

Dated February 2021

Vision Impaired Accessible Document

## RESILIENCE



[ Image Credit: WWF.org.au]



[ Image Credit: CSIRO]

## RESILIENCE & COVID AUSTRALIA?

*... from bushfire early 2020 through regeneration early 2021...*

“ ... Resilience is the capacity to keep functioning in the same kind of way and absorbing all sorts of changes, both externally and internally driven.

**The relationships between resilience, adaptability and transformative change involve complex thresholds and interactions.**

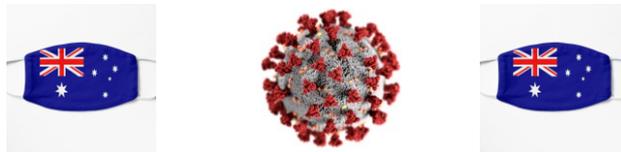
**Systems – both environmental and social – can only endure so much before they break down.**

**In systems of people and nature there is this tight connection back and forth between the social system and the ecological system.**

**It is important to recognise that resilience is neither good nor bad ...”.**

*Dr Brian Walker AO*

**Food for thought for Australia in our Covid 2021 circumstances and beyond?**



## NOTICES & EXCLUSIONS:

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](mailto:oaasecretariat@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

National Secretary – Graham Hyde OAM Email: [natsec@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:natsec@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow members,

The start of the New Year is always characterised by resolutions and hope. Resolutions, too often, do not last long - lose weight, exercise more, save money etc, for me usually bite the dust after a month or two! Hope, however, as they say, springs eternal.

And after the extraordinary year that's just passed, despite all the dislocation and suffering, ironically we have much to be hopeful about.

Our management of Covid 19 has been world leading. Every life lost has been counted and deeply felt in Australia, while in other countries, including peers like the US and the UK, the weight of individual suffering has been overwhelmed by the tens of thousands who have endured, and continue to endure, lonely and wretched deaths. Thankfully, a vaccine is nigh. This promises to mitigate the confidence undermining volatility and uncertainty that the pandemic continues to generate.

The drought of the last, long four years or so has broken and given way to green land, flowing water ways and record crops. While sadly, nature doesn't share its abundance equally, the majority of our regions are in a much better place.

Progress has been made in rebuilding after the catastrophic bush fires which devastated so many lives and livelihoods. Rain has rejuvenated the landscape and wildlife is returning. At the same time many of us, I'm sure, scratch their heads at the hardships still faced by so many victims of the fires especially as there was so much help given by the community - again one of the special outcomes of this catastrophe. Hopefully, we'll see more rapid progress in the rebuilding of homes and communities over the year ahead.

The economy is improving, and the recession has officially ended. There is a long and difficult road ahead in bringing unemployment back to more acceptable levels and rebooting our economy. However, relatively, we have done well, and we are well placed. There is cause for optimism.

In a small but also significant step forward, our patron, HE the Governor General, signed off a change to an important word in our National Anthem. Singing the word 'young' to describe our country, to many, ignored and denigrated our history. 'One' is a much more accurate and aspirational claim. It is only a small step to address a much bigger issue, but it's not tokenistic either

And I could go on. However, the main take away from all these positives, and the many more I could have mentioned, is that they add up to much more than the sum of their parts. They add up to a country that has shown remarkable resilience and equally remarkable resoluteness in the face of massive dislocation and harrowing suffering. They testify to our robustness and deep-seated instinct to embrace optimism and to our self-belief. They demonstrate our embrace of community and family over self. They suggest we should be indeed be hopeful about the year ahead and beyond.

Returning to resolutions, one that is dear to our Association and which we should continue to work hard on over the period ahead, is to contribute to ensuring that the reach of the Awards is sufficiently wide and deep to honour the great diversity of Australians who continue to make great contributions to our country and society. The Awards should reflect the indigenous, ethnic and gender composition of our population. While this is always work in progress, understanding where the imbalances and gaps are and working to address them, is essential to the ongoing integrity and sustainability of the Awards.

May I wish you all a safe and successful 2021.

Heather Ridout.

## NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

We enter 2021 with our anticipated optimism somewhat dampened by the continued challenges presented by Covid-19. Our hopes for greater freedom to come together more freely have been put on hold, at least until the spread of the virus is under control and the national vaccination programme begins to have an effect.

We can all be proud, both as Australians and as members of the Order at the way adversity has been managed both nationally and within our Association. The term 'resilience' has been used increasingly in public and well describes the way Australians have responded to drought, fire, flood, and health challenges. It also characterises the way our Branches and Regional Groups have responded, keeping members informed and involved by a variety of means. Hopefully as the year progresses, we will be able to revert to more "normal" operations.

As reported elsewhere in this edition, we now have a new Association Constitution following the strong vote to adopt at the OAA Extraordinary General Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020. We now have a consistent set of governance documents to guide our way in coming years.

Branches are approaching, or in some cases have already conducted Branch AGMs. These are an important opportunity to review the year, to comment on plans and to elect representatives to Branch committees and the National Board. I encourage all members to participate in these important meetings.

Our National AGM is to be held on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and, as with the recent EGM, is to be conducted online. Attendance will be open to all members and the opportunity will be provided to ask questions and to comment on activities. We will also be asking for nominations to the position of National Secretary. Our present National Secretary, Graham Hyde OAM, was appointed by the Board during 2020 to fill a vacancy, is required to stand down and is eligible to nominate for the position.

I regret that we will be unable meet in person at our 2021 AGM and look forward to being able to renew acquaintances and make new friends at our planned National Conference in Canberra in April 2022.

Barry Nunn AO  
National Chairman

## EDITORIAL

### **RESILIENCE - Phil Morrall AM, CSC**

Many Branches and Regional Groups have reached out to our members and the wider community, over the trying times of 2020 to offer assistance and encouragement, in the hope that better times lay ahead. The Branch reports indicate the resumption of limited Branch activity.

Could it be that the ‘*Australia Sunrise and Crimson Dawn*’ and the ‘*Be One People*’ aspirations, of which I spoke in August and November 2020, just require a little more effort and patience?

*Resilience* has featured in two ACT Branch activities over recent weeks. In November, the 2020 ADF Oration was delivered by the Chief of Joint Operations, Lieutenant General Greg Bilton AO, CSC. In part he referenced the demonstrated ‘resilience’ embedded in so many of our communities, especially during times of National emergency.

The 2021 ACT Branch Australia Day Breakfast speaker, Dr Brian Walker AO, a joint Nobel Peace Prize Laureate in 2007 (as a member of the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Control) for his endeavours in the fields of ecology and the environment, and a founder of resilience science, referenced resilience and ecosystems and society.

Can I encourage all our membership to continue to reach out to one another and indeed into the circle of family, friends, and acquaintances to foster resilience, particularly the social resilience, in these challenging times?

In the vernacular of course – “*Suck it Up Snowflake and get on with it*” ! If only it were that easy and that simple. Alas it is not so!

P.S. Some useful links.

YouTube link – ADF Oration – <https://youtu.be/IK9VwXeFxHA>

***Finding Resilience - Change and Uncertainty in Nature and Society*** - By [Professor Brian Walker](#)

## NATIONAL NOTICES.

### THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION LTD

ABN 40 008 612 664

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Thirty-Fifth Annual General Meeting of The Order of Australia Association Limited will be held on Saturday 8 May 2021 at 10.30AM (EST). Because of travel and other restrictions, the meeting is to be held online. Members will be required to register to attend or to appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf, using the form that will be attached to the AGM documentation, to be circulated not less than 21 days before the AGM.

#### DRAFT AGENDA

1. Opening.
2. Apologies.
3. Proxies.
4. To confirm the Minutes of 34th Annual General Meeting held on-line on 8 May 2021.
- 5 To confirm the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary General Meeting held on-line on 17 December 2020.
5. To receive the Report by National Chairman (which is included with the Annual Report).
6. To receive, consider and adopt the Directors' Report and the Financial Report including the Auditor's Report for The Order of Australia Association Limited for the period ended 31 December 2020.  
(The report will also be made available on the Association's website 21 days prior to the AGM. Members requiring a hard copy should contact the National Office.
7. To note the Directors' Report and the Financial Report including the Auditor's Report for The Order of Australia Association Foundation and The Order of Australia Foundation Limited for the period ended 30 June 2020 (tabled at the meeting).
8. Advice of the election of National Office Bearers.
9. Appointment of Auditor

**By Order of the Board**  
**Graham Hyde OAM**  
**National Secretary**  
**7 January 2021**

#### NOMINATIONS

The purpose of this advice is to inform you about the impending requirements to seek nominations to both the National Board and to Branch Committees. Individual Branches will call for nominations to their committees and to their Branch Nominated Director position through their Newsletters/Communiques and through *The Order*. This information supplements that provided by Branches.

#### **Election of Executive Directors to the National Board.**

For 2021 there will be an election for the National Secretary position (a director) who shall be elected for 3 years. The incumbent, Graham Hyde OAM is, as a 'casual' appointee, required to stand down at this AGM and is eligible for re-election.

The remaining Executive members of the Board, National Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Treasurer and Membership Director will remain in office as allowed by Clause 77 (Transitional Provisions) of the Constitution.

A Member of the Association is any person who is eligible and accepts the invitation to be a member in accordance with the Constitution- (Clause 13.1) and who is currently financial. The nomination form is to be completed by two Members and the Nominee. Nominees are requested to provide a resume of no more than 400 words noting their skills and experience relevant to their director's responsibilities.

Nominations are to be lodged with the Chairman of the Nominations Committee on or before 5pm 25 March 2021.

**Mr Peter McMurtrie AO**  
**Chairman Nominations Committee**  
**The Order of Australia Association Ltd**

**Postal Address**  
**5 Lee Street, PIMPAMA 4209**  
**Email. [dirqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:dirqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)**

Phone 0408 887 923

The National Board has promulgated a Board Renewal Policy including the Position Description available at:  
<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/national/policies/>.

Intending nominees are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the statutory and legal requirements of the Australian not for Profit Commission and the Australian Securities and Investment Commission:  
<https://www.acnc.gov.au/for-charities/manage-your-charity/governance-hub/governance-standards%20>

## 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](mailto:sec@oaafoundation.com.au)

Donations through the Foundation attract DGR tax deductibility.

