



The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

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

SA BRANCH NEWSLETTER, April 2021

So far this year, we have successfully hosted a Student Citizenship Awards presentation ceremony and our annual Australia Day lunch in January, our Annual General Meeting and a Fellowship luncheon in February, and a social outing to historic Carrick Hill Mansion with very good attendance.

Our regional groups are becoming active again, and we have also just launched our Student Citizenship Awards program for 2021.

I would ask that you note in your diary that the national Annual General Meeting will be held online on Saturday 8 May.

You will find a Reply Form attached with this newsletter for the Dolphin Explorer Cruise on Wednesday 12 May which should be a great event.

Our Queen's Birthday Luncheon is on schedule, with a confirmed date of Saturday 12 June. It is important that you register with the Reply Form attached if you wish to attend, so that we can comply with the ongoing COVID regulations.

Now that we are gaining new members and holding functions again, you might like to consider ordering a professional-looking name badge. An order form is attached with this newsletter.

Finally, to help us keep administrative costs down (which lets us put more funds towards subsidising social events) we would appreciate it if you could opt to receive this newsletter via email rather than through the post.

If you have an email address that we could use, could you please advise our Member Secretary Mr Greg Gordon OAM JP:

oaasambrsec@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Stay Safe

Tony Metcalf OAM
SA Branch Chair

INVITATION



QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCH Saturday 12 June 2021

All members are invited to attend our Queen's Birthday Lunch on Saturday 12 June. The Guest Speaker will be Dr Duncan McKellar BMBS FRANZCP.

Full-size medals should be worn.

Venue: The Fullarton Room at the Arkaba Hotel,
150 Glen Osmond Road, Fullarton

If you wish to attend please register with the Reply Form so we can comply with COVID regulations.

RSVP by Friday 21 May 2021

See Reply Form with further details attached

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday 18 April: Proposed gathering in Maitland to consider forming a Regional Group in the Copper Coast and Yorke Peninsula area.

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".

Friday 7 May: Fleurieu Regional Group meeting and luncheon (date and details tbc).

Saturday 8 May: 35th Annual General Meeting (National) to be conducted online.

Wednesday 12 May: Dolphin Cruise with lunch;
See Reply Form with further details attached

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION, South Australia Branch

PO Box 1065, CLEARVIEW SA 5085 || 0412 774 122 || orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com

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

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VALE

Vilmos Milisits OAM (1948-2021)

SA Branch member and legendary Adelaide baker Vilmos 'Vili' Milisits OAM died in Sydney on 26 March following a lung transplant, aged 72.

Vili came to Adelaide as a refugee from Hungary in 1956, and ultimately he and his wife Rosemary came to run a business that has become a South Australian icon.

Vili and Rosemary were both awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours List of 2005, *"For service to the food industry, and to the community through support for a range of charitable organisations"*.

The SA Branch Chairman, Tony Metcalf OAM, gave this message of condolence:

"Vili has supported the SA Branch with enthusiasm and contributions since 2005 when he and Rosemary were awarded their individual Medals of the Order of Australia".

On behalf of all members and friends of the South Australia Branch, the Chairman and Branch Committee members wish to extend our deepest condolences to Rosemary, Simon and Alison for their very sad and tragic loss.

"Vili will be remembered with deep affection".



FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON Thursday 25 February 2021

Members and guests at the SA Branch Fellowship luncheon meeting for February, held at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club (left to right): Professor John McKellar AM ED (National Director for SA); Ms Flavia de Pasquale OAM, Mrs Gillian Rogers OAM (guest speaker); Mrs Elizabeth Rogers OAM; Mr John Carrangis OAM; Mrs Glenys Jones OAM; Mrs Jill Hender; Mr Peter Routley AM and Mr Noel Hender OAM BEM (Deputy Chairman SA Branch). Pamela Rajkowski OAM also attended.

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Mrs GILLIAN ROGERS OAM

The guest speaker at the February Fellowship luncheon meeting was Gillian Rogers OAM, who spoke about various aspects of her life and her community service. Gillian was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the 1994 Australia Day Honours List, *“For service to youth with intellectual disabilities, particularly through the Get Together Club”*.

While she was a teacher, Gillian also taught at the Minda Home as a volunteer, and then at the Kensington Centre with senior students aged from 15 to 20 years of age.



Gillian said: *“I started the Get Together Club through my awareness of students who lived at home with amazing families, but who had little interaction with their peers outside of school”*.

