



Dated August 2020

Vision Impaired Accessible Document

A POST COVID-19 SUNRISE?



[Picture: Denham Sadler – ACS Information Age- 2019]

THE MORNING STAR paled slowly, the Cross hung low to the sea,
And down the shadowy reaches the tide came swirling free,
The lustrous purple blackness of the soft Australian night
Waned in the grey awakening that heralded the light;

Still in the dying darkness, still in the forest dim
The pearly dew of the dawning clung to each giant limb,
Till the sun came up from ocean, red with the cold sea mist,
And smote on the limestone ridges, and the shining tree-tops kissed;

Then the fiery Scorpion vanished, the magpie's note was heard,
And the wind in the sheoak wavered and the honeysuckles stirred;
The airy golden vapour rose from the river breast,
The kingfisher came darting out of his crannied nest,
And the bulrushes and reed-beds put off their sallow grey
And burnt with cloudy crimson at the dawning of the day.

The Australian Sunrise – James L Cuthbertson 1851 - 1910 (Barwon Ballads)

NOTICES & EXCLUSIONS:

This is our third attempt at an accessible version, feedback would be welcome.

This version of our National magazine is not intended for general distribution to the wider public but is prepared as a service to those of our members who require the use of vision-impaired screen-reader technology. Thus, certain pages of the hard-copy version involving complex graphics or page layout have been omitted.

A summary of these pages and other notes of a general nature will be listed here.

GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION.

National Office – Email: oaasecretariat@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

National Secretary – Graham Hyde OAM Email: natsec@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear All,

Leadership has served Australia well in this crisis. Leaders at the Commonwealth, State and Community levels have worked well together and put aside tribal political differences for the greater good. Our business and union leaders have cooperated to try to support the economy and workers through the crisis.

Our institutions, in particular the Reserve Bank have been as solid as a rock and, in the RBAs case, dug deep into its dwindling toolbox to support the economy. Our scientists have provided sound advice for our political leaders - who have had the good sense to heed it, while our researchers are well and truly holding their own in the global race to understand the disease and find an effective treatment and vaccine.

One abiding theme of all of this has been the absence of polarising politics. The divisive and negative politics characterising Australian public policy at all levels of Government in recent years has yielded to the need to put the national interest first. The management of the pandemic, and the policy responses across the board, have been greatly enhanced by this.

When we finally enter the recovery phase of the crisis, I suspect many of us would like politics to be more about bringing the country together to solve our problems rather than pursuing a whole lot of polarising policies that can only produce winners and losers. There are going to be a lot of debates to be had. While in the short term it will be about putting the economy back on its feet again, if we aren't going to emerge weaker and poorer in the medium term from this crisis, we will need to pursue some more long term reforms. Reform is hard, bruising work, but with good and unifying leadership we can make the changes we need. We have proven this in the past.

Australian leaders have stepped up during the crisis and Australians have followed their lead. Let's see if we can sustain this sense of unity into the tough period that lies ahead. Our future prosperity, and that of our children, depends on it.

Keep well.

Heather Ridout AO

National President

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am sure that all members share with me the keen anticipation of once more being able to meet, renew friendship and welcome into our Association, new recipients of Order honours.

Notwithstanding some setbacks, we can all be proud of the way in which Australians have responded to the COVID-19 crisis. On emerging from lock-down our sound federal system of government has allowed overall guidance at the Federal Government level, then to be implemented by State or Territory Governments, taking account of differing local circumstances.

This approach has similarly been followed by your OAA National Board in entrusting Branch committees to take both Federal and State or Territory Government and health authority requirements into account when resuming activities. As meetings take place, still observing social distancing, there may be some concern among older members because of their increased vulnerability. They should be allowed to decide whether the time is right, and their decisions respected.

It is pleasing to see the number of worthy Australians included in the 2020 Order of Australia Honours Lists and the number who have gone on to join our Association. Gaining new members is a great result, given that only in one Branch has it been possible to hold a welcome function for new recipients in 2020. Branch and Regional Group committees are congratulated on following up those honoured by diverse means of communication.

Thank you to the many members who have made valuable contributions to our proposed new constitution. Your input will ensure that our constitution meets Association needs in the coming years. The National Board has reviewed the many helpful contributions and is considering asking members to vote for the new constitution before the end of 2020. Proposals for accompanying bylaws will also be made available for comment soon.

Following the cancellation of our 2020 National Conference, planning has continued for it to be held in Darwin in 2021. Regrettably, it has now been decided that the risk of COVID-19 disrupting plans is too great. Your Board has decided that there will not be a conference in 2021. Instead an AGM will be held in May 2021 and attended by members, if possible in a location to be decided, or by internet if necessary. A firm decision will be made later this year based on the prevailing circumstances and any travel restrictions. Planning is now in hand for the 2022 National Conference to be held in Canberra, conditions then permitting.

Congratulations to the NT Branch Committee on the considerable effort put into planning the now cancelled 2020 and 2021 conferences.

Your National Board is indebted to John Archer OAM for filling the position of Deputy National Chairman and as well taking on additional tasks as Interim National Secretary on the departure of our long-serving National Secretary Phil Morrall AM. I am pleased to advise that the Board has now appointed Graham Hyde OAM as our National Secretary.

Barry Nunn AO

National Chairman

A POST COVID-19 SUNRISE?



As this edition goes to print, mid- August, many Australians are reflecting on our Covid-19 experiences with a keen eye to the national and international rules, regulations, constraints, and the economic, social, and personal consequences. But do we as individual Association members stand on the cusp of a post Covid-19 dawn?

Our interest and engagement in this matter should askew the shallow and jingoistic, rather focussing on a mature, reasoned, and rational analysis of Government requirements and competing views; perhaps illuminated by history, accredited expert opinion and previous personal and social experience.

Our National Board assessed the situation in mid-March and in the interest of our members' safety and health embargoed all face-to-face Association activities, including our intended National Conference in Darwin.

The Board and our Branch and Regional Group leadership in reassessing Association activities have needed to balance some rather prosaic and at times competing imperatives.

- Covid-19 regulations and guidance.
- 75% of our membership is over 70 years of age. The Federal and State / Territory health authorities classify those over 70 years of age as a 'high risk' group, for very adverse medical consequences, if they contract COVID-19 infections.
- An extended embargo on face to face activities may have adverse consequences on membership recruitment and retention.
- Insurance nuances and financial considerations associated with State / Territory criteria on social distancing, venue patron numbers and catering arrangements, add to the complexity.

The Board's most recent decisions are at the link below and please note the impacts might well vary from Branch to Branch.

<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/association-response-to-covid-19/>

Do you stand ready, within the available guidance, to step into Cuthbertson's *Australian Sunrise* with its , '... *cloudy crimson at the dawning of the day*' ?

I hope to see you there, as circumstances allow!

Phil Morrall AM, CSC

Editor

MAGAZINE READER SURVEY - HAVE YOUR SAY!!

The Association is looking to assess the future of our quarterly magazine *The Order*. The intended purpose of the 'Magazine Reader Survey' in this edition is to ask questions of you the members and develop the necessary information required to understand your expectations of the magazine.

If you are reading a hard copy of *The Order* and would prefer to complete a Word version of the survey please send an email to natmbrdir@theorderofaustralia.asn.au. Members receiving an e-Copy will have a Word version attached.

The survey is not included in this version of *The Order*. Its format is not conducive to screen reading technologies. The suggestion is that you seek assistance from your Branch Committee or fellow Association members if you wish to complete the survey.

Please ensure the two page survey is returned to E: info@pace.com.au or the mailing address noted on the survey by Wednesday September 23, 2020. There is a \$200 Coles Myer Gift Card as an incentive.

The results of the survey will be included in the mid-November 2020 edition of *The Order* magazine.

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 Editor

NEW SOUTH WALES Branch

BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE:

Since my last report in the May edition of "The Order" more NSW Members have generously shared their experiences during the COVID-19 government restrictions on face to face meetings, travel etc, with us. These stories reinforce the sense of community we see demonstrated so often in NSW and across our "Lucky Country".

These stories can be seen on our website <https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/thanks-for-asking/>

Our Members have reached out to those less fortunate than themselves during these trying and for many, lonely times. We are all relieved that the pandemic has been largely managed so well, especially compared with some other not so fortunate countries.

We look forward to the further easing of restrictions, especially regarding face to face meetings. At that time, we will be able to give an enthusiastic welcome to the close to 500 new Awardees in NSW, both from the Australia Day Honours, and the Queen's Birthday Honours.

In this issue of "The Order" we have included the story about a gesture of generosity by our New England North West Regional Group regarding the replacement of stolen Order of Australia medals to one of their members; Noeline Briggs-Smith OAM, an Aboriginal elder of the Kamilaroi tribe, Moree.

And we have also included an article on the life of one of Australia's distinguished scientists, Professor Barry Allen AO who sadly passed away in November 2019.

Due to the appointment of John Archer OAM as Vice Chairman of The Order of Australia Association National Committee, Jim Mein AM has been appointed as the NSW Branch Director of the National Association. We congratulate both John and Jim for their well-deserved appointments.

I am hopeful that in the next issue of "The Order" I will be able to confirm that our Annual Australia Day Luncheon on Sydney Harbour will go ahead as planned on Tuesday 26, 2021. In the meantime, my best wishes and those of our Committee to all Members of the Association.

