



Dated FEBRUARY 2022

The Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarships

An Historical Perspective

Dr Natalie Rainger – Otolaryngologist and Head & Neck Surgeon (FRACS, MBBS Hons)

Inaugural Scholarship Recipient 2004



I have recently had time to reflect on my career development since being the inaugural scholarship recipient in 2004. Some 18 years later, I am able to more fully appreciate the impact the scholarship has had on my life. Growing up in the bush I saw firsthand the impact dwindling medical services had on rural communities. The financial support of the scholarship allowed me to drop my part time jobs that were fitted in around the unforgiving hours of medical training. This then enabled me to participate in honours and research projects, bolstering my CV via papers and referees which aided in the competitive process of applying for surgical training. As a medical student I had decided, naively, that I wanted to be a rural ENT Surgeon. I can say with certainty that this would have been extremely difficult without the support of the Foundation which not only encourages potential leadership and community involvement but provides the financial means to assist young people in achieving their dreams. The OAA Foundation scholarship was unique at the time in allowing the recipient to direct the financial support. Although there were other scholarships that specifically targeted medical students wanting to work rurally, the bonded nature of these would not have supported the constant movement required throughout my speciality training, therefore making me ineligible. My mentor, Dr John Yu, understood that the vocational nature of medicine was best supported by the scholarship being able to reduce other stressors such as rent and cost of living, allowing me to focus on my studies.

I am very fortunate to now be doing a job that I love which allows me to contribute to my community. I am involved in outreach programs for indigenous and rural health and also am an investigator for an NHMRC application to develop a Portable Automated Hearing Test that can be utilised in rural and remote communities. I am still involved with Sydney University's School of Rural Health as the Surgical Coordinator for our medical students. I am constantly learning from our trainees and am overwhelmed by the calibre of the applicants' CVs for our training positions. The flexibility of a rural lifestyle and the satisfaction of working with my hands is something that I hope I can foster in future trainees.

My career as a regional ENT surgeon is extremely satisfying but not without its challenges, including unforgiving hours, onerous on-call and the tyranny of distance synonymous with rural healthcare. The culture of the surgical profession is slowly evolving to meet the expectations of both its trainees and

modern society. The immense demands on trainees entering the profession will hopefully be met with an increased focus on the mental and physical health of our junior doctors. The work we perform is hard but the job satisfaction is high and I feel privileged to be able to contribute to the health and well-being of my community.

BEYOND THE BLUE MOUNTAINS, IN N.S.W., DR. RAINGER IS ONE OF ONLY THREE EAR, NOSE and THROAT SPECIALISTS.

NOTICES & EXCLUSIONS:

This version of our National magazine is not intended for general distribution to the wider public but is prepared as a service to those of our members who require the use of vision-impaired screen-reader technology. Thus, certain pages of the hard-copy version involving complex graphics or page layout have been omitted.

A summary of these pages and other notes of a general nature will be listed here.

GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION.

National Office – Email: oaasecretariat@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

National Secretary – Graham Hyde OAM Email: natsec@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

MESSAGE FROM PATRON- His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)

I've said many times that I am an optimist about our country and about our future. It is, to be frank, hard not to be when I sit and read about the recipients of awards as I sign off on the Australia Day Honours List.

The announcement of the Honours List is one of the occasions during the year that remind us all of the richness of spirit prevalent in our communities. Collectively the recipients, whose achievements span community service, science and research, industry, sport, the arts and more, represent the strength and diversity of Australia.

It has been a challenging couple of years and the recipients are a reminder and reflection of the good in our community.

I'm sure that I am joined by all in the Association when I congratulate each of the recipients. I hope that many go on to become members and participate in the Association's important work in the community.

As I mentioned in the November edition of 'The Order' one of the areas of reform to the Order of Australia that I am pursuing is improving diversity of nominations. The fact that the Australia Day 2022 list includes the highest ever percentage of women is very encouraging and I look forward to this positive trend continuing. I want to thank all members of The Order of Australia Association for their important work in increasing awareness and encouraging nominations for people from parts of our community that have been historically underrepresented in the Order.



The Association's 2022 National Conference in Canberra in May will be an opportunity to celebrate these and other achievements. As part of the four-day conference, Linda and I look forward to hosting a Welcome Reception for the Association at Government House on Thursday 19 May. The Conference itself will afford me the opportunity to meet with members face-to-face, to discuss further the work of the Association, and to present the Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship Awards. I commend the Association for its support of talented young Australians.

As I write, Linda and I are currently on an Official Visit to the United Arab Emirates. It is wonderful to now be able to attend official engagements in another country. Let's hope that it is a forerunner of more open and free movement throughout the year.

I want to again thank all Association members for their support of the Order of Australia. As I said in my Australia Day Address, we are a good, kind and strong people and there is much to celebrate.

NOTICE:

It with great sadness that I report the passing of Peter Stanley Ridout, husband of our President, Heather Ridout AO. As a consequence, there is no President's Report in this issue of the magazine.

National Chairman

EDITORIAL – PHIL MORRALL AM, CSC

The premier theme of this edition is the impending National Conference in May 2022, which offers a unique opportunity to 'Celebrate Service' across a very broad swathe of our national endeavour.

Speakers range from those at the highest echelon of Public Service (in its true sense), Academe in the realms of Nobel Laureate, Directors of some of our principal National Institutions through to acknowledged contributors to the regional and local community organisations in the ACT.

To be highlighted at the Conference Dinner are the 2021 and 2022 Foundation Scholarship winners. Again, a unique insight into some of our Nation's potential leaders in various fields of endeavour. Our Front-page story shows what is possible.

Your attendance at our Conference will be both an expression of confidence in our Association activities and an opportunity for you to interact with fellow members and our National Directors.

Just a quick 'heads-up'; our May 2022 edition will be delayed into June 2022 to allow for the outcomes of the Conference and the AGM to be incorporated.

See you in Canberra.

Phil Morrall AM, CSC

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I wish all members a very rewarding 2022 and trust that the Christmas/New Year period provided an opportunity to get together with family and friends. Spare a thought for those who, because of travel or other restrictions, were unable to do so.

As we begin a new year it is rewarding to look back at the achievements of our Association in 2021. Although much of the year was greatly influenced by the pandemic, Branches maintained contact with members. Some events were cancelled, sometimes at late notice, but effective work by many ensured that we made the most of activities under differing and changing regulation within States and Territories.

Branches will now be arranging annual general meetings at which the election of directors to the National Board and membership of Branch committees will be carried out. Members who have the time and expertise are encouraged to nominate for positions and contribute to the continuing life of our Association. I thank for their service those who are retiring from positions in 2022.

Your National Board has now agreed a nation-wide approach to the management of Association meetings and activities with respect to vaccination. The policy detail will be made available on the Association website, but the essentials are:

- Members, guests, visitors, and volunteers attending any OAA activity involving face-to-face contact are to be fully vaccinated.
- Those with an official medical exemption may attend.
- Partially vaccinated attendees will be welcome only until 31 March 2022.
- Government or other requirements, in addition to those of the OAA, must be observed

This approach is intended to give members and guests the confidence to attend activities at low risk.

More worthy Australians have been admitted to the Order of Australia in the 2022 Australia Day Honours announcements. Branches will now be arranging to welcome them at receptions and other events. Members are encouraged to attend and assist in welcoming new recipients and inviting them to join our Association.

It has been pleasing to note the enthusiasm with which members have been willing to make donations to the Order of Australia Association Foundation, particularly through Branch scholarship programmes. Scholarships are provided, where possible, to deserving recipients in that Branch.

Our 2022 National Conference is now a few short months away. Details and registration instructions are in this magazine. I look forward to the opportunity to speak with members, at last face-to-face, at the Conference.

Barry Nunn AO
National Chairman

NATIONAL CONFERENCE & AGM REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

Registration for the 2022 National Conference, Annual General Meeting (AGM) and associated activities is now open.

The primary means for registration is the online event management platform, *Sticky Tickets*. The Board's strong preference is that all delegates register and pay using this means. If you have difficulty during the online registration process, or are not able to use *Sticky Tickets*, please contact Phil Morrall AM, CSC on: natconference@theorderofaustralia.asn.au (M) 0411 298 926 for assistance.

There are two main registration categories:

General Registration. This category is for members and guests wishing to register for the Conference, the AGM and associated activities.

Use this link: <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/ZSXD2>

Follow *Sticky Tickets* instructions to pay the Conference Registration Fee, book tickets for the events you wish to attend and advise special dietary/other needs.

AGM and Members' Forum Only. This category is for members and guests wishing to attend the AGM & Members' Forum only.