The club evolved into social activities, with monthly craft, cooking and disco events. Two netball teams were established, a turf cricket team, and an indoor soccer team, providing more opportunities for *“marvellous young people”*.

Gillian received the insignia of her OAM from Her Excellency the Governor Dame Roma Mitchell at Government House Adelaide in 1994 (pictured left).

Dame Roma Mitchell AC DBE CVO QC (1913-2000) was the 31st Governor of South Australia, from 6 February 1991 to 21 July 1996, serving through the terms of three Premiers.

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SOUTH EAST REGIONAL GROUP

Friday 26 February 2021

The South East Regional Group recently held its annual meeting and luncheon at the Mount Gambier Community RSL on 26 February. The SA Branch Chair Tony Metcalf OAM and Cheryl Metcalf, and Ken Coventry OAM JP (SA Branch Regional Groups Coordinator) and Di Coventry attended the event. A total of 39 members and guests were present.

The guest speaker was Mr Tony Hutchison AM, who gave a review of his life – “From Sheep to Space”.

A long-time resident of Kingston SE, Tony was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the 2020 Queen’s Birthday Honours List, “*For significant service to amateur radio, particularly to satellite and space communication*”.

Tony was recognised for his 20 year involvement with the South East Radio Group of ARISS (Amateur Radio in the South East of South Australia and Far West Victoria) and with NASA. To NASA personnel and astronauts, Tony is known as ‘VK5ZAI’.



Left to right: Ken Coventry OAM (Regional Groups Coordinator); Eric Roughana AM (Convenor, South East Regional Group); Tony Hutchison AM (Guest Speaker); and Tony Metcalf OAM (SA Branch Chair).



Left to right: John D’Souza OAM, Allan Dowdell OAM, Jim Galpin OAM and Barbara Dowdell looking over the photographic display provided by Tony Hutchison AM. Tony’s long association with NASA, in excess of 30 years, has led NASA to describe the 80 year old radio buff as “a part of the astronaut family”.

Tony has dedicated years of commitment to amateur radio space communication. In this time, he has done much to promote Amateur Radio to many young people who had their first experience with Amateur Radio during his many school ARISS contacts to the International Space Station.

A Minute’s Silence was given to reflect on the many community contributions of Rowley Charles ‘Charlie’ Miller OAM (1924-2020). A biographical profile was included in the March newsletter.

The South East Regional Group has decided to meet in Mount Gambier biannually, and to meet on the alternate years at Naracoorte and Millicent respectively.

RIVERLAND AND MALLEE REGIONAL GROUP

Sunday 28 March 2021

The group has made a subtle but significant change to its title, and this has been noted by the SA Branch committee.

Members, partners and guests met for afternoon tea on 28 March at the Loxton RSL. The Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM conducted a short interview with three members, to allow members of the group to learn what each person has done in their life and what led to their award.

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PROPOSED NEW REGIONAL GROUPS

Copper Coast and Yorke Peninsula Sunday 18 April 2021

A meeting is planned to be held in Maitland (venue to be confirmed) on 18 April to consider the creation of a new group for the Copper Coast and Yorke Peninsula area. The meeting will be co-hosted by former State Branch Chair Elaine Bussenschutt OAM (Kadina) and Maree Anderson OAM (Minlaton).

Barossa, Gawler & District and mid-North Monday 26 July

A meeting will be held in Nuriootpa on 26 July to explore the possibility of creating a larger regional group from the existing groups. There is interest in having a combined group to serve the Barossa, Gawler & District and mid-North areas.

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM 2021

Fellowship luncheons for 2021 have been prepared by the Events Sub-Committee of the SA Branch.

These lunches are held at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club at 111 Hutt Street in Adelaide on the last Thursday of every second month.

For more information about the Fellowship luncheon meetings, or to express an interest in being a speaker, please contact:

Flavia de Pasquale OAM
0438 873 025
deflavia750@gmail.com

Pamela Rajkowski OAM
0400 810 196
pamraj@bigpond.com

ZAHRA BAYANI: “Nothing in this world is impossible”

At the beginning of 2019, Zahra Bayani was a recipient of an Order of Australia Association Student Citizenship Awards ‘Highly Commended’ certificate. This award recognised her outstanding citizenship and leadership at Thebarton Senior College and in support of numerous community charities.

At the beginning of 2020, Zahra was announced as the recipient of the Australia Day Council of South Australia’s 2020 Leadership in Languages and Culture Award. Her citation stated: *“Zahra Bayani is passionate about motivating and empowering youth, which she hopes to inspire to follow their dreams and reach their full potential, by sharing her own life experiences . . . She is grateful for the opportunities and hopes to inspire other disadvantaged youth to integrate well into the Australian society and enrich this beautiful country”*.

