

# The ORDER



THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

EDITION 64 AUGUST 2021

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## CELEBRATING SERVICE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE – CANBERRA

19 TO 22 MAY 2022

HOTEL REALM



The venue for the Association's National Conference and Annual General Meeting on 19 to 22 May 2022 has been confirmed as the Hotel Realm National Circuit Barton ACT. Further details of the Conference arrangements are on Page 13.

Members and their guests are encouraged to 'save the date' and to anticipate registration being opened in February 2022.

The National Board and the ACT Branch Conference organising committee look forward to your participation in 'Celebrating Service'.



## THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION OFFICE HOLDERS

### Patron

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## THE ORDER

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## THE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

[www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

The Association website is a source of important information: it is easy, fast, up-to-date and includes:

- The Association's aims and structure.
- Membership application and renewal.
- Editing your basic membership contact details.
- National Conference
- National Committee membership and contacts.
- National publication — The Order.
- A link to each branch with current information:
  - Committee and contacts.
  - Upcoming functions.
  - Newsletter and local information.
- Frequently Asked Questions about The Order of Australia.
- Nomination process and documentation for awards.
- Merchandise

Make the website your first port of call. If you want further information please talk to your branch committee.

If you have ideas about information you would like on the website please contact your branch committee.

[www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au)



## HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL THE HONOURABLE DAVID HURLEY AC DSC (RETD)



The Order of Australia provides the people of Australia with a way to recognise and say 'thanks' to those whose efforts make our community a better place.

It is a remarkable and unique system that belongs to all of us. I believe this is the greatest strength of the system. The Order creates the opportunity for all Australians to look around their own community and identify the individuals who, regardless of their background, status or any other characteristic, make a difference.

The Order of Australia belongs to all of us and it relies on all of us to ensure that it continues to reflect, represent and celebrate the diversity and the very best of our great country. Twice a year, as I review the recommendations made to me by the Council for the Order of Australia, I am conscious that I am acting on behalf of our entire nation to recognise, thank and celebrate an individual for their service and achievement.

I am also conscious that each person on the list has a compelling story, has had an impact on those around them and, more likely than not, would never seek recognition or to be singled out. Collectively, the lists of names provides empirical evidence of who we are as a nation and cause for enormous optimism about the future.

I am very aware of what it has taken for the name of each person to reach my desk. A nomination from a peer in the community, diligent research from the Secretariat and careful consideration by the independent Council. This knowledge tells me that while the individual may not ever seek to be celebrated or that they may not see their work as other than ordinary, they very much deserve our nation's thanks.

The words on a page come to life when we host investiture ceremonies at Government House or when Linda and I have the opportunity to meet members of the Order around Australia (or, in recent times, over Zoom!).

Nominations and, therefore, awards should be a microcosm of our community. In many ways this is the case: I am continuously struck by the diversity in background and in endeavour present in any list. There are volunteers, artists, people who have made a significant contribution in an industry, academics, military personnel and sports stars and more.

However, as I have said on many occasions, there are sections of our community that have been historically underrepresented. To that end, I am prioritising increasing awareness of and engagement with the Order of Australia amongst parts of our community these parts of our community – including women, our multicultural community and Indigenous Australians. This is a priority that I hope others will share.

I would like to acknowledge the work of the Association. You are the faces of the Order and are on the ground, advocating and generating nominations. It is important work and I'm grateful for your passion and commitment and for your assistance as we raise awareness of the Order across our community.

### Patron

#### The Order of Australia Association

## NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**Barry Nunn AO**  
National Chairman



The continuing challenge of the pandemic has regrettably continued to be a major factor in the management of our personal lives, our family involvement and in our activities as members of organisations. We have much to be thankful for in living in Australia but must remain vigilant.

Australia's Federation has been seriously tested over the recent past but has shown itself capable of overcoming a once-in-a-lifetime challenge. Our Association has a remarkably similar 'federal' structure, and it too has risen to the challenge. State lockdowns have forced planned events to be curtailed, often at short notice and made more difficult maintaining contact with members.

Branches and Regional Groups have adopted innovative approaches to overcome the disruption of lockdowns and travel restrictions. Informative newsletters have been developed and interactive online meetings by Teams, Zoom and other systems have allowed the Association to remain vibrant. In some Branches, where lockdowns have been short, face-to-face meetings have still been possible. A measure of the valuable work in Branches and Regional Groups is the maintenance of Association numbers through this difficult period, with both existing members renewing and new recipients joining our ranks. Congratulations to all who have had a hand in this great outcome.

We need to ensure that we offer help and hope to those in our community who are hurting. I look forward to working with all our members to ensure that we maintain and enhance a resilient Association in a world in which COVID-19 will be with us for years to come.



## NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Heather Ridout AO**  
**National President**

Fellow Members,

I write this some 5 weeks into a seemingly endless Sydney lockdown. Around the country there are lockdowns, border closures and all manner of restrictions on all sorts of gatherings are in place. This, I know, has been very frustrating for the Association. Events constantly cancelled; plans constantly re-planned; and all communications have to be digital. For an organisation that's about collegiality, engagement and reaching out it is challenging and disappointing.

In the broader society, while wrestling down the virus has been characterised as a race, whether in lockdown, hotel quarantine or at Howard Springs, in common with many of our grounded countrymen, the challenge is to be at once able to relax into the restricted circumstances while dealing with the pressures they impose. This can be hard when you're working from home while simultaneously home schooling kids, doing endless zoom calls or just sitting on your own day after day. It's not easy to watch your income dry up, your job disappear or watch your business that was finally getting going again, being shuttered.

What has been a fantastic support for our spirits has been the Olympics. Some have referred to these Games as magical. They have provided us with moments not just of immense pleasure, but the proof that, despite all the obstacles, great potential cannot be denied. It is real and it will be fulfilled. There's not much better than seeing those who have worked so hard, and dedicated themselves so totally, fulfil their dream. There is no complacency there, just skill, commitment and perseverance. Great qualities of leadership.

There is also something wonderful about the world coming together again when we've been so deliberately separated not just nationally but personally for almost 18 months. It shows how intrinsically connected we remain and how important those connections are.

Also in common with our restricted circumstances, the Olympics have shone a light on mental health not just on physical prowess. Simone Biles and Naomi Osaka are extraordinary champions but they are also extraordinary people. They've shown that mental health is not just a matter of character and will power - they both have that in spades. Rather that it has to be developed and nurtured in the same way as physical skills and strength. These athletes have, and will continue to give, great heart to many and will hopefully drive a reboot of this dimension in sport.

May I conclude by reinforcing the need for all of us to be vaccinated. We need to do it for ourselves and for our communities. It's our pathway back to a life more normal. The complacency of the last 6 months or so needs to be replaced by a sense of great urgency. Getting the jab should be at the top of all our to do lists - and the good news in Sydney we are allowed out to get it!

Keep safe.

Heather

## EDITORIAL Phil Morrall AM, CSC – Editor

### Covid-19 Honour Roll

In January 2021, the Australian Government announced that, commencing with the Queen's Birthday 2021 Honours List, individuals recognised for their contribution, service or achievement relating to COVID-19 would feature on a dedicated COVID-19 honours roll as well as the official Australian honours database. In lauding this initiative, I can do no better than to endorse the following comment:

"The ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has challenged us in ways we could not have imagined, has been made possible by many many people ... In the midst of the challenges we have witnessed countless examples of Australians who have worked tirelessly and done extraordinary things.

As a nation we should give thanks to these people ... they deserve thanks, recognition and to be celebrated."

*His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), Governor-General of Australia*

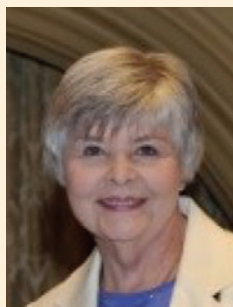
Details:

Full List - 98 entries from Queen's Birthday 2021, including Order of Australia inductees:

<https://www.gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awards/covid-19-honour-roll>

Further Biography details:

<https://honours.pmc.gov.au/honours/search?tags=COVID-19>



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**Mrs Bettine Heathcote AM**  
Branch Chairman

Plans are well in hand for a Reception to be held at the RAAFA Club for new Recipients of an award in the Queen's Birthday Honours list where we anticipate a full house. COVID restrictions have limited our numbers so, for the first time, a wait list for members has had to be established.

We are well on our way to our target of \$45,000 for the Scholarship which, it is anticipated, will be awarded at the National Conference in Perth in 2024. Donations from members, the proceeds of raffles plus the promise of funds from a Western Australian Trust Fund have raised a good proportion of the target. The Sub-committee is still working hard to raise a further amount, so member's contributions are very welcome.

We have been so fortunate in WA that we have been able to hold several events and arrangements are in place for the rest of the year. Details of all of these are contained in these pages. COVID has meant mask wearing has been necessary on several occasions, but we feel for our colleagues in other States who have experienced far more severe restrictions.

## "LET'S TALK ABOUT"

On 4.5.21 a group of 16 WA members of the OAA spent a very enjoyable morning on a tour of the Perth Mint.

Gold discoveries became a Gold Rush following a large reef found at Coolgardie. The gold ore was transferred East until the WA Government contracted with the British Royal Mint to set up a large refinery in Perth, the third branch of the Royal Mint, in 1896 – the beautiful building was opened on 20th June 1899. It had 15 coke fired furnaces refining all the gold. It remained as the Royal Mint Branch until 1970 when the State took over control, renamed it the Perth Mint, which now is a tourist attraction Museum. Refining is now at a new facility near Perth Airport with gas fired furnaces. The history of the golden nuggets was discussed with many nuggets, that have not been melted down, on display.

We were entertained with a gold pouring demonstration as a gold bar was poured and solidified – 6kg of gold 99.99% pure gold. Perth Mint refines 90% of Australian gold.

OAAWA Members and friends, all masked, waiting to enter the Mint.



## ECUMENICAL EVENSONG SERVICE 20.6.21 ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL PERTH

In inclement weather members of OAAWA attended the service at St George's Cathedral. The Choral Evensong was privileged to have The Perth Symphonic Chorus conducted by Dr Margaret Pride OAM sing the Choral Music with the Responses – Durham Use, The Canticles, Christopher Upton – Evening Canticles in D Minor, Thomas Walmsley and The Anthem – "The Lord is my shepherd," John Rutter.

