

The ORDER



THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

EDITION 55 MAY 2019

RRP \$10.00 inc. GST

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS & NEW SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE



Our two very proud Scholarship recipients Jeremy Doupe and Hannah Gandy. More details are on pages 33 & 34.

Coincident with this presentation, your Board is pleased to announce the creation of an Association National Scholarship Program to allow Branches and individual members to donate into a consolidated account, which when it reaches the Scholarship

funding level (currently \$40,000), will allow the award of an Association Scholarship. Scholarships may be named in recognition of the primary donors.

Donations will be through the Foundation and will attract DGR tax deductibility.

Donations to the designated Association National Scholarship Program are now open and may be made to:

Name of Account: The Order of Australia Association Foundation Ltd Gift Account

BSB No.: 013006

Account No.: 314735771

<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/donate-to-the-foundation/>

Barry Nunn AO
National Chairman



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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 — Hobart 2019.
- National Committee membership and contacts.
- National publication — The Order.
- A link to each branch with current information:
 - Committee and contacts.
 - Upcoming functions.
 - Newsletter and local information.
- Frequently Asked Questions about The Order of Australia.
- Nomination process and documentation for awards.

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

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

www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au



NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I feel very honoured to be appointed National President of the Order of Australia Association. I would also pay tribute to my predecessor, Philip Flood. He has left big footprints

throughout his career and will be a tough act to follow.

I have always believed very strongly in the concept of citizenship and of course, as award recipients, members of the Association embody the best of this commitment.

I look forward to better understanding the work of the Association and to engaging with the Board in the governance of the Association. The Council clearly plays a big role, and supporting

their efforts will be integral. I also look forward to meeting members and engaging new members as they receive their timeless awards. The day we received our awards, I suspect for all of us, was a very special one and a memory to treasure. Contributing to Vice-Regal liaison will be important. We need to remain ambitious about the Awards and the ongoing support of this office is fundamental.

My Executive career was as a leader of a national membership organisation. I intimately understand the challenges and opportunities involved in this work. My organisation was also a national one. It gave me a terrific understanding of the States and the differences between them that have developed as a patina on the history of our Federation. I have also worked extensively at the National level. All will hopefully be helpful and relevant over the period ahead.

Heather Ridout AO
National President



NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Our Annual Conference is always a great opportunity to hear directly from members their views of our Association and their wishes for the future. It was therefore pleasing to see so many

members attend the 2018 Conference in Hobart and participate so willingly in all activities. Conference success is very dependent on the work of the host Branch, and our Tasmanian Branch is to be congratulated on a very successful event.

Our 2019 AGM was held during the Hobart Conference. Two Special Resolutions were put forward by members, raising the issues of funding for Branches and the development of a new Association Constitution. Although neither Resolution was successful, the constructive discussion that ensued underlined the need for us to remain mindful of the need to ensure all members are well-informed on the issues facing our Association.

We farewelled Philip Flood AO at the conclusion of the 2019 Conference. Philip has been our President for the past three years and has provided both guidance and counsel to direc-

tors and vital Vice-Regal liaison. We look forward to working with his successor, Heather Ridout AO

Planning is already well under way for our 2020 Conference, to be held in Darwin from 7th to 10th May 2020. This promises to be a very enjoyable event and members are encouraged to mark the dates in their diaries.

Although in 2018 Order awards increased considerably, continued promotion will be essential. Branches, Regional Groups and members all have a role to play both in increasing community awareness of our unique Order of Australia and in encouraging more nominations. The commendable success rate for women needs to be sustained and extended to other under-represented sectors of our community.

In addition to more awards being made in the Order, there has been an increase in the proportion of awardees who are joining our Association. Great credit must go to Branches, Regional Groups and members for the way in which new awardees are welcomed and encouraged to join.

I have been returned as your Chairman for the next two years. 2019 is proving to be another busy year, but when the opportunity presents, I am keen to meet with committees and members.

Barry Nunn AO
National Chairman

POSITION VACANT - ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Board seeks a volunteer to assist the Editor with the coordination and collation of Branch inputs to our magazine. The effort is required generally in the middle of the months of January, April, July and October in preparation for the forthcoming edition.

General familiarity with the use of email and computers including the saving of contributions including images to Dropbox would be advantageous.

If you can assist please contact Phil Morrall AM, CSC National Secretary at natsec@theorderofaustralia.asn.au or Tel: 0411298926.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2019 is now well underway. The Branch AGM has been held and the outcomes reported by newsletter to the Branch members. My Chairman's report will be posted on the WA Newsletter page of the OAA website for those who could not attend the AGM.

The Branch reception for the awardees on the Australia Day list was held on 20 March. The Branch is very grateful to the City of Perth and Deputy Commissioner Gaye McMath for hosting the reception, which was a full house. The committee will look at options for larger venues in future.

There were 74 West Australians on the Australia Day list, a significant increase on previous lists. I also noted some younger awardees and am pleased to see nominations being made earlier in life. I certainly look to these younger awardees to be branch committee members in the not too distant future.

While the number of women receiving awards has increased, West Australian women are still under represented as a percentage of our State population. I know there are many worthy women in WA, we just need more of them to be nominated. Please make nominating a fellow West Australian of merit a personal aim.

The Branch now has over 90% of its members with an email address. This is a great effort that makes communications easier and, significantly reduces costs. Notwithstanding this, your committee understands a full inbox is not always a good thing and, will not communicate unnecessarily or too frequently.

Regrettably, we could not encourage a nominee to take over from Ian Williams AO, who has completed his five years tenure as Treasurer. As a result, Ian has kindly agreed to another year. This extension of tenure has been approved by the National Executive but, we still need someone to take over from Ian. The Treasurer's job does not require accounting skills or take undue time. If any member is a willing volunteer, please let me know and I will arrange a handover to be conducted over the remainder of this year.

The National Board will be conducting a 'Futures Day' in June to examine the way ahead for the association. I understand a key topic of this day will be the development of a well-considered and sensible plan to review and update the association's somewhat archaic Constitution and By-Laws. If any Branch members wish to make suggestions about the association's objectives or rules, please feel free to submit them via:

wabbranch@theorderofaustralia.asn.au or,
PO Box 4222, Mosman Park, WA 6912.

Best wishes

Mark Bonser AO, CSC
Branch Chairman



REGIONAL LIAISON ESTABLISHED

At the recent committee meeting it was agreed to appoint Mrs Margaret Nunn OAM to act as a liaison person for the regions. Margaret has, for many years, been instrumental in encouraging members from Perth to travel to Albany for their various functions and has built up a connection with the Great Southern region.

This connection also includes the South West region where many functions have been enjoyed and friendships made and maintained.

POLICE PATRON SCHEME

This is one of OAAWA's community ventures. "Patrons" – volunteers from among our members (who are given training) – act as mentors and counsellors to pre-graduation police recruits at the Police Academy in Joondalup.

Our convenor of the Scheme is Michael Bleus, OAM.

- Patrons are still needed for the squads commencing
 - 19 August, and
 - 14 October.

If you are willing to volunteer for this very worthwhile work please contact Michael Bleus on michael.bleus@bigpond.com

Be assured this is not scary work and training is provided before it is undertaken.

COMING EVENTS

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL PERTH

June 16th - 5.00 pm

Annual Choral Evensong

All members and friends welcome

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY RECEPTION

August date TBA

Venue TBA

Invitations will be issued

ANNUAL GALA DINNER

18th September

Royal Perth Golf Club

Labouchere Road, South Perth

Invitations will be issued

WILDFLOWER WALK IN KINGS PARK

2nd October

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

November 28th

Fremantle Sailing Club

For further information about any of the above please contact Bettine Heathcote, Events Coordinator on bettineh@bigpond.com or 9409 9626



Barry Maguire gives a welcome to country to a packed audience

AUSTRALIA DAY 2019 RECEPTION

It was a full house when 35 Awardees plus their guests together with over 100 members and guests attended the Australia Day 2019 Reception. The Reception, held at Council House in Perth, was hosted by the Commissioners of the City of Perth Council. A very moving welcome to country was given by Barry McGuire and, representing the Commissioners, was Deputy Commissioner Gaye McMath who welcomed guests on behalf of the Council.

WA Chairman Mark Bonser AO individually recognised each of the new recipients of an award and read a brief citation for each. We were pleased, though saddened, to also welcome family members of 3 recipients of an award who had passed away before the Reception.

ANOTHER HONOUR FOR A MEMBER OF OUR ASSOCIATION

Admission to the WA Women's Hall of Fame this year was a recognition of the contribution M'Liss Henry OAM has made to the community, especially to those people with special needs. M'Liss, who was awarded an OAM in the Australia Day Honours awards in 2018, has always been involved with horses from growing up on a station in NSW to being the Reserved rider for Australia in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, and now to caring for 60 horses in a Therapeutic Riding Centre which brings benefits to thousands of people. In an interview with The West Australian Newspaper it was stated that "M'Liss Henry, 75, has joined the dots between horses and people and found a therapeutic connection that continues to change lives".

Shortly after moving to Perth she purchased some ponies and kept them in Claremont where one day she met two couples one of whom had a child with cerebral palsy and the other a child who had had polio. M'Liss offered the children an opportunity to ride and this was the start of what, 46 years later, has become a full time occupation with thousands of people benefitting from riding a horse. The Claremont Therapeutic Riding Centre now has a CEO, a Board and lots of volunteers who keep the Centre running. At least 3 or 4 volunteers are needed each day.

M'Liss estimates that in its 35 year life span, a horse would have had around 20,000 people on its back. It is not only the physical benefits and M'Liss states that one hour on a horse equates to eight hours at the Gym, but the emotional and mental benefits many

people have found. In the early days it was children with special needs who benefitted physically from the experience of riding a horse but now adults have found mental health benefits as well. M'Liss states that "people with Alzheimers, heart problems, breast cancer, everything can benefit". She says that "no matter what a person's condition is, or what their special needs are, you have a goal for them. It doesn't matter how big or small the goal is; it's about giving people a sense of purpose and an aim".

We congratulate M'Liss Henry on her admission to the WA Women's Hall of Fame – a well deserved recognition of sharing her love of horses and bringing joy and benefits to thousands of Western Australians.



M'Liss Henry with para rider Mercedes Portaro mounted on Flash



Debbie Karasinski AM responds on behalf of new awardees

WA BRANCH

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Hon Kim Beazley AC Governor of Western Australia

Vice Patron

Hon Kerry Sanderson AC

Chairman

RADM Mark Bonser AO CSC

Secretary

Miss Margaret Lobo AM

Treasurer

Mr Ian Williams AO

National Board Representative

Professor Robin Watts AM

Committee Members

Capt. Michael Bleus OAM

Mr Geoffrey Cattach AM

Mr Bill Hassell AM

Mrs Bettine Heathcote AM

The Hon Barbara Scott OAM

Mrs Helen Smith OAM

Regional Coordinators

South West Region

Mrs Glenys McDonald AM

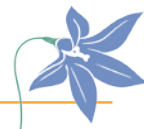
Great Southern Region

Mr Ken Pech AM JP

Contact Information

WABranch@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Mail: PO Box 4222,
MOSMAN PARK WA 6912



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Many congratulations to the Tasmanian Branch on a fantastic National Conference in Hobart. It's hard to think of anything that could have been improved upon, and the welcome from Branch members and the Tasmanian community more

broadly was everything we've come to expect from the Apple Isle and more. We look forward to seeing the Conference Report as we start to think about hosting in Canberra in 2021.

