

The ORDER



THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

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SYDNEY HARBOUR AUSTRALIA DAY 'MUCKING AROUND IN BOATS' FOR A GOOD CAUSE!

Australia Day dawned on Sydney Harbour with the weather on its best behaviour yet again continuing the bout of excellent weather experienced in recent years on this most important of National Days. The NSW Branch once again organised a boat cruise on the harbour so that its members and their guests could take in the pictorial landscape and enjoy the day's wonderful activities. The Branch harbour cruise is gaining in popularity each year and on this occasion a new attendance record was achieved when 177 members and their guests boarded the Captain Cook 111 to take in the sights and enjoy the festivities as well as the hospitality provided on board.

The navy flagship HMAS Canberra soon took up its position in the middle of the harbour in the vicinity of the renowned harbour bridge and all was in readiness for the "Salute to Australia" ceremony at the conclusion of which was followed by a 21gun salute. It was noticed that instead of defence air and watercraft being parked on the deck there were several RFS fire trucks displayed in their place and it was later learned that the crew had played host to a number of NSW RFS volunteers to honour the bravery and dedication to duty of all volunteers in the face of horrendous fires recently experienced by many people.

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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 — Darwin 2020
- 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 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Barry Nunn AO
National Chairman

The past year is one in which your Association has achieved a considerable amount. Pleasure at our achievements is dimmed by recognition of the hardship and loss endured by so many in our community during both the ongoing drought and the recent bush fires. Our thoughts are with all who have suffered, and admiration is due to all who have contributed to overcoming what is a national disaster, including many of our members in Branches and Regional Groups.

Significant work on the development of a new Constitution for our Association is covered later in this magazine.

We are now approaching Branch AGM time and you will have been asked to nominate for positions on Branch Committees and as Branch-nominated directors to the National Board. If you feel that you have the skills and enthusiasm, I encourage you to nominate and participate in the leadership of our Association.

Nominations will soon be separately called for the executive positions on the National Board - Deputy Chairman, National Secretary, National Treasurer and Membership Director. These appointments are made immediately prior to the National AGM, this year during the National Conference in Darwin from 7th to 10th May.

Nominations for awards in the Order increased by 47% from 2018 to 2019, with female nominations rising from 32% to 38%. The work done in Branches and Regional Groups to encourage nominations was a significant factor in these results. Activities throughout our Association in welcoming new recipients contributed to an increase in new members.

The National Conference in Darwin will see the first award of an Association Scholarship as part of our Association National Project. More detail is provided later in the magazine; you are invited to contribute to this very worthwhile initiative.

I look forward to meeting as many members as possible during our National Conference in May and discussing with you the way ahead for our Association.



NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Heather Ridout AO
National President

Dear All,

The end of the last decade and the start of the new has been an extremely difficult time for so many Australians affected by natural disasters in particular the Whakaari/White Island volcanic eruption in NZ and the catastrophic Bushfire crisis at home. Lives have been lost; livelihoods destroyed; wildlife emasculated; forests and habitats wiped out. In all of this the essence of what our Association stands for, the notion of citizenship, has been seen at its best. Whether it's the firefighters, the volunteers helping victims and families, people opening their homes, the doctors and nurses tending to the injured, the quiet stoicism of victims and their families, the value of citizenship - of belonging, working together and selflessly contributing, has been on clear display. Indeed, a new decade is an opportunity to reboot and recommit to things that matter. Australians have done this instinctively this Summer. Like all of us my heart goes out to all affected and wish them well for the tough months of recovery that lays ahead.

I had the opportunity to meet with the Governor General late last year to discuss the activities of the Association. He is very interested and eager to engage with us at the national and regional level and to hear our views on how we can strengthen and expand the reach of the Awards. We have agreed to catch up regularly.

In this early phase of my engagement with OAA, one of the real strengths I think we have is local reach. As the Bushfire crisis has shown, there are lots of Australians out there in regions of Australia serving and making a difference to their communities year in year out, and willing to step up when the going gets tough. OAA can play a valuable role in promoting their recognition through a better understanding of the Awards. This particularly includes ensuring the proper representation of women, indigenous Australians and those from diverse ethnic communities in the awards.

The year promises to be a busy one for OAA. I wish all members a healthy and successful 2020.

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



OAA CONSTITUTION THE NEED FOR CHANGE

The need for changes to our present Constitution and the supporting Bylaws and Branch Model Rules have been the subject of much discussion at all levels of our Association. It is recognised that our governing documents were put together in a very different regulatory climate over 30 years ago, are to some extent internally contradictory and can be difficult to read and interpret.

At the National Board meeting on 8 February, which is after the closing date for publication of this copy of our magazine the Board will be asked to consider both a Consultation Draft of the new Constitution and the intended consultation process.

Without pre-empting the Board's deliberations, I wish to take this opportunity to provide you with some general background. Fuller details may well follow later using other communication methods.

The new Constitution includes some significant changes. In developing these changes input has been sought from our Branch Committees and others with experience in this field.

Regulatory Framework

The activities of our Association are regulated by the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC), which provided both guidance and direction. Your Constitution Review Group has adopted the standard ACNC Template for not-for-profit (NFP) organisations as the model for our Constitution, thus ensuring a readable document and coverage of the issues important to ACNC

Purpose of our Association

The 'statement of purpose' in our Constitution has been reworded to provide a clear and simple expression of why we exist and what we do. This is an essential part of ensuring that we are focussed on the appropriate goals and that we attract and retain members

Election to the Board

The ACNC favours, but does not mandate, the election of board members by the membership of the organisation. Since our formation, nomination of Branch Directors to the Association National Board has been by Branch Committees, and the appointment of

the Executive (Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Director) by the Board itself.

Our new Constitution is to provide for the election of Branch Directors by the members of that Branch and the election of the Executive Directors by the eight Branch Directors.

Tenure of Directors

At present directors are appointed to the National Board for one year and may stand for re-appointment. The ACNC is aware of the potential loss of experience in short board tenure. It recommends that board members should be appointed for a longer period, typically 3 years, with the opportunity to stand for re-appointment for a total of 9 years' service. Our new Constitution is to adopt this recommendation.

Bylaws and Policies

The new Constitution is to make provision for a suite of Bylaws and Policies that provide both a framework and flexibility for the operation of the organisation. In their preparation it is recognised that circumstances differ in Branches and Regional Groups and that changes may be required from time to time. Branch Model Rules will no longer be required.

Managing the Change

Adoption of our new Constitution will require a favourable vote by 75% of Association members. Bylaws and Policies may be changed as required, but only with prior consultation. It is intended that voting on the new Constitution take place during the Association Annual General Meeting in Canberra, in April 2021. Arrangements will be made for Proxy voting for those unable to attend.

Further Action

Adoption of our new Constitution is critical to the future success of our Association. As I have indicated your National Board, at its February meeting will review a 'Consultation Draft' of the Constitution and the timetable for member involvement. The outcome of the Board deliberations, a draft of the Constitution and plans for further consultation will be made available as soon as possible.

Barry Nunn AO
National Chairman

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ORDER OF AUSTRALIA MEMBERSHIP

Due to the devastating fires Australia wide the Order of Australia Association has put in place the following regarding renewal of membership for those in fire areas:-

- National Membership Officer has been asked not to follow up outstanding members or write off unfinancial members as at December 31, 2019 who are in identified fire areas.
- Membership renewal invoices effective January 1 to March 31, 2020 will not be sent to members in identified fire areas.
- OAA ongoing approach to disasters will be discussed further.

Our thoughts are with communities that have lost lives, homes, businesses and livelihoods during this national crisis. We also acknowledge our firefighters and volunteers, some are our members fighting fires and assisting in so many other ways.

Thank you.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Helene Bender OAM
Branch Chairman

In welcoming in 2020 it is hard to comprehend the extent of the damage and the recovery process from the fires Australia wide. Our thoughts are with those who have lost loved ones; many had a strong link with their community. We thank the firefighters and all Emergency Services personnel who have selflessly given of their time during the devastating fires, and also acknowledge the volunteers, many of whom are our Members; who have assisted serving meals to the firefighters and those who lost their home, equipment, outbuildings and animals plus the millions of dollars of agriculture losses and other businesses. There have been numerous stories of human kindness within each State and Territory plus from overseas

When towns are reopened for business, please make a concerted effort to visit the regional and rural areas affected, they need our support to rebuild.

The final VIC Branch event for 2019 was the annual lunch at William Angliss College with MC David Mann AM, guest speaker Rosie Batty AO and OAA Foundation 2018 Scholarship awardee Jeremy Doupe.

Late December, Stacey Williams was one of three proud recipients of the Department of Premier and Cabinet (Vic) 2019, People's Choice Award. Stacey was recognised by her colleagues for: Consistently demonstrating the VPS values in going about her work and in interactions with people from across the department. For being open, fair, honest and ethical in her work ensuring more women get nominated for Australian Honours. For employing new ways of working to conduct incredibly thorough research on some of Victoria's hidden gems of human beings. For being bubbly, energetic, charismatic and although working in an environment undergoing a lot of stress, ploughing on and kept a Government priority afloat and a team around her happy. Through "Recognition Matters", Stacey encourages women who have received their Order of Australia, to wear their award pin and display their post nominals proudly.

The OAA VIC Branch congratulates Stacey on her award and also thanks her for the work she has undertaken over the past two years increasing the Order of Australia nominations of women.

It was an honour on Friday December 20 to lay a wreath on behalf of the Order of Australia Association VIC Branch at the Shrine of Remembrance marking the end of the war when the guns fell silent in the ANZAC Sector at Gallipoli in 1915.

The excitement of a new year also brings a list of new Australia Day Honours recipients who have gone above and beyond. These recipients have received a letter of congratulations from our National Chairman Barry Nunn AO together with an invitation to join the Association and membership application. I have also sent a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Victoria Branch and I am confident Regional Groups will welcome and encourage our Australia Day 2020 recipients and advise them of upcoming events.

The VIC Branch fourth Inspiring Australians Oration on Wednesday February 26, 2020 at Melbourne Town Hall will be delivered by Kevin Sheedy AO. As a player, coach and ambassador, Kevin Sheedy has had one of the most successful careers in Australian sporting history. But there is more to Kevin Sheedy than football. He is a marketer, a thinker, an innovator, the holder of awards for community service and an inspirational speaker, capable of talking about subjects way beyond the boundaries of sport. Kevin is a man for all seasons, and for all reasons.

This is a free event however bookings are essential for seating requirements and the catering of light refreshments, please use the following link: <https://www.trybooking.com/572708>

Look forward to seeing you during the year.

