



## The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

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

### SA BRANCH NEWSLETTER, March 2021

Despite all the changes and cancellations, the SA Branch has started this year on a positive footing.

Our Australia Day lunch occurred on schedule. An important aspect of our event this year is that we presented the Top 10 Student Citizenship Awards for 2020 in a short ceremony, attended by the Governor, prior to the lunch.

Some students and their families remained and joined us for lunch. I am very pleased that the 2020 Student Citizen of the Year was one of those.

Our 2020 AGM was also very successful, and our new committee is noted elsewhere in this newsletter. Many thanks to our speaker, Rob Wight OAM, for his interesting talk about his time in Papua.

A big thank you to our Committee members and associates who worked very hard throughout 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 also like to thank all members for their support throughout 2020, and I look forward to catching up when things get back to some kind of normal.

For general enquiries and RSVPs for functions, unless otherwise noted, the committee can be contacted via the following generic email address:

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

OR

- by snail mail: c/- PO Box 1065, Clearview SA 5085

OR

- ring me on my mobile: 0412 774 122.

Stay Safe

Tony Metcalf OAM  
SA Branch Chair

### THE SA BRANCH IS ONLINE

General information about the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association can be found here:

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

All of our recent Newsletters and Reply Forms are also available on the OAA website:

<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/newsletter/>

The Student Citizenship Awards program is the flagship enterprise of the SA Branch. See more here:

<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/school-awards/>

Our upcoming events may be found here:

<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/upcoming-events/>

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Friday 26 March:** SA Branch Carrick Hill Excursion – see Reply Form attached. Please RSVP by 19 March. *The maximum group size is 30 – but there are still spaces available.*

**Sunday 28 March:** Riverland and Mallee Regional Group social gathering in the Loxton RSL, Anzac Crescent, Loxton commencing at 2.00 pm. Afternoon tea will be provided at \$7 per person. RSVP to Tim Grieger OAM JP by 15 March.

**Thursday 29 April:** Fellowship luncheon at the Naval, Military & Air Force Club with speaker Dr Robert Black AM RFD – “John McCrae and the Great War Poets”.

### ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION, South Australia Branch

PO Box 1065, CLEARVIEW SA 5085 || 0412 774 122 || [orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com](mailto:orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com)

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## The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



### 2020 STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Our Patron, His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia, was our guest of honour at a Student Citizenship Award presentation ceremony held on Saturday 23 January. The SA Branch is very grateful for the ongoing patronage and support of His Excellency and Mrs Le.



### AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON

SA Branch members with Guest Speaker Professor Thomas at our annual Australia Day Luncheon on 23 January (left to right): Miss Pamela Rajkowski OAM; Mr Peter Routley AM; Dr Joan Thomas and Professor Anthony Thomas AC; Mr Noel Hender OAM BEM; Chairman Mr Tony Metcalf OAM; Mr Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP.



## The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Saturday 13 February 2021**

The SA Branch held its 35<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting on 13 February in the Fullarton Room at the Arkaba Hotel, with a COVIDSafe Morning Tea preceding the meeting.

We congratulate the following members who will form the SA Branch Committee for 2021:

*Chairman:*

Mr Tony Metcalf OAM

*Secretary:*

Under negotiation

*Treasurer:*

Professor John McKellar AM ED

*Committee members:*

Ms Kathryn House AM

Ms Flavia de Pasquale OAM

Mr Greg Gordon OAM JP

Mr Noel Hender OAM BEM

Mr John Phillips OAM

Miss Pamela Rajkowski OAM

Mr Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP

*National Director:*

Professor John McKellar AM ED

Under the governance provisions of the national Constitution approved on 17 December 2020, a nomination was effectively not required for the position of National Director – and Professor John McKellar in fact has two further years to serve.

The Branch committee has asked that he continue to serve, and his agreement to do so has been recorded in the SA Branch Committee Minutes.

The new national Constitution also introduced three year terms for committee members. The incumbent members (as of the date of the AGM) who have nominated may serve for a further two years.

In effect then, there was only one 'new' nomination, and we welcome Ms Kathryn House AM to the Branch Committee, filling a casual vacancy created by the retirement of Ken Coventry OAM.

The Chairman and Branch Committee members thank Ken for his valuable contributions over many years. Ken has agreed to continue as a co-opted member, to manage the Regional Groups.

Mr Paul Thomas AM has continued as our Secretary since the 2020 AGM, having kindly agreed to fulfill the role as a co-opted member until a replacement was found.