Phil Morrall AM, CSC

National Editor

**Correction:** Graeme Brady OAM & The Frenchville Sports Club.

An incorrect caption was included in the last edition. I apologise.

Graeme Brady OAM



The late Brian Smith OAM and his wife Merril



## NEW SOUTH WALES Branch

### BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE:

This time last year we were worried about the devastating bush fires, the severe drought in NSW and then the serious floods affecting so many communities. We were not aware of the impending arrival of the coronavirus. The Prime Minister declared the COVID-19 outbreak a national pandemic on 27 February 2020.

Since then, Australians have lived through the various restrictions which made face to face gatherings a challenge, finding new ways to communicate with each other, and reaching out to those people in the community who might feel isolated or lonely. Our NSW Members demonstrated resilience and compassion and by the close of 2020 we were breathing sighs of relief that the worst seemed to be over.

Whilst it was not possible for the Governor of NSW, our Patron, The Honourable Margaret Beazely AC QC, to hold the usual Investitures for Australia Day, and Queens Birthday Awardees, there were smaller ceremonies at Government House in September. We look forward to meeting those Awardees in the future, and to welcoming our 114 new Members at events when restrictions are lifted.

We were able to celebrate Christmas with a most enjoyable fundraising lunch in mid-December (see article), with 65 members and guests, raising \$6,000 to help the Kookaburra Kids Foundation (<https://kookaburrakids.org.au>) support the children of parents who are dealing with mental illness. John Brogden AM was our guest speaker and was most generous in sharing his own personal journey with us. (see separate article)

We implemented a series “Thanks for Asking” and were pleased to hear from many very generous Members, who shared their own personal stories about dealing with life during the pandemic. These stories are on our website. (<https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/news>)

In response to our recent Member Survey, we will feature stories about NSW Members in a new series “Meet Our Members”, starting in this issue of “The Order”.

Notwithstanding the recent “hot spot” Covid-19 clusters, we are hoping to go ahead with our annual Australia Day Luncheon Cruise on Sydney Harbour on 26 January. Assuming that does go ahead, we will cover it in this issue of “The Order”.

Our next, hopefully face to face meeting, will be our AGM on 23 February, at which time I will be stepping down as Chairman of The NSW Branch of The Order of Australia Association. Elections will be held for Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and 4 Committee Members.

It has been a great honour for me to Chair the NSW Branch for the past two years. My sincere thanks to our outstanding Committee, and our loyal and generous Members.

Very best wishes for a safe and happy 2021 to all of our Members and their families.

Peter Falk OAM  
NSW Branch Chairman  
<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/news>

**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

0408660591

**Honorary Secretary**

Ms Martha Jabour OAM

Mob. 0419279337

**Honorary Treasurer**

Ms Gail Dunne OAM

Mob. 0419279337

**Committee Members**

Mrs Louise Davis AM

(Communications Liaison)

[Com9nsw@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:Com9nsw@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

Mr Chris Dunne OAM

(Web Co-ordinator)

Mob. 0419279337

A/Prof John Gullotta AM

(Metropolitan Co-ordinator, Events

And Public Relations)

Mob. 0418233069

Dr Frank Kelleher AM

(The Order of Australia Association

NSW Branch, Youth Community Service

Award Co-ordinator)

Mob. 0427644397

Mrs Carolyn Lyons OAM

(Youth Alumni Co-Ordinator)

Mob. 0427374744

Mr Michael Maher OAM

(Branch Membership Officer)

Mob. 0457795254

Mr Ron Sharpe OAM

(Regional Co-ordinator)

Mob. 0409487095

#### REGIONAL GROUP CONVENORS DETAILS:

Blue Mountains/Hawkesbury/Nepean:	Mr John Wakefield 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

## NSW AUSTRALIA DAY CRUISE

### **Resilience - NSW Branch shows us how!**

On Australia Day, ninety-six NSW members and guests enjoyed a near Covid-Normal Australia Day Harbour cruise and seated luncheon, an annual event for our branch.

It was a most enjoyable day on Sydney Harbour albeit a bit quieter due to less numbers and spectator boats as most activities were cancelled due to COVID even though the helicopter with the Australian flag and two fighter jets made a surprise appearance.

In the theme of resilience, the charity we supported in 2021 was Grace's Place, a unique place of healing and restoration for children affected by homicide. The Homicide Victims Support Group HVSG (Aust) are currently working towards building Grace's Place. A world-first residential trauma recovery centre for children affected by homicide. Our very generous members and guests raised \$1940.

Chairman Peter Falk OAM welcomed members and guests and Event manager Dr John Gullotta AM introduced Mary Cusumano, Vice President of the HVSG, who told us about the strong need and demand for Grace's Place and the good work it will do once completed.

We look forward to a bigger event next year with normal numbers and more events on the harbour!



## CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING LUNCH TO SUPPORT KOOKABURRA KIDS – Child Mental Health



Kookaburra Kid Lainy was delighted with her E-Gift Card from the Order of Australia Association, NSW Branch

Thankfully on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December we held our first post COVID-19 event which was the 2020 Christmas Luncheon held at the picturesque Kirribilli Club overlooking Sydney Harbour.

It was an opportunity for 65 members and guests to celebrate the beginning of the Christmas season but more importantly to raise money for a very worthy cause, The Australian Kookaburra Kids Foundation, which supports children aged 8-18 years, living in families affected by mental illness. Kookaburra Kids programs provide mental health services within a peer-based social and activity-based format. This is especially important in these “COVID-19 times” of added mental and financial strain in our community.

This year due to Covid-19 guidelines we unfortunately could not ask members and guests to bring in physical presents as in past years, but available for purchase were E-Gift card presents for \$25 each which certainly helped bring an added smile to children affected by mental illness at this festive time of year.

Our Chairman, Mr Peter Falk OAM gave his official welcome and highlighted the importance of mental health especially in children and adolescents. Supporting this charity is worthy and relevant.

MC and Events Manager, Dr John Gullotta AM introduced the guest speaker Mr John Brogden AM who is Patron of the Australian Kookaburra Kids Foundation as well as Chairman of Lifeline. (see separate article on John Brogden AM)

John Brogden gave an excellent and highly moving speech on how he was affected by mental illness, survived and came out stronger and more resilient on the other side. His famous quote was “They say the comeback is greater than the setback!” In her formal thanks Hon Secretary Martha Jabour OAM thanked Mr Brogden for his candid and very personal sharing of his battle with mental illness and how he overcame the odds and came out stronger than ever!

Special guests included **The Hon Philip Ruddock AO**, Mayor of Hornsby Shire Council, **Fiona FAN** Director-General and **Thomas Lee** Director of the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office Sydney, from Kookaburra Kids were CEO Chris Giles, Board Director Peter Kerr AM and Alex Thompson.

A special thank you to Michael Mannington OAM, from Community Photography, a recent Awardee who kindly agreed to be our new photographer and is donating his services to the Association.

The event was a great success and enjoyed by all present and we raised \$6000 which made it possible to donate 240 presents to very needy children and bring a smile to their faces at this festive time!

We look forward to an even bigger event in 2021!

Dr John Gullotta AM

Events Manager and Public Relations.

[MEET OUR AWARDEES: John Brogden AM](#)

**“They say the comeback is greater than the setback” – John Brogden**



As one of Australia's leading politicians and now a business leader, John Brogden is living proof that even from the darkest places, there can be a way back. Whilst John has reached the highest levels in his professional career, his personal journey is one of highs and lows, strength and courage.

John's career in politics started when he became a Member for Pittwater in the NSW Parliament in 1996. In 2002, he was elected Leader of the Opposition on his 33rd birthday – the youngest person ever to lead a major political party at a state or federal level in Australia.

However, it's John's personal story that best illustrates his resilience and his incredible ability to come back from the lowest of lows. His willingness to share the details of his journey to recovery make him a compelling and inspirational storyteller.

John was diagnosed with depression in early 2006 following a suicide attempt in 2005. His passion for mental illness stems from a breakdown that marked a turning point in his life and reframed the discussion around depression, particularly in the corporate world. Thanks to his profile, John has changed the way we talk about suicide and in turn, is helping thousands of individuals through his involvement with Lifeline Australia as Chairman.

John is also the Patron of Sailability Pittwater, Bilgola Surf Lifesaving Club, Avalon Beach Surf Lifesaving Club and Kookaburra Kids. He was appointed to the Board of Landcom as Chairman in January 2012 and accepted the permanent role of Chief Executive Officer in May 2018, having acted in the role of Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer from 2017. From 2015 to 2017, John was the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD). Prior to this, he was Chief Executive Officer of the Financial Services Council from 2009 to 2015, and Chief Executive Officer of Manchester Unity from 2006 to 2008.

On Australia Day 2014 John was made a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to the community, particularly to Lifeline, to the business and financial sectors, and to the Parliament of New South Wales. He was born in Balmain and raised in Sydney. He was educated at St Joan of Arc, Haberfield, St Patrick's College, Strathfield, and the University of Sydney where he gained a Masters of Public Affairs (MPA). He is married to Lucy, who is an organizational psychologist, Patron of Partners in Depression, Patron of the Sydney Women's Fund, Chair of the National Mental Health Commission and Governor of Queenwood School for Girls. They have three children.

#### RIP LENSEY ELIZABETH DOYLE – SISTER ST JUDE DOYLE, RSC, OAM



Sister St Jude Doyle RSC, OAM was born Lensey Elizabeth Doyle in Sydney in 1927. She had four brothers and six sisters and a 'wonderful mother and father', remembering her childhood as 'a very happy one'. In 1939, at age 12, the young Lensey Doyle set forth alone from Casino on a train filled with soldiers, to begin her secondary education as a boarder at St Vincent's College, Potts Point. She enrolled as a 'bursary kid', on a government grant for talented students with parents of limited means. She completed her Leaving Certificate in 1944. By then she was committed to her future dedicated to God as a Religious Sister of Charity (RSC). She entered the convent aged 19.