Peter Falk OAM

Branch Chairman

The Order of Australia Association NSW

BRANCH COMMITTEE DETAILS:

Patron

Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC

Chairman

Mr Peter Falk OAM

Mob. 0411141103

Deputy Chairman & National Director

Mr James Mein AM

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Honorary Secretary

Ms Martha Jabour OAM

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Committee Members

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Mr Michael Maher OAM

(Branch Membership Officer)

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Mr Ron Sharpe OAM

(Regional Co-ordinator)

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REGIONAL GROUP CONVENORS DETAILS:

Blue Mountains/Hawkesbury/Nepean:	Mr Lindsay Callaghan OAM
Central Coast	Ron Sharpe OAM
Central West	Mrs Audrey Hardman OAM
Clarence/Richmond	Grahame Gooding OAM
Coffs Coast	Mrs Anne Stewart
Dubbo	Miss Ruby Riach OAM
Hastings	Mr Laurie Smith OAM
Hunter	Mrs June Cameron AM
Illawarra	Mr John O'Dwyer OAM
Manning	Wing Commander Greg Hartig AM (Ret)
New England/North West	Mr Roger Butler OAM
Riverina	Mr Ron Sharpe OAM
Shoalhaven	Mr Rod Gibb OAM
Far South Coast	Dr Jenny Munroe AM
Southern Highlands	Mrs Virginia Adlide OAM
Southern Tablelands	Mr Ron Sharpe OAM

Professor Barry Allen AO



Professor Barry Allen AO was a distinguished scientist who made weighty contributions to medical physics, biomedical physics and nuclear medicine, and developed innovative methods of cancer treatment. He was also a renowned leader by serving international professional scientific organizations. Professor Allen passed away on 21 November 2019 at the age of 79 due to multiple myeloma.

Professor Allen's research experience ranges from the formation of radioisotopes in stars to their use in cancer therapy. He completed a BSc in Physics and MSc in Photonuclear Physics with the University of Melbourne (1958-62)

Following his studies, Professor Allen was subsequently attached to leading nuclear research laboratories throughout the world. He joined the Australian Atomic Energy Commission (AAEC) which later became the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) at Lucas Heights in 1963. He married Cynthia and moved to Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), Tennessee, USA in 1969 and later the Central Bureau for Nuclear Measurements (CBNM) in Belgium. Following these overseas stints, he returned to ANSTO in Australia as a Chief Research Scientist (the highest research grade at ANSTO) to do research in high resolution resonance neutron capture. During that time, he published widely in neutron capture reactions, cross section data for fast

reactors and investigated neutron capture mechanisms and their relationship to stellar nucleosynthesis (the creation of elements in the stars).

With thanks to Chen-Yu Huang, Eva Bezak, Tomas Kron and Richard Dove, Professor Allen's deep footprints in space, time and spirit can be accessed online at:

<http://doi.org/10.1007/s13246-020-00847-6> 4 February, 2020, Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine 2020

Aunty Noelene Briggs Smith OAM Stolen Medals Replaced

Stolen Medals Replaced



Noeline Briggs-Smith OAM, an Aboriginal elder of the Kamilaroi tribe, Moree, reported to the Secretary of the New England North West Regional Group, Mr Roger Butler OAM, that she was devastated by the loss, through theft, of her medals, did not know how to replace them and could not afford to purchase a new set.

Roger took up her cause with members of the Order of Australia Association, New England NW Regional Group, a number of whom generously donated the money required to replace the medals. The medals were presented to her by Roger after she conducted the Welcome to Country ceremony at the Australia Day, 26th January 2020 celebrations in Moree.

Image: Noeline Brigg-Smith OAM receives her replacement medals from Roger Butler OAM (Secretary NENW Regional Group). LD to send by email to PM

Aunty Noeline Briggs Smith OAM has dedicated herself to many important Aboriginal projects in the Moree area, including as researcher for the Dhiyaan Aboriginal Centre. She has stood on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment and Engagement committee at the University of Western Sydney (UWS) and worked tirelessly to have the lives of the many Aboriginal Servicemen from the Moree area in both world wars recognized and celebrated. She worked for 25 years to ensure that those Aboriginal men were not forgotten. The Moree Cemetery has now become a place of commemoration and remembrance for their families and the wider community.

Aunty Noeline was nominated for Australian of the Year in 2015.

We applaud the generosity of the New England NW Regional Group for this kind gesture.

Maria Hitchcock OAM

Regional Convenor

Youth Community Service Alumni

The Order of Australia Association, NSW Branch, Youth Community Service Award, Alumni

An exciting new development has occurred where several members of the NSW Branch of the Association Committee have agreed, in their private capacity, to assist with a new company which has been registered to harness the leadership, skills and exemplary service by recipients of the prestigious Youth Community Service Award (previously known as the John Lincoln Youth Community Service Award). The Awards are conducted annually and are personally presented to each of the 25 selected recipients by the Governor of New South Wales in a ceremony at NSW Government House.

This Award has been running for 26 years from 1993 – but this will be the first time that action has been taken to ignite, support and unite these outstanding past Awardees.

This Alumni Company represents: Service to the Community: Service to Youth: Service with and for Youth. In time, it could prove to be an opportunity to invigorate the Association and to see the challenge of developing future leaders and mentors as a community building venture.

The vision is to establish an Alumni of The OAA NSW Youth Community Service Award for the common good of all in the 21st century – now and in future communities. We currently have 55 Alumni from diverse backgrounds and geographical areas across New South Wales, who are passionate about this concept and together we have established a strong platform on which to build.

The Alumni is an opportunity to see the challenge of developing future leaders and mentors as a community building venture and we look forward to the private support of Association members.

Carolyn Lyons OAM
Chair
Youth Community Service Award Alumni Limited

TASMANIA Branch

BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE:

We congratulate the eleven Tasmanians who were recognised in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours List. We are looking forward to being able to meet these worthy recipients and being able to give our congratulations in person. We are also yet to meet the Australia Day recipients due to the restrictions and once Government House is able to hold the investitures, we will look forward to our Post Investiture dinners.

As we emerge from the COVID-19 restrictions we believe that it is a chance to try different ways in which we can meet for some of our Branch and Regional gatherings. Knowing that elsewhere combining a physical gathering of members with an electronic meeting using Zoom has been quite successful we should give it a try. If we can give members, the opportunity to hear speakers and be part of the function through a combined physical and electronic meeting it might be a good solution in our current circumstances. As has been often stated, our Association demographic is considered to be vulnerable so we should hasten slowly regarding physical get togethers of any kind.

It had been planned that for the first time a wreath be laid on behalf of the Association at the Anzac Day 11.00am Service at the Hobart Cenotaph. As the Anzac Service was cancelled, along with all others around the State, Tasmanians were invited to stand for a minute silence outside their homes at 6.00am. In some areas, distant strains of the last post were heard while in other areas hardy citizens braving the cold just stood quietly. It is known that some of our members dressed appropriately in suits or military uniform with their medals giving due respect to all who had fought and to those who lost their lives for the country we love. Even though the usual formal service was cancelled, people found it quite a moving experience and seeing others similarly responding in the early dawn gloom also standing quietly at their front gates paying their respect added to the solemnity of the occasion.

Alastair Douglas OAM
Tasmanian Branch Chairman

BRANCH COMMITTEE DETAILS:

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 & Northern Regional Chairman – Dr Nicholas Chantler AM

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 Maureen Oates OAM

Mr Gary Carr OAM

Mr David Brill AM

Regional Co-Ordinators

South – Mrs Maureen Oates OAM

North – Mrs Therese Samorzewski OAM (P: 03 6266 4114)

North – West – Dr Peter Holm OAM

NORTHERN NOTES

Congratulations to all Queen's Birthday Honours recipients. The Northern Region is pleased to welcome its awardees - Ms Colleen McGann OAM, Mr Don Ives OAM, Mr Rex Wilson OAM and Dr Rosemary Callingham AM. We look forward to meeting them at an appropriate function in the second half of the year, Covid 19 restrictions permitting.

The Northern Region Committee met via zoom on Thursday the 25th of June – the main item of business was suggestions as to the best way of keeping in contact with members until we can resume physical meetings. Distributing an expanded newsletter has already occurred thanks to our membership officer Jenny Fraser OAM. The Chairman, Dr Nicholas Chantler AM proposed that we organise a zoom gathering inviting northern members to take part, and this will be investigated and hopefully occur within the next few weeks. He has also planned to contact members who are outside of the immediate Launceston area to arrange contact/meetings as and when possible. In the meantime, the committee will continue to pursue its aim of securing a medal board for each of the seven Municipal Councils in our area- so far three have already acquired a board.

Merrilyn & Lexie Young



Lexie and Merrilyn Young are a very special mother and daughter team. Merrilyn Young received an Order of Australia Medal on the Queen's Birthday 2018 for outstanding volunteer service to her community. On Australia Day 2020 her mother Lexie Young received an Order of Australia Medal also for outstanding volunteer service to her community.

Both mother and daughter have each received Rotary Paul Harris Fellowship awards for services to their Deloraine community and are both life members of the Deloraine Show Society. These two remarkable ladies not only uniquely share these multiple awards; both have given extensive and long-standing service to a huge range of organisations in their community.

Lexie Young OAM grew up in Westbury and moved to Deloraine in 1960 where she worked as a telephonist for over 20 years and managed the canteen at the Deloraine High School for 9 years. She was a founding member of the Deloraine Branch of the CWA where she has held numerous roles over the years. She has been involved with fund raising and other activities for Red Cross, Cancer Council,

Breast Cancer Network, The McGrath Foundation, the W.P. Holman Clinic-on Wheels since 1973. Lexie is renowned for her cooking and craft work and has won over a thousand prizes as an exhibitor at the Deloraine Show where she has also served as secretary, judge and is a Life Member. Lexie has provided her time and talent voluntarily to many other areas of her community. On top of it all she was awarded Australia's fastest knitter 1969.

