



ORDER OF AUSTRALIA VICTORIA BRANCH

“fostering love of and pride in Australian citizenship”



Chair's message

This e-newsletter is our last for the year and for me, this month marks 16 months in office as your Chairman. How quickly that time has flown!

I extend a warm welcome to all new members who have joined the Order of Australia Association since the September Investitures and trust you will enjoy participating in our events and gain value through engaging with other awardees.

In November, the Victoria Branch held its Annual Luncheon at William Angliss College. Around 130 guests were in attendance to hear from the fabulous Steve Moneghetti AM.

Although our AGM has moved to February, we know how much our members look forward to this event so it will continue to be held as a stand-alone event. Speaking of our AGM, we will be calling for nominations for people to serve on the Branch Committee for 2019/20. Further details are provided elsewhere in this E-newsletter.

We are thrilled to announce that the Inspiring Australians Oration will be delivered by Lord Mayor Sally Capp on Wednesday 27 February 2019 commencing at 11:00am at Deakin Edge, Federation Square. The bookings are now open and you can book through TryBooking at: www.trybooking.com/449839. I urge you to book early for what has become one of our signature events, and the Lord Mayor will certainly be popular.

I know many of you are buying *Jersey Boy* tickets for a performance on Friday 1 March 2019, to give to friends and loved ones as a Christmas gift. The producers have generously donated all proceeds from one performance at the Regent Theatre in Melbourne to be shared equally among four not-for-profit organisations, of which the OAA Victoria Branch is one. Your support is most welcome and you can book at <https://jerseyboys.com.au/>



Can I take this opportunity of wishing all our members a very happy Christmas and festive season. I thank my fellow Branch members for their hard work throughout the year, in particular, our Honorary Secretary Fred Harrington OAM, whose energy and enthusiasm for our Association keeps our Victoria Branch ticking along nicely.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our events soon.

Diane James AM

Chairman, Victoria Branch



Editor's message

Welcome to the Summer edition, although at the time of writing, not much warm weather has been seen.

As usual news from the Victoria Branch and the Regional Groups, forthcoming events around the State and other relevant information, make up this edition.

Whilst I was away overseas for ten weeks, Helene Bender OAM and Irene Harrington OAM did an excellent job of preparation of the E-newsletter and *The Order* for which I am grateful. It gives me confidence that I am not indispensable.

Whilst overseas, I was lucky enough to lead a group of OAA Members from all parts of Australia, on a tour of Gallipoli and Turkey. It gave me an opportunity to appreciate firsthand what a fantastic group of Australians make up the Association. The team just gelled together, assisting each other when required, having a laugh and a beer at times, curious and loyal and importantly quintessentially Australian.

The experience of visiting Gallipoli, Australia's [and Turkey's] spiritual birth place was the highlight. The photo below shows the team at Anzac Cove, facing the high cliffs. The success of this tour which included Western Front as well is planned to be repeated in June 2019.



As usual, this E-newsletter is only made possible with your contributions and assistance and I thank you all for that.

The timetable for contributions for the E-newsletter and *The Order* next year is also included on page 10 for future reference.

Wishing you all the best in the coming festive season and a safe 2019.

Dr John Basarin OAM



Victoria Branch Office Holders & Committee Members- 2018

Patron

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

Chair

Diane James AM
chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Deputy Chair [Metropolitan]

Dr John Basarin OAM

Deputy Chair [Country]

Duncan Stalker OAM

Secretary

Fred Harrington OAM
secvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Honorary Treasurer

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Regional Groups Co-ordinator

Fred Harrington OAM

Editor

Dr John Basarin OAM
editor@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Events Co-ordinator

Peter Jones AM

Committee

Helene Bender OAM
Neil Soullier OAM
William Lye OAM

Immediate Past Chair

Paul Wheelton AM KSJ

Co-opted Members

Membership Secretary

Tony Smith OAM

National Merchandise Officer

Richard Rozen OAM

Branch

websitewww.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/VIC

Chairs of Regional Groups - 2018

Barwon:

Peter Doak OAM

Central Highlands:

Jean Wise OAM

Eastern Suburbs:

Barbara Thompson OAM

Gippsland:

Doug Caulfield OAM, RFD

Loddon-Campaspe:

John Higgs OAM

Mallee:

Vernon Knight AM

Melbourne Central:

Trevor Clark OAM

Mornington Peninsula:

Brian Stahl OAM JP

NE & Goulburn Valley:

Barbara Thomas OAM

North Central Suburbs:

Fred Harrington OAM

South Central Suburbs:

Ross Newton OAM

SW Victoria:

Dr Peter Habersberger AM
RFD

Western Suburbs:

John Ravenhall AM



National News

The Order:

Our national quarterly magazine is available in e-version which saves the Association costs of postage, printing and stationery.

Please email Secretary Phil Morrall AM CSC at:

nationalsecretary@theorderofaustralia.asn.au to request *The Order* in electronic format.

