



Queensland Branch

ANNUAL REPORT

2018



**To be presented by
Associate Professor John Harden AM,
Chairman, Queensland Branch**

at

the 39th Annual General Meeting

Monday 25 February 2019

**The Ballroom, Victoria Park, Victoria Park Golfing Complex, Herston Road,
Herston, Brisbane.**

*"To foster love of and pride in Australian citizenship and
to uphold the high principles and prestige of the Order of Australia."*

The Order of Australia Association Limited ACN 008 812 664 – A Company Limited by Guarantee

1. Summary

It gives me great pleasure to present the thirty-eighth Annual Report of the Queensland Branch of The Order of Australia Association in my fourth year as Chairman.

It has been another busy year with a great variety of events organized by a hard working branch committee as well as some worthy functions organized by our regional groups throughout the State.

The Branch organized two outstanding celebratory lunch events to welcome new award recipients during 2018. Branch morning tea events were also held at the Port of Brisbane at Fisherman's Island in August and the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute at Herston in Brisbane in November.

The Secondary Schools Citizenship Awards (SSCAs) and the Senior Volunteer Awards were maintained in 2018. It was pleasing that *Her Honour Catherine Holmes*, the Chief Justice of Queensland again accepted our invitation to present the SSCAs to the winning students at Parliament House on 21 September 2018.

Another important event in the 2018 calendar was the Black Tie Queen's Birthday Dinner co-hosted by the Association and the Victoria League Brisbane for Commonwealth Friendship at the Queensland Club in Brisbane on Saturday 9 June.

These, as well as events organized by our regional groups are described in greater detail elsewhere in this report.

The following are the highlights of the activities of the Queensland Branch since the previous Annual General Meeting held in March 2018.

2. The 2018 Queensland Branch Committee

The following members of the Association were elected to the Branch Committee at the 38th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 19 March 2018.

- **Chairman:** *Associate Professor John Harden AM*
- **Vice Chairman:** *Mr Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ* (elected at the 38th AGM as an "other member" and subsequently appointed by the Committee as Deputy Chairman on 11 April 2018)
- **Secretary:** *Mr Geoff Cowles OAM*
- **Treasurer:** *Mrs Ronda Nix OAM*

Other members of the Committee (Committee appointed roles in brackets)

- *Dr Mick Davis AM ASM ;*
- *Mr Patrick Galligan OAM (Membership Officer);*
- *Emeritus Professor Mary Mahoney AO;*
- *Professor Paul McNally OAM (Newsletter Editor);*

- *Ms Paula Penfold AM*
- *Mr Darryl Seccombe OAM*
- *Mrs Marjorie Voss OAM*
- *Mr Royce Voss OAM*
- *Mr Raymond Young OAM.*

The Branch Committee, at its meeting held on 11 April 2018 elected *Associate Professor John Harden AM* as its nominee for Director of the National Board representing the Queensland Branch for 2018. In August, *Associate Professor John Harden AM* resigned as Queensland Branch Nominated Director and the Branch Committee elected *Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ* to the position at the meeting held on 8 August 2018 for the remainder of the current term.

There were nine well attended committee meetings throughout the year. In addition, considerable business was transacted “out of session” by email communication with all committee members.



The 2018 Queensland Branch Committee members at the 18 July meeting coinciding with the visit to Brisbane by the National Chairman. From L-R Professor Paul McNally OAM; Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ (Deputy Chairman); Emeritus Professor Mary Mahoney AO; Patrick Galligan OAM; Royce Voss OAM; Paula Penfold AM; Darryl Seccombe OAM; Marjorie Voss OAM; Ronda Nix OAM (Treasurer); MAJGEN Barry Nunn AO (National Chairman); Associate Professor John Harden AM (Queensland Branch Chairman); Geoff Cowles OAM, Secretary; and Raymond Young OAM. Absent from meeting – Dr Mick Davis AM ASM (see inset)

3. The 2018 Annual Dinner

The 2018 Annual Dinner was held in the Ballroom, Victoria Park in the Victoria Park Golfing Complex at Herston Road, Herston on Monday 19 March 2018. This was the first Annual Dinner held away from traditional November, due to the financial year for the Association now ending 31 December instead of 30 September.

The new time slot did not affect guest numbers. One hundred and thirty-three guests were present (28 more than the November 2016 Dinner).