Merrilyn Young OAM was born at Deloraine with a similar huge voluntary contribution to a large number of organisations in her district including Rotary, Deloraine Ladies Probus Club, Deloraine Football Club of which she is a Life Member, Deloraine Agricultural and Pastoral Society of which she is Life Member, the Northern Tasmanian Football Association of which she is a Living Legend, The Meander Valley Council, she is a Justice of the Peace, Associate Fellow for the Australian Institute of Office Professionals and Affiliate Member of the Local Government Professionals (Tasmania) as well, she has undertaken the role of secretary/treasurer and committee member of several other community organisations. She is also a breast cancer survivor.

The contributions of Lexie Young OAM and her daughter Merrilyn Young OAM to an enormous range of organisations in their community have been justly recognised with an Order of Australia award. It must be a record that both a mother and daughter both received the same high distinction recognition from the Nation, from Rotary International and from their own local community.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL NOTES

It was very disappointing that the Australia Day Post Investiture Dinner in Hobart was postponed from 14 April 2020 as a large number of bookings had been received from Southern Members, Recipients & their families prior to the "lockdown". The dates and formats of each of the 2020 Investitures will be advised by Government House in due course.

During the last 5 months the world has changed and many of the changes will remain with us in the future. Working from home for many will be the norm as will meeting procedures, social functions, shopping, use of electronic technology and in many cases the need to become IT literate etc.

With regards to the later it was interesting that the Kingborough Council ran a competition calling for photos illustrating "Images of Isolation". The winner in the adult category was Amy Groves-Bosworth with her entry "Hello Grandma".

Amy said of her photo "my children are very lucky to have their Great-Grandparents who they love visiting regularly. When we went into isolation, we were at a loss as to how we would stay in face to face contact. But at 88 Grandma decided to embrace technology and got herself a tablet and learnt how to video chat. Although it was trial and error to start with, Grandma has now mastered the art of a video call and afternoon chats with Grandma are back on again."

The Grandma referred to in this story is the Southern Region's stalwart member Bernadette Connor OAM. Congratulations!

HOBART'S DISAPPEARING TARN

According to the Cambridge English Dictionary “a Tarn is a small mountain lake in a hollow surrounded by rocky slopes formed by a glacier”

Southern Tasmania has a Tarn in the kunanyi/Mt Wellington Park which only appears after constant heavy rain when the water collecting in the hollow is a clear bright blue before it drains away. Whilst its location is known to some avid bushwalkers and keen photographers, the majority of people have no idea where this secret place is located.

Following extensive social media reports on the reappearance of the Tarn in June 2020, many locals attempted the journey wearing clothing & footwear totally inappropriate for the unforgiving muddy, rocky wet track to the top of the Mountain. It was reported that parents were seen carrying babies on their backs as they tried to navigate the terrain – desperate to catch a glimpse of the phenomenon.

The journey begins at “The Springs” situated at the first stage of the Mountain. Then there is a 100 metre climb up the stone steps and then along the Milles & Wellington Falls tracks which follow the contour of the kunanyi/ Mt Wellington south face.

Within a week of the heavy rain, the Tarn disappeared and those people this year who had managed the approximately 6.5 km walk from “The Springs” to view or swim in The Tarn in the freezing cold would not have been disappointed.

Queen's Birthday Southern Tasmanian Awardees:

4 people received Awards:

Mr Christopher Jones OAM – for services to the Community of Hobart

Mr Michael King OAM – for services to the project management sector

Mrs Edna Pennicott OAM – for services to the Community of Kingborough

Mrs Lola Phillips OAM – for services to women and to the Community of Sorell

Apology:

In the last issue of The Order the names of Tasmanian Awardees on the Australia Day were listed but the post nominal OAM was omitted from seven names. We apologise for this omission.

NT BRANCH

BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE:



Like other Branches, the Northern Territory's activities have been curtailed by COVID19 as we all stayed in our homes and ventured out little. Here in the Northern Territory we were scheduled to welcome over 200 people to the planned 2020 National Conference at the Darwin Convention Centre in May. Understandably the decision was taken to cancel the Conference due to COVID19.

Nevertheless, we were disappointed.

We re-established a 2021 Conference Planning Committee and have been looking forward to possibly mounting a National Conference in Darwin next May. However, various developments have resulted in a decision not to proceed. If there is a conference next year, wherever that may be, we wish the host state or territory well.

After a maximum tenure as Chairperson, Dr Tom Lewis OAM has resigned, in accordance with the Order's constitution, after seven years in the role. Tom served as a member of the Executive with exceptional dignity and respect. He was a great leader who will be sorely missed.

We wish Tom well in his many other endeavours, whether it be writing another book, researching Military History, School Teaching or serving as Palmerston City Council Alderman. I have been appointed Branch Chair, and I am thankful for the privilege and for the trust my fellow Executive Members have placed in me.

Congratulations to all the Queen's Birthday award recipients – what an amazing group of people doing such great things in and for their communities. It was gratifying to see more Indigenous Northern Territorians – especially artists – being honoured, and we look forward to the awards being more reflective of the multicultural diversity of our population in the future as we raise awareness of the awards and the nomination process.

BRANCH COMMITTEE DETAILS:

Patron	– Her Honour the Honourable Mrs. Vicki O'Halloran AO
Chairperson	– Ms Sharon Mulholland AM
Deputy Chair	– Mr. Alan James AM
Secretary/Treasurer	– Mr. Michael Martin OAM
Director to the Board	– Mrs. Nora Lewis AM
Newsletter Editor	– Mrs. Nora Lewis AM
Committee member	– Mr. David de Silva AM
Committee member	– Mrs. Wendy James OAM

FOUNDATION STUDENT NEWS

The Northern Territory's Order of Australia Foundation Scholarship winner **Shanae Kuo** is on a Dry Season holiday break from her studies at Charles Darwin University, so was able to catch up with Mentor Mrs. Judy Boland AM and Mrs. Nora Lewis AM over a coffee in Darwin – maintaining correct distances.



Shanae is working towards a Bachelor of Secondary Education with a science major, and with English and Special Needs in the Classroom as minor studies. She is excited about next semester's topics – *Water Quality and Assessment*, *Creative Writing Practice in a Digital Context*, and *Contemporary Literature and Writing*. She hopes to teach in the Northern Territory – with two teaching placements already completed, she is anticipating another one this year and one early next year.

Mrs. Boland is ideally suited to the position of Shanae's mentor, having had a long and varied career in secondary teaching. Judy has taught at two city high schools, two in regional centres, and one in an Indigenous community in Arnhemland, so has valuable experiences and advice to share.

Not content to waste a minute, Shanae is currently in a holiday job in the NT Department of Education, working with a 'Productive Pedagogy' team to re-work a Pedagogical Framework that will suit all government schools. When asked what this entailed, Shanae said it started with the need to agree on what exactly was 'Pedagogy' and what was a 'Framework'! Of course. Judy's wisely pointed out that "One size doesn't fit all".... but no doubt the team is well versed in the specialized challenges of teaching in Indigenous communities.

Shanae is also a self-taught guitarist and performs in a duo after hours in various venues. We wish Shanae the best as she looks forward to a fulfilling career in education.

QUEENSLAND Branch

BRANCH CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Hearty Greetings are forwarded to all members.

Our recent experiences of enforced isolation gave us some, albeit minor, appreciation of the mindset that must have prevailed within another group, who exactly 250 years ago endured separation from their families and friends as they sailed uncharted waters up along the east coast of our nation. Captain James Cook and his fellow intrepid explorers, a complement of 94 all up, were crammed aboard HM Bark Endeavour all of 97 ft 8 in (29.8 m) in length. Obviously aboard, there was no social distancing, as we now practice it and the common seamen were never allowed near the great cabin and satellite berths. Cook's focus on strictly enforced health and hygiene protocols served the travellers well until they reached the diseased confines of Batavia. The survivors, about two thirds of those who embarked, endured near three years of foreign travel.

Here in Queensland we commemorate the first charting of Point Danger on 16 May and exit from Possession Island on 22 August with four landings in between, at Bustard Bay 23 May, Green Island 10 June, Endeavour River (repairs) 14 June to 5 August and Lookout Point on 14 August 1770. Thus, Cook and his companions sampled the tropical airs for nigh on three months.

Crises do bring out the best of human traits and our reaction to the COVID19 pandemic is no exception. As a nation we have collectively followed the advice of our medical experts and as individuals provided appropriate help and assistance to our fellow citizens. Such a positive response to an external challenge is not unexpected within the cohort of OAA members in particular. We all are, after all, recognised for our voluntary services to our respective communities. As we methodically exit out of the imposed restrictions and regather in staged forms let us acknowledge our individual and collective efforts with the gathering and telling of uplifting stories of compassion and helpfulness.

There are sure to be significant and lasting by-products of our experiences in isolation. The way we shop for provisions and purchase big ticket items, the reduced use of money in daily transactions, the extent of home-based work and schooling and means of virtual communications, are all items in the melting pot. Wide ranging inclusive discussions will be needed to ensure that the best parts are identified and primed for upload. At the same time no element of society can be left floundering by introduced changes.