Use this link: <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/P53D0>

Follow *Sticky Tickets* instructions to reserve your free tickets to these events.

Please note:

It is a condition of booking for activities other than the AGM and Members' Forum that the Conference Registration Fee is paid.

Members wishing to attend the AGM & Members' Forum only must register for these events for security, safety and catering purposes.

Separate registration arrangements have been made for volunteers and guests of the Foundation.

The Board and ACT Branch strongly encourage members to register at the earliest opportunity to provide confidence in likely delegate numbers.

Please remember to bring your tickets to present at the Registration Desk to confirm your attendance and obtain your name badges.

Michael Crane DSC and Bar, AM

Chair ACT Branch

2022 NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 19 – 22 MAY 2022

The National Conference and AGM will be centred on Hotel Realm in Canberra's inner south with associated activities held at other iconic Canberra venues.

PROGRAM, FEES AND TICKET COSTS

Conference Registration Fee. Member - \$210 Guest - \$210

Thursday 19 May.

12.00 - 4.30pm. Registration Desk & Merchandise Stand open at Hotel Realm.

Time TBC. Vice-Regal Reception at Government House, Yarralumla.

Dress. Lounge Suit and Miniature Medals.

Please Note. For security reasons, all attendees will be required to use bus transport provided by the ACT Branch, departing from and arriving at Hotel Realm. Private transport to Government House will not be permitted.

Friday 20 May.

7.30am – 4.30pm. Registration Desk & Merchandise Stand open at Hotel Realm.

8.30am – 4.30pm. National Conference at Hotel Realm.

Dress. Business Attire and Lapel Badge.

9.00 – 10.00am. Session 1. Association Oration. [The Hon Shane Stone AC, QC](#), Chair, Council for the Order of Australia and Coordinator-General, Australian Recovery and Resilience Agency.

10.30 – 11.30am. Session 2. [Professor Brian Schmidt AC](#), Vice-Chancellor, Australian National University (TBC).

11.40am – 12.40pm. Session 3. [Jane Halton AO, PSM](#), former Secretary, Department of Finance, Department of Health, Department of Health & Ageing.

1.30 – 2.45pm. Session 4. Panel – Public Service, hosted by [Brendan Nicholson](#), Executive Editor, *The Strategist*, Australian Strategic Policy Institute.

[Kathryn Campbell AO, CSC](#), Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (TBC).

[Paul Symon AO](#), Director-General, Australian Secret Intelligence Service.

[Georgeina Whelan AM, CSC & Bar](#), Commissioner, ACT Emergency Services (TBC).

3.15 – 4.30pm. Session 5. Panel – Community Service, hosted by [Alex Sloan AM](#), journalist, panellist, MC and commentator.

[Jenny Bowker AO](#), quiltmaker and textile artist.

[Sue Packer AO](#), paediatrician and advocate for children.

[Scott Sadler AM](#), Director, National Arboretum.

4.45 – 5.30pm. Fellowship Drinks at Hotel Realm.

Saturday 21 May.

8.30am – 12.30pm. Registration Desk & Merchandise Stand open at Hotel Realm.

9.00 – 11.30 am. National AGM & Members' Forum at Hotel Realm.

Dress. Business Attire and Lapel Badge.

6.45 – 10.30pm. Conference Dinner including presentation of Foundation Awards at National Arboretum, \$120pp.

Dress. Black Tie preferred and Miniature Medals.

National Bonsai Collection and Curatoreum (Gift Shop) open from 6.45 to 7.20pm.

Sunday 22 May.

11.15am – 12.15pm. Commemorative Service at National Museum of Australia.

Dress. Business Attire and Full-Size Medals

Speaker. [Matt Anderson PSM](#), Director, Australian War Memorial.

12.30 – 2.30pm. Farewell Luncheon at National Museum of Australia, \$65pp.

Dress. Business Attire and Full-Size Medals.

Speaker – [Dr Mathew Trinca AM](#), Director, National Museum of Australia.

REGISTRATION & TICKETS

Members and their guests wishing to attend the Conference and associated activities must register and pay the Conference Registration Fee. The Vice-Regal Reception, Fellowship Drinks and Commemorative Service are included in the Conference Registration Fee, but tickets for the Conference Dinner and Farewell Luncheon will be billed separately.

Members wishing to attend the AGM & Members' Forum only (ie not attending the Conference or associated activities) must register for these events but attendance will be free of charge.

CHECK-IN AND COVID SAFETY

On arrival in Canberra, delegates should register at the Registration Desk as soon as possible. Please remember to bring your tickets in hard copy or on your phone. A nametag with a unique QR code will be issued as part of the registration process and delegates must wear their nametag to enable check-in at each activity.

In accordance with the Association's policy, all delegates to the Conference, associated activities, the AGM and the Members' Forum must be double-vaccinated for COVID-19 with booster as appropriate or hold a medical exemption.

In addition to the Association's check-in procedures, delegates must download the Check In CBR app and use it when arriving at venues. Hard-copy alternatives will be available.

Relevant venue COVID-19 protocols will apply throughout.

ACCOMMODATION

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. www.hotelrealm.com.au.

Burbury Hotel & Apartments: 4.5 star hotel with hotel rooms, suites and apartments. www.burburyhotel.com.au.

Little National Hotel: 4 star hotel with affordable luxury to all. www.littlenationalhotel.com.au.

Brassey Hotel: 4 star 1920s hotel with old world charm, refurbished in 2017. www.brasseyhotel.com.au.

Discount:

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**.

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

T: 0261631888 |E: reservations@domahotels.com.au

TOURS

No organised tours are planned in conjunction with the 2022 Conference. Delegates wishing to arrange their own tours or find out more about what to do in Canberra may wish to use the Visit Canberra website at <https://visitcanberra.com.au>.

WA BRANCH

WA Chairman's Report: Bettine Heathcote AM



Despite the hope that the new year would usher in a much better year, the ever escalating numbers of COVID cases being experienced in NSW and Victoria seem to negate that hope. We send our very best wishes to all our colleagues in other Branches. With the WA border planned to be opened in early February, it is hoped WA will not also experience a huge increase in numbers of infections, although this seems rather optimistic.

As reported in these pages, the WA Branch has been able to hold all our planned events in 2021 and the committee has a full diary planned for 2022. Our committee meetings and several of our events have been held at St Louis Estate and we thank them for their hospitality and making their delightful facilities available to us. I also thank our WA members for their generosity in donating prizes for the Christmas raffle. The table was loaded and gave winners a wonderful selection from which to choose.

Our Police Patrons have been extra busy this past year with additional squads of police recruits being trained at the Police Academy. There are plans to expand this involvement to other areas of the training which occurs at the Academy. More information about this new venture will be given as plans are further developed.

Work has continued to raise funds toward our Scholarship Fund and it is with great pleasure and pride that I report we are well on our way to raising the required amount for a scholarship to be awarded at the National Conference in Perth in 2024 (COVID permitting, of course).

On behalf of the WA Branch I wish all members a healthy 2022.

Bettine Heathcote AM

OAWA Office-holders and Committee Members

Patron: Hon Kim Beazley AC Governor of Western Australia

Vice Patron: Hon Kerry Sanderson AC

Chairman : Mrs Bettine Heathcote AM

Secretary: Miss Margaret Lobo AM

Treasurer: Mr Peter Snow OAM

WA National Director: Professor Robin Watts AM

Committee: Capt. Michael Bleus OAM CSC: Convenor Police Patron Scheme
Mr Geoffrey Cattach AM
Prof Lorraine Hammond AM: Membership Officer
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 Coordinator : Mrs Margaret Nunn OAM

Regional Convenors

South West Region: Hon Barry House AM

Great Southern Region : Ms Jan Savage OAM

Contact Information

wabranch@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

phone 0418 865 313

Mail: General Correspondence:

The Hon Secretary 26B Albemarle Street Scarborough 6019

Financial Correspondence :

The Hon Treasurer 3 Stoneykirk Loop Kingsley 6026

OAAWA Annual Christmas Lunch 2021



This enjoyable and delicious meal was once again held on 17th November at the Fremantle Sailing Club; a lovely venue with a beautiful view of the yachts and the ocean. There were 120 attendees.

We were welcomed by our Chairman, Bettine Heathcote AM. Bill Hassall AM discussed the OAA Foundation Scholarship and the plan to nominate a scholar from Western Australia when the National

Conference is held in Perth in 2024. He was joined by Denis Glennon AO who had been the mentor to Rahul Khubchandani. Denis spoke of the criteria that the committee is looking for in a recipient and the importance of being mentor. He had found the process rewarding and recommended members consider being a mentor. Rahul and Ash Hunt are the only two Western Australian students who had been granted scholarships. Their subsequent lives have shown how important the scholarships were in their careers

We are fortunate that the National Chairman, Major General Barry Nunn AO, lives in Western Australia and attends our functions. He once again recommended the COVID-19 vaccination and encouraged as many as possible to attend the National Conference to be held in Canberra in May 2022.

