

ACT OAA

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

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COMING EVENTS

BRANCH AGM

Wednesday 19 Feb 2020
Royal Canberra Golf Club

Wednesday 4 March 2020
OAA-ANU Lecture
Manning Clark Hall – ANU

A booking sheet for the following event is enclosed:

Wednesday 13 May 2020
Reception for Australia Day
Honours Recipients.
The Commonwealth Club.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & GUEST SPEAKER

We are close to our Annual General Meeting on 19 February 2020 and it is your chance to participate in the governance of our Branch. We encourage you to come along to have your say on the Annual Report and who represents us on the Branch Committee in 2020/21.

Join us for free nibbles (and drinks at own expense) from 5.30pm. The AGM will start promptly at 6.00 pm. Although this is a free event, please register at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/3X9OX> for catering purposes. When registering, please place your post-nominals after your surname in the surname field.



Immediately following the AGM, Branch member Professor Jane Dahlstrom OAM will give a talk on her work as an anatomical pathologist, and will incorporate a Q & A session. Jane was awarded a medal of the Order of Australia in June 2019 *for service to medical education and to pathology.*

OAA-ANU LECTURE



Join us for the annual OAA-ANU lecture at 6.00 – 7.00 pm on Wednesday 4 March at the Manning Clark Hall with the Adjunct Professor of the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Admiral Chris Barrie AC (Retd). The title of his lecture will be **“It’s an Honour - Reflections”**. Chris Barrie retired in 2002 after 42 years in the RAN, ending in four years of service as the Chief of the Defence Force (CDF). Since then he has worked on strategic leadership issues as consultant, teacher and mentor at Oxford University, the National Defense University in Washington DC, and at the Australian National University. Chris is also a member of the Global Military Advisory Council on Climate Change (GMACCC).

Chris Barrie was appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia in January 2001 *for eminent service to the Australian Defence Force as Chief of the Defence Force.* Please book at <https://www.anu.edu.au/events/it's-an-honour---reflections> to attend. This is a free event.

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Welcome to our first Branch newsletter for 2020. We've had a tough start to the year with bushfires all around us and a hailstorm of almost biblical proportions – this truly is a land of droughts and flooding rains. Although we have nearly all been affected by the fires in some way, I'm pleased to report that Branch members have escaped safely with property largely intact. I know all members join me in thanking emergency services personnel and volunteers who have worked so hard to protect us. Our thoughts are with them and their families.

On the upside, 40 Canberrans were recognised in the Australia Day honours list, and I congratulate them all on their achievements. The Autumn investitures will be held in late April, and our first reception for new recipients will be held on Wednesday 13 May. You can find the details in this newsletter.

We celebrated Australia Day with breakfast at Royal Canberra Gold Club. Our guest speaker, Alex Sloan AM, gave a thought-provoking address on a range of issues facing the Australian community, and we hope to publish a transcript on the website shortly. By the way – I have a pair of reading glasses left behind by a member. If they're yours, please contact me to arrange return.

Don't forget our AGM on Wednesday 19 February at the Royal Canberra Golf Club. It's important that members participate in the governance of our Branch and I encourage you all to come along. We will provide free nibbles from 5.30pm, and immediately after the meeting we'll hear from Branch member Professor Jane Dahlstrom OAM about her work as one of Australia's most distinguished pathologists.

We now have details for the 2020 ANU Lecture, to be delivered by Branch member and former Chief of Defence Force, Admiral Chris Barrie AC, RAN (Retd), on Wednesday 4 March. Chris was involved in the selection process for military honours and awards and will offer reflections on our honours system and thoughts on how the Association can help keep relevant. Please note: the lecture will start at 6.00pm, not 5.30 as was originally advised on the website.

A quick reminder about the National Conference in Darwin from 7 – 10 May. It's not too late to register and join the fun.

Finally, a member asked me recently why we don't put links to our events on the Association's website. The primary reason is that most of our events are private events. If we post details publicly we can't control who signs up, which would undermine the value of membership. Instead, we publish registration details in our newsletter, which has a limited distribution. My strong advice is to sign up for events as soon as you receive the newsletter, but if you're having trouble, please feel free to email or call a Committee member for advice.

I look forward to seeing you at our events this year.