In this edition of The Order, you'll find reports on our Australia Day Breakfast with Air Chief Marshal Sir Angus Houston AK,

AFC (Retd), the Branch AGM and presentation by Senior Australian of the Year, Dr Sue Packer AM, and our April morning tea with Jenny Bowker AO. How lucky we are to be blessed with such wonderful speakers and to count them amongst our Branch members.

We have a couple of busy months coming up with our next reception for new recipients, our Queen's Birthday Luncheon with guest speaker Her Excellency Lady Lynne Cosgrove, and the 2019 Australian Defence Force Oration with Chief of Defence Force, General Angus Campbell AO, DSC, as the Orator. And we have some other bonus events in planning, of which more in the Branch newsletter. We do hope you'll be able to join us.

Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM
Branch Chairman

2019 AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST

Almost 100 members and guests gathered at the Royal Canberra Golf Club with our guest speaker, Sir Angus Houston AK, AFC to celebrate Australia Day and the achievements of ACT and region recipients in the 2019 Australia Day honours list. Sir Angus spoke about two significant anniversaries occurring in 2019: he first described the 1919 Great Air Race, won by two Australian pilots, Ross and Keith Smith, and the subsequent development of a commercial air route between London and Australia, with particular emphasis on the role of Empire Class flying boats in that development, and their role in WW2, before observing that 2019 marks the 20th anniversary of no flying fatalities in the Royal Australian Air Force. While praising the extraordinary achievements of early aviators, he contrasted their approach to risk with the modern culture that has transformed the Air Force's safety record.



Sir Angus Houston AK, AFC



Derek Robson AM, Sir Angus Houston, Lady Liz Houston, Ann Gratton, Gen Peter Gratton AC OBE,

ACT BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Gen Peter Gratton AC OBE

Chair

Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM
Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au
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Secretary

Robert Altamore OAM

Treasurer

Terry O'Brien OAM RFD

Committee Members

Narelle Hargreaves AM
Trish Keller OAM
Bill Maiden PSM OAM
Alan Morrison AM
Coralie Wood OAM
Sam Wong AM

FATHER OF FLUORIDATION IN NSW

The passing on 22 February of ACT Branch member Dr Syd Dobbin AM, former Mayor of Yass, was a reminder that he was instrumental in 1956 in making Yass the first town on the Australian mainland to have a fluoridated water supply. In recognition of his determined efforts to promote fluoridation, he was appointed a member of the Order of Australia in 1986 *In recognition of service to the community, particularly in the field of dental health.* He continued his passionate advocacy for fluoridation throughout his life.



MORNING TEA WITH JENNY BOWKER AO

Members and guests were treated to a very interesting talk by Branch member Jenny Bowker AO at our first morning tea of 2019 on Thursday 4 April at the Royal Canberra Golf Club. She talked on her personal experiences as a quilt maker and textile artist, and her life travelling the world as the wife of a diplomat, particularly in the Middle East from where she gained inspiration for many of her art works. The audience were privileged to see a number of her stunning creations. Jenny was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours *for distinguished service to Australia-Middle East cultural relations through the preservation of traditional creative and visual arts, and as a textile artist and educator*. Members will have seen Jenny's story in the previous edition of The Order with a striking quilt image gracing the front cover.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & EVENING WITH SUE PACKER AM

Members and guests gathered at the Royal Canberra Golf Club, Yarralumla on 13 February 2019 to participate in our governance and hear the 2019 Senior Australian of the Year, Dr Sue Packer AM, speak about her Australian of the Year experience.

The AGM saw the 2018 Annual Report accepted and a new Branch Committee elected. Our experiment with providing AGM papers only in electronic format was very successful and this approach will be retained, saving considerably on postage costs and volunteer time.

Sue began her talk by describing the 'surreal' experience of the months and weeks leading up to the announcement of her award, the realities of the presentation night, and the whirlwind of Australia Day in Sydney. She spoke of her delight at being

able to share a day with all 34 Australian of the Year finalists and the wonder of a ride around Sydney Harbour with the other winners aboard the ferry *Victor Chang*. She went on to explain that she has always been passionate about children, even while growing up, and that this had led to her becoming a paediatrician in 1972 and eventually to her work in the child abuse sector. She shared a range of insights from her experience and exhorted all adults to be more interested in children, and to encourage their curiosity. In response to a question, she even gave advice on successful grand parenting! We are very proud to have Sue as a member of the ACT Branch and wish her every success during her tenure as Senior Australian of the Year.

Sue was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 1999 *for service to child*



Photo: Jamila Toderas

welfare, to Paediatric medicine and to the community and was named Canberra Citizen of the Year in 2013 "in recognition of her personal efforts and significant contributions to the ACT community, particularly as an advocate for the safety and wellbeing of children."

A GREAT CONFERENCE VISIT AND A GOOD NEWS STORY - LIFERAFT SYSTEMS AUSTRALIA



The Conference delegates lucky enough to choose this visit were truly amazed to inspect the Workshop floor, right up close to the fabrication of these international recognised safety systems. The high-tech design and production are matched by the obvious pride of the management and workforce. Good stuff - Tassie!

Liferaft Systems Australia Pty Ltd (LSA) is a dynamic, privately-owned company established in Hobart, Tasmania, in 1992. LSA identified the need for a revolutionary approach to the design of Marine Evacuation Systems (MES). The objective was simple: to design a more reliable MES which was easier to use and provided a faster yet safer evacuation for all. The result was the pioneering LSA inclined slide based dry shod Marine Evacuation System, designed to deliver passengers and crew directly into large capacity liferafts.



The LSA objective has always remained the same: to develop and produce a product that is synonymous with quality and reliability, which is of paramount importance in the marine safety industry. LSA constantly develops this objective through a continual program of unrivalled design enhancements, utilising the latest technologies and providing service excellence to our growing number of valued and satisfied customers.

LSA operates a quality management system to ISO9001 and all employees constantly strive to maintain and improve our quality systems. This results in the design and manufacture of the world's premier MES.

The LSA Head Office and production facility are both housed in a purpose-built facility in Hobart, Tasmania. LSA also has dedicated commercial and technical offices based in the key marketplaces of Europe and North America. Supported by a large network of independent service partners, this ensures that LSA's reach is truly global.

The LSA MES is simple to install, simple to use, cost effective to own and offers ship designers, owners and builders unrivalled flexibility and reliability. LSA tailors each installation to the unique requirements of each vessel and customer. With over 20 years designing, refining, manufacturing and installing MES, our experienced and dedicated team offers unrivalled service excellence and advice to all potential customers.

Designing, manufacturing and installing high quality, safe & reliable MES is our core business and our exclusive area of expertise. Our simple design ethos is that Marine Evacuation Systems should not be complicated.

MES should be simple to install and remove; be simple to operate; provide safe and rapid dry shod evacuation of all passengers and crew regardless of age, size, physical ability or injury – every time; and remain cost effective to own.

LSA products are marine industry renowned and are suitable for installation on all types and sizes of passenger and personnel carrying vessels world-wide, including conventional passenger ferries; high-speed craft; military vessels; and large private yachts.

LSA MES is the only approved MES which evacuates passengers and crew directly from the vessel into large capacity liferafts via an inclined evacuation slide without the need for any winches or complicated hydraulics.

SIMPLY A BETTER SYSTEM

For more information go to: www.LSAMES.com





NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2019

THE ORATION



Mr Alastair Douglas OAM, Dr Patricia Cameron AO (Aunty Patsy), The Hon Lara Giddings

THE OFFICIAL DINNER



Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Tasmania, The Hon. Justice Alan Blow AO.

THE OFFICIAL DINNER



The Official Party.



The National Chairman, MAJGEN Barry Nunn AO, farewells the National President Mr Philip Flood AO and his wife Carole.



The Scholarship winners and their very proud family guests.



The Scholarship winners and their very proud family guests.

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



NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2019

ANGLESEA BARRACKS – COMMEMORATION & WREATH LAYING



The Hon Dr Brendon Nelson AO delivers the commemorative address.



Mr Alastair Douglas OAM, Chairman of the Tasmanian Branch reflects at the Peacekeeper Memorial.



The Official Party escorted by the C Squadron 3rd Light Horse Re-Enactment Troop led by Nevill Thomas



The conference delegates and guests.

THE FAREWELL LUNCH



Ms Bernadette Peck in WWI Nursing attire and C Squadron 3rd Light Horse Re-Enactment Troop



Mr Himushu Hardikar who addressed the Farewell Lunch and his family Dr Ashutosh Hardikar, Mrs Hardikar with Mrs Maureen Rudge OAM, Tasmanian Branch Secretary.

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS



Professor Alison Venn
Director, Menzies Medical Research Centre

Professor Alison Venn has been the Director of Menzies since January 2016 and prior to that was the Institute's Deputy Director, Associate Director (Research) and leader of the Public Health and Primary Care research team.



**Adjunct Professor
Dr Tony Press**

Dr Tony Press is an Adjunct Professor at the Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre (ACE CRC), and the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies in Hobart.



Mr Martin George

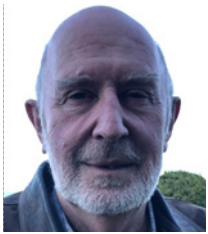
Martin George is Manager of the Launceston Planetarium at the Queen Victoria Museum in Tasmania.

Martin was born in England and educated at the University of Tasmania, where he was awarded an honours degree in physics, specialising in astronomy.



Ms Jan Davis

Tagged as Tasmania's top political lobbyist and one of the most influential people in the state, Jan Davis is a passionate Tasmanian.



Mr Bill Lawson AM

Bill Lawson is a retired Hobart based Professional Engineer who worked professionally for 43 years from 1970 to 2013 in both the public and private sectors throughout Australia and NZ.





CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

With the National Conference now behind us I have been taking stock and remembering the various facets of the event as for me the Conference seemed to pass in somewhat of a blur. I am delighted with the responses we have received and sincerely thank my organising committee of Maureen Rudge OAM, Margaret Gibbs OAM, Sue Cox AM, Michael Hodgson AM, Bob Thorpe OAM, David Brill

AM and Ron Blake OAM for being a happy, efficient and supportive team that made the required tasks so much easier.

As with any event of this length and complexity there were some unexpected issues to manage. However we were able to handle these so as to minimise impact on the conference.

I also have to thank all those outside of the committee who so willingly contributed to the Conference's success. The various speakers without exception were so pleased to accept the invitation to participate as was everyone else such as the Incat staff, Liferaft Systems Australia and many Branch members and partners.

Those who visited Incat and Liferaft Systems appeared to be most impressed with the scale and complexity of the businesses. We are also pleased that the programme we put together appeared to be very well received and that these activities were all cloaked in Tasmania's best autumn weather.

Of the 208 conference registrations the final number attending was 189 after cancellations that were overwhelmingly due to medical reasons, were taken into account. The split between Branches was Tasmania 33.3%, Victoria 25%, Queensland 12.1%, New South Wales 10.2%, Australian Capital Territory 6%, West Australia 6%, South Australia 4.6% and Northern Territory 2.8%.

On the 10th of May the Investiture of the Tasmanian Australia Day awardees will be held at Government House. For many years now the Tasmanian Branch has held a celebratory dinner following the Investiture which, at the time of writing, has bookings close to the capacity of the University Club venue. This dinner is a special night for Branch members to honour and celebrate with the new awardees who attend with their family and friends.

