



*The Order of Australia Association,
Queensland Branch*

Communiqué No.1 August 2014

OUR NEXT BRISBANE MORNING TEA – A fascinating voyage of discovery of the plant wonders at the Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt-Coot-tha

On Thursday 28 August 2014 our next Brisbane morning tea will take us to the Brisbane Botanic Gardens at Mt Coot-tha, in Brisbane's western suburbs.

The event will commence with Morning Tea at The Botanical Café where we will meet Ross McKinnon AM, Curator-in-Charge for a briefing on the history of the Gardens and its outstanding features. This will be followed by tours with volunteer guides to include a short walk visiting the Cool Temperate Gardens; Cacti and Succulents Gardens; Japanese Garden; Fernhouse; Tropical Display Dome and the Bonsai House. Members with mobility difficulties should note that only walking tours will be available – However if mobility is such that you feel you may not be able to do the walks you are still warmly welcome to join us. You may instead care to soak up the surroundings from the comfort of The Botanical Café and nearby gardens.

The event is costed at just \$20 per person and everyone is asked to meet at the entrance of the Botanical Café at 9:45am for a 10am sharp start.

Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to learn all about our wide variety of flora contained within Brisbane's Botanic Gardens.

You can book for the event by completing the RSVP and booking form accompanying this Communiqué or by downloading a copy from the Queensland Branch segment of the Association's website.

For further enquiries contact Geoff Cowles OAM, Queensland Branch Secretary on 3351 4991 or email at geoff.cowles@aanet.com.au

Maintaining communication with you – our members

You may be wondering why you are receiving this Communiqué?

In February this year, the national board of the Association decided to trial a new communication process for members. For the next 12 months the Queensland Branch will cease issuing its popular Bulletin. Instead, Queensland branch news will now be incorporated within an expanded version of our national magazine *The Order*, along with news from the other branches of the Association, commencing with the August 2014 edition.

Your committee has agreed to cooperate with this trial in the national interest. However, it would prefer to still be issuing its own Bulletin, given the high member satisfaction rating for the Bulletin recorded by members in the 2013 Queensland Members' Survey.

An issue for the committee is that publication dates for each edition of the expanded national magazine do not align with dates for our functions. This means we cannot include event promotional flyers with each edition of *The Order*. Instead, we need to communicate this material to you separately.

As a committee we want to ensure that you, our loyal members, do not miss out on important communication of events and functions and important news items of interest. This Communiqué, we trust, will go some way towards meeting that objective.



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2014 Annual General Meeting of the Queensland Branch of the Association will be held on **Monday 24 November 2014** at **The Pavilion, Alan Border Field, 1 Greg Chappell Street, Breakfast Creek, Brisbane** commencing at **6:15pm sharp**. The Annual Dinner will follow at 7pm. A flyer included with this Communiqué contains details of the meeting, a nomination form for Committee positions and an application for a proxy vote.

For further enquiries please contact Geoff Cowles OAM, Secretary.

CELEBRATE WITH OUR 2014 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY AWARD RECIPIENTS AT A SPECIAL LUNCH ON THURSDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

Seventy-three Queenslanders received awards in the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday honours this year. The Association extends congratulations to these outstanding members of our community, each of whom has made a significant contribution to our nation or to humanity at large.

The Association is organising a special lunch to celebrate with these wonderful Australians where members may meet them in person and offer their congratulations.

We hope many of you will join us on **Thursday 11 September 2014** at **Hillstone St Lucia** for this memorable celebratory lunch. The event will take place in very pleasant surroundings in the ornate Grand View Room incorporating the Victorian Long Bar and the Mango Tree Terrace affording stunning views of the St Lucia Golf Links in Brisbane.

For \$69 a head you will enjoy a delicious two course lunch, tea and coffee and peppermints and mini hot nibbles on arrival at the Mango Tree Terrace from 12 Noon.

This is a great opportunity to meet our newest Order of Australia award recipients and hear their stories about why they received their awards.

You can book up for the event by completing the RSVP and booking form accompanying this Communiqué or by downloading from the Queensland Branch segment of the Association's website.

For further enquiries contact Geoff Cowles OAM, Queensland Branch Secretary on 3351 4991 on geoff.cowles@aanet.com.au

Would you prefer to receive future Communiqués and event flyers via email rather than by post?

If so, please let our Secretary, Geoff Cowles OAM know by sending him an email to geoff.cowles@aanet.com.au and provide Geoff with your email address. Then, if you choose this option, don't forget to let us know whenever you change your email address.

Nominate an outstanding Queensland volunteer for one of our Senior Volunteer Awards

The Committee invites Association members in Queensland to identify and nominate seniors (women and men 65 and over) who contribute in an outstanding way to their community independently or through organisations with which they are associated. Nominees do not need to be members of the Association. In fact, nominations for volunteers who have not received an award in the Order of Australia are actively encouraged.

The nomination form and information on the awards scheme are available at the Queensland section of the Association's website at www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

If you know someone who meets the criteria please complete a nomination before the deadline date of **Friday 29 August 2014**.

For any enquiries contact Geoff Cowles OAM, Secretary.

The 2014 Secondary Schools Citizenship Awards Presentation – Friday 19 September

For the 16th year running the Queensland Branch of the Association is conducting its Secondary Schools Citizenship Awards. The awards showcase outstanding Queensland school students making significant contributions in improving their communities and the world in which we live.

The presentation ceremony for these awards is always a very memorable and moving occasion where some amazing secondary school students who demonstrate outstanding citizenship and community service are presented with their awards. This year the awards will be presented by His Excellency, The Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland, in the Old Legislative Council Chamber (the Red Chamber) at Parliament House in Brisbane on **Friday 19 September 2014**, commencing at 1:30pm. You and your guests are warmly welcome to join with the school students, school representatives, education leaders, Members of Parliament and other dignitaries at this prestige event. The cost is \$15 per person which includes afternoon tea after the ceremony. The event will be a great opportunity to meet the new Governor of Queensland.

You can book up for the event by completing the RSVP and booking form accompanying this Communiqué or by downloading from the Queensland Branch segment of the Association's website.

For further enquiries contact Geoff Cowles OAM, Queensland Branch Secretary on 3351 4991 or email at geoff.cowles@aanet.com.au

This Communiqué has been printed with the compliments of Teresa Gambaro MP, Federal Member for Brisbane