We also express our thanks to outgoing committee members Martin FitzPatrick OAM, Brian Holecek OAM and Gillian Rogers OAM for their valuable contributions.

Specific portfolio roles for committee members will be determined at the next Branch Committee meeting.

Our guest speaker at the AGM was Dr Rob Wight OAM, a senior lecturer in primary care at Flinders University. Rob spent several years with his wife Elise and daughter Karen working amongst the Dani community in North Baliem in the mountains of West Papua. Whilst there, they delivered their second daughter Olivia. Rob ran the Pit River Hospital, teaching and training indigenous medical workers from ten outlying communities.



The SA Branch welcomed 40 members and guests to our 35<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, held at the Arkaba Hotel in a COVIDSafe environment.

## The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



**Dr ROB WIGHT OAM**

The guest speaker at our 35<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting was Dr Rob Wight OAM. Rob was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the 2019 Australia Day Honours List, *"For service to medicine through a range of roles"*. Rob also has a passion for music which often sees him invited to perform, and he has done this for us previously.

Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM said: *"Rob's talk was an interesting insight into the issues and challenges of Australian foreign aid delivery many years in the past. The two detailed examples he gave were an excellent description of how resourceful people had to be and the conditions under which they had to work. His experiences with their religious beliefs were a testament to the work being done by missionaries at the time. It was a very interesting presentation"*.

### **SARAH FLEMING** Seymour College

Some of our members were fortunate to be able to attend an end-of-year graduation or valedictory assembly just before another lock-down was imposed in December last year.

Ms Kathryn House AM represented the Order of Australia Association on Thursday 19 November, presenting a 2020 Student Citizenship Awards 'Highly Commended' certificate to Sarah Fleming of Seymour College. Congratulations Sarah!





## The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



**SILAS HANSCH-MAYER**  
**St Ignatius Senior College**

SA Branch committee member John Phillips OAM is a panel member of the Student Citizenship Awards Assessment and Selection Panel. On Friday 12 February 2021, he attended an Awards Assembly at St Ignatius' Senior College Athelstone. John is pictured here with 2020 Student Citizenship Award recipient Silas Hansch-Mayer, holding his 'Highly Commended' certificate, together with Principal Mr Peter Coffey.

John said, *"In short it was inspirational, and the addresses by respective students (Silas and Felix) made me wish I had advice as per the presentations this morning some 55 years ago".*



The Student Citizenship Awards program is the flagship endeavour of the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association.

These awards are intended to recognise those senior students who actively engage with and contribute to school and/or local communities rather than for specific academic or sporting achievements. The Awards exemplify the Association's objective: *"To celebrate and promote outstanding Australian citizenship"*.

Students judged worthy of recognition have received a 'Highly Commended' certificate signed by His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia, and Patron of the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association. The citation for Silas Hansch-Mayer reads:

*Silas shows significant leadership ability as a College Captain. He is recognised for his reliability, loyalty, friendly nature and his communication skills. His helpful interest in the difficulties which confront members of the LGBTIQ+ community is commendable. He is a gifted young man – competent in the skills which he needs as a Senior Leader, with attitudes and behaviour that demonstrate genuine citizenship.*



## The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



### ROSABEL MUCHENJE

#### Kildare College

Noel Hender OAM BEM, Convenor of the SA Branch Student Citizenship Awards program, attended an Awards Assembly at Kildare College in Holden Hill on 9 February.

Noel is pictured here with Principal Tina Neate and 2020 Student Citizenship Award recipient Rosabel Muchenje, holding her 'Highly Commended' certificate. Rosabel's citation reads:

*Rosabel has demonstrated leadership and influence particularly through her Peer Support role and her nurturing disposition towards fellow students. She is an active participant on the Student Leadership Team and is to be commended for her strong stand in working with students who are in need and by ensuring that all students are treated fairly and equally.*