Alastair Douglas OAM
Branch Chairman

TASMANIAN BRANCH

OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Mr. Alastair Douglas OAM

National Board Director

The Hon. Dr Frank Madill AM

Deputy Chairman

Mrs Therese Samorzewski OAM

Hon Secretary & Southern Regional Chairman

Mrs Maureen Rudge OAM
(P: 0417 324 005)

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Mr Ron Blake OAM

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Mr Neville Bingham OAM
Mrs Sue Shea OAM
Mrs Maureen Oates OAM
Dr Nicholas Chantler AM & Northern Chairman

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North

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North-West

Mrs Betty Hite OAM
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North West Regional Chairman

Mr Barry Hirt OAM



Friends Of Gallipoli Inc

Building friendships from the shared Australian & Turkish history of Gallipoli

ABN 73 353 907 243; www.friendsofgallipoli.org; info@friendsofgallipoli.org; P.O. Box 66, Hampton, 3188

It takes an artisan woman almost a whole day to make one of these beautifully presented poppies.

Worried about increasing domestic violence, 64 women who live around Gallipoli formed an association to do something about it.

These women run workshops designed for men, influencing behaviour change about violence and holding events calling for love to replace hatred. These women also banded together to produce giftware to sell and fund their projects to assist victims of domestic violence.

Friends of Gallipoli Inc., a non-political, not-religious and not-for-profit organisation, decided to assist these women of Gallipoli by marketing the unique poppy brooches in Australia. If you purchase one of these brooches, you will help funds to be made available to the women of Gallipoli to fight against domestic violence.



Please complete the form at the Friends of Gallipoli web site to order your unique brooches:

<http://www.friendsofgallipoli.org/poppy-brooch/>



2020 NATIONAL CONFERENCE DARWIN

7th - 10th May, 2020

Your National Association is convening the 2020 National Conference in Darwin, Northern Territory, which promises to deliver a new experience in a beautiful, tropical setting.

**Join us in May 2020 for an unforgettable National Conference.
Details will be available on the national website shortly.**

www.orderofaustralia.asn.au/index.php



WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE CONFERENCE:

The theme of the 2020 National Conference is "Future Proof, How Past Experiences Inform Future Challenges".

As part of the conference, delegates will be treated to visits to two Territory owned and operated, internationally renowned institutions: Menzies School of Health Research and The National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre.

Menzies School of Health Research is Australia's leading medical research institutes involved in improving the health and wellbeing of Indigenous Australians. They are global leaders in tropical research in to life-threatening illnesses. Internationally known for its collaborative research with remote

indigenous Territory communities. There will be an introduction from Professor Alan Cass, Director.

The National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre is a key element of the Australian Government's disaster and emergency medical response to incidents of national and international significance. Established as a result of the 2002 Bali Bombings, the NCCTRC is strategically positioned to ensure Australia has the best readily deployable medical workforce to rapidly respond to sudden health emergencies both onshore across Australia, and offshore throughout South East Asia. There will be an address by Director Professor Len Notaras AM.

FUTURE PROOF»

HOW PAST EXPERIENCES
INFORM FUTURE CHALLENGES

DARWIN

In addition:

- » Visits to the unique Government House (a survival of the Bombing of Darwin and cyclone Tracy) and Parliament House which is the most modern Parliament in Australia.
- » An Oration from the NT Administrator Her Honour Vicky O'Halloran AM
- » Another four sessions by either Keynote Speakers or Panel discussions focusing on how the Territory has overcome many past challenges and how the future provides so many opportunities.

Contact:

Professional Conference Organisers, Agentur, info@agentur.com.au

NT BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

Her Honour the Administrator, The Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AM

Chair

Tom Lewis OAM

Deputy Chair

Sharon Mulholland AM

Secretary/Treasurer

Michael Martin OAM

Director to the Board

Nora Lewis AM

Committee Members

Luke Gosling OAM

Alasdair McGregor OAM

Wendy James OAM



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

BATTLEFIELDS TOUR; 24 MAY- 12 JUNE 2020

You are invited to join on a fully escorted 10 day tour of Gallipoli/Turkey, followed immediately by a 9 day tour of the battlefields of Western Front, exclusively for members.



This fully escorted tour is reserved for members and their guests only.

- ✓ Highlights of the Turkey tour led by author and historian Dr John Basarin OAM will be visits to Gallipoli Battlefields [Anzac Cove, Lone Pine, Chunuk Bair, Shrapnel Gully, The Nek, Ari Burnu, Quinn's Post, Krithia and Helles], Troy, Pergamum, Ephesus and Istanbul.
- ✓ Western Front tour highlights, led by historian Garry Snowden OAM, will include cities of Peronne, Ieper, Amiens and Arras and the battlefields of Menin Gate, Polygon Wood, Passchendale, Fromelles, Bullecourt, Pozieres, Compiègne, Villers-Bretonneux and Paris.
- ✓ You can choose to tour Turkey on its own, the Western Front on its own, or combine the two. Approximate costs are:-
- ✓ Turkey \$2699.00 twin/double per person. Single supplement \$353.00.
- ✓ Western Front \$4358.00 twin/double per person. Single supplement \$990.00.
- ✓ Combined \$7325.00 twin/double per person. Single supplement \$1337.00 (this includes the flight from Turkey to Paris).
- ✓ All accommodation, breakfasts, several meals, site entrance fees, coach travel, sightseeing, services of professional tour guides are included.
- ✓ Not included are international airfares from Australia, insurance, some meals and expenses of personal nature.

Please register your expression of interest at your earliest opportunity as this tour will book out quickly. Further details can be supplied on request by contacting Alan Valpied at Ballarat Travel and Cruise on Phone 03 53335913 during business hours, or email alan@btac.net.au. Web site for information: www.btac.net.au/special-interest-tours





CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Branch AGM was held in the balcony room at the Strathmore Hotel on Saturday 16th February, preceded by a morning tea for assembled members. The business part of the meeting was conducted successfully, and we were entertained by

one of our committee members, Ms Pamela Rajkowski, who has an extensive knowledge of early South Australian history. Pamela told us about how camels assisted the performance of law enforcement in the outback, right up to the early 1950's

Following our Branch AGM your new committee has been busy organising activities for the coming year.

Our new recipients' investitures have taken place over 5 days in early April. The number of investiture ceremonies was due to the increased number of recipients this year, which is very pleasing.

Our new recipients' function will be held on Monday 13th May and we will again be hosted through the generosity of the Norwood, Payneham, St Peters Council and Mayor Robert Bria. The venue will be as in the past, at the Payneham Library complex, corner of OG Road and Turner St., Felixstow, commencing at 5-30 pm. (large medals please). A finger food buffet will be supplied.

The National Board is organising a planning day leading up to the June Board meeting. Attendees will be the Board and State Chairpersons. Some Board members are also state chair-

persons, so the range of ideas and input from ordinary members will likely be quite limited as to the variety of issues put forward. In order to involve as much member input as possible, the S.A. branch committee is going to organise a "Futures" day on Saturday 1st June at the Fullarton Community Centre (lunch provided). At this day we plan to discuss issues raised by members from a questionnaire circulated during April. Further details will be advised by newsletter accompanying the questionnaire. I ask as many members as possible to put forward their ideas in response to the questionnaire.

At this stage we are planning our Queen's Birthday lunch on either Saturday 8th or Monday 10th June. The final date will be dependent on the speaker we hope to organise. Further information about this will be advised by newsletter.

We are again organising our annual Student Citizenship Awards and nominations have been called for from all secondary schools through the Education Dept., Lutheran, Catholic and Independent Schools' website.

By the time you read this the 2019 AGM of the Association will have been held, and the fate of our special resolution decided. The 2020 AGM is scheduled to be held in Darwin, so now is a good time to start planning your holiday to the N.T.

Our "Captain Proud" paddle steamer cruise and lunch, held on the 26th March was a great success, with 46 members and friends attending. We are hoping to run something similar later this year. We also expect to have more regional functions to welcome new recipients, so please keep a look out in our newsletters for something happening in your area.

Tony Metcalf OAM
Branch Chairman

SA BRANCH FUTURES DAY –

YOU ARE IMPORTANT TO THE FUTURE OF OUR ASSOCIATION, PLEASE COME.

ALL South Australian members are invited to the South Australian Branch Futures Day.

To be held at the Fullarton Community Centre, 411 Fullarton Rd, Fullarton on Saturday 1st June from 10-00 am to 3-00 pm. Lunch will be provided.

The aim of this day is to discuss ideas from all members on a broad range of ideas about the future aims and objectives of the Association and how we can attract and keep members involved.

You will shortly receive a questionnaire from the South Australian Branch seeking your ideas and thoughts. At the SA Branch Futures day, with the assistance of a facilitator, we plan to discuss ideas put forward via the questionnaire with the aim of agreeing to three or four key proposals to go to National for presentation to their planned strategy day at which all states and the National Board will be represented. This will be held in mid-June 2019.

We look forward to your participation on 1st June.

IN MEMORIUM

We acknowledge the contribution of the following recently deceased members of the Association and express our sincere sympathy to their families.

Ross Arthur Heinze AM

John Porter OAM

Kenneth Wells POST NOMINAL??

Ildiki Wetherell OAM

John Arthur Smith OAM

Patricia Beryl Moore OAM

Graham Andrew Fricker AM

Judith Rees AM

John R Pickering OAM

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



CAPTAIN PROUD PADDLE STEAMER CRUISE AND LUNCH 26TH MARCH

This was a very successful day with 46 members and friends attending. Thanks go to Jan Forrest OAM for her organisation in particular the hiring of a mini-bus to assist those members who preferred to ride rather than drive to Murray Bridge. Past Chairman Ken Coventry OAM JP enjoyed hosting members at 'his patch' and Di was keen to point out their house location as we paddled through the town.



Ken Coventry OAM (past Chairman) with members in the dining area of the Captain Proud Paddle boat.



Brent van Loenen, Jan and Rodger Boyce.



Members on the front deck.



Elaine Murphy AM, Ken Coventry OAM, not noted, John Anderson, Marie Anderson OAM.



Not noted, Des Smith OAM, Miriam High AM, Rosemary Scott OAM



Aileen Connors AM and Pat Bashford.

FRANCIS WONG, OAM, OSJ, FAICD

Francis Wong is an accomplished Australian tourism leader and company director with 30 years of experience in developing positive tourism and business developments. He migrated from Brunei in 1988 as a business migrant, as was recognised by the former Minister of Immigration, Hon Philip Ruddock MP, as a role model migrant to the nation.

He operated one of the most awarded inbound tourism companies in Australia, Encounter Australia Pty Ltd based in Adelaide South Australia, focusing on Asian inbound tourism. He also mooted the formation of the Australia Tourism Export Council (ATEC) branch in South Australia, served on the national board of ATEC for two terms and Chaired ATEC Asian Inbound Tourism Operators Committee.

With his extensive involvement in marketing of Australia and tourism internationally, he won the recognition from the industry and the business community with numerous awards. In 2016, The Hon Andrew Robb MP, former Australian Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment invited him to join the board of Tourism Australia in 2016.

His wise counsel, trusted endorsements and valuable introductions have opened many doors for Asia and Australia. These connections are always made with the utmost integrity, honestly and transparency. Some of the key roles that he served included;

- Chair, Council for International Trade and Commerce SA,
- Chair, Australian Tourism Export Council SA,
- Chair, Australia Asia Chamber of Commerce,
- Chair, Federation of Chinese Organisations of South Australia,
- Chair, ASEAN-Australia 45th Diplomatic Relation Forum
- Chair, ASEAN 50th Anniversary Business Forum.

His previous community contributions also include:

- Board Director- Adelaide United Football Club
- Board Director- Tourism Australia
- Board Director- Clipsal 500- SA Motor Sports Board
- Board Director- Women's and Children's Hospital Foundation
- Board Director- Orana Inc
- Board Director- Australia Day Council SA
- Board Director- Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation
- Board Director- Adelaide Convention Bureau.
- Board Member- Department of Immigration & Ethnic Affairs- Business Advisory.
- Councillor- Adelaide City Council
- Patron- Sight for All

On Australia Day 2014, he was honoured with an Order of Australia Medal OAM for his contribution to business and community.