The Lessons were read by Jackie Scurlock OAM and Clive Robartson AM.

The members of the Order of Australia renewed their dedication to the Order of Australia.



Members of the Perth Symphonic Chorus with conductor, Dr Margaret Pride OAM.

The sermon was delivered by retired Bishop of Perth, Right Reverend Michael Challen AM. He spoke on the Gospel Reading of the struggle between good and evil with Jesus casting out the devil from the terrifying maniac and then asked to leave by the locals with "their fear of the unknown."

He said "Our media outlets seem more ready to promote the bad news rather than the good news. They seek to further their financial interests by exploiting a quirk in human nature that although we are fascinated by the bad... It surely is a matter of great concern that the content of so much of public discourse is about bad news and human failings.... This distortion and unbalanced imaging of the human beings must be corrected by the also observable fact that so much good is done and is aspired to by members of our community, as is so apparent by the response of citizens, health professionals, politicians to the persisting threat of COVID 19 virus.

Indeed it is not arrogance on us who are members of the Order of Australia to recall that knowingly or unknowingly our sacrificial and strategic service for others and the nation have been a healthy inspiration to others and helped correct the distorted images of human nature that are so often promoted for selfish gain.

The uncomfortable fact is that all us self-centred human beings need to be lifted out of our personal obsession and be connected to others in mutual service as we are empowered by Love which is at the heart of creation."





## DR BRAD NORMAN AM



Brad Norman was honoured in the Queen's Birthday Honours in 2019.

He was honoured for his work on researching the endangered whale sharks on WA's Ningaloo Reef for over 25 years.

Dr Norman has said "They are charismatic and iconic, and I like to use these gentle giants of the ocean to inspire people to learn and care for our fragile marine environment. "

His approach has been to photograph the whale sharks underwater and he has comprised a huge data base of these animals by enlisting ordinary people worldwide. He set up the

monitoring program through the not-for-profit group ECOCEAN. Each whale shark can be identified by their distinctive patterns of spots and stripes behind the gills and above the pectoral fin. By photographs, using a pattern recognition method invented to study constellations in the night sky, each whale shark has been identified and more than 13,000 individual whale sharks have been photographed and recorded around the world in 54 countries.

Brad Norman has recently moved from the Franklin Eco-lab at the University of Queensland and is now working at the Harry Butler Institute at Murdoch University.



### THE OAAWA PROGRAM 2021

Wednesday 15 September 6.30 for 7.00pm

OAAWA Annual Dinner: Royal Perth Golf Club Labouchere Road, South Perth.

Wednesday 20 October 10am

Let's Talk About – Fleur McDonald, Author of a number of Australian Books, farmer and mother of two disabled sons: St Louis Estate, 10 Albert Street Claremont.

Wednesday 17 November 12 noon

Christmas Lunch: the Fremantle Sailing Club 151 Marine Tce, South Fremantle.

## WA BRANCH

### OFFICE-HOLDERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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#### 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

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*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  
Mrs Margaret Nunn OAM

#### Regional Liaison

Mrs Margaret Nunn OAM

#### Regional Conveners

##### South West Region

Hon Barry House AM

##### Great Southern Region

Ms Jan Savage OAM

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## NORTH AMERICAN GROUP EMERGES FROM COVID TO CELEBRATE THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

**Greg Copley AM**

The Order of Australia Association – North America Group (OAA-NAG) on June 8, 2021, resumed its activities after more than a year of COVID-19-related lockdown with a spectacular black-tie dinner at the Army & Navy Club, in Washington, DC.

The event was to honour the Official Birthday of Queen Elizabeth II of Australia. It was hosted by the Chairman of the OAA North America Group, Gregory Copley, AM, who welcomed guests. The dinner was co-hosted by Australians for Constitutional Monarchy (ACM) in the Americas.

His Excellency Ambassador Arthur Sinodinos, AO, the Honorary Vice-Patron of the Group (the Governor-General is the Patron of the OAA as a whole) and a keen supporter of the OAA's work, and Mrs (Elizabeth) Sinodinos, attended the dazzling event in the Pershing Room of the Club.

It was also fitting that the dinner was attended by MajGen. Andrew Freeman, AM, and Mrs (Jane) Freeman; the Australian Defence Attaché and Head of the Australian Defence Staff (HADS) in Washington, DC.

Messages were read to the group from OAA National Chairman MajGen. (rtd.) Barry Nunn, AO, in Perth, and ACM Convenor Prof. David Flint, AM, in Sydney.

Prof. Flint, in his message and proposal of the Loyal Toast, paid tribute to "the sheer dedication of the Queen, her selfless service to her people across the Realms and throughout the Commonwealth. Her Majesty has fulfilled her role as a check and balance according to the several constitutions of which she is sovereign as well as providing leadership beyond politics with a selfless dedication and a constancy which is remarkable."

A moving and unusual touch was a talk and a toast "to Australians and the Australian Government" from His Imperial Highness Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie, President of the Crown Council of Ethiopia and Sovereign of the Ethiopian Imperial Orders. Prince Ermias wished to thank Australia for the hospitality shown to him on his great Commemorative Tour of Australia in 2017, honoring — and re-tracing — the State Visit to Australia in 1968 by his grandfather, His Imperial Majesty Emperor Haile Selassie I. Prince Ermias had just flown back to Washington for the dinner after a visit to Rome for talks with His Holiness Pope Francis I on ways to assist the peace and development process in Ethiopia.

Significantly, Gregory Copley and Amb. Sinodinos paid tribute to the widely spread group of holders of honours in the Order of Australia in North America, for the work they do in improving US-Australian relations, and furthering the prestige and reputation of Australia.

One such US honouree at the dinner was the distinguished Prof. Jeanne M. Liedtka, OAM, who attended with her husband, Randy Salzman.

The indefatigable Wendy Hayes, OAM, who heads the Australia-America Association, and her husband, Dennis Dean, were among those OAA members at the event, along with other Australians, Americans, and Britons keen to support Her Majesty's milestone birthday.

As Gregory Copley noted: "We are thankful to be back in operation, and to resume the work of our Group, which is to represent Australia in the Americas. At the same time, we took the occasion to mourn the loss of one of our great members, former Australian Foreign Minister and Ambassador to the US, Andrew Peacock, AC, who passed away on April 16, 2021 at his home in Austin, Texas".



The guests at the Queen's Birthday Dinner.





# THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

Comments by Mr Hugh Morgan AC, Chair, at AGM



## OBJECTIVES OF THE FOUNDATION

The Order of Australia Association Foundation is supporting the next generation of leaders by helping promising young Australians to achieve their potential for the benefit of future generations of Australians.

Every year the Foundation provides scholarships with Australian universities for young students in their early years of tertiary study. The Foundation seeks donors for funding individual scholarships.

The Scholarships have two significant features. Recipients receive:

A scholarship of \$40,000 which is tailored to the Awardee's individual needs to include tuition fees, living allowance, text-books, equipment; etc. and

An introduction to a personal mentoring relationship with a volunteer mentor who has received an appointment or award in the Order of Australia and is eminent in the chosen field of study of the Awardee.

Selection of Awardees is undertaken by a partnership between The Foundation and an Australian University. The University and Faculty are nominated by the Donor. A National Selection Panel (NSP) comprising three Foundation Board members and a University Professor from the Faculty, deliberate over short-listed candidates. The successful candidate is referred to the Foundation Board for ratification.

The Foundation appoints a mentor for the new Awardee. The Awardee receives their Award at The Order of Australia Association National Conference Dinner.

## ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION WORKING TOGETHER

During the last year, there has been considerable discussion to provide a co-ordinated mechanism for raising funds by both the Association and the Foundation. Donations are tax deductible.

Donations by members may be directed to a State/Territory Branch Account within the Foundation until the relevant Branch accumulates sufficient funds for a Scholarship (\$45,000), subject to the obligations of the Foundation in accordance with the ATO.

One of the objectives here is to facilitate any Branch to accumulate funds for a Branch Foundation Scholarship. Each year, each Branch will receive an audited statement of the funds that have been accumulated by the Foundation and held on behalf of the Branch. If a Branch member does not desire a taxation deduction then the donation may be made directly to the Branch

This is another step towards co-operation between the Association and the Foundation and we will commence this from the conclusion of this Annual General Meeting of the Association.

Further investigations are being made to ensure the objectives are fulfilled.

To date, there have been five Foundation Scholarships donated by The Order of Australia Association.

We are thankful for the assistance of Mrs Chris O'Keeffe, at the Canberra Office, in setting up these records systems.



## AWARDEES 2019

Because of covid restrictions, Awardees for 2019 will be presented with their award at the Annual Conference in Canberra in May 2022

- Awardee: Shanae Kuo
- Course of Study: Bachelor of Secondary Education
- Tertiary Institution: Charles Darwin University
- Mentor: Mrs Judy Boland AM
- Donor: The Order of Australia Association
  
- Awardee: Nicholas Simm
- Course of Study: Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of International Studies
- Tertiary Institution: University of Adelaide
- Mentor: Mr Colin Dunsford AM
- Donor: Mr Ross Adler AC

## AWARDEE RECOGNITION

It is important to note the achievements of our young Awardees. Of special note are two previous University of Adelaide 2009 Awardees who have both become Rhodes Scholars – Alyssa Fitzpatrick and Mark Hassall.

I would also like to mention our 2011 Awardee Alexandra Grigg who has just been named on Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia list for Finance and Venture capital.

Alexandra Grigg joined the \$39 million South Australian Venture Capital Fund – a subsidiary of the investment firm Artesian Venture Partners – in 2019 as an investment manager. Now a senior portfolio analyst, she has led investments in artificial intelligence start up Fivecast, cancer diagnostic firm Ferronova and paediatric therapy provider Kid Sense. Grigg was named Young Leader of the Year at the Women in Finance Awards 2020, which was hosted by Australian media company Momentum Media.



## FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

- Hugh M Morgan AC (Chairman of Directors) (Victoria)
- Barry N Nunn AO (Association Chairman) (Western Australia)
- Leo Tutt AM (Treasurer) (New South Wales)
- Paul L Wheelton AM KSJ (Secretary) (Victoria)
- Elaine M Murphy AM (Coordinator, Awardees and Mentors) (South Australia)
- N Ross Adler AC (South Australia)
- Peter M Benson AM (United Kingdom)
- Bonita L Boezeman AO (New South Wales)
- Dina L Browne AO (Queensland)
- Robert G Gerard AO (South Australia)
- Nicholas T Paspaley AC (Northern Territory)
- John Atkins AO (Western Australia)

## BOARD MOVEMENTS

Following the retirement of Mr Harold Clough AO OBE Cit WA., the Board is delighted to welcome Mr John Atkins (Western Australia) to its ranks.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Darvell Hutchinson AM who was an original member of the Foundation Board and who made such a contribution in ensuring that our accounting, investing and reporting position was in such good order.

We would also like to welcome to the Board, Mr Leo Tutt AM who is our Treasurer and also thank you Leo for the accounting and reporting service William Buck provides to the Foundation.



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**Tony Metcalf OAM**  
**Branch Chairman**  
[chairsa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairsa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

Well over half the year has now gone by, and we have been fortunate to continue with our meetings and social activities. We started off with a wonderful social outing to Carrick Hill Mansion in March, followed by a Port River Dolphin Cruise in May.

With the easing of density restrictions for social gatherings in SA, we were able to host a very successful New Recipients' Reception in May with almost 200 recipients, members and guests attending, and our annual Queen's Birthday Luncheon in June, as well as our regular Fellowship luncheon meetings at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club in February, April and June. Our regional groups are also becoming quite active again.

The Association and Branch were represented at the Australia Day Investitures at Government House in May, and also at the Royal Presidents' Dinner 2021 for the heads and chairs of associations with Royal patronage.

Together with all SA Branch members I congratulate all newly announced recipients who were recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. Notable among them was Ms Frances Adamson, appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia – who will soon take up the appointment as the 36th Governor of South Australia.

Nominations for the 2021 Student Citizenship Awards closed on Thursday 30 July, and our Assessment and Selection Panel is now busy reviewing nominations.

We have several more social activities and Fellowship luncheon meetings planned, and we are looking forward to hosting another New Recipients' Reception later this year to acknowledge those who have been recognised in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours List.

## ANZAC DAY

For the Fellowship luncheon meeting on Thursday 29 April, coinciding with the period of Anzac commemorations, Dr Robert Black AM RFD gave a poignant presentation on "John McCrae and the Great War Poets". Dr Black is a retired Air Force Group-Captain, who was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the Military Division (QB96), "In recognition of service to the RAAF Specialist Reserve". Dr Black is President of the Air Force Association, SA Division, and also President of the Mitcham Branch of the AFA. He noted that the RAAF had just celebrated its centenary, and the AFA President's party was privileged to be near the head of the Adelaide Anzac March.



Dr Robert Black AM RFD and Dr Tania Black PSM, with Major Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP (ret'd), following the 2021 Anzac March in Adelaide.



Members and guests who attended the April Fellowship Luncheon. Standing (left to right): Mrs Carol Whitelock OAM; Mrs Gill Rogers OAM; Dr Tania Black PSM; Mrs Helen Smith; Ms Flavia de Pasquale OAM; Mr Peter Routley AM; Mrs Glenys Jones OAM JP; Mrs Helen Wang; Mr Russell Starke OAM. Seated (left to right): Mr Ken Smith AM; Mr Ken Irvin; Dr Robert Black AM RFD (guest speaker). Photograph by Pamela Rajkowski OAM.

## 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

John Philips OAM

### Treasurer

John McKellar AM ED

### Member Secretary SA

Mr Greg Gordon OAM JP

### Student Citizenship Awards

#### Convener

Noel Hender OAM BEM

### Regional Groups Coordinator

Ken Coventry OAM JP (co-opted)

### Merchandise Officer

June Genders OAM (co-opted)

### Editor/Webmaster

Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP

### Other committee members

Kathryn House AM

Flavia de Pasquale OAM

Pamela Rajkowski OAM

### National Director

John McKellar AM ED

### Website

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

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#### Yorke Peninsula Regional Group

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Maree Anderson OAM (Minlaton)

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#### Barossa, Gawler and District and North Regional Group

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



## REGIONAL NEWS

The Riverland and Mallee Regional Group met in Loxton on 28 March. Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM conducted a short interview with three members, Brian Caddy OAM, Ellen Traeger OAM and David Ward ESM OAM, to allow members to learn what each person has done in their life and the activities that contributed to their award.

The SA Branch Chair and Regional Groups Coordinator have written to the previous long-serving convenor of the Gawler and District Group Dr Bruce Eastick AM thanking him for his past efforts over many years.

The Yorke Peninsula Regional Group has been formed following a meeting in Maitland on 18 April, as a group for the communities of both the Yorke Peninsula Council and Copper Coast Council areas. The joint regional contacts are former State Branch Chair Elaine Bussenschutt OAM (Kadina) and Maree Anderson OAM (Minlaton).

The Fleurieu Regional Group held its meeting at the historic Greenman Inn in Ashbourne on 7 May. John Hutchinson OAM accepted appointment as the Regional Contact for a 12 month period, and Rex Keily AM JP was thanked for his past efforts as retiring Convenor.

A brief meeting held in Nuriootpa at the end of June discussed the possibility of creating a larger regional group. Chaired by the Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM, he was joined by four members from the communities of the Barossa, Gawler & District and mid-North. A meeting is now being planned for all members from those communities to have input into the possible formation and structure of a Regional Group serving those communities.



At the South East Regional Group annual meeting on 26 February, Tony Hutchison AM gave a review of his life – “From Sheep to Space”. Left to right: Ken Coventry OAM (Regional Groups Coordinator); Eric Roughana AM (South East Regional Group Contact); Tony Hutchison AM (known as ‘VK5ZAI’ to NASA personnel and astronauts); and Tony Metcalf OAM (SA Branch Chair).

## NEW RECIPIENTS’ RECEPTION



Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM with Dr Aileen Cannon AM (left) and Val Baldwin OAM, at the New Recipients’ Reception on 24 May.

A very successful New Recipients’ Reception for honours recipients was held at the spacious Goodwood Community Centre on Monday 24 May, with almost 200 in attendance. This event welcomed recipients from the 2020 and 2021 Australia Day Honours Lists and the 2020 Queen’s Birthday Honours List. To allow for the increased number of recipients and guests, and to comply with current regulations, a slightly different format was adopted. The SA Branch Chair announced each new recipient in turn, and read their citation as they stood to be acknowledged. At the end, the recipients all stood together to be toasted by their friends, partners and guests.



South Australia’s newest honours recipients, acknowledged by the SA Branch on 24 May.

## QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

The SA Branch held its annual Queen's Birthday Luncheon on Saturday 12 June. It was an excellent and enjoyable occasion, with the occasional address delivered by Dr Duncan McKellar BMBS FRANZCP Cert OldAge Psych BMus(perf) (Hons) BA.

Dr McKellar, a psychiatrist specialising in the care of older people, is the Head of Unit, Older Persons' Mental Health Service at the Northern Adelaide Local Health Network. He is also Clinical Advisor for Older Persons Mental Health in the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist. His appointment in May 2017 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. He is committed to rethinking the way health organisations work in order to deliver compassionate relationship-centred care through interdisciplinary teams where everyone matters, everyone contributes and everyone grows.

Duncan was a member of the Oakden Review panel with the Chief Psychiatrist leading to the 'Oakden Report' which triggered further national investigations including the Australian Royal Commission into Aged Care. Duncan led the closure of the Oakden facility and chaired working groups for the development of new models of care.



At the SA Branch Queen's Birthday Luncheon on 12 June (left to right): Jill Hender, Flavia De Pasquale OAM, Jenny MacIntosh OAM, Dr Aileen Connors AM, John McKellar AM ED, Duncan McKellar BMBS FRANZCP (guest speaker), Noel Hender OAM BEM. Photograph by Mr John Thomas AM.

The title of his address was, "Us, the others and the Power of Stories" in which he introduced us to the term "othering". This is a term used in the psychiatry profession to explain our tendency to align with particular groups based on one or more characteristics. The persons not in the group are seen as 'the others'.

John McKellar AM ED related: "He illustrated this by referring to an episode I spent in hospital. He visited each day and on his visit would ask the same questions – Has the doctor been to see you today? Has he introduced himself? Has he asked permission to bring in students? This was an example where the doctors were the 'us' and the patient 'the others'. My responses to these questions indicated a gap between the 'us' and 'the others', and in the case of mental health it is essential to bridge such gaps".

## EVENTS

On Friday 26 March, the SA Branch held this year's first general social activity for members – an excursion to Carrick Hill Mansion with a guided tour. This was followed in May with a Port River Dolphin Explorer Cruise to the Dolphin Sanctuary at the eastern end of the Port River. The group enjoyed a complimentary morning tea at the waterfront offices of Mr Bruce McFarlane AM. Our Fellowship Luncheon at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club on 24 June heard from guest speaker Neil Andrew AO on "Reform of water use in the Murray Darling Basin".

### Upcoming activities include:

- 26 August: Fellowship luncheon meeting, Ms Kathryn House AM – "Collective Giving & the changing face of philanthropy in Australia"
- 2 October: Wisteria Walk and tour of the Adelaide Botanic Garden, with morning tea
- 28 October: Fellowship luncheon meeting, Mr John Phillips OAM – "SA Waste Strategy 2022-25 – engaging the population"
- 30 October: Strategic Planning Futures Day
- 31 October: Yorke Peninsula Regional Group luncheon meeting
- 5 November: Fleurieu Regional Group luncheon meeting
- 1 December: SA Branch Christmas Morning Tea



## THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION 2022 NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The ACT Branch Committee is pleased to announce new details for the 2022 National Conference and Annual General Meeting. The outline program is:

- Wednesday 18 May: Board dinner.
- Thursday 19 May:
  - o Board meeting.
  - o Reception at Government House, Yarralumla.
- Friday 20 May: National Conference.
- Saturday 21 May:
  - o National AGM.
  - o Members' Forum.
  - o National Dinner including presentation of Foundation awards.
- Sunday 22 May:
  - o Commemorative Service.
  - o Farewell Luncheon.