VICTORIA BRANCH

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Her Excellency The Hon.
Linda Dessau AC

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Peter Jones AM
Dr June Kane AM
William Lye OAM
Pam Robinson OAM
Barbara Thomas OAM

Co-opted Members

Membership Secretary

Mr Tony Smith OAM



VICTORIA BRANCH ANNUAL LUNCH



On Thursday November 21, at the William Angliss Restaurant members and guests listened with interest to Rosie Batty AO, a leader in the crusade against domestic violence. Rosie the 2015 Australian of the Year and a 2019 Queen's Birthday Officer of the Order of Australia recipient for her distinguished service to the community as a campaigner and advocate for the prevention of family violence.

Rosie spoke about her commitment to turn her personal tragedy into a fight to help others. It was agreed her incredible strength and selfless efforts are an inspiration to many people. Her story was instrumental in the establishment in 2015 of the Royal Commission into Family Violence in Victoria.

Members and guests also heard from one of the OAA Foundation 2018 Scholarship awardees Jeremy Doupe who was introduced by Deputy Chair (Metro) Dr Yvonne Ho AM; Jeremy spoke about the benefits of the scholarship and how he is able to focus on his studies and continue with his community work.

The other awardee Hannah Gandy will be attending the 2020 Oration and speak about her studies and community links.

It was pleasing to have past VIC Branch Chairs at the lunch, Diane James AM, Paul Wheelton AM and MC David Mann AM.

SOUTH CENTRAL SUBURBAN REGIONAL GROUP END OF YEAR ANNUAL DINNER

On a warm sunny November evening "the tradition continued" when the South Central Suburban Regional Group had an excellent speaker address us at our End of Year Dinner which was held at the rather prestigious Sandringham Yacht Club based on Port Phillip. 70 plus Members and guests as well as the speaker were welcomed by Chairman Ross Newton OAM.

A formal Toast to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth was given by Dr. Cheryl Threadgold OAM and this was followed with a Toast to the Order of Australia Association by Ms. Jill Page OAM. Both Toasts were received very warmly for their content and delivery.

The speaker, Ms. Kitty Chiller AM is a remarkable woman who has represented this great Nation of ours Australia, in many ways. The topic of her address was "life in sport" and what a life it has been!

Kitty spent almost two decades at the top in her chosen sport which happened to be the Modern Pentathlon which is grueling and extremely intense as it comprises five different events. Two decades at the top is a tremendous achievement in any chose field, but one that is so physically demanding is extraordinary. Kitty during this time was a 12 time National Champion, 7 time World Cup medalist and a 6 time World Cup Finalist. Kitty was ranked World Number 1 in 1996, 1997 and 1998.

The Modern Pentathlon for women was added to the Olympics in 2000 and Kitty had the privilege and honour of representing Australia in Sydney at the mature age of 36 competing with a serious fracture of a kneecap which happened a week before the Olympics.

Since her retirement from the competitive side of the sport, she has remained more than active in sport administration. One appointment that gained her world-wide publicity was in her role as Chef de Mission of the Australian Olympic Team at the Rio Olympics in 2016, she was the first female to have that role for Australia.

Currently Kitty is an Executive Board Member of the Australian Olympics Committee, as well as President of Modern Pentathlon Australia and also sitting on the International Modern Pentathlon Executive Board.

Kitty is Chief Executive Officer of Gymnasts Australia as well as sitting on the International Federation Executive Board of Gymnasts, the only person in the world male or female to sit on two such International Executive Boards.

The evening closed with a resounding rendition of Advance Australia Fair which was appropriate on a very pleasant, informative and entertaining evening.



Kitty Chiller AM and Chairman Ross Newton OAM

VIC BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The VIC Branch Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 17, 2020 commencing at 11.00am at the RACV City Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Reminder Nominations for committee and Notices of Other Business must be received by the Branch Secretary not later than 5.00pm on Friday 21st February 2020.

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

PEACE @ GALLIPOLI CEREMONY AT THE SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE

[Contributed by: Dr John Basarin OAM, Chairman, Friends of Gallipoli Inc.]



The guns fell silent in the ANZAC Sector at Gallipoli in the early hours of the 20th of December 1915. The 104th Anniversary of this important event was commemorated at the Shrine of Remembrance with a wreath laying ceremony at the Sanctuary. On 20th December, the entire ANZAC force remaining on Gallipoli was evacuated, ostensibly without the Turks detecting the withdrawal of those who had been their enemy since 25th April.

This was the sole Commonwealth operation in the campaign to achieve all its objectives. Much of this success was due to meticulous planning by the ANZAC Chief of Staff, Brigadier Brudenell White. It is hard to see why such success is not as well-recognized as many other battles, even Lone Pine which by comparison, were extremely courageous but ultimately disastrous.

Thanks to Friends of Gallipoli Inc., a not-for-profit organisation, Victorians now have the opportunity to join in commemorating success and the coming of peace to Gallipoli between the Anzacs and the Turks.

Federal Minister for Veterans the Hon Darren Chester MP, Victorian Minister for Veterans the Hon. Robin Scott MP, Consul-General of Republic of Turkey, Mr Arif Eser Torun and Mr Desmond Callaghan OAM, Vice President of the Victorian Branch of the Returned Services League, were guests of honour at the ceremony. This year's "Peace@Gallipoli" ceremony was 7th such event in Melbourne, attended by more than 100 participants.

There were several dignitaries, including Dr Helene Bender OAM, Chair of Order of Australia Association-Victoria Branch who laid a wreath at this important event to mark the conclusion of hostilities and silencing of the guns at Gallipoli.

Further information is available on the Friends of Gallipoli web site: <http://www.friendsofgallipoli.org/peacegallipoli/>

Photo Credit: David Rayner OAM

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA MEDALS – PARLIAMENT HOUSE VICTORIA

Parliament House VIC agreed late December to permanently display the Order of Australia medals on the wall near the Tour Guide desk and have a supply of the 'Introducing the Order of Australia' new brochure at the Tour Guide desk.



Wording on Order of Australia medals display:

Do you know someone who goes the extra mile in your community, an outstanding citizen in their chosen field or vocation who deserves recognition?

Any Australian can nominate someone for an award. Consider diversity of age, gender and culture when nominating worthy achievers.

You can nominate someone by accessing the online form, or downloading an offline version via: www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/forms/

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



VALE: DR GEOFFREY HANDBURY AO



South West Regional Group has been saddened by the death of member Dr Geoff Handbury AO, he was affectionately known by all who were fortunate to know him. Our sadness is shared not only by all of western Victoria, but throughout Victoria and Australia.

David Scott AO included in his Foreword to "Turning Points – The Life of Geoff Handbury" written by Martin Summons, the comment "Geoff is a leading and model citizen of not only Hamilton and western Victoria, but indeed Australia".

Geoff served in the Australian Navy during WWII, enlisting at age seventeen as a mid-shipman, was rapidly promoted to become an officer and saw active service in S.E. Asia. Geoff left the Navy as a Sub Lieutenant.

Geoff married Helen Murdoch in May 1949 and Geoff with his drive and business acumen was very successful in his financial activities. A major success was his part ownership of Ansett Knitting Mills (AKM) in Seymour.

Geoff joined Melbourne Legacy in 1956 and in 1957 became a board member. He was President during Melbourne Legacy's jubilee conference in 1973. In 1972 Geoff and Helen bought a 2,500 acre property, to become known as The Rises, roughly between Hamilton and Horsham. This was the beginning of their extraordinary philanthropy which has impacted on every city, town and hamlet throughout western Victoria, Victoria and Australia.

Warrnambool and Hamilton have benefitted greatly from the generosity of the Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation. Since their arrival in the area in 1972 almost every major project in these two cities has received their support.

South West RG and the community will greatly miss Geoff – ever the entertainer. His wisdom, great sense of humour and genuine concern for the welfare of others, especially children, will be sadly missed. All members have been privileged to have known him.

“RECOGNITION MATTERS” IN VICTORIA

VICTORIA PUSHES FOR GENDER PARITY IN AUSTRALIAN HONOURS

“Recognition Matters” is a campaign initiated by the Victorian Government in 2017 to address the significant under-representation of women in Australian Honours that’s occurred since the Order of Australia was established in 1975. This supports, and is in consultation with, the Honour a Woman movement.

Fifty-six influential and c-suite Victorians were brought together in a co-design workshop in October 2018 to identify the barriers to achieving gender equity in Australian Honours. Informed by this research, we then launched the “Recognition Matters” website to house practical tools including a step-by-step guide to demystify the process to nominate a Victorian woman.

In addition to encouraging Victorians to nominate women, Stacey Williams, an adviser within the Department of Premier and Cabinet, nominates 200 Victorian Women for an Honour each year.

We’ve also worked to share information across awards and elevate the hard work of those already nominating women. A tick box has been added to the Victorian Women’s Honour Roll and the Victorian Aboriginal Honour Roll, allowing nominators to consent for their nominations to be promoted to nominations for an Order of Australia.

RESULTS TO DATE

Victoria has recently achieved notable increases in women receiving honours. Forty-four per cent of Victorians recognised in the 2019 Queen’s Birthday Honours were women, representing an 8 per cent increase on the same honours in 2018.

Nominations submitted can take up to 12-18 months before a result can be seen and we therefore anticipate further increases in the number of women recognised with honours as the campaign momentum builds.

Australia Day - Sunday 26 January 2020, Victoria came closer to becoming the first State or Territory to achieve gender parity in Australia’s highest honours.

LEND YOUR VOICE TO GENDER EQUITY IN AUSTRALIAN HONOURS

As community leaders you can champion gender equity in the Australian Honours System. Visit the “Recognition Matters” page vic.gov.au/recognitionmatters to access a variety of graphics and key messages to enable you to quickly share the “Recognition Matters” message with your networks. We encourage you to use #recognitionmatters to join the conversation online.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

If you have questions about “Recognition Matters”, or how you can champion gender equity in the Australian Honours in your State or Territory, please contact Stacey Williams at awards@dpc.vic.gov.au

Check out our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Tony Metcalf OAM
Branch Chairman

The S.A. Branch has been quite active since the last report and details with photos are included as part of the Branch report. Members have enjoyed a variety of events and future activities are listed in this magazine and advised in detail to all members by separate newsletter. Of major significance, the Branch was pleased to be able to donate \$1,000.00 to the S.A. bushfire fund on behalf of all branch members.

STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

In an awards ceremony on the 22nd October 2019, hosted by His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia, and Mrs Lan Le, the 2019 Student Citizenship Awards were presented by His Excellency to the Top Twelve recipients. The 2019 South Australian Student Citizen of the Year was William Gillett from Loxton High School, selected in recognition of his extensive contribution both to his school and the Riverland community. In addition to these twelve, other students who were awarded Highly Commended Certificates have had their award presented in front of their school during Term 4 at various End of Year and Valedictory assemblies. To those who volunteered to make these presentations, the Student Citizenship Awards Director Mr Noel Hender OAM BEM said: *"Many thanks to you all for making yourselves available for this important duty".*



Noel Hender OAM BEM, Student Citizenship Awards Director, presents a 'Highly Commended' certificate to Leo Taylor (image supplied by Sacred Heart College, used with permission).

NEW RECIPIENTS' FUNCTION

At the New Recipients' Function reception held on Monday 14 October, 2019 we welcomed 27 Australian honours recipients announced in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours List, together with 87 friends and guests. An official welcome was given by the Mayor of Norwood, Payneham & St Peters, Mr Robert Bria, who is a strong supporter of the SA Branch. Profiles of the new recipients were read out by the Chairman of the SA Branch, Mr Tony Metcalf OAM.

STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS



Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP presents the 2019 Student Citizenship Award to Francie Heinsen (image supplied by Xavier College, used with permission).

Francie Heinsen of Xavier College was one of the 2019 Top Twelve recipients of a Student Citizenship Award. Francie received her award from His Excellency the Governor at Government House on Tuesdayw 22 October. Francie's citation reads:

A motivator and with enormous leadership ability, Francie has excelled in all dimensions of school life. She has been involved in a plethora of school based and community activities which have resulted in her being recognised for her talents and in achieving several awards for excellence.

Francie is immensely invested in protecting the environment for future generations and strives to influence her peers to understand that all have a part to play in protecting, preserving and restoring environmental matters.

On 4 December, Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP attended the Xavier College Presentation Assembly to again present Francie with her Award and Certificate in front of her school and peers. Francie later sent the following statement:

I just wanted to thank you for coming to present the Order of Australia Association Student Citizenship Award to me at my presentation assembly last Wednesday. I really appreciate the fact you took time out of your day to travel to Xavier and present the award. It was an honour, thank you very much.



GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S VISIT

On 27 November 2019, some of our newest recipients of the Order of Australia had the opportunity to meet with His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (ret'd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, and Mrs Linda Hurley. Their Excellencies hosted a morning tea for Order of Australia recipients from the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours List and members of the Order of Australia Association SA Branch living in and around Adelaide. We thank His Excellency, Patron of the Order of Australia Association Inc, for making this opportunity available.



His Excellency the Governor General with Order of Australia Association SA Branch Committee members (left to right) Mr Tony Metcalf OAM, Mr Noel Hender OAM BEM, Mrs Jill Hender and Mrs Cheryl Metcalf.

SA BRANCH AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON

All members were cordially invited to attend the SA Branch annual luncheon to celebrate Australia Day, held at the Caledonian Hotel in O'Connell Street, North Adelaide on Saturday 25 January. The guest speaker was Mrs Val Oldfield OAM, author of "No Beating about the Bush", the true story of her life in the outback at Mungeranie Station, living in the gibbers, dust and sand of Australia's infamous Birdsville Track. You might say it is the story of an ordinary woman who lived an extraordinary life.

SA BRANCH 34TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All members were cordially invited to attend the SA Branch Annual General Meeting at the Fullarton Community Centre on 15 February. The guest speaker was the 2019 Student Citizen of the Year William Gillett from Loxton High School. This was followed by lunch at the Arkaba Hotel for those who wished to stay on (at personal expense). Further details to follow.

SA BUSHFIRE APPEAL

At the SA Branch committee meeting on Tuesday 14 January, the committee discussed the terrible bushfire issues affecting the State. The committee unanimously agreed to donate \$1,000 towards the SA Bushfire Appeal, State Disaster Relief Fund, on behalf of the members of the Order of Australia Association, SA Branch. The donation has subsequently been acknowledged by the Trustee of the Fund.

COMING EVENTS

Honours Recipients Fellowship Lunch

Thursday 27 February

Members of the Order of Australia and all other honours recipients, partners, family and friends, are welcome to share in the fostering of fellowship over lunch, in an informal setting at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club in Adelaide. Contact Flavia for further details and to book: 0438 873 025.

South East Regional Group Meeting & Luncheon

Friday 28 February

Community RSL, 16 Sturt Street, Mount Gambier, 12 noon for 12.30 pm. Contact Mr Eric Roughana AM, 0408 817 260

Fleurieu Regional Group Bi-Annual Lunch Meeting

Friday 1 May

Contact Mr Rex Keily AM JP, 0400 279 297

Queen's Birthday Lunch

Monday 8 June 2020 (confirmed)

All Association members and their friends are cordially invited to attend the SA Branch annual Queen's Birthday Lunch. Full-size medals should be worn. Venue and cost to be advised.

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 / National Director

John McKellar AM

Immediate past Chairman

Ken Coventry OAM JP

Committee

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

Noel Hender OAM BEM

Membership (acting)

Jan Forrest OAM

GOVERNMENT HOUSE GARDEN RECEPTION

On Thursday 14 November, 2019, committee members of the SA Branch of the Association were guests at a Garden Reception hosted by His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia, and Mrs Lan Le. The reception was to acknowledge community organisations with whom the Governor and Mrs Le are Patrons, or are otherwise closely and formally associated. The Governor is Patron of the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association.



Professor John McKellar AM ED, SA Branch Honorary Treasurer and National Director, at Government House Adelaide.



Left to right: Mrs Lan Le, Mrs Pamela Rajkowski OAM, Mr Brian Holecek OAM, Mr Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP, and Professor John McKellar AM ED (National Director and Branch Honorary Treasurer).



UNITED KINGDOM

UNITED KINGDOM / EUROPE REGIONAL GROUP ACTIVITIES

On Monday 18 November in London, the UK/Europe Regional Group bade farewell to its Chairman and Convenor of six years, Penelope Thwaites AM, and welcomed its new Convenor, Andrew Koo AM with an Evening at London's famous Bow Church – St Mary's. The event was attended by Australia's Acting High Commissioner, Mr Matthew Anderson PSM who has been a much-valued supporter and host to the Group at Australia House and elsewhere.

A celebration dinner followed at the Army and Navy Club, hosted by OAA Committee member Col. Brian Cloughley AM.

Among those attending was another former Chair of the Group, Margaret Humphreys AO CBE. We remembered Committee member Kathleen Milligan OAM whose husband David Milligan OAM and sister Maureen were present. Penelope spoke with appreciation of Kathy's exceptional support, and then of all our committee members, each of whom has contributed significantly. We all applauded our splendid (now retiring) secretary, Anna Stanley.

In welcoming Andrew Koo AM, including a message from our National Chair, Penelope noted his successful career in publishing and finance as well as his community work and Vice-Chairmanship of the OAA in Western Australia. She expressed much confidence in his taking forward the UK Group "with panache"! In response, Andrew conveyed messages from National Chairman Barry Nunn AO and National Secretary Phil Morrall AM of strong appreciation of Penelope's leadership and professionalism over the years. Members joined in a number of heartfelt tributes to her work for the UK/Europe OAA.

A short biographical note re Penelope Thwaites AM our retiring Chairman and Convenor:

Described on ABC Classic in January 2019 as one of Australia's outstanding classical musicians, both at home and abroad, concert pianist Penelope Thwaites AM has been a constant and active champion of Australian composers, not least of Percy Grainger, towards whose world-wide growth of appreciation her recordings and performances and editorship of *The New Percy Grainger Companion* have crucially contributed. Now her own compositions will take the spotlight with the release in April 2020 on SOMM Recordings of her choral music and songs **From Five Continents**, featuring one of the UK's outstanding choirs, Ex Cathedra, and famed soloists Carolyn Sampson, James Gilchrist and William Dazeley.



Andrew Koo AM, Penelope Thwaites AM at dinner with Col. Brian Cloughley AM.



The Acting High Commissioner with Penelope Thwaites AM and Andrew Koo AM (Photo taken by John Bond OAM).



Mathew Power & Penelope Thwaites AM.

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2020 | 7-10 MAY | DARWIN, NT



The theme of The Order of Australia Association 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.

Delegates are invited to a reception at the historic Government House, and to visit the famous Mindil Beach markets, Parap markets and the Darwin Military Museum.

An oration will be given by Her Honour, the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AO, Administrator of the Northern Territory.

Keynote presentations will demonstrate how the Territory has overcome many past challenges and is embracing future opportunities.

The social program will include artistic performances, a Conference Dinner and a farewell brunch.

The Conference and Conference Dinner will be held at the Darwin Convention Centre at the Darwin Waterfront.

***We look forward to seeing you
in Darwin in May 2020***

KEY DATES

30 November 2019

Early bird registrations close

Thursday 7 May 2020

Tours, Conference Opening,
Mindil Beach Markets

Friday 8 May 2020

Conference, Government House Reception

Saturday 9 May 2020

Morning Tours, AGM, Conference Dinner

Sunday 10 May 2020

Wreath Laying Ceremony, Farewell Brunch

REGISTER TO ATTEND

TICKET COST

Conference Ticket (Early Bird):	\$180
Conference Dinner Ticket:	\$140
Sunday Brunch:	\$45
Buffet Lunch (Sat 9th):	\$39

Register to attend at:

www.ivvy.com.au/event/M5YDSO/ or

contact the Agentur office at

admin@agentur.com.au or

08 8981 2010



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2020 | 7-10 MAY | DARWIN, NT

FUTURE PROOF™

HOW PAST EXPERIENCES
INFORM FUTURE CHALLENGES

PROGRAM

THURSDAY 7 MAY 2020

9am - 12:30pm:

Tour of Menzies School of Health Research, and the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre.

3:30pm: Official Conference Opening by the Lord Mayor of Darwin, Hon. Kon Vatskalis.

4:00pm: Keynote speaker 'Past challenges in North Australia faced and overcome'.

5:30pm: Tour to Mindil Beach Markets.

FRIDAY 8 MAY 2020

9am - 3:30pm:

Conference. Includes:
- Goyder presentation;
- Panel session: 'Indigenous Challenges & Achievements';
- Interest topic speakers: 'Challenges and opportunities resulting from Northern Australia's Strategic location'.
Cost includes morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea.

3:30pm: Artistic entertainment.

5:30pm: Reception at Government House.

SATURDAY 9 MAY 2020

8am - 10am: Tour to Parap markets OR tour to Darwin Military Museum.

10:30am: Annual General Meeting of the Association.

12:00: Members Forum (Lunch optional - \$39)

6:30pm: Conference Dinner (\$140).

SUNDAY 10 MAY 2020

10am: Wreath laying ceremony, wharf.