National Conference:



Save the Date: April 11 to 14, 2019 for the 33rd National Conference in Hobart. The theme is 'Make a difference'. Email your registration/interest to Alastair Douglas OAM on Email:

TasConference@theorderofaustralia.asn.au or telephone: 0418127897. Please note members are also able to register online or use the booking form in the current edition of *The Order*.

OAA Foundation:

Since its inception the Foundation has provided 39 scholarships covering all States and Territories, as a result of the generosity of the donors. To make a donation please contact E: sec@oaafoundation.com.au or ring telephone: 0262735995.

Unfinancial members:

The National Membership Officer has written off members who are unfinancial for six (6) months or more. On December 3 unfinancial members as at June 1, 2018 were written off and early January 2019 unfinancial members as at July 1, 2018 will be written off. This process will continue each month. Regional Groups are encouraged to check the membership list they receive from VIC Branch Membership Secretary Tony Smith for added email addresses and any changes plus due date to pay membership and follow up unfinancial members.

Victorian Bar Welcomes William Lye OAM:

Late last month, the Victorian Bar welcomed the appointment of 25 of its members as Senior Counsel by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Victoria.

One of the new Senior Counsel is William Lye OAM, a Committee member of the Victoria Branch of the Order of Australia Association. William is also the Victoria Branch Nominated Director on the OAA National Board.

Victorian Bar President Dr Matt Collins QC said: "The new Senior Counsel reflects the breath of skills and outstanding talent at our Bar".

Congratulations on your appointment William.





News from the Victoria Branch Committee



Annual Luncheon

On 21st November, at the William Angliss Restaurant, 135 members/guests enjoyed an inspirational talk by Olympic medalist Steve Moneghetti AM.

He told us that he was not considered to be a good runner until high school when it became apparent that he was an excellent long distance runner. He won one gold, one silver and three bronze medals during his 12 year career.

The organisation of this event was due to the excellent work of Christine Unsworth AM.

MC David Mann AM, mentioned that Christine Unsworth AM Chair of the Victoria Branch Events Committee, was retiring. David thanked Christine for the tireless work she has done organising and overseeing Order of Australia Association events including our now annual Oration and wished her well.

Another highlight of the lunch was an address by OAA Foundation Scholarship awardee Juanita Kelly-Mundine who is undertaking the combined courses of Bachelor of Arts, which she has just completed and the Master of Cultural Materials Conservation, at the University of Melbourne, Faculty of Arts Grimwade Centre.

Juanita was introduced by Deputy Chair (Country) Duncan Stalker OAM. Juanita spoke about what the scholarship meant to her, particularly the funding which allows her to fully focus on her studies and the mentoring provided to her as part of the scholarship, by Tony Ellwood AM, Director of the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV).

Annual General Meeting

The 2019 Victoria Branch Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th February 2019 commencing at 11:00am at the RACV Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Nominations are being called for all Victoria Branch committee positions for 2019/2020 including the position of the Victoria Branch Nominated Director on the National Board.

A Nomination Form is included with this newsletter on page 23.

For further information contact Victoria Branch Secretary, Fred Harrington OAM at secvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au



The Formal Notice of Meeting, including a Nomination Form will be emailed to all members who have provided an email address or mailed via Australia Post to members without an email address. Nominations close on Friday 25th January 2019.

Victoria Branch Web page:

The Victoria Branch web page, within the Order of Australia web site (www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au) contains a wide range of information regarding the branch. In particular the pages contain information on *Upcoming events* of both the Victoria Branch and Regional Groups.

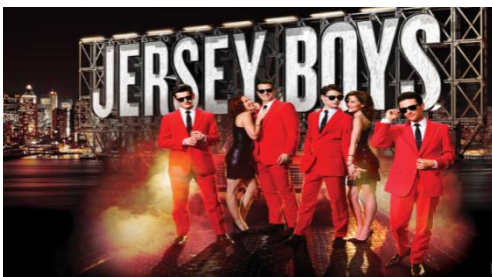
Australia Day:

The Order of Australia Association has been given the opportunity for the first time to participate in one of the major highlights of Australia Day 2019: The Australia Day Parade held in Melbourne's CBD. This Parade features over 5,000 participants representing all aspects of our community including Emergency Services of police, SES, ambulance and CFA and multicultural groups from all over the state. The Governor, Premier and Lord Mayor are all in attendance to greet all participants marching in the Parade. It starts at 11.00am and is a 1.2km walk down Swanston Street to the Gardens opposite the National Gallery. At the conclusion, there will be a casual luncheon held in the RACV gardens enclosure in Kings Domain. Cost is \$20 per person and partners are most welcome to attend. This will be a great way to celebrate and recognise the association and members as we would march as a group. Numbers are limited, so if you are interested in participating, in the march then you need to register via the TryBooking site at: <https://www.trybooking.com/452184>

If you would just like to attend the lunch or attend the lunch after participating in the march then you need to register via the TryBooking site: <https://www.trybooking.com/452186>

Jersey Boys:

The Association has been offered the opportunity to sell tickets to the charity performance on Friday 1st March, 2019. Every ticket sold from that night will be part of a donation to four community organisations, of which OAA is one. So, by purchasing tickets you will be helping fund our scholarship winner who is undertaking their studies at a regional university in Victoria. It's the perfect Christmas present for the family and friends. You can book tickets here – <https://jerseyboys.com.au/>



Jersey Boys is the story of how a group of blue-collar boys from the wrong side of the tracks became one of the biggest American pop sensations of all time – The Four Seasons. The musical features all of their biggest hits, including; *Big Girls Don't Cry*, *Walk Like A Man*, *Sherry* and *Can't Take My Eyes Off You*.