When visiting home, she was a keen surfer and lifesaver, qualifying as the first registered lady lifesaver in NSW. Professed as Sister St Jude Doyle in 1950, she completed Teacher Training in 1952

and taught Primary in NSW and Victoria. Her reputation for getting people involved as volunteers was widely recognised.

Her substantial workload since her profession was no barrier to her own development, gaining Diplomas in Theology and Economics, a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Education degrees by 1979. Jude, as she was then widely known, was a master at engaging everyone she met, teasing out strengths and weaknesses, worries and concerns, with the universal promise to pray for them.

Her selfless life of service was recognised by the award of a Medal of the Order of Australia on the Queen's Birthday in 1997. Her citation read 'for service to social welfare, particularly through the Sisters of Charity Outreach Programme, and to Rural Communities.'

With Outreach successfully established, she then volunteered in 1999 and 2000 as a migration agent at the Immigration Advice and Rights Centre. Her final role, from 2000 to 2014, was working with the Sisters of Charity Rural and Remote Program, an extension of Outreach providing the same compassionate support to people in those areas.

Jude also became active on the Committee of the NSW Branch of the Order of Australia Association. She served for 3 years as Convenor of the John Lincoln Youth Community Service Award. She spent her final days from 2014 at Stella Maris Aged Care Centre at Cronulla. A large gathering celebrated the Platinum Anniversary of her profession as a Sister of Charity with her in January 2020. She passed away peacefully on Christmas Eve, 2020. It was my wonderful privilege to have known her.

Dr Frank Kelleher OAM

Fuller Obituary at:

<https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/news/>

#### IN MEMORIA, MALCOLM BORLAND LONGSTAFF OAM

Malcolm was born in England and came to Australia in 1940 at the age of 7. On leaving school in Adelaide, he joined the shipping agency Macdonald, Hamilton & Co, (later P&O Australia). He spent 32 years with the company. From 1984 – 2007 he held various executive roles at both state and National levels in the Australia-Britain Society, focusing especially on youth exchange programs.

He was an active member of the NSW Division of the Navy League of Australia from 1970 and wrote a history of the Navy League of Australia 1895 – 2015, titled "Keeping Watch".

Malcolm was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the 2009 Australia Day Honours List for service to the community through a range of maritime, social welfare, youth and cultural organisations and was a valued Committee Member for the NSW Branch of The Order of Australia Association.

He passed away on 18 December 2020, age 87.

## TASMANIA Branch

### BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE:

This coming year will present many challenges in managing our various functions in the climate of COVID-19. With the lessons learned during 2020, facing a total lock-down, we expect to provide functions that we have come to expect from past years, and I am sure that members will welcome the interactions that we have largely missed of late.

By the time this edition goes to print we will know who the awardees for Australia Day and we are can plan our post investiture welcome function(s). The five consecutive lunches the Branch had on each day of the investitures in September last year were a success with more attending than we anticipated. Hopefully, this year we can have functions of all types similar or better this year depending on any restrictions in force at the time.

The Branch sincerely thanks retiring Branch Director the Hon. Dr Frank Madill AM for his significant contribution to the Association on the National Board. Regrettably, due to health issues Frank, who relinquished his position in December, has seen the need to step down as Director but I am sure he will continue his interest and input at Branch and Regional levels.

As this issue of The Order is the last before our Branch annual general meeting scheduled for 21 February, I thank the Branch and Regional committee members who have all made valuable contributions towards achieving our aim of providing for our membership. There are many others too who have supported the Association outside of the committees to whom I give my thanks for your support over the year.

Alastair Douglas OAM  
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

## FROM THE SOUTHERN REGION

### **Janette Miller OAM**

One of the Southern Recipients in the 2020 Queen's Birthday Awards was Jan Miller OAM who over the years has made a great difference to the many lives of Tasmanians who are blind or have low vision.

Since the inception of RPH Print Radio Tasmania (now RPH Australia) Jan has given service as a volunteer presenter since 1978, held the position of Vice President, Board Member, Station Manager and was Chair of the Australian Council of RPH Australia 1990-1991.

She was a Member of the Access Committee (Hobart City Council), a volunteer at the Braille Library of Tasmania in the 2000's and a Board Member of Tasmania's Braille Writers Association. She was also President of Tasmanians with a Disability and served time as a Member of the Premier's Disability Network and as a Board Member, Guide Dogs Tasmania.

Jan's voluntary contributions to Tasmanian life over many years culminated in her Award as Hobart Citizen of the Year in 2001 and was a Recipient of the RPH Australia Award in 1999.

Jan's Order of Australian Medal was very well deserved.

Maureen Rudge OAM

Branch Secretary

## NORTHERN NOTES:

2020 was a challenging year for us all. The northern regional committee met via Zoom and we have kept members in touch with our newsletter. However, it is disappointing not to have been able to have met in person and we look forward to being able to do this in 2021.

The 2020 awardees from both the Australia Day and the Queen's Birthday honours lists received their insignias at government House over six days in September. Congratulations to the following members who have joined the Association – Doctor John Milton Wettenhall OAM, Lexie Young OAM, Doctor Rosemary Callingham AM, Jocelyn Watson OAM, Doug Renshaw OAM, Colleen McGann OAM, Kim Seagram AM and Peter McDermott OAM.

The Northern region AGM will be held at Glenara Lakes at 2:30 PM on Thursday, 6 February and we hope that as many members as possible are able to attend in person. While Covid safety and

distancing procedures will apply, it will still be an opportunity and have a cuppa and a chat. Sunday, 21 February will be the state branch AGM at 11 AM at the Campbelltown sports complex and all Northern members are more than welcome. It is planned to hold the annual Mayoral reception for new members on Thursday, 13 October but this will be subject to Covid restrictions operating at that time.

In the meantime, we trust that all members keep safe, healthy and happy.

## LINDA MADILL OAM



Linda Madill OAM was born in Warragul Victoria and educated at the local primary school and later the Methodist Ladies College in Melbourne. After matriculating in 1961 Linda then went onto Toorak Teachers College and graduated with a Trained Infant Teachers Certificate in 1964. The following year she took up an appointment teaching a Prep grade at Springvale North Primary School. Over that year, class numbers varied from 40 to 52 which was very challenging for a first-year appointee.

It was in Linda's final year at MLC that she met her future husband Frank. They married in 1965 during Frank's final year of university and moved to Launceston in 1996, so Frank could take up residency at the Launceston General Hospital. One year became two and in the second year they decided to stay.

Their elder daughter Christine was born in that 1<sup>st</sup> year and the younger daughter Catherine in 1969 the family moved into a new home in Launceston's Northern suburbs, where they have lived for 50 years. During this period Linda has been involved in a huge number of community activities;

### *Launceston Players:*

Linda first became involved in 1984 and has served on Management Committee since 1985. For more than 35 years she has taken on many roles and been deeply committed to the players – one of Australia's oldest continuously performing amateur theatre company's. Executive Producer of "Evita" in 1986. President for 7 years, Secretary for 14 years to present day. She was awarded Life Membership in 2006.

### *Neighbourhood Watch:*

Linda was involved in the established of the Newnham Neighbourhood Watch in 1991 – Secretary for 2 years and currently Area Co-Ordinator and newsletter editor. She was awarded Life Membership in 2011.

### *Abbeyfield House Launceston:*

On the committee of Abbeyfield (Australia) – Launceston House for 20 years, 1995-2015. Secretary for 3 years, Vice-President for 15 yrs.

### *Launceston City Council Australia Day Committee*

Linda was awarded a certificate recognising a 1,000 hours volunteer service.

### *Save the Children Fund:*

For 6 years Linda chaired a Committee for the Save the Children Gala fundraising dinner & auction in Launceston. For 2 years organised the doorknock in the Launceston area. She was awarded a Medal for Outstanding Service.

### *Northern Police Spouse Support Group: (Later named Partners of Police)*

Involved for 4 years.

*Royal Commonwealth Society:*  
Member since 1997 till present day.

*Australian American Association:*  
Member from 1994 – 1995.

*Women's Timber Support Group:*  
Member for 2 years.

*Victoria League for Commonwealth Friendship – Launceston Branch:*  
Member for 17 years. President for 2 years.

*Liberal Party of Australia:*  
Member since 1974. In 2003 Linda won the Kevin Newman Award for the electorate of Bass.

Linda was awarded an OAM in the Australia Day honours in January 2017 for Service to the Community of Launceston.

Aside from the above, Linda has a keen interest in gardening, cooking, reading (when time allows), music, family history and history of the Launceston Players.

Today, Linda continues to have a busy, productive and fulfilling role in her community in addition to her busy family life.

#### KIM SEAGRAM AM



Kim Seagram began life in Montréal Canada and after graduating Bachelor of Science with honours in biology from Queen's University in Kingston, began work as a research assistant in molecular genetics. She changed direction and took up a number of positions in the Canadian tourism industry, and at that time in her own words, "I fell in love with a handsome Tasmanian man and 18 months later found myself married and living in Tasmania."

With her partner, Kim ran the Lalla Gully Vineyard in north-east Tasmania. In 1997 she was elected to the Vineyards Association of Tasmania's committee of management and was involved in developing the National Wine Tourism Strategy and resultant Australian Wine Tourism Alliance.

In 2000, Kim and her husband developed the award-winning Stillwater Restaurant (see attached article) which has achieved a reputation as one of the nation's top fine dining enterprises.

For over a decade Kim was Deputy Chair of the brand Tasmania Council and sat on the board of the Launceston Chamber of Commerce – she was inducted into their Hall of Fame in 2017. She sat on the Tourism Tasmania Board and member of several other groups involved in regional economic development, tourism, and business development. She currently chairs the industry advisory board for the Tasmanian School of Business and Economics at the University of Tasmania. In 2016 Kim received the UTAS TSBE Distinguished Business Leader award.

Kim's passion for supporting local producers and growing the Tasmania brand led her to help found the hugely successful Launceston Community Farmers Harvest Market in 2011 of which she is currently a director.

Kim Seagram is passionate about Tasmania, its tourist and hospitality industries and its excellent and unique foods and wines. She has given outstanding service to her state in a wide range of areas and richly deserves her award of Member of the Order of Australia.

