



The Order of Australia Association Tasmanian Branch

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

Newsletter, December 2020

Message from the Chairman

Rather than begin this message with the words and phrases for which this year has been notable I want to note some of the good things to remember that happened during 2020.

The restrictions imposed earlier in the year gave many opportunities that previously seemed difficult or not considered due to the pressures of daily life. From my experience, suddenly there was time to telephone friends I had not seen or conversed with for some considerable time.

Another beneficiary of the lockdown has been the garden. Many found the therapy of tending flower and vegetable patches to be rewarding and productive.

From the Tasmanian Branch's perspective this year we were delighted with the number of awardees named on Australia Day. There were 32 who received awards, 15 females and 17 males. The Queen's Birthday award list was much reduced with 4 females and 7 males. However, we do congratulate every one who were recognized during 2020.

It was in October that the 2020 awardees from both Australia Day and the Queen's Birthday Honours Lists were presented with their insignia



Government House, Hobart

at Government House with investiture ceremonies taking place over a span of six days.

The format of the investitures while small in the number of awardees and guests attending due to distancing rules and not being held in the magnificent Government House ballroom, they lacked none of the significance and importance of the ceremony. With investitures held each morning and afternoon the Branch offered awardees, their guests and members lunch each of five days at The Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania in Sandy Bay. Initially we were concerned that the lunch attendances might be rather small but to our delight each day was a success in every respect and enjoyed by all.

In the New Year the Regional Groups will hold their AGMs followed by the Branch AGM scheduled for 14 February 2020 to be held in the new sports complex in Campbell Town. Separate notices for these meetings will be dispatched early in the New Year. We request that you consider nominating for a position and I will be very happy to discuss with you any aspect of the various roles.

In the last week I am sorry to report that the Hon. Dr Frank Madill AM, the Tasmanian Branch Director on the National Board has resigned his position due to health reasons.

Frank has been highly respected for his sound considerations and

contributions at Board level and at Branch level. We will miss his wise advice and humour but wish him and his wife Linda OAM

all the best for the future and that his health improves.



Alastair Douglas OAM
Branch Chairman
0418 127 897



Queen's Birthday Honours List

The Association congratulates the Tasmanians listed below on their recognition in the 2020 Queen's Birthday announcement.

Dr Rosemary Anne Callingham AM

For significant service to mathematics education, to teacher development, and to the community.

Mr Hugh James Hiscutt AM

For significant service to the people and Parliament of Tasmania, and to the community of West Devon.

Mr Rodney Eric Bramich OAM

For service to the community of Port Sorell.

Mr Donald Stewart Ives OAM

For service to music, and to the community.

Mr Christopher David Jones OAM

For service to the community of Hobart.

Mr Michael Anthony King OAM

For service to the project management sector.

Ms Colleen Mavis McGann OAM

For service to community health in Tasmania.

The late Mr Ian Gordon Paton OAM

For service to the community of Wynyard.

Mrs Edna Florence Pennicott OAM

For service to the community of Kingborough.

Mrs Lola Mary Phillips OAM

For service to women, and to the community of Sorell.

Mr Rex Croydon Wilson OAM

For service to education, and to the community of Tasmania.

Notes from the North West Regional Group.

As we all appreciate, 2020 has been a challenge! I would suggest all of us have been subjected to information overload! The events of this year may be summed up with the title of one of Paul Kelly's books, "The End of Certainty"!

However, we must progress and, at the same time, recall the happy times we have enjoyed. Our lunch with Her Excellency the Governor AC, and Mr Richard Warner AM at the Rhododendron Gardens in March, was certainly the highlight of our year. At that Luncheon Her Excellency presented Betty Hite OAM, with a Meritorious Service Certificate in recognition of her many years of service to the Order of Australia Association.

We extended our Congratulations to Mr Warner on his being honoured with an AM, and we must also congratulate Her Excellency on the extension of her Term as Governor until December 2021. That was great news.

Our congratulations must also go to those who were honoured in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, and we were delighted that Government House was able to arrange for a series of Investitures to accommodate the restrictions required by the current health situation and controls. Our warmest Congratulations to all the recipients in this year's Honours Lists.

Aligned with the Investitures we must thank our State Chairman, Alastair Douglas OAM and his very able team, for arranging a series of lunches at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania to mark each Investiture. Well done, a marathon effort!