10:30am: Farewell Brunch (\$45), Jetty Restaurant, wharf.



ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

VIBE HOTEL (7 Kitchener Dve, Waterfront)

Guest room \$240
Guest room with view \$260
Breakfast - additional \$20pp
www.tfehotels.com
(08) 8982 9998
Promotional Code:
TH12427039

ADINA HOTEL (7 Kitchener Dve, Waterfront)

Studio room \$250
Studio room with view \$270
One-bed appt \$300
One-bed appt with view \$320
Breakfast - additional \$20pp
www.tfehotels.com
(08) 8982 9998
Promotional Code:
TH12427039

HILTON DARWIN (32 Mitchell st, Darwin)

Guest room \$240
Breakfast included
(08) 8982 0000

TRAVELODGE MIRAMBEENA (105 Mitchell st, Darwin)

Guest room \$189
www.tfehotels.com
(08) 8946 0111
Promotional Code:
TH12427039

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON (122 The Esplanade, Darwin)

Guest room: \$190
Breakfast included
(08) 8943 3600

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON ESPLANADE (116 The Esplanade, Darwin)

Guest room: \$200
Breakfast included
(08) 8980 800

H HOTEL ON MITCHELL (105 Mitchell st, Darwin)

Studio room \$129
one-bed appt \$140
Breakfast, wifi, parking
included
(08) 8946 3021



2020 CONFERENCE LAUNCH, 23rd OCTOBER 2019

Nearly 50 members of the NT Order of Australia Association met to celebrate a convivial evening which included the launch of our conference in May 2020. Chairperson Dr. Tom Lewis OAM outlined the anticipated program and encouraged members to register as soon as possible. We were also privileged to receive reports from recipients of the youth scholarship program initiated by our branch.

Young Athlete Harry Priest expressed appreciation for his scholarship and outlined how the money he received has assisted his sporting endeavours, uniforms, and trips away from Darwin.

Ms Linda Fazldeen AM has joined the Conference planning process, bringing the benefit of her networking experience and relationship with leaders of multi-cultural groups in Darwin.

The Conference dinner on May 9, will feature the ethnic diversity of our community, highlighting our proximity to Asia. Linda and Nora Lewis AM are working with community leaders to bring some cultural entertainment treats to the event. Without giving too much away, here is a clue...

NS Lewis AM



Michael Martin AM, Rex Wilde AO and Dom Fracaro OAM

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



Harry Priest



Ms Linda Fazldeen AM





CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**John Harden. AM. FAIAS.
Branch Chairman**

Happy New Year and congratulations to awardees whose outstanding contributions to our community and were recognised by an award in The Order of Australia in the New Year's Day Honours list. We look forward to meeting you at your Awards Ceremony and also at a special function organised by the Queensland Branch to congratulate and celebrate with you, your family and supporters this very special award.

2019 has been a very successful year for the Queensland Branch of Order of Australia Association with interesting events held throughout the State. The most recent include a visit to the Hypersonic Unit at the University of Queensland and then a very special social even the preview of the new Queensland Musical Play "Bring Them Home" which was a combined event with the Victoria League Brisbane for Commonwealth Friendship.

The next major event will be the Branch Annual General Meeting (AGM) which is being held on Monday 24 of February at the Victoria Park Golf Club. I will be reporting on the year's activities and the Branch Committee for 2020 will be elected. This will be followed by a black-tie dinner, the recognition of three outstanding Senior Citizens and an occasional address.

I have completed my five-year tenure as your Chairman and will not be seeking election at the AGM. I would like to thank members, for your friendship and support during the past five years. Particular thanks to members of the Branch Committee who have been so involved and supportive in the management and delivery of Branch activities. Several of the current Branch Committee Members are not standing for election and I sincerely thank them for their past support and wish them well for the future. A special thanks to the Regional Group Conveners who have organised and hosted events throughout our decentralized State. You are very important in servicing and supporting the diverse interests of our members.

I would also like to remind members that the National Conference of Order of Australia Association A this year is being held in Darwin from the 7th to 10th of May 2020. I encourage you to attend what promises to be a stimulating and enjoyable event with a distinct Northern Territory flavour.

Thank you for the honour of being your Chairman for the past five years, Di and I have enjoyed our involvement and look forward to continuing the many friendships we have made.

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL GROUP



L to R-Sue Manton OAM and Marjorie Voss OAM.

At the final function held for 2019 in the Sunshine Coast Region, over forty members and guests enjoyed a delightful luncheon in the rural setting of Gunabul Homestead, Gympie.

An interesting and informative address was given by our guest speaker Sue Manton OAM who is Chief Executive Officer of Little Haven Palliative Care (Inc) Centre (Little Haven) situated in Gympie. Sue spoke with passion of the needs of those requiring palliative care and the support needed by relatives. All of these needs are met by the caring and dedicated staff at 'Little Haven'. Staff quite often travel many kilometres in the Gympie countryside to give support where needed. Little Haven Palliative Care Inc. is a not for profit organisation and is strongly supported by the people of the Gympie area who are so appreciative of the care given by Sue and her staff. Sue was happy to announce that after much lobbying 'Little Haven' recently received a substantial grant from the Federal and Queensland State Governments which will enable Little Haven to carry on with and extend the support given to those in their final years and to their relatives. 'Little Haven' uses a special "model" of care which has now caught the interest of others involved in providing Palliative Care.

Each year functions for members are held in various localities in the vast region of the Sunshine Coast. This enables members in various areas to attend functions without having to travel for a couple of hours to reach the destination. The first function for 2020 will be held on Bribie Island in the first week of March.

IN MEMORIAM

COLLEY Ellen Mary OAM
DALY Frank Joseph OAM
YOUNG Robert OAM
BOLTON St Clair Orme OAM
MULLER John Henry AM
CLARK Mervyn Frank OAM
HUMPHRIES Hon Benjamin Charles AM
ADAMS Donald Charles OAM
COMINOS Peter George OAM
McGrath Brian Francis OAM
LOGAN Fay Estelle OAM
REID Hilda Mary OAM
STAUNTON Madonna Pearl OAM
MEEHAN Terrence AM
WEB Maurice Degrelle OAM
HERTLE Karl Walter OAM



QUEENS BIRTHDAY HONOURS CELEBRATION LUNCHEON



Our newest award recipients on parade at Kedron Wavell Services Club – 30 October 2019 with the Queensland Branch Chairman. Standing from L to R – Associate Professor John Harden AM, OAAQ Chairman; Eric Anderson AM; Bill Tittle OAM; Damien Atkinson OAM QC; Graham Hyde OAM; Mike Harding OAM; The Honourable Debra Mullins AO; Dr Steven Nisbet OAM; Stephen Sheaffe AM; Ron Baker OAM; Patrina Zaphir OAM; Bill Watson AM; John Devers OAM; Greg Early AM APM; Beverley Walsh OAM; Brigadier Michael Reade OAM; Ashley McKay OAM; Professor Gabriel Moens AM; Michael Beatty OAM; John McAdam Sullivan OAM; Tino Ceberano OAM; Alan Parr OAM; Honourable Graham Bell AM; and Colin Sutcliffe OAM.
Sitting from L to R – Sarah Follent AM; Kevin Shorthouse OAM; Gail Shorthouse OAM; Rev Barbara Bailey OAM; Del Parkyn AM; Marie Josephine Burley OAM; Stan Plath OAM; Carmela Bozzi OAM; and Claude Harvey OAM.
Absent: Sean Gordon OAM.

OUR VISIT TO THE UQ CENTRE FOR HYPERSONICS

Queensland Branch members were introduced to the fascinations of research into hypersonic flight at a special visit to The University of Queensland's Centre for Hypersonics at their St Lucia campus in Brisbane on Wednesday 27 November 2019. Fifty-four guests attended.

The Centre for Hypersonics conducts research into all aspects of hypersonic flight, including test facilities, air-breathing engines, rocket flight testing, aerothermodynamics, computational fluid dynamics and optical diagnostics.

Hypersonic aerodynamics has been a major research activity at The University of Queensland for over 20 years. The researchers in the centre have been involved in collaborative research programs with about 20 universities and research organisations around the world.

Our visit was hosted by Professor Richard Morgan, the Director of the Centre and Professor David Mee and included a comprehensive presentation about the Centre and its research work. Tours were also arranged of the T4 scramjet test Laboratory to tour the T4 Shock Tunnel where more than 6000 scramjet experiments have been conducted and the Expansion Tube Laboratory to see the X2 and X3 facilities that can re-create conditions during the entry of probes into the atmosphere of the earth or other planets such as Mars.

Associate Professor John Harden AM, the Branch Chairman presented the Centre with a Commemorative Plaque in appreciation of their hosting this interesting event.

The culmination of a great day out was the fellowship lunch – Vietnamese Style at the Lakeside Café overlooking UQ St Lucia's impressive artificial lake. This was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Interested readers may find further useful reading at <https://www.mechmining.uq.edu.au/research-hypersonics> and <https://www.uq.edu.au/news/article/2019/11/new-shock-tunnel-making-waves-hypersonic-testing>



Members examining a scramjet engine.



Members examining the X3 Expansion Tunnel.



AVM BILL COLLINS AO RECOGNISED FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE GOLD COAST REGIONAL GROUP



Bill and Robyn Collins recognised at the Gold Coast lunch on 18 November – from L-R – Geoff Cowles OAM, Queensland Branch Secretary; AVM Bill Collins AO (Ret'd); Robyn Collins and Ronda Nix OAM, Queensland Branch Treasurer

Around 50 members and guests from the Gold Coast Regional Group attended an enjoyable lunch at the Southport Golf Club on Monday 18 November 2019. In attendance were Geoff Cowles OAM, the Queensland Branch Secretary and Ronda Nix OAM, the Queensland Branch Treasurer representing the Queensland Branch.

At this lunch the Queensland Branch made a presentation to Air Vice Marshal Bill Collins AO (Ret'd) in recognition of his outstanding service since 2005 as Convener of the Gold Coast Group. Bill's wife Robyn, who has ably assisted Bill in the role over all these years was also recognised. Bill also had a period of three years on the Queensland Branch Committee some years ago.

Bill has provided great stability to the Gold Coast Group and has organised some wonderful events over his thirteen-year tenure. Who could forget the wonderful annual garden parties that Bill organised that were held at "Jabiru", the charming home and grounds of the Late John Kearney AM QC and his wife Alison – these remain legendary.

The lunch was the first event I have organised on my own as the new Convener. I was ably assisted by my lovely wife Margaret Wine. I am looking forward to the challenges ahead as the new Convener and expect to lean on Bill's vast experience from time to time.