## STILLWATER RESTAURANT – LAUNCESTON TASMANIA



Stillwater River Café, restaurant and Wine bar is situated at the mouth of the Cataract Gorge on the banks of the Tamar River in Launceston Tasmania. It began life as a flour mill in 1832. After at least three owners was purchased in 1876 by David Ritchie and was the main producer of flour in northern Tasmania until damaged by fire in 1943. It was rebuilt and remain closed until sold in 1973 to Monds and Affleck who had been gradually absorbing the mill's trade. Ultimately, in the late 1970s it was acquired by the state government for an art gallery and craft centre.

In 2000 the mill was purchased by Rod Ascui and his wife Kim Seagram and the Stillwater history commenced with winning the 2001 Renault Haute Cuisine best Restaurant in Australia. Since then, it has regularly received numerous local, state and national awards for all aspects of its business.

Highlighting the best of local grown food and wines, Stillwater provides one of the best and most memorable gastronomic experiences in Tasmania. In addition, in 2020 it opened seven new special Tasmanian themed colonial style accommodation rooms. Visitors to Launceston now not only have the opportunity to dine in one of Australia's best restaurants but can also stay and sleep there in a unique colonial setting. Altogether an experience not to be missed.

## NT BRANCH

### BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE:



Territorians have a sense of optimism that 2021 will be a far better year than most experienced in 2020. The NT remains free of any community transmission of COVID 19 and the Territory has again stepped up in welcoming many Australians repatriated back home. Supervision of them while in quarantine has been led by NT branch member Professor Len Notaras AM, Executive Director of the *National Critical Care and Trauma Centre*.

Our thanks go out to Professor Notaras and his *AUSMAT* team of professionals.

At the time of writing, the NT branch is scheduled to hold its AGM on 4 February 2021. When you read this contribution, the members would have elected a new Committee including a new Chair, a new Secretary/ Treasurer as well as new Committee Members. After 47 years in Darwin, I have relocated to QLD to be closer to my family, and Michael Martin OAM, our long-standing Secretary/Treasurer has served his term.

My special thanks go to outgoing Committee Members, Michael and Wendy James OAM for the dedication and commitment to the Association and its Territory members. They have both gone ‘above the call of duty’ over many years and I am most grateful for the support they have both given to me and their positive attitude towards the Association more broadly and nationally. Likewise, whilst remaining on the Committee, Nora Lewis AM will step down from the role of NT Director on the National Board.

One of the main aims of each Branch of the Order of Australia Association is to raise awareness about the Order of Australia and the process through which awards are granted. The Branch regularly distributes information to those who are seeking to submit a nomination, and this continued throughout 2020 despite COVID and its many restrictions.

An important goal of our Committee has been to achieve high quality nominations for appointments and awards that reflect the diversity of the Northern Territory community. Members of the NT Committee began a training program for those wishing to become familiar with the process of nominating someone for an Order of Australia award and we have reached out to a wide range of multi-cultural organisations to inform them of the award process and to offer our assistance. During 2020 we were delighted to see an increasing number of Indigenous Territorians receive awards for their significant contribution to the Northern Territory and to the nation.

A long-standing purpose of the Association is to support young Australians as they prepare for their careers and encourage them in service to the nation. In the past we have, with sponsorship, awarded scholarships to young Territory secondary school students for education, sport and life-advancing projects that benefit them and their community. Given COVID19, this was put on hold for 2020 and we thank Richard Ryan AO for his generous donation to support this initiative, which will be resumed in 2021.

The NT branch was pleased to support the new Constitution and associated By- Laws. We congratulate the working team on its diligence and hard work to achieve this positive outcome.

In closing, my thanks go to the NT members for their support and I wish you all the very best for 2021 and beyond. Good luck and best wishes to the new incoming Committee.

#### 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	-	Ms Wendy James OAM

## VALE MIKE REED AM

The Northern Territory Branch of the OAA has mourned the recent passing of the Hon Mike Reed AM. First elected to the Legislative Assembly in March 1987, Mike was a visionary Territorian and an integral figure during the CLP Governments of the 1980s and 90s. He served as the Member for Katherine for 16 years, retiring in 2003. Mike was also Deputy Chief Minister from 1995 until 2001 during which time he served as Treasurer and he also held many other Ministerial portfolios including Health and Community Services, Primary Industry and Fisheries, Mines and Energy, Lands, Planning and Environment, Tourism, Police and Parks and Wildlife.

Mike was at the forefront of the recovery of Katherine after the Australia Day floods in 1998 and the NT's response to East Timor self-determination in 1999. Mike entered politics after a career with the NT Conservation Commission where he was a Wildlife Ranger and a Regional Manager. Mike was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the 2005 Australia Day honours for service to the Northern Territory Parliament and to the community of Katherine.

He was also a passionate ornithologist and historian and became a popular author on birdwatching and World War Two in the Northern Territory. We extend our sincere condolences to his wife, Ann Reed and his children.



## QUEENSLAND Branch

### BRANCH CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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

#### **Branch Chairman**

Hearty New Year 2021 Greetings are forwarded to all members.



For many the celebration of Christmas 2020 and year's end were not fully inclusive of family. In keeping with pandemic travelling and social distancing restrictions many journeys were truncated, and digital contacting was the best option available. We can all agree that a better 2021 is keenly desired and will be the focus of our aspirations and invocations.

Not all the traditions of the Festive Season were forgotten, however. The ubiquitous Christmas tree was centre stage in many homes and venues across our homeland. Given that Australia has no true conifer to call its own my forester friends discussed what bright, summer flowering, indigenous tree could claim icon status. Setting aside State parochial bias the clear winner was *Nuytsia floribunda*, called Moojar by the local Noongar people of SW West Australia, and more widely known as the WA Christmas tree. Maybe the idea will have legs, at least my 2021 cards will be so embossed.



It is pleasing to report a welcome upsurge in OAA activities within Queensland. In December we held our first combined digital meeting of the Branch Committee and Regional Convenors. Each of the eight Regions have a well dispersed membership to service with associated challenges. The Darling Downs Region hosted a lunch for 57 participants including recent OA awardees at the Downs Club in Toowoomba. The lunch was addressed by a new awardee, Mrs Sheena Liley OAM. Next came a large morning tea at the old caretaker's house (now restaurant) sited in the original Brisbane Botanic gardens when a new awardee, Dr Denver Beanland AM, addressed some 70 patrons. In addition to further planned Regional events for early in the new year, two major events are planned for Brisbane. The first is scheduled for 10 February 2021, to which all 2020 OA awardees who have not received a welcome lunch will be invited. The second is the AGM and following dinner to be held on 22 March 2021. All Queensland members will be invited to nominate for all office positions. Regeneration and renewal are the life blood of any organisation, particularly of its leadership group.

Our Branch Committee has resumed, since October 2020, in-person meetings at the Brisbane City Council library in Toowong. All gatherings across the State have conformed to detailed approved State, OAA board and Branch venue COVID plans. Our event organisers and particularly our Branch Secretary, Ross Patching OAM, are sincerely thanked for keeping us all safe and well. Frequent communiques on Branch activities are e-distributed to members across the State and together with pictorials are placed into the OAA Qld web site.

This next edition of *The Order* will be printed after our Australia Day celebrations on 26 January 2021. Whatever forms this takes, cognisant of pandemic concerns and Government Medical directives, we all ought to be mighty thankful that as diverse communities and a cohesive nation as a whole, we have exited a tough year in robust shape on all global metrics. We are truly blessed to be Australians.

#### BRANCH COMMITTEE DETAILS:

##### **Patron**

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

##### **Chairman**

Dr Gary Bacon AM.  
Tel:0400 733 822

##### **Immediate Past Chairman**

Associate Professor John Harden AM

##### **Deputy Chairman**

Dr Mick Davis AM ASM

##### **Secretary**

Ross Patching OAM

Tel:0412 914 394

##### **Treasurer**

Ronda Nix OAM

##### **National Board Director**

Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ.

##### **Committee Members**

Dr Carol Cox AM  
Regional Groups Liaison Officer

Graham Hyde OAM  
Newsletter Editor

Paula Penfold AM  
Merchandise Officer

Darryl Secombe OAM  
Membership Officer

Marjorie Voss OAM  
Regional Convener Sunshine Coast

Kathy Wooldridge OAM

**Co-opted Member**

Geoffrey Cowels OAM, Events and Awards Coordinator (Metro)

All correspondence to:

Ross Patching OAM, Secretary

PO Box 96 Petrie QLD. 4502

Email- [secqldoaa@iinet.net.au](mailto:secqldoaa@iinet.net.au)

REGIONAL GROUP CONVENERS DETAILS:

**Central Queensland:** Dr Wallace Taylor OAM

**Darling Downs:** Paul McNally OAM

**Far North Queensland:** Carole Miller OAM

**Gold Coast:** Clive Mitchell-Taylor OAM

**Mackay-Whitsunday:** Carmel Daveson AM

**Sunshine Coast:** Marjorie Voss OAM

**Townsville:** David Jackson OAM

**Wide-Bay Burnett:** Donna Duncan OAM

NOTICE OF QUEENSLAND BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Queensland Branch will be held in the **VC Suite at Kedron Wavell Services Club**, 21 Kitty Hawk Drive, Chermside, Brisbane commencing at **5:30pm sharp on Monday 22 March 2021.**

Nomination forms for Committee positions and Branch Nominated Director and an application for a proxy vote can be downloaded from the Association website at

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

The Annual Dinner will follow the AGM at 6:45pm.

Ross Patching OAM, Secretary

THE SUNSHINE COAST SHINES AGAIN

As Queensland appeared to be spared from any “flare up” with COVID-19 and at the request of members it was decided to hold our second OAAQ Sunshine Coast Region Event for 2020. The first one was held on Bribie Island in early March 2020 before the virus caused so much disruption.

On a perfect Queensland Spring day on 26 November 2020, 50 happy guests were welcomed to a very pleasant luncheon held at the Mercure Kawana Waters on the Sunshine Coast. Because of COVID-19 restrictions only 50 guests were allowed to attend. As you might imagine the places were filled very quickly and there was a waiting list.