COMING EVENTS – Victoria Branch

2018

2018

2018

2018

December

Thursday 20th: *Peace@Gallipoli Commemoration at the Shrine*

The ceremony to be held at the Sanctuary of the Shrine of Remembrance at noon. Paul Wheelton AM KSJ will lay a wreath on behalf of the Order of Australia Association.

2019

2019

2019

2019

January

Saturday 26th: *Australia Day March*

Participation in the Australia Day march commencing at 11:00 am in Swanston St and marching to the gardens opposite the Arts Centre. Bookings to participate in the march can be made through TryBooking at: <https://www.trybooking.com/452184>. Bookings to attend the lunch following the march can be made through TryBooking at: <https://www.trybooking.com/452186>

February

Tuesday 19th: *Annual General Meeting*

The AGM is scheduled to be held at the RACV Club commencing at 11:00am.

Wednesday 27th: *Inspiring Australians Oration*

This event will be held at Deakin Edge, Federation Square, commencing at 11:00am. The Oration will be delivered by Lord Mayor Sally Capp and followed by light refreshments. Bookings can be made at: www.trybooking.com/449839

March

Friday 1st: *Jersey Boys*

A night of entertainment at the Regent Theatre Melbourne to see Jersey Boys - The story of Frankie Valley and the Four Seasons.



COMING EVENTS – Regional Groups

2019

2019

2019

2019

February

Saturday 10th: *Central Highlands*

Annual General Meeting. Further information will be provided closer to the event.

Tuesday 19th: *Regional Groups meeting*

The meeting is to be held between 1:00pm and 3:00pm at the RACV Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne following the Victoria Branch AGM and lunch at the RACV Club.

Sunday 24th: *North East Vic & Goulburn Valley*

Lunch commencing at 12:30pm at the Quality Hotel Wangaratta Gateway. AGM and Guest Speaker Professor Tilman Ruff AM.

Sunday 24th: *Barwon*

Barwon AGM, guest speaker Deakin University Vice Chancellor Professor Jane den Hollander AO and afternoon tea at RACV Torquay.

March

Wednesday 6th: *North Central Suburbs*

Annual General Meeting and *Autumn* lunch to be held at The Sycamore Tree Cafe in Heidelberg. For further details contact Fred Harrington OAM at fred.harrington@gravity.net.au.

May

Sunday 19th: *North East Vic & Goulburn Valley*

Lunch commencing at 12.30pm at Fowles Winery, Avenel. Guest Speaker, Dale Potter OAM.

October

Sunday 20th: *North East Vic & Goulburn Valley*

Lunch at Rutherglen-venue to be decided, Guest Speaker, Inspector Kerrie Hicks, Wangaratta Local Area Commander, Victorian police.

The Order of Australia Association – Merchandise

Association members are able to purchase the Association's merchandise. The current selection of merchandise can be ordered via:

Richard Rozen OAM, National Merchandise Officer:

Email: rozenr@bigpond.com Phone (03) 9592 8068 or via web site:
<http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/shopping-cart/>



2019 DATES FOR E-NEWSLETTER & THE ORDER

The relevant dates for E-Newsletter and The Order contributions are summarized below.

Please submit your timely articles with a photo to editor:

Dr John Basarin OAM, Email: editorvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

VICTORIAN ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER - DATES FOR 2019

Invitation to Regional Groups to submit articles	Cut off date for submission of articles for e-newsletter	Finished e-newsletter to Tony Smith	Distribution date [on or before]
28 February	09 March	19 March	26 March
20 May	04 June	15 June	21 June
20 August	07 September	16 September	24 September
5 November	19 November	29 November	06 December

THE ORDER – 2019

Invitation to Regional Groups to Submit Articles	Cut off date for submission of articles	Copy to CANBERRA	Distribution date
15 December	30 December	14 January	18 February
18 March	01 April	08 April	17 May
14 June	01 July	08 July	19 August
16 September	01 October	08 October	18 November



News from the Regional Groups

Eastern Suburbs Regional Group

Melbourne Tramboat Cruise 16/10/2018



Our guests met at Shed 9 in Victoria Harbour, opposite Etihad Stadium and boarded the Melbourne Tramboat for a 10.30am start.

Lisa and Anthony Purcell were our crew, Anthony driving the Tramboat and Lisa looking after guests and helping with the mooring.

As we headed out we were given the life vest safety procedure and Fergus Ryan was our willing model.