Major General Professor John Pearn AO GCStJ RFD

The guests enjoyed good food, great fellowship and an excellent after dinner presentation from our outstanding guest speaker Major General Professor John Pearn AO GCStJ RFD who spoke on the interesting topic *"Colour Maroon and how it relates to Queensland and the Maltese Cross"*. John's address touched on the Maltese Cross and its origins; the special association of Queen Victoria and the emblem of the Maltese Cross identified with Queensland; Queen Victoria's association with her favourite colour maroon; and how prominent Queensland institutions have chosen to adopt the colour to promote their identity over the years.

During the evening the three winners of the Queensland Branch's 2017 Senior Volunteer Awards, proudly sponsored by Blight Rayner, Architects, were announced. Refer to separate item 6 on page 8 of this report.

4. The celebratory events to welcome new recipients of awards in the Order of Australia

The Branch Committee organized two excellent luncheons to celebrate with new recipients of awards in the Order of Australia; one for Australia Day recipients in May 2018 at the Boulevard Gardens at Indooroopilly, and the other for Queen's Birthday recipients at Victoria Park at Herston in September 2018. These were very successful and key events in the Queensland branch calendar.

4.1 The Welcome Lunch to celebrate with recipients of awards in the 2018 Australia Day Honours

Nineteen of 71 Queensland recipients of Order of Australia Awards in this year's Australia Day Honours were special guests at the Luncheon on Thursday 24 May 2018 in the Walter Taylor Room at Boulevard Gardens at Indooroopilly in Brisbane's western suburbs. This was a first time venue and a feature at the venue was the courtyard, adorned with lush green vegetation and weeping trees, where guests enjoyed a drink on arrival listening to music provided by the St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School String Quartet.



Clockwise from top left

1. Guests salute the new award recipients
2. A delightful drink on arrival in the leafy courtyard
3. Our 19 new award recipients

Ninety-two guests attended the event including the recipients, their families and friends and 34 Association members and their guests. At the equivalent event last year at the Welcome Brunch event at Hillstone St Lucia there were 60 attendees and 16 new recipients. These statistics indicate that while circumstances compelled the Branch to organise the Brunch formats last year the clear event preference of award recipients and members definitely appears to be a luncheon.

4.2 The Welcome Lunch to celebrate with recipients of awards in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours

Twenty-one of 115 Queensland recipients of Order of Australia Awards in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours were special guests at the Luncheon on Thursday 20 September 2018 in the Victoria Park Ballroom, Victoria Park Golfing Complex in Herston, Brisbane. One hundred and twenty-five people attended, including recipients, their families and friends and 20 Association members and their guests. At the Welcome Brunch event at Hillstone St Lucia in September last year there were 53 attendees and 13 new recipients; emphasizing further the popularity of lunches over brunches.



Clockwise from top left

1. The Gap State High School's String Ensemble entertain guests on arrival on the Ballroom verandah
2. Introducing the 21 new recipients
3. The 21 new award recipients with the Queensland Branch Chairman

We were entertained on arrival by The Gap State High School Senior String Ensemble playing splendid music on the Ballroom Verandah and they also performed the National Anthem to commence the formal lunch proceedings.

5. 2018 Secondary Schools Citizenship Awards

Mr Tim Fairfax AC continued to provide the sponsorship necessary to enable these awards to be made in 2018 and has agreed to continue sponsorship to at least 2020.

This year we had 117 people attend the 20th annual Presentation of awards, comprising secondary school students, family members, education representatives from across Queensland and Association members.

The event was held on Friday 21 September 2018 at Parliament House, Brisbane. *Her Honour Catherine Holmes*, Chief Justice of Queensland presented commemorative plaques and Certificates of Merit to the winning students and *Mr Tim Fairfax AC*, the awards sponsor presented Certificates of Community Service to 9 selected local students. *Mr Scott Whybird*, Principal, Mareeba State High School, and a strong supporter of the Awards, presented the response speech on behalf of the Schools.

Nominations were received for 53 students from 37 secondary schools throughout Queensland. This year's judging panel again comprised *Mrs Dina Browne AO* and *Mr Bruce J Howden OAM* from the Association and *Mr Chris Lassig* from Education Queensland. The Association thanks all three judges for their contribution. My thanks also to *Geoff Cowles OAM* for continuing as awards coordinator this year.

The event was made special by the stirring Scottish music provided by three Pipers from the SCOTS PGC College Pipes and Drums from Warwick. The Old Legislative Council Chamber was the ideal venue to enjoy this music.

Congratulations to the awardees and our thanks to their parents, teachers and supporters for making this such a memorable event.



