – Queenstown to Strahan

QUEENSTOWN, TASMANIA....PAST AND PRESENT

Queenstown is a town in the west-coast region of the island of Tasmania. It is in a valley on the western slopes of Mount Owen on the West Coast Range. At the 2011 census Queenstown had a population of 1,975. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make up 6.8% of the population.

Prior to arrival of Europeans the area was inhabited by people from the Peerapper and Tammeginne Aboriginal language groups.

Freed from the shackles of its early convict history Tasmania grew with the mining of silver, zinc, tin and gold, and you can still find evidence of this. Queenstown 's history has long been tied to the mining industry and was once the world's richest mining town. The mountainous area was first explored in 1862. It was not long after that when alluvial gold was discovered at Mount Lyell, prompting the formation of the Mount Lyell Gold Mining company in 1881. In 1892 the mine began searching for copper. The final name of Mount Lyell Company was the Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company.

Queenstown's Post Office opened on 21 November 1896. The Queenstown South Post Office opened in 1949 and closed in 1973.

In the 1900's Queenstown was the centre of the Mount Lyell mining district and had numerous smelting works, brick- works and sawmills. The area at the time was finely wooded. The population in 1900 was 5,051.

The town was the base of the Queenstown council up until amalgamation with other west coast councils in the 1990s. The town in its heyday had a collection of hotels, churches, and schools that have all significantly reduced since the demise of the Mount Lyell Company.

The town was the base of the "Organization for Tasmanian Development" started in 1982. There was a brief boom in prosperity in the 1980s with the building of several nearby dams by the Hydro. The Darwin and Crotty dams that comprise Lake Burbury (a popular fishing and recreation venue) were built during this period. Then followed the cancellation of the Gordon-below-Franklin Dam in 1983 after strong campaigning by environmentalists in the "No Dam" campaign.

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THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION OFFICE HOLDERS

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THE ORDER

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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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Board of the Association, at its meeting on 10 July, elected a new National Chairman, Barry Nunn AO RFD ED from Western Australia, Deputy National Chairman, Paul Wheelton AM KStJ from Victoria, National Secretary, Philip Morrall AM CSC from the ACT, National Treasurer, Anthony Metcalf OAM from South Australia, and National Membership Secretary, Patrick Galligan OAM from Queensland.

The Board passed unanimously a motion of warm appreciation for the retiring members of the Executive for their great work for the Association. We are indebted to the out-going Executive Committee for the results achieved under the leadership of Bill Galvin OAM from New South Wales, and especially for their careful attention in protecting and growing the Association's finances. To John McKellar AM ED from South Australia, for being involved with a wide spectrum of actions in support of the Executive Committee; to Alastair

Douglas OAM from Tasmania for sustained meticulous attention to the Association's finances; to Jane Arthur AM from South Australia, for her commitment to increasing membership and to the development of the Membership data base; changes to the Association's magazine, *The Order*, has been enhanced to the appreciation of the Membership by the dedication of Colleen Wardell OAM from New South Wales, in addition to her commitment to duties and responsibilities in her Office of National Secretary.

I add my thanks to the many outstanding people who put their names forward in the election. I am especially grateful to Barry Nunn who will be a fine leader. The next edition of *The Order* will carry a full profile on Barry who is a former Director of Shell Australia and of Arthritis Australia, and has had extensive experience working with and managing volunteers during 40 years of service with the Australian Defence Force Reserves, rising to the rank of Major-General.

Philip Flood AO
National President

FROM THE INCOMING CHAIRMAN

I am honoured to have been appointed as National Chairman of our Association. I join our President in acknowledging the contribution of our retiring Executive Committee members. It was particularly encouraging that thirteen Members nominated to take up non-Branch appointed positions on the Board of Management. This bodes well for the continued active engagement of Members in the affairs of our Association.

I look forward with enthusiasm to working with an outstanding team of directors in furthering the interests of our Association. One significant challenge that we need to address is the lack of awareness in the community of the Order and the values it promotes.

I look forward to meeting many Members during my term of office

Barry Nunn AO
National Chairman

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S AND EDITOR'S FAREWELL MESSAGE

As of the Board Meeting on 10 July 2017 my term of National Secretary and Editor of "The Order" magazine has been completed. I have thoroughly enjoyed my commitment to these roles combined with my Branch level positions which have covered a total of over sixteen years.

I greatly appreciate the support that I have received from you, and I greatly value the time that you as Members have taken

to make telephone calls and to send correspondence to me over the years, and more recently advising of how much you enjoy the current, more interesting, and improved presentation of "The Order".

My best wishes to you for your future enjoyment of, and participation in your Membership of The Order of Australia Association and I look forward to our next "Hello".

Colleen Wardell OAM
Past National Secretary of The Order of Australia Association
Past Editor of "The Order" Official Publication of The Order of Australia Association

Colleen Wardell OAM
National Secretary

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



31ST NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN BRISBANE 20 – 23 APRIL 2017 - “INNOVATING FOR SOCIETY”

This page offers a teasing glimpse of the highlights of this very memorable Conference. For a more comprehensive pictorial record please visit the Association’s website at www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au and use the link in the archival record of the 2017 Conference just below the link for the Brochure and Registration form for the 2018 Conference or go to the Queensland Branch home page.



Photos clockwise from top left

1. Friday 21 April – the eminent presenters at the Conference Forum – L to R: Professor Suzanne Miller (Panel Chair); Professor Catharin Bull AM (Urban design); Professor Ian Frazer AC (Medicine); Li Cunxin (Arts); Distinguished Professor James Dale AO (Agriculture)

2. Saturday 22 April – Some of the 270 guests at the Conference Gala Dinner – Main Auditorium, Brisbane City Hall

3. Sunday 23 April – The playing of *The Last Post* – Commemorative Service, Brisbane Anzac Square

4. Thursday 20 April – Hon Annastacia Palaszczuk MP, Queensland’s Premier and Minister for the Arts addressing the delegates at Premier’s Reception, Premiers’ Hall, Parliament House

5. Friday 21 April – The official photograph at The National Oration – Albert Street Uniting Church – bottom to top – Philip Flood AO, OAA National President, Rev Lyn Burden, Superintendent Minister, Albert St Uniting Church, Hon Penelope Wesley AC, former Qld Governor (our distinguished Orator) and Associate Professor John Harden AM, OAAQ Chairman

6. Thursday 20 April – A special ‘Welcome to Country’ performed by Uncle Albert Holt (far right) and the children from the Hymba Yumba Community Hub prior to the Welcome Dinner at the Summit Restaurant, Mt Coot-tha

Photos courtesy Geoff Cowles OAM, Secretary



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Members of the Tasmania Branch of the Association were delighted to learn last January that our Patron, Her Excellency Professor the Honorable Kate Warner AC had been specially recognised by the people of Australia and now invested as a Companion of the Order of Australia. We also

congratulate all other recent recipients within the Order.

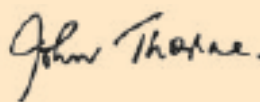
Congratulations must be directed to all members of the Queensland Branch for the great work you all did to successfully mount the recent National Conference in Brisbane. Many Tasmanians attended and enjoyed the varied and well conducted sessions. No doubt quite a number of Tasmanians are already planning to go to South Australia for what appears to be an interactive and exciting Conference. In our own way we are preparing well for the National Conference in Tasmania in 2019 under the co-ordination of Alastair Douglas OAM and his team.

Over the last few months we have seen the production of an excellent brochure that responds to the question - What is

an Order of Australia Award? This was initiated by Dr Frank Madill AM an active member of our Association and warmly welcomed by members across Australia as a very useful tool to share learning about both nominating good people and fostering pride in Australian citizenship.

In May, led by Sue Cox AM the Branch held another successful dinner following the Investiture Ceremony at Government House. We recognise the diligence needed to conduct a successful dinner twice per year but also know the great pleasure that flows from the awardees and their families as their service to such a variety of causes is celebrated. I note that many who attend are not related to the recent awardee or connected but come along to enjoy the friendship and good feelings of people doing good in the world.

Our Regional group committees are conscientious and keep busy, in their different ways, offering a variety of activities to their local members of the Association.



John G. Thorne AM
Chairman, Tasmania

TASMANIAN BRANCH NEWS

The next Post Investiture Dinner will be held on Friday 08 September 2017 at Blundstone Arena. The guest speaker will be Dr Nicholas Chantler AM. Further details are available from the Branch Functions Manager Sue Cox AM (ph 6243 0000)

ROBERT WARD SMITH OAM (ROBIN) AND ELIZABETH M SMITH OAM

It is not uncommon that a husband and wife both receive an Order of Australia award, but almost always on different dates. Robin and Elizabeth Smith were awarded theirs on the same day.

They met at University College London in 1951 and were married in 1953. Elizabeth had graduated from the Slade Faculty of Fine Arts and was studying at the London Institute of Education. Robin graduated in May 1954 and began training in General Surgery and Obstetrics at University College Hospital. Elizabeth then started teaching general subjects to a secondary mixed school with some special art teaching. Robin completed part of his training in obstetrics and gynaecology and was working at The Royal Northern Hospital when they were approached by Alfred Stanway, an Australian Anglican Bishop, and asked if they would consider deferring Robin's further training plans to help with a medical emergency in Tanganyika. A young Australian surgeon had died suddenly and there was a

desperate need at Mvumi Hospital in Central Tanganyika.

Contrary to the advice of Robin's colleagues, they decided that they should go and give time to meet the critical needs of the third world. June 1957 saw them on board the SS Kenya bound for East Africa, Elizabeth was 12 weeks pregnant and the Bay of Biscay's wild weather was not the best way of dealing with the nausea of early pregnancy. After a short stay in Mombasa, they arrived in Dar Es Salaam and went by overnight train to Dodoma a small town in the centre of Tanganyika.

There were challenges in every department of life each day. The senior doctor had been there since 1940 and was keen to unload much of surgery and all the obstetrics and started to teach Robin how to do cataract surgery. They had no time off and worked very long hours, but the atmosphere was such that no one complained.

Elizabeth was in demand at a girl's



Robin Smith OAM & Elizabeth Smith OAM

secondary school and made dresses for African women on her old hand turned sewing machine.

After 4 years they returned to the UK, now with 3 children, and Robin obtained a medical registrar post at St Mary's Hospital



Portsmouth. After 15 months being on call 24 hours a day, they bought a house in Portsmouth and in 1963 Robin started general practice and took up sailing.

All was fine until 1965 when they received an urgent request to fill a vacancy working for Save the Children at the Mvumi hospital. Elizabeth was the one at home when the person called. "Would you be willing to help out with an emergency need in the area where you used to work, would you come if we asked?" "Yes, we would" she replied. So when Robin came home for lunch, he found they were all set to return to what was now called Tanzania.

June 1965 found them again on a ship, now with four children, and bound for Dar Es Salaam.

Robin's work was to find why so many children from a remote rural area up to 120 miles from Mvumi were dying compared with equally remote villages in other areas. It involved camping in a tent and examining all the under teenage children in each village. He had two Land Rovers, a team of African men and one Australian trained nurse provided by the Anglican Missionary Society.



Robin Smith OAM on Safari

"We set out at dawn on Monday and returned late Friday. There were no roads and we followed cattle tracks and advice from herdsmen we met on our way. I would see about 100 children in a day and select those who had signs of significant illness and do blood tests and microscopic examination of blood and urine confirming our suspicions. All conversations were in Kiswahili or Chigogo – the first mother tongue of the Wagogo tribe. While I was away, Elizabeth took on a teaching role in a school in Dodoma. We worked in an area so remote that many of the women had never seen a white person as it was only the men who went to the town to sell cattle.

At school holidays we had a tent big enough for our whole family to accompany me and it was a great experience for them; they have never forgotten it and have all revisited Tanzania in the last ten years."

In 1988 and again 1992 Elizabeth and Robin went back as volunteers when the English surgeon went on leave. It was hard work with endless night calls. Robin did a large number of caesarean operations – 56 in nine months! This was because the government had banned forceps delivery because there were too many damaged babies and mothers from poorly skilled operators. Tanzania had not the resources to deal with damaged children.

During these visits Elizabeth pioneered setting up a Batik fabric printing venture with four women from the village. She taught them the process so they could make 'one off' pieces and in 1993 she took



Painting by Elizabeth Smith OAM of a homestead in Tanzania

it a step further - they made dress lengths of cloth and held a very successful sale – bringing hundreds of people out from Dodoma city the 25 miles to Mvumi.

While their hearts are still in Africa, they have been very happy in Tasmania. Robin entered General Practice when GPs still could do surgery and obstetrics, and was able to renew sailing and seafaring interests as well as take up scuba diving. He volunteered as doctor on Australian Maritime College vessels, the Sydney Hobart Yacht races and as a volunteer doctor in Antarctica.

Elizabeth became head of Art at Oakburn and later Scotch Oakburn College, but with little time to pursue her own art, in 1986 she left teaching and studied for a post-graduate diploma at UTAS with special interest in large landscape. As a member of the Launceston Art Society, she spent 8 years providing art therapy for the permanently disabled. Both have been heavily involved helping African refugees settle here, and in various church related social activities.

To know their story is to understand why they richly deserve recognition with an Order of Australia award.



Mr Richard Mulvaney, Director QVMAG and members viewing "back of room" items.

on Thursday the 10th of August with guest speaker Miss Marie Gerke.

Finally, it is very pleasing to see more members wearing the insignia at the appropriate occasions and events – a practice that the Northern Region Committee will continue to encourage.