The Bolte Bridge loomed above us as Anthony and Lisa gave us a light-hearted running commentary on the interesting features of the scene unfolding on the banks. Dozens of tall apartment skyscrapers appeared on our right all built in the last 20 years, and behind, the Melbourne Star Ferris Wheel slowly rotating. With the Westgate Bridge now in view, we turned right into the Maribyrnong River and were amazed at the thousands of shipping containers stacked seven high on both sides of the river, together with dozens of huge high cranes for loading them on and off the international ships, some of which were berthed close-by. We were told that Melbourne is the largest container port in Australia.

As we cruised further upstream and passed under Footscray and Dynon Road Bridges, we were served a lovely morning tea by Lisa. We noticed several canoe and rowing club headquarters on the banks. The scene was changing from industrial to expensive mansions on our right, each one with terraced gardens on the steep slopes down to the bike track along the bank.

The next point of interest was Flemington Racecourse, quite close to the river. Large and small crafts provide an alternative mode of public transport to the racecourse in the Spring racing season.

We disembarked at Anglers Tavern for a lovely lunch and a chat for an hour before heading home. We noticed the wide red brick building of the Lonely Planet organisation and the famous Poynton's Flower Nursery on the way back. The outgoing tide and a tailwind helped us arrive back at Victoria Harbour soon after 2.00pm. We had enjoyed a wonderful day with a continually changing landscape, a real education about the western suburbs for Eastern Suburbs Regional Group members.



Western Suburbs Regional Group

On 16th August, 29 members of the Western Suburbs Regional Group gathered at Pascoe Vale Hotel, Pascoe Vale, for lunch and to hear guest speaker Geoff Mitchelmore.

Geoff was born in Yallourn in 1940 and shortly after his marriage to Olga, moved to the City of Altona. He became interested in community affairs and was jokingly known as the seventh unofficial Councillor because he was present in the Council Chamber at nearly all Council meetings over many years.

Geoff explained that, in about 2000, traffic and environmental issues in the then City of Hobsons Bay, moved him to take an active health and safety role in the community. In particular, truck traffic issues in Altona North led to his demand to the State Government for action to alleviate the problem, resulting in the building of the \$4.5 million Barnes Road Bridge No. 3 over Kororoit Creek.

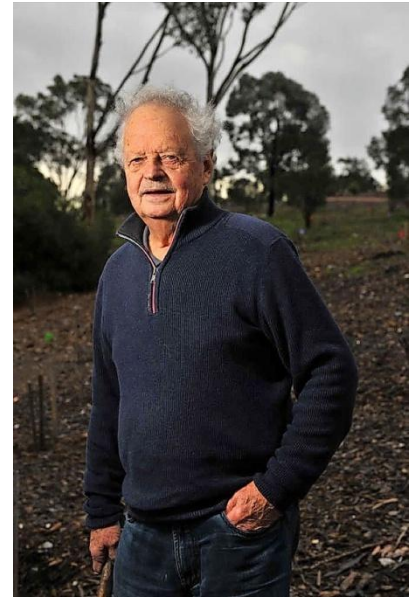


Photo credit: Damjan Janevski

During the planning of the bridge project, Geoff saw that the Creek was in poor condition and needed work to return it to its pre-settlement condition. In 2001, with the aim of developing the Creek as an environmental corridor of green, *Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek Inc.* was born. The rebirth of Kororoit Creek was the focus of Geoff's talk, which was accompanied by photos of the beautiful green corridor that has been established.

South Central Suburbs Regional Group

New Awardees Reception



Left to right – Chairman Ross Newton OAM, Professor Jeffrey Rosenfeld AC OBE, City of Kingston Councillor Geoff Gledhill, Lt. Col. Garry Spencer AM

A civic reception was hosted by the City of Bayside and shared with the Cities of Glen Eira and Kingston at the Victoria Golf Club on Wednesday 29th August. Councillors from all of the Cities were in attendance and The Mayor Laurence Evans, welcomed 17 of the 2018 Australian Honours recipients from within the three Cities attending.



On a chilly winter's evening it was delightfully warm within the classic old Clubhouse, being greeted with drinks upon arrival and being able to catch up with acquaintances and to admire the surroundings. The lucky early ones had managed seating around an open fire which added to the bonhomie of the gathering.

At the required time the guests were shown to another room that had been set up with OAA Regalia and flags, further drinks were offered and finger food was brought around to sample; all this had the assembled, feeling most welcome. A string quartet of young students from St. Leonard's College in Brighton played marvellous background music which was not intrusive to the conversations and introductions that were taking place within the room.

The formal part of the Civic Reception then took place with His Worship The Mayor assisted by the Chief Executive Officer of The City of Bayside, making presentations of boxed engraved crystals to the new awardees from Bayside who were in attendance. Showing solidarity and fairness, the Deputy Mayor of the City of Kingston presented crystals to the awardees from within that City and then the same happened with the City of Glen Eira's Mayor doing the presentations to their awardees.

Our Chairman, Ross Newton OAM was able to also congratulate the recipients and speak for a small time on the OAA and in particular, the South Central Suburban Regional Group, thanks were given to His Worship The Mayor and attending Councillors from the three municipalities.