The Queensland Branch Committee has now held three monthly Zoom based meetings to ensure we remain on track and maintain dialogue on National issues and efforts. Together with our highly regarded Regional Convenors we have sought via written and personal communiques to keep our teams intact. As an energetic group we are primed to move quickly into operational mode as soon as the green light is given by authorities to resume the plethora of activities with which we can serve our distributed membership.

Dr Gary Bacon AM. BSc (Hons) PhD. FIFA.

Branch Chairman

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Far North Queensland: Carole Miller OAM

Gold Coast: Clive Mitchell-Taylor OAM

Mackay-Whitsunday: Carmel Daveson OAM

Sunshine Coast: Marjorie Voss OAM

Townsville: David Jackson OAM

Wide-Bay Burnett: Donna Duncan OAM

THE SYMBOLS OF QUEENSLAND

The Maltese Cross and the Colour Maroon

Extract from an Address to the Order of Australia Association (Queensland Branch) presented at the Annual Dinner held on 19 March 2019 by Major General Professor John Pearn AO, RFD, MD, PhD.

We adopt symbols to give our lives extra dimensions of meaning. The creation of symbols is one of the unique characteristics which distinguishes humankind from other animals.

Our Order of Australia uses the symbol of our national flower, the blossom of the Golden Wattle, *Acacia pycnantha*;, and our former unofficial national colours which, prior to the adoption of green and gold in 1984, were royal blue and gold. Nations and states tend to use floral and faunal emblems, and occasionally inanimate objects such as gems to define themselves.

Queensland has several such emblems. These are the Maltese Cross, the colour maroon, the Cooktown Orchid, the koala, the Anemone Fish and the sapphire. Of these, the Maltese Cross and the colour maroon are the two dominant metaphors for Queensland.

The Maltese Cross

The Maltese Cross was gazetted as the official emblem of Queensland on 29 November 1876. The emblem, as the formal Badge of the Colony, was designed as a silver circlet on which was placed a blue Maltese Cross (also known as the Crusader or St John Cross) at whose *centrum* was placed Queen Victoria's crown. Formally: 'Argent on a Maltese Cross, azure a Queen's Crown proper'.

The final adoption (1876) of the Maltese Cross as the Colony's emblem followed seven years of debate about a formal identifier for Queensland. The chronology began on 7 August 1869. On that day the Queen as 'The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council', presided over her regular Privy Council Meeting and directed that the Governors of 'British Colonies and Dependencies be authorised to fly the Union Flag, with the Arms or Badge of the Colony emblazoned in the centre thereof'.

Five weeks later, on 14 September 1869, the (Second) Earl Granville (1815-1891), Secretary of State to the Colonies, wrote to the Governor of Queensland (Colonel Blackall) requiring his 'Responsible Advisors' to submit to him a proposal for a: "Drawing of the Badge with which it may be proposed to distinguish the Flag of the Colony under your Government."

The 'Responsible Advisor' was Mr William Hemmant, the Queensland Colonial Treasurer (1874-1876). He, or an unknown colleague, created the proposed design using a Maltese Cross, surmounted at its *centrum* by the Queen's Crown, to be encircled 'within a wreath of laurel'.

The design for that formal Badge of Queensland was Proclaimed 'For the Future [as] the Badge of the Colony' on 25 November 1876 by William Cairns as Governor-in-Council.

Why did the Queensland Treasury officials promote the Maltese Cross as the Colony's emblem? Archival details are silent. The most likely explanation is that the Queen's officials noted her special preference for the Maltese Cross – Her identity with its symbol of *caritas*, and her widespread use of the Cross in the institutions which were founded during Her reign.

The Maltese Cross (Crusader or St John Cross) is formally defined as: A Cross pattée formée with anseriform "V" indents.

In or about 950 A.D., a religious guild of merchants in the independent maritime state of Amalfi adopted an emblem based on the *crux formée*. The Amalfitans had established a hospice in Jerusalem which cared for pilgrims there before the First Crusade. As the Crusaders, especially crusading Benedictine monks, travelled to the Levant from Western Europe, many passed through Italy on their travels to the Holy Land. *En route*, they adopted the emblem of the Amalfitan state as their religious insignia.

The characteristic of the Maltese (or Crusader) Cross is its eight points, produced by an incised "V" at the tips of each of its four arms. This is a form of anseration – "anserated" being a heraldic term describing a modification of the ends of the arm of an heraldic cross.

Queen Victoria evinced a special identity with the Maltese Cross and the ethic of its symbol – that of care and service to others. Her *persona* communicated esteem for those who served in volunteer and charitable roles. She admired the heritage of the St John Hospitallers and used their emblem, the Crusader or Maltese Cross, as the forme for the insignia of the three chivalric bodies which she instituted – the Victoria Cross (1856), the (secular) Order of St John (14 May 1888) and the Royal Victorian Order (1896).

In 1893, the Queensland Parliament self-proclaimed its own Badge, a modified and embellished Queensland Badge, as an identifier of (then) both Houses of Parliament. The new Parliament Badge featured a blue Maltese Cross surmounted by Queen Victoria's Crown, the whole encircled by a maroon buckler.

From the first decade of the twentieth century, various public and institutional bodies used a derivative form of the Maltese Cross as their corporate emblems. Almost all removed the anserated (eight-pointed) ends of the bases of the arms of the Cross; and thus, modified the Maltese Cross to take the form of the simpler cross *pattée formée*. One conjectures that this modification, widely employed, was the result of necessity as the cross *pattée formée* was simpler for metal workers and die casters to fabricate; and easier for foundry men and smiths to cast.

From the first decade of the twentieth century, the colour maroon was progressively used to colour the Cross to produce a symbol of double emblematic significance as the metaphor for Queensland which endures today. Both Government and private institutions printed maroon crosses on many of their documents.

In February 2011, the Hon. P.T. Lucas, Deputy Premier and Minister for Health, spoke in Parliament of: "The comfort that members of the community gain when they see a person in uniform there to help them in their hour of need—the Maltese Cross of the police, ambulance and SES ..."

Many organisations use the insignia of the Maltese Cross –Scouts Australia (Queensland) and the (former) Royal Women's Hospital in Brisbane are examples. From the nineteenth century, the cross came to be used as a metaphor in two quite distinct domains—that denoting Christendom, and as a secular emblem of rescue, charity and care, collectively referred to as "caritas".

The Colour Maroon

Queen Victoria had a special association with colour generally, and a special affinity for the colour maroon. The Royal Rooms at her home on the Isle of Wight, *Osborne House*, were painted in what was to become known as "Osborne maroon".

Queen Victoria herself instituted the Royal Train and had the carriages painted a distinctive maroon with a grey roof. The second postage stamp issued in her reign was maroon (the "Penny Red"). The doors and panels of the Royal Mail coaches were also painted maroon.

For the colour of the riband of the Victoria Cross, the Queen chose a maroon colour, which some have speculated symbolised the shedding of blood in the service of others. She bestowed the same maroon colour (formally "dull cherry") as the Regimental colour of the Royal Army Medical Corps which she founded in May 1898. It was subsumed as the Corps colour of the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps.

Throughout the last decades of the nineteenth century, a number of Queensland institutions adopted the colour maroon, it is speculated because it was the Queen's favourite colour. In 1895, the Queensland Rugby Union team changed their livery from Oxford Blue to "a deep red or maroon jersey". The Queensland Rugby League team wore maroon jerseys from 1908. Queensland's first non-heraldic emblem is the Cooktown Orchid, *Vappodes bigibba*, chosen because of its distinctive maroon flower. It was proclaimed as the State Flower in 1959 to mark the State's Centenary. The colour maroon was incorporated into the new (2001) Queensland State tartan, "the colour being symbolic of the maroon of the Queensland floral emblem, the Cooktown Orchid".

In 2003, the State member for Indooroopilly, Mr. Ronan Lee (ALP, later Greens), began advocating in Queensland's Legislative Assembly for the proclamation of maroon as the State Colour. The Queensland Governor of the day, Her Excellency Quentin Bryce, proclaimed that maroon was the State Colour on 13 November 2003.

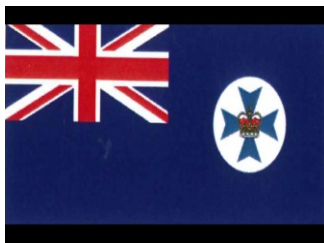
Conclusion

The two most identifiable symbols of Queensland and Queenslanders are the colour maroon and the Maltese Cross. They span origins of identity across a thousand years, brought together by the preference of a queen, and Queenslanders' wish to associate this preference with their State which bears Her name.

Their symbolism is an affirmation of intent – that those Queensland institutions which display them affirm an aspiration for a higher ethic.



Badge of the Queensland Ambulance Service



The Queensland Flag.

LET'S RECOGNISE OUR SENIOR VOLUNTEERS

Nominations for the eighth annual Senior Volunteer Awards can be received from Queensland Branch members any time between now and **Friday 6 November 2020**.

Have you identified an outstanding senior volunteer in your community? If so, then nominate that person for an award this year? This is a great way to recognise senior members of our communities who devote so much of their time and effort to serving community organisations as volunteers. There have surely been some wonderful examples of selfless volunteering during this year's Covid 19 pandemic or through the Queensland Drought or Bushfires or for so many community support groups within Queensland that could be showcased.

Any Queensland member of our Association can submit a nomination for a senior volunteer (sixty years and over). A nomination form is included as a flyer in a separate email or can be downloaded from our website at <https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/queensland/senior-volunteer-award/>. The form is only two pages long and is easy to complete. The website page provides more details about the awards and the nomination process.