NORTHERN NOTES

Warmest congratulations to our new awardees from the Northern Region Dr Patricia Ellen Cameron AO, Hon James Cox AM, Dr Timothy Mooney AM, Mr John Cameron OAM, Mr Gary Carr OAM, Mrs Mary Carmel Knowles OAM, Mr Matthew Jacobs OAM, Mr Barry Lumley OAM, Mrs Susan Shea OAM and Mr Brian Baxter OAM. We look forward to them joining the Association to meet fellow awardees and enjoy our many activities.

The Northern committee has appointed a functions sub-committee chaired by Joan Green OAM to plan for the 2018 Functions. The members are Linda Madill OAM, Liz Lee, Anne Taylor OAM, Victoria Cox respectively and our secretary Thérèse von Samorzewski OAM.

Since our last edition, the Northern Region has had a further "back of room tour" of the Queen Victoria Museum at the Inveresk Rail Yards conducted by the curator Mr Richard Mulvaney. All present were astounded by the huge number of items that are stored at the museum and it will be a long time before some of them will ever be put on public display simply because of the vastness of the collection.

Our most recent event was on Thursday the 15th of June when members attended a showing at the Launceston Planetarium. Thanks to Mr Martin George and to the museum kiosk staff for giving us a wonderfully informative and convivial afternoon. Our next function is at TasTAFE

LAUNCESTON PLANETARIUM

The Launceston Planetarium is located at the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, (QVMAG) at Inveresk in Launceston – the site of the former central rail terminus and railway workshops. It opened in 1968 initially at the Royal Park QVMAG site, but since 2009 its home has been at Inveresk. It operates a Zeiss ZKP3 star projector in conjunction with a full dome digital system. The Planetarium presents a variety of Astronomy shows by projecting images of the southern night sky onto a dome ceiling, accompanied by additional effects and narration.

The Director of the Launceston Planetarium and Curator of Physical Sciences of the QVMAG is Mr Martin George B.Sc. (Hons). Martin is a keen commu-

nicator of astronomy, and makes regular appearances on radio and television. His principal role at QVMAG is to run the Planetarium. This entails writing, recording and presenting Planetarium programs, and dealing with all astronomical enquiries. The projected shows are viewed from a comfortable reclining couch like seat, and they simulate the appearance of the stars as the earth rotates, producing an effect so realistic it's like being outdoors on a clear night looking up at the night sky. A special feature is the solar telescope showing a fascinating live television feature of the sun. It is one of Launceston's most interesting and informative facilities; one that will inform and entertain everyone who visits the Launceston Planetarium.



Mr Martin George Collections & Research Manager QVMAG

NORTH WEST REGIONAL NEWS

Queens Birthday OA awards were received by four residents from the North West region, namely Mrs Gail Richey AM, Mrs Sheree Vertigan AM, Mrs Wendy Charleston OAM, and Mr Alan Dyer OAM. Congratulations to you all and welcome Gail and Wendy who have already joined the Order of Australia Association.

A luncheon which was well attended and enjoyed was held at the Burnie Arts and Function Centre on June 12th to honour the Queen's Birthday and to welcome awardees for 2017.



Mrs Joyce Ablitt OAM from the North West Region celebrating with family & friends at the Post Investiture Dinner June 2017 (photo courtesy of Maureen Oates OAM)

For information on upcoming NW activities please contact regional secretary Mrs Betty Hite OAM (ph 6442 2444)

SOUTHERN REGIONAL NEWS

Congratulations to 11 Southern Tasmanians who received Order of Australia Awards on the Queen's Birthday.

The Regional Committee is planning a visit (with a tour and lunch) to Claremont House on 23 August 2017. This beautifully restored home is situated in the northern suburbs of Hobart.

TASMANIAN BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

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

Chairman:

Dr John Thorne AM, JP;

Deputy Chairman:

Mr Clive D Lee AM, ASM;

Immediate Past Chairman:

Mr. Noel Viney OAM;

Secretary:

Mrs Maureen Rudge OAM, JP:
Ph: 03 6225 3954

Treasurer:

Mr Ron Blake OAM;

Functions Manager:

Mrs Sue Cox AM;

Committee:

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

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Well I hope you have survived the cold winter without too many ailments and we now look forward to a new Spring and warmer months.

One of the joys for me of being involved in our Association is that I get to work with many inspirational people from all walks of life. Each has a unique story and all have contributed significantly. I have recently been inducted as a Knight of St John of Jerusalem (KSJ) at a very colourful ceremony at Newman College at the University of Melbourne on June 17th.

There are many members of the Association that have been recognized with Honours from this Priory and our own Dame Barbara Abley AM DJSJ is in fact Prior of Victoria for the Order.

The Queen's Birthday Honours have been and gone and it was great to see over 200 Victorian people recognised with honours. No doubt you know some of these worthy recipients and may have played a role in their nomination. The increase in the number of women to just over 30% was pleasing to see. However we have a long way to go. I would like to challenge each of you to nominate at least 1 woman in the next 6 months to show that we are fully behind this desire to increase female numbers in the Honours' system.

The investiture of these new awardees will take place at Government House on the 18th and 20th of October. As Chair of the Victorian Branch I am privileged to be able to attend in an official capacity at these investitures. Our Governor Linda

Dessau AC, is very supportive of our Association and really enjoys hearing the stories of each person receiving their award.

Our Inspiring Australians Oration for 2018 has been booked for February 23rd at 11am at Federation Square. Susan Alberti AC, will deliver this special Oration and bookings are now open at <https://www.trybooking.com/PFTH>.

Paul Wheelton AM KSJ



Chairman Paul Wheelton AM being inducted as Knight of St John of Jerusalem (KSJ)

SOUTH CENTRAL BRANCH - BAYSIDE SCHOOLS ANZAC DAY SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE EVENT

The RSL Hampton Sub-branch hosted a special Anzac Day ceremony for the Bayside [Victoria] schools. There were nearly 400 students from several schools who took part in the commemorative event on 21 April 2017 at the RSL premises in Hampton. The initiator of this project Dr John Basarin OAM said: *"It is believed that this ceremony enhanced the students' understanding of the significance and meaning of Anzac Day, by participating at an event specifically designed for them"*.

The Bayside based Rotary Clubs of Brighton, Brighton North, Hampton, Beaumaris and Sandringham supported and assisted with the event. The ceremony promoted the recognition of Anzac Day by young people in schools in Bayside. The President of the Hampton RSL Mr Peter Lanigan said: *"The outcome for this Anzac Day project will benefit local schools, students and the community and will be held again in 2018"*.

Lt. Col. Garry Spencer AM, laid a wreath, in the form of a book, on behalf of the Order of Australia Association, South Central Regional Group.



From left: Bayside City Council Mayor Alex Del Porto, Federal MHR Tim Wilson, Dr John Basarin OAM, Lt. Com. Helen Ward, State MP Murray Thompson, Hampton RSL President Peter Lanigan and Lt. Col. Garry Spencer AM

Keep up to date through our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

ARCHIBALD PRIZE IS COMING TO GEELONG (VICTORIA) LATE 2017

Australia's most popular art prize, and one of its most prestigious, Archibald Prize will be coming to Geelong in 2017. Since its inception, the Archibald Prize has been engaging art enthusiasts, often stirring up controversy and always challenging the way we see ourselves and our society. Over the years, the prize has been awarded to many of Australia's most prominent artists.

The Geelong Gallery is the exclusive Victorian venue for the 2017 Archibald Prize



An invitation is extended to all Order of Australia Association members Australia wide to attend the OAA Barwon Regional Group annual luncheon at Davidson Restaurant and the 2017 Archibald Prize Exhibition tour at the Geelong Gallery lead by Gallery Director Jason Smith on Thursday November 30.

We know the 2017 Archibald Prize will appeal to Order of Australia Association members Australia wide. If you would like to receive an invitation to the OAA Barwon Regional Group annual luncheon and Archibald Prize Exhibition tour in Geelong on Thursday November 30, 2017 please advise Secretary Helene Bender OAM on helenebender@westnet.com.au or Mobile 0407 261 951. If you have already asked to be included on our invitation list for this event – thank you, no further communication is required.

GIPPSLAND REGIONAL BRANCH



Professor Doug Hilton AO, Guest Speaker

The fifth annual Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet Address and Dinner will be held in Traralgon on Wednesday 18th October with Guest Speaker Professor Doug Hilton AO, CEO of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute in Melbourne.

Professor Hilton has a distinguished career in Molecular Biology dotted with several awards; from the Young Achiever of the Year in 1989 to receiving an AO in 2016. He received his Australian Award for his service to medical research, his advocacy of gender equality and his commitment to supporting young researchers.

His address: entitled "From Bench to Bedside", will tell of his research into how genes can affect blood cells in a manner that could lead to new ways to diagnose and treat diseases such as leukaemia, arthritis and asthma.

We are proud of the fact that we have been able to have high calibre students from Gippsland Universities sponsored by Walter and Eliza Hall Institute.

For further information please contact Beth Delzoppo at: bdelzoppo@bigpond.com.au.

VICTORIA BRANCH

OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

Chairman
Mr Paul Wheelton AM KSJ

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
Mr Fred Harrington OAM

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

Events Coordinator
Ms Christine Unsworth AM

Members

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



HELENE BENDER OAM, COMMITTEE MEMBER, ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION VICTORIA BRANCH

In senior school Helene Bender had the opportunity to volunteer at Orana Children's Home in Burwood; the experience of helping to make a difference has stayed with her. Helene is a firm believer of giving back to the community if your time allows.

January 2006 Helene was awarded her Order of Australia medal (OAM) for "Service to the community of Geelong, particularly through business and commerce, regional development, local government and tourism organisations. Her volunteer work pre 2006 included Director and President of the Geelong Chamber of Commerce, Chair of Geelong Advertiser Business Excellence Awards, Board member of City of Greater Geelong Economic Board, Deputy Chair Committee for Geelong, Board member of the Travel Agents Co-op and Director of the American Society of Travel Agents.

They say you should always leave on a high. Helene did that in October 2007 after nine years as a Director of

the Geelong Football Club. Saturday September 29, 2007 the Club created history in many ways with numerous awards and that much awaited Premiership. She was also the Founder and Inaugural Chair of Nine Lives-Geelong for ten years and in 2008 was awarded Life Membership of the Club.

In the last ten years Helene has held paid and unpaid positions on various Boards and Foundations including Chair of Barwon Health Foundation for six years, Director Tourism Victoria, Chair Geelong Cats Sports Foundation for five years, Geelong Grammar School Council member, Deakin University including seven years as Deputy Chancellor, Director Dental Health Services Victoria, Director Geelong Cemeteries Trust, Volunteer at St John of God Geelong Hospital including member of Consumer Advisory Group, Anam Cara House Geelong Ambassador and Secretary of the Order of Australia Association



Barwon Regional Group for five years and elected to the State Branch November last year.

The Order of Australia Association like many community organisations faces the challenge of membership retention and ensuring new recipients take up membership. Helene acknowledges the hard working Regional Groups, the quality of events they organise and their informative articles in our e-Newsletter and The Order. Collectively they ensure the Victoria Branch is strong and a National asset.

VICTORIA BRANCH FUNDED OAA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

During the dinner at this year's National Conference evening three OAA Foundation scholarships were presented. One of these scholarships was donated by Victoria Branch to Mr Jordan Eitler studying at Deakin, Geelong.

Each scholarship is valued at \$45,000, paid over three years with each recipient also allocated an expert mentor. Access to such a mentor greatly enhances the value of the scholarship.

The Victoria Branch gratefully acknowledges the generous assistance of its Chairman, Paul Wheelton AM, KSJ and the donation of \$2500 from the North-East Victoria and Goulburn Valley Regional Group in assisting with the Branch's contribution.

Jordan's proud parents, Darleen and Phil, were present during the ceremony.

The following is the citation read by Hugh Morgan, Chairman of the Foundation, when presenting Jordan to the Governor General.

Jordan Eitler is a Deakin University (Geelong Campus) student from Wodonga in Victoria. He is enrolled in the double Degrees of Bachelor of Criminology and Bachelor of Laws, where he has achieved excellent results.

He completed his secondary education at Catholic College Wodonga in 2013, achieving an ATAR score of 87.4. He then took a gap year traineeship in a certificate 3 course in Education Support. This led to a position as an assistant to the Department Manager. His main role was to support refugees and students with learning difficulties. As a member of the North Geelong Football Club Jordan enjoys the community involvement, time apart from studies and consolidating his leadership talents.

When Jordan was twelve his father incurred a life changing accident and Jordan needed to take a major responsibility to assist his mother with a large family, including



assisting with the family finances. There was significant stress in the family during the time of pursuing compensation for his father's injury and it was this experience which kindled Jordan's interest in law. Jordan hopes to eventually start his own law firm where he can create an environment for lawyers who have similar community values to himself.



Duncan Stalker OAM; Jordan Eitler; Vicki Jellie, Dr. Peter Habersberger AM and Liam Jukes

SOUTH WEST GROUPS' VISIT TO WARRNAMBOOL'S NEW \$55M CANCER CENTRE

The highlight of the mid-year meeting of the South West regional group was a visit to Warrnambool's new Cancer Centre – a remarkable community achievement for a rural city of 32,000 residents.

Forty-three members and guests attended a luncheon which was held in a function room of the newly renovated RSL. Special guests were Jordan Eitler, who was sponsored by the Victoria Branch for a 2017 OAA FOUNDATION Scholarship; Vicki Jellie, the founder of "Peter's Project" and Liam Jukes, the Director of the Cancer Centre.

Vickie was proclaimed, on Australia Day, "Australian of The Year" in "The Local Hero" category in recognition of her wonderful achievement in establishing "Peter's Project". The members of the project team created the momentum at State and Federal Government level and in the regional community to achieve the construction and equipping of a state of the art \$55m cancer treatment centre.