Clockwise from top left

- (1) The winning students around the historic centre table in the Red Chamber
- (2) The Red Chamber – the perfect venue for this special occasion
- (3) The Pipers from SCOTS PGC College Pipes and Drums, Warwick entertain the gathering
- (4) Her Honour Catherine Holmes, Chief Justice of Queensland addresses the gathering

6. 2018 Senior Volunteer Awards

The Association continued its Senior Volunteer Awards program in 2018.

The judging panel of *Professor Paul McNally OAM*, *Dr Mick Davis AM ASM* and *Emeritus Professor Mary Mahoney AO* selected three worthy volunteers to receive this Award. My thanks to Paul, Mick and Mary for agreeing to be on the judging panel this year. The awardees will be announced and presented with their awards during the Annual Dinner tonight.

The purpose of the Senior Volunteer Awards is to recognise outstanding voluntary contributions made by Queensland Seniors to their communities, independently or through organisations with which they are associated. Any current member of The Order of Australia Association, Queensland Branch, residing in Queensland may nominate a volunteer who is 60 years or older.

I encourage members of the Association to nominate worthy senior volunteers in 2019.

I also wish to acknowledge the sponsorship of the awards received from Blight Rayner Architects and particularly *Michael Rayner AM*, a director of the company and strong supporter of these awards.

THE 2017 WINNERS



Clockwise starting top left

* **Michael Gowdie** from **Toowoomba** (right) receiving his award from Michael Rayner AM from BlightRayner, Architects, the Awards sponsor, at the Annual Dinner in March 2018

* **Jennifer Ivin** from **Ferny Grove, Brisbane** with her award at the Annual Dinner in March 2018 with her husband Charlie proudly looking on.



* **Jerry Gwynne** from **Boreen Point, Sunshine Coast** (right) receiving his award from Associate Professor John Harden AM, Queensland Branch Chairman, at Sunshine Coast Regional Group event at Pelican Waters in August 2018.

7. Queensland Branch morning teas

During 2018 the Queensland Branch Committee organized two well attended morning tea events – a visit to the Port of Brisbane at Fisherman Island, at the mouth of the Brisbane River in August and a visit to the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute at Herston, Brisbane in November.

7.1 Visit to the Port of Brisbane on Monday 6 August 2018

Forty guests enjoyed a most informative and interesting tour of the Port of Brisbane at Fisherman Island on Monday 6 August 2018.

The tour was preceded by an excellent morning tea and talk from Craig Wilson, their Environmental Manager on the facilities and daily activity at the Port and the Port's environmental stewardship in the beautiful spacious Cerberus Room affording magnificent views of the Port and Moreton Bay. I took great pleasure in presenting a plaque to the Port of Brisbane to commemorate the visit.

For convenience, the Branch organized a bus to the Port and subsidized the cost to members. After the formal proceedings the group was treated to a comprehensive, one hour "windscreen tour" on the bus and a viewing from the top floor of the Visitor's Centre building seeing first hand the very busy day to day activity of Australia's third busiest port.



Portion of the gathering enjoy morning tea in the Cerberus Room



Craig Wilson. The Port's Environmental Manager addresses the gathering



Peter, the on site tour guide pointing out an item of interest from the top floor of the Port Visitors' Centre



Panoramic view of the Port of Brisbane from the top floor of the Visitors' Centre building

7.2 Visit to QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute on Wednesday 21 November 2018

On Wednesday 21 November 2018 the Queensland Branch arranged a visit to the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, which is located next to the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital at Herston, Brisbane. Thirty eight attended including 25 members.

QIMR Berghofer is one of Australia's most successful medical research institutes. The Institute was established more than 70 years ago by the Queensland Government and has a rich history of scientific discoveries and translational medical research. QIMR Berghofer is focused on improving health by developing new diagnostics, better treatments and prevention strategies, specifically in the areas of cancer, infectious diseases, mental health and complex disorders.

QIMR Berghofer hosted an excellent morning tea for the group which was followed by Professor David Whiteman AM, Deputy Director of the Institute presenting the facility overview and update. During the formal proceedings I presented the Institute with a commemorative plaque to mark the visit. I am delighted to report that David Whiteman was subsequently appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the 2019 Australia Day Honours.

After the formal proceedings the group was divided in groups for tours of selected laboratories where key QIMR Berghofer scientific staff provided insight into the important research work being carried out at the Institute.