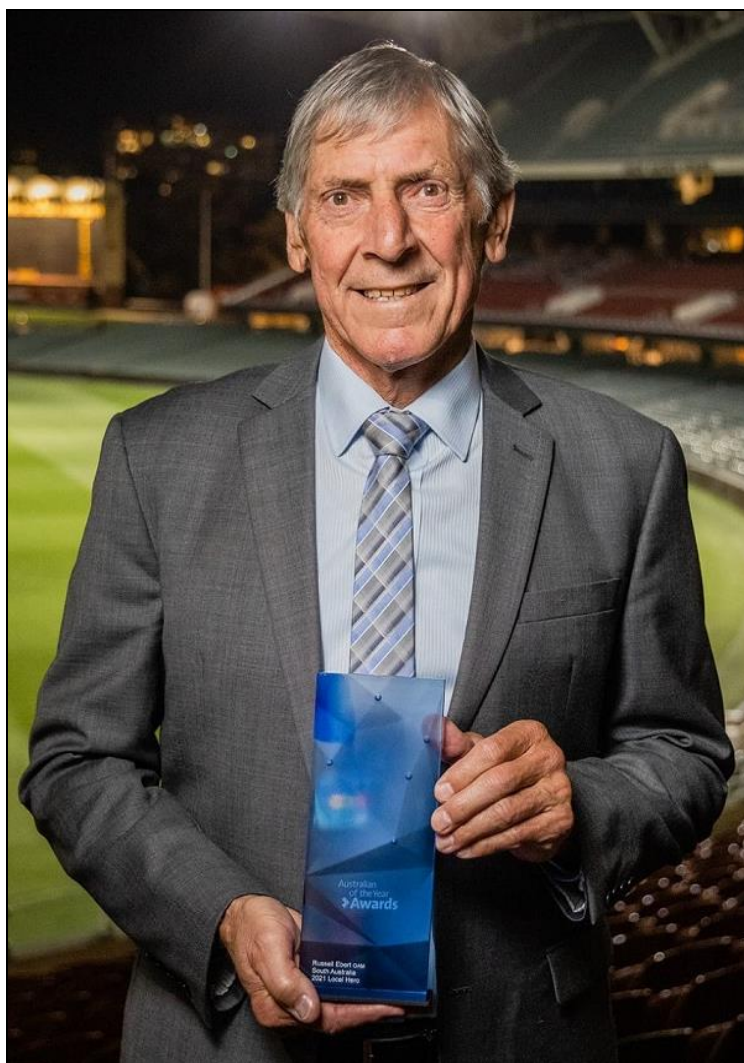
### AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS, 2021

In our November newsletter we announced that SA Branch member Russell Ebert OAM, a Respectful Relationships Advocate and four-time Magarey Medal winner, had been named by the Australia Day Council of SA as the 2021 SA Local Hero.

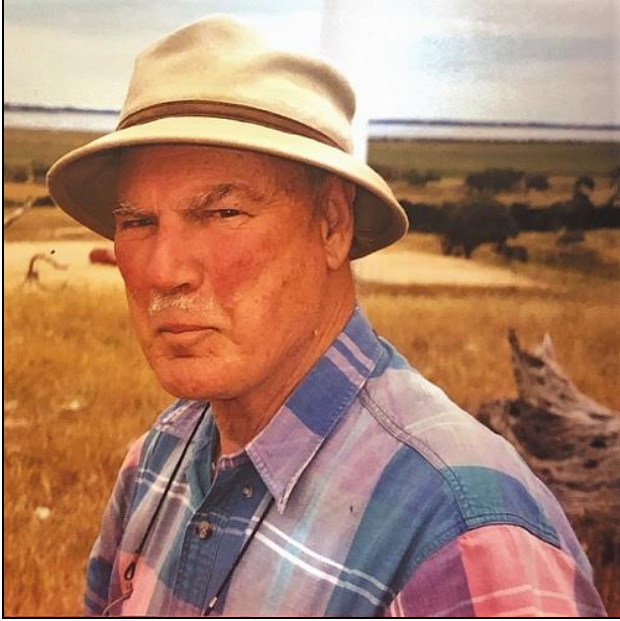
The Australia Day Council of SA noted: *"Today, Russell continues to give back to the club and the South Australian community through his leadership of the club's Power Community Ltd (PCL) youth programs. He is particularly passionate about PCL's Power to End Violence Against Women (PTEVAW) program, which he delivers to Year 10 students around the state".*

Earlier this year our state Australian of the Year recipients travelled to Canberra for the national award ceremony on the eve of Australia Day – in which Isobel Marshall (the SA Young Australian of the Year) was announced as the national Young Australian of the Year.

Unfortunately Russell was in hospital and was unable to attend the ceremony. The Australia Day Council of SA has advised that Russell has asked that the best way to support him is to donate blood or to become a blood stem cell donor.



## The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



**VALE: Rowley Charles Miller OAM  
(1924-2020)**

We have been notified by the family of the passing of Mr Charlie Miller OAM on 23 September 2020, and wish to record our appreciation of the real and lasting contribution he made to his community.

As indicated by the attendance at his memorial service, he will be missed by the town as a generous and decent person who loved nothing more than good company and the opportunity to assist others.