The Peter's Project team also had to locally raise \$5m of this total. Liam Jukes, with a staff of 20 directs the Centre for Epworth Hospital Services. A feature of the Centre is that there are no gap payments for patients.

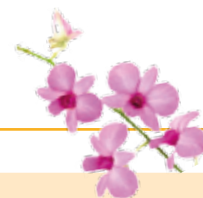
The Rotary Clubs of Warrnambool, with assistance from other regional clubs, had earlier constructed "Rotary House", a 12 unit facility to provide accommodation for country patients receiving daily treatment at the regional hospital. This facility is now also serving the needs of patients at the Cancer Centre.

The motivation of Vickie to establish Peter's Project, was the loss of her husband Peter to cancer. Peter and Vicki had a school age family and Peter's prolonged absences to receive treatment in Geelong and Melbourne, away from his beloved family, was heart rending to him and his family. This new Centre now eliminates such absence for regional patients.

Jordan won the admiration and love of the group with his account of why he is studying his double degree at Deakin University in Geelong.

The members, after their meal, were transported by bus for the inspection of the Centre and returned to the RSL for their coffee, tea and slices. There was universal acclaim for the excellence of the function.

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



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The 2017 National Conference held in Brisbane from 20 to 23 April was very successful and our thanks to the Conference Committee, the Queensland Branch Committee and the many volunteers who contributed so much effort to ensure the success of the conference. We have received very positive feedback for all of the conference activities from the opening session at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Cube and Old Government House on Thursday to the farewell lunch on Sunday.

The Forum and the Oration addressing the conference theme “**Innovating for Society**” were outstanding. Thanks to QUT, these sessions were recorded and arrangements are being made to make them available to Association members. I sincerely thank the Governor of Queensland, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, and the Queensland Premier, the Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk MP, for hosting receptions which added a note of distinction to the conference and were enjoyed by members and guests.

The meetings of the Association held during the conference provided members with a platform for open and frank discussion. At the AGM, very ably chaired by our President Philip Flood AO, robust discussion provided clear directions to the Board. At the members' session which followed, useful points were raised about recognition and promotion of the Order in the community. During the Regional Groups' Forum several important issues were raised. These have been captured in a report prepared by Paul McNally OAM available to Branch Committees.

The Saturday members' sessions concluded with a very memorable Gala Conference Dinner held in the historic Brisbane City Hall in the presence of the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) and Her Excellency Lady Cosgrove. In addition to addressing the very distinguished audience, the Governor-General also presented the Order of Australia Foundation 2017 Scholarships. I sincerely thank Sir Peter and Lady Cosgrove for making time in their very busy schedule to attend the Gala Dinner and enjoy with us an occasion to be remembered.

John Harden AM, FAIAS



The Vice-Regal Party at the Gala Conference Dinner at the 31st National Conference in front of the ornate marble stairway of the foyer of Brisbane City Hall received by the National President. L-R - Mrs Carole Flood; Mr Philip Flood AO, OAA National President; Her Excellency Lady Lynne Cosgrove; His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Ret'd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia; Mrs Di Harden; and Associate Professor John Harden AM, OAA Queensland Branch Chairman.

OUR NEXT MORNING TEA – WEDNESDAY 30 AUGUST – “YOTKOM UGANDA”

Please join us on Wednesday 30 August 2017 to take morning tea in the grand splendour of the Gold Room of the Queensland Club on the corner of George and Alice Streets in the historic precinct of the Brisbane CBD. Be uplifted and inspired while listening to **Dr Andrew Wright AM** and **Mrs. Annette Wright AM**, a committed husband and wife team recognized in this year's Australia Day honours. They will tell their story about how they established Yotkom, a faith-based charity organisation that aims to provide better health services to the Acholi people of Northern Uganda.

The Yotkom Uganda story is a story like no other and one not to be missed.

The cost of the event is \$35 per person and a flyer and registration/ payment form with fuller details is included with this edition of *The Order*. There is ample free parking on site at the Queensland Club and the free City Loop bus stops right outside. Details on how to get there by this bus service are included in the flyer.

For enquiries contact Geoff Cowles OAM, our Secretary, on 3351 4991 or email secqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

We hope to have the pleasure of your company at this special morning tea.



Dr Andrew Wright AM and Mrs Annette Wright AM.



The grand splendour of The Queensland Club.

2017 AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD RECIPIENTS HONoured AT HILLSTONE ST LUCIA WELCOME BRUNCH

On Thursday 4 May the Queensland Branch welcomed and congratulated sixteen of its newest award recipients from this year's Australia Day honours at a novel Welcome Brunch in the ornate Rosewood Room at Hillstone St Lucia in Brisbane's western suburbs. The Brunch concept of morning tea on arrival followed by the formalities, including introducing the award recipients, and concluding with a light lunch, proved a real hit with the 60 guests who attended.



Our award recipient guests of honour at the Hillstone St Lucia Welcome Brunch – *Back row from L to R* – Robert Bowen AO; Allan Pidgeon AM; Professor Robert Stimson AM; Dr Andrew Wright AM; Annette Wright AM; Gayle Alessio OAM; Wendy Drysdale OAM; Jack Lunn OAM; Paul Finch OAM; *Front row from L to R* – Libby Parkinson OAM; Robin Gallen OAM; Helen Mahoney OAM; Jenny Tidey OAM; Mary Peden OAM; Professor Catherine Turner AM. *Absent:* Tina Coco AO

HONOURING OUR SENIOR VOLUNTEERS

Don't forget that nominations for the **2017 Senior Volunteer Awards** close on 29 September 2017. Have you identified an outstanding senior volunteer from your community and nominated that woman or man for an award this year? This is a great way of honouring senior members of our communities who devote so much of their time and effort to serving community organisations as volunteers.

The Senior Volunteer Awards were established four years ago by the Queensland Branch of the Order of Australia Association as a means of providing public recognition to those thousands of senior volunteers (women and men sixty years and over) whose unheralded contributions to the community are so vital to the organisation and operation of our society.

Any Queensland member of our Association can submit a nomination. Nomination forms were included in the last issue of *The Order* (Edition 47 Autumn 2017). The nomination form can also be found at the Association's web-site in the Queensland section www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/branches/qld and you can print it out. 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.

Please get your completed nomination forms to the Queensland Branch Secretary, Geoff Cowles OAM, by 29 September. So don't delay – complete the form and send it today.

THE ANNUAL DINNER AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ARE MOVING TO MARCH 2018

The Annual Dinner and the Annual General Meeting (AGM) will not be held this year in November.

Instead the Annual Dinner will be held on a date in March 2018. The Annual Dinner will be preceded by the AGM on the same evening, as has been the usual practice.

This is a necessary change as a consequence of the financial year now being from 1 January to 31 December.

Full details of the event will be published in the next edition of *The Order* due out in November this year. Once the date has been set the details will also appear in the Queensland segment

of the Association's website.

In lieu of an Annual Dinner in late November your Queensland Branch Committee has arranged for an interesting **morning tea event** on **6 December 2017** with a visit to the Queensland Ambulance Museum located in the Brisbane bayside suburb of Wynnum. Fuller details will be provided in the next edition of *The Order*. In the meantime make this a date claimer.

For enquiries contact Geoff Cowles OAM, Secretary: telephone: 07 3351 4991; email secqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Check out our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au



PRE AND POST CONFERENCE TOURS WELL RECEIVED BY CONFERENCE DELEGATES

Delegates at the 31st National Conference in Brisbane in April who registered for the pre and post conference tours gave these tours the “thumbs up”. They reported that the tours were an excellent opportunity to get to know each other better and they appreciated the opportunity to enjoy some fine scenery and visit several interesting tourist attractions of South East Queensland.

Two pre conference tours were offered; an overnight tour of Toowoomba and the Darling Downs where delegates met members of the local regional group and a day trip to the Gold Coast and Tamborine Mountains featuring a guided tour of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games site. A post conference tour of the Sunshine Coast Hinterland was also organised on the Monday after the Conference concluded.



Our interstate visitors and the Darling Downs Regional Group enjoy fellowship together over afternoon tea in a heritage Queensland railway carriage at the Downs Steam Railway Museum, Drayton, Toowoomba, as part of the overnight Toowoomba pre conference tour.

FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND MEMBERS ENJOY MORNING COFFEE



At the June morning coffee event from L-R – John Hardy OAM; FNQ Regional Group Convener Carole Miller OAM; Myra Pincott AO; Gwen Brown and Cairns Councillor Jessie Richardson.

Members of the Far North Queensland Regional Group had a successful coffee morning at ‘*Strait on the Beach*’ at Holloways Beach on 5 June 2017. Our thanks go to Myra Pincott AO for organising the event and for obtaining publicity in *The Cairns Post*.

A Tablelands event was held at Tolga on Saturday 22 July. This included an interesting visit to the Rocky Creek WWII Igloo Restoration Project on the Kennedy Highway near Tolga and lunch at the historic tearooms at Lake Barrine.

Future plans include a function in October and a Christmas function in early December. After the success of last year, we will repeat the Christmas event at *Tenderhooks* at Yorkeys Knob Boat Club. Members will be notified of details of both events in due course.

Carole Miller OAM, Convener

SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS TO BE RECOGNISED FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY



Parliament House, Brisbane.

Members are encouraged to attend the Presentation of the 19th annual Secondary School Citizenship Awards at Parliament House in Brisbane on **Friday 15 September 2017**.

Her Honour Catherine Holmes, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Queensland, will present the awards to those outstanding secondary school students who have made significant contributions to society, through service to their school and their community.

Included with this edition of The Order is a promotional flyer with further details and a registration/payment form.

For enquiries please contact Geoff Cowles OAM, Secretary by ‘phone on 07 3351 4991 or email to secqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

CENTRAL QUEENSLAND REGIONAL GROUP

The Annual Luncheon of the Central Queensland Regional Group will be held on 11 September 2017 at the Rockhampton Leagues Club, Cambridge Street, Rockhampton. The function commences at 12.00 noon for fellowship followed by lunch at 12.30pm.

Guest Speaker at the function will be Brian Smith OAM. He will speak on the topic "Profile of sport in Rockhampton and District."

Raymond Young OAM, Convener

DARLING DOWNS REGIONAL GROUP CELEBRATES 150 YEARS OF RAILWAY SERVICE TO TOOWOOMBA

On Friday 16 June more than sixty members and guests of the Darling Downs Regional Group enjoyed morning tea at *Inbound*, located in the historic Toowoomba Railway Station. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the first train in Toowoomba in March 1867. Emeritus Professor Maurice French AM, a member of the Darling Downs Regional Group, gave a very interesting address which focused on the building of the railway line through the Toowoomba Range, part of the Great Dividing Range, and construction of the Toowoomba Railway Station, a large and imposing heritage building in the city.

Paul McNally OAM, Convener

GOLD COAST REGIONAL GROUP

The Gold Coast Regional Group held a lunch at the Southport Golf Club on Monday 5 June 2017. Attendance totalled 52 made up of members, relatives and friends. Geoff Cowles OAM, the Queensland Branch Secretary, was also in attendance.. The opportunity was taken to welcome and hear from three recent awardees in the Australia Day 2017 list - Keith Anderson OAM, Moreen Hull OAM and Robin Gallen OAM - and one from the Queen's Birthday 2016 list, Peter Heiner AM. The speaker was a local Association member Mrs Carolyn Hauff AM who spoke on "Generation Y - Who Are They?" Her remarks produced considerable discussion from those attending as clearly many of them have to answer that question.

Bill Collins AO, Convener

IN MEMORIAM

John Crook OAM
 Ronald James Davidson OAM
 David Dodds OAM
 James Bower Forwood AM
 John Harding AM
 Jack Hollingworth OAM
 Richard Raymond Johnston OAM
 Rev. Douglas Frederick Kirkup AM
 Martin Patrick Moynihan AO

George William Phillips OAM
 Cecilla Mackney Primmer OAM
 Robert Braye (Bob) Rogers AM
 Gary Sansom AM
 Winifred Schubert AO
 Concetto (Con) Antonio Sciacca AO
 Keith Smith OAM
 Ivan Albert Vonhoff OAM

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

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)

Dr Mick Davis AM ASM, Member
 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, Secretary, 16 Kanturk Street,
 Ferny Grove, Qld 4055 or email
 secqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I take this opportunity on behalf of our South Australian membership to extend congratulations to all those who, on the Queen's Birthday holiday in June, were recognised with an Honour in the Order of Australia. Your outstanding service and achievements have been acknowledged. We

trust that each of you will join us at an Investiture Reception to be held in September as we take the opportunity to honour you and recognise the contribution that led to your Award.

I also welcome those recipients who have taken up membership of the Association following their recent Awards on Australia Day 2017. I encourage you to join us at the various events that are held and in the projects that we deliver.

A very significant project is the 2018 National Conference. Further details have been provided in this copy of The Order. It is difficult at times to regularly attend annual Conferences in other States for a number of reasons. Next year the annual

Conference will be held in our patch – it will never be closer so I encourage each of you to attend. Our Committees are busily planning for the Conference that will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

At several recent functions where I have spoken, I referred to the Honours system. I in no way reflect on past recipients as each is very worthy. However, it has been apparent of late that the profile of Awards given is not reflective of the community in which we live nor is there any relative gender balance. I would encourage each of you to look among your colleagues, friends and networks to see whether we can make a positive contribution through a relevant nomination/s to address what is arguably an inequity in the Honours allocated.

I had the opportunity to be at a Reception the other evening where I met attendees representing the Malaysian, Sri Lankan and Slovenian communities of our State. They knew little of the Honours system but have now been provided with information to share with their communities and encourage nomination to the Honours Awards. The challenge for us as recipients is to act as Ambassadors for the pre-eminent Awards in our nation. Let's get to it!