During the visit, the members were delighted to meet two of QIMR Berghofer's distinguished scientists who have received an award in the Order - *Professor Adele Green AC*, Senior Scientist, Cancer and Population Studies Group and *Professor Rajiv Khanna AO*, Senior Scientist Tumour Immunology.

This was an exciting visit seeing world class Queensland based science in action.

Clockwise from top left

1. David Whiteman AM (right) with the Queensland Branch Chairman
2. The morning tea group
3. A visit to one of QIMR's many research laboratories



8. Dinner to celebrate the Queen's Birthday Saturday 9 June 2018

Twenty-four guests from the Queensland Branch combined with guests of The Victoria League Brisbane for Commonwealth Friendship at a Black Tie Queen's Birthday Dinner at the Queensland Club, in the historical George Street precinct in the Brisbane CBD on Saturday 9 June.

The guest speaker was *Mrs Archana Singh*, the Consul for India in Brisbane who spoke about the valuable role India plays in the success of the British Commonwealth. Prior to the Dinner the guests were entertained by *Vanessa Chuah* who performed three songs in the Gold Room following pre-dinner drinks. Vanessa was one of twelve recipients of the prestigious Secondary Schools Citizenship Award in 2016 presented by the Association's Queensland Branch.



Guest speaker Mrs Archana Singh
The Consul for India in Brisbane
addresses the gathering



Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ presenting flowers
and a certificate of appreciation to Vanessa Chuah
for her pre dinner entertainment

This was a most memorable occasion enjoyed by all present. My wife Di and I were apologies at this event. I wish to thank *Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ*, the Branch Deputy Chairman, for representing me in my absence.

9. Regional Group activities

While the Association provided some excellent events at the Queensland Branch level, there were also some stimulating regional events. Our regional groups play a very significant role in servicing members and keeping them interested and involved in the Association.

A summary of a range of events organized follows:

9.1 Central Queensland Regional Group

[Convener: *Ray Young OAM*]

- **12 March 2018 – Morning Tea – Rockhampton Leagues Club** – Dual Guest speakers - *Dr Dimity Dornan AO*, speech pathologist and founder of Hear and Say Hearing Centre for deaf children and *Peter Milne AM*, former President of the Cattle Council of Australia – 34 guests
- **10 September 2018 – Annual Lunch – Rockhampton Leagues Club** – This event had to be cancelled because of insufficient bookings.

9.2 Darling Downs Regional Group

[Convener: *Professor Paul McNally OAM*]

- **6 July 2018 – Tour of the Empire Theatre Complex, Toowoomba followed by lunch at the Encore Restaurant** – 32 guests.
- **16 November 2018 – Morning Tea – Town and Country Club, Toowoomba** – Guest speaker *Jeff Prebble OAM* providing a photographic presentation on the beauty of Girraween National Park – 48 guests

9.3 Far North Queensland Regional Group

[Convener: *Carole Miller OAM*]

- **25 September 2018 – Cairns Mayoral Morning Tea** – hosted by *Cr Bob Manning OAM*, Mayor, Cairns Regional Council to welcome the 2018 far north Queensland award recipients – 50 guests
- **9 November 2018 – Lunch – Cairns RSL Club** – Guest speaker - *Lt General John Grey AC (Rtd)* speaking about aspects of World War 1.

9.4 Gold Coast Regional Group

[Convener: *Air Vice Marshall Bill Collins AO (Retd)*]

- **14 May 2018 – Lunch – The Southport Golf Club** – Guest speaker – *Donald Waters OAM*, a fine artist speaking on the role that art plays in assisting people with difficulties in their daily life. *Geoff Cowles OAM* and *Ronda Nix OAM* represented the Queensland Branch Committee at this event. – 60 guests.



Donald Waters OAM has the audience spell-bound during his colourful talk at the May 2018 lunch

- **27 October 2018 – Annual Garden Party – Southport Golf Club** - 53 guests



Air Vice Marshall Bill
Collins AO

Bill Collins AO announced at this Garden Party that he was retiring as the Convener of the Gold Coast Regional Group having served in the position since 2005. He advised that the new Convener will be *Clive Mitchell-Taylor OAM*, who assisted Bill with the organization of the Garden Party. I would like to record my personal thanks and the thanks of the Queensland Branch Committee to both Bill and his wife Robyn for their dedication in serving the interests of the members of the Gold Coast Region so faithfully for the past 13 years. We wish them well in retirement.

9.5 Mackay-Whitsunday Regional Group

[Convener: – *Carmel Daveson AM*]

No events were organized in 2018.