National Museum of Australia

Activities will be centred on Hotel Realm in Canberra's inner south, which will be the venue for the Conference, the AGM and the Members' Forum. The Conference Dinner will be held at the National Arboretum, while the Commemorative Service and Farewell Luncheon will be held at the National Museum of Australia.

Hotel Realm is part of the Doma Group, four hotels within easy walking distance of each other and offering a range of accommodation styles and prices:

- Hotel Realm: 5 star hotel with hotel and suite style accommodation.
- Burbury Hotel & Apartments: 4.5 star hotel with hotel rooms, suites and apartments.
- Little National Hotel: 4 star hotel with affordable luxury to all.
- Brassey Hotel: 4 star 1920s hotel with old world charm, fully refurbished in 2017.

All four hotels are pleased to extend 15% off best available rates for delegates attending our Conference. To take advantage of the discount, delegates can visit the respective website, follow the links to make a reservation, then enter the booking code EVENT.

 <b>Guests</b> 1 Adult, 0 Children	 <b>Check-in</b> Tue, May 17, 2022	 <b>Check-out</b> Mon, May 23, 2022
 <a href="#">Special Codes or Rates</a> ▾		

- [www.hotelrealm.com.au](http://www.hotelrealm.com.au)
- [www.burburyhotel.com.au](http://www.burburyhotel.com.au)
- [www.littlenationalhotel.com.au](http://www.littlenationalhotel.com.au)
- [www.brasseyhotel.com.au](http://www.brasseyhotel.com.au)

Alternatively, delegates can call or email Central Reservations and advise which hotel they would prefer to book and quote the code EVENT.

- Central Reservations. T: +61 2 6163 1888 | E: [reservations@domahotels.com.au](mailto:reservations@domahotels.com.au)

Further details about the Conference will be available shortly on the Association's website and in the November edition of The Order.

PLEASE NOTE: Delegates can book accommodation at Doma Group hotels now, but recognising COVID-19 uncertainties, registration for Conference events will not open until February 2022.



National Arboretum



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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

At the time of writing this report on behalf of the Victoria Branch we are pleased to have hosted our first Branch event in 18 months on Thursday July 15 at the National Gallery Victoria (NGV) and The Barre Café for 160 members and guests. Thank you to our members who booked. At 11.59pm on the same day Victoria entered lockdown #5 for a minimum of 5 days.

The event was the Melbourne Winter Masterpieces French Impressionism from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. an institution renowned world-wide for its rich holdings of Impressionist paintings. Part of the Melbourne exhibition features works by Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Edgar Degas, Camille Pissarro, Mary Cassatt and more – including 79 works that have never-before-been exhibited in Australia. These important loans from the MFA's collection provide a rare opportunity to see a significant grouping of Impressionist masterworks in Australia.

Due to COVID restrictions the lecture this year was pre-recorded by Dr. Miranda Wallace, Senior Curator, International Exhibition Projects at the NGV and available online for a week. Miranda is an outstanding lecturer who set the scene for a most enjoyable walkthrough of the exhibition.

After the exhibition and visit to the NGV gift shop members and guests enjoyed a two course lunch next door in the Arts Centre Melbourne at The Barre Café.

The French Impressionism exhibition at the National Gallery Victoria finishes on Sunday October 3, 2021. If you are in Melbourne between now and October 3 and your time allows please book and support the exhibition – thank you in advance.

There is more positive news from Victoria; Queen's Birthday we acknowledged 309 Order of Australia Honours and Awards recipients with 53% being women. It is pleasing to see the broad range of exceptional recipients from our diverse cultures that have gone above and beyond being recognised. Thank you to our members who took the time to nominate these achievers a couple of years ago; also we say welcome to the recipients who have joined the Association.

Please refer to the Order of Australia Association website [www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au) VIC Events page for upcoming Branch and Regional Group.

Save the Date: Wednesday November 24 - annual lunch 12noon to 2.30pm at William Angliss Restaurant with speakers Jade Hameister OAM and Paul Hameister OAM, father and daughter talking about their polar explorations including the Polar Hat Trick. Jordan Eitler 2016 recipient of the Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship donated by the OAA VIC Branch will talk about his employment and community work.

Invitation will be emailed to members late October 2021.



## “R U OK” AND MENTAL HEALTH VIRTUAL EVENT OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS AUSTRALIA WIDE

Thursday September 23 - Virtual from 5.30pm to 6.30pm, this event is open to all OAA members Australia wide plus, family and friends.

Speakers: The Hon Robert Knowles AO Company Director experienced in various sectors of health including being a current Director of beyondblue and Kim Koop AM experienced CEO and Deputy Chair in mental health.

Booking via TryBooking is now open: <https://www.trybooking.com/BTBBJ>



## INTERVIEW WITH LONG STANDING EASTERN SUBURBS REGIONAL GROUP MEMBER KEITH ROONEY OAM



Members of the Order of Australia Association are inspiring in their dedication to their profession and to the community. One such example is Keith Rooney OAM. Keith has recorded a lifetime of service to others – as he says his “hands on Christian work”.

Glenys Grant OAM recently interviewed Keith, and this is his story.

1992. Medal (OAM) General Division. Keith Ernest Rooney for service to the community.

Most people are delighted to receive the Order of Australia as recognition of a life's work. For Keith the reaction was a little different. He was amazed, honoured and bewildered.

As he said – it was only the start to what he intended to accomplish.

Keith was brought up by the Legacy Club so he understands how kindness and a helping hand can support families that may be struggling. He says he didn't expect anything further from anyone as he knew he could have a good life via his own efforts – and along the way help others.

When Betty, his wife of now 68 years, and he married, they survived for many years on a shoestring. He battled to pay off his first house. His employment included being a display manager, a bus driver and a sales manager. Often he held more than one job at a time. One part time job was as a Bail Justice of Victoria – a position he held for over 30 years.

Keith continually helped the community. Young sports people needed a local venue, so with a team of volunteers he organised the North Blackburn Koonung Park Sports Centre, five tennis clubs and a basketball stadium. Through the auspices of Rotary, who entered into an enthusiastic partnership, Keith facilitated and became involved in many more community projects.

He became Mayor of the former City of Nunawading in 1968–69 and continued his amazing work through this office.

In 1992 Keith received his OAM. Rather than retire on his achievements it seems to have spurred him on to do even more - as with most others who receive the award.

So ... what has he accomplished since receiving the award?

In 1995 Keith founded the Eastern Emergency Relief Network (EERN). Its aim was to use volunteers to collect donations of unwanted household goods and take them to the operation headquarters in Mitcham. From there they went to welfare agencies who directed the distribution as to community need.

It started in a small way and, he says, there was initially opposition. Now there are 145 charities in Eastern Melbourne using the service and thousands of families and individuals have been assisted in times of crisis.

Over the years Keith received many other accolades – the Centenary medal, the Rotary Paul Harris Fellow, and both he and Betty became Whitehorse Citizens of the Year. Then, more recently, in a surprise ceremony, this wonderful couple were given the Keys to the City of Whitehorse for their lifetime achievements.

Keith says he retired at 75 – and yet five years ago he, with others, opened the first Umbrella Dementia Café in the Eastern suburbs. Keith is very enthusiastic about this project, which empowers people living with dementia to regain their autonomy and improve their wellbeing, while providing support to carers.

Now 91, Keith is still working. As he says – he is continuing his favourite activity – helping others.

## VICTORIA BRANCH

### OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Her Excellency The Hon. Linda

Dessau AC

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Trevor Clark OAM

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#### Committee members

Barbara Thomas OAM

Dr Paul Hemming AO



## NEWS FROM SOUTH CENTRAL SUBURBAN REGIONAL GROUP

It was extremely pleasing to see 28 Queen's Birthday Order of Australia Honours and Awards recipients within the South Central Suburban Regional Group with almost 40% being female.

July 8th gave us some form of normality at last, when we held our Mid-Year Luncheon at the prestigious Kingston Heath Golf Club. Our Guest Speaker was Professor Graeme Samuel AC.

Professor Graeme Samuel ACLLB Melb, LL.M Monash FAICD is a Professor in Monash University's Business School of Public Health and Preventative Medicine. He is also President of Dementia Australia, Chair of Australian Dementia Network Ltd., Chair of Dementia Australia Research Foundation and Chairman of Airlines for Australia and New Zealand. That is current, and in the past:

- He was a member of the panel appointed by the bank regulator, APRA [Australian Prudential Regulation Authority] to conduct the Prudential enquiry into the governance, culture and accountability of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.
- He was Chair of the panel which conducted a Capability Review of APRA.
- He has just completed an independent review commissioned by the Commonwealth Government of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act.
- He has held a number of roles in public life which includes:
- Chairman of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission [ACCC]
- Associate member of the Australian Communications and Media Authority.
- President of the National Competition Council
- Three years with the National Rugby League.
- Twenty years with the Australian Football League.



Graeme received an AC in 2010 for eminent service to public administration through contributions in the area of economic reform and competition law, and to the community through leadership roles with sporting and cultural organisations.

Needless to say that this past experience at the coal face [so to speak] made him more than qualified to speak and comment on the subject "Are our company directors up to the task?" this was the subject that was chosen over 18 months ago when the Royal Commission into Banking was

fresher, COVID delayed the address last year and we thank Graeme for agreeing to speak to us this year.

There was so much delivered in his talk at such a rate, that this scribe could not keep up with his notes. The banks and their apparent lack of proper governance and Director's failings resonated with the audience of which many, would be self-funded retirees, who could see diminished returns coming back to them whilst Boards were still collecting bonuses.

The Age Care Enquiry and the Crown Casino Enquiry showed serious failings by the various Directors appointed to the Boards.

The parallel that things do not change was made, when dealings that were made in the 1970's around the time of the Poseidon crash, were being repeated time and time again by large corporations in the 2000's. Directors and developers from those early times were bankrupted and some jailed with the fall out of their actions effecting thousands of investors, not so today. As the litany of bad decision making continued and examples were being given, there were nods of agreement and murmurs of bad memories resurfacing. A great address by a great Australian

**Check out our website [www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au)**



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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

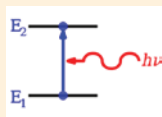
Hearty Greetings are forwarded to all members.