Ken Coventry OAM, JP
Chairman, SA Branch

ADELAIDE EISTEDDFOD SOCIETY

The South Australian Branch annually sponsors two Awards in the Schools section of the Choral Division. The Eisteddfod was held in the Pilgrim Uniting Church where Di and I were privileged to be present for an afternoon of Choral Competitions. The adjudicator was Carl Crossin OAM – a member of our Association.

I was pleased to present an Award to the winner – St John's Grammar School Vocal Ensemble and to the runner-up – Soul Collective, Scotch College.

The Choral Division Convener, Wendy Barrett, expressed appreciation in her words – *We are very grateful to the Order of Australia Association – SA Branch – for their continued support of the Choral Division of the Eisteddfod, and for their most generous sponsorship (\$300 all up) of the Schools section. This certainly helps promote the love of singing and competing with other choirs and groups. We certainly appreciate your support.*

The above is another way in which we have supported young people, and continue to do so – our future generations – as they compete in this instance in the performing arts. One wonders where this participation may lead them in the years ahead.

Perhaps on future occasions other members of our Association may wish to join me, or other presenters of the Awards, as this was a most enjoyable afternoon.

Ken Coventry, OAM, JP

STUDENT CITIZEN AWARDS FOR 2017

The ongoing successful community project of the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association (the Student Citizenship Awards – SCA) has continued and schools have responded exceedingly well this year. After the due date for submitting nominations (Friday 19 May), the total number of submissions (56) was greater than previous years. This project is an opportunity to acknowledge students who have given exceptional and exemplary service and commitment to their schools and communities. The panel of seven adjudicators met on Tuesday 13 June and it is anticipated that a number of students will be presented to His Excellency (our Patron) at a ceremony later this year. The standard of students nominated was very high.

In Term 4, there will be an opportunity for our members to present certificates to the other students at their schools. Generally this involves a presentation at school assemblies by members who are situated geographically closer to relevant and to more remote schools and are willing to participate in this project at that level.

We very much look forward to receiving any enquiries from members who have not been involved previously (and are therefore not in our data base for school presentations) who would like to know more about this project. We are particularly keen to hear from members who would be willing to acknowledge the exemplary service of our youth by being an OAA presenter of a SCA certificate in a school presentation. Please contact the project's Convener, Pamela Rajkowski OAM, on 0400 810 196 or e-mail pamraj@bigpond.com.



L to R: Desley Watson-Raston, Ken Coventry OAM, Guest Speaker Professor Colin Raston AO at the Queen's Birthday Luncheon. Photo taken by Jan Forrest, SA Branch Committee.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

Over 70 members, partners and guests joined us for an excellent luncheon on the Queen's Birthday Holiday. Held in the Living Choice Auditorium (Fisher Street, Unley), 'Damien on Fisher' provided a most enjoyable meal.

The Branch Committee recognises the immense talent and expertise we have among our membership and has adopted a philosophy of 'listening to our members'. We invite them to share their experiences that led to their Award. Our guest speaker at the luncheon, Professor Colin Raston AO of 'how to unboil an egg' notoriety, delighted us by sharing some of the significant moments in his life.

INVESTITURE RECEPTION – QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY RECIPIENTS – 22 SEPTEMBER 2017

An Investiture Reception is to be held at Payneham Library Complex on the above date. Members, partners and guests are invited to join us as we honour the new recipients. It is also an opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones in a social setting. To be held on Friday evening, 22 September 2017, the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters and His Worship Mayor Robert Bria are joint hosts with the SA Branch Committee. The function commences at 5.30 pm and continues until 8 pm. It will be held in the Payneham Library Complex, 2 Turner Street, Felixstow (corner of OG Road and Turner Street). Large medals may be worn. Please see Reply Form No. 1

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



MEMBERS EVENTS FOR 2017

AGM & LUNCH 18 NOVEMBER 2017

We look forward to seeing many of our members and their partners joining with us on Saturday 18 November 2017 for the OAA SA Branch AGM and lunch. It will be held in the Mitchell Room at the Marion Hotel, 849 Marion Road, Mitchell Park. Arrival time is 10.45 am for 11.00 am start. Lunch will be served around 12 noon. Large medals may be worn.

There is plenty of free car parking available on site. A guest speaker is yet to be announced. The cost is \$55 per head. Please respond on Reply Slip No. 3 by Friday 10 November.

BRANCH ELECTIONS 2017

Have you thought about being part of the Leadership Team – the Committee of the SA Branch.

Your SA Branch continues to look forward to very exciting times ahead. You could play a part in that. I extend an invitation to each of you to think about standing for election on the Branch Committee.

When one considers membership of our Branch Committee, a Committee member can only be Chairman for 3 years and a Branch Committee member for 6 years under the Association's governing rules. That means we need to have a succession plan. We struggle to put one in place due to the length of time several existing members have served and the low number of new members joining the Committee.

The time is **now**. We can have 12 members on the Committee. Your Branch Committee needs one or two new faces every year. How about giving it a go and put your name forward for consideration at this coming election. The Committee invites your voluntary commitment but the experiences and friendships, as in other aspects of our lives, will be your very rich reward.

Our key activities presently include –

- *Significant growth in the annual Student Citizenship Awards – our Branch flagship;*
- *Conducting Investiture Receptions following each announcement of the Order of Australia Awards. Also enabling existing members to engage with new recipients;*
- *Looking after members and providing a range of social functions and fellowship opportunities;*
- *Growing our regional groups in participation and establishing at least two further groups;*
- *Creating a forum of ideas to enable members to contribute to the activities, projects and strategic direction of the Branch, and*
- *Planning for and hosting a National Conference in May 2018.*

Each activity presents a wonderful opportunity for your involvement.

You will be a person who –

- *can work as part of a team and also exercise some autonomy in any agreed portfolio;*
- *will be able to attend monthly (day time) approximately two-hour Branch Committee meetings;*
- *with your agreement, may be involved in a Working Party/Parties of the Branch;*
- *will participate generally in Branch social activities arranged for members;*

- *will bring an understanding of Governance responsibilities of committees; and*
- *has knowledge of both 'current' and 'new' members in engaging them in forums and special interest groups.*

To be computer literate would be an advantage.

How do you become a member of the Branch Committee?

Answer: Nominate for the forthcoming Branch Elections.

A Nomination Form (Reply Form No. 2) is included in the Reply Forms separate flyer enclosed with this issue of The Order.

For further information, please contact the Chairman, SA Branch – Ken Coventry OAM, JP on 0428 999 483 or coventry01@internode.on.net

CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA 6 DECEMBER 2017

We hope many members, partners and guests are planning to put this date in their diaries so as to attend this year's OAA SA Branch Christmas Morning Tea. It will be held on Wednesday 6 December 2017 in the attractive Fullarton Community Centre, 411 Fullarton Road, Fullarton. Attendees are asked to arrive in the Dining Room by 10 am and the event will conclude about 12 noon. Seating arrangements are conducive to sharing fellowship and conviviality. There is ample free parking on site. Pins may be worn.

There is no cost for this function but bookings are requested. Please see Reply Slip No. 4 in this issue of The Order. For any enquiries, please contact Pamela Rajkowski OAM 0400 810 196.

AUSTRALIA DAY BBQ LUNCH 2018

Plans are in progress to offer members and partners a positive venue and enjoyable lunch for Australia Day, 26 January 2018. Details of the venue, cost and RSVP date will be advised in the next issue of The Order. In the meantime, please put this event in your diary. We look forward to seeing as many members as possible on the day.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH – THURSDAY 31 AUGUST 2017

To foster fellowship and support for the Order of Australia Association South Australian Branch, an open invitation is extended to members of the Association and their partners, to join and share a "Fellowship Lunch" in an informal setting to be held at the Naval, Military & Air Force Club, 111 Hutt Street, Adelaide SA. This will provide an opportunity to meet with others and share stories and experiences.

The "Fellowship Lunch" is supported by Bryce Saint, OAM, a past Chairman of the South Australian Branch and endorsed by Colonel Ray Stanley, AM OBE, a past President of the Naval, Military & Air Force Club.

This is not an arranged activity of the Branch Committee but it supports the organisers publicising an invitation to such a gathering.

It is planned that these lunches will be held on the last Thursday of every second month, with the next gathering on Thursday 31st August 2017, 12noon for 12.30pm start. The following lunch will be on Thursday October 26th at the same venue and again at 12noon for 12.30pm start.

For further information and to RSVP please contact:

Joyce phone 8379 2869 or Flavia mobile 0438 873 021

There is a dress code (neat business attire, jacket preferred).

Some parking may be available in the Club's spaces.

2018 (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, Adelaide.**

**We invite you and your partner/guest to join us in Adelaide for the
32nd National Conference**

**The program for partners/guests will offer 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 Adelaide Convention Centre, 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 the registration 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 and to assist you we have produced 16 pocket sized cards with information about iconic Adelaide locations including: the Adelaide Oval, Chinatown, Adelaide Central Market, North Terrace Cultural Precinct, Rundle Mall, the Botanic Gardens, Adelaide Zoo, tramway to Glenelg and more. As well, there are cards for places further afield including Hahndorf, Monarto Zoo and Port Adelaide. Below is a sample of two of these cards.

Pre and post-conference day tours may be arranged directly with our sponsor the RAA (Royal Automobile Association).



Please see the registration brochure in this edition of the Order. Queries can be addressed to Tony Metcalf OAM metcalf1942@optusnet.com.au or Professor Alan Johnson AM info@rmsinternational.com



NORTHERN TERRITORIANS IN QB HONOURS LIST



LINDA FAZLDEEN AM

The Northern Territory public servant Linda Fazldeen has been appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM), for her work mentoring and empowering women into fulfilling occupations and sometimes senior workplace roles.

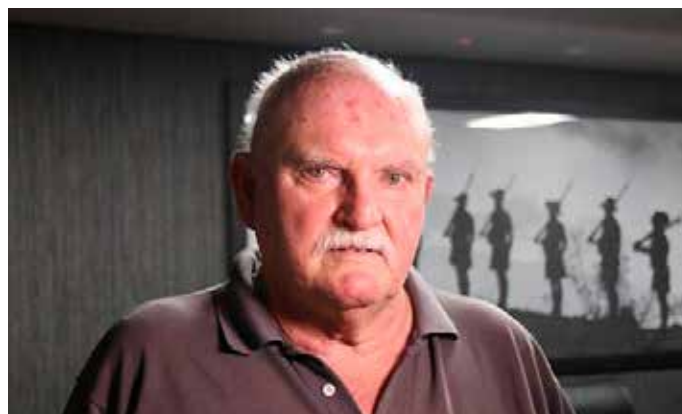
Working with Darwin's Multi-cultural community - Spanning about 30 years, Linda Fazldeen's early work towards gender equality was often with new migrant women to whom she gave valuable assistance with public speaking, advice on how to write a CV, interview techniques, what may be expected from a supervisor, and appropriate dress in the work place. These experiences extended into close relationships with whole communities, exemplified by her work with the Multi-cultural Council of the NT, the Chinese Friendship Association, the Greek and Indian communities. "I really enjoy the interaction", Linda says, "and feel I gain the most".



DR GARETT HUNTER OAM

Dr Garrett 'Gus' Hunter has been awarded a Medal in the Order of Australia for his 18-year service to medicine and the NT community. After arriving in Darwin in 1997, he set up the first ENT specialist unit and over the next 18 years, established a training program for registrars from other areas to gain experience in the Top End, where rural and remote experience is so different from city practice.

Dr Hunter was also helped to set up the unit for head and neck cancers in Darwin, so patients did not need to leave their families to travel south for treatment.



WILLIAM JOSEPHS OAM

William 'Eddie' Josephs has been awarded a Medal in the Order of Australia for his service to war widows and veterans in helping them access their entitlements and due compensation through appeals tribunals.

A Vietnam veteran himself, Mr Josephs left Adelaide in 1969 to serve in the NT Police Force for almost 32 years, before spending the last 17 years volunteering at the Darwin RSL sub-branch.



Honoured on Australia Day, Mike Foley OAM has launched his Seniors of Excellence NT Inc program for 2017 – an organisation acclaimed by his Order of Australia. Instituted in 2013, Seniors of Excellence NT recognises the voluntary contributions in the community by people aged over 65 years.

MIKE FOLEY OAM

Mr. Foley says he had dreamed of establishing Seniors of Excellence NT as "a low key organization that would seek out 'knights' who are out there making a difference in order to say, 'thank you' to them in a meaningful way! These are often 'quiet achievers', and tend to go un-noticed", Mike says. "They are fundraising, caring, delivering meals and running errands ... ordinary people doing extraordinary things."

The first awards were presented in 2014 as part of the Northern Territory's Seniors Month program. So far 50 seniors have received awards. Mike says: "In just three years, our organisation has served an important function in the NT and become significant in the Seniors' calendar of yearly events. We thank the NT Government for its continued support of this event."



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

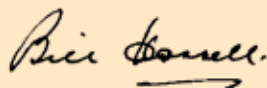
The Western Australian Branch has continued its heavy programme:

- Our second "Lets Talk About" Information Session, this time on Cybercrime, was very well received with an excellent speaker. This series is now established and other plans are in the pipeline.
- The annual Evensong service was superb in the quality of its music and was wonderfully supported – see separate report below.
- Our work at the Western Australian Police Academy continues. New intakes at the Academy this year will mean we take on more of our volunteers to do the work.
- Our Careers Guidance work for young people has had measurable success in adding a new dimension to the armoury of the educators. In collaboration with several arms and agencies of the State Government the advice is now available to educators throughout Western Australia through online access.