9.6 Sunshine Coast Regional Group

[Convener: – *Marjorie Voss OAM*]

- **12 April 2018 – Lunch – Pacific Harbour Golf and Country Club, Bribie Island** – Guest speaker – *Dr Mick Davis AM ASM* - Topic “ History of the Queensland Ambulance”. *Simone Wilson MP*, State Member for Pumicestone attended and spoke briefly at the event. 40 guests.



At the Bribie Lunch from L-R – Dr Mick Davis AM ASM, Guest speaker, Marjorie Voss OAM, Regional Group Convener, and Royce Voss OAM, Master of Ceremonies

- **16 June 2018 – Lunch at the QCWA Rooms, Gympie** (combining with the Wide Bay –Burnett Regional Group) – Guest speaker – *Sean Ryan*, a local identity with 43 years’ experience within the Natural Resources Management industry, speaking on the development of the forestry industry. *Cr Mick Curran*, Mayor, Gympie Regional Council was a special guest.

- **31 August 2018 - Lunch – Pelican Waters Golf Club** - Guest speakers were *Graham and Beth Harden*, community development workers in rural Central Asia since 2004, working alongside local partners and other Australian volunteers. *Hon Mark McArdle MP*, State Member for Caloundra attended and spoke briefly at the event. 50 guests.

At this lunch I had the pleasure of presenting *Mr Jerry Gwynne* from Boreen Point, one of the senior volunteer award winners for 2017, with his award. Jerry was unable to attend the Annual Dinner in March 2018 where the other two awardees received their awards.

9.7 Townsville Regional Group

[Convener: – *David Jackson OAM*]

After a sustained period of inactivity the Townsville Regional Group was successfully re-launched with a Dinner at the RSL Club attended by 48 guests on Friday 5 October 2018. New regional convener *David Jackson OAM* welcomed everyone at the event and paid tribute to his fellow committee members *Judy Hunter OAM*; *Ron Piper OAM* and *Pauline Woodbridge OAM* for their enthusiasm in getting this first event up and running.

Geoff Cowles OAM, Queensland Branch Secretary and *Patrick Galligan OAM*, Queensland Branch Membership Officer represented the Queensland Branch Chairman and the Branch Committee at the event to lend strong support and encouragement to the new committee. Geoff addressed the gathering on Queensland Branch matters and presented the group with their Association promotional banner. Unfortunately I was unavailable to attend this event due to other commitments



David Jackson OAM officially announces the re-establishment of the Townsville Regional group at the commencement of the October 2018 Dinner

9.8 Wide Bay-Burnett Regional Group

[Convener: *Donna Duncan OAM*]

- **16 June 2018 – Lunch at the QCWA Rooms, Gympie** (combining with Sunshine Coast Regional Group) – Guest speaker – *Sean Ryan*, a local identity with 43 years' experience within the Natural Resources Management industry, speaking on the development of the forestry industry. *Cr Mick Curran*, Mayor, Gympie Regional Council was a special guest.
- **1 December 2018 – Lunch – QCWA Rooms Gayndah**

10. Membership Trends

There were 186 Queensland recipients who received awards in the Order of Australia in 2018 and 68 of these are now members of The Order of Australia Association. This represents 36.6% of the total number of 2018 Queensland recipients joining the Association compared with 37.6% last year (61 of 162 recipients joining). This represents a modest 1% drop in membership uptake.

In 2018 we welcomed 40 Queensland recipients at our two Lunches in May and September and of these 28 (70%) joined the Association. In 2017 the percentage of lunch recipients joining was 75.9% (22 of 29 recipients attending the lunches). The uptake of memberships by lunch recipients is 5.9 % lower than last year.

In January 2019 the total number of Queensland Branch members with up to date address listings was 1068 compared with 1063 in January last year, a small increase of 5 members. Of these 1068 members there are 661 paid life members (61.9%); 310 annual members (29%); 1 honorary member (Governor of Queensland) (0.1%) and 96 three-year members (9%). It is pleasing to see a steady increase each year in the number of members opting for the discounted three year membership.

Geoff Cowles OAM, the Secretary, has updated his interesting new award recipient membership trend statistical tables compiled over the past 5 years, which are appended to this report on page 20 as **Appendix A**. Added to these statistics are interesting tables showing the ratio of male and female award recipients over the past 5 years and the number of awardees by Queensland regions over that period.