During the presentation, each awardees citation was read out and warmly acknowledged. After the presentations, further time was available to congratulate the awardees and do personal introductions.



Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Regional Group was held on Thursday 24th October at Milanos Hotel Brighton Beach.

After the Adjournment of the AGM Chairman Ross Newton OAM introduced the guest speaker who is one of the Regional members, Professor Emerita Denise Grocke AO.



Denise spoke about her incredible journey in using music as therapy for children with special needs, for those living with mental illness and in pain relief for hospitalized patients. It truly was an amazing story as music therapy was not recognized in Australia in the 1970's, so



Denise took herself to the USA to study and to bring those studies and teaching back to Australia so that today where, through her persistence, Australia is now recognised as a leader in this form of treatment.

For several years Denise was President of the World Federation of Music Therapy. In the 2016 Queen's Birthday Honours List Denise was made an Officer in the Order of Australia "for distinguished service to public health as a pioneer practitioner of music therapy programs and for services to music therapy".

An inspirational talk that highlighted once again the many talented people we have within our ranks who by the utilisation of their talent, make Australia the great nation that it is.

Barwon Regional Group

2019 Annual General Meeting – with Guest Speaker and afternoon tea

Date/ Time: Sunday 24th February , 2.15pm

Venue: RACV Torquay

Guest speaker: Professor Jane den Hollander AO, Deputy Chancellor Deakin University.

Professor Jane den Hollander AO has been Vice-Chancellor of Deakin University Australia since July 2010. Jane introduced *LIVE the future*, an aspiration for Deakin to drive the digital frontier in higher education, harnessing the power, opportunity and reach of new and emerging technologies in all that it does.



Professor den Hollander received an Order of Australia for her distinguished service to tertiary education in the 2017 Australia Day Honours awards.

Please save the date, invitation will be emailed to OAA Barwon Regional Group members early 2019.

The Archibald Prize returned to Geelong



OAA Barwon Regional Group on Friday 26th October hosted their Annual Luncheon at the Davidson Restaurant and the Archibald Prize Exhibition at the Geelong Gallery for seventy (70) members and guests including some OAA members from other Regional Groups.

The Davidson Restaurant is part of the Gordon TAFE, a training facility where students gain hands on experience in hospitality service and cookery.



The lunch was prepared by full time students studying to be chefs; many of them work part time in local restaurants, but they gain most of their experience preparing meals in the Davidson Restaurant. The three course lunch showcased produce from the region and the quality of teaching provided at the Gordon TAFE.

Penny Whitehead, the Deputy Director of Geelong Gallery spoke at the luncheon noting her role at Geelong Gallery is to support the Director, through the management of four key business units: Development (partnerships and sponsorships), Commercial Operations, Marketing & Communications, and front-of house Visitor Services functions.

Australia's most popular art prize, and one of its most prestigious, the *Archibald Prize* returned to the Geelong Gallery in 2018.

First awarded in 1921, the Art Gallery of New South Wales' *Archibald Prize* is awarded to the best portrait painting; it's a who's who of Australian artists, with subjects often including politicians, celebrities, sporting heroes, authors and artists.

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 was the exclusive Victorian venue for the *Archibald Prize* in 2017 and again in 2018; next year it heads back to the TarraWarra Museum of Art in Healesville.

Vale Robert (John) Robb AM

John Robb AM passed away on 27th September, 2018 aged 88. Robb became a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the Australia Day honours on 26th January 1991, for his service to primary industry and the community.

Born on 3rd September 1930, he attended Geelong High School prior to becoming a day student at Geelong College

He had a long association and senior positions with the Geelong Agricultural and Pastoral Society (President 1974-1980), the National Farmers' Federation, the Geelong Grain Handling Committee and the Port of Geelong Authority (Deputy Chairman).

His outstanding community service work has been with Geelong West Rotary Club for more than fifty (50) years including President (1975-76), the McKellar Centre (President 1988-1991), the Geelong Performing Arts Centre Trust (President 1980-1986), the Victorian Hospital Association and the St David's Parish Council. John was one of the four founding members of the Order of Australia Association, Barwon Regional Group in 1992 and December last year he was presented with an Order of Australia Association thank you plaque by our Past Chair Barbara Abley AM.



Our thoughts are with John's family.



As we farewell 2018, Barwon Regional Group thanks all our members for their support during the year. We acknowledge for various reasons some members have not been able to attend all our events, however we appreciate your acknowledgement of our communication with you.

Best wishes for the upcoming festive season and trust 2019 brings good health and happiness to you and those who are important in your life.

We also thank the following for their support and advice during the past twelve months:-

- Diane James AM Chair Victoria Branch. Diane is a member of the Barwon Regional Group.
- Tony Smith OAM Victoria Membership Secretary for his membership updates and reports
- Fred Harrington OAM Victoria Regional Groups Chair and Branch Secretary
- Dr John Basarin OAM Victoria Editor of the e-Newsletter and the Branch content in *The Order* magazine

Mallee Regional Group

With the endorsement of members, the George Russell Scholarship has been increased to \$1000.