After such a long period between functions, there was much talk and laughter as members and guests greeted each other and enjoyed a pre-luncheon drink before taking their places for lunch. After a short welcome address, I introduced the Queensland Branch Chairman Dr. Gary Bacon AM to perform a very important ceremony. This was to introduce and read the Citations of seven out of the twenty Sunshine Coast Region recipients who were acknowledged in the 2020 Order of Australia Awards. Unfortunately, not all of the twenty recipients were able to attend. However, we hope to welcome these recipients at the first Region function for 2021 to be held at Gunabul Homestead, Gympie on Thursday 4 March.

Normally all new recipients would have been welcomed at the two OAA Welcome Lunches held in Brisbane by the Queensland Branch Committee following the Investitures. However, this year large gatherings were not permitted and also each Awardee was invested in a private ceremony by the Queensland Governor.

After lunch our Guest Speaker Ian Mansfield AM CSC presented a very interesting and descriptive address entitled "Stepping into a Minefield" which is the title of the book of which he is the author. Ian is a Consultant specializing in humanitarian assistance and post conflict activities, particularly in the field of landmine action. Having served as an Officer in the Australian Army for 22 years, followed by 10 years with the United Nations and 9 years as Deputy Director of GICHD in Geneva he was well equipped with information and personal experiences to provide a very informative and mind-opening presentation.

The guests as a whole described our first gathering since COVID-19 struck, as most enjoyable event from the delightful venue and welcome to the 2020 awardees, to the meals and ending with the address by our guest speaker.

### **Marjorie Voss OAM**

#### **Sunshine Coast Regional Convener**



Recent recipients welcomed at the luncheon - from Left to Right.

The caption for the SS Coast Recipients is as follows.

Dr Gary Bacon AM      Queensland OAA Branch Chairman

Mrs Maria Boland OAM

Col. Richard Parker AM (M)

Mr Ross Paine OAM

Mr Brian Taylor OAM

Mrs Fay Baker OAM

Mrs Marlene Owen OAM

Mr Kenneth Howes OAM

Mrs Marjorie Voss OAM OAA Sunshine Coast Region Convener



A happy group enjoying each other's company at the Sunshine Coast luncheon.

#### OUR MORNING TEA AT THE GARDENS CLUB ON 26 NOVEMBER 2020

Following the Annual Dinner and AGM held on 18 February 2020, no further events were organised by the Queensland Branch for the next nine months due to Government public indoor dining restrictions in Queensland designed to control the COVID-19 pandemic.

The easing of these restrictions enabled the Queensland Branch to stage its "*Coming out of Covid Morning Tea with a Historical Twist*" on Thursday 26 November 2020 at the Gardens Club, located in the beautiful Brisbane City Botanic Gardens.

The Art Nouveau style building used by the Gardens Club is steeped in history. It was built as a curator's residence in 1908 and is the third home to be built here; the other two succumbing to the weather. During World War II it was used as a wardroom for the WRAN officers of 'HMAS Moreton'. After the War it was again used as a Curator's Residence until the 1980s when Harold Caulfield AM, the last Curator of these gardens retired. As part of the 1987 redevelopment of it was remodelled into a Restaurant and Kiosk and was opened in September 1989. The building's interior boasts some very endearing features. It is one of Brisbane's hidden gems.

Seventy-one guests attended, which represented a magnificent turnout for a Queensland Branch morning tea. No doubt this was in part, a response to members having been deprived of social interaction for such a long period.

Our guest speaker was Dr Denver Beanland AM, who, in addition to his distinguished past service to the Queensland Parliament and the Brisbane City Council, just happens to be a noted historian with a keen knowledge of Queensland History. Dr Beanland gave a most interesting and stimulating insight into the first decade of Queensland from 1859 to 1870, highlighting the humble beginnings of Queensland and the key political 'movers and shakers' of the day.

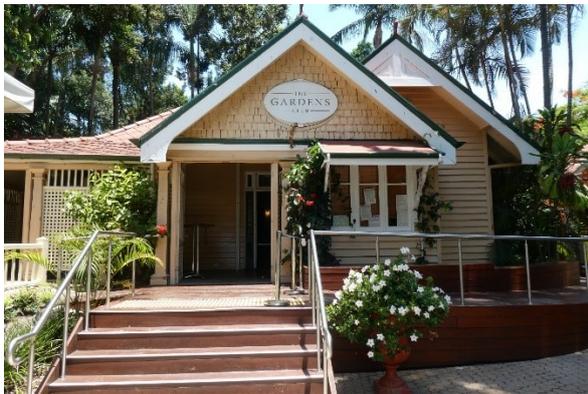
This event was just the tonic the Queensland Branch needed after such a long period of inactivity.

**Geoff Cowles OAM**

**Awards and Events Coordinator (Metro)**



Dr Denver Beanland AM's excellent talk captivates an attentive audience in the historic surrounds of the Gardens Club.



The 112-year-old Gardens Club building. The former Botanic Gardens Curator's residence -one of Brisbane's hidden treasures.

### **DARLING DOWNS REGIONAL GROUP NEW RECIPIENT'S LUNCHEON**

Fifty-six happy guests came together in Toowoomba on 16 December 2020 to celebrate the achievements of seven recent recipients of awards in the Order of Australia, Sheena Liley OAM, Dr Ken Jackson OAM, Maryanne Walsh OAM, Lorna Apelt OAM, James Massey OAM, Elaine Madill OAM and Gary Briggs OAM.

OAA Darling Downs members and their guests were delighted that the Queensland Branch Chair, Dr Gary Bacon, and several members of the Branch Committee travelled to Toowoomba to join the celebration luncheon at the Downs Club. Members of the Group were clearly very happy to be able to meet as a group after the COVID-19 restrictions in place in Queensland for many months had been relaxed. Two previously organised activities for the Group scheduled for earlier in 2020 had to be cancelled.

Sheena Liley OAM, one of the recent award recipients welcomed at the luncheon, was our guest speaker and delighted her audience with her exploration of the many ways in which the Empire Theatres, Toowoomba's cultural hub, responded to the COVID-19 crisis. Happily, the Empire has recently resumed offering outstanding performances to audiences from Toowoomba and elsewhere. The resilience of the organisation and its staff and patrons in response to the COVID restrictions was heart-warming to hear about. Thank you, Sheena, for an outstanding and engaging address.

**Paul McNally OAM**

**Darling Downs Regional Convener**



Recent recipients welcomed at the luncheon - from Left to Right. Lorne Apelt OAM, Gary Briggs OAM, Dr Ken Jackson OAM, Elaine Madill OAM, James Massey OAM, Sheena Liley OAM, Maryanne Walsh OAM, Dr Gary Bacon AM, OAA Queensland Branch Chairman.



Guests enjoying the festive occasion – from Left Centre. Dr Jeff Prebble OAM, Robyn Prebble, Dr John Cox, Dr Carol Cox AM, Lorna Apelt OAM, Darryl Apelt, Linda Apelt, Maryann Grubb, Gitie House OAM, Ron House

#### IN MEMORIAM

BLANCH Kenneth Roy Hilton OAM

HANLEY Francis Thomas (Bill) OAM

MAGEE Mary OAM

PARKER John Norris OAM

DRANDOLIN Jack Joseph OAM

McCAULEY Ian Robert OAM

PRESTON Rev Dr Noel William AM

WILDE Dudley Keith AM

CARVOLTH Russell John OAM

BIGGS Dr Arthur Bruce OAM

SOMMER Walter Heinrich OAM

ANDREWS Elaine Adrienne OAM

## VICTORIA Branch

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



After an unbelievable 2020 it is pleasing to welcome in 2021 and trust what we learnt, our optimism and how we improvised during the past twelve months ensures we have a successful 2021.

Excluding COVID-19, the challenges of 2020 are still with us in many ways including the drought stricken and fire ravaged areas of Victoria and beyond, yes, some progress has been made to rebuild infrastructure and businesses, more is needed before history sadly repeats itself.

The first VIC Branch event in 2020 was the Inspiring Australians Oration face-to-face on February 26, and then due to COVID regulations our events like the NGV lecture, exhibition and lunch were cancelled as Victoria was in lockdown.

Our annual lunch mid-November at William Angliss College became a virtual lunch thanks to the Rotary Club of Melbourne hosting the event; this allowed members, who for varying reasons have not attended an event in recent years the opportunity to catch up with other members and have a chat at the end of the formalities.

David Mann AM was our MC, Her Excellency the Governor of Victoria Linda Dessau AC joined the lunch and thanked members for their positive approach and compliance.

Juanita Kelly-Mundine the 2018 Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship recipient gave members and their guests an update on her ongoing studies, work and community links. Guest speaker Dr Robbie Gillies OAM turned 30 during lockdown, to-date he has founded four charities, studied four university degrees, volunteered overseas and in remote Australian communities – and now works as a doctor in The Alfred emergency department. A detailed report of the November 2020 virtual annual lunch was included in the VIC Branch December 2020 e-Newsletter and is available on the OAA website VIC pages – Newsletters heading.

A positive start to 2021 was a word change to our national anthem “For we are one and free”. His Excellency General the Honourable David John Hurley AC DSC (Retd) Governor-General of Australia agreed to the Commonwealth's recommendation to make an amendment to the anthem for the first time since 1984.

The excitement of a new year also brings a list of outstanding new Australia Day Honours recipients who have gone above and beyond. These recipients have received a letter of congratulations from our National Chairman Barry Nunn AO together with an invitation to join the Association and membership application. I have also sent a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Victoria Branch and I am confident Regional Groups will welcome and encourage our Australia Day 2021 recipients to attend upcoming events, some hybrid, others face-to-face or virtual during the year.

VIC Branch is pleased to have a draft program of events for 2021.

The health and safety of our members, guests and volunteers is our top priority. We will implement measures in line with the latest Victorian CHO and Department regulations and venue requirements to ensure member safety.

Wednesday February 24 - 5.30pm to 6.30pm Virtual Cocktail Reception with guest speakers

Wednesday April 28 - 11.00am Inspiring Australians Oration will be a face-to-face event.