At the end of the meal, the raffle was drawn. There had been a number of prizes donated and many attendees left the function delighted with their wins.

Regional activities

The South West region held their annual lunch on 29th October 2021 at St Aidan's Winery in the picturesque Ferguson Valley. This is a rapidly emerging area as a tourism destination and well worth a visit. Members from Perth joined with South West members to hear from 3 new 2021 awardees who outlined their backgrounds and stories. The owners of the Winery, Phil and Mary Smith, also spoke of their passion for the industry and how they have just recently been able to retire from other jobs to concentrate on the vineyard, winery and restaurant as well as contributing an enormous amount to the community.



Great Southern Region

The visit to Albany to join with Great Southern region members for their Church parade and lunch is, for many Perth members, a much anticipated annual event. The Church parade is held in several different Churches and this year was held in the Holy Family Catholic Church in Albany. Following the service 33 members and guests enjoyed a Christmas lunch at Motel le Grande. Three new awardees in the Great Southern region were welcomed, one of whom was 99 year old Mrs Cecelia Sounness who received her award for many years of service to the CWA.



Police Patron Scheme



This scheme is going from strength to strength and we are grateful to all those members who take part.

At the end of August, the Police Academy had a first, where 5 Squads graduated on the night. Michael Bleus, our Patron Coordinator, was full of admiration for the Squads, parading in their short sleeved uniforms on a bitterly cold evening; luckily it did not rain. This larger than normal Graduation was due to a number of Squads being assigned immediately to COVID duties.

On Friday 19th November, the Police Commissioner hosted a lunch at the Academy for the Patrons. Police Auxiliary Officers (PAO's) are responsible for the Watch House where arrested persons are processed leaving sworn officers to go back onto the street.

As a new initiative, the Academy decided to recognise the PAO's for their contribution by having an official induction and Graduation of the latest intake.

The Association was asked to provide a Patron for this and future Squads.

There is a plan to provide a Patron for the Indigenous Cadet program which the Academy is hoping will have a late January or early February start.

Janet Savage OAM JP

Janet Savage has organised the Albany Church Service and lunch for several years.



Janet received her OAM in June 2005 for service to the Shire of Gnowangerup, representing the Ongerup Ward, in 1987. At that time she was the only female on Council. It was otherwise an all male council that elected her as Deputy president and then as the first female Shire President in 1995.

In total she served 26 years on the council and was shire president for 12 years.

In 1991 she was appointed as a Justice of the Peace, serving in Ongerup, often officiating in the local court.

Other local service was several years as treasurer of the Ongerup Bowling Club, treasurer of the Ongerup Museum, officiating as the Ongerup representative on the Ongerup Football Association disputes tribunal and a member of Ongerup Red Cross Unit, receiving a medal and bar for 20 years of service.

She has been on the Board of the Yongergnow Malleefowl Centre in Ongerup for many years, stepping down as Chairman at the last AGM where she was awarded Life Membership of Yongergnow.

Since retiring to Albany 4 years ago, she has continued as a JP, usually volunteering once a fortnight in the signing room at the Courthouse. She volunteers 2 afternoons per week in the Living Water Anglican Op shop, where she is secretary/ treasurer. She and her husband, Barry, are involved with their local parkrun event and volunteer on average, once a month, allowing other runners to participate.

OAAWA Programme 2022

Sunday 27th February at 10am
Annual General Meeting

RAAFA Club, 2 Bullcreek Drive, Bullcreek 6149.

Guest Speaker, Marcus Stafford AM. The title of his talk will be “ Bringing balance to the force.”

Wednesday 16th March at 6pm

Reception for the 2022 Australia Day Honours Recipients, hosted by the City of Stirling. Stirling Council Offices 25 Cedric Street Stirling 6021

Sunday 19th June 5pm

Annual Church Service at St George’s Cathedral St George’s Terrace Perth 6000.

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
Bill Maiden PSM OAM
Andrew Phelan AM
Coralie Wood OAM

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

2021 was another challenging year and, with Omicron on the rise, the festive season was once again muted. But with most ACT residents now double vaccinated and many boosted, our prospects for 2022 are much brighter. On behalf of all Branch members, I congratulate particularly ACT-based recipients of honours and awards in the Australia Day list. Our Australia Day breakfast with Genevieve Jacobs AM was well attended despite ongoing COVID concerns and, at the time of writing, our planning for the Branch AGM and reception for new recipients in mid-February is well advanced. We also have Branch events planned for March and April, so please watch out for details on the website and in the newsletter.

Of course, our focus here in the ACT is increasingly turning to the National Conference and AGM and our theme of *Celebrating Service*. We have a world-class line-up of speakers committed to the Conference itself, four Foundation scholarships will be presented at the Conference Dinner, and the Directors of the War Memorial and the National Museum round out the program on the final day. Together with the Board and our venues, we've developed

a robust approach to COVID safety and, subject to any contingencies that might arise, the event will go ahead.

You will have seen elsewhere in this edition of *The Order* that registration is now open via Sticky Tickets. We ask all members to sign up as soon as possible, but particularly members from the ACT Branch. The key to success in any year is a solid foundation of host-branch member attendance so it's very important that we Canberra folk turn out in large numbers; an early flow of registrations from the ACT will go a long way to instilling confidence in members Australia-wide. So don't delay, book your tickets today – we'll see you in May!

Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM
Branch Chair

2021 OAA-ANU LECTURE BY PROFESSOR PETER YU AM – 4 NOVEMBER 2021



Members and guests enjoyed the online 2021 OAA-ANU Lecture by Professor Peter Yu AM, whose theme was *Looking forward, Looking Back*. In a poignant address, Peter reflected on his experiences growing up as an Indigenous person and his hopes for a better future for Indigenous people. Peter was appointed a Member in the Order of Australia in June 2021 *for significant service to the community, particularly to Indigenous cultural and political organisations*. The Association is grateful to the Vice-Chancellor of the Australian National University for his continuing support to this important community outreach event. You can view the lecture at

<https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/act/events/>. This online event was a first for the Branch and the national online membership were invited to participate.

AWARD for Narelle Hargreaves AM



On 3 November the Government of Japan announced the 2021 Autumn Conferment of Decorations on Foreign Nationals for their outstanding contribution to their respective areas.

Two Australians were recognised in this announcement, Dame Olivia Newton-John AC DBE and ACT Branch Committee member Ms Narelle Hargreaves AM, who was awarded "*The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays*" for her contribution to enhancing interregional exchanges between Japan and Australia through promoting sister-city exchanges. Narelle is Chair of Canberra Nara Sister City Committee and has supported the Sister City relationship since its beginnings in 1994.

Narelle was awarded an OAM in 2008 and was upgraded to a Member in the Order of Australia on Australia Day 2019 *for significant service to children and young people in the Australian Capital Territory and to education*. She was announced as 2016 Canberra Citizen of the Year for her deep commitment to vulnerable children and young people in the ACT in her roles as an Official Visitor for Children and Young People in the ACT with Bimberi Youth Justice Centre, President of the

ACT Children's Week Committee and as Chair of the Non-Government Schools Education Council.

Narelle spent 14 years as a principal in ACT schools and a further 10 as Director of Schools and International Education, which demonstrated her strong leadership and passion for the welfare of young people.

2021 ACT BRANCH STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

After the ACT COVID-19 lockdown ended, the Branch was able to present five Student Citizenship Awards at their schools and colleges in December. As an outreach activity to acknowledge and reward good citizenship in the ACT student body, it was especially pleasing for the Student Awards coordinator and panel judge, Dr Bill Maiden, to be able to conduct the presentations in front of their peers. Details of the awards were in the November edition of The Order. Three of the award recipients are shown here.

The new Margaret Hendry School seven member 'Children's Parliament' received a certificate of Commendation at the Year 6 graduation for volunteering their time to positively effect change through community service at the school.



Margaret Hendry School 'Children's Parliament' with Dr Bill Maiden PSM, OAM

At a graduation ceremony, Canberra College students Sophie Thorp and Sam Harding **were** both awarded Highly Commended Certificates for demonstrating outstanding and sustained student leadership throughout their high school years and especially in college during the COVID-19 outbreak.