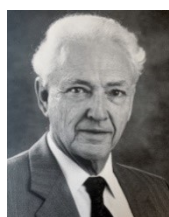
The form is not included in this version its format is not conducive to screen reading software. The suggestion is that you seek the assistance of the Branch Committee or other Association members if you wish to complete a nomination.

If you know of a senior volunteer who you believe should be considered for a Senior Volunteer Award 2020, why not nominate that person. Complete the form and send it to Geoff Cowles OAM, the Queensland Branch Events and Awards Coordinator.

Profiles of the three winners of the 2019 awards were published on page 18 of the last edition of *The Order*.

A GREAT QUEENSLAND PAEDIATRIC RADIOLOGIST

Dr John Masel AM passed away on the 26th March at the age of 87.



Dr Masel was a highly regarded Paediatric Radiologist, teacher and researcher. He was a former Director of Radiology and established the Integrated Department of Paediatric Radiology for both the Royal Children's and Mater Children's Hospitals in Queensland. He was President of the Royal Australasian College of Radiologists and served on its Federal Council for 14 years. He was a former Chair of the Australasian Society for Paediatric Imaging and is credited as being highly influential in bringing the speciality of paediatric radiology in Queensland to the national stage. Coupled with his incredible clinical skills, was his significant research interest in the medical imaging of genetic and chromosomal bone disorders and syndromes, and also of lung disorders in infants and children. In his working life he touched the lives of countless sick children and their families and is fondly remembered by many.

He was made a Member in the Order of Australia in 1998 and to quote the Citation "For service to medicine in the field of paediatric radiology, including service as Director of Metropolitan Paediatric Radiology and as Director of Radiology, Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane".

Dr Masel leaves behind his loving wife of 62 years, Margaret, their 4 children, 13 grandchildren and one great-grand daughter.

IN MEMORIAM

COPELAND William Harold OAM

McKINLEY Ian William OAM

BURCHILL Donald Stanley OAM

CLARK David William OAM

CUNEO John Bruce OAM

O'BRIEN Thomas AM

GLEESON Robert John AM

POTTER Emer Prof Owen Edward AM

Corrections to February 2020 copy of The Order.

Photo Caption- for North Queensland Article page 17

Guest speakers at the Townsville Group function, Dr Barry Hicks AM and his wife, Robin (left) and Mr Mark Stoneman AM and his wife, Joan at the Townsville dinner held in October.

Far North Coast Convenor page 19 should read Far North Queensland Convener.

VICTORIA Branch

Chairman article:

At the time of writing this report on behalf of the Victoria Branch, Melbourne is in Stage 4 lockdown and Regional Victoria has entered Stage 3 lockdown again until September 13, 2020. Our thoughts are with the families and friends of those who have passed away as a result of this pandemic. We also acknowledge the impact lockdown is having on business owners and their employees. Please stay updated with health regulations, lockdown guidelines and available assistance.

Thank you to our members and families who observed 'Light up the Dawn' on ANZAC Day at their front gate or on the balcony to remember and thank past and present servicemen and women for the sacrifices made.

Queen's Birthday we acknowledged 196 Order of Australia Honours from rural, regional and metropolitan communities who have gone above and beyond to make a difference and achieve positive outcomes. It is pleasing to see the broad range of exceptional recipients from our diverse cultures being recognised. Thank you to the recipients who have joined the Association.

Please refer to the Order of Australia Association website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au VIC Annual Events page regarding Regional Group upcoming events subject to current regulations.

The VIC Branch Annual Lunch, subject to regulations, is scheduled; for Tuesday November 17 at William Angliss Restaurant with guest speaker Dr Robert (Robbie) Gillies OAM. Co-Founder HoMie Street Store; Doctor at Alfred Health and Young Australian of the Year VIC 2016

Please stay safe during this challenging time.

Happy 100th Lesley Falloon OAM



One of our beloved members, Mrs. Lesley Yvonne Falloon OAM CM celebrated the centenary of her birth which took place in the small hamlet of Rupanyup in the Wimmera Victoria on the 20th of June 1920. Lesley was awarded her OAM on the 26th January 1994 and the Centenary Medal on January 1st 2001. Both awards were for service to the local community and local government.

A thumb nail sketch of this rather remarkable woman. Schooling in Rupanyup, Murtoa, Presbyterian Ladies College and University Women's College at Melbourne University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree.

Lesley successfully joined the work force, married and for more than 20 years she was involved in community work and nurturing

her family.

She rose to prominence when she helped lead an historic public battle to save a row of 25 metres high mahogany gums in suburban Hampton; this went to the Supreme Court nine times

before the community won the battle. Out of this came the Hampton Conservation and planning Association and requests for Lesley to stand for Council.

After Lesley had achieved her half century [and a bit more] she returned to study and took a one-year social welfare course.

She helped establish a committee which successfully lobbied government to introduce to older citizens, reduced public transport fares, half price taxis and wheelchair taxis.

Lesley was elected to Sandringham Council serving from 1978-1992 and was twice Mayor, during this time she was deeply involved with the local community:

Hampton Rehabilitation Hospital 1983-1997

Southern Region Aged Services Network 1985-1991

- Historical Society 8 years-service
- Commissioner for the Board of Works 1998-1992
- Established Fairway Hostel for older people in the area.
- 1985 appointed a marriage celebrant from which she retired in 2009

Her other achievements are just as numerous as are her awards from being a Life Governor of several organisations and a Life Member of other community groups in which she had a great input, Citizen of the Year, nomination in Senior Australian of the year award.

As said in the beginning it is a thumb nail sketch that could be or should be a much broader portrait of the life and achievements of this rather remarkable Australian lady.

"A century ago, the First World War was a recent memory, radio began broadcasting and Goldstein resident Lesley Falloon OAM was born. She hasn't wasted a minute of her nearly 100 years.

She was one of the first to attend Melbourne University's Women's College where she majored in microbiology and biochemistry.

She was later elected as a local councillor, serving for 13 years, including as Mayor of Sandringham. She has always been a strong advocate for women and, in public office, championed access to women's sports facilities within our wonderful community.

As an avid golfer, Lesley understands the crucial social and health benefits which sport provides to Australians of all ages and throughout all stages of life. Recently, we presented her with

Engaging Women's Lifetime Achievement Award for her incredible service to the Goldstein community

So, for your 100 years, congratulations, Lesley! We admire your talent, kindness, humour and intellect, and we celebrate your achievements and your longevity."

Tim Wilson MP acknowledged Lesley's lifelong contribution in Parliament week of June 15, 2020

A Gift to the National Gallery of Victoria

In Galleries and Private Collections throughout Australia there are works of Art produced by Artists who attended classes at the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) Schools of Art.

Admission of students to the NGV Schools of Art date back to 20 June 1867 with the first students admitted to the NGV School of Design some three years prior to the appointment of Masters.

However, published information on the enrolment details of the students in the NGV Schools has been very limited and to correct this situation, Mornington Peninsula Regional Group member of the Association, Art Historian, Andrew Mackenzie OAM after years of research, has created two new student Registers listing for the first time the names and enrolment details of all students in the NGV Schools between 1867 and 1925.

These Registers will not only benefit Art Historians and researchers in Galleries and Auction Houses but also should interest Family Historians and Australian Military Historians, given that a number of students recorded in the Registers enlisted in the First World War and several were among the first Australian Official War Artists.

In all, these two Registers record over 12,000 individual enrolment entries, covering the enrolment of approximately 4,000 students, with two thirds of these being women, including many talented artists of this period still to be recognized.

Mr. Mackenzie recently generously presented these two unpublished Registers to the National Gallery of Victoria as a gift to be shared with the Nation, and a way of celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Eugene von Guerard being officially appointed the first Master of the National Gallery of Victoria Schools of Art on 20 June 1870. Andrew Mackenzie OAM - Art Historian Mornington Peninsula Regional Group



Dr Srechko (Stretch) Kontelj OAM on his Memoirs of Guernsey

With an equal measure of excitement and trepidation, in July 2015 I flew out of Australia accompanied by my 21-year-old daughter for the isle of Guernsey to start my new role as Group Legal Director for international optometry group Specsavers.

Whilst I was anxious about the move, I was emboldened by the thought of my parents who had immigrated to Australia some 60 years earlier from war torn Europe with no English language skills and only a suitcase of personal possessions. My immigration via Emirates business class in no way compared with my parent's ordeal, however, leaving behind my wife, my son and other daughter was very emotional and made me appreciate my parents sacrifice even more.

I needn't have worried. Guernsey made us extremely welcome. We very quickly settled into our new home and I threw myself into my new job. Transitioning into the UK business jet set was very exciting. It was nothing to fly to the UK, Scotland, and Ireland or even into broader Europe for a couple of days as we do here between Melbourne and Sydney.

I also immersed myself in community affairs. In 2017, I attended the Institute of Directors annual Convention and plucked up the courage to pass comment on the States of Guernsey's machinery of

government that seem to strike a chord. This led to me being invited to speak at an IoD luncheon and an invitation to join the Committee as Vice-chair in 2018.

During my five years in Guernsey, I got involved in an array of community activities and events including organising the annual ANZAC Day remembrance service. I was also invited onto a number of government advisory boards including the International University of Guernsey working party, the discrimination legislation round tables and the red tape working group.