Zahra is proficient in Dari, Hazaragi, Persian and English. She is a volunteer with organisations such as the Australian Red Cross, St John Ambulance, Rotary International, the Rotary Youth Leadership Award, the Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment and the Global Peace Rotaract Club. She also volunteers with the Australian Migration Resource Centre, and is an Ambassador for Australian Migration Museum.




And then in January this year, Zahra Bayani was announced as one of the City of Salisbury’s 2021 Australia Day Citizen of the Year Award recipients. Each of the recipients has contributed greatly to the Salisbury community in many different ways.

Regarding the announcement, Zahra said, *“I had the honour and privilege of accepting the Young Citizen of the Year Award from City of Salisbury. It certainly is a proud and humbling experience for me and my family”*.

She said: *“To those reading this, dream big but be willing to work hard and smart to achieve them because nothing in this world is impossible if you put your heart and soul into it”*.

Image by Heidi Wolff Photography, courtesy of City of Salisbury, used with permission

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STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS
THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION SA BRANCH

INFORMATION FOR SCHOOLS 2021

Nominations are now invited for the 2021 Student Citizenship Awards.

Each school or college is entitled to nominate one or two students from Years 11 and/or 12 who satisfy the criteria listed in the following pages for these prestigious awards.

The awards are intended to recognise those senior students who actively engage with and contribute to school and/or local communities. The Awards exemplify the Association's objective:

to celebrate and promote outstanding Australian citizenship

All nominations are considered by an adjudication panel and those students judged worthy of recognition will receive a **Highly Commended** or **With Distinction** certificate signed by His Excellency the Governor and Patron of the S.A. Branch of the Association.

The ten students judged most worthy will each be invited to receive a special plaque at a reception to be hosted by His Excellency The Governor, usually at Government House.

At this ceremony, the 2021 Student Citizen of the Year will be announced and presented with a special trophy.

2021 STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

The SA Branch has announced its Student Citizenship Awards program for 2021.

A new professional brochure has been published to promote the Awards program to schools and colleges.

This brochure includes images from the 2020 awards presentation ceremony which was held in January this year.

In addition, the text has been adjusted to reflect the Association's new purpose statement which was adopted in the national Constitution which was approved on 17 December 2020:

To celebrate and promote outstanding
Australian
citizenship

The Convenor of the awards program, Mr Noel Hender OAM BEM, said: *"We have also rationalised the selection criteria to four to simplify the submission process for schools"*.

The 2021 brochure is available online:

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

SA BRANCH COMMITTEE

Portfolio holders for 2021

At the first SA Branch committee meeting following the 35th Annual General Meeting on 13 February, the committee formalised its portfolio holders for 2021.

Apart from the statutory positions, the new or continuing appointments are as follows:

Deputy Chairman:
Noel Hender OAM BEM

Member Secretary SA:
Greg Gordon OAM JP
oaasambrsec@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Convenor, Student Citizenship Awards
Noel Hender OAM BEM
sca.sabranch@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Chair, Events Sub-committee:
John McKellar AM ED

Editor/Webmaster:
Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP

Regional Groups Coordinator:
Ken Coventry OAM JP (co-opted)

Merchandise Officer:
June Genders OAM (co-opted)

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

orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

NEW MEMBERS, SA Branch

The Chairman, Branch Committee members and members of the SA Branch welcome the following new members of the Order of Australia Association:

Anne Burgess AM
Bruce McFarlane AM
Patricia White AM
Jill Argent OAM
Timothy Bourne OAM
Kym Callaghan OAM
Jeanette Elliott OAM
Stephen Gilbert OAM
Merilyn Kuchel OAM
Nadia Moffatt OAM
Janice Reu OAM
Robert Sloane OAM
Margaret Wortley OAM

The Branch Committee is currently considering how to effectively hold a Welcome Reception for these and other new recipients. These receptions allow recipients to celebrate their achievements with friends and family, and allow the opportunity to meet other members of the Association. In the meantime, you are assured of a warm welcome to our activities should you wish to attend.

ANZAC DAY DURING SOCIAL DISTANCING Sunday 25 April 2021

At this time, it is important to reflect on the service, achievements and sacrifice of our forebears. Anzac Day activities throughout SA are again impacted, with many cancelled or reduced in scope.