Dr Bill Maiden PSM OAM, Sophie Thorp, Sam Harding and judging panel members, Narelle Hargreaves AM, and Trish Keller OAM

Meet Our Members

Diane Kargas Bray AM



Diane has been a tireless contributor to the Canberra community and mentor for people in the charitable and not for profit sector. In her former role as Public Trustee for the ACT, Diane founded the Capital Region Community Foundation known as GreaterGood, for the perpetual benefit of Canberra and the region.

She helped to establish Common Ground, which provides quality tenancies to people who have experienced homelessness, and to low-income earners who are unable to access other affordable housing options and Diane advocates for people with disability, encouraging the growth of new social businesses that employ people with intellectual disabilities. As the chair of Hands Across Canberra she has been instrumental in bringing together businesses, government, and individuals to channel donations to local charities.

Diane's work has extended to roles with the Canberra Bushfire Recovery Appeal, the ACT Committee for the Fundraising Institute of Australia, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and as Chair of the Social Enterprise Taskforce at the Canberra Business Chamber. She is currently a director of Australian Community Philanthropy, is the Chair of the Chief Ministers Charitable Fund and a member of the ACT Reconciliation Council.

Diane was the ACT Local Hero in 2004, and in 2007 was recognised by the International Women's Day Award for services to the ACT Community. In 2010 she was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for service to the community of the Australian Capital Territory, particularly through the establishment of the Capital Region Community Foundation, to aged persons, and to diabetes research organisations. In 2011 Diane was listed on the Honour Roll of 100 inspiring women in the ACT, and in 2018 was named as the ACT Citizen of the Year.

VALE

We regret to advise the recent passing of the following ACT Branch member and pay our respects for his contribution to the Association and the Australian community.

Mr. Bryan KENNEDY OAM - Queen's Birthday 2006 – For service to the communities of Crookwell and Goulburn, particularly through the St Vincent de Paul Society.

VICTORIA BRANCH

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Victorians entered 2021 with optimism, as we look back; it was a year of challenges with a glimmer of opportunity when we came out of lockdown late November.

In welcoming 2022, we acknowledge we are entering a different COVID challenge because of the high variant transmission associated with Omicron. We need to embrace the new year with hope and ambition.



We greatly appreciate and thank all those in our communities who are working under challenging conditions, it is essential we are considerate when dealing with these workers, especially in the health and service sectors.

Our last event for 2021 was our annual lunch, for the second year this was virtual; taking a positive approach it allowed some interstate members to join us.

The first two speakers Jade Hameister OAM and Paul Hameister OAM, an inspirational father and daughter team talked about their polar explorations including the Polar Hat Trick. Please refer to the December 2021 e-Newsletter edition on the OAA website <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/vic/newsletters/>

Our third speaker was an Order of Australia Association Foundation 2018 Scholarship recipient Hannah Gandy. Refer to the next page for an update regarding Hannah and the OAA Foundation 2023 Victoria Branch Scholarship.

The excitement of a new year also brings a list of outstanding new Australia Day Order of Australia Honours recipients who have gone above and beyond. These recipients have received a letter of congratulations from our National Chairman Barry Nunn AO together with an invitation to join the Association and membership application.

I have sent a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Victorian Branch and included an information brochure. I am confident our Regional Groups will also welcome and encourage our Australia Day 2022 recipients to attend upcoming events, during the year.

Please note, based on current State of Victoria regulations, attendees at hospitality venues in Victoria are required to use QR code sign in, wear a mask inside except when eating or drinking and show confirmation they are double/fully vaccinated or proof of a government medical exemption.

All venues selected for our events are accessible by members and guests of all abilities.

Events planned for the year are:

Wednesday February 23: 10.30am to 12.30pm. The Inspiring Australians Oration at Melbourne Town Hall will be delivered by Arron Wood AM. Book via TryBooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/BWKZR>

Wednesday March 30: 10.45am sign in for Annual General Meeting at William Angliss Institute. Lunch at 12noon in the William Angliss Restaurant with speaker Elleni Bereded-Samuel AM Book via TryBooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/BWYAX>

June/July on a Sunday - National Gallery of Victoria Winter Masterpieces event; waiting for 2022 exhibition dates. Will include onsite lecture, exhibition and a lunch option

Thursday November 24: 6.15pm End of Year Dinner for members and guests at William Angliss Restaurant with speaker Allan Myers AC QC.

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

OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron: The Governor of Victoria
Her Excellency The Hon. Linda Dessau AC

Chairman

Dr Helene Bender AM chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au
Mobile: 0407 261 951

Deputy Chairman

Trevor Clark OAM

Secretary

Fred Harrington OAM secvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Treasurer

Alan Brook OAM treasurervic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Branch Nominated Director

William Lye OAM QC

Editor VIC pages – The Order

Dr Helene Bender AM victheordermag@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Membership Secretary

Fred Harrington OAM

Merchandise Chairman

Professor June Kane AM chairmerchandise@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Regional Groups Coordinator

Barb Brook OAM vicrgcoord@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Committee members

Dr Paul Hemming AO
Barbara Thomas OAM

GRAEME DODD OAM

Born in Melbourne in 1945, Graeme Dodd's childhood was spent on the family plantation in far North Queensland. He describes this as a wonderful place to grow up in, studying by correspondence and joining his family in working hard on the land.

The family then slowly, over a number of years, worked their way down the East Coast to Numurkah, Vic, where Graeme completed his schooling.

To obtain training and qualifications in electronics, software and logistics, Graeme then joined the Royal Australian Air Force in 1963.

The following 23 years were spent travelling throughout Australia, South East Asia and the USA, visiting and working on most Air Force bases. This included three years in Malaysia and war service in Vietnam in 1967–1968.

During his time in Vietnam he formed long lasting associations and friendships with many local Vietnamese. This made him very aware of how lucky we are in Australia. As Graeme says "it also made me far less tolerant of some of the current society's recalcitrants".

He specialised in electronics and logistics, managing electronic installations at many Air Force bases. This he found enjoyable and rewarding.

He became a team leader in the major projects division. This led to being selected to join the F/A-18 Aircraft procurement team based in St Louis, Missouri, USA, where he spent four years.

During his time in the USA, he was awarded an OAM in the Order of Australia Military Division Australia Day 1983 Honours in recognition of service as a radio technician (ground) in the RAAF. His OAM was presented at the Australian Embassy in Washington by Sir Robert Cotton KCMG AO.

Graeme modestly says he was, and is, very honoured to receive the medal - in military service it really is a team effort that achieves the best results and unfortunately not all can be recognised.

Graeme married late in his military career and left the Air Force, as he says to "put down roots" He became the Technical manager for Marconi Instruments, then for NEC Australia for a number of years.

He then contracted to the Government-sponsored Broadband for Seniors project as Software and Hardware Support Manager. It was a most rewarding experience interfacing with Australian seniors and he made lots of friends. Graeme believes many Australian Seniors benefited greatly from this initiative.

He has been semi-retired since 2015, but still has an active role in various service associations, including acting as Treasurer for the OAA Eastern Suburbs Regional Group in Victoria and contracts to local electronic companies. He also supports his wife in her positions with U3A (Strength Training), Rotary-Sponsored LAARF Singers and the Manningham Interfaith Network.

Graeme says his life has been, and is, filled with wonderful experiences that he would never trade.

Graeme Dodd OAM has been an Order of Australia Association member for 38 years.

Article submitted by Glenys Grant OAM on behalf of OAA VIC Branch Eastern Suburbs Regional Group



ORDER of AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION 2023 VICTORIA BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

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.



The applicants are assessed for selection against the following criteria:-

- academic achievement in their early years of study in the designated course;
 - showing potential as future leaders in their field of study;
 - community involvement;
 - benefiting the Australian community in future years through the Scholarship award and their specialist knowledge;
 - needing financial assistance to benefit the completion of their studies; and
 - having the ability to gain significantly from the guidance of suitably experienced volunteer
- the ability to gain significantly from the guidance of suitably experienced volunteer Mentors from The Order of Australia Association.