11. Representations at Government House, Brisbane

11.1 Award Investitures

The Association is pleased to be afforded VIP status at Investitures each year for new award recipients in both the Australia Day and Queen's Birthday Honours. I thank His Excellency, the Governor, who is our Patron, for this recognition and continuing support.

There were four Australia Day Award Recipients' Investitures held at Government House Brisbane, two on Tuesday 22 May and two on Wednesday 23 May. On 22 May I attended the morning investiture as Branch Chairman and *Geoff Cowles OAM*, Branch Secretary attended the investiture in the afternoon. *Dr Mick Davis AM ASM* and *Emeritus Professor Mary Mahoney AO* represented me at the two investitures on Wednesday 23 May.

Judith Hunter OAM from the Townsville Regional Group represented me at the North Queensland Investiture in Townsville on Monday 30 April 2018.

There were six Queen's Birthday Award Recipients' Investitures at Government House,

Brisbane held on Tuesday 18 September (2); Wednesday 19 September (2), Thursday 20 September and Friday 21 September. I attended the afternoon investiture on 18 September and the morning investiture on 20 September as Queensland Branch Chairman and *Dr Mick Davis AM ASM, Professor Paul McNally OAM, Raymond Young OAM, Royce Voss OAM and Marjorie Voss OAM* from the Committee represented me at the other four.

Carole Miller OAM, Far North Queensland Regional Group Convener kindly agreed to represent me at the North Queensland Investiture at Cairns on Saturday 8 September.



11.2 Call on the Governor of Queensland by the National and Queensland Branch Chairmen

Major General Barry Nunn AO, the National Chairman of the Association accepted the invitation from the Queensland Branch Committee to attend the Committee meeting held on Wednesday 16 July. Prior to the meeting I accompanied Barry to Government House in Brisbane so that he could meet with *His Excellency, the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC*, Governor of Queensland to discuss a range of issues of interest.

This was a very cordial and worthwhile meeting. One outcome from the meeting was the likelihood of the Association having two representatives at future investitures as VIP guests, given that the numbers of future awardees are expected to be increased considerably.

I thank His Excellency for taking time out of his busy schedule so that he could meet our National Chairman and myself.

12. Branch Communications

12.1 The Order Magazine

The news articles for the dedicated four pages assigned to the Queensland Branch in each of the four editions of the national magazine *The Order* continued to be produced to a very high standard. Our pages have been well received by the Queensland membership and interested members from other Branches. The articles have been newsworthy, topical and relevant and have been supplemented with some excellent photos.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to both *Paul McNally OAM*, the outgoing Queensland Branch Newsletter Editor and *Geoff Cowles OAM*, the Secretary. They have had to overcome a number of challenges in dealing with the National Editor in the production of the four Queensland pages with the strict deadlines imposed, as well as the short turnaround times from when an edition gets published and requests for material for the following edition.



Professor Paul McNally OAM

In particular, I thank *Professor Paul McNally OAM* for the nine year's of continuous dedicated and professional service he has provided as the Queensland Branch Newsletter Editor. A replacement for Paul will need to be appointed by the new Committee soon after this Annual General Meeting. Paul has kindly agreed to continue in the role for the next edition of *The Order* until the Branch Committee can appoint a replacement and will offer initial assistance to the new Editor. I thank Paul for his kind offer.

12.2 Communicating to members via the Association website

The Queensland segment of the website was again maintained with material provided to the national webmaster by *Geoff Cowles OAM*, our Secretary. The website contains lots of advice about upcoming events as well as information and nomination forms for both the Secondary Schools Citizenship Awards and the Senior Volunteer Awards. Archival material has been kept up to date as far as was practicable.

I urge members to make it a habit to visit our website from time to time to keep up to date with what is happening in the Association, particularly national matters.

13. Branch Activity at the National Level

13.1 National Board activity

As previously mentioned, I continued to serve as your Queensland Branch Nominated Director on the National Board of The Order of Australia Association.

The conflict between my principles and my activities as your Queensland Branch representative, and the management and activities of the National Board unfortunately reached a point where it was not useful for me to continue in this role. I therefore resigned from the National Board in August.

However I was very pleased to continue to be Chairman of the Queensland Branch with the strong support of the Branch Committee.

Our strong representation on the National Board has been continued by *Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ* who was nominated by the Queensland Branch Committee to be the Queensland Branch Nominated Director on the National Board. He has served in this position since September. Thank you Peter for carrying out this often difficult and important task for the Queensland Branch members.