But there are still ways for us to pay our respects. All that is needed is for each of us to make some personal act of reverent reflection – which might be based around a candle, a photograph or a poppy.

Or you could consider using an appropriate social media platform to pay respect, either to a particular family member or a veteran from your local district.

We will still remember them
Lest we Forget



Air Force Cadets Alana and Charlotte were wreathlayers at a 2019 Anzac Day Dawn Service.

REVERENT REFLECTION

Alana, aged 15 and recently promoted to Cadet Corporal, reflected on why commemorating Anzac Day is important to her, drawing the connection from 1915 to events six decades later:

“The spirit of Anzac Day lives in the hearts and minds of all Australians, acknowledging the courage and sacrifice of those who contributed so much in shaping the identity of our proud nation. The soldiers known as the Anzacs and the pride they took in that name continues to this day. We not only remember but commemorate all Australians and New Zealanders, who served and died in all wars, all conflicts, and all peacekeeping operations”.

“Between 1955 and 1975, my grandparents and great-grandparents lived through a lot of their childhood and teenage years in the Vietnam wars, serving and fighting for their country, for their rights, and for their people. Afterwards, we started a new peaceful life in our beautiful country, Australia”.

“To me, Anzac Day is not just about loss. It is about endurance, duty, having courage, mateship, the love of a country and the self-worth and decency in the face of dreadful odds. It is a time for my family and I to honour those who served with great respect, honouring their sacrifices, throughout all wars across the nation”.

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

REGIONAL GROUPS

Regional Groups

Convenor: Ken Coventry OAM JP
orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com

Fleurieu Regional Group

Meets on the first Friday in May and November.

Convenor: Vacant

orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com

South East Regional Group

Meets annually in February: in Mount Gambier biannually, and at Naracoorte and Millicent respectively on the alternate years.

Convenor: Mr Eric Roughana AM

Mobile: 0408 817 260

roseric1@bigpond.com

Barossa Regional Group

Gawler and District Regional Group

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

REGIONAL GROUPS

Riverland and Mallee Regional Group

Meets socially twice a year, in March/April and September/October.

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

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



REPLY FORM – SA Branch Port River Dolphin Explorer Cruise, Wednesday 12 May – a two-hour boat trip from Port Adelaide to the Dolphin Sanctuary and return, including a two-course lunch. The cost is \$32 per person.

The boat has two airconditioned decks, and a top sun deck that allows all-round viewing. Each deck has a full bar available for drinks, and all meals are freshly prepared and cooked on board and served to the table. A lift between decks and toilet facilities provides wheelchair access for passengers who need such facilities.

The Dolphin Sanctuary is located at the eastern end of the Port River: **the cruise leaves from the wharf at the end of Commercial Street.**

To comply with COVID regulations, members are required to sign in at 11.00 am, and the cruise will begin at 11.30 am.

Please forward this reply form (with payment) to:

SA Branch Treasurer, PO Box 1065, CLEARVIEW SA 5085
to be received not later than **Wednesday 5 May 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 ‘DC + your surname’ on your payment details.

Send this form completed to the Treasurer Professor John McKellar AM ED: jmck1279@bigpond.net.au

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

Email or Address:

..... Phone Contact:

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

.....

.....

.....

Dietary requirement [if any]

Your support for the SA Branch is greatly appreciated

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



REPLY FORM – SA Branch Queen’s Birthday Luncheon – in the Fullarton Room at the Arkaba Hotel, 150 Glen Osmond Road, Fullarton, Saturday 12 June 2021, 12 for 12.30pm. Cost \$65 per person for a 3 course meal (alternate drop); cash bar. Full-size medals should be worn.

The Guest Speaker will be Dr Duncan McKellar BMBS FRANZCP Cert OldAge Psych BMus(perf) (Hons) BA.

Dr McKellar has been Head of Unit, Older Persons’ Mental Health Service at the Northern Adelaide Local Health Network since May 2017. This appointment followed the release of the Oakden Report, to lead the implementation of the recommendations of the Report and a reform process in the Older Persons’ Mental Health Service.

To comply with COVID regulations, please confirm if you will be attending.

Please forward this reply form (with payment) to:

SA Branch Treasurer Professor John McKellar AM ED: jmck1279@bigpond.net.au

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

to be received not later than **Friday 21 May 2021**

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

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

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

Email or Address:

..... Phone Contact:

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

.....

.....

.....

Dietary requirement [if any]

Your support for the SA Branch is greatly appreciated

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