Charlie Miller was born in Kew, Melbourne on 18 May 1924, but in his early childhood the family moved to St Kilda as his mother was taken ill. As the depression took its toll on his father's business, the family moved to Mount Gambier.

Over the years, Charlie became more and more well known in the Mount Gambier and district community, in part because of his history as a pilot in the RAAF during WW2. He had enlisted in Adelaide on 9 July 1942, and took discharge on 16 April 1946, holding the final rank of Warrant Officer.

However his contribution to Mount Gambier was substantially more than just his WW2 reputation. From quite early on his business career involved supplying bread products to the district. He involved himself in town affairs, seeking to enhance the economic and cultural opportunities for its citizens.

He was also active in service clubs and also within the Mount Gambier High School Council long after his own sons had left the school (a Charlie Miller wing/building honours his contribution).

Following the early death of his wife, he devoted more time to supporting the community. Among the numerous organisations he supported were the Mount Gambier RSL (including a term as President), Rostrum, Legacy, the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, and the Ryder Cheshire scheme providing housing for disadvantaged persons.

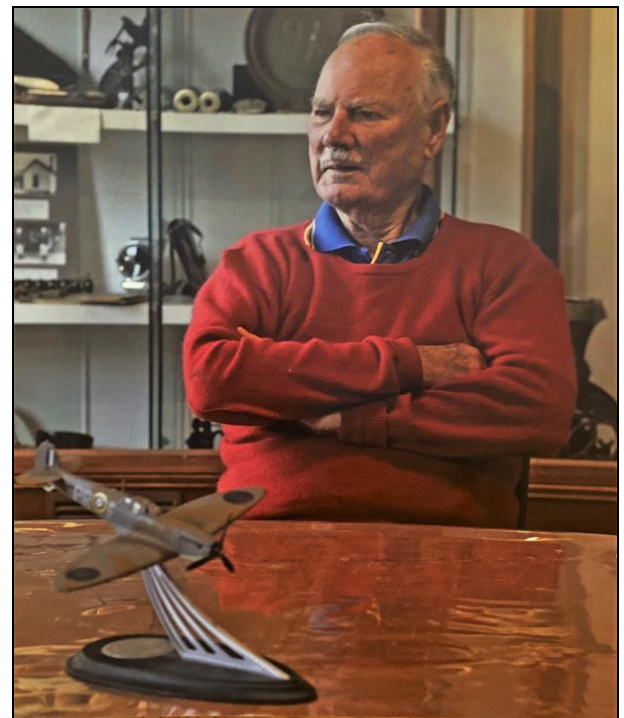
His son Tony noted: *"His support also extended to a regime of generous financial support to many charities. Dad was driven by a sense of fairness and equity, always alert to those in need rather than his own needs, and his Order of Australia was a complete surprise, while nonetheless appreciated"*.

Charlie received the OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours List of 13 June 2005, *"For service to the community of Mount Gambier through a range of ex-Service, commerce, welfare and cultural organisations"*.

Of note, Charlie was our Regional Coordinator for the South East (before the term of the late Barbara Lees-Margiotta OAM). Until his health got the better of him, he always attended the Student Citizenship Awards functions at Government House, and attended other Branch activities.

We paused for a Minute's Silence in the South East Regional Group annual meeting on 26 February to recall Charlie's many contributions.

Lest we Forget





## The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



The Reverend Brenton Daulby OAM OSTJ JP, officiating at an Order of St John investiture ceremony at Government House Adelaide on 15 June 2018.

### ST JOHN AMBULANCE SA Service Medal of the Order of St John

On Monday 14 December, St John Ambulance SA held a special award ceremony for members of State Staff, Metro East and Metro South Regions to acknowledge the great contribution of St John volunteers to the community. One of the members acknowledged was the Reverend Brenton James Daulby OAM OSTJ JP.

Brenton was awarded the Service Medal of the Order of St John recognising 10 years' service.

Brenton was previously a Police Officer (1971-84) and later Police Chaplain for many years, and served as a Chaplain in the RAAF from 1988 to 1996.

Brenton was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division in the Australia Day Honours List of 26 January 2007, *"For service to the community through chaplaincy roles supporting serving and retired police and defence force personnel"*.

Brenton is currently the State Chaplain for St John Ambulance SA.

Earlier, as the parish priest at St Augustine's Anglican Church (2001-07) he supported St John through his active participation in annual church services. He was admitted to the Order of St John at the grade of Officer (OSTJ) in 2016.

Congratulations Brenton!