- The City of Melville will host with us the next reception for recipients of awards in the Order, those honoured in the Queen's Birthday list.
- The Annual Dinner of the Branch will take place in September with the Hon Kim Beazley, AC, guest speaker, and our Patron, HE Kerry Sanderson, AC, Governor of Western Australia in attendance.
- The annual Christmas lunch is scheduled and settled for November.

Overall, we are satisfied with activities and progress in Western Australia. As well as upholding the Order and recognising and involving its members we are making a meaningful contribution to the community through our volunteer work.

Those of us who attended the National Conference in Brisbane earlier this year were delighted with its variety, great organisation and fellowship. We look forward now to the 2018 National Conference in Adelaide.



Bill Hassell AM JP
Branch Chairman, Western Australia

EVENSONG AT ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

A Choral Evensong Dedication Service of Worship for the Order Of Australia Association was held on Sunday, 18th June at St George's Cathedral, Perth. This was a truly ecumenical event involving a tripartite conversation between the Dean, the Very Reverend Richard Pengelley and Pastor Margaret Court AO MBE., and Rabbi David Freilich OAM. This was introduced to replace the usual homily. Other outstanding features of the service included musical contributions from the Choir of Perth College and the Salvation Army's Perth Fortress Band.

As expected this dedication service attracted a large congregation including a broad base of Association members and visitors from other denominations and faiths.

Following the service refreshments and a light supper was served in the Burt Memorial Hall,

The Association owes a great debt of gratitude to the Dean and the Precentor, the Reverend Gareth Hughes, both of whom played a crucial role in the event's organisation and presentation, not forgetting the unique and very special contribution of both interdenominational and inter-faith guest speakers.

Odwyn Jones, AO



Mark Bonser AC CSC and Bill Hassell AM JP enjoying fellowship in Burt Hall following the service.



St Georges Cathedral



COMING EVENTS

9 August 2017

Queen's Birthday Reception for Awardees

To be hosted by City of Melville 6-8pm

13 September 2017

OAAWA Annual Dinner at Royal Perth Golf Club

in the presence of HE Kerry Sanderson AC Governor of Western Australia.

Guest Speaker Hon Kim Beazley AO

19 November 2017

Great Southern Branch Annual Christmas Service

9.30am at St John's Anglican Church followed by a Luncheon at

Motel Le Grande, Albany Highway.

23 November 2017

Annual Christmas Dinner Function

To be held at RAAFA Club, Bull Creek.

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

Barry Nunn AO RFD ED

Michael Bleus OAM

Mark Bonser 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



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

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 land-line and mobile and if you have added or changed an email address please let us know through contacting the National Membership Officer at aaanatmbrofficer@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 aaanatmbrofficer@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

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



**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 105-096 Account No 067671340, 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 <i>Challenges and Opportunities through Life – Youth to Ageing</i>		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	Total \$
Association Members, other guests or Formal Conference Dinner only	\$150pp	Member	Guest	Total \$

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	Member	Guest
	Handover to 2019 Conference Hobart, Tasmania		
			Total \$

TOTAL: FULL REGISTRATION COSTS | \$



COMING EVENTS

Thursday 14 September 2017

Reception for Queen's Birthday Honours Awardees

The ACT Branch members will honour and fellowship with recipients of the 2017 Queen's Birthday awards in The Order of Australia at a reception to be held at 6.00 pm on Thursday 14 September 2017 at the Commonwealth Club, Yarralumla following the scheduled investiture of awardees by the Governor General, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) at Government House on Friday 8 September 2017. Bookings can be made at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/54312>.

Wednesday 18 October 2017

Morning Tea at The Royal Canberra Golf Club



Duncan Smith OAM

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."*

Thursday 26 October 2017

OAA-ANU Lecture



Professor Jagadish AC

Guest Speaker Distinguished Professor of Physics, Chennupati Jagadish AC, with the Topic 'Nanotechnology: Opportunities and Challenges' at the Australian Centre on China in the World, ANU, Acton. He is head of the Semiconductor Optoelectronics and Nanotechnology Group which he established in 1990. Professor Jagadish was awarded the Federation Fellowship (2004–2009) and Laureate Fellowship (2009–2014)

by the Australian Research Council. Professor Jagadish and his wife Vidya have launched The Chennupati and Vidya Jagadish Endowment to support students and researchers from developing countries to visit Australian National University Research School of Physics and Engineering.

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."*

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.



2016 Award winners
St Edmund's College

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION ADF ORATION

By Vice Admiral Ray Griggs AO, CSC, RAN, Vice Chief of The Defence Force 25 May 2017



The ACT Branch were privileged to have Vice-Admiral Griggs give an enlightening Oration to the members and guests on the role of the Australian Defence Force as the best trained and prepared military force that the country can afford, and how it accommodates the societal changes that have developed in recent years.

He said the ADF is competent, apolitical, effective, professional

and contemporary force able to meet any challenge presented, and capable of defending our nation and our national interests against the threats we face, with the job to safely execute the lawful direction of Government.

Despite the outstanding operational efforts of the ADF and our many successes, he said that there are some who maintain that it is not focused on the mission and is distracted by other issues. On this, Admiral Griggs addressed what he believed the ADF's role in society should be.

Admiral Griggs noted that the ADF are not undertaking a social experiment, they are a war fighting organisation, one that has been on continuous operations in multiple theatres since 1990, maintaining the paramount ability to fight and win.

He said they are however, trying to build a better ADF, not only technologically, but culturally and behaviourally and cannot do that by remaining anchored in a cultural context of past decades, which reflected vastly different societal views and norms to that of the society we are part of today. To that end, the ADF have made changes to the conduct of military justice, Navy traditions, have addressed the abuse that occurred in earlier decades and focused on the unique contribution service people make without excluding an individual because of their gender, race, religion or sexual orientation.

Admiral Griggs participated in a following Q & A session.

The full text of the Oration is on our website at <http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/branches/act/index.php>

VALE TO PAST MEMBER

The ACT Branch extend their sympathy to the family and friends of the following past member and honour his contribution to our society.

Mr. Patrick Brazil AO - Queen's Birthday 1989 - In recognition of service to the Public Service as Secretary to AG's.



THE OAA QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

13 JUNE 2017 GUEST SPEAKER THE HON DR BRENDAN NELSON AO

The ACT Branch was honoured to have Dr Nelson as guest speaker at the Annual luncheon held to celebrate the honouring of ACT citizens in the Queen's Birthday awards.

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 spoke on the connections between citizenship, love of country and the service of more than 2 million Australians who have worn their country's uniform since Federation. His powerful and thoughtful presentation provided members and guests with a personal perspective on the sacrifices that have been made by our brave service personnel for over a century. He made a case for our citizens to deeply appreciate those that gave all for their country and our way of life. Dr Nelson discussed how he regularly made the trip from Brussels to the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial at Ieper, where he observed the Last Post ceremony; and how that experience became the inspiration for the ceremony now conducted each day at the Australian War Memorial.

Dr Nelson participated in a Q&A session and gave some insight into further enhancements to be made to the already extensive innovations he has made at the Australian War Memorial.



Betty Beggs, Russ Richards OAM and Felicity Hargreaves



Helen Bielenberg OAM and Joy Nicholls



Jocelyne MacLeod and Margaret Royds OAM



Shirley Hamey and Noel Hamey OAM
Photos Courtesy of City News.

ACT BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

Gen Peter Gration AC OBE

Chair

Bruce Trewartha OAM
btrewartha@grapevine.com.au
6231 0281 (H) 0439 887 480 (M)

Secretary/Treasurer

Phil Morrall AM CSC

Membership Secretary

John O'Neill 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

JOHN JAMES VILLAGE OUTREACH – GARDEN CARE

Committee member John O'Neill OAM has initiated a program where Branch members can continue support for the Leukaemia Foundation's John James Village at Garran as part the community outreach of the ACT Branch of the OAA, by providing maintenance to keep their gardens in good order. The Branch had earlier provided financial contribution to assist outfitting the village.

The first working bee was held on Saturday 15 July 2017 and it is intended to be a regular event. Our efforts will assist in reducing administrative costs for the Village, so that their precious funds can stay focussed where they should be.





CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I had the pleasure of attending the 31st National Conference of The Order of Australia Association in Brisbane from 19th to the 23rd April, 2017. I enjoyed the many interesting and informative events which included the Welcome Dinner, Premier's Reception, Forums, the Oration, and the Conference Dinner at Brisbane City Hall which was attended by His Excellency General The Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and Her Excellency Lady Cosgrove. I thank Queensland Branch Chairman, John Harden AM, Mick Davis AM, and their Committee for organising this memorable Conference.

From the 3rd to the 5th May I had the pleasure of attending the 2017 Australia Day Investiture Ceremonies held at NSW Government House by His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), Governor of New South Wales. On the 5th May, 165 new Recipients, their families, and friends attended a special Luncheon for the new awardees at the historic New South Wales Parliament House. Unfortunately, due to Parliament sitting, seating in the Strangers Dining Room was limited. Guest Speaker on behalf of the new Recipients was new awardee, Dual Olympian Melinda Gainsford-Taylor AM.

On 26th May, I attended the Illawarra Regional Group 14th Mid-Year Luncheon at Dapto Leagues Club. Also attending, were National Secretary, Colleen Wardell OAM, and Branch Regional Groups Co-ordinator, Garth Doyle OAM. It was

a marvellous day, and I thank the Illawarra Regional Group Convenor, John O'Dwyer OAM and Secretary, Lynn Wilson OAM for organizing another wonderful event.

On 12th June, I attended Government House for the Trooping of the Colour by the New South Wales Mounted Police to celebrate Her Majesty's Birthday. The New South Wales Mounted Police Unit is the oldest continuous operational Mounted Police Unit in the world. Music was presented by the New South Wales Police Pipe Band. The Salute was taken by His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) Governor of New South Wales representing Her Majesty The Queen.

For the information of our members upcoming events include:

Thursday, 26th October our Annual Morning Tea at Government House with Guest Speaker Detective Superintendent Michael Willing APM, Commander, Homicide Squad, NSW Police Force. Sunday, 12th November Multi-faith Service at St. James Church, King Street, Sydney. Friday, 17th November a Visit to Australian War Memorial, Canberra, with an address by Dr Brendon Nelson AO. For details on these events and others see elsewhere in this magazine.

Do not forget to look up the Order of Australia Association website: www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au.

John Archer OAM
NSW Branch Chairman

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS REGIONAL GROUP WHAT AN HONOUR FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

**Courtesy of "Southern Highlands News",
Bowral, NSW**

Order of Australia honours were established on February 14, 1975 by Queen Elizabeth II.

The intent was to recognise Australian citizens for achievement or meritorious service. Before the establishment of the Order, Australian citizens received British honours.

The announcement of the Queen's Birthday Honours List has become a key feature of the June long weekend.

The people of the Southern Highlands seem set to impress year after year, for this prestigious accolade, with multiple entries on the list a regular occurrence.

In fact there are currently 105 Highlands residents who have an Order of Australia in the area recognised as the Southern Highlands Regional Group.

That number will be boosted on June 12 as eight additional Highlanders are added to the list.

You need only look to the achievements of this year's recipients to realise the honour recognises the exceptional contributions of people from many walks of life.

Politicians, musicians, historians, composers, sporting achievers and volunteers are among the most recent Highlands residents to be presented with an Order of Australia.

Clearly their backgrounds are varied but one common thread with all is that these people have worked tirelessly to make a positive contribution in their community and further afield. They have recognised a need or a skill and they have focussed on delivering at the highest level.

Not surprisingly another common thread

with the latest selection of awardees is their humble attitudes. They are honoured but genuinely surprised by their selection for an Order of Australia. Such humility is perhaps one of the most endearing qualities of these inspiring members of our community.

Congratulations is extended to ever recipient. Enjoy your well deserved recognition.

Meanwhile if you know someone you believe is deserving of such an honour then there is no time like the present to submit a nomination.

Two of the key messages from The Order are:

1. Anyone can nominate – the process takes two years; and
2. The authorities are hoping to have more women nominated and accepted.

Details: <http://www.pmc.gov.au/government/its-honour>



FAR SOUTH COAST REGIONAL GROUP GETTING TOGETHER ON THE FAR SOUTH COAST

A challenge for the Far South Coast Group is keeping in touch with its members across an extensive and diverse landscape. Our region encompasses the Eurobodalla and Bega Valley Shires, from East Lynne in the north to the Victorian border in the south and from the peaks of the Great Dividing Range to the coast. Our transport link is the Princes Highway, stretching almost 280 kilometres through our region.

Fortunately, country folk are used to travelling. Some certainly did drive a couple of hours to be among 35 members and guests at a very enjoyable luncheon at Oaklands Café, Pambula, on 31 May. This was the first event in the south for a couple of years and enabled us to congratulate and welcome to our midst the Manager of the Far South Coast Team of NSW Rural Fire Service, John Cullen, of Bemboka, who received the Australian Fire Service Medal in the Australia Day Honours List. After 39 years' service protecting life and property and training hundreds of volunteers, John has to be one of the best known characters in our region. All citizens are especially conscious that the great tradition of volunteering still flourishes in the rural fire service, where people meet and work together and where, especially in times of need, the spirit of community is palpable.

We received an apology from Colonel Andrew Lowe, created a Member of the Order of the Australia (AM) in the same list

for his exceptional service to the Australian Army. He plans to join us at a future function.

As well as being a happy social occasion, the luncheon enabled the committee to ascertain members' views about where they would like the new committee to guide our group. There is strong support for plans for mentoring youth, exemplified by two generous cheques to enable more young people from the South Coast take advantage of the Young Endeavour Scheme. At the luncheon young Bermagui accountant, Mr Karl Barrett, handed over a cheque from the Lighthouse Scholarship Fund. This Fund, established in 2004 by Narooma couple Jock and Dr Jenny Munro AM, provides assistance to local students to further their education. Karl himself was a recipient in 2007, has returned to the local area to practice and is now one of the directors of the Fund. The gift came on top of another from the Montague Arts and Crafts Society (MACS) of Narooma and puts our group well on the way towards sponsoring our first adventurous young sailor.