Just before I left the island, and in response to the Covid 19 crisis, I joined the St John Ambulance Decontamination Team where we worked to decontaminate ambulances used to transport coronavirus patients.

In 2019, I had the honour of being appointed the Republic of Slovenia's Honorary Consul to Guernsey.

My wife Paula would join me for six months each year and she too immersed herself into the Guernsey community. Paula established an annual charity event which raised funds for local organisations dealing with mental health issues and she joined the local performing arts scene, performing lead roles in a number of theatre productions.

Whilst I had my trepidations at the start, Paula and I left Guernsey with a heavy heart but also with a huge sense of joy upon reflecting on all the great organisations and people we met during our time there. We will dearly miss the island and its way of life however we are comforted by our reunion with our Australian family and friends at a time of international crisis.

Since returning to Australia, I have rejoined the RAAF as a Specialist Reserve Legal Officer, recommenced Notary Public work in the greater Geelong region and am exploring other options of community service.

Stretch was awarded his Order of Australia Honours Queen's Birthday 2001 for service to multiculturalism in the community of Geelong, particularly through the Geelong Migrant Resource Centre, and to local government.

2020 Queen's Birthday Paula Kontelj was an Order of Australia Honours recipient for her service to the community of Geelong.



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Barbara Thomas OAM

Membership Secretary (Co-opted)

Tony Smith OAM

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Central Highlands Wimmera: John Burt OAM

Eastern Suburbs: Barbara Thompson OAM

Gippsland: Lorraine Bartling OAM

Loddon Campaspe: John Higgs OAM

Mallee: Vernon Knight AM

Melbourne Central: Trevor Clarke OAM

Mornington Peninsula: Commodore Jim Dickinson AM MBE

North East & Goulburn Valley: Barbara Thomas OAM

North Central Suburbs: Fred Harrington OAM

South Central Suburbs: Graeme Woolacott OAM

South West Victoria: Dr Peter Habersberger AM RFD

Western Suburbs: John Ravenhall AM

SOUTH AUSTRALIA Branch

BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE:

Notwithstanding the current restrictions around face-to-face meetings and events, the Branch managed to complete its AGM prior to lock-down. Our members have found alternative ways to mark Anzac Day, and we have explored new ways of meeting while complying with social distancing requirements so our committee meetings and Fellowship gatherings could continue. The committee has held regular monthly 'virtual' meetings and is exploring ways to use this means to allow country members to be more involved in SA Branch operations and events. The Fellowship group is resuming face-to-face lunches (subject to social gathering rules) and will use Zoom to broadcast the presentations of their guest speakers to members who are unable to attend in person. We have issued monthly newsletters to keep Branch members informed of how we plan to operate as we gradually come out of restrictions. Further details about our plans are given in the body of this issue of "The Order". We have also repeated some information that was inadvertently omitted from the last issue.

Keep Safe

Tony Metcalf OAM

SA Branch Chair

BRANCH COMMITTEE DETAILS:

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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Tony Metcalf OAM

Deputy Chairman

Noel Hender OAM BEM

Secretary

Paul Thomas AM

Treasurer

John McKellar AM ED

Regional Groups Coordinator

Ken Coventry OAM JP

Member Secretary SA

Mr Greg Gordon OAM JP (co-opted)

Merchandise Officer

Mrs June Genders OAM (co-opted)

Editor

Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP

Other committee members

Martin FitzPatrick OAM

Brian Holecek OAM

Flavia de Pasquale OAM

John Phillips OAM

Pamela Rajkowski OAM

Gillian Rogers OAM

National Director

John McKellar AM ED

Website

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SA BRANCH PROFILE – GREG GORDON OAM JP

Greg Gordon OAM JP



Hanging in Greg Gordon's office at home is a print of 'The Scots Greys and The Gordons at Waterloo'. Beside it is a chart he produced on canvas, the result of his research into his family history, showing his Gordon heritage across 30 generations. With this heritage it is perhaps not surprising that Greg was awarded the OAM on 26 January 2000, "*For service to the pipe band movement as an administrator and tutor*".

During his mid-teens, Greg experienced at close quarters the colour, power and spectacle of a pipe band performance. Not being one to shy away from a challenge, he set about learning to play the bagpipes with the aim of becoming a part of what he had witnessed, the Royal Caledonian Society of South Australia.

After completing teacher training in Mathematics and Science, Greg was appointed in 1962 to Renmark High School. It was of mutual benefit that Greg was able to join the Murray Highlanders Pipe Band and add to the strength of the pipe corps.

Greg transferred back to Adelaide in 1965. On resumption with the band of the Caledonian Society, he established a piping programme and class for young learners and was the volunteer tutor. He represented the band at the SA Pipe Band Association (SAPBA) and led the pipe corps at the Australian Pipe Band Championships in 1968. His appointment as a founding staff member at Christies Beach High School in 1966 began a busy period. In 1970, Greg was also commissioned as a Justice of the Peace for South Australia and qualified as a member of the Quorum of Justices.

Despite the extreme trauma of the still unresolved abduction of Greg and Christine's 4-year-old daughter Kirste in August 1973, Greg was selected to participate in a teacher exchange programme with Singapore as a Senior Master (Mathematics) in 1974. This was a period when the approach to teaching and learning of Mathematics was undergoing significant change. Greg and his family lived in Singapore for that year. Upon return to Adelaide, Greg was appointed as Senior Master at Seaton and then Morphett Vale for an extended period, and at times was called upon to act as Deputy Principal and as Principal.

Greg resumed his roles as a player and a tutor, and as representative to the SAPBA, and was the elected President of SAPBA from 1976 until 1997. Greg represented SA at the Australian Federation of Pipe Band Associations (AFPBA) and led the organising committee for the Australian Pipe Band Championships in Adelaide in 1986. He was granted Honorary Life Membership of the Royal Caledonian Society SA (1987), and Life Membership of SAPBA (1994).

In 1997 the AFPBA was superseded by the incorporation of the Australian Pipe Band Association (APBA) with Branches in each State: Greg was elected to be the inaugural President of the APBA, and he retired as a player of the pipe band to avoid conflict of interest.

Greg's retirement from teaching became effective on Australia Day 2000, coincident with his award of the OAM. He was presented with the insignia at Government House on 4 April 2000. Following retirement from full time teaching, Greg accepted a part time position at Woodcroft College teaching Information Technology Studies, from which he retired in 2011.

As President of APBA he led the development and documentation of policies and processes to build the fledgling organisation into a 'national' association with an Australian focus and with all members working in unison. Greg continued to contribute above and beyond what could be expected of the President, and the APBA was rebranded as 'Pipe Bands Australia Inc' in 2013. Greg retired in 2015, having contributed 39 consecutive years in the role of a 'president'.

The SA Branch committee is pleased to welcome Greg as a co-opted member, taking on the role of Member Secretary.

34th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A very successful AGM was held on Saturday 15 February. An outstanding presentation was given by our guest speaker, our 2019 Student Citizen of the Year William Gillett from Loxton High School. The committee formally expressed its thanks to Emeritus Professor Alan Johnson AM for his past service as our National Director, and also to retiring committee members June Genders OAM, Brian Mattner OAM and Mr Francis Wong OAM. June has continued to support the committee as a co-opted member responsible for Merchandise, and Greg Gordon OAM JP has taken on the role of Member Secretary (co-opted member). The following captions to images which appeared on page 25 in the May issue (Edition 59) were inadvertently omitted.

The Chair and Secretary of the SA Branch at the 34th AGM: Tony Metcalf OAM and Paul Thomas AM.

The guest speaker for the SA Branch AGM was William Gillett from Loxton High School, the OAA SA Branch 2019 Student Citizen of the Year.

SA BUSHFIRE APPEAL

The following excerpts are taken from the letter of thanks sent to the Branch by the Honourable Steven Marshall MP, Premier of South Australia, in response to a donation by the Branch towards the SA Bushfire Appeal, State Disaster Relief Fund, on behalf of the members of the Order of Australia Association, SA Branch:

Dear Mr Metcalf

I write to personally thank you and the Order of Australia Association (SA Branch) for recently donating \$1,000 to the SA Bushfire Appeal . . .

One hundred percent of your donation to the SA Bushfire Appeal will directly support those who have lost their homes and livelihoods in the wake of these tragic fires . . .

Once again, thank you for the generosity you have shown in supporting South Australian communities during this challenging time. It is greatly appreciated.

SOUTH EAST REGIONAL GROUP LUNCHEON

A luncheon for members, other honours recipients and guests was held at the Mount Gambier RSL on Friday 28 February, arranged by Group Convener Mr Eric Roughana AM. Among the 32 who attended were the SA Branch Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM and his wife Cheryl, and Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM JP and his wife Di. Attendees were responsible for the cost of their meals and drinks.

Those present paused for a moment of silence to remember the past Convener, the late Barbara Lees-Margiotta OAM, recognising her support for others, her caring approach, and her contribution to the Regional Group. The Group agreed to continue meeting annually, with future lunches to be held in February, at various locations throughout the Group area. No formal structure is proposed. Mr Eric Roughana AM has agreed to continue to act as Convener until the February 2021 luncheon.

RIVERLAND REGIONAL GROUP

On 15 March, eighteen people gathered in the Renmark Club Function Room to discuss the value of forming a Riverland Regional Group. Tim Grieger OAM JP acted as Convenor. Many of those present were members of the Order of Australia Association; also attending were the SA Branch Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM and his wife Cheryl, and Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM JP and his wife Di.