The VIC Branch thanks members and regional groups who have made a donation to the 2023 Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship. The scholarship will be presented to a second year university student at the OAA National Conference in Victoria May 2023

Member Donors as at December 31, 2021:

Anonymous (1)
 Bender AM – Helene
 Daly AM – Peter
 Haycroft OAM – Margaret
 Hayes AM – Karen
 Group
 Kane AM - June
 Knight OAM– Ian
 Lange-Mohr OAM – Jill
 Lye OAM - William
 Paton AO - Elaine
 Pointer OAM– Michael
 O’Hara OAM – Patricia
 Thomas OAM – Barbara
 Wheelton AM - Paul

Regional Group Donors:

Barwon Regional Group
 Mallee Regional Group
 Melbourne Central Regional Group
 North Central Suburbs Regional Group
 North East & Goulburn Valley Regional
 South Central Suburbs Regional Group
 South Western Regional Group
 Western Suburbs Regional Group

As noted in the Chairman’s Report on the previous page, the third speaker at the VIC Branch November 2021 annual lunch was Hannah Gandy a worthy Order of Australia Association Foundation 2018 Scholarship recipient

Last year Hannah completed a Bachelor of Laws/ Bachelor of Arts (Politics) with a high distinction in both degrees at La Trobe University and will be admitted as a lawyer early this year.

Hannah’s success continues she is now a recipient of a John Monash Scholarship and recognised as a 2022 John Monash Scholar. All Scholars selected to date, possess significant leadership potential, are outstanding in their chosen fields and aspire to make the world a better place.

Hannah heads off to University College London this September; her Postgraduate Degree will be Master of Laws.

John Monash Scholars are already demonstrating their value by contributing to Australia's future as scientists, academics and business people, as well as contributors to policy in key areas such as water, health and Indigenous affairs.

Hannah has spoken at various Order of Australia Association VIC Branch events as a Foundation scholarship recipient; I know many of our members will follow the next chapter in her life in London.

Donations are still being accepted toward the 2023 VIC Branch OAA Foundation Scholarship

Direct Deposit to OAAF BSB 013-006 Acc 314735771 reference VIC 2023.

Please email confirmation of payment to email: sec@oaafoundation.com.au. Tax receipt will be issued.

MERCHANDISE SHOP

Firstly happy 2022 and thank you to all the members who purchased merchandise last year, we appreciate your support.

Please refer to the back page of this edition of the national magazine for the current OAA Merchandise Order Form and note the Medallion and Lapel badge are on sale.

Also note stock is low on three items, generic cards (pack of 5), unisex knitted scarf and pure silk blush/coffee scarf.

Visit the Order of Australia Association Merchandise Shop online <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/shopping-cart/>

The Chair of Merchandise (June Kane AM) welcomes feedback from members regarding new merchandise items for the committee to consider for 2022, please email your list to E: chairmerchandise@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

SA BRANCH

BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE:

Tony Metcalf OAM
SA Branch Chair

chairsa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au



We heartily welcome Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC who was sworn-in on Thursday 7 October as the 36th Governor of South Australia. Her Excellency was appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia in last year's Queen's Birthday Honours List. We are also very pleased to announce that Her Excellency has kindly agreed to become our Branch Patron. Her Excellency's biography can be found here:

<https://www.governor.sa.gov.au/the-governor/the-governor>

The Branch Committee and our Events Sub-committee have continued with the planning and conduct of some very successful events and social activities – still, of course, maintaining our COVID-Safe awareness. So too, the Regional Groups have been active, and will continue to be so in this coming year.

We held a successful Strategic Planning Day on Saturday 30 October. We took the opportunity to review our four strategic aims relating to Governance & Leadership, Membership, Community Engagement and Finance. The success of our Student Citizenship Awards program and sponsorship of the Adelaide Eisteddfod, which accord with the key Objects and Purposes of the Branch, were highlighted as opportunities that might be built on in the future.

In the first week of November, Branch Committee members and myself attended a total of seven investiture ceremonies at Government House for recipients from the 2021 Queen's Birthday Honours List. And then on Tuesday 23 November we held a very successful New Recipients' Reception with 21 new recipients in attendance with their families and guests.

Our Student Citizenship Awards Top 10 nominees received their plaques and certificates at Government House on Monday 29 November, with a ceremony and reception hosted by Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC and Mr Rod Buntin. At this event the 2021 Student Citizen of the Year was announced.

As this issue goes to print we are preparing to hold our 2021 Annual General Meeting. At this meeting Professor John McKellar AM ED will be standing down, after a total of 12 years in a variety of roles including Branch Committee member, SA Branch Treasurer, National Treasurer and SA Branch Nominated Director. John will be continuing as a co-opted member of our Events Sub-Committee for the near future.

On behalf of all SA Branch members, I would also like to thank June Genders OAM who is standing down as our co-opted Merchandise Officer. She has enthusiastically looked after this portfolio for a number of years as well as assisting our Events Sub-Committee.

I wish all a happy and prosperous New Year

Tony Metcalf OAM

BRANCH COMMITTEE DETAILS:

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Office-holders and committee members

Patron

The Honourable Frances Adamson AC

Chairman

Tony Metcalf OAM

Deputy Chairman

Noel Hender OAM BEM

Secretary

John Phillips OAM

Treasurer

John McKellar AM ED

Member Secretary SA

Greg Gordon OAM JP

Student Citizenship Awards Convenor

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

Joe Ienco OAM (co-opted)

Flavia de Pasquale OAM

Pamela Rajkowski OAM

Branch Nominated Director

John McKellar AM ED

Website

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

REGIONAL CONTACTS:

Fleurieu Regional Group

John Hutchinson OAM

johnhutc@bigpond.com

South East Regional Group

Eric Roughana AM

roseric1@bigpond.com

Riverland and Mallee Regional Group

Tim Grieger OAM JP

tgrieger@riverland.net.au

Yorke Peninsula Regional Group

Elaine Bussenschutt OAM (Kadina)

elaine@yp-connect.net

Maree Anderson OAM (Minlaton)

mareeanderson@internode.on.net

***Barossa, Gawler & District and
mid-North Regional Group***

orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com

Title: STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS



Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC and Mr Rod Bunten hosted a reception at Government House Adelaide on 29 November for the presentation of the 2021 SA Student Citizenship Awards. This program is the flagship endeavour of the SA Branch.

The Top 10 nominees received an inscribed plaque and signed certificate ('With Distinction') from the Governor. Her Excellency then presented the 2021 Student Citizen of the Year award to Georgia Kehagias from Immanuel College.

In addition, 24 'Highly Commended' certificates, also signed by Her Excellency, were distributed to schools via the allocated SA Branch representative and were presented during an end-of-year or graduation function.

The 2021 Top 10 Student Citizenship Award recipients at Government House Adelaide. Rear (left



to right): Jordan Zorzi and Jayden Gale, Rostrevor College; Mr Rod Bunten; Samuel Wabnitz and Jamieson Noutsatos, Temple Christian College; Riley Day, Australian Science & Mathematics School.

Front: Charlotte Worthley, Walford Anglican School for Girls; Shikofa Anguri, Thebarton Senior College;

Madeleine Moss, Walford Anglican School for Girls; Her Excellency the Governor; Georgia Kehagias, Immanuel College; Kanika Singla, Mount Carmel College; Tony Metcalf OAM, SA Branch Chairman.

Title: HONOURS AND AWARDS

In one of her first official duties, Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC hosted the St John Ambulance-SA Awards Day at Government House Adelaide on Saturday 16 October, in her capacity as Deputy Prior of the Order of St John in South Australia.

Mrs Raelene Denham OAM DStJ received the Third Service Bar to her Ultra-Long Service Medal of the Order of St John, representing a total of 65 years of service to St John Ambulance. Noel Hender

OAM CStJ BEM was awarded the Second Service Bar for 60 years' service. Noel is the SA Branch Deputy Chairman, and Convenor of the SA Branch Student Citizenship Awards program.

In a separate ceremony on 20 December, Her Excellency presented Noel with the National Emergency Medal with clasp "BUSHFIRES 19-20" for having rendered eligible service with St John Ambulance A during the Black Summer Bushfires.

The National Emergency Medal is awarded in recognition of eligible service during the 'Response' phase – action, assistance and intervention during a declared emergency, where the focus is on saving lives and protecting community assets. A total of 141 St John Ambulance SA staff and volunteers provided service in the Adelaide Hills and on Kangaroo Island in response to the 2019-20 Bushfires, with 45 members meeting the criteria to receive the Medal.

At the award ceremony, Noel provided a quick overview of the St John Ambulance involvement, concluding with the observation: *"St John SA and the wider community can feel justly proud that all of the responding St John members, including the recipients here tonight, demonstrated through their response and by their selfless actions, the key values reflected in the St John motto: Pro Fide, Pro Utilitate Hominum : For the Faith, For the Service of Humanity"*.

Meanwhile SA Branch Committee member Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP has been awarded the Long Service Medal of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award – Australia. This medal was created by the National Board in 2015 to acknowledge significant service to the Award in Australia. The medal provides formal recognition for those individuals who have provided ten years' or more service to the Award in a voluntary and/or paid capacity. At various times since 1984, Paul has been a School Award Coordinator, a Squadron Coordinator in the Air Force Cadets, an Award Leader and an Advocate, and he is also a Friend of the Award. The medal is not part of the Australian Honours System, and therefore is worn by the recipient on the right breast.