13.2 The 32nd National Conference in Adelaide, South Australia – May 2018

Following on from the very successful 31st conference organised by the Queensland Branch in 2017, a large contingent of 29 Queenslanders attended the 32nd Conference held in Adelaide from 3 to 6 May 2018

This was an excellent Conference and one highlight was the Queensland Dinner we organised for the Queensland delegates and their guests. We were pleased to welcome a number of honorary Queenslanders to this function, including the Conference Chairman *Professor Alan Johnston AM*, the SA State Chairman *Mr Ken Coventry OAM*, *Di Coventry* and *Mrs Nora Lewis AM*, the Northern Territory Branch's National Board Director.

This was an excellent dinner and it further strengthened the Queensland Branch members' participation and supported a tradition established several years ago by the Queensland Branch. We plan to continue this tradition at the conference in Tasmania in April this year and I invite you to participate.



Queenslanders and Honorary Queenslanders at the Traditional Queensland Dinner – Friday 4 May 2018 at the Mercure Grosvenor, Adelaide during the 32nd National Conference

14. Closing remarks

The Queensland Branch has had a very busy and successful year. I thank again the members of the Queensland Branch Committee for their enthusiasm, professionalism, friendship and support. We have a strong team dedicated to servicing the members and their interests.

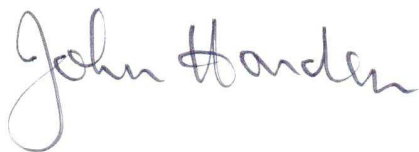
I look forward to comments and suggestions on the Association, its activities and service to members.

I encourage you to take an interest in the Association's activities and participate in events organized for the benefit of members in 2019.

I recommend attendance at the National Conference in Hobart this year from 11 to 14 April. It is your opportunity to meet with interstate Awardees and very importantly participate in both the Association's Annual General Meeting and the Members Forum of the Association. This is your organisation and your opportunity to contribute to its direction, management and activities.

Thank you all for your support during 2018 and I look forward with enthusiasm to 2019 and meeting as many of you as possible during the year.

I commend my report to you and move its adoption.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Harden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Harden AM
Chairman

Acknowledgement

I wish to acknowledge the contribution of Geoff Cowles OAM, Queensland Branch Secretary, in the production of this report.

APPENDIX A TO THE 2018 Queensland Branch Annual Report

Membership Trends – Award recipients 2014 through to 2018

Compiled by Geoff Cowles OAM, Secretary

A. 2018

A.1. Australia Day 2018 only

| No of recipients | No who have joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 71 | 34 | 47.9 | 19 | 14 | 73.7% | 26.8 |

A.2 . Queen's Birthday 2018 only

| No of recipients | No who have joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 115 | 34 | 29.6 | 21 | 14 | 66.7% | 18.3 |

A.3. Combined 2018 Recipients – Australia Day and Queens Birthday

| No of recipients | No who joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 186 | 68 | 36.6% | 40 | 28 | 70.0% | 21.5% |

B. 2017

B.1. Australia Day 2017 only

| No of recipients | No who have joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 87 | 30 | 34.5% | 16 | 11 | 68.8% | 18.4% |

B.2 . Queen's Birthday 2017 only

| No of recipients | No who have joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 75 | 31 | 41.3% | 13 | 11 | 84.6% | 17.3% |

B.3. Combined 2017 Recipients – Australia Day and Queens Birthday

| No of recipients | No who joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 162 | 61 | 37.6% | 29 | 22 | 75.9% | 17.9% |

C. 2016

C.1. Australia Day 2016 only

| No of recipients | No who have joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 72 | 35 | 48.6% | 25 | 21 | 84% | 34.7% |

C.2 . Queen's Birthday 2016 only

| No of recipients | No who have joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 71 | 32 | 45.1% | 18 | 15 | 83.3% | 25.6% |

C.3. Combined 2016 Recipients – Australia Day and Queens Birthday

| No of recipients | No who joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 143 | 67 | 46.9% | 43 | 36 | 83.7% | 30.1% |

D. 2015

D.1. Australia Day 2015 only

| No of recipients | No who have joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 93 | 41 | 44.1% | 33 | 24 | 72.7% | 35.5% |

D.2 . Queen's Birthday 2015 only

| No of recipients | No who have joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 57 | 24 | 42.1% | 16 | 6 | 37.5 | 28.1% |