Clive Mitchell-Taylor OAM, Convener

PROUD TO BE A QUEENSLANDER

On Saturday 30 November 2019 forty-four OAAQ members and guests joined with members of the Victoria League Brisbane for Commonwealth Friendship (VLB) and members of the Brisbane general public at the iconic, historic Princess Theatre at Woolloongabba in Brisbane to witness the première of a musical with a difference *"Bring them Home"*.

The musical revolved around Ron McAuliffe who took on the heavyweights of New South Wales Rugby League. Serving as a Senator in the national parliament his story reverberates throughout the nation to this day – he created State of Origin.

Written by local historian Hugh Lunn and comedian Gerry Connolly, it's a story of Love, Loyalty, Loss and Redemption, exploring the emotional journey of a man, a team, a tribe... and the love of Lilian and Ron which triumphs in the end. Artie Beetson and Wally Lewis both get a Guernsey in the show and a nostalgic moment is Gerry Connolly's amazing impersonation of the former Queensland Premier Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen at an appropriate moment in the show.

There were many songs sung during the show which were very patriotic and most of us privileged to be here at the Princess Theatre who support the mighty Maroons felt proud to be a Queenslander. Even any diehard "Blues" supporter who was present would, I feel sure, have had 'goose bumps' watching an uplifting, sporting history lesson such as this.

It was a privilege to be able to watch the show at the old Princess Theatre. The Princess Theatre was designed by John Nicholson and built in 1888 for local landowner and solicitor Phillip Hardgrave. Originally named South Brisbane Public Hall this entrepreneurial venture was designed to provide the rapidly expanding South Brisbane and East Brisbane corridor with a beautiful venue that would become the perfect location for theatre, lectures, balls, musical performances and other public meetings. Having sustained several owners and used for many and varied purposes over the last 131 years, in more recent years the Princess Theatre has experienced an extensive refurbishment, which included the painting of the theatre and the proscenium arch that spectacularly frames the main stage. New carpet, polished floors, new lighting and other capital works have breathed new life into this magnificent historical building.

Prior to the performance the members of both OAAQ and VLB in attendance enjoyed a Reception of drinks and canapés in their own dedicated space in the Theatre which added immensely to this special occasion.



OAAQ and VLB members enjoy drinks and canapés in a dedicated area inside the Theatre before the performance.



The magnificent front entrance of the historic Princess Theatre – note the Queensland State of Origin flag draped across the front.

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland

Chairman

Associate Professor John Harden AM
Tel: 0418 988 659 (M)

Deputy Chairman

Emeritus Professor Mary Mahoney AO
Tel: 0419 778 694 (M)

Secretary

Geoff Cowles OAM

Tel: 07 3351 4991 (H); 0413 833 720 (M)

Treasurer

Ronda Nix OAM
Tel: 0409 615 514 (M)

National Board Director

Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ
Tel: 0408 887923 (M)

Membership Officer

Patrick Galligan OAM
Tel: 0408 703 276 (M)

Regional Groups Coordinator

Dr Mick Davis AM ASM
Tel: 0411 554 955

Committee members

Dr Gary Bacon AM
Dr Carol Cox AM
Paula Penfold AM
Darryl Seccombe OAM
Royce Voss OAM

Regional Group Conveners and Committee members

Marjorie Voss OAM
Raymond Young OAM

Co-opted member

Graham Hyde OAM, Newsletter Editor
Tel: 0419 736 571 (M)

All correspondence to:
Geoff Cowles OAM, Secretary,
16 Kanturk Street,
Ferry Grove, Qld 4055 or email
secqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

REGIONAL GROUP CONVENERS

Darling Downs: Paul McNally OAM

Far North Queensland: Carole Miller OAM

Gold Coast: Clive Taylor OAM

Mackay-Whitsunday: Carmel Daveson OAM

Townsville: David Jackson OAM

Wide Bay-Burnett: Donna Duncan OA

CONGRATULATIONS & WELL DONE!



This is what just under 900 Congratulatory Letters from the National Chairman to the Australia Day new recipients look like, just prior to delivery to Australia Post.

Well done Heather, our National Membership Officer based in our National Office at Old Parliament House.

Having received the details from Government House on Monday 27 January, mail merged and printed the letters, and leaving just prior to the hailstorm that damaged the building (our office was OK).

Then on Tuesday 28 January transferred to home in rather a rush because it was under a 'Watch & Alert' advice because of an approaching bushfire.

On Wednesday 29 January the job was done, albeit our folding machine decided to go out of action!!

Phil Morrall AM, CSC
National Secretary

ADMINISTRATIVE HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS

Membership Renewal and Contact Information – Bushfire Impacts

As advised on Page 4 arrangements have been made to amend membership renewal procedures for those impacted by the recent Bushfires. If you have been impacted or you know of members who have been, please encourage them to take advantage of these arrangements.

Additionally, in the absence of any advice to the contrary this edition of the magazine will be distributed to the nominated postal or email address that we hold on our national database. Again, if changes are required please advise either your Branch or the National Office.

Policy & Procedure Impacts

In the August 2019 edition of the magazine, Mike Crane DSC*, AM Director(ACT) and Policy Officer provided background on the policy development process. As he foreshadowed, more policy and enhanced procedures have been promulgated over recent months, most of which flow from our obligations to our regulator the Australian Charities Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC).

The Board is aware that for many involved in the administration of our Association these requirements impose an additional workload but the legal and regulatory environment within which our Association and so many other NFP's must operate mandate such policies and appropriate compliance.

To quote the maxim; 'it will never matter until it matters!', some quite significant Australian organisations both commercial and NFP have found this is so true. More than 10 charities have had their ACNC registration cancelled or suspended, in 2019 alone; Directors and Office Holders have found themselves called to account for governance inadequacies. The legal consequences for Directors (and in some cases other Office Holders) can be profound.

Please take the time to peruse our policies and whether you be an Office Holder or Branch / Regional Group member please seek to embrace the necessary policies and procedures. Your personal actions can have significant implications for the Association as a whole.

<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/national/policies/>

The Order of Australia Association Ode & Guidelines

Details regarding the Order of Australia Association Ode may be found at:

<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/national/news-events/>



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Thirty-Fourth Annual General Meeting of The Order of Australia Association Limited will be held at the Darwin Convention Centre Stokes Hill Rd Darwin NT 0800 on Saturday 9 May 2020 at 10.30AM.

AGENDA

1. Opening.
2. Apologies.
3. Proxies.
4. To confirm the Minutes of 33rd Annual General Meeting held in Hobart on 13 April 2019.
5. To receive the Report by National Chairman (which is included with the Financial Report).
6. To receive, consider and adopt the Directors' Report and the Financial Report including the Auditor's Report for The Order of Australia Association Limited for the period ended 31 December 2019.

(The report will also be made available on the Association's website 21 days prior to the AGM. Members requiring a hard copy should write to the National Office and enclose a stamped self-addressed C4 envelope.)

7. To note the Directors' Report and the Financial Report including the Auditor's Report for The Order of Australia Association Foundation and The Order of Australia Foundation Limited for the period ended 30 June 2019 (tabled at the meeting).
8. Results of the election of National Office Bearers.

By Order of the Board

Philip Morrall AM, CSC
National Secretary
15 January 2020

THE ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Members might recall 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.

Donations may be made to:

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

BSB No: 013006

Account No: 314735771

Please advise details of EFT transfers to:
sec@oaafoundation.com.au

Donations through the Foundation attract DGR tax deductibility.

Phil Morrall AM CSC
National Secretary

ASSOCIATION POLICY DOCUMENTS:

Copies of our policies are located at -
<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/national/policies/>

- G1 – Policies & Procedures Policy
- G3 – Board Renewal Policy
- G4.1 – Interim Reimbursement of Travel Expenses Policy
- G8 – Privacy Policy
- G9 – Discrimination & Harassment Policy
- G10 – Conflict of Interest policy
- G11 – Complaint Policy
- G12 – Whistleblowers Policy
- A1 – Records Management Policy
- M3.1 – Communication with New Recipients Policy



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

The Order of Australia Association Foundation is supporting the next generation of leaders by helping promising young Australians to achieve their potential for the benefit of future generations of Australians.

The Foundation provides a national focus for the aim of The Order of Australia Association to promote - "love of and pride in, Australian Citizenship". The Foundation does this by annually sponsoring scholarships to Australian students in their early years of tertiary study. The applicants are assessed for selection against the following criteria:-

- showing potential as future leaders in their field of study
- community involvement;
- benefiting the Australian community in future years through the Scholarship award and their specialist knowledge,
- needing financial assistance to benefit the completion of their studies; and
- having the ability to gain significantly from the guidance of suitably experienced volunteer mentors who have received appointments and awards in the Order of Australia.

To make a tax-deductable donation to the general scholarship funds of Foundation, please fill in the form below, detach and send it to the address shown.

NOTE: To make a tax-deductable donation to the specific Association Scholarship pay via the Association website or by EFT to the account listed in The Order article. <https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/>

For further information, e-mail sec@oaafoundation.com.au or phone 02 6273 5995

**To : The Treasurer,
The Order of Australia Association Foundation Ltd
Old Parliament House
18 King George Terrace
PARKES ACT 2600**

From: Name _____ Postnominals _____

Postal Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Phone _____

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Peter Falk OAM
Branch Chairman

Following my Christmas Update in the November issue of "The Order" I extend my best wishes and those of our Committee to all Members, Family and friends for a happy and healthy 2020.

Our Regional Members are particularly in our thoughts as NSW continues to experience one of the most severe droughts on record, with the Central West, Far West and North West regions the worst affected to date. Added to this tragic situation, from September 2019 more than 100 bush fires have impacted many regions of the State, including the North Coast, Mid North Coast, the Hunter Region, the Hawkesbury and the Wollondilly in Sydney's far west, the Blue Mountains, Illawarra and the South Coast, Riverina and Snowy Mountains, with 20 deaths as a result of the fires, and 5.3 million hectares destroyed across the State. Our thoughts and prayers are with all who have been impacted by these tragedies.

The NSW Branch of the Association finished 2019 on a positive note, with an outstanding Christmas Dinner at Cellos Grand Dining Room, Castlereagh Boutique Hotel on 27 November. We were delighted to welcome The Order of Australia Association Victoria's Chairman, Helene Bender OAM to our fundraising dinner. Close to 60 Members and guests enjoyed a festive dinner, and a most interesting address by Sophie Scott, National Medical Reporter for the ABC. Big thanks to Sophie, and to our NSW Events Manager, A/Prof John Gullotta AM who, with his wife Mara for another outstanding opportunity for our Members to get together for a very deserving cause, Bear Cottage; the only children's hospice in NSW. More than 140 Christmas gifts were donated for young patients.