Noel Hender OAM CStJ BEM with the National Emergency Medal.

Title: EVENTS

For the Fellowship Luncheon on Thursday 28 October, the guest speaker was Mr John Phillips OAM, with the topic, "Waste pathways: the new Circular Economy". John is Secretary of the SA Branch Committee, a member of the events Sub-Committee and a member of the Student Citizenship Awards Assessment and Selection Panel. He is also a Life Governor of Apex Australia, and former CEO of KESAB Environmental Solutions (1988-2019).

Our annual Christmas Morning Tea is provided to members at no cost, and on 1 December we had a total of 61 members and guests attend. An outstanding range of food from Vili's Bakery was kindly donated by Rosemary Milisits OAM, and we express our gratitude for this support. Entertainment was provided by Dr Rob Wight OAM, and then June Genders OAM joined Rob to offer us three piano duets.

At the Annual General Meeting we will be farewelling Professor John McKellar AM ED as Chair of the Events Sub-committee, and we thank him for his service.

Upcoming Branch activities include:

Thursday 24 February: Fellowship luncheon with Dr Aileen Cannon AM: "The Poet Robert Browning (1812-1889)"

Friday 25 February: South East Regional Group luncheon meeting

26 February: Annual General Meeting

Sunday 17 April: Riverland and Mallee Regional Group afternoon tea meeting

Thursday 28 April: Fellowship luncheon meeting with Mr Greg Gordon OAM JP: "My Journey into Gordon Ancestry".

Sunday 1 May: Yorke Peninsula Regional Group luncheon meeting

Friday 6 May: Fleurieu Regional Group luncheon meeting



SA Branch members and guests at the Adelaide Botanic Garden on 2 October, in a visit purposefully scheduled to capture the fragrant purple blooms of *Wisteria floribunda*, which only flowers from mid-September until early October.



October Fellowship Luncheon guests, standing (left to right): Pamela Rajkowski OAM, Hamish Kerr (IT communications), Gill Rogers OAM, John Philips OAM (guest speaker), Peter Routley AM ED (MC), Flavia De Pasquale OAM, Kathryn House AM, Glenys Jones OAM JP, Dr Aileen Cannon AM, Bryce Saint OAM ED, Ruth McGee, Professor Tony Phillips AM and David Linn OAM. Seated (left to right): John Thomas AM, Margaret Ford OAM, Helen Smith, Ken Smith AM, Susan Phillips, Liz Linn.



New honours recipients (left to right): Mr Ian Doyle OAM; Dr Toby Coates AO; Dr Victor Squires AM; Professor Donald Howie AO; Mr Derrick Casey OAM; Mr Kevin Kleemann OAM; Associate Professor Tony Phillips AM; Emeritus Professor Barbara Santich AM; Mr Bryan Hearn

OAM JP; Ms Jill Argent OAM (AD21); Mr John Ford OAM; Mr John Mula OAM; Warrant Officer Wayde Bilsborow OAM; Emeritus Professor James Toouli AM; Mr Oscar Joppich OAM; Mrs Jill Swann OAM; Mr David Thomas OAM; Dr Richard Willing OAM; Mr Keith Yates AM; the Reverend John Maddern AM RFD; Dr Kaye Roberts-Thomson OAM.

Professor John McKellar AM ED

As this issue goes to print we are preparing to hold our 2021 Annual General Meeting. At this meeting Professor John McKellar AM ED will be standing down, after a total of 12 years in a variety of roles including Branch Committee member, SA Branch Treasurer, National Treasurer and SA Branch Nominated Director. John will be continuing as a co-opted member of our Events Sub-Committee for the near future.



Professor John McKellar AM ED – outgoing SA Branch Nominated Director, SA Branch Treasurer and Chair of the Events Sub-committee.

TASMANIA BRANCH

BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE:

Now that we are well into the New Year, I hope that all members had a safe and enjoyable Christmas/New Year break having happy times with family and friends.

As these notes are written, we are looking forward to the announcement of the Australia Day awards and planning for events that the Branch can manage in this new virus environment. With some Tasmania businesses and organisations currently taking voluntary closures or lockdowns largely due to staff shortages, it does impose another layer of complexity in making appropriate decisions for gatherings for the benefit and safety of our members. The Governor will be conducting an investiture for three gentlemen whose awards were announced in the Queen's Birthday honours list last June. This is scheduled for January 25th at the North West Tasmanian town of Wynyard.

The Branch had originally planned the Annual General Meeting to be in the Tasmanian Northern Midlands' town of Campbell Town but the decision has been made that the meeting will be conducted electronically using Zoom. While it is disappointing that we cannot meet in person, a Zoom meeting is the better option in the current circumstances.

Congratulations to Branch committeeman David Brill AM ACS for the one-hour documentary "On the Frontlines" shown before Christmas on ABC TV about his distinguished career as a cinematographer reporting for programmes such as ABC Four Corners and SBS Dateline. The documentary is available for viewing on ABC iView and a summary of his life is included in this edition of *The Order*.

Alastair Douglas OAM
Branch Chairman

BRANCH COMMITTEE DETAILS:

TASMANIAN BRANCH
OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE
MEMBERS

Patron

Her Excellency, The Honourable
Barbara Baker AC Governor of Tasmania

Chairman

Mr Alastair Douglas OAM
(P: 0418 127 897)

National Board Director

Dr Rosemary Callingham AM

Hon Secretary & Southern Regional Chairman

Mrs Maureen Rudge OAM

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 Von Samorzewski OAM

Title: Vice Regal Cocktail Function

The Order of Australia Tasmania Branch Northern Region Committee hosted a Vice Regal Cocktail Function for the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, The Governor of Tasmania, and Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers AO at the Launceston Club on November 19th 2021.

In welcoming Her Excellency, the Chair Sue Shea OAM said, “...*Your Excellency we congratulate you on being sworn in as Tasmania’s 29th Governor in June this year which is a great honour and clearly worthy recognition of your outstanding professional career and personal contributions to the community.*

We also acknowledge your appointment as a Companion of the Order of Australia in the Queen’s Birthday Honours in June this year for your service to the law, the judiciary and to the administration of justice.

Her Excellency has made significant contributions to the legal profession retiring as a Judge of the Federal Circuit Court of Australia in January 2021 after becoming the first Tasmanian woman to be appointed as a Federal Magistrate in 2008.

In addition to a successful professional career, Her Excellency has a considerable list of sporting achievements in tennis, hockey and Royal Tennis...”

Sue concluded by extending the good wishes of those present to Her Excellency for the duration of her term as Governor of Tasmania,



(L-R) Dr George Merridew AM, Dr Frank Madill AM, Susan Shea OAM, Dr Nicholas Chantler AM, the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, The Governor of Tasmania, John Osborne OAM, Therese von Samorzewski OAM, Gary Carr OAM and Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers AO

Title: David Brill AM, ACS

David Brill was born in Devonport on the northern coast of Tasmania in 1944. Having graduated from Scotch College in Launceston he studied photography and cinematography at a commercial studio in Hobart from 1964-66 before getting a job as a trainee cameraman with the ABC.

As a 22-year-old, his stunning footage of the Hobart bushfires in 1967 earned him the £10-prize as February 1967's Cameraman of the Month by a British photo agency. This set him on the path for world recognition as he went on to cover countless conflicts and national disasters in Asia, Africa and North and South America for nearly 50 years. He worked for a host of current affairs programs, including Four Corners and Dateline, and has won numerous awards including six United Nations Peace Awards. Working as a video journalist for Dateline for 10 years he roamed the world telling the stories of unsung heroes and highlighting the good things happening in the world, which often go unreported.

It was the human element of those conflicts that David was able to capture that made him one of Australia's best cinematographers. In 2008 he was inducted into the Australian Cinematographers Society Hall of Fame and in 2017 was inducted into the Australian Media Hall of Fame.

When accepting the Honour he said,

“My main focus was the people, the suffering of the people. It's easy to film guns going off it's the suffering after the battles, the refugees. What happens to all these people we just leave? That's what I have always tried to care about.” He was first and foremost a storyteller, combining journalism, pictures and sound to help viewers understand what was really going on.

Mike Willesee said, “He was the best cameraman of his era. He has the great ability to capture what has happened in one take. A take that held longer and told you more. He was a strange combination of artist and action man.”