The other major effort has been our work in achieving recognition for Denis Ryan and some long overdue compensation. I know Denis is very appreciative. Our efforts attracted international interest and were reported in Britain (the BBC), the Canadian Broadcasting Service and the *Washington Post*.

Our success was also picked-up by the *Australian Association of Social Workers* (given my past career) and will be published in their journal as an example of effective advocacy. This is clearly a tribute to a team effort and I trust you will regard it as such.

Mallee Regional Group Chairman Vernon Knight AM and his wife Christine took part in the Order of Australia Association's Battlefields Tour of 2018. Their experience was the subject of the article below in the Sunraysia Daily.



Sunraysia Daily Wednesday, October 31, 2018

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2018



Vernon and Christine Knight visit a cemetery for Turkish soldiers on the Gallipoli peninsula.

Gallipoli visit brings it home

BEING able to stand on World War I battlefields in Turkey was a "very humbling experience" for Mildura's Vernon Knight.

As the Mallee chair of the Order of Australia Association, Mr Knight recently took part in a trip with about 20 other delegates ahead of the centenary of the Armistice, celebrated on November 11.

"It's a very humbling experience to go there 100 years after the end of the war and getting a better understanding on what happened," he said.

Walking among reconstituted battlefields of the Gallipoli campaign, which claimed the lives of 8141 Australian soldiers, was for Mr Knight a very powerful experience.

"At different points, the trenches between the opposing armies were about 10 or 12 metres apart, which is like having people with guns and hand grenades lined up on the other side of the average street," he said.

"It was explained to us the Turkish had to move the trenches as close as possible to the Allies because they were being fired on by ships at sea."

The Gallipoli Campaign took place on the Gallipoli peninsula, part of the Ottoman Empire, between February 1915 and January 1916.

"It was a horrendous campaign that claimed so many young lives and going there really does bring it home to you how brutal the battle was," Mr Knight said.

Mr Knight said the trip helped him fully appreciate the close relationship that exists between Turkey and Australia.

"It was special because the leaders of the visit were Turkish," he said.

"(The trip) began to make some sense of the unbelievable relationship that exists between Australia and Turkey.

"As soon as you indicate you are coming from Australia you are welcomed with open arms.

"These two countries that fought during this bloody encounter now have the greatest respect for each other."

— Marina Hacquard

North East Victorian and Goulburn Valley Regional Group

The North East Goulburn Valley Regional Group held its November lunch at the George Kerferd Hotel, Beechworth.

Guest Speaker was John Brown AO of the Brown Family Wine group, who gave a brief, but fascinating account of his family history in the wine industry.

Starting in 1857 with Scottish ancestor John Graham purchasing land in Milawa, growing grain, fruit and fresh fruit grapes. Two generations later, John Francis Brown planted vineyards at the age of 18 and Brown Bros Milawa was born although there were no brothers! The first wine production was in 1889 in "The Barn", the original building which has more recently been renovated and is host to many functions. By planting disease resistant



grapevines in advance of the Phylloxera scourge the vineyard survived the 1915-1918 outbreak and by 1960 the vineyards had expanded to 60 acres at Milawa and Everton. There were still no brothers!!

Finally, John Charles Brown AM raised four boys, the eldest being John Graham Brown AO. It was now truly Brown Brothers as the business became incorporated with 5 shareholders.

The four boys were integrally involved in the business each with their own expertise. The vineyard saw many changes, and purchases of other vineyards to give the best outcome for different varieties of grapes.



John Brown AO took over as CEO in 1988 and saw many innovative changes with research, a nursery established for grafting, a dedicated small scale winery for experimental winemaking, expanding to overseas markets, upgrading of the winemaking processes and purchase of more land.

Today, the company is known as the Brown Family Wine Group with daughters being integrally involved. Climate change has seen BFWG be proactive with the purchase of wineries in Tasmania and the research of varieties which grow well in different climates. The company has withdrawn from European markets and in 2011, the first non-family member was appointed as CEO as further acceptance of a changing world.

North Central Suburbs Regional Group

Reception for New Awardees

The group held its reception for 2018 award recipients on Thursday 15 November, with eleven award recipients in attendance, along with Councillors from Yarra Ranges and Nillumbik Shires, along with 30 members and guests.

The reception commenced with guest speaker David Mann AM providing an interesting and humorous overview of his experiences with many of the personalities and celebrities he has met or worked with over the years.

Stories including being on a tram when it was being illegally 'driven' by Victor Borge along Swanston Street, how singer Tom Jones was best man at his wedding, MCing and singing a Beatles song (and getting paid), to an empty theatre every night for a week, hosting a BBQ for



the rock band Kiss, meeting the Queen, dining with Sammy Davis Jnr and Liza Minelli and being amazed at the powers of Uri Geller.

Each of the new awardees was called forward to be acknowledged individually. After their citation was read, each of the awardees was 'interviewed' for three or four minutes by NCSRG member Bill Horman AM, so that members and guests gained a better understanding of the achievements of each of the awardees.