Current roles:

- Managing Director- Encounter Australia Pty Ltd
- Board Director- Football Federation of South Australia
- SA Branch Board member - Order of Australia Association SA
- President- Australia Brunei Darussalam Business Council
- Representative Australia/NZ- Becamex IDC Joint-Stock Corporation, Vietnam

Awards:

- 1996 National Koala Award for Excellence in Asian Marketing
- 1998 Most Outstanding Contribution by an Individual in Tourism- South Australia
- 2003 Most Outstanding Contribution by an Individual to the Australia Tourism Export Council
- 2002/2003/2004- International Business Ambassador of the Year- CITCSA.
- 2014 Most Outstanding Contribution by an Individual to the tourism industry
- 2014 Australia Day Honour- Order of Australia Medal OAM



SOUTH AUSTRALIA

OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

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

Chairman

Tony Metcalf OAM

Secretary

Paul Thomas AM

Treasurer

John McKellar AM

National Director

Immediate past Chairman

Ken Coventry OAM JP

Committee

Francis Wong OAM
John Philips OAM
Pamela Rajkowski OAM
Paul Rosenzweig OAM
Brian Holecek OAM
Brian Mattner OAM
June Genders OAM
Martin FitzPatrick OAM

Noel Hender OAM BEM

Membership (acting)

Jan Forrest OAM



AGM 2019 OUTCOMES

Members will be aware that the Agenda for the AGM 2019 contained 7 Items requiring a deliberative vote. I wish to formally advise the ballot outcomes:

- There were 926 valid proxies received assigned to 30 Proxy Holders.
- The proxies included totally directed, totally open and mixed selections.
- There were 119 ballot papers distributed to Members in attendance at the AGM.
- The total number of available votes was therefore 1045.
- In accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws, Special Resolutions require not less than 75% of total available votes,(784 votes) to be carried.
- The results:
 - Item 4. National Chairman's Report. **For: 981 Against: 50 – CARRIED.**
 - Item 5. Directors Report. **For 983 Against: 48 – CARRIED.**
 - Item 6. Finance Report. **For: 1019 Against: 12 – CARRIED.**
 - Item 7. Foundation Report. **For: 1016 Against: 11 – CARRIED.**
 - Item 8. Special Resolutions.
 - Special Resolution 1. **For: 434 Against: 611 – NOT CARRIED.**
 - Special Resolution 2. **For: 407 Against: 634 – NOT CARRIED.**
 - Item 9. Election of Office Holders. **For: 965 Against: 54 – CARRIED.**

A SUMMARY OF THE SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS IN RELATION TO REPORTS

CHAIRMAN'S AND DIRECTORS' REPORT

The National Chairman offered the following remarks in relation to the Reports before the meeting:

- He was honoured to address the meeting as Chairman of an Order of contributing Australians, and he was confident we would approach deliberations in a spirit of objectivity and cooperation in seeking to engender unity within our Association.
- 2018 was a year of significant activity:
 - Five changes to our Constitution were adopted at the Adelaide AGM. These ensure that members are able to nominate for positions on the National Board.
 - In addition, it was recognised that our Constitution and supporting rules, while complying with regulatory guidelines, needed considerable change. This work has commenced and continues.
 - The Association Strategic Plan was updated to provide a framework for our activities.
 - Key activities included, particularly at Branches and Regional Groups efforts to increase the awareness of the Order and to increase nominations. Considerable success has been achieved both in more nominations overall and in more women being recognised. Once nominated women continue to have a higher success rate than men. Our challenge is to increase the rate of nomination of women and other still under-represented groups.
 - Our finances are well managed. Our Life Reserve has increased, and drawdowns maximised. In addition to Branch Administrative Grants some funds have been provided to Branches for special purposes.
 - Increased email contact with over 80% of our members has allowed reduced costs for the 20% taking The Order electronically and also has provided an ability for Branches to communicate with members quickly, inexpensively and in a timely manner.
 - A dominant theme throughout 2018 has been improving two-way communication between the Board, Branches, Regional Groups and our members. While progress has been good more needs to be done.
- Our National President Mr Philip Flood AO will complete his 3-year term at the conclusion of this AGM on behalf of all members I thank him for his leadership and wise counsel.
- Our incoming National President Ms Heather Ridout will be known to many.
- He thanked both fellow Board members, Branch and Regional Group committees and all members for their ongoing involvement and support for Association activities. only with that participation can we be a truly National Association.

TREASURER'S REPORT – KEY FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018

The underlying surplus for the year was \$86,304 after taking into account state branches and their regions. Following the revaluation of our investments at balance date the net surplus was reduced by \$75,835 to \$10,469. The market had improved by \$84,076 at the time of our annual meeting.

At year end we had 7,863 members who paid membership fees in one of the following ways Annual \$77 (incl GST); Three yearly \$200(incl GST) and Life members \$1,115(incl GST).

Membership income for 2018 was:

Annual membership fees at \$70 excl GST	151,163
Three-year memberships at \$60.60 excl GST	43,304
Life member 2018 actuarial drawdown	65,000
Investment income	44,365
Membership income after GST totals	303,832

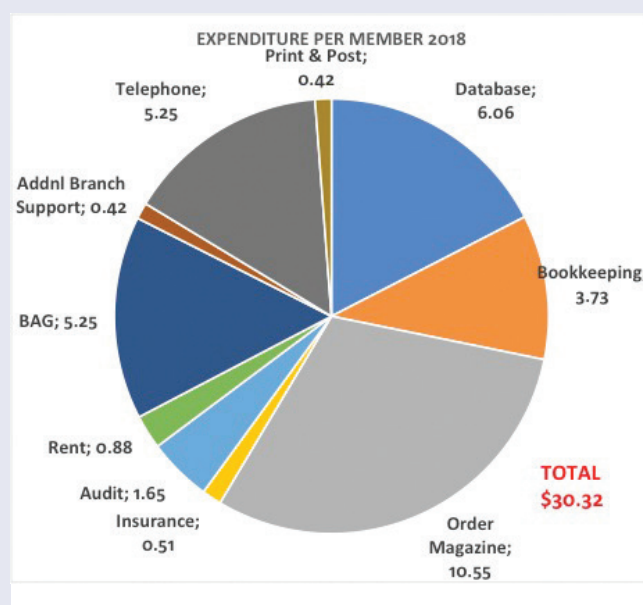
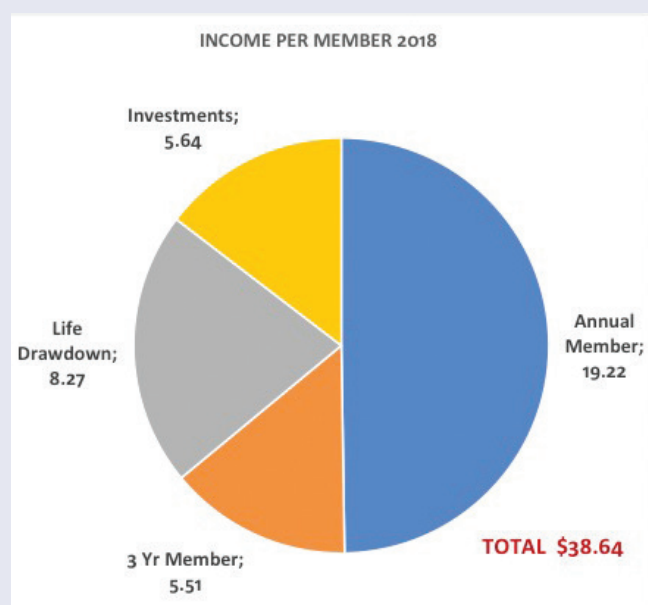
Expressed per member \$38.64 per annum – Pie Chart “Income per member 2018”

Significant expenditure on member services were:

Audit	13,000
Bookkeeping	29,365
Branch Support Grants (BAG)	41,298
Insurance	3,980
Magazine and magazine Postage	82,951
Member database	47,643
Photocopying, printing, postage	7,881
Regional Support additional to BAG	3,310
Rent	6,924
Telephone	2,045
Member services total cost	238,397

Expressed per member \$30.32per annum – Pie Chart “Expenditure per member 2018”

The remaining member fee income of \$8.32 goes towards indirect member administrative costs.





Our Performance 2018

We welcomed 568 new members, but regrettably lost 444

At year end the Association strength was **7,863** members

Membership fees were held at the level of previous years

Income (Revenue) increased by 34%, in part as a result of the audit requiring inclusion this year of Regional Groups results

Assets were held in both National and Branch accounts. Of the National component, \$1,108,500 was actively invested to generate dividends (and franking credits) that were used to better service member needs. Branches separately held \$425,222, largely in low interest deposits.

National Investments Value was down by \$75,835 at end 2018. This investment included the Life Reserve, which must be preserved to service our Life Members for whole-of-life.

Life Members Reserve increased by 5.5%

Branch Administrative Grants (BAG) and special purpose payments to Branches more than doubled to \$36,041

Meeting Expenses increased by 55% as a result of increased activity and the reporting of Regional Groups. National meetings costs increased by 20%

Surplus for the year was \$10,469 after adjustment for investments value

Members Equity (assets less liabilities) increased by 11.3%

The Order magazine costs were reduced by 21%, largely as a consequence of members choosing electronic distribution

Email Address provided by **86%** of members

Year of Birth provided by **45%** of members

Electronic copy of 'The Order' taken by **24%** of members

A REPORT ON THE MEMBERS' FORUM

The following issues were raised by members for discussion and noting by the Board:

- The introduction of an OAA ID Card as an alternative means of identification principally for those who might have needed to surrender their driving licence.
- Enhanced consultation and communication specifically around:
 - Board deliberations and outcomes – limiting the use of In-Confidence caveats.
 - KPI's in Strategic plans etc.
 - Access to the Association Business Plan.
- Possible Bequest and its use in the primary education area.
- Revision of the membership value proposition, particularly on the Association website.
- Recognition of both Richard and Rysia Rozen for their outstanding efforts over many years in relation to Association merchandise sales.
- Possibility of modified membership fees for those members who might find the current fees unaffordable.
- Inclusion of Board Committee reports in future Annual reports.
- The character of and financial implications of Life Membership.
- The possible amendment of the Nomination System for Directors.
- Recognition of New Recipients in AGM activities and the value of personal invitations to join the Association.

The National Chairman thanked members for their input and noted that time for discussion was limited but undertook to ensure that the issues raised would be considered by the Board.

THE OLDER WE ARE THE LONGER WE LIVE!

The older we are the longer we live! This may seem to be a contradiction, but it is borne out by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Each year the ABS produce a series of 'Life Tables' that show the average life expectancy of Australian men and women of varying ages.

The 2017-18 tables show that:

- For a woman aged 60, on average she will live to age 86.78
- For a man of the same age, he will live only to age 83.8

And for those who have passed these 60 'milestones'

- For a woman aged 80, on average she will live to age 90.42
- For a man of the same age, he will live only to age 88.92

At the end of 2018 we had 4,816 Life Members. Each has paid a single membership subscription that they rightfully expect to be there to service their membership for 'whole of life'.