What set him apart was his empathy with the people and his ability to tell a story. He respected the dignity of the people and through the lens of a camera was able to show what was going on in the world. Over the years he has directed and filmed many documentaries. The most recent one was on the great Australian cinematographer Dean Semler who won the Oscar for *Dances with Wolves*. In

2017 David was recognised with an AM Award on Australia Day for significant service to the broadcast media as a cinematographer and journalist, and to the community of Tasmania.

He said while it was an honour to be recognised in the Order of Australia for his work, he felt that it shone a light on the work that his colleagues did in unglamorous, dangerous and demanding places. “Providing good journalism is more important than it’s ever been,” he said.

“They are the real heroes.”

Brill’s ambition is to see his work (preferably in documentary form), made available somewhere where young cinematographers, history students and Australians from all walks of life could learn something of how the world worked during his half century behind the lens.

That ambition may just have been realised in December 2021 when the ABC aired: ‘A life through the lens - the story of Legendary ABC cinematographer David Brill looks back at his incredible career on the frontlines of history from the 1960s and Vietnam to Four Corners and beyond.’

This can be accessed now on ABC iview. It is the first of what is hoped will be a three-part series. The second part will feature his 10 years in America for the ABC covering Presidents Carter, Ford and Reagan and the conflicts in central America. The final episode will feature the Middle East, Afghanistan, Iraq, the breakup of Yugoslavia and Somalia. This will certainly be a fitting legacy which will serve as a source of information and inspiration for future generations.



David Brill in Iraq 2013 – for the SBS Dateline program

QUEENSLAND BRANCH:

BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE:

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

Hearty Greetings are forwarded to all members.



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

As we enter into 2022 in the knowledge that Her Majesty will celebrate 70 years as Queen, I share with you my favourite portrait. It is so apt for our Association as the Order of Australia award motifs are balanced with an Australian wattle broach. In 1975 Her Majesty gave royal ascent to the establishment of the unique system of Australian honours. Since then Australians from all walks of life have been recognised with an Order of Australia award by their countrymen as possessing those personal and community based attributes worthy of recognition. Even so, only about one person in 1100 has been so recognised. Awardees are indeed special and rare Australians.

Since I last reported to you in this format well-attended luncheons have been held throughout the State including Rockhampton, Townsville, Bribie Island, Toowoomba, Gold Coast, Cairns, Mackay and Brisbane. The energy and commitment of our event organisers are truly commendable. In this vein we collectively record a sincere thank you to Paul McNally OAM, long time Darling Downs Regional Convenor, who has stepped down from the position. We warmly welcome Megan McNicholl OAM to the role.

A OAA Recipients luncheon attracted record numbers. For many years the Branch has hosted two Celebratory Luncheons; one for Australia Day Award recipients and one for Queen's Birthday Award recipients. COVID-19 restrictions again prevented the Investiture process in 2021 so the Branch held one composite function in Brisbane. Of the 238 guests attending some 65 were new Awardees, a local record. Furthermore, 50 of the new Awardees had already joined the Association. The 2021 overall uptake of OAA membership is a healthy 43%.

It was my privilege to represent the Association at Government House:

- two farewell functions held to mark the term exit of our Branch Patron, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, CVO the Governor. A formal letter of appreciation for his personal support was recorded.
- a greeting function to welcome the new Governor, Her Excellency The Honourable Dr Jeanette Young PSM. It is with pleasure that I can report that the new Governor has agreed in formal correspondence to be our Patron for the duration of her term of office.

The Branch looks forward to participation in an Open Day at Government House in early February to celebrate Her Majesty's 70 year milestone.

Continue to keep well and safe.

Gary

BRANCH COMMITTEE DETAILS:

Patron

Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeanette Young PSM Governor of Queensland

Chairman

Dr Gary Bacon AM.
[Tel:0400 733 822](tel:0400733822)

Deputy Chairman

Dr Mick Davis AM ASM
Membership Officer

Secretary

Dr Carol Cox AM
Tel-0427 691 566

Treasurer

Ronda Nix OAM

National Board Director

Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ.

Committee Members

Ross Patching OAM
Assistant Secretary

Graham Hyde OAM
Newsletter Editor

Paula Penfold AM
Governance/Policy Review Officer

Darryl Secombe OAM
Regional Convener Liaison Officer

Kathy Wooldridge OAM
Merchandise Officer

Marjorie Voss OAM
Regional Convener Sunshine Coast

Geoffrey Cowles OAM
Events and Awards Coordinator (Metro)

All correspondence to:

Dr Carol Cox AM Secretary

Email- secqldoaa@iinet.net.au

REGIONAL GROUP CONVENERS DETAILS:

Central Queensland: Dr Wallace Taylor OAM

Darling Downs: Megan McNicholl OAM

Far North Queensland: Carole Miller OAM

Gold Coast: Dr Clive Mitchell-Taylor OAM

Mackay-Whitsunday: Carmel Daveson AM

Sunshine Coast: Marjorie Voss OAM

Townsville: David Jackson OAM

Wide-Bay Burnett: Donna Duncan OAM

See website

Record number of new award recipients attend Welcome Celebratory Lunch

On Tuesday 26 October 2021, the Queensland Branch hosted a Welcome Celebratory Lunch in the Ballroom of Victoria Park at Herston, Brisbane for 2021 Australia Day and Queen's Birthday award recipients.

A record number of sixty-five new award recipients (22 from Australia Day and 43 from Queen's Birthday) attended the event, eclipsing the previous record of 47 recipients at the February 2021 lunch.

We also had our second-best overall attendance ever with 238 guests attending and it was pleasing that there were 41 Association members (who were not new awardees) also present. The Ballroom looked a real treat with the colourful array of 24 tables all filled with guests enjoying the festivities.



A fine parade of wonderful Queenslanders – Sixty of the sixty-five new award recipients present at the lunch on the Victoria Park verandah.

IN MEMORIAM-October-December

McCHESNEY-CLARK Glenda Joy OAM

COLE Dr Brian Sydney OAM

ANDRISKE Lawrence Stanley OAM

COTTRELL Peter John Waraker AO OBE

CASEY William Peter OAM

VANDELEUR Elizabeth OAM

HOLLINGWORTH Charles AM

ARBUCKLE Clarence William OAM

CAMPBELL Bruce Alpin AM MBE

FOURAS Demetrios (Jim) AM

OXENHAM Rollan Warwick

DRAKE Maurice James OAM

KELIHER Dr Leo AO

BOWMAN Wilma Alice OAM

CENTRAL QUEENSLAND LUNCHEON



Central Region Organising Committee with Everald Compton AO (L-R) Peter Milne AM, Wallace Taylor OAM, Grant Cassidy OAM, Everald Compton AO and Graeme Brady OAM

Everald Compton AO was the guest speaker at the Central Qld regional lunch held on 27 September at the Frenchville Sports Club in Rockhampton. The lunch was attended by 55 members and guests.

Everald Compton AO outlined his involvement and achievements in the development of the Australian Inland rail project over the last 25 years, Seniors Australia and the progression of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Legislation through the Queensland Parliament.

He outlined the case for Gladstone to become ‘the Rotterdam of Australia’ within 10 years and the necessity for the Inland rail to run directly from Goondiwindi to the Gladstone port which has enormous environmentally sustainable growth potential within its existing site. He was supported in his case development by Peter Coronas AM, the existing Chair of the Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPCL) and who has served on the board for 27 years.

Everald also pointed to the enormous untapped reservoir of experience, capacity and wisdom in our seniors to build our nation. He called on the government to support the establishment of intergenerational enterprises which can develop a blend of youthful endeavour with experience in bilateral mentoring in enterprise development. Everald holds an Adjunct Professor role with the University of Queensland which in partnership with six other Universities has developed a collaborative effort to examine useful longevity. He urged everybody apply their energies to building a compassionate, decent and caring nation

Attendees snapped up the available copies of his books, ‘The Man on the \$20 Note’, ‘Dinner with the Founding Fathers’ and ‘A beautiful Sunset’.

Wal Taylor OAM-Central Region Convener

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL FUNCTION

On 30 September 2021 fifty-four members and guests from the Sunshine Coast Region met for the final Region function for 2021. This was held on beautiful Bribie Island in the function room of the Bribie Island Voluntary Marine Rescue headquarters overlooking Pumicestone Passage and the Glass House Mountains.

The venue was an apt setting for the very interesting address presented by our Guest Speaker Mr Keith Boulton. Keith who spent his earlier years in the Automotive, Mining, Construction, Marine and Petrochemical industries in Australia and Overseas is now an Hon. Life Member/Volunteer-Queensland Maritime Museum. The topic of his address was “Interesting and Remaining Shipwrecks in Moreton Bay” and covered the history of eleven (including 2 in the Bribie Island area) of the recorded 122 wrecks in Moreton Bay. One of these was HMAS Centaur.