Your Committee had hoped to have a social function prior to Christmas or early in the New Year, but with continuing concerns over social gatherings, we can only consider something in January....perhaps?

Our NW Group Annual General Meeting will be on Thursday February 4th, 2021, at 11.00 a.m. at the Ulverstone RSL club rooms, to comply with the need for social distancing. Anyone wishing to join the Committee is welcome to nominate. Also, although we do not meet often, it appears that in future, some of our meetings may have to be by tele-conference or perhaps Zoom.

The Tasmanian State Branch of the OAA will be holding its AGM in Campbell Town on Sunday 14th February 2021. Everyone is welcome to attend. Formal advice of these meetings together with nomination forms for the Officers and Committee Members will be sent out after Christmas.

Meanwhile may I wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year, stay safe and keep well, and we hope that 2021 brings a new normality that will enable us to return to a more relaxed lifestyle.

With kind regards and all best wishes

Peter Holm OAM, Vet. M.B.



New Constitution and By-Laws

On 17 December 2020 the new Constitution for the Association was overwhelmingly approved by members attending the virtual meeting and by those who voted by proxy. This brings our rules up-to-date with current requirements of the Australian Consumers and Charities Commission. With the new By-laws it simplifies many of the operations of Branches and Regional Groups.

Both these documents are available for download from the Association's website.

The forthcoming Branch and Regional Group's AGMs will be conducted under these new rules.

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## The Order of Australia Association, Tasmania Branch Committee

### Chairman

Mr Alastair Douglas OAM, 0418 127 897  
E: ChairTas@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

### Deputy Chairman

Dr Nicholas Chantler AM, 0419 449 536

### Hon. Secretary

Mrs Maureen Rudge OAM JP, (03) 6225 3954

### Hon. Treasurer

Mr Ron Blake OAM, (03) 6431 5709

### Committee Members

Mr Neville Bingham AFSM OAM

Dr Peter Holm OAM, 0419 376 021

Mrs Maureen Oates OAM, 0409 970 793

Mr Gary Carr OAM, 0418 145 328

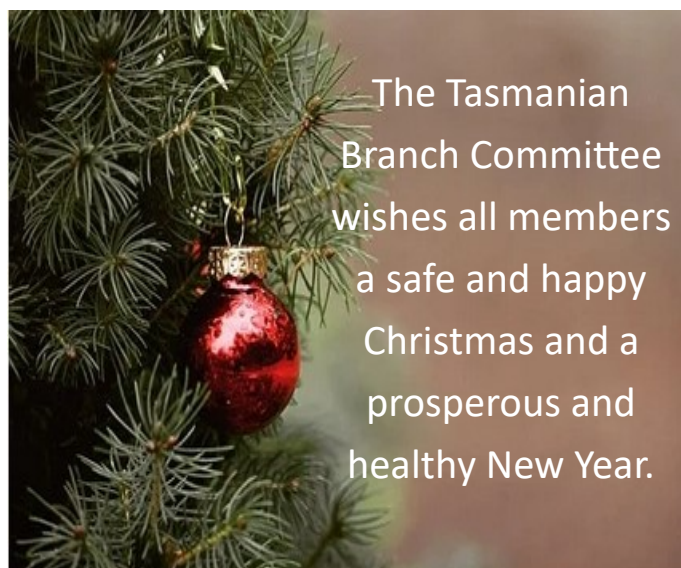
Mr David Brill AM, 0401 107 132

### Branch Nominated Director

The Hon. Dr Frank Madill AM (to Dec 2020)

E: DirTas@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

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The Tasmanian
Branch Committee
wishes all members
a safe and happy
Christmas and a
prosperous and
healthy New Year.

Newsletter contributions

Please submit any relevant articles of interest, photographs, news snippets or event notices you may have to the Editor at:

ChairTas@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

New Members

The Tasmanian Branch Committee welcomes the following new members who have joined the Association since June 2020. We look forward to seeing you at some of our future Branch and Regional functions.

Mr Rodney Eric Bramich OAM

Dr Rosemary Anne Callingham AM

Mr Hugh James Hiscutt AM

Mr Michael Anthony King OAM

Ms Colleen Mavis McGann OAM

Mrs Janette May Miller OAM

Mrs Lola Mary Phillips OAM

Dr Michael John Vertigan AC

The Rev Canon Honor Helen Yearsley OAM