History repeats. I write this follow-on report whilst in the latest Queensland COVID lockdown. Current widespread border closures again attest to the repeated challenges that this pandemic places before our

Australian community. We will again break through to clear going in compliance with Government Medical advice cognisant that many in our communities are significantly disadvantaged by health concerns, family separations and financial stresses. This is a time that our indomitable Australian spirit of helping and assisting those in need must come to the fore and be sustained. The back bone of our economy, small business, particularly needs our focussed support.

In balance of this drag to our normal contentment I can report most positive gatherings within our Queensland Branch of the Association.

Sometimes back when addressing a work team I would ask them to take in a photon. This they knew from a high school science understanding of electron states in an atom was a call for a slightly bigger effort, viz.



(Depiction of an increase in electron energy level from E1 to E2 resulting from absorption of a photon represented by the red squiggly arrow)

No such call needs to be made to our local Branch Committee and Regional Convenors. They are all fully energised folk keen to serve our constituency. Our members have in kind rallied in best ever attendance numbers to a diverse range of events mentioned further in this Report.

Continue to keep well and safe.

Gary

## TOWNSVILLE LUNCHEON-THE FIRST FOR OVER A YEAR

The Townsville Group held its first function in over a year on Saturday, April 17 when they hosted a luncheon at Seagulls Resort in Townsville.

After 12 months without an event because of the interruptions caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic regulations, there was obviously keen interest in attending among award recipients throughout the Townsville region.

Attendees enjoyed a delightful two-course meal, while also listening to addresses by State Chairman of the Queensland Branch of the Association, Dr Gary Bacon AM, who was making his first visit to the Group since taking over his role, along with Margaret Shaw OAM, who spoke on her efforts to improve the costs of insurance for homeowners throughout North Queensland.

Planning will now commence for another function to be held in Townsville before the end of the year once a suitable date and venue can be arranged.

The Townsville Group Committee will commence discussions in the near future with a view to finding a suitable date and venue for a dinner for award recipients and their partners and guests throughout the Group area, which extends from the Burdekin through to the Hinchinbrook and west to Mount Isa.

Dr Gary Bacon AM, Margaret Shaw OAM, Professor Gracelyn Smallwood AO, Ron Piper OAM.



## OAA DARLING DOWNS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS OF THE ORDER

Forty members of the Darling Downs Regional Group of the Association and their guests met on 21 May 2021 for morning tea at the Town and Country Club in Toowoomba. Three Darling Downs residents whose awards in the Order of Australia were announced on Australia Day 2021 were introduced and warmly welcomed – Kerry Betros AM, Valerie Lehman AM and Raymond Smythe OAM.

Kerry Betros was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia "For significant service to the banking sector, to the retail food industry, and to the community."

Valerie Lehman was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia "For significant service to the performing arts, and to wildlife conservation."

Raymond Hartley Smythe was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia "For service to people with an intellectual disability through employment initiatives."

Megan McNicholl OAM, a member of the Darling Downs Regional Group, was the guest speaker. Megan received her award in the Order of Australia on Australia Day 2007 "For service to education as an advocate for improved services in rural and remote areas, and to the community by raising public awareness of issues affecting women." Megan is a rural educator and cattle producer who has lived most of her life west of the Great Divide. Megan spoke on her involvement for some 13 years in the advocacy work of the Isolated Children's Parents' Association (ICPA) including 4 years as Federal President. The ICPA celebrates 50 years of active advocacy in 2021.

**Paul McNally OAM,**

**Darling Downs Regional Group  
Convener.**





## SUNSHINE COAST REGION MEMBERS ARE TAKEN ON A JOURNEY



Peter Dorman AM, Dr Dimity Dorman AO and Marjorie Voss OAM

On 24 June on a delightful Queensland winter's day, 62 members and guests gathered at the Lookout Terrace at the Alex Surf Club, Alexander Headlands for lunch and fellowship and the presentation by the Guest Speaker while enjoying the beautiful ocean views. We were delighted to welcome three members from adjoining Regions, Sheryl Backhouse OAM, Judy Grimes OAM, and Elaine Mandill OAM. Also welcomed for the first time were new recipients Colin Weston OAM (2020) and Dr Carden Wallace OAM, Ray Bange OAM, and Rod Forrester AM (2021).

Our Guest Speaker was Peter Dornan AM - Senior Australian of the Year 2020; Co-Founder of the Qld Branch of Sports Medicine; Fellow of Sports Medicine; Founder and Convenor of Brisbane Prostate Cancer Support Network, and more. Peter's topic was "From Kingaroy to Kokoda and Beyond" and he took us on an interesting journey. He began with his childhood in Kingaroy; his success as a boxer; becoming a renowned sports physiotherapist; his interest in Men's health which won him the Cancer Council Qld. Travelling Scholarship to study aspects of cancer in the USA. This led him to successfully climb Mt. Kilimanjaro to collect material for his book "Conquering Incontinence" leading on to his tackling Mt Aconcagua in the Andes; Mt Elbrus in the Caucasians and Gran Paradiso in the Italian Alps and walking the Kokoda Trail.

The author of books on sporting injuries, war stories and prostate cancer and a successful sculptor Peter certainly kept us engrossed in his journey of dedication and perseverance and also in the way we should all care for our own health both mentally and physically.

## FIRST FUNCTION FOR THE GOLD COAST REGION IN 2021

On 27 April with COVID conditions now a constant, 43 members and guests attended a lunch at the Southport Golf Club. The guests included four 2020 inductees, Tom Holmes OAM, and Joy Sleemen, Donald Campbell OAM and Lynn, William Goodrem OAM and Bill, Julia Crilly OAM, and Paul Jardine and four 2019 inductees Lydia Gentle OAM and Lukas, Kate Peters OAM, Mark Gribble OAM and Michael Borten OAM.

Several Queensland Branch Committee were in attendance, Dr Gary Bacon AM (Branch Chairman) Treasurer Ronda Nix OAM and Keith, Kathy Wooldridge OAM, and Peter, Acting Merchandise Officer Graham Hyde OAM and Geoff Cowles OAM, Events and Awards Coordinator (Metro) who gave a spirited update on membership, upcoming and recent events.

Others 'locals' attending were Keith Anderson OAM and Sonia, Brian Gent OAM and Noreen, Carolyn Hauff AM, Allan Lees OAM with Merle and Amanda, Charles Wright AM and Christine, Kevin Cook AO, Phillip Tahmindjis, Jim Northcott AM and Barbara, Ken Green OAM, Robert Dove OAM and Bev Hedges, Bill and Robyn Collins.

I had arranged for our speaker, a 2020 recipient of the OAM, Pastor and former Lt Col, Gary Stone to be our speaker. We are still not sure what went wrong, but Gary was all set for Friday!

Fortuitously Charles Wright AM was on hand, and with zero preparation gave an interesting and well received address concerning his time as Chair of the RSPCA and Legacy, together with the shenanigans involved in fund-raising and managing some fairly disparate expectations.



Major General Kevin Cooke AO (Rtd) Caroline Hauff AM and Major General Keith Anderson OAM (Rtd) in the background.

## CQ REGION HOSTS THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN ROCKHAMPTON

The Central Queensland Region of the Order of Australia Association hosted the Governor-General His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley for lunch at the Frenchville Sports Club on 21 June 2021.

The lunch attended by 185 local community leaders provided the opportunity for the Governor General who is the Chancellor of the Australian Honours System to explain how the honours system works and to encourage local people to nominate worthy local people for consideration.

“Our Honours system is one of the most open, merit-based systems in the world – any Australian can nominate any Australian citizen who they consider has made a substantial difference to our society. It is a bottom-up approach.

“It starts in the community and it relies upon local people like you all here today recognising that it is important for our way of life to recognise those who make a sustained commitment to our community are the fabric of ‘Who we all are’ and help define ‘Who we can become’.

“We all need to ensure that we seek out those who can best represent the full diversity of our wonderful nation and we have some way to go in achieving this.

“Linda and I get to see these contributions first hand whether it be hearing the compelling stories recognised in our Honours or listening to the amazing resilience amongst our communities which have been devastated by fires, floods, droughts and disease. It is one of the real joys and privileges of the job of being Governor General.

“I have witnessed firsthand across the world the absolute power and resilience of committed, connected and supportive communities.

“We have also witnessed the emergence of amazing young people committed to building a better Australia. It is a great pleasure to see such a diversity of High School student leaders, here with us today.

“Whilst our emerging leaders will have very different challenges than we have across our lifetimes, Linda and I have witnessed the wonderful commitment in our youth right across our country and we have every confidence in them,” the Governor General said.



His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC(Rtd), Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley with local High School Leaders.

from Gladstone, Mr Terry McCosker OAM and Mr Andrew Palmer OAM.

“The Queensland Branch conducts Secondary Schools Citizenship Awards each year when worthy 12 year 12 students are selected to receive their awards in Parliament House in September.

“I urge all school Principals both here today and in the wider community to take the opportunity to nominate worthy students prior to Monday 2 August,” Dr Bacon AM said.

The event was attended by Principal’s and senior student leaders from nine local High Schools as well the local National Youth Science Forum winners and the Queensland Youth Parliamentary representatives for Rockhampton and Keppel.

## QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY GALA BLACK TIE DINNER

The 2021 Queen’s Birthday celebrations were co-hosted by The Order of Australia Association, Queensland Branch, and the Victoria League Brisbane. The committed work of a small planning committee culminated in an evening of elegance, fun, and fellowship to celebrate the 95th Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The 120 guests were welcomed to the Grand Ballroom of the prestigious Tattersalls Club by Dr Gary Bacon AM (OAAQ Chairman) and Mr. William Willcocks (VLB Chairman). Guests were able to mingle and enjoy pre-dinner drinks and canapes before taking their seats for the two-course dinner.

The theme for the evening was “Colonial Queensland” and the evening’s events were guided capably by our delightful Dina Browne AO. Before dinner was served, Advance Australia Fair was sung, followed by a toast to Her Majesty and the singing of God Save the Queen. Following the theme of the evening, singing trio Elizabeth and Emma Hambleton and Elizabeth Wheeler and guitarist Harry Jans who were among the guests at the function, entertained all present with their delightful rendition of “Moreton Bay” and “The Queensland Overlander”.