On 10th December I joined the crew of the Young Endeavour Sail Training Vessel at Woolloomooloo Wharf at the conclusion of their final voyage for 2019, and presented the OAA NSW Young Endeavour Award to Campbell Hillock from South Australia.

Our Branch has supported the Young Endeavour Youth Scheme for over 28 years with more than 430 recipients of the Award. The honour roll of the historical recipients will remain on the YEYS website, although the OAA NSW Branch will not be continuing to offer this award beyond 2019.

On 12 December I attended the NSW Government House Christmas Reception, hosted by the NSW Governor The Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC and her husband Mr Dennis Wilson.

We are looking forward to another fulfilling year, starting with our Australia Day Harbour Cruise Luncheon on Australia Day, and our AGM on 25 February, plus continued focus on our flag ship program The OAA NSW Youth Community Service Awards, for the 28th year.

Details of all metropolitan and regional events can be found on our website:

<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/about-us/>



NSW Branch Chair Peter Falk OAM presenting the NSW Branch award to recipient Campbell Hillock of Warradale, South Australia when the Young Endeavour docked in Sydney.

...continued from front page

Among the many activities enjoyed by the group was the "ferrython" including the ferry race in which the competing ferries were decked out in many colourful flags and banners. Several helicopters performed an aerial ballet and as part of the "Salute to Australia" 3 RAAF fighter jets paid a visit and performed outstanding aerial displays and a later visit was made by a Qantas A380 aircraft. Other events witnessed were the Tug and Yacht ballet, the Harbour Parade where a myriad of ferries and many other large and small craft all decked out in their colours were a very colourful sight and the Tall Ships race where the entrants under full sail made for an impressive sight.

The refreshments and an appetising lunch were enjoyed by all on board during which time a fundraising effort for the NSW Drought Relief Appeal was held which resulted in a total of \$3070 was raised, indeed an excellent effort. All too soon the cruise came to an end but for those with the stamina there were many other activities that extended until well into the evening to keep the huge crowd at Circular Quay entertained.

Ian McKnight OAM
NSW Newsletter Editor

COMING EVENTS

Hunter Regional Group - Luncheon

Saturday 22nd February 2020

Venue: Cardiff RSL Memorial Club

NSW Branch Annual Luncheon

Wednesday 29th July 2020

Time: 12 noon

Venue: Stranger's Dining Room, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney. To be confirmed.



DUBBO REGIONAL GROUP ANNUAL LUNCHEON HELD IN OCTOBER 2019



Happy Dubbo Group at the annual luncheon. Photo courtesy of Dubbo Photo News.

There were 26 recipients of Australian Awards, together with family and friends that made up the group of 45 who attended the function held at the Dubbo RSL Memorial Club. The Dubbo Macquarie Conservatorium director Vivienne Winther brought a small group of performers to entertain the guests prior to the formal function. A special feature of the entertainment was the trombone solo played by Christopher Goud, a student who has been awarded scholarships to continue his music studies. The Dubbo Regional Group appreciates the co-operation of the Conservatorium each year.

It was a pleasure to welcome John Archer OAM ASM, National Director to the luncheon and to have him propose the toast to the Order and Recipients of Awards. The Loyal Toast was proposed by John MacKenzie OAM AFSM who has served on the committee of the Dubbo Group since he received an award in 2007.

One of the recipients, Roger Fletcher OAM accepted the invitation to address the participants. Roger is well known to the people of the west through the very successful business operation in Dubbo – Fletcher International. Having begun using government and council owned abattoirs in 1972 by 1988 he commissioned the Dubbo Abattoir as well as expanding into Western Australia. The family company soon acquired landholdings throughout New South W where there are mixed farming operations as well as some 50,000 sheep held. In 2008 a rail siding built adjacent to the abattoir and by 2014 diesel-electric locomotives were in operation allowing the company to develop efficiencies in logistics management in NSW.

Roger Fletcher from modest beginnings and with a passionate commitment to the sheep industry in Australia, has built a success story and Fletcher International in Dubbo now employs over a 1,000 people. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Business by Charles Sturt University and he has supported many young people by offering part-time employment throughout their study years. It was indeed a pleasure to have Roger and his wife, Gail join us on this occasion.

The Dubbo Regional Group is pleased to acknowledge the support given to the Group each year by the Dubbo RSL Memorial Club and Rex Airlines.

Ruby Riach OAM
Convenor

ANNUAL MORNING TEA AND FORUM CONSIDERED A RESOUNDING SUCCESS



The NSW Branch Annual Morning Tea and Forum which was conducted at the theatrette at Parliament House, Sydney towards the end of 2019 was considered by the Branch to be a most successful function. Approximately 60 members and their guests enjoyed a very appetising morning tea and catching up with some old friends prior to proceeding into the theatrette for the commencement of the forum.

The topic for the morning was “Is Everything in Order?” What people needed to know about Estate and Retirement Financial Planning. The keynote speakers for the morning were Mr Russell Collins OAM a former financial advisor specialising in risk insurance for over 40 years. He is the author of a book entitled “Skills That Succeed”, a communication guide for risk based financial advisors. The second speaker was Mr John Edstein LLB a lawyer and former partner with a senior legal firm, specialising in Superannuation, Tax, Trusts, Managed Investment Schemes, Life Insurance and Financial Services.

Branch Events Manager A/Prof Dr John Gullotta AM duly opened proceedings and offered a warm welcome to one and all in attendance and introduced the NSW Branch chairman Mr Peter Falk OAM who also issued a warm welcome and then introduced the keynote speakers Mr. Collins and Mr Edstein.

Mr Collins spoke at length on business equity, borrowings, Investments, Life /insurance, Superannuation while Mr Edstein dealt with Distribution of the Estate, Wills, Trusts, Business Equity, Debt/ Personal Guarantee Cancellation, CGT, Investments. He particularly discussed wills and equity in some depth. Subjects people needed to consider seriously were discussed such as day to day living/food/accommodation, health, emergency fund, lifestyle/recreation/holidays, charity/philanthropy, “guilt free” spending, strategic risk, and risk assessment (high-medium-low) how to avoid, manage or minimise.

At the conclusion of their address as one could imagine there was a lengthy question and answer session with many queries being asked of the speakers. At the conclusion of the forum many attendees stated that they had learned something new and valuable thanks to the two guest speakers and many thanks must go to both Mr Collins and Mr. Edstein for giving both their time and sharing their vast knowledge from their chosen professions. The forum certainly gave credence to the old adage “that you are never too old to learn”.

Ian McKnight OAM
Newsletter Editor

NEW ENGLAND/NORTH WEST REGION'S LUNCHEON HELD AT ARMIDALE

There were 53 regional Order of Australia recipients and their guests who attended a luncheon hosted by the New England/North West Region of the Order of Australia Association at the Tattersall's Hotel, Armidale on Saturday 2nd November 2019.

Despite the terrible drought and the fires many attendees travelled great distances to attend this annual event which celebrates the achievements and community contributions of our wonderful citizens. Eight new awardees for 2019 attended and a toast was proposed to them by committee member Bruce Stewart OAM of Tamworth. The guests were enthusiastic about the quality of the meal and venue thanks to a generous offer by member John Cassidy AO.

The event was organised by committee members Maria Hitchcock OAM of Armidale and Garnet Wood OAM of Tamworth and was attended by Mr Jim Mein AM the Deputy Chair of the NSW Branch of the OAA. The guest speaker was well known children's author Sophie Mason AM who gave a fascinating account of the life of Ned Kelly who was the subject of one of her best seller books.

Maria Hitchcock OAM



The happy group at the luncheon



NSW Branch Deputy Chair Jim Mein AM with committee members



Guest speaker Sophie Masson AM

NSW BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

Her Excellency The Honourable
Margaret Beazley AO QC

Chairman

Mr. Peter Falk OAM
Mob. 0411 141 103

Deputy Chairman

Mr James Mein AM
Mob. 0408 660 591

Honorary Secretary

Ms Martha Jabour OAM
Mob. 0417 442 287

Honorary Treasurer

Ms Gail Dunne OAM
Mob. 0419 279 337

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Mr John Archer OAM
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Committee Members

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Mr Ian McKnight OAM
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Mr Edward Selwyn OAM
(Member Tours)
Mob. 0488 601 480

Co-opted Members

Mrs Mary Doughty AM (Archives)
9410 7062

Mr Ron Sharpe OAM (Regional
Co-ordinator) Mob. 0409 407 095

Mrs Silvana Vidoni OAM (Merchan-
dising Officer) 9550 0049



BEAR COTTAGE THE RECIPIENT OF BRANCH FUNDRAISING DINNER

In past years the NSW Branch has held a pre-Christmas luncheon at various venues mainly as a get together for members and their guests prior to Christmas. A more recent innovation was a request for attending members to bring along a Christmas present for children who unfortunately found themselves in hospital over the festive season. However, it was felt that more could be done to brighten up Christmas for some of the children who found themselves in a hospital ward or similar.

It was decided that this year that in lieu of a luncheon a fundraising dinner would be held to raise funds as well as still providing presents for some unfortunate children. It was also decided that Bear Cottage would be the recipient for funds raised and in November 2019 the Branch organised and conducted its Christmas Fund Raising Dinner in Cellos Grand Dining Room at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel, Sydney. Approximately 60 members and their guests attended on the night and brought with them around 140 presents for the children.

The Master of Ceremonies for the evening was A/Prof John Gullotta AM who welcomed all in attendance and requested Branch Deputy Chairman Mr Jim Mein AM to say grace prior to the attendees enjoying a wonderful meal. The official welcome was delivered by Branch chairman Mr Peter Falk OAM. Ms Narelle Martin OAM, Nursing Unit Manager and Ms Laura Giles, Relationships Manager both of Bear Cottage were in attendance and a video presentation was made which described the workings of Bear Cottage and looking after ailing children and their parents. There were some very sad moments contained therein and certainly there was a sad tear in many an eye at the function.

The guest speaker on the night was Ms Sophie Scott the National Medical Reporter ABC who further described the outstanding work achieved by the dedicated staff at Bear Cottage and the wonderful assistance given to the children and their parents in times of dire need. However, like similar institutions fund raising was always an ongoing necessity and, apart from the presents provided a total of approximately \$1,500 was raised during the evening through the generosity of the members and guests in attendance.

The new Branch Secretary Ms Martha Jabour OAM offered a vote of thanks to Sophie Scott and wished the staff of Bear Cottage well for the future. Also, many thanks must go to A/Prof John Gullotta AM and his wife Mara for the wonderful efforts they made in ensuring the evening's success. It was most pleasing to see National Membership Director Ms Helene Bender OAM who happened to be in Sydney on the night attend the Branch Fund Raising Dinner.