There was also support for the Committee's endeavours in establishing contact with local organisations and institutions with similar objectives to the Order of Australia Association.

One of our next events will occur on 22 November when our esteemed member,



(Left to right) Jock Munro, Dr Jenny Munro AM, Wendy Dunn and Karl Barrett, among the members and guests at Oaklands Café, Pambula, on 31 May. Dr Munro is Secretary of the Far South Coast Group.

pianist Emeritus Professor William Hawkey MBE OAM and Elizabeth Hawkey are to present a Twilight Concert in Narooma. The couple have been catalysts for many magical musical events in the region over the last two decades and this will be Bill's retirement concert. We shall have the opportunity to thank Bill and Elizabeth over refreshments.

We are looking forward to catching up soon with recent Queen's Birthday Honours recipients in our region – Ms Tina Philip of Lilli Pilli (OAM), Detective Inspector Kevin McNeil of Bateman's Bay (Australian Police Medal) and John Steele of Millingandi (Emergency Services Medal).

Finally, it is with sadness we note the death of Colin Watson OAM, 93, featured in the previous issue of The Order, who passed away in April after a rich and active life.

ILLAWARRA REGIONAL GROUP 2017 MID-YEAR LUNCHEON

Regional Convenor, John O'Dwyer OAM, warmly welcomed 70 members and guests to our 14th Mid-Year Luncheon which was held at Dapto Leagues Club on Friday 26th May, 2017.

Among those welcomed were National Secretary and Magazine Editor, Colleen Wardell OAM and her husband, Dr John Wardell, NSW Branch Chairman, John Archer OAM, Regional Groups Convener, Garth Doyle OAM and Guest Speaker, Babette Smith OAM.

Following a most delicious meal Brian Mackander OAM introduced Guest Speaker, Babette Smith OAM, who spoke about a group of convicts who travelled from Ireland on the "Hive" which ran aground on the NSW South Coast in 1835.

A vote of thanks was given by Jim Lyon OAM who also presented Babette with a gift and a Certificate of Appreciation.



New Recipient, Ron Dryburgh OAM, Babette Smith OAM, John O'Dwyer OAM, Colleen Wardell OAM, John Archer OAM.

Members were once again delighted with the venue, the food and the service.

Our Annual Luncheon will be held on Saturday, 18th November 2017 at Dapto Leagues Club, Bong Bong Street, Dapto.

AUSTRALIA DAY RECIPIENTS CELEBRATE AWARDS AT WELCOME LUNCHEON



2017 New Recipients

Once again NSW's historic Parliament House was the venue for the NSW Branch's 2017 Annual Australia Day Recipient's Luncheon that was held on 4th May 2017 which on this occasion was somewhat later than when normally had previously been held. This function was held in the same week as the Investiture Ceremonies at Government House for obvious reasons but unfortunately on this occasion clashed with NSW Parliament sitting all that particular week. Sadly this greatly reduced the Branch's normal seating arrangements which meant that attendance numbers were somewhat lower than previously experienced. However, there

were a number of recipients together with family members and friends in attendance adding up to a total of 165 persons who enjoyed the surrounds and hospitality that was offered on the day including the pre-luncheon refreshments before proceeding to "Strangers" Dining Room for the official welcome and light luncheon.

The Parliamentary Host for the day was the Honorable Robert Brown MP from the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party who, on behalf of the NSW Parliament welcomed the new recipients and their guests and encouraged everyone to enjoy their time at Parliament House. A

welcome address was offered by NSW Branch Chairman, Mr. John Archer OAM, and he thanked the new recipients for the contributions that they had made over a long period of time to their local communities. He also spoke briefly on the aims of the Association and in particular mentioned "The Young Endeavour Youth Training Scheme" and the "John Lincoln Youth Community Service Awards" programme both of which support the youth of today.

Rear Admiral Tony Hunt AO RAN (Rtd) proposed the Toast to the Order of Australia while Branch Deputy Chairman, Peter Falk OAM, proposed the Toast to the new recipients who he then asked to stand to be recognized for their service to the community and they received a resounding ovation. Former Olympic, Commonwealth Games athlete and multiple medallist Mrs Melinda Gainsford-Taylor AM responded in great style on behalf of all recipients impressing everyone with her response.

It was quite noticeable that all in attendance certainly enjoyed the light luncheon and accompanying refreshments and it was evident that many attendees who did not have to venture on the short trip to Government House for the afternoon Investiture Ceremony were socializing with both old and new acquaintances at the conclusion of the function.



L to R: John Archer OAM, Melinda Gainsford-Taylor AM, Ian McKnight OAM, Peter Falk OAM.



ALF CARPENTER OAM JP

Alfred Clive Carpenter was born in Wagga Wagga 100 years ago. The third of five children, born into a close family enduring times of widespread economic hardship, Alf learned the value of hard work at an early age.

In addition to all the domestic chores expected of him and his siblings, Alf worked at W. G Huthwaites as a hardware boy, Wagga Wagga Fire Station and the Lifesaving Club, for which he was often called upon to retrieve bodies from the Murrumbidgee River.

In 1934 Alf enlisted in the 56th Battalion Militia Forces. By September 1939, he had reached the rank of Sergeant; but in order to enlist in the 2nd Australian Imperial Force, Alf was taken on strength as a private soldier by the new 2/4th Battalion, part of a 20,000-strong expeditionary force. When Alf embarked on MV *Strathnaver* in January 1940, leaving behind his wife of one month, he felt: "Excitement at what we thought was the start of a great adventure, and how lucky we were to be on board. There was not much thought of 'Will we come home?' The mateship back then was tremendous."

Before he was thirty years old, Alf served in major theatres of WWII: Palestine, the Battle of Libya from Bardia to Beng-

hazi, Greece, at Vevi Pass, Brallos Pass and Megara, Crete, at Heraklion, Syria, Djedeide, and in the defence of Darwin 1943 and Bougainville, 1944/45.

"I still think about the ones that didn't come home: I was just lucky to get out alive."

Alf continues to serve, saying: "It shouldn't be about what's in it for the individual; but what each of us can do for humanity." This extraordinary man's outlook on life, his physical fitness and sheer determination has kept him working selflessly. Major General Maitland said that Alf "...has kept the 2/4th Battalion alive and his swimming prowess has made him something of an identity in Newcastle." (Alf is the oldest active member of the Merewether Mackereels winter swimming squad).

In June 2012, Alf was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for his services to the RSL. "After 14 years in the army, it's about keeping the band of brothers together. The RSL has meant all the world to me."

Judging by the accolades, respect and heartfelt affection expressed by all who know this dutiful digger, the oldest surviving second generation ANZAC, Alf Carpenter means the world to many of them, too.



Alf Carpenter OAM JP – during World War II



Alf Carpenter OAM JP with Dr. Stavros Kyrimis, Consul General of Greece in Sydney during OXI Day Commemorations October 2016

OAA (NSW) MEMORABILIA FOR SALE

Item Price incl. P/H

Neckties Traditional style	\$27.00
Neckties Corporate: Maroon/Black/White	\$27.00
Neckties Corporate: Navy/Aqua/White	\$27.00
Neckties Corporate: Blue/Gold/White	\$27.00
Neckties New Style	\$27.00
Scarves (Chiffon) Navy	\$32.00
Pens	\$12.00

Association Brooches	\$17.00
Association lapel badges	\$17.00
Cufflinks (boxed)	\$35.00
Car Stickers (57mm x 78mm)	\$ 6.00

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

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.

COMING EVENTS:

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

Sunday, 24 September 2017 12 noon

Central West Regional Group Annual Lunch

Duntryleague Golf Club, Orange

All Welcome. Further details: Audrey Hardman OAM

Tel. 6367 5034 or e-mail: audreyhardman@outlook.com

Thursday, 26 October 2017 10.00am

Morning Tea – Speaker

NSW Parliament House Theatre

Guest Speaker – Detective Superintendent Michael Welling APM

Commander NSW Homicide Squad.

All Welcome. Further details: Ian McKnight OAM

Tel Mob. 0407 998 588 or e-mail: ianmckni@tpg.com.au

Sunday, 12 November 2017 2.30pm

Multi-Faith Service, St. James Church, King Street, Sydney (Rector Andrew Sempell)

All Welcome. Further details: Jim Mein AM

Tel Mob. 0408 660 591 or e-mail: jmein@bigpond.net.au or

Peter Falk OAM Mob. 0411 141 103.

Friday, 17 November 2017

Visit to Australian War Memorial, Canberra

Address to be given by Dr Brendon Nelson AO

All Welcome. Further details: Ian McKnight OAM

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

Or Carolyn Lyons OAM

Tel Mob. 0427 374 744 or e-mail: carolynlyons97@bigpond.com

Saturday, 18 November 2017

Illawarra Regional Group Annual Luncheon

Dapto Leagues Club, Dapto

All Welcome. Further details: Lynn Wilson OAM

e-mail: lynnwilson@loadednet.com.au

PRELIMINARY NOTICE:

Wednesday, 6 December 2017 12 Noon

Pre-Christmas Luncheon

99 Club York (formerly NSW Bowlers' Club)

95-99 York Street, Sydney (some parking available underneath).

All Welcome. Further details TBA. Enquiries contact: Ian McKnight OAM

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

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-Convener: Mr. Wayne Geale OAM

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

Southern Highlands: Mrs Virginia Adlidge 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

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

HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL THE HONOURABLE SIR PETER COSGROVE AK MC (RETD) PRESENTED THE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD CERTIFICATES TO THREE AWARDEES

The magnificent Brisbane City Hall Auditorium was a glittering spectacle for The Order of Australia Association Conference Dinner on 22nd April 2017. The three awardees eagerly awaited the arrival of His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia to present the 2016 Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship Award Certificates.

The funding for each Scholarship was generously donated by individuals who are recipients of the Order of Australia. The amount to each Awardee is \$40,000, combined with an introduction to an eminent mentor. The three donors, respectively, for the 2016 Scholarships are The Order of Australia Association, Victoria Branch; Adjunct Professor Brian O'Keeffe AO; and Mr Nicholas Paspaley AC. The Foundation Chairman, Mr Hugh Morgan AC presented the Awardees to His Excellency, assisted by Foundation Secretary, Adjunct Professor Brian O'Keeffe. The Awardees received a fine bound certificate and letter to mark the occasion. They then briefly addressed the gathering. The proud Awardees are as follows.



His Excellency presents Jordan Eitler with his Scholarship Award Certificate

Jordan Eitler is a 21-year-old Deakin University student (Geelong Campus) from Wodonga, Victoria. He is enrolled in the double Degrees of Bachelor of Criminology and Bachelor of Laws where he has achieved consistent marks of High Distinction and Distinction.

He completed his secondary education at Catholic College, Wodonga in 2013, after achieving an ATAR score of 87.4. Within Year 12 he completed a Certificate III in Sport and Recreation. This required him to plan and conduct sports and swimming carnivals and develop leadership skills through AFL Umpiring Programs.

On completing school he undertook a gap year traineeship in a Certificate III course in Education Support. His role entailed supporting both staff and students in ICT. After six months training, drastic staff changes found Jordan elevated to the position of Department Manager. His main role was to support refugees and students with learning challenges. This confirmed his leadership capabilities. As a North Geelong Football Club player, Jordan enjoys the community involvement, time apart from studies and consolidating his leadership talents.

Jordan is the eldest of a large family and the first to attend University. When he was 12 his father had a life-changing accident and Jordan took on the responsibility for the family to help generate 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 his interest in the law.

He wishes to become a successful lawyer "...to not only be highly regarded in the industry as a person who can bring justice for those in need, but I hope to humanise the position and restore faith in the community by proving that lawyers can be genuine people..". He eventually hopes to start his own law firm where he can create an environment for lawyers who have similar values to himself. Jordan lives at the Waterfront Campus at Deakin University, a long way from home. So he is aware of the value of support from caring professionals and colleagues. He most ably shows his concern for community involvement.

The funding for Jordan's Scholarship was generously donated by **The Order of Australia Association, Victoria Branch.**



His Excellency presents Kaveri Pathak with her Scholarship Award Certificate

Kaveri Pathak is a 20-year-old student at The University of Queensland. She is enrolled in the Bachelor of Engineering (with honours) Degree in the field of Electrical Engineering.

She completed her secondary education in India in 2014 with an Indian School Certificate score equivalent to ATAR 98-99. In each semester at University, Kaveri has been awarded the Dean's Commendation for Academic Excellence.

Kaveri has given considerable time to community work. She has been involved with Engineers Without Borders and Youth Without Borders. Through High Schools' Outreach programs, these organisations inform students of the humanitarian applications of Engineering. From shared information, students are assisted to design and create projects. She was selected to staff the 2015 Spark Engineering Camp which seeks to inform Secondary school students about the opportunities for Tertiary careers in Engineering. "I met some wonderful students with so much determination and courage to improve their own lives, that it inspired me to do the same for mine", she said. Kaveri has now joined the 2017 Executive Committee of Spark for this year's camp. She has also acted as a student Ambassador for the Engineering Faculty, recruiting High School candidates for various courses.

Kaveri is on a clear career path towards power and renewable energy options. She is eager to explore new technologies and their integration into mainstream power distribution. Hopefully, this will lead to

consulting opportunities. However, she plans to study abroad, particularly in North America, for a semester, within her current course. With first class results in her studies, this should come to fruition.