Options for forming a group were considered and discussed. It was agreed that a Riverland Regional Group would be formed on an informal basis, meeting twice a year. It is believed that occasional informal gatherings of award recipients and partners in such a way would provide a good opportunity for social connectivity.

It was agreed that Tim Grieger OAM JP would be the group Convenor – the group’s primary contact and liaison person. The Riverland Regional Group will hold its first meeting on Sunday 27 September 2020.

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



Despite the ongoing requirements for social distancing, the SA Branch has ensured that the 2020 Fellowship program has continued – but using a different format, the ‘Zoom’ online app. With the traditional venue for the Fellowship lunch meetings being closed, the group has been using this online tool as their new ‘venue’ to keep members and guests involved, communicating and sharing fellowship and experiences.

The first ‘virtual meeting’ was held online on 30 April. The inaugural speaker was Jan Forrest OAM, who spoke on, “Attracting Butterflies to your garden”. Jan gained her OAM in 1991 for service to young people through the Girl Guide Association, Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and Youth Hostels Association. Jan is the Newsletter Editor and Public Talks convener for Butterfly Conservation SA Inc. She is an Honorary Associate at the South Australian Museum, and is co-author of two books:

“Attracting butterflies to your garden, what to grow and conserve in the Adelaide region” (reprinted in 2016), and “Caterpillars moths and their plants of southern Australia” (printed in September 2019)

From 2014 to 2018, Jan was a committee member of the South Australian Branch of the Order of Australia Association, serving as Membership Secretary for most of that time.

This trial of using Zoom for the first time proved to be quite successful – Jan was joined by a total of 21 online participants. Feedback indicated it was a great success, very interesting and enjoyable. It truly was an opportunity to see members informally communicating and sharing knowledge and inquiry.

Members can stay connected to Fellowship sessions by making sure their name and email address is passed onto Flavia De Pasquale.

Pamela Rajkowski OAM

Flavia De Pasquale OAM

Fellowship committee members

Jan Forrest OAM, the SA Branch Fellowship Group's first online guest speaker, described the inaugural virtual meeting: "*A big learning curve but that is what life is about*".

ANZAC DAY DURING SOCIAL DISTANCING

With the unique requirements that have been imposed upon us this year, Anzac Day activities throughout SA were cancelled. This was the first time the Adelaide Anzac March has been cancelled since 1971, when it was called off at very short notice due to a terrible storm. The RSL (SA) Anzac Day Committee gained permission for the Adelaide Dawn Service to go ahead, but only with key invited guests. His Excellency the Governor, as Patron of the OAA SA Branch, placed his tribute on behalf of the Branch as well as on his own behalf.

Many people marked Anzac Day at home through some form of reverent reflection. Many used a social media platform to pay their respects, by sharing photos of an ancestor or their war medals, leaving a poppy tribute, or offering some other message of reflection.

We will remember them

Lest we Forget



SA Branch committee member Major Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP (ret'd) marked Anzac Day at home.

EVENTS

Supplementary newsletters have been issued to SA Branch members each month to provide information and updates on various actions which have been taken as a result of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Committee functions and meetings have been dealt with by email and online conferencing; similarly, the Student Citizenship Award Assessment and Selection Panel will assess nominations via email, online applications and telephone as necessary. The Branch is considering alternate options – for example, holding at least one combined New Recipients Function to encompass all recipients from the 2020 Australia Day and Queen's Birthday Honours Lists. Further details will be advised to members in due course. Proposed activities include:

Sunday 27 September: Riverland Regional Group meeting with guest speaker

Thursday 29 October: Fellowship meeting with Peter Routley OAM talking on 'World Vision, other NGOs and foreign aid'

Friday 6 November: Fleurieu Regional Group biannual lunch meeting

Wednesday 2 December: SA Branch Christmas Morning Tea

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY Branch

ACT Branch Chairman's Report

The three months since the May edition of *The Order* have continued to test Australians at every level, not least in terms of the Association's desire to get back to face-to-face events. The national suspension has now been lifted but, as has been explained in our Branch newsletter, until recently Federal Government advice to older Australians meant that our Branch Committee was not prepared to risk the health and welfare of our members by hosting face-to-face functions. That advice has now softened somewhat, and the Committee is tentatively considering three events for later in 2020.

First, Government House has advised that it plans a series of small investitures in September, so we hope to hold a function for new recipients in the 2020 Australia Day and Queen's Birthday lists in October. COVID restrictions preclude our normal reception-style event, but another format might be possible. We are also looking at a morning tea in October, at which we will hear about the experiences of one of our wonderful Branch members. And we are exploring with Defence the possibility of rescheduling the 2020 Order of Australia Association - Australian Defence Force Oration for November. We will provide details for all these events as the arrangements firm: look out for them in the Branch newsletter and on the website.

Sadly, our Student Citizenship Awards for 2020 have been cancelled. As members would know, the majority of the weight of generating nominations for the Awards falls on teachers, many of whom have had a particularly difficult year. The Branch Committee decided that it did not want to add to their load. We look forward hopefully to reintroducing the Awards in 2021.

On the upside, it is my great pleasure to congratulate on behalf of Branch members the 33 people from the ACT and region who received honours and awards in the Queen's Birthday list. As ever, the citations were rich and diverse, and for the first time half the ACT recipients in the general list were women. More than a third of these new recipients have already joined the Association and we very much look forward to meeting them when conditions allow.

Finally, there having been no events in the past quarter we have no reports to offer, but we've picked out a couple of member profiles to share, which we trust you will enjoy.

Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM

ACT Branch Chairman

OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

Gen Peter Gration AC OBE

Branch Nominated Director

Dr Alan Morrison AM

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

Lynne Duckham OAM
Narelle Hargreaves AM
Bill Maiden PSM OAM
Andrew Phelan AM
Coralie Wood OAM
Phil Morrall AM, CSC

NEW MEMBERS FROM 2020 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Mrs MARGARET CORNWELL OAM

Mrs Margaret Cornwell was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours and is one of nine new members from the honours list who have joined the ACT Branch of the OAA. Margaret's citation - for *service to the community of the Australian Capital Territory* covers service to the Canberra Girls Grammar School for 50 years, including membership on the school board for 16 years. She has been a Grammarians Association member for 37 years, including a tenure as President, with a similar length of membership of the Gabriel Foundation to which she is patron, and has provided long term commitment to the Parents and Friends Association. In addition, Margaret has been a volunteer guide at Old Parliament House Rose Gardens since 2010, supported restoration



activities at St Paul's Anglican Church, Manuka and has been a visitor to St Andrew's Retirement Village at Hughes. She was awarded a Centenary Medal in 2001 *for service to Canberra Girls Grammar School and as a carer.*

Margaret joins her husband, Greg Cornwell AM in the ACT Branch. Greg has been a member since 2008 when he was appointed a Member in the Order of Australia *for service to the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly, and to a range of community organisations.*

*Margaret Cornwell OAM,
Greg Cornwell AM*

Mr ALFRED McCARTHY OAM



The simple citation *for service to the community of Yass* hides a wealth of community commitment of Mr Alfred McCarthy OAM who was awarded in the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours. As well as conducting a local accountancy practice, he has contributed over 60 years supporting a number of Yass institutions.

Alfred was an active member of APEX from 1959-75, held positions of District Governor and President and is a life member. He was the inaugural treasurer for the establishment of Yass Apex Homes independent living residences.

Mr McCarthy joined the Rotary Club of Yass in 1978 and has held a range of Executive roles including President and been involved with the District Youth Exchange and National Youth Science Forum Committees for 15 years. Through a bequest to Rotary he established the Glenlothian Education Foundation to support Yass and District youth education, and he is a Paul Harris Fellow.

He established the Horton House nursing home which opened in 1992, is currently Vice President of the Yass Aged Care Foundation of which he has been a member since 1991 and was treasurer of the Yass Nursing Home Committee for 8 years.

Other contributions of Mr McCarthy have included as initial trustee of the estate of Rae Burgess which enabled the establishment of the Rae Burgess Centre, a crisis housing service in Yass, as chair of the Yass Bicentenary Committee from 1985 to 1988 and involvement with the Yass Music Club, the Yass and District Historical Society and Yass Meals on Wheels.

Reflecting on his volunteering, Mr McCarthy said "I am fortunate that I spent the last 60 years as an accountant in Yass, had an opportunity to support many organisations, and am very grateful for the support of the various local committees."

WELCOME TO NEW OAA MEMBERS FROM THE 2020 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

BRIG Isaac SEIDL AM – For exceptional service to the Australian Defence Force in health executive leadership.

Air Commodore Craig HEAP AM, CSC - For exceptional service in aerospace capability management, operational support, and organisational development for the Australian Defence Force.

Dr Michael BANYARD OAM - For service to veterinary science.

Mrs Margaret CORNWELL OAM – For service to the community of the Australian Capital Territory.

Mrs Jennifer CROSS OAM - For service to children and families impacted by dyslexia.

Mrs Claudia HYLES OAM - For service to the community of the Australian Capital Territory.

Mr Alfred McCARTHY OAM - For service to the community of Yass.

Mr Lakshman PRASAD-ALLURI OAM - For service to the Indian community of the Australian Capital Territory.

Ms Anna PROSSER OAM - For service to women, and to the community of the Australian Capital Territory.

Mr David WATSON OAM - For service to public administration, particularly to courts of law.

AND FROM 2020 AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS:

Mrs Meryl PACKER OAM - For service to the Lutheran Church of Australia; and

Mr Rex PACKER OAM - For service to the Lutheran Church of Australia.