Warm regards,
Mike Crane DSC & Bar, AM
Branch Chairman
E: Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au
T: 0467 719 020

OAA 2020 NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN DARWIN

Full details of the 2020 National Conference, to be held in Darwin from 7 to 10 May 2020, are now available on the Association's website. The theme for the Conference is *Future Proof, How Past Experiences Inform Future Challenges*, and the Northern Territory Branch has put together a wonderful program of supporting events, the details of which are at <https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/national-conference-2020/> with registration details. We hope you can be part of the ACT contingent.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and GUEST SPEAKER – WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2020

Our Annual General Meeting is your chance to participate in the governance of our Branch. Come along to have your say on the Annual Report and who represents us on the Branch Committee in 2019/20. As there will be no papers provided on the night, please bring a copy of the AGM papers which are available on the Events page on the website link: <https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/act/events/>.

The AGM will start promptly at 6.00 pm.

To assist with this event, please book at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/3X9OX> or contact Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM at 0467 719 020.

ACT Branch Annual General Meeting 19 February 2020

Agenda

1. Welcome and opening remarks
2. Acknowledgement of Country
3. Apologies
4. Minutes of AGM held 13 Feb 2019
5. Matters Arising
6. Annual Report
7. Election of Branch Nominated Director and Committee for 2020-21
8. Other Business
9. Close



Immediately following the AGM Branch member Professor Jane Dahlstrom OAM MBBS (Hons), PhD, FPAC, FRCPA, FFOP, FFSc, Grad Cert Ed Stud (Higher Education), SFHEA will talk on her work as an Anatomical Pathologist. She is Executive Director of ACT Pathology, Canberra Health Services (CHS) and Professor of Pathology at the ANU Medical School. Her career has been a rewarding blend of clinical work, research, teaching, and outreach. She oversaw the development of the ANU/ CHS Peter Herdson pathology teaching museum which is the result of generous donations from patients of the region. Jane led the work to change the laws around stillbirth registration and the development of the Canberra Hospital's non-

denominational service dedicated to babies lost before 20 week which commenced in 2004. She looks forward to sharing some of her stories.

WELCOME TO NEW OAA MEMBERS FROM THE 2019 AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

Mr Geoffrey Huston AM - For significant service to science, and through pioneering roles with the internet.

Dr Miles Jakeman AM - For significant service to business, to national security, and to the community.

Emeritus Professor John O'Callaghan AM - For significant service to information technology, and to education.

Dr Joseph Johnson OAM CSC AAM RFD ED - For service to veterans, and to the community.

Mr Richard Griffiths OAM - For service to the community through social welfare organisations.

FROM THE 2019 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Ms Sally Melhuish OAM – For service to baroque music.

RECEPTION FOR NEW RECIPIENTS – WEDNESDAY 13 MAY

We hope you can join us to welcome and celebrate with ACT and area citizens awarded in the 2020 Australia Day Honours. This event will be held at The Commonwealth Club Yarralumla on Wednesday 13 May and will follow the investitures to be held at Government House in April.

Please book at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/NBTYF> or complete the booking sheet with this newsletter.

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2019 ACT BRANCH STUDENT AWARDS

As the major Branch outreach activity, the 2019 ACT Branch Student Awards were presented to the recipients at their schools and colleges in the presence of their peers. The following were successful in meeting the Association's ACT Branch criteria for awards and demonstrate the positive contribution that ACT students continue to make in the community. They are to be congratulated for their achievements.

‘LEADAS’ and ‘PEARLS’ (Years 9 and 10 – Amaroo School)



Amaroo School – Liam Coe and Tahlia Hannemann

Move' and 'White Ribbon'. Additionally, an indicator of the programs' value is that the University of Technology, Sydney, identified LEADAS and PEARLS as national leaders in the delivery of the 'Breaking the Silence' program.

These initiatives have resulted in developing and fostering excellent citizenship within and outside the school, at the same time making a positive difference to the lives of the school's students, their families, and the community.

Caleb Hodgson (Year 12 – Lake Ginninderra College)



*Lake Ginninderra College
Caleb Hodgson*

Amaroo School has implemented two innovative and effective programs which encourage positive behaviour and contributions to civics and citizenship within the school and the wider community which has resulted in the awarding of the ACT Branch's School Plaque.

The LEADAS (Leadership, Engagement, Academia, Development, Athleticism and Service) boys' program, and the PEARLS (Promoting, Empowerment, Achievement, Resilience, Legacy and Support) girls' programs provide Amaroo School with a targeted approach towards improving the academic and social-emotional engagement of male and female students in years 9 and 10.