Ian McKnight OAM
Newsletter Editor



January 14, 2020

John Gullotta
The Order of the Australia Association NSW Branch

Dear John,

On behalf of all of us at Bear Cottage, I just wanted to say a big thank you to for the extremely generous donation of gifts this Christmas time.

Your kindness has made a real difference to the children and families that we care for and helped to brighten what can be a difficult time of year for them. We endeavor to make Christmas a very special time for everyone who visits. It is a chance for families to create special memories and with your assistance we are able to lighten their load just a little. Thank you for that!

I also wanted to let you know that on **Saturday 10th of October 2020** (fittingly this is also World Hospice Day), we will be holding our annual Community Open Day. We hope that you will be able to join us on this day.

We hope that you had a wonderful Christmas break and wish you all the best for the New Year.

Kindest regards
Bronwen Simmons
Community Relations Manager



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Alastair Douglas OAM
Branch Chairman

Reflecting on the activities of the Tasmanian Branch over the past 12 months many of the usual events organised by our Branch and its three Regional Groups were in part overshadowed by the National Conference we were pleased to host for the Association last April. Notwithstanding the Conference, the usual activities of morning teas with guest speakers, post investiture dinners for new recipients and our members and visits to various interesting venues all continued with the enthusiastic input of dedicated committees.

While all these events have been warmly received by those who attended, it is a challenge to entice the involvement of more than a quarter of the Branch membership. The Branch would be pleased to hear what other events and activities would be appealing so please let me of the Branch Secretary know your thoughts and suggestions.

Branch and Regional Group annual general meetings are scheduled for dates in January and February with most office bearers eligible for re-election. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the various committee members for their contribution and support of the Association and for the support that have given me over the past year.

To conclude these notes I have to say that our thoughts are with all those particularly in South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria where families have lost loved ones, property and livelihoods in these tragic and devastating bushfires.

SOUTHERN TASMANIA

Members from the Southern Region visited COMA - a Collection of Old Medical Artefacts gathered by retired medical General Practitioner Dr Phillip Thompson since 1970.

The museum now holds over 3000 items some dating back to the 1850's and many of which were used by early Van Dieman's Land "doctors" a number of whom were convicts claiming to have expertise in surgical procedures.



HISTORIC ENTALLY HOUSE

Entally House was the family home of Thomas Reibey who was the Premier of Tasmania from 1876 to 1877. The Entally Estate was established in 1819 by Thomas Haydock Reibey II in Hadspen, Tasmania.

Thomas Haydock Reibey II was the eldest son of Thomas and Mary Reibey. Mary, the matriarch of the family, was transported to Australia in 1790 for the crime of horse stealing, then aged 14. She would later marry a junior officer of the East India Company, Thomas Reibey (senior), who established the Entally name as a successful trading company that owned a number of vessels running coal up the Hawkesbury River in New South Wales. Following her husband's death in 1811, Mary became one of the richest and most successful businesswomen in Australia. She then obtained the grant of 300 acres of land upon which

Thomas II was to settle and build the homestead and outbuildings. Today, Mary is most recognisable as the face of the Australian 20 dollar note.

The Estate provided the training grounds for the 1884 Melbourne Cup winner Malua, and includes a cricket oval that's believed to be one of the first in the country; hosting games before Melbourne was settled.

The Entally Historic Site consists of Entally House and various outbuildings, including Australia's oldest Conservatory. The Estate encompasses grand, parklike surroundings with magnificent gardens and a vineyard, Regency furnishings, fine silverware, horse-drawn coaches and agricultural implements.

Members visiting Tasmania should make a point of visiting this superbly conserved historic Tasmanian property.





DR. JANE ZIMMERMAN AM, MD



Stratford is a town in Ontario Canada situated a hundred miles from Toronto and it was here on 6 March 1944 that Jane Zimmerman was born. She attended primary school at nearby Tavistock, spent two years in the district high school and completed her secondary education at boarding school in Toronto. She graduated from the University of Toronto in 1969 with a degree of Doctor of Medicine.

Doctor Jane began her career working in general practice in a large multidisciplinary medical Centre in Toronto Canada. She loved the work but hated the snow and the cold. Australia's climate beckoned,

and she came and worked as a locum in several general practices both in Australia and New Zealand and in 1978 she came as a locum to George Town, the site of the third white settlement in Australia and the home of Comalco aluminium and Temco steel processing works. Three years later having fallen in love with the people and the town, she became full-time general practitioner and visiting medical Officer at the local hospital. She has never regretted the decision – she tells everyone “George Town is such a great place”.

Jane Zimmerman became an Australian citizen in 1981 and the following year became a charter member of the Soroptimist International of George Town where she served as club president and secretary. She was elected Tasmanian President and Representative on the South West Pacific Council during which time the organisation was involved in many projects including save the Tasmanian devil, Asthma Foundation support and bursaries for girls. She was elected International President Soroptimist International in 1999 and led the organisation in working to improve the education and practical skills of girls in Inner Mongolia as well as raise funds to help combat international trafficking of girls and women.

As well as her busy practice and heavy commitment to the Soroptimist organisation, Doctor Jane Zimmerman had a major and important role in the local community at various times. She has been a member and President of the board of management of Tamar Valley Business Enterprise Centre, member of the George Town Council, convener of a district wine festival, member of the George Town hospital advisory committee, chairman of Harmony Day commitment George Town and member of the George Town on Show organising committee.

In 2001 Jane began holding a women's health clinic on King Island, flying there with the Royal Flying Doctor service. Often it was a very small single engine aircraft and Jane loved these flights – she enjoyed them so much at one stage she says she had thoughts of getting a pilot's license herself. She also ran women's health clinics at nearby Beaconsfield.

After 50 years of medical practice, Doctor Jane Zimmerman retired in July 2019. She tells me she has a large bucket list of travel wishes for her retirement particularly including a visit to her brother who lives in their old family home in Canada.

Jane received the Australian Doctor (magazine) GP award for community service in 1993, an honorary life membership Soroptimist International of Tasmania in 2007 and in 2008 was made an honorary life member Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific. In 2013 she was made a Member of the Order of Australia for significant services to the community and an advocate and promoter of the status and health of women.

Australia, George Town and surrounding district, and the Soroptimist organisation have been extremely fortunate that Doctor Jane Zimmerman AM decided to emigrate from Canada. She has been a wonderful citizen and servant to her adopted country, and clearly merited recognition of her great contribution with our nation's foremost civilian citation – a Member of the Order of Australia award.

NORTH WESTERN TASMANIA

It is planned to have social events in Autumn and Spring and a function in June to mark the Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11.

Once again there will be a Reception held in October to honour the recipients of Order of Australia Awards in 2020.

NORTHERN TASMANIA

For the last function of 2019, Tasmanian Northern Region members enjoyed a visit to Entally House (see accompanying article). Following a tour of the house and grounds, home-made soup and sandwiches made on the premises were enjoyed for lunch. The after lunch guest speaker was Doctor Virginia Wright, whose degree in fine furniture design well qualified her for consultancy to the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery on matters relating to furniture. She spoke about her recent report to the Museum on 19th-century chairs which were part of the museum's large collection, and the history of the furniture trade and furniture making in Tasmania it was a most interesting talk and attracted many questions and comments.

The Northern Region annual general meeting will take place on Thursday, 6 February 2020 at 2:30 PM at Glenara Lakes retirement village and this will be followed by afternoon tea.

Thank you to all members who have supported the region during 2019 – particular thanks to Liz Lee, Linda Madill OAM, and Theodore OAM and Betty Tasker OAM for their support in organising functions. Thank you to new members who have joined throughout the year and all who have helped to welcome them. The Northern Region looks forward to another successful and active year in 2020.

Check out our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

JOHN ODIN WENTWORTH WATSON AM

John Watson was born on the 25th of January 1937 in Launceston and educated at Scotch Preparatory School (in St Georges Square) and Scotch College. Recently, he contributed his memories in a history book on Scotch Prep. It was during the Second World War years, when trenches were dug in the Square and ration books gave limited access to food and petrol. He was captain of Scotch Prep and captain of Athletics at Scotch College.

John attended night classes at Launceston Technical College, and with tutors from Launceston College, he matriculated. He then enrolled at the University of Tasmania where he gained his Bachelor of Economics and Commerce. He worked for Launceston accountants, Bennell & Bennell, and in Melbourne for Price Waterhouse.

At a Student Christian Movement Conference in Adelaide, John met his future wife Jocelyn. They married in 1963 and returned to Launceston to the family home. They have 4 children and 12 grandchildren.

John lectured part-time in business at both Launceston TAFE and University of Tasmania. He gained a position as Company Secretary and later as General Manager (1966-77) with Kelsall & Kemp Launceston, a high fashion textile manufacturer.

When Kelsall & Kemp closed in 1977 John was approached to run for the Senate. After 6 months of intensive campaigning he was elected, and took his place in the Australian Senate on 1st July 1978. He held his seat for 30 years and was known as the "Father of the Senate" from July 2005 until he left Parliament in June 2008.

As a Senator for Tasmania, John regularly visited places all around the state. In addition to his Launceston office, he opened an office in Devonport to provide greater accessibility for people on the North West Coast. Many community issues that John was involved with included the Roads Program between Devonport and Penguin, reconstruction of the entry points to East and West Devonport on the Bass Hwy, and, working closely with the mayors, he successfully obtained the Commonwealth funding for extensive sewerage services between Boat Harbour and Sisters Beach. All these contributed to the strength of the North West Coast economy.

In the Senate, John held many committee positions including Chair, Senate Select Committee on Superannuation (1993-2003), member of the Joint Statutory Committee on Public Accounts and Audit (1978-1993), and being Parliamentary Secretary to the Shadow Treasurer.

He was one of the Senate's leading experts on taxation and superannuation matters and was highly regarded by his coalition colleagues.

John was a Fellow of The Institute of Chartered Accountants, Chartered Institute of Secretaries, Certified Practising Accountants Australia and Australian Institute of Management. Meritorious Service Awards "in recognition of professional contribution" were given from CPA Australia (2007) and the Institute of Chartered Accountants (2004).

His involvement in many organisations was extensive from the Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS), Honorary Justices' Association of Tasmania, Girl Guides, Legacy, Launceston Railway Silver Band, Gideons, Migrant Resource Centre, Philippines Association, etc. In RCS, he has been a member since 1987, with a role as Vice President 2010-2011 and President 2012-2013.

Retirement from the Senate in 2008 brought many accolades, especially from the areas of superannuation and tax. John had not finished with politics - he then ran for the West Tamar Council, and gave service to Local Government for 5 years.