WA Branch

Branch Chairman article



Chairman's Message

Like all Branches of the Association, WA has heeded the National guidelines relating to COVID 19. Much to our disappointment it was necessary to cancel our Annual Church Service at St George's Cathedral and has meant a cancellation of several other events. The Committee has continued to meet once through ZOOM and another practising social distancing.

We were indeed fortunate that we held our Australia Day Reception, albeit with very reduced numbers, prior to the lockdown. At the time of writing, plans are in hand for our Queen's Birthday Reception to be held on August 11th.

As we come out of the lockdown and subject to future restrictions, it is hoped we can hold two major events later in the year. Details of these are featured in the Coming Events section.

OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron: Hon Kim Beazley AC Governor of Western Australia

Vice Patron: Hon Kerry Sanderson AC

Chairman : Mrs Bettine Heathcote AM

Secretary: Miss Margaret Lobo AM

Treasurer: Mr Peter Snow OAM

WA National Director: Miss Robin Watts AM

Committee: Capt. Michael Bleus OAM CSC Convenor Police Patron Scheme

Mr Geoffrey Cattach AM

Prof Lorraine Hammond AM

Mr William Hassell AM JP " Newsletter editor"

Dr Jackie Scurlock OAM WA Editor of "The Order."

Mrs Rebecca Tolstoy AM

Regional Liaison: Mrs Margaret Nunn OAM

Regional Convenors

South West Region: Hon Barry House AM

Great Southern Region : Ms Jan Savage OAM

Contact Information

wabranh@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

phone 0418 865 313

Mail: PO Box 4053 WOODLANDS WA 6018



OAA WA Committee 2020 practises social distancing

From Left: Standing : Dr Lorraine Hammond AM, Ms Rebecca Tolstoy AM, Mr Geoff Cattach AM, Mr Bill Hassell AM, RADM Mark Bonser AO CSC,

Sitting: Prof Robin Watts AM, Dr Jackie Scurlock OAM, Miss Margaret Lobo AM (secretary), Mrs Bettine Heathcote AM (chair), Mr Peter Snow OAM (Treasurer).

Absent : Capt. Michael Bleus OAM

PROFILE OF A RECIPIENT OF AN ORDER OF AUSTRALIA HONOUR

Alex CEARNS OAM

Dogs Today Magazine UK called Alex Cearn's "One of our greatest dog photographers in the world".

Australian photographer Alex Cearn's crafts exquisite animal portraits that convey the intrinsic joy people find in animals. As Creative Director of Perth based Houndstooth Studio, she photographs around 1300 animals per year. Her clients include engaged pet lovers, leading corporate brands and around 40 Australian and international animal charities and conservation organisations. Her images have been published extensively in worldwide media, books, magazines and ad campaigns.

An undisputed leader in her niche, Alex is the recipient of more than 350 awards for her photography, business and philanthropy. She is a Master Photographer with the Australian Institute of Professional Photography, and an Ambassador for Tamron, Profoto, BenQ, Studio Ninja, Ilford Imaging Australia, and Spider Camera Holster.

Deeply committed to the wellbeing of all creatures great and small, Alex is considered one of Australia's most passionate champions and voices for animal rescue and wildlife conservation. Her advocacy and philanthropy were distinguished with a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) from

the Council for the Order of Australia for her service to the community through charitable organisations.

Alex is the published author of five books, with her next due for release in November 2020 with Harper Collins Australia.

Her influence among animal lovers, photographers and the pet industry include a strong following on social media. She contributes regularly to magazines, blogs, radio and television.

An accomplished public speaker, Alex's warmth, humour and uplifting visual storytelling engages her audience in her passions for business, photography and animals. After almost a decade mentoring and coaching fellow photographers on how to achieve their business goals, Alex launched Black Cat Consulting and released her now sought after 'Business Acceleration Program for Pet Photographers' to clients all over the world.

Alex is World Expedition's first female wildlife photography tour leader, taking likeminded animal lovers to some of the world's most exciting, 'off the beaten track' animal destinations. She has travelled to all seven continents. When it comes to life and photography, Alex is dedicated, passionate and kind, with lightning fast humour and a huge sense of fun. She lives with her partner, two rescue dogs and rescue cat in Perth, Western Australia.

www.houndstoothstudio.com.au



The OAAWA Program – depending on COVID-19 restrictions

Wednesday 16 September **Annual Dinner of OAAWA at**
Royal Perth Golf Club

Thursday 26 November **Christmas Luncheon at**
Fremantle Sailing Club

Great Southern Group of the WA Branch

Plans are in hand for the Annual Church Service and luncheon in November

South West Group of the WA Branch

Plans are in hand to visit the Bunbury Dolphin Centre to be followed by a luncheon

Food for thought

The Order of Australia Association WA provides the opportunity for people who have been recognised especially for their service to the community to do two things:

- (a) Meet in a social atmosphere, others who have given service and been recognised for that service, perhaps rejoicing in the diversity of the service given and the people who gave it.
- (b) Continue to give service in special ways through the Association itself, which pursues special projects through the local Western Australian Branch and nationally through a remarkable scholarship scheme for outstanding young people.

Much can be achieved through commitment and focus – a lesson that all of our members learned long ago.

(from Bill Hassell AM)

The WA Branch community service projects –

EdConnect Back to School

Our volunteers working with Ed Connect are heading back to school. Ed Connect Australia is a charity that trains, supports and places volunteers in local schools to improve the lives of vulnerable students.

The need for more volunteers has increased given that many of the children in need of support have lost momentum in the weeks of 'lock down' and require one-on-one sessions in order to catch up.

There are several ways in which volunteers can help: mentoring, classroom support and 'other' e.g. helping with school veggie gardens or in the canteen.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteering with Ed Connect go to their website: edconnectaustralia.org.au

Or contact Robin Watts, AM via email – robinjw7@bigpond.com.

Further information for our regional members is available from Margaret Nunn, OAM on 9386 4096.

Police Patron Scheme

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

Our convenor of the Scheme is Michael Bleus, OAM.

Michael has reported to the Committee –

Met with Steve Post, Head of Faculty at the Academy on Tuesday morning to talk about the reintroduction of the Patron scheme.

If you are willing to volunteer, or want to find out more about it, please contact Michael,

michael.bleus@bigpond.com telephone 0450 603 643.

Foundation -The Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship

Ms Hannah Gandy

To recognise, celebrate and encourage outstanding young Australian citizens to realise their potential to be leaders in tomorrow's community.

Name: Hannah Gandy

Course: Bachelor of Laws/Arts (Politics)

Year: Four of Five

Name of Award: The Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship

Donor: Freemasons Victoria supported by Freemasons Victoria Foundation Ltd.

Mentor: The Honourable Julia Gillard AC

A message from Hannah...

When I found out that I had received the Order of Australia Foundation Association Scholarship I was shocked and surprised. I felt really proud of myself and could see that all of the hard work I had done so far in my time at university was being recognised. I felt lucky to be awarded this scholarship



because it came from such a notable group of people. I knew it would mean that a lot of my money worries, and time worries due to needing to work so much would be lessened and I would be able to take more opportunities and dedicate more to my studies. I was appreciative that I would get an amazing opportunity to be mentored by a notable Order of Australia member. I have been

less anxious about receiving marks and have been more able to focus on enjoying the content of what I am studying and have still been able to maintain great results.

I always find subjects that have an impact on, or focus around, domestic policy areas are the most interesting to me. The law subjects I have taken like health law, employment law, education law, and death law have generally been my favourites, because they have allowed me to do research into specific areas of law that impact the everyday lives of people.

I've also really enjoyed the law subjects that relate to political structure, like constitutional and public law. All my politics subjects have always been really enjoyable because they usually relate to policy or structure and distribution of government power.

When I graduate, I am looking forward to completing more study in areas that I really care about. I really want to do research into some of the policy areas that I am interested in and that I have learnt about in various subjects at La Trobe. Firstly, I want to complete my honours but then I would like to go on and complete higher-level postgraduate research either in relation to education law or sport law, or even a mix of both!

I would say that I am excited about giving back to the community in a range of ways that I can, whether it is helping kids be active and learn more in extracurricular activities, or whether it is completing research to add to knowledge areas about issues that impact the Australian community. I believe that being a recipient of this scholarship has significantly improved my university experience and has improved my performance and dedication towards my studies, cementing my interests and how I want to contribute in the future years to come. Thank you!

Photos: Courtesy La Trobe University.

NEW CONSTITUTION – PROGRESS REPORT

Draft Governance documents

Thank you to those members who have taken the time to provide comments on the draft Constitution. Changes have been made in response to that feedback and the draft is now close to completion.

The Board's attention has now turned to the supporting Bylaws which will be discussed at the Board's next virtual meeting on Friday 17th July. Once any changes requested by the Board are made, the draft Bylaws will be sent to the Branch Committees for their input. When that consultation stage is complete the new documents will be made available to members for any final suggestions. All this sounds rather repetitive but we want to ensure that everyone who is interested has had the opportunity to contribute and to do so before members have the opportunity to vote for the acceptance of the documents.

The draft Constitution will also need to be vetted by our Regulator the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC) to ensure it meets the mandatory legislative requirements. We do not anticipate any problems in this regard as we have used the ACNC's template as the framework on which to draft the Constitution.

Watch out for an E-News bulletin in September/October advising that the final drafts of these governance documents are available for one last viewing.

Robin Watts AM
Convenor, Constitution Working Party