Thursday September 23 - 5.30pm to 6.30pm Virtual Twilight Event with guest speakers

Tuesday November 16 – 12noon to 2.30pm Annual lunch at William Angliss College Restaurant with guest speaker and scholarship recipient

Ideally, we would like to return to NGV for a masterpiece event that includes a lecture, exhibition and lunch in July/August.

We plan to hold two separate events on the same day for Australia Day 2020 & 2021 and Queens Birthday 2020 & 2021 Order of Australia Honours recipients in August.

Stay safe and look forward to seeing you during the year.

**Helene Bender OAM**  
**Branch Chairman**

#### VIC BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The VIC Branch Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 16, 2021 commencing at 11.00am, this will be a hybrid meeting. Notice of Meeting, Nomination Form and Position Descriptions are on the OAA website VIC pages Administration – Annual General Meeting.

#### PEACE @ GALLIPOLI CEREMONY AT THE SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE

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

In the early hours of 20th of December 1915, all of the Anzac troops silently left the Peninsula that had seen so much death and suffering. This heralded the end of the war in the Anzac Sector of Gallipoli, an event worthy of remembering.

Sunday December 20, 2020, a ceremony to commemorate the end of the war between the Anzacs and the Turks, and the coming of peace to Gallipoli was organized by Friends of Gallipoli Inc., a not-for-profit organization [[www.friendsofgallipoli.org](http://www.friendsofgallipoli.org)]. Due to the COVID social distancing restrictions, only 20 people could be invited.

It is known that there are two bookends to the Gallipoli Campaign; 25 April and 20 December, start and finish. Anzac Day is very much in the public eye and rightly so. However, the end of the campaign and the arrival of peace at Gallipoli does not seem to have the significance it deserves in the public domain as an important opportunity, such as this ceremony, to remember the fallen.

***On 12 December 1915, one of the Anzac Commanders, General John Monash, upon learning of the plans for the evacuation, wrote in his diary and I quote; "... I am almost frightened to contemplate the howl of rage and disappointment there will be when the men find out what is afoot. I am wondering what Australia will think at the desertion of her 6,000 dead ...."***

A response to General John Monash and to the Anzac families came 19 years later, in 1934, from Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the commander who had stopped the Anzac's at Gallipoli and later became the founding President of the Republic of Turkey, in his immortal words of reconciliation;

“Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives; you are now living in the soil of a friendly country, therefore rest in peace.

There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmetts to us where they lie side by side, here in this country of ours.

You, the mothers, who sent their sons from faraway countries, wipe away your tears; your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost their lives on this land, they have become our sons as well. “

*Lest we forget!*



The N.Z. Defence Attaché lays a wreath at the Shrine of Remembrance December 20, 2020

#### ENDANGERED SPECIES DON'T HAVE THE LUXURY OF TIME

Donalea Patman OAM Founding Director of For the Love of Wildlife Ltd was guest speaker at the North Central Suburbs Regional Group virtual meeting for members last year.

We are in what scientists are calling the 6<sup>th</sup> mass extinction and one of the key drivers is the legal trade in endangered species. One of the most lucrative trades in the world yet the mechanism that monitors this trade, worth more than US\$320 billion a year, hasn't been updated since the 70's, mostly paper-based and doesn't integrate with Customs.

For the Love of Wildlife (FLOW), successfully worked with the Australian government to ban the importation of lion trophies and body parts in 2015, as a direct response to the brutal industry of breeding lions for the bullet – this is a legal trade. Hunters who pay to kill only get the head and skin whilst breeders keep the bones which can be worth an additional \$5,000 a carcass, used to supplement the tiger bone industry.

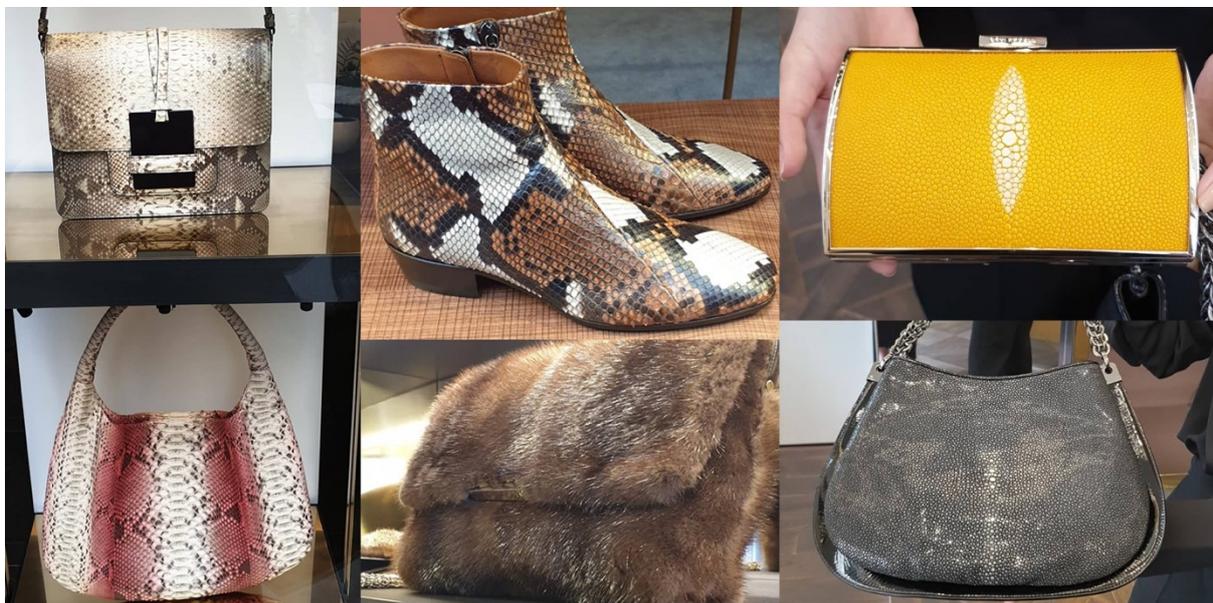
Then after finding ivory for sale on Chapel Street in Melbourne in 2016, FLOW went on to address the rampant unregulated, domestic trade in elephant ivory and rhino horn in Australia. Three years later Australia announced at CITES CoP (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in Wild Flora and Fauna) in Geneva, that we would join other countries in closing the domestic trade so that Australia is no longer complicit in the current poaching crisis. The states and territories are yet to implement the trade ban.

Through these campaigns, FLOW exposed how flawed the current wildlife trade system is. CITES is severely under resourced and unable to keep up with the ever-increasing number of endangered species listed for trade restrictions (currently more than 38,000 species) with the recent IPBES reporting that that number will soon be a million. It's also worth noting that a

listing for trade restrictions can take an average of 11 years for implementation and some species, even if they are listed on the IUCN Red List (critically endangered), can take up to 24 years. We are clearly in an extinction crisis but the processes to address this are glacially slow.

Why the lumbering inertia with modernising CITES and specifically, in implementing a global digitised permit system? Representatives from Homeland Security at CITES CoP stated that electronic permitting will decisively close the illegal trade and yet so much of the large conservation space is focused on illegal trade without the urgency or focus in fixing the basics - the legal trade system.

eCITES, an electronic permit system created by UNCTAD with CITES, the Swiss and Sri Lankan Governments is now operational in Sri Lanka. For the cost of around US\$30 million (US\$150,000 per country) all 183 signatory countries could have this installed thus closing the loopholes and enabling comprehensive tracking and traceability which would also assist in preventing future pandemics.



The outdated permit system means that endangered species are being traded into extinction.

## OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Patron:** The Governor of Victoria

Her Excellency The Hon. Linda Dessau AC

### **Chairman**

Dr Helene Bender OAM [chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)  
Mobile: 0407 261 951

### **Deputy Chairman**

Dr Yvonne Ho AM

**Secretary**

Fred Harrington OAM [secvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:secvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

**Treasurer**

Alan Brook OAM [treasurervic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:treasurervic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

**Branch Nominated Director**

William Lye OAM QC

**Editor VIC pages – The Order**

Dr Helene Bender OAM [victheordermag@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:victheordermag@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

**Events Chairman**

Peter Jones AM

**Merchandise Chairman**

Professor June Kane AM [chairmerchandise@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairmerchandise@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

**Regional Groups Coordinator**

Barb Brook OAM [vicrgcoord@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:vicrgcoord@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

**Committee members**

Pam Robinson OAM

Barbara Thomas OAM

**Membership Secretary**

Fred Harrington OAM filled casual vacancy January 1 to March 17, 2021

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA Branch

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This past year has certainly been one of change and challenges. The SA Branch has continued to function, adapting to the various COVID-19 requirements. We have issued supplementary newsletters each month to keep SA Branch members updated, and the Branch Committee and the Fellowship group have resumed face-to-face activities (subject to social gathering compliance).

After the disappointing cancellation of our usual events this year, we were pleased that Branch representatives were able to attend investitures at Government House in September (for Australia Day recipients) and October/November (Queen's Birthday recipients). The Governor created a very personal and intimate ceremony for each recipient. The Committee is now considering how we might effectively hold a Welcome Reception for these and other new recipients.

When COVID restrictions eased from 1 December, the physical distancing requirements remained at 4 square metres per person, so our annual Christmas morning tea, planned for 2 December, had to be cancelled. His Excellency had kindly agreed to have the award ceremony for our 2020 Student Citizenship winners in December but sadly, this too had to be cancelled.

Thank you to our Committee members and associates who have worked very hard throughout this last year to keep things going and to plan for our events – whether they happened or not, the planning process was still comprehensive and thorough.

I would like to thank everyone for your support throughout 2020, and I look forward to catching up when things get back to some kind of normal in 2021.

Tony Metcalf OAM  
SA Branch Chair

[chairsa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairsa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

## BRANCH COMMITTEE DETAILS:

### **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

#### **Office-holders and committee members**

##### **Patron**

His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia

##### **Chairman**

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

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

### REGIONAL GROUP CONVENORS:

#### ***Fleurieu Regional Group***

Vacant

[orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com](mailto:orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com)

#### ***South East Regional Group***

Eric Roughana AM

[roseric1@bigpond.com](mailto:roseric1@bigpond.com)

#### ***Riverland Regional Group***

Tim Grieger OAM JP

[tgrieger@riverland.net.au](mailto:tgrieger@riverland.net.au)

#### ***Barossa Regional Group***

[orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com](mailto:orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com)

#### ***Gawler and District Regional Group***

[orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com](mailto:orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com)

### 2020 SA STUDENT CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Charlotte Mauviel from Temple Christian College (Mile End Campus) has been announced as South Australia's 2020 Student Citizen of the Year.