Her family lives overseas, so Kaveri is supporting herself. This scholarship will reduce her need to work in part-time jobs to provide her living expenses, which will leave more time for community involvement. She is delighted that the scholarship provides a mentor as well. "...someone from the industry who has had experience and can share their perspective with me will be an incredible opportunity that will not only help me in developing my career but also in developing my interests and passions for this industry as it evolves".

The funding for Kaveri's Scholarship was generously donated by **Adjunct Professor Brian O'Keeffe AO**.



His Excellency presents Mark Munnich with his Scholarship Award Certificate

Mark Munnich is enrolled at Charles Darwin University in the Bachelor of Laws program. He has an outstanding record of work and community service with and for indigenous peoples.

Mark's upbringing as an indigenous youth has grounded his understanding of current shortfalls within our communities, while his acute perceptions indicate ways in which solutions may be implemented. As a student he did not complete secondary school. Australia-wide Mark has been a member of the Headspace National's YarnSafe Campaign; the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation's Youth reference group, where they assist the organisation regarding youth participation in intergenerational trauma and healing; and the National Close the Gap Campaign to reduce the life-expectancy gap of indigenous people. While working for the Northern Territory Government he became an Indigenous Ambassador for programs to recruit and support indig-

enous young people for Government careers. He completed Certificate II and III courses in Business and Hairdressing before embarking on University studies.

New Colombo Plan Scholarships allowed Mark to complete international business studies in both Indonesia and China. He currently works with the North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency as the Community Legal Educator. Mark's groundbreaking work and studies have resulted in many invitations to address forums in Australia and overseas on the social justice aspects of topics such as - Rheumatic Heart Disease; Child Protection Week; and intergenerational trauma and the impacts on young people.

His career goals include being admitted to the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory and to become a renowned barrister; to maximise his financial capability skills; and to guide indigenous people in sound financial and legal frameworks for start-up business ventures.

Mark lives away from home and supports himself by working full-time. He cites the two greatest advantages from this generous scholarship are the opportunity to financially support his studies and the excellent opportunity in being assigned an eminent mentor.

The funding for Mark's Scholarship was generously donated by **Mr Nicholas Paspaley AC**.

Sara Farnbach, a former Scholarship Awardee, delivered the vote of thanks to His Excellency.

"The award of The Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship in 2007 while I was studying towards a Bachelor of Nursing at The University of Canberra, has enabled me to undertake further studies and pursue exciting professional opportunities.

This scholarship opened several doors for me. Through my excellent mentor Kaye Hogan AM, who I am still in regular contact with today, I have had the chance to grow and discuss ideas and opportunities with an esteemed leader in the field. The importance of this guidance is hard to measure.

The financial component of the scholarship allowed me to complete a Masters of Public Health and Tropical Medicine at James Cook University in 2012. I was

also able to take up an exciting, one-off opportunity to complete an Internship at the World Health Organisation's regional office in the Philippines. This Internship led to ongoing opportunities with WHO and I moved to the Solomon Islands to work on child and maternal health programs.

These experiences set me up well for my return to Australia. I now work in the important area of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health. I am the Project Manager of a national mental health study, which is focused on identifying depression in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. I am completing my PhD through the School of Medicine at The University of Sydney in this same area. My research has been recognised through my selection for two further competitive scholarships.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the donors and The Order of Australia Association Foundation for your continued commitment to developing young leaders. Your Excellency, may I thank you for your generosity in taking the time to present these certificates to our outstanding scholars. Finally, I would like to congratulate Jordan, Kaveri and Mark on their awards and wish them all the best for their future".

Sara's mentor was **Ms Kaye Hogan AM** who provided very helpful career advice.



Sara Farnbach thanks His Excellency for his presentation of the Scholarship Award Certificates



...continued from page 1



Queenstown – Mount Owen

The mountains surrounding Queenstown have unusual pink and grey hues that come from the conglomerate rocks on the two adjacent mountains – Mount Lyell and Mount Owen. The mountains surrounding Queenstown are often snow-capped through winter. Owing to a combination of tree removal for use in the smelters and the smelter fumes (for about 40 years) and the heavy annual rainfall, the erosion of the shallow horizon topsoil back to the harder rock profile contributed to the stark state of the mountains for many decades contributing to the 'moonscape' appearance. The scenic drive into Queenstown down a spiralling road with over ninety bends is still nothing short of spectacular and a testament of the brutal reality of Tasmania's mining past.

The Queen River was for most of the history of the Mount Lyell Company the recipient of mining effluent and the Queenstown sewage – which then continued into the King River and consequently the Macquarie Harbour. The Mount Lyell Remediation and Research and Demonstration Program scheme has since removed the direct flowing mining waste and local waste from the rivers.

Today Queenstown and district attracts significant numbers of tourists, on either organized tours or the hire car 'circuit' around Tasmania. Some features continue to fascinate tourists, either the mountains, the slag heap of the gravel football ground. There are significant opportunities to catch glimpses of the town's past at the local museum, and simply by driving or walking up Orr Street, the old main street now with



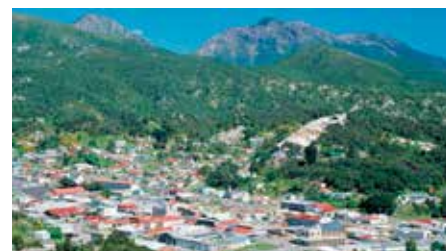
Queenstown Galley Museum



Queenstown has a rich mining history

closed pubs and the dominant Post Office tower. The Empire Hotel in Queenstown is a Tasmanian icon with history dating back to the wealth of the mining era at the turn of the century. It is the grand old lady of the West Coast and has a prominent façade in the town's streetscape. Inside there is a National Trust staircase made from Tasmanian Blackwood. The raw timber was shipped to England, carved and shipped back to Queenstown where it has enjoyed a rich history and is admired by all. The restaurant is set in a large traditional dining room with a sense of grandeur of the past. In cold conditions the open fire is lit for added warmth and ambience. Accommodation is modest but clean and comfortable.

The Galley Museum is one of two west coast Tasmanian museums that house records and relics from the mining



Aerial view Queenstown



Queenstown Gravel Football Oval

communities of the past. The museum is housed in the former Imperial Hotel which was the first brick-constructed hotel in Queenstown (1897). The building has since been a mining office and a Youth Hostel. A collection of photographs, text and materials relating to the 1912 North Mount Lyell Mining Disaster is extensive.

Queenstown Gravel Football Oval has been described by some as "*The Most Infamous*" football field in Australia. Now heritage listed, it certainly is one that has struck fear into visiting football sides for over one hundred years.

By 1914 a hydro-electric scheme had been completed at Lake Margaret and by 1928 a major refinery had been opened. The first road (prior to that all traffic had been by sea from Macquarie Harbour) to Hobart was opened in 1932.



Queenstown Streetscape



Queenstown – Paragon Theatre

The historic Paragon Theatre was built in 1932 and its motto was *“the city theatre in the country”*. For the small and remote mining township of Queenstown, the 1,150 seat picture theatre designed for the talkies was quite something. For many years the Paragon Theatre (and its arch-rival the Capitol theatre) were the main contact for this extremely isolated community with the outside world. It closed in 1983, it was briefly used as an indoor cricket centre. It was renovated and re-opened as a 60-seat luxurious cinema. At time of this writing the theatre is now ‘For Sale’.

At the present time Queenstown has two schools – Mountain Heights School and St. Joseph’s Catholic School. Mountain Heights School was established in approximately 1900 and has a tradition of providing quality State funded education for students in Year Kindergarten to Year 12 from the surrounding community. The 2017 total enrolment is 246 students (141 boys and 105 girls) with 26 staff. Like all Tasmanian Government schools, Mountain Heights School is committed to the goal that every student has the opportunity to learn and achieve his or her potential.

St Joseph’s Catholic School was established in 1899 and was the first Catholic school in Queenstown. Over the years the school population has wavered in accordance with the mining fortunes of the town. The boom times of the 1960s saw a peak enrolment of 230 students (boys and girls). Both primary and secondary classes were taught at St. Joseph’s until 1966, at which time the school became solely a primary school. At the time of the celebration of its Centenary in



Queenstown Moonscape

1999 St. Joseph’s Catholic School had an enrolment of 126 students. With the mineral industry again buoyant and tourism offering opportunities for Queenstown owners, the enrolment has stabilised around this figure.

The mining operation at the original Mount Lyell mine continues, with Copper Mines of Tasmania operating between 1995 and 1999 independently, after which it became part of an Indian company group – and its concentrates are shipped to India for processing.

Exploration continues within the West coast region for further economic mineral deposits and due to the complexity of the geology, there is always the possibility that new mines will open; the Henty Gold Mine is a good example as it commenced operation in the 1990s.

Queenstown is the terminus of the unique West Coast Wilderness Railway which travels southwards alongside the Queen River, then along the northern slopes of the King River, through the rainforest to the port of Strahan on Macquarie Harbour. It is an engineering marvel – the world’s steepest steam-operated railway. The train was once the only way to transport gold and copper out of Queenstown.

The *Queenstown Heritage and Arts Festival* was the first name of a biennial festival that celebrates Queenstown’s history. A significant historical event it has celebrated, was the centenary of the 1912 North Mount Lyell disaster in the second festival in October 2012. In the third festival in October 2014 the Hydro Tasmania centenary was a major component. In 2016 the



Winding road into Queenstown with over 90 bends



Mount Lyell Mining Company Main Decline 1973 Mine



Mount Lyell Copper Smelting – Photo courtesy C. P. Wardell OAM

festival has been renamed, and is now the *Unconformity Festival*.

Queenstown is a 2 hour drive (162 kms) from Burnie and 3.5 hour drive (260 kms) from Hobart.



Empire Hotel



Empire Hotel – National Trust listed hand-carved Blackbean staircase*.



Queenstown Post Office Tower Building



Tasmanian Tree Frog from Queenstown



Tasmania's World Heritage Wilderness

WEST COAST WILDERNESS RAILWAY



West Coast Wilderness Railway Train on trestle Bridge

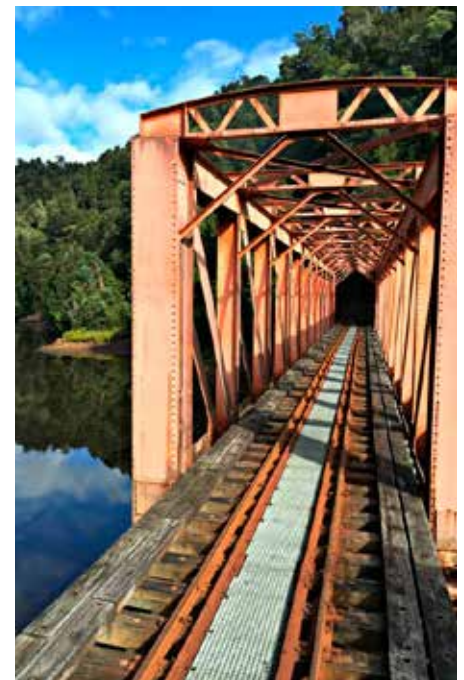
Trying to build a railway through rainforest and rugged terrain from Queenstown to the coast verged on the insane but, in 1893 in an attempt to convince investors in London, the directors of the Mount Lyell Mining Company changed their name to the Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company and planned a railway to the sea. The route of the track was to follow the King River for about 7 kms, then at a gradient of 1 in 20, it would climb around the side of the gorge for 5 kms before dropping at a gradient of 1 in 15 for



West Coast Wilderness Railway rack and pinion line



West Coast Wilderness Railway rack and pinion model



West Coast Wilderness Railway Bridge

about 4 kms and then proceeding to the coast at Teepookana. The Parks Tasmanian website explains: "The German patented ABT railway system was selected as the best alternative to overcome the difficult terrain of the King River Valley. A central cog on the engine engaged the teeth of a third rail known as the 'rack' which was positioned midway between the two outside rails. This allowed locomotives to haul loads over sections two and a half times steeper than was possible for conventional lines."



West Coast Wilderness Railway Train on trestle Bridge

In 1894 a total of 400 men started work on the railway and by 1896 34 kms of track had been laid. During the construction cuttings, many of them 20 m deep, had been dug out with pick and shovel. 48 wooden trestle bridges had been built and the men had worked for six shillings and sixpence for an eight-hour day. In 1899 the track was extended to Regatta Point, the southern point of Risby Cove at Strahan. The railway continued to operate until 1963. Lobbying from local businesses, who claimed it was an icon of western Tasmanian history, saw the Federal Government pour over \$20 million into restoring the railway which started operating as a tourist attraction in 2002. The steam trains used are either the ABT 1 (1896), ABT 3 (1898) or ABT 5 (1938).

C. P. Wardell OAM



West Coast Wilderness Railway Carriage interior

VALE – COLLEEN MARY PYNE OAM

27.6.1946 – 20.5. 2016

Although born in Sydney, NSW, Colleen and Rex Pyne lived in the North Island of New Zealand after their retirement in 2003/4.

Colleen started her work as a librarian in 1963 at the New South Wales State Library, moving then to the Australian Coal Industries Research Laboratory.

1968 saw a move to Papa-New Guinea where she was one of the founders of the University of Papua-New Guinea and worked also with the District Administration and the Department of Agriculture.

Rex and Colleen married in 1970 and son Julian was born in Cairns in 1975. Colleen subsequently worked in Canberra at the Australian National University and at the Mount Stromlo Observatory.

The Pynes came to the Territory in 1978 where Colleen set up and managed the library at the North Australia Research Unit, a vision of the Late 'Nugget' Coombs. As a multi-disciplinary part of the Australian National University the Library was an important resource for Australian and Overseas Academics working in the field of contemporary social sciences.

Colleen was awarded a Medal in The Order of Australia in 1999 with the citation *'For services to education, research and to the establishment of the North Australia Research Unit'* for her many years as a librarian.