The guest speaker for the evening Dr Denver Beanland AM (President of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland) delivered his address titled ‘The Queen’s land : Queensland’. Guests were led on an interesting and historical journey from early settlement to the establishment of the colony of Queensland in 1859 and then to 1901 when Queensland became a State.

Our young singers again entertained guests by singing very movingly “From Little Things Big Things Grow” and “We are Australian”. This was a fitting and emotional end to a wonderful evening as all present proudly joined in with gusto the chorus of “We are Australian”. I saw a few moist eyes as guests settled down to enjoy dessert and further fellowship before wending their way home.



Harry Jans (guitar) Emma Hambleton, Elizabeth Hambleton and Elizabeth Wheeler





## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**James Mein AM**  
**Branch Chairman**

The NSW Branch congratulates each and every recipient in the 2021 Queen's Birthday Honours List. We recognise your contributions to the Australian and in many cases, international communities.

The diversity of gender, age and range of contributions are impressive and each of us needs to nominate more and more people as the list is under-represented in the areas of younger people, First Nations peoples, multicultural citizens and other sacrificial efforts of local citizens. Each honours list should be more representative of modern Australia.

Who should we be looking for when too many Australians benefit community in humility which seems to explain the reluctance to publicly recognise invaluable contributions?

In my travels throughout my career as a Chartered Accountant in public practice, then the midlife change to become a full-time leader in the Uniting Church in Australia, as well as in my community service in many ways such as in sport, interfaith dialogue, charities, scouting and professionally, I have personally enriched by a multitude of inspirational, quiet achievers who have made such a positive contribution to our country's well-being and have inspired me.

I have also greatly impacted by inspirational resources of films, life stories, event changing leaders (especially in charities), service groups, public speakers, and sporting coaches and administrators, autobiographies and the like, all of whom have opened my eyes and mind to broaden my awareness of community and the potential of Australia, its young people and new members, as well as possible nominees for an Order of Australia Award.

For me, there are also other people who have impacted me the most are:

First Nations people who have so much sophistication, knowledge and my better understanding of an effective community. So why can't we recognise more for Orders of Australia?

The School speech night speaker who said that the school mates he remembered the most are the ones who saw and took opportunity even though the door was barely opened.

The sports stars who re-invested their experiences in the ensuing generations.

The Cronulla Riots which taught more than ever before that multiculturalism is just the start of the journey. We must work harder to accept and respect the "other".

Working with amazing charity volunteers and leaders to see how much can be done to make Australia to be a better place to live.

One such inspirational Awardee was the late Ron Sharpe OAM, our former Branch Chairman and just before his sudden death, our Branch Regional Groups Co-ordinator. Livestreaming his death revealed more of his extensive community vision and service. There were so many tributes from our National Chairman, Branch members, current and former Branch Committee members, the Governor-General and past and present Governors, regional convenors and so many others were absolute testimonies to his energy, impact and service in so many ways. What everlasting legacies he has given us.

We must be involved, rather than be like parallel lines that have so much in common but a shame they never meet. Or serve the local and/or the wider community, rather than be the sadness wall between two gardens that robs the future because you do not venture to the other side. After all, we must live on the edge of hope if we are to make a difference.

We must nominate worthy Australians who make a difference in order to achieve a greater profile for the awards and our Association. The primary purpose and responsibility of our Association.

## NSW BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### **Patron**

Her Excellency The Honourable  
Margaret Beazley AO QC

### **Chairman & National Director**

Mr James Mein, AM  
Mob. 0408660591

### **Deputy Chairman, Metro Events & Public Relations Coordinator**

A/P John Gullotta, AM  
Mob. 0418233069

### **Honorary Secretary**

Ms Martha Jabour OAM  
Mob. 0419279337

### **Honorary Treasurer**

Ms Gail Dunne OAM  
Mob. 0419279337

### **Committee Members**

### **Regional Coordinator & Web Coordinator**

Mr Chris Dunne, OAM  
Mob. 0419279337

### **Communications & Publicity**

#### **Liaison**

Mrs Louise Davis, AM  
Com9nsw@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

### **The Order of Australia Association NSW Branch, Youth Community Service Award Co-ordinator**

Mr Frank Kelleher, OAM  
Mob. 0427644397

### **Assisting Events Coordinators**

Ms Adrienne Cahalan, OAM  
Mob. 0421936850  
Mr Romano Di Donato, OAM  
(02) 92626699

### **Coopted for Affiliates Program**

Mrs Maria Hitchcock, OAM  
Mob. 0421961007

### **Coopted for Membership**

Rev Dr Geoffrey Glasscock, AM, FAP  
Mob. 0408436676



## THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA NSW BRANCH YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS 2021

The NSW Branch has recently completed the selection process for its annual Youth Community Service Award. The Award was first offered in 1993 under the mentorship of its founder, Dr John Lincoln AM. It has been offered every year for the 28 years since then, with the exception of 2020, when Covid-19 school constraints prevented it from being offered.

In April this year all (1,017 in 2021) High School Principals in NSW were invited by email to nominate a student, in either year 11 or 12 of the NSW Higher School Certificate or International Baccalaureate programs, for exceptional service to community. Service ranges from local initiatives such as education, health and welfare for disadvantaged or underprivileged communities to international initiatives in a host of community development activities such as education, health, sanitation and infrastructure projects.

Some idea of the actual initiatives and activities conducted by the 2017 to 2019 Awardees can be gleaned from those listed on the Association website and accessed through the following link :

<https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/youth-award/>

After the 2020 Covid hiatus, the Award resumed this year with mixed expectations of what students may have been able to provide in terms of community service, given the school and community lockdowns that were such unfortunate features of that year. Student nominees again admirably demonstrated the sense of community commitment and service that had epitomised previous recipients of the Award. They were, however, constrained in two respects, viz., activities were more focussed on their local communities, with few opportunities to travel further afield; and there was a higher than normal proportion of rural and regional students selected for the 2021 Award. Both constraints seemed Covid related, with city students probably much more restricted, through lockdowns, than their rural and regional peers in their abilities to engage in significant community service.

Sixty three nominations were considered by a judging panel comprising three Order of Australia Awardees. Twenty five nominees were selected and recommended to the NSW Branch Committee to receive the Award. This makes a total of 675 Awardees since the 1993 inception. The 2021 Awardees and their schools will be listed on the Association website in late July. The actual Award presentation by the NSW Governor, Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC, is scheduled to be held at NSW Government House on September 23.

## MEET OUR MEMBERS

### PETER FALK OAM FCA, FFIN, MSA



Peter Falk OAM with Louise Davis AM and Dr Frank Kelleher OAM

Peter, who retired as Chairman of the NSW Branch of the Order of Australia Association at the AGM in February 2021, was awarded his Medal of the Order in the 2007 Australia Day Honours List for service to sport, particularly Rugby Union football, and to the community as a fundraiser for medical and ex-service organisations. He joined the association as a Life Member shortly after.

In 2014 Peter was invited to be Hon Treasurer of the OAA NSW Branch by the then Chairman Ron Sharpe OAM. He was appointed, and held the role until 2016 when he was appointed Deputy Chairman, and Chairman in 2019.

Peter has had a lifelong involvement with sport, beginning as an 18-year old with rugby union in 1958. His playing career included 260 games, 69 of which were first grade for Easts Rugby Club and also a tour of Japan in 1967. From 1994-1996 Peter was Manager Australian Wallabies (including 1995 World Cup in South Africa and 1996 undefeated World Tour to Italy and United Kingdom). During his significant rugby career Peter was appointed Life Member of Easts Rugby Union, Sydney Rugby Union, NSW Rugby Union and in 2000 was awarded the Australian Sports Medal. Peter was appointed Attache for the Canadian Olympic Team in 2000.

He was a Trustee of St Vincent's Clinic Foundation 1994 – 2016, appointed Treasurer of the Foundation in 2000, a role he filled for a further 15 years; Trustee St Vincent's Clinic Medal 1998 – 2016, Chairman St Vincent's Prostate Cancer Centre 2013 – 2018 and was awarded St Vincent's Clinic Medal in 2018.

During Peter's 14 years involvement to date with the OAA NSW Branch, he has travelled to many regional towns and cities and met numerous community leaders who have made significant contributions to their local communities. He has enjoyed meeting State Governors over the years, as they have carried out their Vice Regal duties including our Patron; from Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Marie Bashir AC CVO, to his Excellency The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) and since 2019 Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC.



## BARRY NASH OAM

Barry received his OAM in 2015 for service to Veterans, Legacy and Ballina community in general. He and his wife Trudy were "Ten Pound Poms" in 1967, arriving at Essendon and going straight to the Maribyrnong Migrant Hostel.

He joined the Royal Navy in 1954, just before his 16th birthday and spent 9 years serving on various Destroyers, Frigates, a Mine Layer and Minesweepers clearing unmarked mine fields around Borneo, PNG and Philippines, and visited NZ and Australia. In 1960 he was drafted to HMS President in London. It was and still is the largest radio centre of the Royal Navy receiving and sending by Morse code to all parts of the globe. This is where Barry met his wife to be. They have now been married for 61 years and have two sons living in Ballina and their daughter is a nurse and lives in London.

Barry has served on the Board of the Ex-Service Home (now RSL LifeCare) and the Board of Lismore Legacy. Barry says the ten pounds they spent in 1966 was the best ten pounds they ever spent. See our website <https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/news> for more details of Barry & Trish's extraordinary life journey.

## HASTINGS MACLEAY REGIONAL GROUP

Great excitement was the order of the day for the Order of Australia Association –Hastings-Macleay Branch, back together again after a 19 month break due to COVID said Laurie Smith OAM, the Convenor.

A lunch was held on Wednesday 23rd June at the Port City Bowling Club and the highlights were the recognition of the new OAMS for our region, Jeannette Rainbow OAM 2020, Yvonne Cains OAM 2020 and Virginia Cox OAM amongst others (June Queens Birthday Honours List 2021).