The Student Citizenship Awards program is the flagship endeavour of the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association. Students are selected from nominations submitted by schools and are assessed against a broad range of criteria, including leadership, contributions to the school/community and contributions to the environment and/or community development, as well as pride in Australian citizenship. With the uncertainties and circumstances caused by the COVID-19 virus pandemic, the closing date for nominations for the 2020 Student Citizenship Awards was extended until the last day of school term 3 in South Australia (25 September).

The citation on Charlotte's certificate reads:

**CHARLOTTE MAUVIEL**

**Temple Christian College (Mile End Campus)**

*In addition to outstanding results in her academic studies, Charlotte has provided exceptional and extensive leadership and service to her school and community. A recipient of the valued Bronze, Silver and Gold Character Service and Influence Awards during her College years, Charlotte has contributed enthusiastically to many fundraising events, has organised and participated in numerous House, sporting, drama, music and other College events, has been a valued mentor to younger students and has been a College Prefect and a Petty Officer with the Australian Navy Cadets. A wonderful role model for all in citizenship.*

Charlotte said, *“I feel very blessed to have been so honoured. This is a very prestigious award, and I am ever grateful!”*. We give Charlotte our hearty congratulations, and best wishes as she embarks on a career with the Royal Australian Navy.



Charlotte Mauviel is South Australia’s Student Citizen of the Year for 2020 (image supplied by Temple Christian College).

## 2020 STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

In keeping with the aim of the Association to raise awareness about the Order of Australia, each school/college was encouraged to invite a member of the Association to attend a suitable end-of-year graduation or valedictory assembly. Fortunately, some were able to do this before another COVID lock-down was imposed. In most cases however, the awards and certificates were delivered to the school to either be posted out or presented in a live-streamed award ceremony with minimal invited guests in attendance.

Paul Rosenzweig OAM, who was to have presented a “Highly Commended” certificate to Fatima Shah of Thebarton Senior College, instead watched Fatima receiving her award from Principal Eva Kannis-Torry in a live-streamed Year 12 Graduation Ceremony. Fatima received the award for her service as a member of the college’s Youth Reference Council, engaged with Survivors of Torture and Trauma Assistance and Rehabilitation Service (STTARS). Fatima also co-founded a women’s well-being group where women from various cultures come together for activities such as yoga, dance and group discussions. She has been a student representative on the college’s governing council since 2017 and has taken an active role in the ‘Student Voice’ peer mentoring program. Additionally, Fatima represents her community in the ‘On the Same Wave Program’ at West Beach Surf Life Saving Club.

In the same ceremony, Fatima also received the ‘Adelaide Award’ sponsored by the Federal Member for Adelaide, Mr Steve Georganas MP, awarded for her outstanding commitment to college activities, her strive for outstanding results, and attendance and participation in classes. Of note, Fatima also achieved recognition earlier last year when she was awarded the Australia Day Council of South Australia’s 2020 Award for Leadership in Languages and Cultures ‘Student Award’. Congratulations Fatima on your achievements!

To those who volunteered to make these presentations, the Student Citizenship Awards Director Mr Noel Hender OAM BEM said: *“I thank you all for making yourselves available for this important program for our young people”*.

The SA Branch is very grateful for the ongoing patronage and support of His Excellency the Governor and Mrs Le. The Chairman of the South Australia Branch of the Order of Australia Association, Mr Tony Metcalf OAM, joins with all association members in congratulating

these worthy award recipients, and thanks schools for their strong support for this initiative.



On 16 November, Student Citizenship Awards Director Mr Noel Hender OAM BEM presented a ‘Highly Commended’ certificate to Olivia Webb (image supplied by Wilderness School)



Fatima Shah of Thebarton Senior College received her Student Citizenship Award ‘Highly Commended’ certificate from Principal Eva Kannis-Torry in a live-streamed award ceremony on Friday 4 December.

## AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR 2021 AWARDS

Congratulations to Mr Russell Ebert OAM, a Respectful Relationships Advocate and member of the SA Branch, who has been named as the 2021 SA Local Hero.

The Australia Day Council of SA has said: *“Each year our nation celebrates the achievement and contribution of eminent Australians through the Australian of the Year Awards by profiling leading citizens who are role models for us all. They inspire us through their achievements and challenge us to make our own contribution to creating a better Australia”.*

The award was announced in the Australian of the Year 2021 Awards presentation ceremony on 12 October, hosted by the Australia Day Council of SA.

Russell is the only player to have won four Magarey Medals, awarded to the best and fairest player in the South Australian National Football League (SANFL). He was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the 1984 Australia Day Honours List, *“In recognition of service to the sport*

*of Australian football*”, and also received the Australian Sports Medal on 24 October 2000.

Russell Ebert is considered to be one of the Port Adelaide Football Club’s greatest players of all time. The Australia Day Council of SA notes: *“Today, Russell continues to give back to the club and the South Australian community through his leadership of the club’s Power Community Ltd (PCL) youth programs. He is particularly passionate about PCL’s Power to End Violence Against Women (PTEVAW) program, which he delivers to Year 10 students around the state”*.

PTEVAW challenges gender-based attitudes and promotes respectful relationships and an end to domestic violence. Russell is also a passionate supporter of children living with disabilities and is a fundraising ambassador for disability services organisation, Novita.



SA Branch member Mr Russell Ebert OAM has been named the 2021 SA Local Hero (image courtesy of the Australia Day Council of South Australia)

## FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Fellowship meetings for members and guests are informal, social, enjoyable luncheons. For the Fellowship gathering on Thursday 27 August, we had 13 guests attending at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club in the city and 7 participants online. Thanks to our Guest Speaker Pamela Rajkowski OAM who spoke on ‘Homes, Housing, Holidays and Philanthropy – In the steps of Elder, Barr Smith and Waite’. The speaker, new recipients, members and guests connected in conversation in a congenial and animated atmosphere.

Pamela received the OAM in the Queen’s Birthday 2008 Honours List, *“For service to the community through research into the history of the Afghan and Aboriginal cameleers in Australia”*.

The talk of the guest speaker included naming beneficiaries of the three South Australian

philanthropists (Elder, Barr Smith and Waite). Among the guests was the 2014 South Australian Scientist of the Year, Professor Anthony Thomas AC, who is the Elder Professor of Physics at Adelaide University, a position funded by Sir Thomas Elder. Professor Thomas was invited to be the guest speaker at the SA Branch Australia Day luncheon.

For our October lunch, we had 13 lunch guests and two who joined online. Our guest speaker Mr Peter Routley AM spoke on 'World Vision, other NGOs and foreign aid'. Peter shared with us his life's passion and commitment to the education, support and management of world aid in England, Papua New Guinea, Nigeria, Laos, Mali, Cambodia, Thailand and Australia.

Peter graduated from the University of Adelaide with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1959 and a Diploma in Primary Education in 1960. Peter shared with us his life's passion and commitment to the education, support and management of world aid in England, Papua New Guinea, Nigeria, Laos, Mali, Cambodia and Thailand. Peter was later Chair of the Hughes Bequest Society Committee, which manages bequests and donations to the University of Adelaide.

Peter was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday 2018 Honours List, *"For significant service to the international community through the leadership and administration of foreign aid programs"*.

The Events Sub-Committee of the SA Branch is currently planning Fellowship activities for 2021. Members can register for a Fellowship lunch by contacting Flavia; those who wish to connect by Zoom should provide their name and email address to Pamela. We hope to see you all again soon.

Flavia de Pasquale OAM, [flaviadepasquale@yahoo.com.au](mailto:flaviadepasquale@yahoo.com.au)

Pamela Rajkowski OAM, [pamraj@bigpond.com](mailto:pamraj@bigpond.com)



For the Fellowship lunch and presentation on Thursday 29 October, the Guest Speaker was Mr Peter Routley AM (centre, front).

# AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY Branch

## OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### **Patron**

Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley

### **Branch Nominated Director**

Dr Alan Morrison AM JP

### **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  
Phil Morrall AM CSC  
Andrew Phelan AM  
Coralie Wood OAM

---

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



A very happy 2021 to all Association members and their families: our fingers are crossed for a brighter year than 2020 proved to be. It has already started well, with the announcement of the Australia Day honours list. I congratulate all new recipients, and particularly look forward to meeting those who live in the ACT and region at investitures in May.

Our Branch Australia Day breakfast was well supported despite ongoing COVID concerns, with Dr Brian Walker AO providing plenty of food for thought about the idea of resilience. You can read the report on this event on the website.

Our Branch Annual General Meeting, our first under the Association's new Constitution, was also a success. I thank Andrew Phelan AM for addressing us afterwards on his work over more than a decade at the High Court of Australia.

More events are on the horizon and we do hope that Branch members and interstate visitors alike will join us to enjoy fellowship and the many other benefits of Association membership – while remaining COVID-safe, of course!

---

## HER EXCELLENCY MRS LINDA HURLEY- PATRON ACT BRANCH



Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley (nee McMartin) was born and raised in Sydney. She was educated at Kingsgrove High School and went on to become a teacher, commencing in 1976. She married David Hurley in 1977.

In the course of their married life, Mrs Hurley has supported her husband throughout his career on a wide variety of postings in Australia and overseas, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany and Malaysia.

Mrs Hurley's own career in education has been in both the public and private school systems, until her retirement from full time teaching in July 2011. She has been an active member of the community as a Pastoral Carer at the Canberra Hospital and Hospice. Mrs Hurley holds a Bachelor of Education from the University of Canberra.

Mrs Hurley has an interest in the Arts, especially music. She is passionate about singing, and showing how singing, especially in a group, can have a positive impact on individuals and the community.

Mrs Hurley is a member and was the first Patron of 'Solid Rock', a Christian Ministry to women in Defence. She has been a member of the St Andrew's Presbyterian Church choir in Canberra and is a member of the Australian Military Wives Choir.