The afternoon concluded with members and guests enjoying afternoon tea prepared by staff of the Sycamore Tree Coffee shop. This Coffee Shop is a not-for-profit organisation that trains people in hospitality skills and practice. Commencing in 1986, the Sycamore Tree has evolved and grown over its 32 years of community and volunteer involvement and has a fine tradition of supporting those who need the opportunity to learn and develop their life and work skills.

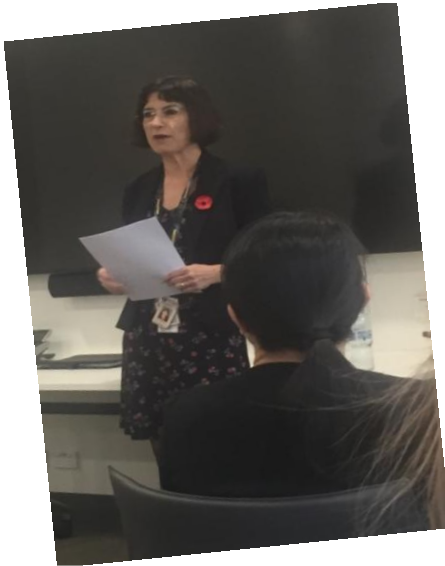


Photo of new awardees above. From left to right: Patrick Cahir OAM, Rosemary Bray OAM, Marilyn McQualter OAM, Rosemary Vecchies OAM, Frances Bonnici OAM, John Wakefield OAM, Renato Vecchies OAM, Avis Scullen OAM, George Miller OAM and Jo Chitty OAM

New Centre of Excellence in Respiratory and Sleep Medicine opens

North Central Regional Group members recently attended a rather unique, but very interesting event at the Respiratory and Sleep Medicine Centre at the Austin Hospital in Heidelberg.

A very proud Chairman of the Centre's Board and member of the North Central Regional Group, Bill Noonan OAM, organised the visit and was personally delighted to welcome everyone.



Fifteen members and guests were welcomed by the Austin Hospital CEO, Sue Shilbury and then Professor Christine McDonald AM (left) the Director of the Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine, who talked about the amazing new centre and its world recognised work.

Prof McDonald received her AM this year for her significant service to respiratory and sleep medicine as a clinician, researcher, administrator and mentor and to professional medical organisations).

Dr David Berlowitz also spoke about the incredible things being done and both proudly hosted the group on a tour of their new facilities.

As well as being known for sleep and ventilation research and care, the Department has led the way in many areas of respiratory and sleep medicine clinical developments including:

- conducting studies helping to determine the best way of delivering oxygen for people with chronic lung disease
- best practice management of asthma
- assistance to para/quadruplegics, sufferers of Motor Neurone Disease and victims of road trauma
- opening of the first specialised Thunderstorm Asthma clinic in the state.

The senior scientists have developed an extraordinary respiratory medicine database that has been used in many other hospitals throughout Australia, to help them manage their respiratory patient data.

The Centre is the most sought-after destination for young doctors and scientists wanting to train in this specialty and has been fully funded by the extraordinary generosity of philanthropic donors.

Austin Health achieved a long held vision with the opening of this new Centre and they are justifiably proud. Maree Barnes a former Chair of the Australian Sleep Association, suggested that the cost to society of lack of sleep, is in the order of 66 billion dollars (2016-2017), so many Australians will benefit greatly from the work undertaken at this world-recognised facility.

Mornington Peninsula Regional Group

2018 Annual Schools Project Awards

Beleura House and Garden Mornington provided an excellent venue for the presentation of the 2018 Annual Schools Project Awards.



The Order of Australia Association, Mornington Peninsula Regional Group members were the guests of Beleura House and Garden on the 16th November 2018. Some 50 Members and Guests attended the presentation to the winners of the Annual Schools Project Award.

Prior to the presentation, members and guests were privileged to enjoy a guided tour of the historic house and surroundings.

The Annual Schools Project Award is open to schools in the Mornington Peninsula Shire and the City of Frankston who submit school projects that exemplify pride in responsible Australian Citizenship and improves the quality of life in the community.

The winning entry adjudged by the Selection Panel was submitted by Monterey Secondary College titled "*Monterey Connecting Sport Connect And Industry Connect*".

The Sports Connect Project aims to enable students to qualify as youth coaches in major sporting codes.

The schools Industry Connect project emanated from an approach from Monash University's Allied Health Department to participate in a Frankston North adaption of the Federal Government "*Be Connected Program*" and aimed at ensuring that everyone in Australia is connected online and be confident to use technology including mobile phones, computers and tablets with the target group being Seniors, fifty years and over.

Mrs. Jones-Pinkett (Deputy Principal), Ms. Susan Bollard (Coordinator of VET) and Students Hayley Bounds, Tyler Streker and Tyreese Gillett-Khotsimeuang from Monterey Secondary College accepted the engraved plaque and cash prize.