D.3. Combined 2015 Recipients – Australia Day and Queens Birthday

| No of recipients | No who joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 150 | 65 | 43.3% | 49 | 30 | 61.2% | 32.7% |

E. 2014

E.1. Australia Day 2014 only

| No of recipients | No who have joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 102 | 31 | 30.4% | 27 | 20 | 74.1% | 26.5% |

E.2 . Queen's Birthday 2014 only

| No of recipients | No who have joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 73 | 49 | 67.1% | 30 | 24 | 80.0% | 41.1% |

E.3. Combined 2014 Recipients – Australia Day and Queens Birthday

| No of recipients | No who joined | % of total recipients joining | No who came to Lunches | No of these who joined | % of lunch recipients joining | % of recipients coming to lunch |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 175 | 80 | 45.7% | 57 | 44 | 77.2% | 32.6% |

Five Year Summary of total activity - Australia Day 2014 through to Queen's Birthday 2018 TOTALS OF A to E above

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| No of recipients | 816 |
| No who have joined | 341 (Not all of these would have retained membership since first joining) |
| % of total recipients joining | 41.8% |
| No who came to lunches | 218 |
| No of these who joined | 160 |
| % of lunch recipients joining | 73.4% |
| % of recipients coming to lunches | 26.7% |

Statistics on the ratios of male to female Queensland award recipients since 2014 and the number of Queensland recipients by Queensland regions since 2014 appear on the next page 23 ➡

Ratio of male (M) to female (F) Queensland recipients since 2014

AD = Australia Day QB = Queen's Birthday

| Honours | Total No. | Total % | M No. | M % | F No. | F % |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| AD 2014 | 102 | 100 | 67 | 65.7 | 35 | 34.3 |
| QB 2014 | 73 | 100 | 53 | 72.6 | 20 | 27.4 |
| AD 2015 | 93 | 100 | 57 | 61.2 | 36 | 38.8 |
| QB 2015 | 57 | 100 | 38 | 66.7 | 19 | 33.3 |
| AD 2016 | 72 | 100 | 56 | 77.7 | 16 | 22.3 |
| QB 2016 | 71 | 100 | 46 | 64.8 | 25 | 35.2 |
| AD 2017 | 87 | 100 | 54 | 62.0 | 33 | 38.0 |
| QB 2017 | 75 | 100 | 47 | 62.7 | 28 | 37.3 |
| AD 2018 | 71 | 100 | 49 | 69.0 | 22 | 31.0 |
| QB 2018 | 115 | 100 | 67 | 58.3 | 48 | 41.7 |
| Total AD 2014 to QB 2018 | 816 | 100 | 534 | 65.4 | 282 | 34.6 |

Queensland award recipients since 2014 by region

AD = Australia Day QB = Queen's Birthday

| Honours | Total No. | Metro | Gold Coast | Sunshine Coast | Darling Downs | Wide Bay Burnett see note 1 | Central Qld | Mackay W'Sunday | T'ville | Far North Qld |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------------|
| AD 2013 | 71 | 37 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 2 |
| QB 2013 | 79 | 45 | 7 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 2 |
| AD 2014 ^{Note 2} | 102 | 55 | 10 | 14 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| QB 2014 | 73 | 42 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 4 |
| AD 2015 | 93 | 45 | 9 | 10 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 17 ^{Note 3} |
| QB 2015 | 57 | 35 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| AD 2016 | 72 | 45 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| QB2016 | 71 | 31 | 8 | 6 | 10 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| AD 2017 ^{Note 4} | 87 | 49 | 9 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 3 |
| QB 2017 | 75 | 39 | 11 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| AD 2018 | 71 | 42 | 13 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| QB 2018 ^{Note 5} | 115 | 60 | 8 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 7 |
| Totals | 816 | 443 | 86 | 77 | 56 | 37 | 14 | 12 | 35 | 56 |

Notes

1. The Wide Bay /Burnett Regional Group was formerly known as the Bundaberg Group. It's renaming was approved at the Queensland Branch committee meeting on 14 February 2018.
2. The larger than usual number of recipients for AD 2014 – (102) included OAMs to all gold medalists at the London Olympic and Paralympics Games
3. The larger than usual number of recipients for Far North Qld region for AD2015 – (17) included OAMs to several Cape York indigenous workers.
- 4.The larger than usual number of recipients for AD 2017 – (87) included OAMs to all gold medalists at the Rio Olympic and Paralympics Games
5. From QB 2018 onwards a significant increase in the number of future awardees can be expected