Mrs Hurley is dedicated to championing causes that are developing new technologies to recycle rubbish, and ways to reduce our use of plastic, particularly plastic packaging and plastics used for single use items, which are not only harmful to the environment but add unnecessarily to landfill sites.

Their Excellencies have three children: Caitlin, Marcus and Amelia, and one grandchild: Charlie.

## WELCOME TO NEW RECIPIENTS

The first meetings the Branch conducted since the COVID-19 restrictions began were two COVID safe events to welcome ACT and area citizens who received honours and awards in the 2020 Australia Day and Queen's Birthday lists. These events were conducted as breakfasts at the Commonwealth Club. We were pleased to see that so many of these recipients have become members of the ACT Branch of the OAA. The Branch is grateful to the ACT Government for their support of the events to welcome new recipients.

The following recipients were welcomed at the event held on Wednesday 21 October 2020.

Note: Not all pictures are Alt-Text enabled.



*Margaret Cornwell OAM*



*Claudia Hyles OAM*



*Dr Joe Johnson CSC, OAM  
& Madeleine Johnson*



*Cathi Moore AM*



*Anna Prosser OAM*



*Adrian Rumore OAM*



*Anne Walsh OAM*



*Edmund Wheeler OAM and Sandra Wheeler*



*CAPT Shane Craig AM RAN*



*Eric Chalmers AM and Trish Chalmers*



*Dr Adele Chynoweth OAM*



*BRIG Alison Creagh AM, CSC*



*AIRCDRE Graham  
Edwards AM*



*Barbara Griffiths and  
Richard Griffiths OAM*



*Rosanna  
Kobiela-Horn OAM*



*COL Andrew McBaron AM*



*Emeritus Professor  
John O'Callaghan AM*



*Rex Packer OAM and Meryl Packer OAM*



*Dr Peter Pedersen AM*



*AIRCDRE Ken  
Robinson AM, CSC*



BRIG Isaac Seidl AM



Dr Brian Walker AO

---

## THE 2020 OAA – ADF ORATION with LIEUTENANT GENERAL GREG BILTON AO CSC - 17 NOVEMBER 2020



The 2020 Oration was delivered by the Chief of Joint Operations, Lieutenant General Greg Bilton AO, CSC. General Bilton began by explaining something of Joint Operations Command and his role. He next presented a high-level review of Australia's prevailing strategic circumstances before describing how they impact ADF operations. General Bilton spoke briefly about the high regard in which he holds the men and women of the Defence Force and concluded by touching on domestic operations such as the ADF's contributions to bushfire relief and the COVID-19 crisis. The Oration is available on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/IK9VwXeFxHA>

The ACT Branch is grateful to the Chief of the Defence Force for his continuing support of this event.

Lieutenant General Bilton was appointed an Officer in the Order of Australia in the 2020 Australia Day honours *for distinguished service in the appointments of Deputy Commanding General of the United States Army in the Pacific, Deputy Chief of Joint Operations and Commander Forces Command.*

---

## WA Branch

### BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE

Bettine Heathcote AM



The acceptance of the new Association Constitution by a huge majority is a significant achievement for the members of the working group who worked to bring this to fruition. Members of the WA Committee are well aware of the dedication to and work undertaken by Professor Robin Watts who Chaired this working group and congratulate all on this major step forward for our Association.

A major change in the new Constitution will mean officers and members of the Committee will now serve a 3-year term with the option of 2 further 3-year terms. The Western Australian Branch will be holding our Annual General Meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup> at which the new terms of office will be implemented. Transition arrangements for existing Committee members have been established and details will be included in the AGM papers.

There have been several highlights for WA members in the last quarter with the Annual Christmas Lunch held at the Fremantle Sailing Club, and opportunities for metropolitan members to join with members in the South West and Great Southern regions for their annual events. From the pictures taken at these events it is clear all were thoroughly enjoyed by those present.

The Dolphin Discovery Centre, the venue for the South West function in Bunbury, is certainly a wonderful place for all ages to visit. St John's Church in Albany was the historic setting for the special service held for the Great Southern region. Whilst not an "official" activity, a visit to the National Anzac Memorial in Albany was an extremely moving experience. Another "extracurricular" activity, which was hosted by WA Treasurer Peter Snow, and thoroughly enjoyed by those who participated, was a visit to Discovery Bay (formerly the old Whaling Station). We thank our Regional Conveners for inviting Perth members to both these events.

On behalf of the members of the Western Australian Branch of the Association I extend very best wishes to all members and express the hope that 2021 will be a much easier year for us all.

### 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:** Professor 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

[wabranch@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:wabranch@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

phone 0418 865 313

Mail: PO Box 4053 WOODLANDS WA 6018

## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2020

Western Australia has been very fortunate that in the current COVID-19 Pandemic we have been able to meet and have several of our regular meetings and functions.

The Annual Christmas Lunch was held at the Fremantle Sailing Club on Thursday 26 November at 12.00pm. The venue is delightful with good parking and lovely views over the sea and marina. The food was delicious, and 115 members and friends enjoyed the camaraderie, food, competitions and raffle.

Our National Chairman, Barry Nunn AO, again held a Christmas Quiz that kept many guessing. Once again not all the questions were answered! Barry and Margaret keep our brain cells active. There were many raffle prizes donated and a number of participants went away delighted with their prizes. Money raised from the Raffle will be used towards funding a scholarship for a Western Australian University student when the National Conference is held in Perth again.

The lunch was an excellent, positive end to a difficult year.



WA Branch Chairman, Bettine Heathcote AM, welcoming members



Fun with WA National Director Professor Robin Watts AM

## REPORT ON FUNCTIONS FROM OAAWA REGIONS

### SOUTH WEST REGION:

**The Hon Barry House AM** organised a function at The Dolphin Discovery Centre in Bunbury on the 30<sup>th</sup> October. The weather as usual in the South West Region was perfect for the visit to this new Centre, viewing the exhibits and learning so much about the underwater world.

We enjoyed a superb luncheon in the Centre hosted by the CEO David Kerr, a member of the Order. He explained how the project started, what has been achieved and what is planned for the future.

Over 50 members attended with 20 of these travelling from Perth to be with the local members and promote the South West Region.

Thank you, Barry from us all.



Bettine Heathcote AM, WA Chairman, Robin Watts AM, Hon. Barry House AM, Convenor for the South West.



A selection of those who attended

GREAT SOUTHERN REGION:

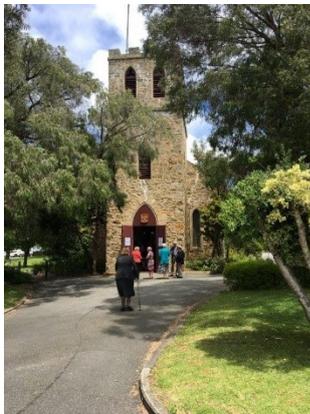
**Jan Savage OAM** organised the function in Albany on 6<sup>th</sup> December and this was a very pleasurable day with over 40 members attending, including 12 from Perth.

Due to COVID-19 our Church Service had to be held at 11.30am to cope with spacing in the Church. The Service was for the Order of Australia and as the Choir was not in attendance, their organist played for us and led us in robust singing.

The luncheon at the Motel le Grande was enjoyed by all, great food, good company and much laughter.

As usual Jan did a superb job ably assisted by her husband Barry and we all thank them most sincerely.

Margaret Nunn OAM, Regional Coordinator



St John's Church Albany



Jan Savage OAM, Convenor Great Southern Region,  
Major General Barry Nunn AO, National Chairman, and Sue Hassell

## OAAWA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OAAWA Annual General Meeting, to be followed by Brunch.

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 9am

will be held at The Bendat Community Centre 36 Dodd Street, Wembley 6014,  
attached to the Telethon Speech and Hearing Centre.

## PROFESSOR CHERYL KICKETT-TUCKER

**Professor Cheryl Kickett-Tucker** is a highly respected Traditional Owner, research academic, community development practitioner, children's fiction author and youth basketball coach. She is a proud Wadjuk Noongar Aboriginal from Western Australia with traditional ties to Ballardong and Yued peoples.

Cheryl is currently an ARC Research Fellow at Curtin University, the Founding Director of Pindi Pty Ltd- Centre for Research Excellence in Aboriginal Wellbeing and Director of Research and Community Development at Koya Aboriginal Corporation. Cheryl is an Adjunct Professor at the School of Medicine at Notre Dame University and Adjunct Professor at the Department of Human Development & Family Studies, Michigan State University (USA). Her research interests include sense of self, Aboriginal identity and self-esteem of Aboriginal children, including the development of a series of culturally appropriate instruments for racial identity and self-esteem across the lifespan. She is committed to ensuring that research is translated into real-life grass-roots resources and programs.

This year Professor Kickett-Tucker was recognised for her significant service to tertiary education and the Aboriginal community and was awarded the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours as a Member of the Order of Australia. Last year she was recognised in her community as the 2019 Australian of the Year WA Local Hero for her service to the community sports program Kaat Koort n Horizons for Aboriginal and vulnerable children and youth.

Cheryl has also competed in elite level sports as a member of the Australia National Women's Basketball League and the Western Australian State Basketball League as a player and coach for 30 years.

Cheryl's firsts include:

- First Aboriginal female player representing WA in the National Women's Basketball League

- First Aboriginal female player as a captain of the Swan City Mustangs State Basketball League Team
- First Aboriginal person in WA to receive a Roberta Sykes Scholarship to study at the University of Oregon, USA
- First Aboriginal PhD graduate of Edith Cowan University
- First Aboriginal recipient of a National Health and Medical Research Council Fellowship at Murdoch University
- First Aboriginal recipient at Curtin University to be awarded the Australian Research Council Discovery Indigenous Award and which was also the largest grant awarded in Australia worth over \$1 million.
- First recipient of a National Beyond Blue Grant for Pindi as an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation.
- Founding Director of the only Aboriginal Community owned and controlled research facility in WA, Pindi, Centre for Research Excellence in Aboriginal Wellbeing.



Professor Cheryl Kickett-Tucker with her Team