We extend our condolences to her husband, Rex and to her son, Julian.

Yvonne Forrest OAM



TASMANIAN SEAFARERS' MEMORIAL

Living in Tasmania we are all generally well aware of the history and importance of our maritime heritage and the importance the sea still has today for Tasmanians. Being an island state the essential skills of working at sea or building strong, seaworthy vessels for fishing, trade and leisure activities has made Tasmania a haven for wooden vessels. Having a wide range of ideal timbers such as Huon pine, Celery Top pine and the tough Tasmanian Blue Gum that was commonly used for framing in the early trading vessels, the vessels produced had long, productive lives.

Over the years these maritime occupations have tragically resulted in lives being lost at sea. To remember these seafarers, the Tasmanian Seafarers' Memorial was established at Triabunna on Tasmania's picturesque east coast in 1997. The Triabunna township is the centre for the Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council. It is the stepping off point for many activities such as commercial and recreational fishing, cruises to the historic Maria Island National Park, convict and other historic buildings, coastal walks and beautiful beaches. Triabunna has also had prominence through being the site of the controversial Gunns Ltd wood chip mill and recently for being the site for a proposed expansion of Tasmania's successful salmon farming.

Triabunna being primarily a maritime and seafaring town, it is a logical site for a seafarers' memorial. This is a unique memorial that includes Tasmanian members of the armed services, and those seafarers who, regardless of occupation or nationality, have lost their lives in Tasmanian waters. The memorial also commemorates any Tasmanian whose life was lost at sea in waters beyond Tasmania.

With so many deaths at sea during times of peace it is a reminder of the needs to increase water safety awareness.

There is a wide variance in the commemorative plaques ranging from those remembering local fishermen, merchant and naval sailors, racing yachtsmen, pleasure boaters and foreigner sea goers such as Japanese fishermen who have lost their lives in Tasmanian waters. The plaques reflect tragic events from early settlement to the present day. In addition to the memorials for individuals there are memorial plaques for vessels and events in relation to which there was loss of life.

One of the early recorded shipwrecks on the Seafarers' Memorial is that of the 20 ton schooner *Despatch*. The loss of the vessel and that of its Master was recorded in the Colonial Times on 23 June 1826.

"By the loss of the little Government vessel which lately sailed for Maria Island, we regret to state, that a widow and a large family are deprived of a father and husband. Mr. S. Chase was the master of that vessel. He was an experienced navigator, and had been many years in the maritime service in these Colonies. We therefore trust that the Government may afford some relief to his disconsolate wife and orphan children, as they are left wholly unprovided for." This article and the *Despatch* plaque, reflect the feelings that plaques affixed in the years since indicate for their relevant families and friends.

In the 20 years since the memorial was created there are now in excess of 180 names and 50 vessels recorded. The memorial with its plaques is particularly important for families and friends of loved ones tragically lost at sea especially in the circumstances where a body was never recovered or when there was a burial at sea.

The memorial was built at the instigation of Mrs Kathleen Fergusson OAM, a well known East Coast resident of Orford. She and her committee organise the annual service held on the third Sunday of October each year that has representation from Government, the emergency services and armed services, various organisations as well as a significant representation from the general public.

The design chosen for the Tasmanian Seafarers' Memorial has features of significance to local boat builders and users as well as bereaved families. A fish, perhaps the first Christian symbol, gives shape to a low brick wall topped with a sloping cap upon which plaques are affixed. A central structure representing a boat is surmounted by an anchor cross. A "bollard" of sandstone carries the main naval plaque. A mast with halyards holds the side (navigation) lights.

Kath Fergusson was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day Honours List in 2000 "For service to local government and to the communities of Glamorgan and Spring Bay" and the Centenary Medal in 2001. Kath and her husband James farmed in the Tasmanian east coast district for many years and like many people who live in or near



Kathleen Fergusson OAM whose initiative created the Seafarers' Memorial



The Annual Service always attracts many locals as well as relatives of those who have been lost at sea



Kathleen Fergusson OAM having just placed a wreath at the Memorial

small communities they involved themselves with many organisations and activities for the betterment of their community.

Kath's curriculum vitae are impressive and varied containing a wide range of activities over five decades. Commencing work as a primary school teacher, in the years to come

Kath involved herself in over 20 diverse organisations ranging from Land Care, Rotary Club including being named a Paul Harris fellow, Local Govt Women's Association, Spring Bay Ratepayers Association, volunteer fire brigade, Australia Remembers 1939-45 Committee, local government



Plaque recording the loss of the 10-ton schooner, "Despatch"

councillor and many more organisations. While heavily involved in these activities and working with her husband James managing their farming property and raising a family, she also found private time for researching family and district history and amateur photography.

As it is often said, ask a busy person if you want something done and Kath Fergusson OAM is certainly that person.

More information including the memoirs unveiled at the 2016 service can be found on the Memorial website, www.seafarersmemorial.org.au.

Alastair Douglas OAM

VISIT OF HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ERMIAS SAHLE-SELASSIE HAILE-SELASSIE,

President of the Crown Council of Ethiopia to Australia – June 2017

The Immediate Past National Chairman of The Order of Australia Association, Mr William Galvin OAM, attended a luncheon in honour of His Imperial Highness Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie, President of the Crown Council of Ethiopia before he was received into the President's Gallery of the Legislative Council, the Upper House of the New South Wales Parliament by the President, The Hon. John Ajaka MLC.

The Reverend the Honourable Frederick John Nile, Deputy President of the Legislative Council, accompanied by his wife, Silvana Nero, was parliamentary host for a function organised by Professor David Flint AM, National Convenor of Australians for Constitutional Monarchy and Bryan Sterton-Gill, Chairman of the Monarchist League in Australia (Victoria Chapter).

His Imperial Highness was accompanied by Gregory Copley AM GCHT FRCGS, President of the Washington DC based International Strategic Studies Association and Strategic Advisor to the Crown Council, and Pamela von Gruber GCSE

GCEL RML Agafari (Chief of Protocol). Gregory Copley is the Regional Convenor of The Order of Australia Association - North America Regional Group.

The Honourable David Elliott, Minister for Counter-Terrorism, Corrections and Veteran Affairs addressed a welcome to the Prince.

The Right Reverend John Hepworth, Archbishop Emeritus, Traditional Anglican Communion gave thanks.

Paul Scully-Power, distinguished scientist, world expert in remote sensing and astronaut addressed the luncheon. Richard Nott AM, President of the Australia-Britain Society, also addressed the luncheon. Brian Rawlings from ACM, George Bougias and Jelica Bougias from the MLA and Sue Labordus, Australia-Britain Society were in attendance at the luncheon.

The visit of His Imperial Highness commemorates the 50th anniversary of the State Visit to Australia of his late grandfather, the very respected international leader, His Imperial Majesty, Haile Selassie I.

His Imperial Highness was subsequently received in the Federal Parliament in Canberra, and honoured at a Formal Dinner In Melbourne offered by the Monarchist League in Australia (Victoria Chapter).

His Imperial Highness was then invited to be the keynote speaker at the Annual Geo- Political Event at the Australia Israel Chamber of Commerce in Perth.



Guest Speaker His Imperial Highness Prince Haile-Selassie at Luncheon NSW Parliament House.



Australian
Industry and
Skills Committee

Drivers seat for industry in shaping skills

Businesses now have a greater say about the skills delivered in the vocational education and training (VET) system, thanks to reforms that put industry at the centre of training package development.

The new system gives industry a central decision-making role through the Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC), and its network of Industry Reference Committees (IRCs). These committees are made up of people with close links to industry, ensuring nationally recognised training packages are more responsive to businesses' needs and the changing needs of the workplace.

The Australian Industry and Skills Committee

The AISC is an industry/government collaboration focused on:

- simplifying and demystifying the VET system
- amplifying the voice of industry in skills training development, and
- building employer's confidence in VET qualifications.

The AISC is made up of industry leaders with links across the economy including in the construction, disability services, information technology, mining and hospitality and tourism sectors. The national peak industry bodies are also represented.

The AISC collaborates with other industry leaders, including through the Australian Government's Industry Growth Centres (IGCs), and advises Commonwealth and State Skills Ministers to make sure that the voice of industry is heard.

The AISC is focused on ensuring Australian businesses have the workforce they need to be more innovative, productive and competitive, and to power our economy.

Industry Reference Committees

The AISC draws on advice from its network of over 60 IRCs. IRCs are made up of members who are leaders in their own sectors – from big business, small enterprises, peak bodies and unions.

THE SUM OF ITS PARTS

Persistence, loving every part of the journey and an ability to think laterally have been my foundation for everything I have done in my career. I was 34 before I found my niche. It was simply one foot in front of the other maximizing the produce that we grew ourselves or was from our neighbours. I certainly never had a grand plan or any training and in business I was only ever driven by flavour and quality; and was always looking for the best way to do something.

Moving to the Barossa marked the start of a very personal food journey for me. All my life I'd been interested in food, yet being in the Valley has introduced me to the rhythm of the seasons and the rich diversity of the produce the Valley's Mediterranean climate offers.

In 1979 Colin and I first opened the Farm Shop to sell direct to the public. Within a year this became the Pheasant Farm Restaurant and a showcase for Colin's game birds. When we first started breeding pheasants we could sell them just for novelty value but no one knew how to cook them. Cooking came naturally to me so that's what I started to do - cook our pheasants; our quail; pickle our quail eggs; make our pate and utilise every bit of the birds. We started the farm shop and sold fresh birds with instructions on how I cooked them and offered roasted pheasant and stuffed quails as picnic food on the side of the dam. Still I wonder how I had the audacity, with no experience or training, to start a restaurant (the Pheasant Farm Restaurant which closed November 1993) but I'm so happy I did. And today we're a farm shop again, serving picnic fare, to some 250,000 local and international visitors each year.

My role in the business is predominantly creative, which means I am always in the trenches so to speak, but there is a great deal of strategy involved in getting a product from conception to shelf, so logistics automatically become part of my thinking when an idea initially sparks. Not that I avoid the logistical side of things, but I believe successful business is all about recognising your strengths, and



Maggie Beer AM

my strengths are in experimenting with flavours and produce and the natural relationship between the two.

So many people ask me what the secret to my success is. Success can be waged on so many different levels but for me it's been about thinking outside the square and honouring intuition. The simple fact I love what I do. I'm truly passionate about food and ideas and making them happen.

I feel one of my greatest achievements was winning Senior Australian of the Year in 2010. The following year I became the 2011 South Australian of the Year and I was thrilled to be appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for service to tourism and hospitality, and the promotion of Australian produce and cuisine, on Australia Day 2012. Becoming a Member of the Order of Australia was the very last thing I ever expected to have happen in my lifetime, but it has impacted my work in so many wonderful ways.

As one of the many engagements I had on the back of being awarded Senior Australian of the Year, I was asked to speak to 1000 CEOs of aged care. That single event couldn't have had more of an impact on my decision to establish the Maggie Beer Foundation in 2014. It was then that I realised just how many passionate people there are involved in this industry, all of them trying to do what they can with limited resources to bring every part of the puzzle together to impact change in aged care, but it is a

very complex tapestry to manage. It was my hope to pull all of the various specialist aspects of science, research, nutrition and management under the one umbrella to support the ever growing aged care industry in providing wholesome, flavour-some food to everyone, regardless of age or dietary requirements. The Maggie Beer Foundation was established to be part of the journey to transform the food experience of the elderly; bringing life-altering change to their wellbeing through good food, with every bite being full of nutrition and flavor and pleasure

With the help of so many committed individuals we are on a path to challenge community attitudes, change institutional food preparation practice and shift best-practice expectations, and be a potent and constructive force in improving the lifestyle and health of the elderly.

There are many stumbling blocks in relation to cooking in aged care homes, but my purpose with the Foundation is not to focus on the negatives, but rather to put some fresh thinking around what is possible in age care, and how we can improve the emotional wellbeing of elders through food. This was never going to be an easy road and so there have most certainly be challenges along the way, but the common denominator is that everyone involved can agree that change needs to happen, so we start from there.

Maggie Beer AM

Keep up to date through our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au



Order of Australia Association

MERCHANDISE

The Order of Australia Association is delighted to offer an extended range of merchandise to its members.

You may now choose from our ever popular products plus an extended range of recently released new items. We have also introduced credit card facilities to make your purchasing even easier. From time to time we will add new items and limited offers of special purchase products. If you think of other products that may be of interest to members, drop us a line with your suggestions so it can be researched by the merchandise committee.

	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	PRICE	POSTAGE & HANDLING	QUANTITY ORDERED
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2	Association Brooch	15.00	2.00	
3	Association Lapel Badge	15.00	2.00	
4	OAA Blue/Gold Metal Pen	5.00	1.00	
5	OAA Traditional Tie Navy	25.00	2.00	
6	OAA Tie Red/Black/Silver	25.00	2.00	
7	OAA Tie Maroon/Black/White	25.00	2.00	
8	OAA Tie Blue/Gold	25.00	2.00	
9	OAA Tie Navy/Aqua/White	25.00	2.00	
10	OAA Scarf Navy/Gold/White	30.00	2.00	
11	Car Decal	5.00	1.00	
12	Key Ring in Gift Box	10.00	8.00	
13	Metal Drink Coasters (set 4)	35.00	8.00	
14	Wine Glasses (set 2)	15.00	5.00	
15	OAA Travel/Sports Bag Navy	40.00	10.00	
16	Business Document/Laptop Bag	30.00	10.00	
17	Golf Towel with Brass Clip	13.00	8.00	
18	Playing Cards	3.00	1.00	
19	OAA Metal Medallion 10cm	20.00	2.00	
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*Only OAA members may wear apparel, cufflinks & badges.

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