At the end of 2018 the Life Reserve, to which Life Membership payments are credited, totalled \$858,504 (2018 Annual Report – Note 15)

Actuarial calculations are completed annually to determine the funds that may be drawn from the Life Reserve to service Life Members, while maintaining enough to ensure the Reserve last for 'whole of life' of members. This calculation is somewhat complicated as only 40% of Life Members have so far provided their year of birth, necessitating a conservative estimate of the amount that can be drawn down.

While the Life Reserve must be preserved as above, it does not languish in a bank at low or zero interest rate. Instead it is actively invested with the proceeds being directed to support both Life and Annual Member activities throughout our Association.

CHANGING THE ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Members will recall that some changes were made to the Association Constitution at the 2018 AGM. In bringing these changes forward your National Board recognised that there was a need for much more work if our Constitution was to serve the Association in the years ahead.

The Special Resolution put before the 2019 AGM, requiring a new Constitution by June 2019, did not fully appreciate the progress already made in this matter or the complexity of the task.



After some initial work on the subject, the Board formally set up a 'Constitution Working Group' in October 2018. This Group has been collecting information and the views of Branch Committees since that time. A gap analysis has identified additional points that need to be addressed in a new Constitution for it to be in harmony with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) requirements.

At a recent National Board meeting a set of guiding principles for a new Constitution were agreed. These included:

- Giving members a greater say in the governance of the organisation
- Branches and Regional Groups given flexibility in their operations to take account of the varying circumstances in States and Regions
- The organisation's 'officers' have clearly assigned responsibilities and are accountable to all members.
- Continuity of efficient and effective management of the organisation
- Documents to be written in plain, understandable language

A Constitution can be prepared only after a 'blueprint' has been prepared for the way ahead, incorporating both principles and operating concepts. To this end Directors and Branch Chairmen are to come together in June to develop this blueprint for the future, to guide the writing of our new Constitution. Branch and Regional Committees will be encouraging members, during May, to put forward their views for consideration during this process.

Your Board has agreed that a new Constitution document will be required, with its foundation the ACNC² template. The principles of the new document should incorporate the outcomes of the June Directors' and Chairmen's meeting. It is intended that we develop a foundation Constitution supported by one subordinate suite of policy documents.

1 - An 'officer' is any member taking a voluntary role in the management of the Association in the National, Branch and Regional structure

2 - For more information on ACNC go to: <https://www.acnc.gov.au/tools/templates/constitution-charitable-company-limited-guarantee>

THE DISTRIBUTION OF NOTICES BY USE OF EMAIL

Over 80% of our members have advised an email address. This does offer a much more cost-effective distribution of Administrative Notices compared to the more traditional hard-copy mailout.

The Board has considered this matter in the context of the additional cost consequent upon the notification of Petitions and the recent delayed hard-copy mailout of AGM notices and papers.

Therefore, members are advised that in the future the default method of distributing Administrative Notices, from National and Branch level will be to the notified email address.

It is envisaged that notices relating to AGM's, Newsletters, Invitations and function booking flyers will be primarily distributed by email.

Members not notifying an email address will continue to receive hard copies of notices either through inclusion in The Order magazine or by separate mailout from National or Branches, as appropriate.

Please note; this does **NOT** apply to the distribution of The Order magazine. Members will still retain the choice of electing whether to receive a hard-copy or e-copy of the magazine.

While the Board would encourage the choice of e-copy for The Order, in order to free resources for other uses, it remains a matter of each member's personal choice.

QUEENSLAND MAILOUT OF FEBRUARY 2019 EDITION

Many Queensland members will be aware of problems associated with the Hard Copy mailout of the February 2019 edition of The Order. Similar problems were not repeated in other States or Territories and indeed were not universal within Queensland or individual suburbs.

The disrupted distribution reflects a failure of AustPost and not of our Printer or their distribution processes.

Our Printer packages and labels the Hard Copies in accordance with AustPost requirements involving 'postcode' consolidation and caging.

Although there is no mandated requirement to include labels reminding AustPost staff to breakdown the consolidated bundles, our Printer has indicated that he will in future include such labels.

RETURN OF MEDALS – SCAM!!

It has come to the attention of the Association that certain absolute scoundrels are contacting the bereaved relatives of deceased Honours recipients suggesting that their 'medals' need to be returned.

This is totally false and is a malicious scam. Please ignore any such approaches.



CHANGES IN NSW BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

At the recent 2019 Annual General Meeting of the NSW Branch a number of changes a number of changes were effected amid the ranks of the Executive Committee and a warm welcome was awarded by the attending members to the newly elected Executive.

The Branch's outgoing Chairman Mr John Archer OAM had completed his 3 year term and everyone was appreciative of John's superlative efforts as apart from chairing numerous meetings and functions he also travelled the length and breadth of NSW visiting many of the Branch's regions informing them of the latest developments and espousing the good work of the Association. I am pleased to advise that that the Branch will not be losing John as he was later unanimously appointed as the NSW Director to the National Board where he will no doubt continue to keep the Branch and its regions advised of the latest news from the Board.

Mr. Peter Falk OAM made the switch from the position of Deputy Chairman a position that he held for 3 years to Chairman after being unanimously elected to the position. Peter proved to be a good ally and assisted John during his term and no doubt the experience he gained during that period will stand him in good stead in his new position.

Mr. James Mein AM also made a change from the position of Treasurer to take over the position of Deputy Chairman following his unanimous election and no doubt his vast experience will enable him to fill his new position with great aplomb. Mrs Gail Dunne OAM has put aside her short hand and pencil from her time as Minute and Assistant Secretary to take up the position of Treasurer. Mrs Carolyn Lyons OAM who performed admirably in the role of Honorary Secretary will remain in that position for the ensuing year following her re-election.

Ian McKnight OAM
NSW Newsletter Editor

SYDNEY HARBOUR SPARKLES FOR AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS

The 2019 Australia Day dawned and In excess of 140 OAA NSW Branch members who came from all points of the compass in NSW made their way to Circular Quay where they gathered at the Commissioner's Steps and waited patiently to embark on one of the large Captain Cook Cruise vessels. However, as the morning wore on the weather became quite hot and soon the shade under the trees became very popular and very scarce as people sought refuge from the sun.

Eventually the Captain Cook vessel arrived and when all the members and their guests had safely embarked it was off down the Harbour to enjoy the scenery and the day's festivities. While a few hardy souls braved the top deck and the sights many of the group remained to enjoy the cooler conditions and the views through the specious windows.

There were many wonderful sights to see such as the ferrython which included Sydney's much loved ferries which raced from Circular Quay to Shark Island and back to a spectacular finish under the Harbour Bridge. Hundreds of amphibious vehicles of all shapes and sizes from the very small to the very large and crowded with spectators gathered around the awesome HMAS Choules to celebrate the Salute to Australia. There was a 21 gun salute and an inspirational address from the NSW Governor, then many joined in with a bevvvy of choirs from across NSW to sing the National Anthems.

There were a number of other entertaining events such as Tug and Yacht Ballet which also included jet skis and ferries in a choreographed show while there was also entertainment in the sky with a RAAF jet ensuring that all and sundry were still awake and a visit from a Qantas airliner as well as a Navy helicopter towing the largest Australian Flag one is ever likely to see in a lap of the Harbour. Finally the Red Berets dropped in by parachuting down to specific targets on the water with most hitting their target.

To cap off a wonderful spectacle there was the Australia Day Harbour Parade with hundreds of vessels both large and small all decked out with a myriad of flags of all colours and sizes as they made their way down the Harbour in a very colourful display.

Amid all the merriment Captain Cook Cruises staff served a sumptuous luncheon which everyone enjoyed immensely with the sweets again proving popular and there was no shortage of refreshments available and served with a smile for the duration of the cruise.

Finally, like all good things the cruise came to an end and a very happy group returned to Circular Quay with many vowing that they would return for the 2020 Australia Day cruise.

Ian McKnight OAM
NSW Newsletter Editor

COMING EVENTS

Illawarra Regional Group

Mid-Year Luncheon

Friday 31st May 2019

11.15am for 11.45am

Venue: Dapto Leagues Club

Cr Station Street & Bong Bong Road, Dapto

Enquiries to Lynn Wilson OAM JP

Mobile 0466989914,

Email lynnwilson@loadednet.com.au

Hunter Regional Group

Morning Tea

Wednesday 17th July 2019

Venue: Cardiff RSL Club

Enquiries to Mrs June Cameron AM

(02) 4954 7005

Annual Luncheon NSW Parliament House, Sydney

Wednesday 31st July 2019

12 noon for 12.30pm

All Welcome. Keep this date free.

Enquiries to Dr John Gullotta AM

Mobile 0418 233 069,

Email drjohngullotta@bigpond.com



OAA (NSW) MEMORABILIA FOR SALE

Item Price incl. P/H

Neckties Traditional style	\$27.00	Association Brooches	\$17.00
Neckties Corporate: Maroon/Black/White	\$27.00	Association lapel badges	\$17.00
Neckties Corporate: Navy/Aqua/White	\$27.00	Cufflinks (boxed)	\$35.00
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Pens	\$12.00		

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



Standing – Robert Dan OAM, Robert Kalaf OAM, Christopher Dooley OAM, Brian Atkins OAM, Bernie Curran AM, Ronald MacLeod OAM
Sitting – Robert Porter OAM, Heather McLaren OAM, Afaf Girgis AAM, Lyndall Ryan AM | Dale Goldie OAM
Photo – Graham Hynds – Newlight Photography

HUNTER REGIONAL GROUP

The Hunter Regional Group enjoyed a luncheon at the Cardiff RSL Club on Saturday 16th February 2019 to welcome the OA Australia Day recipients of the Region. Ten of the 23 local recipients were able to attend the luncheon with family and friends. Sadly

Kenneth William Guy OAM passed away on 27 December 2018 and was represented by six members of his family.

June Cameron AM hosted the day and extended special congratulations to all the recipients and a warm welcome to those in attendance at the luncheon.

The venue was comfortably full as 143 members and guests were in attendance.

Jim Mein AM, the New South Wales Honorary Treasurer, attended the luncheon.

He advised those present of current happenings at the National and State levels. He proposed a toast to the Order of Australia.

The special guest speaker on the day was Super Hubert OAM who delivered an extremely interesting run down on his past achievements as a magician, entertainer and charity fund raiser and his address was well received.

Fellowship and a wonderful lunch was enjoyed by all in attendance.

The next activity planned by the Order of Australia Hunter Regional Group is a Morning Tea at Cardiff RSL Club on Wednesday 17th July 2019.

Charles Stevens OAM RFD ED

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 Jenny Munro AM Mobile 0407 299 149

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

Hunter: Mrs June Cameron AM (02) 4954 7005

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

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

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

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

Co-Convenor: Mr. Wayne Geale OAM

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

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

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

NSW Regional Groups Co-ordinator: Mr Peter Veenstra OAM Tambaroora
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NSW BRANCH

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

Chairman

Mr. Peter Falk OAM
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Deputy Chairman

Mr James Mein AM
 Mob. 0408 660 591

Honorary Secretary

Mrs Carolyn Lyons OAM
 Mob. 0427 374 744

Honorary Treasurer

Ms Gail Dunne OAM
 Mob. TBA

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 (Regional Groups Co-ordinator)
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Mr Ian McKnight OAM
 (Events Manager)
 Mob. 0407 598 588

Mr Edward Selwyn OAM
 Mob. 0488 601 480

Dr Frank Kelleher AM
 (John Lincoln YCSA co-ordinator)
 Mob. 0427 644 397

Mr. Malcolm Longstaff OAM
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A/Prof. John Gullotta AM
 Mob. 0418 233 069

Co-opted members

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 (Archives)
 9410 7062

Rear Admiral Tony Hunt AO RAN (Rtd)
 (Young Endeavour co-ordinator)
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Mrs Silvana Vidoni OAM
 (Merchandising Officer)
 (02) 9550 0049

Mr Garth Doyle OAM
 (Regional Groups Assist.)
 (02) 4284 0111

Mr Peter King AO
 (Events Assist.)