Today, John Watson concentrates on farming, sheep and cattle down on his West Tamar property.

He was awarded an "AM" in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June 2014 for service to the community.



Jocelyn & John Watson AM

TASMANIAN BRANCH

OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

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

Chairman

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)

Hon Treasurer

Mr Ron Blake OAM

Branch Committee

Dr Peter Holm OAM (NW Chairman)
Mr Neville Bingham OAM
Mrs Sue Shea OAM
Mrs Maureen Oates OAM
Dr Nicholas Chantler AM
(Northern Chairman)

Regional Coordinators

South

Mrs Maureen Oates OAM
(P: 03 6266 4114)

North

Mrs Therese Samorzewski OAM
(P: 03 6330 3047)

North-West

Vacant



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM
Branch Chairman**

2020 New Year celebrations were tempered by the bush-fires that have affected so many over recent weeks and months. A small number of ACT Branch members who live on the south coast of New South Wales endured the worst of the fires at their peak, but thankfully most escaped safely with property largely intact; in Canberra, meanwhile, we suffered for several days through the worst air quality in the world. Our thoughts are with all members who were touched by the fires in any way.

Of course, the announcement of the Australia Day honours list was a bright spot in an otherwise gloomy start to the year. I congratulate all new recipients and look forward to meeting them at investitures in May.

Our Branch Australia Day breakfast was again well supported, with local media identity Alex Sloan AM proving a popular speaker. You can read the report on this event on the website.

Our Branch Annual General Meeting was also a success, and I thank new member Professor Jane Dahlstrom OAM for addressing us afterwards on her work as one of Australia's foremost pathologists.

More events are on the near horizon, with the ANU Lecture to be held in early March, a morning tea in April and our Autumn Reception in mid-May. We do hope that Branch members and interstate visitors alike will join us to enjoy-fellowship and the many other benefits of membership of the Association.

THE OAA-ANU LECTURE

The Branch is looking forward to our annual ANU lecture in early March 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).



Prof Adm Chris Barrie AC. Photo - ANU.

2019 ACT BRANCH STUDENT AWARDS

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 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 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.



Amaroo School – Liam Coe and Tahlia Hannemann

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.

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.

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. In addition he is the Master of Ceremonies for sports assemblies.

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

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.



Gungahlin College – Dr Bill Maiden PSM OAM, Isaac Martin

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.

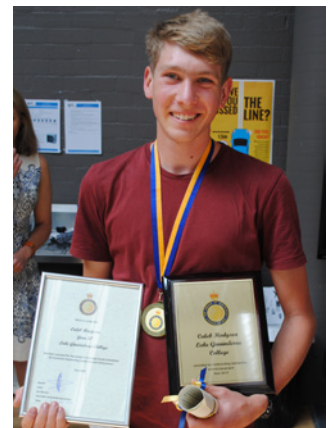
Caleb Hodgson (Year 12 – Lake Ginninderra College)

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 evoted much time and energy to the schools 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.



Lake Ginninderra College – Caleb Hodgson

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.

ACT BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

Gen Peter Gratton AC OBE

Chair

Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM
Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au
0467 719 020 (M)

Secretary

Robert Altamore OAM

Treasurer

Terry O'Brien OAM RFD

Committee Members

Narelle Hargreaves AM
Bill Maiden PSM OAM
Alan Morrison AM
Coralie Wood OAM
Sam Wong 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 Keith Pearson AO - Queen's Birthday 1990 - For Public Service.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mark Bonser AO, CSC
Branch Chairman

Dear fellow members, the WA Branch has had another successful year with membership numbers increasing and all events well attended. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Having been on the Branch committee for four years and, been chairman for the last two years, I have decided to not stand for a further term. There are a number of reasons for this decision but, in essence they all add up to it being time for someone else to take a turn.

Your committee continues to do a sterling job in organising events, providing patrons to the recruit squads at the WA Police Academy, encouraging more nominations in the Order and, looking to new projects where the members might continue to contribute to the community. I thank them and all of our volunteers for their ongoing efforts.

At the national level, work continues to increase the number of policies governing the association. Separately, work is being done to draft a new Constitution and By-Laws, something that is much needed.

I know this will be a transparent and consensual process that seeks the members' views. As I understand it, consultation with the members will commence in April.

Please consider nominating worthy fellow West Australians for an honour in the Order.

Editor's Note:

In the interests of transparency, I wish to advise that I have edited the Chairman WA Branch's report for this edition of the magazine relating to his comments on specific matters in the forthcoming consultation process on the new Constitution.

Some of the comments pre-empt decisions of the national Board and might, given the personal nature of the views, initiate ill-informed debate at this time.

I shall ensure the views are brought to the attention of the Constitutional Working Group and the Board as part of the consultation process.

I refer WA Branch members to the National Chairman's article on page 4 and the WA Branch committee should they wish further information.

W.A. REGIONS

The 2 regions we have in W.A. are very active.

GREAT SOUTHERN REGION

Great Southern Region had a very successful annual event in November. It commenced with a dinner at Rustlers Restaurant, Albany on Saturday night with 12 Perth members joining our local members.

On Sunday morning a good attendance represented the Order of Australia WA at the Albany Uniting Church and were welcomed by the local parishioners. All enjoyed the Morning Tea after the Service.

We then travelled to Motel le Grande for a Christmas Lunch along with much chatter and laughter and the challenge of the Christmas Quiz.

Jan Savage OAM and her Committee are to be congratulated for the smooth running of the weekend.

SOUTH WEST REGION

South West Region held a very successful activity in September centred on the Busselton Jetty and are busy preparing for another event, this will be announced soon.

We look forward to having members of the Perth area joining with each of the Regions in their activities.

Thank you to: Barry House AM SW Region and Jan Savage OAM Gt. Sth. Region for the work done in 2019 and we all wish you a safe, happy, successful 2020.

Margaret Nunn OAM
Regional Liaison Officer

AN INVITATION HAPPY CHILDREN

Following the article in the last issue of The Order magazine an Information Session to be followed by a light morning tea will be held at EdConnect, The Rise, 28 Eighth Avenue, Maylands on Thursday 27th February at 10.30 am.

This program offers an opportunity to interact with a child at your local school who would benefit from association with an adult. There are many and varied ways in which volunteers can help. To learn more about this program, with no pressure to become involved, you and a friend or friends are invited to come along to this session. Please register your interest with Bettine Heathcote AM on 9409 9626 or bettineh@bigpond.com by Monday 24th February.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Captain Michael Bleus OAM calls the successful winners in the Christmas Raffle.

WA members started and finished the year with functions at the Fremantle Sailing Club. The Club provided a wonderful venue for the AGM and brunch which was held there in February and the Christmas Lunch in November.

114 members and their guests enjoyed a delicious lunch which was only enhanced by the superb views across the boat pens and the ocean to Rottnest Island.

A raffle, prizes for which were donated by members, raised funds which will be used to offset some costs for events during 2020.



WA BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

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 Peter Snow OAM

Branch Nominated Director

Professor Robin Watts AM

Committee Members

Capt. Michael Bleus OAM -

Police Patron Scheme

Mr Geoffrey Cattach AM

Mr Bill Hassell AM

Mrs Bettine Heathcote AM -

Events Coordinator and "The Order"

The Hon Barbara Scott OAM

Regional Liaison

Mrs Margaret Nunn OAM

Regional Conveners

South West Region

Hon Barry House AM

Great Southern Region

Ms Jan Savage OAM

Contact Information

wabbranch@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Phone 0476 526 317

Mail: PO Box 4053,
WOODLANDS, WA 6018

PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR 2020

Annual General Meeting and Brunch

Sunday 23rd February 10.00 am

At Nedlands Rugby Club, Broadway Nedlands

Information Session and morning tea

Thursday 27th February 10.30 am

EdConnect

The Rise, 28 Eighth Avenue, Maylands

Australia Day Reception

Monday 16th March 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm

City of Stirling Council, 25 Cedric Street, Stirling

Let's Talk About event

May date TBA

Association Choral Evensong

Sunday 14th June 5.00 pm

St George's Cathedral, Perth

An opportunity to discuss the new Constitution

July date TBA

A talk on Catalinas in Crawley

By Maj Gen Barry Nunn AO

Venue TBA

Queen's Birthday Reception

Wednesday August 12th 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm

Curtin University, 137 St George's Terrace, Perth

Annual Gala Dinner

Wednesday 16th September 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm

Venue TBC

Christmas Lunch

November date TBC



Order of Australia Association

MERCHANDISE

The Association is pleased to offer a range of merchandise to members. Please note that only OAA members may wear clothing, cufflinks and badges. You will find suitable gift items in the range and we are looking to expand this area of merchandise.

You may pay by credit card or cheque (payable to The Order of Australia Association). If you wish to make a direct bank transfer, please contact OAA Victoria Treasurer Mr Alan Brook OAM at: merchandise@theorderofaustralia.asn.au, phone: 0402 891 778.

PRODUCTS	PRICE	P & H	QTY	COST
Ladies' pure silk scarf	NEW 42.00	3.00		
Blue/gold pen in gift box	NEW 7.00	2.50		
Decal for car or other surfaces	SALE 2.50	1.50		
Set of 4 drinks coasters	SALE 25.00	9.50	2	
Pack of playing cards	SALE 2.00	1.50		
A5 Compendium	SALE 30.00	9.50		
Notepad refills for compendium (pack of 4)	10.00	9.50		
Notebook/calculator	10.00	3.50		
Cufflinks in gift box	35.00	9.50		
Lapel badge (Association badge)	15.00	2.50		
Key ring in gift box	10.00	9.50		
Blank greetings cards + envelopes (pack of 5)	10.00	1.50		
Metal medallion/paperweight	20.00	2.50		
OAA traditional tie (navy)	25.00	2.50		
OAA tie (red/black/silver)	25.00	2.50		
OAA tie (blue/gold)	25.00	2.50		
Sports/travel bag, navy	40.00	12.50		
Document/laptop bag, navy	30.00	12.50		
TOTAL				

*Only OAA members may wear apparel, cuff links & badges.

Enquiries welcome for multiple item postage. Please call Barb on 0413 008 571.



Name: _____ Email: _____

Address for mailing: _____

_____ P/Code: _____

Total cost of order: \$ _____ Cheque enclosed Y / N OR Please debit my Mastercard / Visa card:

Name on card: _____ Expiry date: _____

Number: _____ CVV: _____

Email to: merchandise@theorderofaustralia.asn.au Or mail to: OAA Merchandise, 38 Rotherwood Road, Ivanhoe East, VIC 3079.