Winners: Monterey Secondary College Students left to right: Hayley Bounds; Tyler Streker; Tyreese Gillett-Khotsimeuang

The Runner Up entry titled "*See The Person Not The Disability - Scope Community Service*" was received from Mornington Secondary College.



Using the SCOPE theme of their structured, while flexible, learning program provided extension projects within the School, and wider community. This provided Mornington Secondary College students with the skills to understand disability and diversity in the community; to successfully communicate with people who have a disability; be aware of the challenges faced by people with disabilities and to encourage students to see the person not the disability.

Students interviewed local community organisations, worked closely with people with disabilities, with the outcome aim identifying particular issues and investigating the support systems within and missing in the community



Mornington Secondary College Runners Up: Ms. Amanda Jones and Allan Pizzey AM

Ms. Amanda Jones Year 12 Team Leader from Mornington Secondary College accepted the framed certificate and cash prize.

Following the presentation of the Schools Project Awards those present were treated to a piano recital performed by Ashley Hribar.

He is a an internationally recognised Australian born pianist-composer who has developed a reputation as a versatile musician embracing multimedia, world music, and cross-disciplinary arts forms.

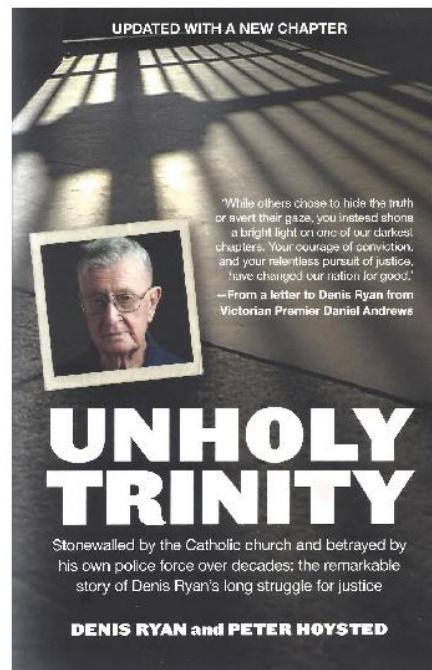
The audience gave Ashley a standing ovation having thoroughly enjoyed his hour long recital.

Afternoon tea was served by the Beleura House Volunteers and Regional Chairman Brian Stahl OAM JP thanked them, Mr. Anthony Knight OAM, Director and the Beleura Management for their organisation and splendid presentation of the afternoon at this heritage property.



Book Review: “Unholy Trinity”

Contributed by Vernon Knight AM, Chairman, Mallee Regional Group



Nearly fifty years ago Denis Ryan was drummed-out of the Victorian Police Force for his refusal to cease investigating child sexual abuse allegations in the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat, Victoria.

Australia Day 2018 witnessed long overdue recognition of Victoria’s “hero cop”.

Following a formal Police apology and the acceptance of Denis’ evidence to the Royal Commission into the Institutional Abuse of Children, Denis was awarded membership of the Order of Australia, he was appointed Mildura’s Citizen of the Year, he was appointed a Freeman of the City of Mildura and he was selected as a finalist in the 2018 Victorian Senior Citizen of the Year.

He also received state compensation for some of the many losses he incurred as a result of his sacking and the loss of his superannuation entitlements. Responding to Denis’ plight, Premier Daniel Andrews paid tribute to this man of courage and openly acknowledged his service to all Victorians.

Members of the Order of Australia Association – Mallee Group lent strong support to Denis’ eventual recognition and his determination in the face of impossible odds.

The dramatic turn-around for Denis during the past twelve months has prompted an additional chapter in the book which tells his amazing story. It is a book that members (in fact all Victorians) may wish to understand and embrace. The new edition of “Unholy Trinity”, co-authored with Peter Hoysted, was released on December 1, 2018.



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

Victoria Branch

PO Box 18389 Collins Street East Melbourne Vic 8003

CHAIR
Diane James AM

PATRON
The Hon. Linda Dessau AC
Governor of Victoria

Victoria Branch Committee Nomination Form 2019 - 2020

I, being a financial member of The Order of Australia Association, registered as a member of the Victoria Branch, **DO HEREBY NOMINATE** NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS

being a financial member of the Association, for the position indicated below, for the year ending Feb 2020.

- ☐ **Chair**
- ☐ **Deputy Chair, Metropolitan**
- ☐ **Deputy Chair, Country**
- ☐ **Secretary**
- ☐ **Treasurer**
- ☐ **Committee Member (six to be elected)**
- ☐ **State Branch Director to National Board***

* This position will be elected by members of the State Branch committee from the nominations received and will take office immediately prior to the 2019 National Annual General Meeting.

MEMBER MAKING NOMINATION

NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS

SIGNATURE

SECONDER TO NOMINATION

NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS

SIGNATURE

I agree to accept the nomination

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE DATE

THIS FORM MUST BE LODGED BY 5.00 PM ON FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 2019 to

The Hon. Secretary, Order of Australia Association – Victoria Branch
C/- Fred Harrington OAM
PO Box 18389 Collins Street, Melbourne, Vic 8003
Email: secvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au