Contributions to the community have included participation in initiatives such as 'Girls; It's Your

For many years, Caleb Hodgson has been highly and widely respected as a strong advocate for his fellow student, his involvement in the life of his schools and for his involvement in the wider community.

His community service is exemplified through his commitment to a variety of activities including, for example, coaching younger students in volleyball, his volunteering to support the SUPA Sports program during holiday periods and his active involvement in the Youth Worship Chain Program which involves motivating youth to become involved in community service.

He has organised and actively contributed to the school's leadership and sustainability Student Community Group and he has devoted much time and energy to the school's Arts program by, for example, undertaking lead roles in all College plays.

An outstanding and hard-working member of his community, Caleb is a worthy awardee of the ACT Branch Medallion for Outstanding Leadership and Achievement.

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Samuel Freeman (Year 11 - Canberra Grammar School)

Samuel has an extensive and diverse history of volunteering and community service which commenced when he was just four years old. His volunteering service has supported organisations such as Legacy and the Salvation Army. His generosity has been recognised by his being awarded Lions and Fred Hollows awards, two ACT Children's Week awards and becoming a 2019 finalist in the NSW/ ACT Young Achiever Awards. In addition, he has earned several school awards for exemplary community service and volunteering commitment at his school.

As a keen sportsman, Sam has given many hours to teaching students, of all ages, skills in Taekwondo and yachting.

For his sustained, dedicated community work Sam has been rewarded with the ACT Branch student award of the Medallion for Outstanding Community Service and Citizenship and School Plaque.

Sarah Davis (Year 12 - Daramalan College)

Sarah is the 2019 Daramalan College Captain. Her list of duties as College Captain is impressive, as is the demeanour in which she performs these responsibilities.

Sarah is widely respected by both staff and students in the College for her outstanding organisational skills, her positive attitude and her enthusiasm and commitment in fulfilling her leadership roles as well as her studies. Indeed, her many strong leadership qualities, and her drive to succeed, are demonstrable personal characteristics which make her an excellent role-model for other students.

Sarah is the 2019 Daramalan College Captain. Her list of duties as College Captain is impressive, as is the demeanour in which she performs these responsibilities.



Sarah is widely respected by both staff and students in the College for her outstanding organisational skills, her positive attitude and her enthusiasm and commitment in fulfilling her leadership roles as well as her studies. Indeed, her many strong leadership qualities, and her drive to succeed, are demonstrable personal characteristics which make her an excellent role-model for other students.

She takes her responsibilities seriously and, as a student leader, she has proven to be resourceful, reliable and trustworthy. She has been awarded the ACT Branch student award School Plaque for Outstanding Leadership and Achievement.

Daramalan College – Aidan Gunning, Dr Bill Maiden PSM OAM, Sarah Davis

Aidan Gunning (Year 12 – Daramalan College)

Aidan is the Sports Captain of Daramalan College. An outstanding sportsman, he plays a variety of sports to a high level. He also sets a high example for other students in his demonstrating and promoting a healthy lifestyle. Indeed, his strong advocacy for active and healthy living has been significant role-modelling to other students and a credit to his community service.

His nomination from the College itemised the many roles and responsibilities he undertakes in his role as Sports Captain in both his coaching and leadership duties. For example, he plays a major part in the organisation and running of the College's swimming, athletics and cross-country carnivals. He is also the Master of Ceremonies for sports assemblies.

Aidan has been awarded the ACT Branch student award School Plaque for Outstanding Community Service and Citizenship.

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Isaac Martin (Year 12 – Gungahlin College)

Isaac is an extraordinary school student leader. He was captain of his high school and, in Year 10, was awarded the Children's Week 'Endeavour Award' for his contribution to young people in the A.C.T., the Year 10 Academic Excellence Award and Principal's Award for his commitment and contribution to school life.



As a college student (Years 11 and 12) Isaac was awarded the Capital Chemist All Rounder for his contribution to community and the Physics Award for academic excellence in Year 11.

Outside his college, Isaac is not only the current co-chair of the ACT Youth Advisory Council, as he was when in Year 9, but was the master of ceremonies at the Young Canberra Citizen of the Year Awards in 2018 and participated in the NSW Youth Parliament held in the State Parliament of NSW.

Isaac's sustained, high-level achievements have resulted in his being a most worthy recipient of the ACT Branch Medallion and School Plaque for Outstanding Leadership and Achievement.