Guest speakers were Chris Dunne OAM and wife Gail Dunne OAM. He told us about his life and how they started the "The Long Ride", an organisation dedicated to reducing the impact of prostate cancer on Australian men and their loved ones.

Mr Smith also paid tribute to the recent passing of two members, Keith Uptin OAM, and Bill Boyd OAM.

The Hastings Macleay members have contributed decades to making the region and country a better place and they love getting together to swap stories and be in each other's company. Marilyn and Uncle Bill O'Brien OAM also attended, and Chris and Gail were delighted to hear Uncle Bill's Welcome to Country for the first time.

All OAMs and AMs and their partners in the region are welcome. The group gets together for a luncheon twice a year however everyone has missed each other so much a regular coffee morning is on the cards. Please contact Laurie Smith 0416 221 147. Photo Laurie Smith OAM.

Laurie Smith OAM, Barbara Smith, Gail Dunne OAM, Chris Dunne OAM



## VALE WULF REICHLER, OAM

Mr Wulf Ernst Reichler OAM, former Mayor of Brewarrina Shire Council passed away in February 2021. Mr Reichler was born in Germany and moved to the Western Division of New South Wales in late 1953. He worked on various properties before moving to the Brewarrina Township in 1960 with his wife Ursula. They had 3 sons - Eric, Peter, Ralph and 1 daughter – Enid. In 1987 Mr Reichler was elected to Council and in September 2012 he was elected Mayor of Brewarrina. In 2013 after many years of service to the Brewarrina Shire and Local Governments across the state, he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal. Along with his Mayoral duties Wulf was involved with many organisations both within and outside of Council. He was a member of the Brewarrina Bush Fire Brigade, President of the Brewarrina Clay Target Club, Founding committee member of the Brewarrina Festival of the Fisheries and many more.

You can read more about Wulf's remarkable life at [www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/news](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/news)

## VALE RON SHARPE, OAM

Our former OAA NSW Chairman, Ron Sharpe OAM sadly passed away recently after a short battle with cancer. Ron was more recently our Regional Coordinator. He was an inspiration to all who met him. He is very sadly missed by his family, friends, and all of the Order of Australia members who were fortunate enough to know him. Vale dear Ron. Following is a link to a very moving eulogy written by one of his sons, Michael. It sums up how fulfilling a life can be if one puts in the effort to make the world a better place for family and community. <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/stars-dad-michael-sharpe>



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**Alastair Douglas OAM**  
**Branch Chairman**

A series of successful events have been enjoyed by many members across the state this quarter.

In April, a celebratory dinner with 90 guests was held at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania (RYCT) acknowledging the sterling service our retiring Patron and state Governor, Her Excellency Professor the Hon Kate Warner AC, gave to our state. Accompanied by her husband Mr Richard Warner AM, Her Excellency spoke of many of the key aspects of her role during her six-and-a-half-year term of office that concluded in early June.

Two investitures for the Queen's Birthday honours recipients were conducted at Government house on consecutive days in May by Her Excellency and the Branch took the opportunity to provide two successful lunches for new recipients, their families, and friends together with Association members, many of whom travelled from the north and north-west of the state to be in Hobart. Again, the RYCT was the venue for the 127 attendees allowing the recipients for the afternoon investitures adequate time to be at Government House for their respective ceremonies.

In the north, a lunch was held at the Rosevears Hotel that is in a small rural community north of Launceston on the Tamar River. New member Kim Seagram AM was the guest speaker and spoke about building opportunities for a brighter Tasmanian future.

On the 16th of June, the Hon. Barbara Baker was sworn in as Tasmania's 29th Governor. Two days earlier she was appointed as a Companion of the Order of Australia in the 2021 Queen's Birthday honours list. Her Excellency has since kindly agreed to be the Tasmanian Branch Patron and members will look forward to meeting her at future functions together with her Association member husband Professor Emeritus Don Chalmers AO. Her Excellency has had a distinguished legal career specialising in family law and relationship matters finally retiring in January as a Federal Court Judge. In sport, Her Excellency has represented Tasmania in lawn tennis, hockey, royal tennis including winning various singles championships. She was a member of Australian teams for hockey and Royal tennis.

## TASMANIAN BRANCH

### OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

#### **Patron**

Her Excellency, The Honourable  
Barbara Baker AC Governor of  
Tasmania

#### **Chairman**

Mr. Alastair Douglas OAM

#### **National Board Director**

Dr Rosemary Callingham AM

#### **Hon Secretary & Southern Regional Chairman**

Mrs Maureen Rudge OAM  
(P: 0417 324 005)

#### **Northern Regional Chairman**

Susan Shea OAM

#### **North Western Regional Chairman**

Dr Peter Holm OAM

#### **Hon Treasurer**

Mr Ron Blake OAM

#### **Branch Committee**

Mr Neville Bingham AFSM OAM  
Mrs Maureen Oates OAM  
Dr Nicholas Chantler AM  
Mr David Brill AM ACS  
Dr Frank Madill AM

### Regional Coordinators

#### **South**

Mrs Maureen Oates OAM

#### **North**

Mrs Thérèse Samorzewski OAM  
(P: 03 6266 4114)

## THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA – MEDAL BOARD

In addition to owning its own Medal Board (see photo), the Northern Region of the Order of Australia Association is in the process of encouraging each of the municipal councils in its region to acquire one for display in their council chambers. As some members know, the board is a very attractive presentation of the insignia and is an eye-catching object if displayed in the appropriate setting. Of the seven councils in our northern region, three councils have already acquired a medal board and the fourth is in the process of acquiring theirs. The cost is approximately \$900, and boards may be ordered from Christies Pty Ltd, 276 Pitt St, Sydney, NSW, 2000. Ph: 02 9519 0784 or Email: christies@christies.net.au.

A prominently displayed Medal Board by municipal councils or by association branches at appropriate functions (e.g., Citizenship Ceremonies) is a good way of drawing the people's attention to the Order of Australia Awards and hopefully inviting questions. If information pamphlets are available at the same site and time, this maximises the opportunity to inform the general public. We hope other branches will be able to acquire a Medal Board of their own and will encourage their municipal councils to do likewise.

Dr John Wettenthal OAM & Dr Nicholas Chantler AM







## STEPHEN JEFFERIES KING OAM

Born in Wagga Wagga December 28, 1936, Steve grew up on a 14-acre dairy farm and started his schooling at the little one room Currawarna primary school. Age 13, he enrolled at Yanco Agricultural High School, 21 miles away only coming home for weekends. Regularly bullied, he nevertheless excelled at a range of sports, achieved honours in agriculture and science and won a Commonwealth Scholarship to study veterinary science at Sydney University.

Steve graduated BVSc in 1959 and moved to Launceston. After some locum positions, he began work as a pathologist at the new Mount Pleasant laboratories, got married and started a family. At the end of four years, he set up private practice in Wellington Street in Launceston where he worked until he retired in 2015.



Stephen Jefferies King OAM and horse Crestaway

The practice flourished: hard work, long hours and always being available, along with giving credit to everyone, ensured that Steve was kept very busy. Surgery consultations cost 17/6 (\$1.75) and out calls 30 shillings (three dollars). He tells me that quite a few of those old fees are still owing!

Steve's reputation rapidly grew, and his practice was soon joined by colleagues – many of them recent graduates. There were up to eight vets working in the practice at one time and, while some moved on for various reasons, many stayed on for years. "Any awards I have received have come from having a good team ..." he says, overlooking the dedication and high standards that marked his own hard work.

Steve was a great servant to the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing industry and the Launceston Pacing Club where he was the course vet for many years. He was four years on the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing Board and represented greyhounds on the Tasmanian Racing Authority. He is a life member of the Launceston Greyhound Racing Club. He was an active member of his local Rotary branch and regular supporter of the RSPCA lost animal shelter.

Stephen Jefferies King gave 55 years of outstanding service to the northern Tasmanian community's residents and their animals. He richly deserved being recognised with a Medal of the Order of Australia award on Australia Day 2020.

## THE GOVERNOR'S DINNER



Leslie Lauder AM and Mark Howard at the Governor's Dinner



Garry Carr OAM, Frank Madill AM and John Watson AM



Graeme Milburn AM and Robina Long at the Governor's Dinner



Barry Smith OAM & Kaye Smith, Governor's Dinner



Mr Richard Warner AM, Jenny Douglas, Her Excellency and Alastair Douglas OAM



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM**  
**Branch Chairman**

Canberra's autumn colours have given way to grey skies and wintery temperatures, but the ACT Branch has been busy nevertheless. In May we celebrated new recipients from the Australia Day list and welcomed new members with a very successful breakfast. Our Queen's Birthday

luncheon with then-CEO of the National Indigenous Australians Agency, Ray Griggs AO, CSC, was well attended despite a growing resurgence of COVID-19. (We congratulate Ray on his subsequent appointment as Secretary of the Department of Social Services.) And in July we enjoyed morning tea with Ian Mansfield AM, CSC. You can find reports on all these events in the paragraphs that follow.

In the meantime, the planning committee for the 2022 Conference and Annual General Meeting has now locked in venues and continues to work through other arrangements. You'll find the latest information elsewhere in this edition of The Order.

At the time of writing, our 2021 Order of Australia Association - Australian Defence Force Oration, to be delivered by the Chief of the Air Force, is scheduled for early August. We are still canvassing for nominations for our 2021 Student Citizenship Awards and we will advise details of presentations once the Awards are settled. We congratulate those who received honours and awards in the Queen's Birthday list, and we will celebrate with them at a reception in late September. All our events are compliant with the ACT's Government's COVID-19 requirements, and we look forward to seeing members out and about now that restrictions in Canberra have eased.

## ACT 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**

Phil Morrall AM CSC

### **Committee Members**

Lynne Duckham OAM

Narelle Hargreaves AM

Trish Keller OAM

Dr. Bill Maiden PSM OAM

Andrew Phelan AM

Coralie Wood OAM

## WELCOME TO NEW RECIPIENTS

At a breakfast at the Commonwealth Club, the Branch welcomed ACT and region citizens who received honours and awards in the 2021 Australia Day list. We were pleased to see that most 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.