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Congratulations to all those women and men who received awards in the Order of Australia in the recent Australia Day Honours list. My very sincere congratulations on the recognition you have received for your important contributions to

our community. I warmly invite you to join with others who have previously received awards in the Order of Australia and become a member of the Order of Australia Association.

At the recent well-attended Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Queensland Branch of the Association I was pleased to report on our very successful 2018. Thanks to the Branch Committee Members and Regional Group Conveners for their support and interest during the year. The detailed report of the year's activities is available on the Association web-site, www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au, and I commend it to you.

The Branch Committee for 2019 was elected unanimously at the AGM and I am pleased to welcome three new members onto the committee. Your Branch Committee for 2019 is an excellent balance of new and experienced members. At its first meeting held on 6 March the immediate tasks and major responsibilities for 2019 were decided. The membership of the Queensland Branch Committee for 2019 is listed in this edition of *The Order*.

The AGM was followed by the very successful Annual Dinner attended by a record number of 143 members and guests. We all enjoyed the presentation by Emeritus Professor Roly Sussex OAM: Chevalier des Palmes Académiques, who convinced us that we now have a recognisable Australian English Language. Additional highlights included the presentation of the Branch's 2018 Senior Volunteer Awards to three very worthy volunteers. I wish to thank Blight Rayner Architects for continuing to sponsor these awards and Michael Rayner AM for presenting the awards at the dinner.

Another highlight was the opportunity to recognise the outstanding contributions to the Branch Committee made by Professor Paul McNally OAM. Paul, supported by Margaret, his wife. Paul has been a very active Branch Committee member and Branch Newsletter Editor for the past eight years. I was pleased to present a commemorative plaque to Paul recognising his service and flowers to Margaret thanking her for her support. Paul has kindly agreed to continue to act as Convener of the Darling Downs Regional Group.

2019 promises to be another interesting and exciting year with a large increase in the number of awards in the Order of Australia being made to outstanding Queenslanders. Members of the Branch Committee and the Regional Group Conveners are looking forward to servicing the interests of members throughout the year.

John Harden AM
Branch Chairman

CENTRAL QUEENSLAND MEMBERS LEARN ABOUT THE QUEENSLAND AMBULANCE SERVICE



At the Central Queensland luncheon (L to R) - Wal Taylor OAM, Dr Mick Davis AM ASM and Raymond Young OAM.

Twenty members of the Central Queensland Regional Group met at the Rockhampton Leagues Club on 11 March 2019 and welcomed three new local recipients of awards in The Order of Australia - Graeme Brady OAM, Grant Cassidy OAM and Peter Conaghan OAM - each of whom received their awards in the 2019 Australia Day honours.

Wallace Taylor OAM introduced our Guest Speaker, Dr Mick Davis AM ASM, Volunteer Manager Heritage & History, Queensland Ambulance Service. Mick is a Past Chairman and current member of The

Order of Australia Association Queensland Branch Committee. Mick and his wife Elaine were both long term former Rockhampton residents.

In his presentation Mick outlined the history of the Queensland Ambulance Service from its founding in September 1892 as a network of locally managed services to the establishment in 1991 of the current State Government funded entity. Members found the history of development and modernisation up to the present sophisticated Service very interesting and it encouraged an informative question session. Eric Anderson OAM moved a vote of thanks.

The Group's appreciation was extended to the Rockhampton Regional Council for the loan of the National banners and to Karen, Caitlin and John for setting up the venue.

Our next function is our Annual Luncheon on 16 September 2019.

Raymond Young OAM, Convener

IN MEMORIAM

BARTLETT, Leslie Helene OAM
BRANDLE, Dr Maximillian OAM
BURKE, Arthur Ronald OAM
CAMPBELL, Dr John McNeil AM
CROKER, Dr James (Jim) AM
DOBSON, Father John Michael OAM
HAILEY, Louis Henry AM
HARRIP, Alwyn Ecucene OAM
KING, Shirley OAM
LESWICH, Audrey Florence OAM
LUCK, Francis Edward OAM
PIE, Geoffrey William AM
PLANT, Edward (Ted) OAM
SCOTT, Dame Margaret AC DBE
SINCLAIR, John AO
SOLOMON, Michael Joel OAM
VANCE, John Charles OAM
WELCH, Bruce OAM
WING, Shirley OAM
ZACCARI, Dr Felice OAM

SUNSHINE COAST MEMBERS ENJOY GETTING TOGETHER

Members from the OAA Sunshine Coast Region gathered together on 5 April 2019 for their first function of the year to enjoy morning tea at Serenity Restaurant at the Waterways on Bribie Island. They were treated to sumptuous home-made delicacies while taking in the view of the beautiful Pumicestone Passage and Glass House Mountains.

The speaker for the morning was Sonia Colvin (a hairdresser from Bribie Island) who spoke of her original dream and desire to assist those being affected by Domestic Violence and Elder Abuse. Three years on and the dream has become a reality. Hairdressers with Hearts is now an incorporated not-for-profit organization whose aim is to see hairdressers/barbers providing appropriate resources to link clients in these situations with the relevant professional support services.

Members who did not attend this morning tea will be given the opportunity to attend the second function which will be held in the Buderim/Maleny area of the Region in late June. As some members have to make a round trip of 286 km to attend functions, events are planned in locations within the Region to suit as many members as possible. As Convener I have become used to travelling long distances to inspect venues and attend the functions.

However the pleasure, fun and fellowship which we all enjoy when we meet together are worth the travel. I quote in part from an address given by The Revd. Mark Vainikka, Assistant Bishop, Lutheran Church of Australia at the recent Commonwealth Multi-Faith Service held at St. John's Anglican Cathedral, Brisbane on 12 March this year: *"Anything that creates community, anything that brings people together, anything that makes connection possible, is worth celebrating, is worth preserving, is worth protecting."*

Marjorie Voss OAM, Convener

VALE DR JAMES CROKER AM

We were saddened to hear the news that one of our regular attendees to our events, Dr James (Jim) Croker AM passed away on 12 January 2019.

Jim was a very enthusiastic past member of the Queensland Branch Committee from 1989 to 1999 serving the Committee with distinction. He had the honour of being elected as Queensland Branch Chairman for 1995 and 1996. After his Committee service he and his wife Joan continued to support Queensland Branch events particularly the Annual Dinners and new award recipient celebratory receptions and luncheons. Their last attended event was the Queen's Birthday award recipients' lunch on 20 September 2018.

Jim was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) on Australia Day 1986 in recognition of service to the dental profes-

sion. Jim's service to the profession included President of the 24th Australian Dental Association Congress, Federal Chairman of the Dental Health Education Committee from 1982 to 1985 and a member of and consultant to the World Dental Health Education Committee of the Federation Dentaire Internationale from 1978 to 1984. He received the Distinguished Service Award in 1981 and was made a Life Member of the Australian Dental Association (Qld).

Jim was an active Rotarian serving as President of his Club and Chairman of the District Rotaract Committee from 1969 to 1972. He was President of the Queensland Youth Choir from 1986 to 1992.

In the 10 years that I have got to know Jim I found him to be a thorough gentleman with a charming, kindly nature. He was very supportive to me in my role as Branch

AN ENJOYABLE LUNCHEON IN TOWNSVILLE

The second event to be hosted by the newly re-formed committee of the Townsville Regional Group was successfully held on Saturday 9 March.

An attendance similar in size to the first dinner held in October 2018 was present at the luncheon held in the tropical surroundings of the Seagulls Resort, with attendees from as far away as Cloncurry and Home Hill joining award recipients from the city at the function.

A large number of apologies was also received from members who were keen to attend, but were already committed to other activities.

We initially planned to have a guest speaker at each of our functions; however on this occasion those present heard from two of their own members who highlighted the reasons behind the citation that came with their respective awards.

The Townsville Regional Group Committee will be meeting in the near future to plan for another dinner proposed to be held in September 2019.

David Jackson OAM, Convener



Dorothy Gibson-Wilde OAM (left) with her husband, Bruce (right), and popular Townsville radio personality, Steven Price OAM, who received his award in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June 2018.

Secretary. We will all miss his presence at future events.

Jim enjoyed a wonderful life of 91 years. To Joan and the Croker family we offer our sincerest condolences.

Geoff Cowles OAM [Information on Jim was sourced from the Queensland Branch Bulletin – August 1996]W



Enjoying great fellowship at the 2013 Annual Dinner – from L-R: Joan Croker, Professor Stella O'Donnell AO, Professor Paul McNally OAM and the late Dr Jim Croker AM.



MEET THE 2018 SENIOR VOLUNTEER AWARD WINNERS



Our 2018 Senior Volunteer Award winners from L-R - Blanche McNelley, Sandra Shepperd and Dr Stuart Stieler with Michael Rayner AM from Blight Rayner Architects, the award's sponsor (far right).

The winners of the sixth annual Senior Volunteer Awards were announced at the Queensland Branch Annual Dinner on 25 February 2019. The Awards publicly recognise the vital contributions made to the organisation and operation of our society by senior volunteers. Michael Rayner AM from Blight Rayner Architects, the awards sponsor, presented the three winners with their awards.

The 2018 award winners are -

Blanche McNelley from St George, 510 km west of Brisbane.

Blanche McNelley is a stalwart of her outback community of St George.

Born in 1924, Blanche has given years of voluntary service to so many of St George's community organisations including St George Red Cross, St George Golf Associates, St George Meals on Wheels, St George RSL Club, and Friends of Warrawee Retirement Village. She is an active member of St George Anglican Church and for some 25 years was Guild Secretary.

Her nominator reports that *"Blanche has always offered informal community support to individuals and families in need. She has quietly provided food and done shopping for those who are sick, frail or elderly. (She) has been and remains an inspiration to generations of women as a community-minded, generous, compassionate and thoughtful individual who throughout her life always looked out for others especially those less fortunate, the elderly and the sick."*

Blanche is an outstanding member of the St George community and is certainly worthy of a 2018 Senior Volunteer Award.

Sandra Shepperd from Minyama, Sunshine Coast.

Sandra is a long-standing volunteer with the Cancer Council Queensland ESA Wig and Turban Service where she uses her skills and knowledge of hairdressing and dressmaking to create wigs, turbans and other head coverings for women suffering hair-loss because of cancer treatment.

Her nominator reports that Sandra's *"love of her volunteer work is reflected in her enthusiasm and warm smile she offers to all who use the service."*

In addition to her voluntary work with the Cancer Council, Sandra strongly supports rural families suffering the effects of drought, raising funds for drought relief and visiting outback families to offer assistance.

Sandra has recently been invited to accept a position as an Elder of the Kawana Uniting

Church, acknowledging her continuing contribution to community support.

Sandra is certainly a worthy recipient of a 2018 Senior Volunteer Award for her greatly valued assistance to those in need.

Dr Stuart Stieler from Banksia Beach, Bribie Island.

Stuart has been an enthusiastic and committed member of Rotary for almost thirty years contributing to countless Rotary initiatives and projects both in Australia and overseas.

His main focus has been organising and coordinating Rotary youth leadership and Interact projects at District level and literacy and exchange projects at club level.

Of special note is the work he has done as a volunteer member of building construction teams in both Timor-Leste and the Solomon Islands.

Stuart is a strong supporter of the Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) and has been a member of their Redcliffe Advisory Committee since 2016.