### ST JOHN AMBULANCE SA Ultra-Long Service Medal

On 10 January, the new Ultra-Long Service Medal of the Order of St John was presented to Mr Cliff Wright OAM CSTJ JP in a family ceremony. The presentation was conducted by Mrs Lyn Dansie AM DSTJ, Mr Noel Hender OAM CSTJ BEM and Mr Ray Greig OAM KStJ SJ JP.

Cliff has been a St John Ambulance volunteer since 1952, providing more than 17,000 hours of service. He was Divisional Superintendent of Adelaide Motor Cycle Division (1976-85), Corps Staff Officer (1985-96), District Staff Officer (1996-00) and State Staff Officer from 2000.

He is a long-serving member of the St John Ambulance Historical Society of South Australia (since 1998), and served as Deputy Chairman from December 2007 to December 2020.

Cliff was a National Serviceman (intake of 16 August 1955, aged 19), and for this service later received the Australian Defence Medal and the Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972 Medal.

Cliff has been a Justice of the Peace for South Australia for more than 40 years. He was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the General Division in the Queen's Birthday Honours List of 9 June 2014, *"For service to the community of South Australia"*. Congratulations Cliff!



Cliff Wright OAM CSTJ JP has been awarded the Ultra-Long Service Medal with two Service Bars, representing 60 years' service.



## The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



For more information visit our website: <https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/about-us/>

### Do you have email?

Did you know, if you opt to receive this newsletter via email rather than through the post, you will save the Branch \$3 for each newsletter not posted.

We will continue to post the newsletter to you if that is what you wish. But if you have an email address that you would like us to use, could you please advise the SA Branch Member Secretary Mr Greg Gordon OAM JP:

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

### REGIONAL GROUPS

#### **Regional Groups**

Convenor: Ken Coventry OAM  
[orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com](mailto:orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com)

#### **Fleurieu Regional Group**

Meets on the first Friday in May and November.

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

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

Meets annually in February.

Convenor: Mr Eric Roughana AM  
Mobile: 0408 817 260  
[roseric1@bigpond.com](mailto:roseric1@bigpond.com)

#### **Barossa Regional Group**

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

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

### The Order

In addition to the standing Branch contributions, personal contributions, 'Letters to the Editor', advertisements etc may be submitted by any financial member of the Association.

Items may be sent by post, as per details given in *The Order*, or by email to the Editor. Please note that the Editor of *The Order* has a new specific email address:

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

### REGIONAL GROUPS

#### **Riverland and Mallee Regional Group**

Meets socially twice a year, in March/April and September/October. The first meeting for 2021 is proposed for April (details to follow).

The Riverland and Mallee Group area includes the Mallee areas of Lameroo, Pinnaroo and Karoonda, and down river to Swan Reach.

Convenor: Mr Tim Grieger OAM JP  
Mobile: 0409 099 122  
[tgrieger@riverland.net.au](mailto:tgrieger@riverland.net.au)

### Newsletter contributions

Please submit any articles of interest, photographs, news snippets or event notices to the Editor:

Major Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP (ret'd)  
PO Box 5, SMITHFIELD SA 5114 **or**  
[orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com](mailto:orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com)



**REPLY FORM – SA Branch Carrick Hill Excursion** – a day trip for members and guests to Carrick Hill Mansion on Friday 26 March 2021. Dress is smart casual. The cost is \$15 per person. The maximum group size is 30, so the first replies received will be accepted.

*Carrick Hill Mansion has been restored during its closure in 2020. The building now includes in its magnificent interior a new top floor art gallery, an interior lift and wheelchair access at the entrance. There is a magnificent panoramic view of Adelaide from the café. See more here: <https://www.carrickhill.sa.gov.au/>*

Arrive in the car park at 9.45 am, for a 10.00 start at the main entrance. The tour goes for about an hour.

Morning Tea or lunch is available at your own expense, under cover in a relaxed atmosphere.

***Please forward this reply form (with payment) to:***

SA Branch Treasurer Professor John McKellar AM ED: [jmck1279@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jmck1279@bigpond.net.au)

or send by post to: PO Box 1065, CLEARVIEW SA 5085

to be received not later than **Friday 19 March 2021**

Make your cheque or money order payable to “SA Branch, Order of Australia Association”

If preferred, payment can be made by EFT:

Account Name – ‘Order of Australia Association’

BSB 105-900 // Account no 147028640 (Bank SA)

Please use the code ‘CHE-21 + your surname’.

Name: [please print] ..... [post nominal/s] .....

Email or Address: .....

..... Phone Contact: .....

I will be accompanied by [please print name/s]

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***Your support for the SA Branch is greatly appreciated***

**ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION, South Australia Branch**

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