Gungahlin College – Dr Bill Maiden PSM OAM, Isaac Martin

The Student Awards were managed by Dr Bill Maiden PSM OAM with assistance from judges Elizabeth Grant AM, Narelle Hargreaves AM, Les Blackley OAM and Trish Keller OAM.

OAA-ANU LECTURE – ADMIRAL CHRIS BARRIE AC (RETD) - WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH



A special event in our calendar is our annual ANU lecture, to be delivered by Admiral Chris Barrie AC (Retd) in Manning Clark Hall, ANU from 6.00 to 7.00 pm on Wednesday 4 March. With the title of the lecture **"It's an Honour - Reflections"**, Admiral Barrie provided the following background:

"In my career I had the opportunity to recommend many people for an Australian honour, and at the end of my career participate for four years in the selection process.

There were many occasions when I wondered about the worth of an honours system - sometimes in a sceptical frame of mind and sometimes enthusiastically.

In my public life I have met very many Australians whose stories have impressed on me the worth of an honours system that recognises excellence and achievement in appropriate ways. But, this question of what might constitute "an appropriate way" deserves deep consideration. It would be good to see an Australian honours system that evolves to address changing community standards and yet is representative of the broad sweep of endeavours that makes Australians unique.

In my view these are aspects about the contemporaneous system for Australian honours that The Order of Australia Association can address by playing a valuable role in having the foresight to keep the system under review and possessing the foresight to build on it in meaningful ways.

The purpose of my talk is to elaborate on some of the issues I have seen played out and to ask some questions about "an appropriate way" for this new Century and our honours system. I will use reflections and stories to illustrate the difficulties of obtaining the right balance in our community."

Please book at <https://www.anu.edu.au/events/it's-an-honour—reflections> to attend. This is a free event.

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AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST

Members and guests enjoyed breakfast and guest speaker Alex Sloan AM on Australia Day when 40 ACT citizens were honoured across the general and military awards in the Order of Australia. Alex provided some challenging points in a wide-ranging discussion on topical issues and engaged members in a following Q&A session. Alex has been a journalist for 30 years, including over 27 years as a broadcaster with the ABC and was named Canberra Citizen of the Year in 2017. She was appointed a Member in the Order of Australia in January 2019 *for significant service to the community of Canberra, and to the broadcast media as a radio presenter.*



Alex Sloan AM



Sam Wong AM, Lyndal Curtis, Alex Sloan AM, Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM



Ian Gollings AM, Kevin Berryman OAM



Shirley Harris, Peter Harris OAM, Elizabeth Scrivener OAM



Vivien Palmer OAM, Janette Wentworth, Narelle Hargreaves AM



Rob Thorman, Diane Johnstone AM

VALE

We regret the recent passing of the following ACT Branch member and pay our respects for his contribution to the Association and the Australian community.

Mr Robert Todd AM - Australia Day 1994 – For service to administrative law.



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION ACT BRANCH

GPO BOX 423 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Serving the Canberra Region

Web: theorderofaustralia.asn.au

With kind permission of the President of the Commonwealth Club, Members and guests are invited to attend a Cocktail Reception to welcome Newly Invested Recipients.

DATE: Wednesday, 13 May 2020.

TIME: 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm.

VENUE: Commonwealth Club, 25 Forster Crescent, Yarralumla.

An opportunity for members and guests to welcome the 2020 Australia Day recipients of honours and awards in the Order of Australia from the ACT region, and share fellowship with existing members in the ambience of the Commonwealth Club. This event is generously sponsored by the ACT Government.

COST: \$55.00 per person for members and guests. New recipients and partners free of charge.

DRESS: Lounge Suit/Business Attire – Miniature Medals

Booking enquiries: Mike Crane DSC and Bar, AM. Mob: 0467 719 020 or

Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

RSVP by Thursday 7 May 2020.

1. **Buy tickets online** (preferred) at StickyTickets: <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/NBTYF> -

Click on the link or copy and enter it directly into your browser.

For recipients of 2020 Queen's Birthday honours and awards only: Click on "Ticket/Register", then enter promotion code AD20 to activate your complimentary ticket.

2. **Mail or email** booking slip to:

Mike Crane DSC and Bar, AM

23 Norman St.

DEAKIN ACT 2600

E: Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

X.....X

2020 May Reception

Name and Postnominals:

Guest name(s) & Postnominals:

Payment instructions:

My cheque to OAA-ACT for \$_____ is enclosed or ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ VISA

Card Number: _____ CCV _____

Expiry Date: ____/____ Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____ Sum authorized: \$_____

Phone: _____

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

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