He has been the handyman for the Wallum Action Group Nursery on Bribie Island for five years.

He has also contributed to projects supporting the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Stuart's contribution to the welfare and development of the community has been extensive, valued and wide-spread. He is a worthy recipient of a 2018 Senior Volunteer Award.

WIDE BAY-BURNETT REGIONAL GROUP MEETS AT GAYNDAH

The Wide Bay Burnett group met at the Gayndah CWA cottage on 16 March 2019 for a delightful lunch prepared by the Gayndah CWA ladies.

Also in attendance were three of our newest Order of Australia awardees, Dr Judith Grimes OAM, John Mellor OAM (brother of our guest speaker) and Elaine Madill OAM. Each gave us an overview of their lives and details of their award citations. It was interesting to listen to so many wonderful life achievements.

Gayndah's last Mayor, Bill Mellor OAM, was our guest speaker and he gave some of us differing sized bells so that when we

got bored with his speech we could ring our bell and he would consider putting an end to his talk. He gave me the biggest and loudest bell- a cow bell!! Bill gave us a wonderful rundown on the town, its history and the landmarks and museums we should visit while in Gayndah. Bill is also a mad keen cricketer and played the game well in his younger days.

I am sad to report that our Treasurer, Mrs Dawn Kling OAM, was unable to attend our luncheon as she had a fall in the previous week fracturing her pelvis. We offer our prayers for her speedy recovery.

Donna Duncan OAM, Convener

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY DINNER - TUESDAY 11 JUNE 2019

Join us for our annual Black Tie Dinner with the Victoria League Brisbane for Commonwealth Friendship at Tattersalls Club, Brisbane on Tuesday evening 11 June 2019 to celebrate the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Further details and registration/payment form are available for downloading at the Association's website at www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

RECORD ATTENDANCE AT THIS YEAR'S WONDERFUL ANNUAL DINNER

One hundred and forty-three guests attended a most wonderful Annual Dinner on Monday 25 February 2019 in the Ballroom at Victoria Park in the Victoria Park Golfing Complex at Herston in Brisbane.

This represented a record attendance for an Annual Dinner, surpassing last year's event by 10 guests. As has been past practice, the Annual General Meeting of the Queensland Branch preceded the Dinner and was well attended by forty-six Association members.

This year's colourful guest speaker was Emeritus Professor Roland (Roly) Sussex OAM: Chevalier des Palmes Académiques who delighted the audience on his chosen topic "Strayyan English: How our national idiom came of age"

The following is an abstract of the address, as provided by Roly.

In two short generations Australian English has established itself as our national idiom in all spheres of activity. No longer do we pay lip service to offshore models of English. This is a major achievement, and one primarily by the generation of those who have been honoured by the Order of Australia. Our pronunciation, vocabulary and styles of speech are now confidently and often distinctively ours: whether in the media, education, the arts, parliament, sports and elsewhere. This maturing of our language, and ourselves, can be found in many milestones. We are part of the international community of English, but – stone the crows – at the same time we have found a new identity, and a new way of expressing that identity.

Many in the audience could relate to the often used Australian expressions that Roly highlighted in his address that are rarely expressed today. Roly spoke with authority and added here and there touches of nostalgic humour that captivated his listening audience.

At the Dinner three outstanding Queensland senior volunteers received their Queensland Branch Senior Volunteer Awards from Michael Rayner AM representing Blight Rayner Architects, the award sponsor. (Refer to separate article elsewhere in this edition of *The Order*).

The Queensland Branch also recognised Professor Paul McNally OAM at the Dinner for his 8 years' service as a Queensland Branch Committee member and Queensland Branch Newsletter Editor.

Geoff Cowles OAM

QUEENSLAND REGIONAL GROUP CONVENERS

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: Clive Mitchell-Taylor OAM - clive@taylor.id.au

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

Sunshine Coast: Marjorie Voss OAM - Marjorie.voss@bigpond.com

Townsville: David Jackson OAM – ddjacko@bigpond.com

Wide Bay-Burnett: Donna Duncan OAM – donna_dd@bigpond.net.au



Paul McNally OAM and wife Margaret recognised at the Annual Dinner.



Roly Sussex OAM captivates his audience at the Annual Dinner on 25 February 2019.

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

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Royce Voss OAM

Regional Group Conveners and

Committee members

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Raymond Young OAM

Co-opted member

Graham Hyde OAM, Newsletter Editor
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secqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2019 has started well for the Victoria Branch of the Order of Australia Association.

For the first time, the Vic Branch was invited to participate in the Australia Day March along Swanson Street,

past the Melbourne Town Hall and other iconic buildings before finishing in the gardens off St Kilda Road.

The same day Victoria had a record number of recipients and we look forward to welcoming them at upcoming events during the year.

On Wednesday February 27 in excess of 230 members, guests and secondary students attended our third Oration in Deakin Edge at Federation Square.

The event started with our National Anthem being sung by Imogen Spendlove. The Oration was delivered by The Right Honourable Sally Capp Lord Mayor City of Melbourne. MC David Mann AM interviewed 2018 OAA Foundation scholarship recipient Juanita Kelly-Mundie; an excellent ambassador for the scholarship program. Thank you to our members who attended this successful event.

The first week in April Government House Victoria was full of excitement with the three investitures for the presentation

of Australian Honours and Awards by Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AC Governor of Victoria.

Families, friends and colleagues proudly acknowledged the achievements of the recipients who have given so freely of their time and knowledge to make a difference in so many areas across Victoria. It was also pleasing to see a good number of recipients from regional and rural areas being acknowledged for services to their community.

Thank you to our members who take the time to nominate achievers who have gone above and beyond. It was also fantastic to see some recipients in the late 20s to early 40s receiving their Order of Australia Medal this year.

We live in a vibrant multicultural state where cultural diversity is one of our greatest strengths. That was evident at the two investitures I attended with Fred Harrington OAM VIC Branch Secretary and Regional Groups Co-ordinator.

Our next event is Wednesday 13th June at the National Gallery of Victoria, a dual presentation of Chinese art and culture past and present, the Melbourne Winter Masterpieces series will present China's ancient Terracotta Warriors, alongside a parallel display of new works by one of the world's most exciting contemporary artists, Cai Guo-Qiang.

The VIC Branch values the ongoing support we receive from our members – thank you.

Helene Bender OAM
Branch Chairman

INSPIRING AUSTRALIANS' ORATION

On the 27th February, at Deakin Edge within Federation Square, over 220 guests enjoyed the 3rd annual Inspiring Australians' Oration.

In addition to many of the Victoria Branch members, there were students from invited schools Camberwell Grammar School, John Monash Science School, Ringwood Secondary and Strathcona Baptist Girls Grammar.

The event itself consisted of a musical performance from Imogen Spendlove, an interview with the OAA Foundation Scholarship awardee Juanita Kelly-Mundine and of course a delightful Oration by The Rt Hon the Lord Mayor of Melbourne Sally Capp.

The Lord Mayor spoke about the qualities of Inspiring Australians which she admires, which was great to hear from different perspectives with her experiences.



At the conclusion, many students enjoyed their time in discussion with the Lord Mayor, Imogen and Juanita after the Oration.

The Oration has now established itself as one of the major events undertaken by the Victorian branch and will again be held in 2020.

A special thanks to Paul Wheelton AM and Angela Wheelton OAM, for their continued support of the event.



AUSTRALIA DAY IN VICTORIA

The Order of Australia Association was 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.

Leading the fifteen OAA Members were Branch Chair Helene Bender OAM and Branch Secretary Fred Harrington OAM who held aloft the Victoria Branch sign.

The street parade commentators introduced the OAA Group over loud speakers, to which the crowds responded with cheers, clapping and several saying "good on you" in warm response.

In amongst the rich coloured national costumes of many countries represented, several OAA members took the opportunity to add their own colour and style using the Australian Flag, Akubra hat and other items of national pride.

The success, fun and enjoyment of the day augers well for an even bigger representation of OAA Members taking part in Australia Day 2020.



Paul Wheelton AM and Pam Robinson OAM in true Aussie style



Happy Walkers



Vic Chair Helene Bender OAM, Christine Unsworth AM and Fred Harrington OAM lead the Parade

VICTORIA BRANCH

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Her Excellency The Hon.
Linda Dessau AC

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Dr Yvonne Ho OAM

Deputy Chair (Regional)

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Mr Peter Jones AM

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Mr Paul Wheelton AM KSJ

Co-opted Members

Membership Secretary

Mr Tony Smith OAM

National Merchandise Officer

Mr Richard Rozen OAM

Check out our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au



FATHER AND DAUGHTER ORDER OF AUSTRALIA MEDAL RECIPIENTS

Victorian recipient, Ms Susan Kathleen Bergman, was invested with her Order of Australia Medal by the Governor of Victoria on Tuesday 2nd April, at Government House. Ms Bergman OAM was recognised for her service to the performing arts, particularly through community theatre.

The ceremony was witnessed by Ms Bergman's family.

The Victoria branch congratulates a rare and special occasion for a duo father-daughter recipient of the Order.

William Lye OAM and Fred Harrington OAM represented the branch for the first of our three Australia Day 2019 investitures in Victoria.

The photograph shows her proud husband and daughter; and her mother and father Mr Donald Beresford Bergman OAM, sharing the wonderful occasion. Mr Bergman OAM was awarded the Medal on Australia Day 2017 for service to veterans and their families, and to the community.



VICTORIAN REGIONAL GROUP CONVENERS

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 Clarke OAM

Mornington Peninsula: Brian Stahl OAM JP

North East & Goulburn Valley: Barbara Thomas OAM

North Central Suburbs: Fred Harrington OAM

South Central Suburbs: Ross Newton OAM

South West Victoria: Dr Peter Habersberger AM RFD

Western Suburbs: John Ravenhall AM



In this sequel to '*A Town at War*', author **Marcus Hill** tells twenty stories revealing little-known aspects of WWII.

A number of them are based on interviews with those who served in the armed forces during that time. They are backed by extensive research of official records and range from the tragic to the humorous.

With Japanese submarines sinking ships off the coast, enemy mines washing up on Ninety

Mile Beach and aircraft constantly overhead, Gippsland was not on the frontline but, at times, seemed close to it.

Those who enjoyed '*A Town at War*' will find much of interest in this new publication which will be available early in 2019.

Copies of '*Sir, who won the war*' may be ordered from the author: marcusjhill@bigpond.com

Please advise delivery address and number of copies required. Cost is \$20 including post and packaging. Invoices will be included.



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

At the Hobart Conference Dinner on 13th April 2019, two new recipients of the Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship received their Certificates from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Tasmania, The Hon. Justice Alan Blow AO.

Foundation Chair, Mr Hugh Morgan AC, announced the Awardees and introduced them, in turn, to Justice Blow AO.

JEREMY DOUPE

Twenty-one-year-old Jeremy Doupe grew up in Montrose, Victoria. He is combining a Bachelor of Commerce (Major in Finance and Marketing) with a Master of International Business at the University



of Melbourne. He has consistently achieved honours scores in his studies. Jeremy is currently preparing to sit the Chartered Financial Analyst Level 1 exam.

Jeremy completed his VCE in 2015 at Yarra Valley Grammar School. He was involved in many co-curricular areas, receiving service to school awards for sport, music, drama, and community service. He was the Year 12 Music Captain and Concert Master of the School Orchestra. For six years, Jeremy was involved in Yarra Valley Grammar's mentoring program with Mitcham Primary School, assisting newly arrived students from low socio-economic backgrounds with their English and Math.