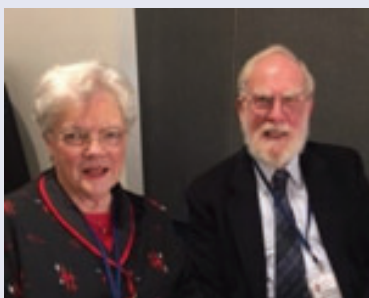
The following recipients were welcomed on Wednesday 26 May 2021:

Mr Paul Craft AM,	Mrs Genevieve Jacobs AM,
Mr William Kelly AM,	Mr Allan Williams AM,
Mr Hashim Abdul Rahman OAM,	Mrs Coralie Amos OAM,
Mr Christopher Diener OAM,	Professor John Hardy OAM,
Mrs Wanda Horky OAM,	Mr Jeremy Pitchford OAM,
Mr Lakshman Prasad OAM,	Mr Roger Wainwright OAM.

Congratulations to current member and 2019 Senior Australian of the Year, Dr Sue Packer AO who was upgraded from AM for distinguished service to children through roles in health, welfare and protection initiatives



Janeen Williams, Angela Drayton,  
William Kelly AM, Allan Williams AM



Robyn Diener, Chris Diener OAM



Roger Wainwright OAM



John Hardy OAM





## QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCH 15 JUNE 2021



We were privileged to have Mr Ray Griggs AO, CSC as the guest speaker at our Queen's Birthday Lunch at the Royal Canberra Golf Club on Wednesday 15 June. Ray was appointed an Officer in the Order of Australia in 2012 for distinguished service to the Australian Defence Force as Deputy Head Strategic Reform and Governance, Deputy Chief of Joint Operations, and Chief of the Royal Australian Navy. As the first Chief Executive Officer of the National Indigenous Australians Agency which was formed in July 2019, his talk addressed some of the challenges in his appointment while stressing the many positives made on issues with a commitment to working with Indigenous Australia through formal and informal partnerships. Ray was a former Vice Chief of Defence Force and commented on the issues faced by service people transitioning from the ADF to civilian life. The full transcript of Ray's talk can be found at <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/act/events/>

## WELCOME TO NEW OAA MEMBERS

FROM THE 2021 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Dr Brian BABINGTON AM – For significant service to children through safety and well-being initiatives.

Mr Michael BRENNAN AM - For significant service to the law, and to community organisations.

Professor George WILSON AM - For significant service to wildlife conservation, to veterinary science, and to the community.

Mr Les BARCLAY OAM - For service to swimming.

Mrs Jean BENNETT OAM - For service to the community of Canberra.

CMDR Paul HORNSBY OAM, RAN – For meritorious performance of duty in the field of robotic and autonomous systems.

Ms Roxanne MISSINGHAM OAM - For service to the library and information sciences.

COL James WADDELL OAM - For meritorious performance of duty as Director of Operations and Security Law and as Director of Army Legal Services for the Australian Defence Force.

FROM THE 2021 AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

Mr Douglas BROWN OAM – For service to veterans and their families.

## MORNING TEA WITH IAN MANSFIELD AM CSC



Margaret Mansfield, Ian Mansfield AM CSC, Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM

On Wednesday 14 July, Ian Mansfield was guest speaker at our morning tea at the Royal Canberra Golf Club and spoke about his work over 20 years working with the United Nations and other international organisations helping war torn countries set up programs to clear landmines and other unexploded ordnance. Ian has written a book on his experiences titled "Stepping into a Minefield". He was appointed a Member in the Order of Australia in June 2010 for service to international humanitarian aid through the establishment of global landmine removal, safety and training programs. The slides from Ian's presentation can be found at <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/act/events/>.

## MEET OUR MEMBERS

### TRISH KELLER OAM

Trish Keller OAM is a former Chair of the ACT Branch of the OAA and currently a member of the 2022 OAA Conference committee. Trish was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2006 for service to the community, particularly through programs initiated at the Narrabundah Primary School, and to education. She retired after a distinguished career as an educator and primary school principal. Trish had been the principal of Giralang Primary School since 2007 and was the principal of Narrabundah Primary School from 2000 to 2006. During her time at Narrabundah Primary School, Trish set up the innovative Koori classroom, a place where indigenous students, parents, and community members could feel comfortable and where other schools could learn about Indigenous culture.

Another of Trish's Narrabundah projects was to get local businesses to provide food for students whose families were unable to give them breakfast. Trish has always believed in making the school an integral part of the community and has worked hard to achieve equity and excellence for vulnerable groups.

Trish also nurtured a caring and inclusive environment at Giralang Primary School. She developed the school's unique relationship with the Rats of Tobruk Association and the special opportunities that created for the association and the school.

She was involved in establishing the school-based Student Citizenship Awards program which the Branch runs on annual basis to recognise those ACT students who show examples of good citizenship and continues as a judge on the panel to select the students for the awards.

Recently Trish was re-elected the Chair of Friends of the National Arboretum, and at our Morning Tea in April, the guest speaker, Executive Branch Manager of the Arboretum, Scott Saddler AM acknowledged the significant contribution she has made to the Arboretum.

Scott Saddler AM, Trish Keller OAM







## DINNER - UNMASKED

The Northern Territory Branch is fortunate to have held a dinner on Monday 26th without the constraints of a Covid lockdown, distancing, or even mask-wearing, and 76 people enjoyed an uplifting evening. The Branch aims to make such dinners an annual Dry Season event with the stated aims of

- welcoming new awardees and encouraging membership into the Branch
- promoting ongoing camaraderie among the NT community of awardees and members of the Association in particular
- encouraging new nominations, especially with our culturally diverse community in mind
- bringing speakers to inspire members about each other's work and stories.

Guests at the dinner were treated to presentations from two illustrious members of our Association – Former Northern Territory Administrator the Honourable Sally Thomas AC, and Mr. Roland Chin AM, long-time partner in KPMG.

The Honourable Sally Thomas' humbly-told story includes some hugely significant mile-stones.

In his introduction, Chairman Andy Bruyn AM quoted Eleanor Roosevelt's wonderful advice to women: "Do one thing a day that scares you", to conclude that "Her Honour Sally Thomas AC, must, then, have spent her life terrified!"

Arriving in post-cyclone Darwin to the position of stipendiary magistrate, Sally became a judge in the NT, served as Justice of the Supreme Court for 18 years, Chancellor of Charles Darwin University from 2010-2016 – all firsts for a woman – and Administrator of the Territory from 2011-2014. Her empathy for disadvantaged citizens and interest in youth, education and community charities shone through her speech.

Roland Chin AM has descended from early Chinese settlers in Darwin who shaped the town in the late 1880s, and since, through market gardening, gold mining and administration - the first Lord Mayor of Darwin was Chinese, and there have been two more in the last 10 years. The Top End owes much to the celestial kingdom for so many of its proud sons and daughters, whose forebears had the courage and commitment to come far from what was their home to make a life in a strange new land. Roland spoke of his love for the town in which he grew up, but equally for his love of his Chinese cultural roots, caring for his ancestral traditions as a leader of the Chung Wah Society and in many other community roles.

One long-time member declared that "the evening was full of a sense of community and friendship".



Mr. Andy Bruyn AM, The Honourable Sally Thomas AC, and Mr. Roland Chin AM

## NT BRANCH

### OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

#### Patron

Her Honour The Honourable  
Mrs. Vicki O'Halloran AO

#### Chairperson

Mr. Andy Bruyn AM

#### Deputy Chair

Mr. Alan James AM

#### Secretary

Professor Jai Singh AM

#### Treasurer

Mr. David De Silva AM

#### Membership Secretary

Mrs. Nora Lewis AM

#### Committee Members

Mrs. Jane Aagaard AM  
Ms. Robyn Burrigge OAM  
Ms. Linda Fazldeen AM  
Mr. Wayne Kraft AM

### New Look Merchandise Order Form

On the back cover of this edition of The Order national magazine is the new look Merchandise Order Form.

With Father's Day fast approaching now is the time to consider a unique Order of Australia Association gift for your dad.

While only awardees are allowed to wear OAA-branded apparel, we stock a number of items that are suitable as gifts. These include blue and gold pens in boxes and a keyring with the emblem in full colour. You might choose a smart laptop/document bag or the Loop inductive charger (for more recent models of mobile phone). Order these exclusive items now for delivery in time for Fathers' Day.

If you have ideas of items you consider suitable for OAA please email your thoughts to June Kane AM Chair of Merchandise E: [chairmerchandise@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairmerchandise@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

Thank you for your ongoing support of our merchandise.



# THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION Merchandise Order Form

Item and Description*	PRICE	QTY	Total \$
1 A5 lined notepads OAA crest watermark 4 per pack	10.00		
2 Lapel badge (Association badge)	15.00		
3 Blank greetings cards + envelopes (5)	10.00		
4 Cufflinks in gift box	35.00		
5 Key ring in gift box	10.00		
6 Knitted unisex scarf	29.00		
7 Ladies' pure silk scarf (beige/pink)	45.00		
8 Ladies' pure silk scarf (blue original)	45.00		
9 Laptop bag	33.00		
10 Blue/gold pen in gift box	7.00		
11 Metal medallion/paperweight	20.00		
12 OAA traditional tie (navy)	25.00		
13 OAA tie (blue/gold)	25.00		
14 OAA tie (spotted)	30.00		
15 Pack of playing cards <b>SALE</b>	2.00		
16 Loop Inductive Charger	18.00		
17 Barista Travel Cup	15.00		
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>			
<b>Postage &amp; Handling</b>			<b>11.00</b>
<b>TOTAL PAYABLE</b>			<b>\$ _____</b>

Questions: Please phone 0413 008 571  
 Email order form with payment details to [merchandise@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:merchandise@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)  
 OR  
 Mail to OAA Merchandise PO Box 18389,  
 Collins Street East, Melbourne VIC 8003  
 OR  
 Order online and pay with PayPal or credit card:  
[www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/shopping-cart](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/shopping-cart)



\*Only OAA members may wear apparel, cufflinks & badges. Updated July 2021

P&H: Multiple items will be put in one postage pack where possible.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb \_\_\_\_\_ State/Territory \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost of order: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cheque payable to Order of Australia Association enclosed ☐ Y ☐ N or

Please debit my ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa Card: Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_ CSV \_\_\_\_\_