Jeremy is currently completing the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, and in 2019 is volunteering as a Team Leader for 180 Degrees Consulting, assisting a renowned Victorian charity to better serve the community. Furthermore, Jeremy has been involved in the Surf Life Saving movement since the age of seven. He has achieved his Gold Medallion in Advanced Life Saving, has been a Patrol Captain at Sorrento SLSC, has assisted with managing a 'nipper' group, and was recently selected to represent his club and Lifesaving Victoria at Surf Life Saving Australia's National Leadership College in Sydney. Jeremy has also been a committee member for the Melbourne University Snowboard Team.

In 2017, Jeremy travelled to Chile for an intensive management consulting subject. He was the recipient of a New Colombo Plan Scholarship to complete a two-week program with the University of Delhi, and in July 2018 he volunteered with Vatsalya Org, an Indian NGO that houses and educates orphaned or disadvantaged children. He aims to pursue a career without borders that has a positive impact on vulnerable communities. Upon completion of his studies, Jeremy aims to work in strategic consulting.

Jeremy's breadth of involvement in community organisations, high achievements in study, and passion for finding new ways to contribute to society places him clearly as a future leader.

The generous donor of Jeremy's Award is The Family of Jack Mayer Joel OAM.

HANNAH GANDY

Twenty-year-old Hannah Gandy of Montmorency, Victoria is studying for a double Degree of Law/Arts majoring in Politics at La Trobe University. She was raised, alongside her brother, by a single mother who worked full-time and frequently experienced relocation of living arrangements and lack of support for education. Hannah was not a regular school attendee, which resulted in attending three different High Schools. Her life changed dramatically when she finally enrolled at The Pavilion School. She enrolled in Distance Learning for her classes but took full advantage of the school environment for support. "Engagement strategies and long-term support from the school enabled me to turn my life around" she asserts. By Year 12 Hannah was already studying two University Law subjects, in which she excelled, receiving the highest marks in the law program. She ran a peer support program, was her school Valedictorian, School Captain and their first student to ever complete Year 12 VCE. This was widely reported in the press and television because of the outstanding achievement of a student from a disengaged background. Hannah then received an early offer to enrol in her current Degree course.

At University, Hannah has maintained a High Distinction grade average, has received excellence awards in numerous Law subjects and was invited to join the Hallmark research program where she





has carried out research about student re-engagement strategies. She carries out extensive community service by advocating for flexible learning schools and is employed as a youth outreach worker for her local council. She is also employed by La Trobe University to work with disadvantaged schools and since year 11 has undertaken research at the Fair Work Commission, firstly in a Projects and Policy Team and later in Award Modernisation. Hannah enjoys being one of La Trobe University's Elite Athletes and has been selected to represent Australia in the World Roller Games this year after being placed second in last year's Australian Women's Open League for freestyle slalom skating.

Hannah is dedicated to re-engaging students who have been excluded or disengaged from mainstream education. Being aware of the powerful influence supportive learning conditions can provide, she strives to assist decision makers in appreciating the extent of the problems. There is no doubt that Hannah is destined to lead in her chosen fields of endeavour.

The generous donor of Hannah's Award is Freemasons Victoria proudly supported by Freemasons Victoria Foundation Limited.

At the conclusion of the Award presentations an Awardee from 2011 James Broinowski, was introduced to Justice Blow AO, to thank him on behalf of the two Awardees present and on behalf of all previous Awardees, for his attendance.

James Broinowski studied viticulture and oenology at the University of Adelaide, Waite Institute. The generous donor of his Scholarship was Mr Baillieu Myer AC.

Tasmanian-born James, graduated in 2013 then sought to attain his ambitions in the field of exquisite fine wines. Thanks to the expertise and generosity of Andrew Margan of Margan Wines, James enjoys a yearly visit to the Hunter Valley in NSW to hone his vintage skills. He has also benefited greatly from his good fortune in working with industry greats Peter Althaus of Domaine A, Coal River Valley, Tasmania and Greg Harrington, Master Sommelier of Gramercy Cellars (USA).

By 2015 James was ready to test the market with his brand Small Island Wines. With capital from crowd-funding, James purchased pinot noir from Glengarry Vineyard in Northern Tasmania. His initial purchase in 2015 was 2.2 tonnes. By 2018 this figure had grown to 20.5 tonnes. His wines consistently achieve outstanding scores of 90 and more. (Three have achieved 96!) In 2016 he achieved a gold medal-winning pinot noir at the Hobart Wine Show.

James has tremendous drive, breadth of vision and leadership. He was listed in James Halliday's top 10 New Wineries of 2018. And his new venture, Drink Co, in Salamanca Place, Hobart, is a highly regarded wine shop and tasting room. Many hours are also spent making and refining wines at the Pooley Winery with Justin and Anna Pooley and Jonny Hughes of Mewstone Wines in the Derwent Valley.

This year James is seeking to establish a Co-Op Winery to support small growers.

James generously donated the proceeds from twelve of his top vintage wines towards a future Scholarship. In his speech he particularly noted that '...this Award changed my life in that it gave me confidence to pursue my goals and thus achieve my dreams.'

STOP PRESS: **SOME UPCOMING BOARD ACTIVITY.**

FUTURES DAY

14 JUNE 2019 - MELBOURNE

- All Directors And Branch Chairman
- Likely Areas Of Discussion
 - Strategic Plans
 - Structure Of Association
 - Governance – Constitution / Rules
 - Finance
 - Management
 - Membership & Marketing

BOARD MEETING

15 June 2019 – Melbourne

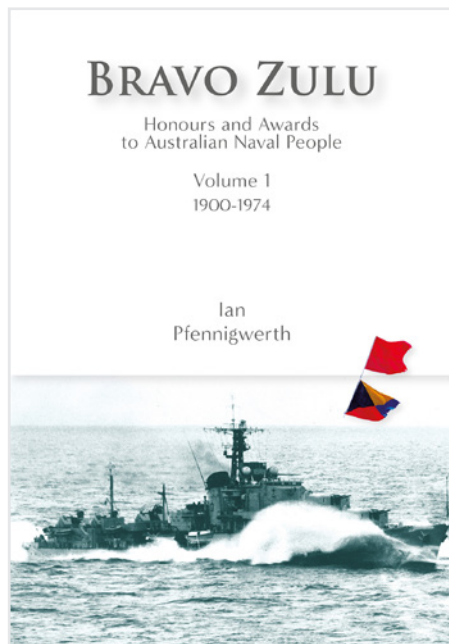
- Directors Only
- Current Draft Agenda
 - Outcomes Of Futures Day.
 - Outcomes Of AGM / Members Forum
 - Constitution Review Update
 - Standard Financial Reporting
 - Review Of Future Income / Expenditure Options
 - Membership Report
 - Policy Development Report
 - Darwin Conference Update



HONOURING THE SERVICE OF AUSTRALIA'S NAVAL MEN AND WOMEN

Before Federation, colonial naval officers were recognised for steadfastness and courage while serving in South Africa and China. This tradition was enhanced by the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) through its distinguished record during World War I. Navy men won Australia's first awards for gallantry in the face of the enemy in 1914, and they went on to consolidate this reputation for excellence and daring in European, Middle East and Asian theatres of war and throughout the uneasy peace that followed.

In 1939 RAN men - and later women - went to war again, cementing our Navy's reputation as a steadfast ally and determined enemy, and from 1946 the RAN fought in Korea, Malaya, Malaysia and Vietnam while developing its capabilities for sustainment, training and naval diplomacy in a Cold War world. Its Middle East engagement, from the 1991 Gulf War to this day, and in sensitive operations in the South Pacific and Southeast Asia demonstrated our Navy's capabilities and gained it international respect through the service of its men and women.

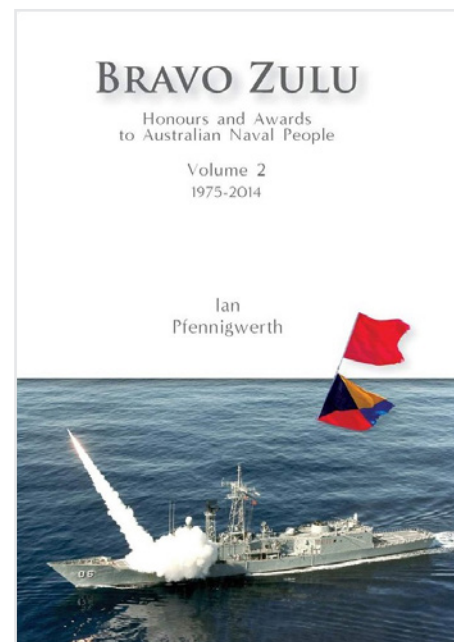


Now, in *Bravo Zulu* (navalese for 'Well Done'), Australians have a magnificent resume of the trials, tribulations and triumphs of their Navy in 115 years of service, illustrated by individual accounts of its men and women who received Imperial, Australian and foreign honours and awards for their service, gallantry or bravery. *Volume 1* covering the period 1900-74 was released in 2016. Launched by Australia's Chief of Navy in November 2018, *Volume 2*, covering the period 1975-2014, concluded this nine-year research project.

The second book, with 882 pages, describes the development and activities of the RAN from 1975, with separate chapters devoted to the Navy's role in the 1991 Gulf War, in the 1999-2000 UN East Timor peacekeeping operation, enforcement of UN sanctions on Iraq, the 2003 Iraq War the continuing service

of naval people in Iraq and Afghanistan, ashore and afloat and, of course, border security operations in Australia. Above all, *Bravo Zulu Volume 2* is about people labouring mightily to ensure that Australia's Navy is acknowledged internationally for its organisational capability and operational reach. The book is illustrated with maps, diagrams and 160 photographs.

READERS LIKE *BRAVO ZULU VOLUME 2*



'It is a magnificent achievement and both volumes will continue to be an essential resource for anything I ever write in the future'.

'My family are especially proud to read the entry about my contribution and happy to read the stories of other recipients. I particularly like the way that the work is tied to the history of the RAN.'

'You and your team deserve great credit for providing another wonderful addition to our Navy's historical collection – BZ to you!'

'I am amazed at the material you and your team have gathered, and the level of detail within each story. I can really appreciate why this has been a labour of love for you for so long.'

OWNING A COPY

Hardcover edition of *Bravo Zulu Volume 1* \$85; *Volume 2* \$90. Two-volume set \$170.

Postage and handling \$15 per volume.

Visit Ian Pfennigwerth's Naval History site:
<https://www.nautilushistory.com.au/>

Or buy through the online re-sellers listed at
<https://www.echobooks.com.au/military/bravo-zulu/>



Order of Australia Association

MERCHANDISE

The Order of Australia Association offers a range of merchandise to members for personal use and as gifts (remember only members may wear OOA-branded items of apparel). You can pay by credit card or bank transfer. The OOA is currently undertaking a survey to ensure that we continue to offer items that allow members to enjoy and show their pride in the Association. Contact details are below.

	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	PRICE	POSTAGE & HANDLING	QUANTITY ORDERED
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8	OAA Tie Blue/Gold	25.00	2.00	
9	OAA Tie Navy/Aqua/White	25.00	2.00	
10	Car Decal	5.00	1.00	
11	Key Ring in Gift Box	10.00	8.00	
12	Metal Drink Coasters (set 4)	35.00	8.00	
13	OAA Travel/Sports Bag Navy	40.00	10.00	
14	Business Document/Laptop Bag	30.00	10.00	
15	Playing Cards	3.00	1.00	
16	OAA Metal Medallion 10cm	20.00	2.00	
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18	A5 Compendium	40.00	8.00	
19	Notepads for Compendium (4)	10.00	8.00	

*Only OAA members may wear apparel, cufflinks & badges.

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