We were happy to welcome among our guests the Moreton Bay Regional Council Deputy Mayor, Cr Denise Sims together with some members of the OAAQ Branch Committee. Our other special guests were three of the recipients of an award in the 2021 Queen’s Birthday Honours – Dr Trevor Dowdell AM, Mr Martin White OAM and Rev Colin Baxter OAM. All present enjoyed the fun and fellowship usually associated with our functions while partaking of a delicious morning tea provided by Serenity Caterers of Bribie Island.

Marjorie Voss OAM – Sunshine Coast Region Convener

Vale - Emeritus Professor Dr Mary Deirdre Mahoney AO

It is with much sadness that we report the passing of Emeritus Professor Dr Mary Mahoney AO (pronounced *marney*).

Mary is well known to many Brisbane based Members of the Association having served with distinction on the Queensland Branch Committee from 2009 to 2019 including two years as the Queensland Branch Deputy Chair. Mary and her devoted husband Dr Patrick Mahoney were regulars at many of the Queensland Branch functions during that time, always brightening up our lives by their presence.

Mary has had a lifetime in medicine. Her long-term involvement with the Queensland Board of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), the University of Queensland (UQ) and the Australian Medical Association (AMA) has earned her well-deserved accolades.

Mary’s contributions to advancing the status of women in medicine and advocating for children are well recognised.

Mary graduated from UQ with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery and subsequently developed a great interest in education particularly in the field of General Practice.

Her work as a medical practitioner and teacher has influenced hundreds of students and medical graduates in the art of General Practice. Her work has also included research appointments with the Department of Child Health at UQ and involvement in research projects for the RACGP with whom she also held the role of State Director of the Training Program for 25 years.

Throughout her career Mary has been widely recognised for her contributions to medicine. In 1985 Mary was made a Fellow of the Australian Medical Association (AMA) and in 1994 when as part of a team she received a Research Award for Medical Education from the Australasian and New Zealand Association for Medical Education.

Her significant recognition occurred in June 2006 when she was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) *for service to medicine in the field of general practice, to tertiary education and*

university administration, and to the community through activities promoting the status of women and contributions to the early childhood education sector.

Mary has given a lifetime of service to The University of Queensland, including service on the UQ Senate and election to two terms of the Deputy Chancellorship, being the first woman to hold this office. In recognition of this service, UQ conferred on her an Honorary Doctorate of Medicine in 2005 followed by an Emeritus Professorship in 2014.

However, for all her wonderful medical achievements throughout her life it is Mary, the person that is so fondly remembered. Mary was a most gracious lady of great charm who took a keen interest in everything around her and everyone she met. It was a pleasure to have her on the Queensland Branch Committee where she took on the role of a listener of wisdom, only entering a Committee robust debate after everyone had their say and then come up with a solution that nobody else had previously thought of. Committee members like Mary possessing these qualities are “liquid gold”.

We offer our sincere condolences to Mary’s husband Patrick, their children and the wider Mahoney family over Mary’s passing.

Mary will be sorely missed but she will also be remembered with much fondness.

Geoff Cowles OAM



Emer. Prof. Mary Mahoney AO (2nd left) enjoying a happy moment with friends from L-R –Janet Edwards, Glenda Powell AM and

Beverly de Jersey at the Combined OAAQ and Victoria League Brisbane’s

Queen’s Birthday Dinner on 11 June 2019 at Tattersall’s

Club, Brisbane

NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH

BRANCH CHAIRMAN ARTICLE: NSW

May 2022 be a recovery year from the worst of the Covid Pandemic which has seriously afflicted the Branch with so many cancelled member gatherings and reduced levels of new Awardees joining us, due mainly to non-attendance at Investiture Ceremonies, no Parliament luncheons for new recipients, and almost no member functions.

This year promises new beginnings and we will be challenged to rebuild our membership numbers, as well as look at the lessons learned from the social distancing restrictions. We are in a new world in some key areas:

- We need to individually nominate more community members for an Order of Australia recognition to improve the public's awareness of these awards. Let's make time to recognise special contributions to a better Australia.
- Virtual gatherings work for Branch and Regional Committee decision making, especially the latter.
- They also bridge the gap between Sydney and regionally based members so that you will all be able to join other members from all round our State for webinars in 2022.
- We need more face-to-face gatherings, not just at an annual function, but coffee sharing with locally based members and with visits to local attractions.
- To better promote what we do so we are not a well-kept secret in our various locations.

In my long time working with member organisations, charities, faith organisations, youth groups and service clubs, there are clear reasons for those who succeed (and failure when not pursued):

- Effective promotion.
- Constant recruiting for being multigenerational rather than rapidly ageing and less attractive to new people.
- Strategically thinking leadership developing varied activities.
- Membership which is both inclusive and reflecting their community profile, culturally, ethnically, and interests.

My Branch Chairman role will see me and other Branch Committee members aiming for more visibility and support as we reach out more to our members around our state. This will start with the 2022 Branch Annual General Meeting which will include the Regional Convenors, two of our 2021 Youth Community Service Awards recipients reporting on their service, and our luncheon speaker, Retired Detective Superintendent Deb Wallace APM (former Commander of the NSW Police Force Task Force Raptor). <https://www.abc.net.au/radio/sydney/programs/mornings/deborah-wallace/12677672>

For more information about the NSW Branch visit our website:

<http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.nsw.au/nsw/news>

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION NSW BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

Our AGM will be held on 22 March 2022, at 11 am, Castlereagh Boutique Hotel, 169 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

Guest Speakers: 2020 / 2021 Youth Community Service Award Recipients

We have invited two of our Youth Community Service Awardees from high schools in NSW to speak about their community support commitments especially in their final years of high school.

Michael Summers – Marist College Eastwood, Eastwood

Michael was elected College Vice Captain for his demonstrated leadership and organisational skills, which underpin the cohesive dynamic and effectiveness of the school's prefect group. His academic and sporting achievements are at the highest level and he gives freely of his time to tutor his peers when needed. His 'outside' achievements include a successful internship with DLA Piper, a global law firm; employment as a Food Service manager for KFC; and completion of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Bronze Medallion. He is aiming to complete the Silver and Gold Medallions in the future. During the DLA Piper internship, he explored the legal framework of child protection laws and law reform, with in depth analysis of the current level of Australian privacy laws designed to protect children, especially regarding their personal information and advertising protocols to prevent their exploitation. His employment at KFC as a Food Service Manager included staff induction, mentoring and training programs to enhance service delivery and staff satisfaction. He was recently named as a 'Regional Finalist' in the Lion's Youth of the Year Public Speaking competition with his keynote speech challenging preconceived concepts of climate change and global warming.

James Gray - Knox Grammar School Sydney

James Gray was head prefect at Knox Grammar School when he was awarded the Order of Australia Association NSW Branch Youth Community Service Award in 2020. James was part of a team that collectively raised \$3000 dollars for MatesABroad and spent two weeks in Cambodia teaching English to children aged 7-18 in underprivileged regions. Additionally, James has traveled domestically to Engonnia as a teaching assistant and student mentor to disadvantaged children aged 7-12. In high school, James was involved with the Knox Social Justice Club to organize and run initiatives raising awareness and funds for the Leukemia Foundation and the Fred Hollows Foundation. He was one of the 25 students in NSW recognized at Government House by Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC [Governor of New South Wales](#) for their work and service to others in the community.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING LUNCH

In addition, at lunch following the AGM, our guest speaker will be Retired Detective Superintendent Deb Wallace APM. Deb is the Former Commander Task Force Raptor, NSW Police Force.

<https://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/7263713/i-stuck-to-who-i-was-ds-deb-wallace-busted-gangs-with-style/>

PLEASE NOTE: Details of our AGM were included in our January Chairman's Newsletter and emailed to members on 14 January. However due to uncertainty regarding the COVID-19

situation, it was decided to postpone our AGM for a month, to 22 March 2022. Revised details are also on our website www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/news

And were sent to members by email on 2 February.

Martha Jabour OAM marthajabour@icloud.com

Honorary Secretary, NSW Branch

MEET OUR MEMBERS - John Vaughan OAM



NSW OAA member John Vaughan OAM, received his Medal of the Order of Australia in the 2021 [Queen's Birthday Honours List](#), 'for service to vexillography and history preservation'.

John is a renowned designer and maker of flags. He is a leading authority on flag history, meaning and etiquette, with over 3,000 talks and media interviews to his credit.

He is the founder of the [Australian National Flag Day](#), celebrating the flag's first hoisting on 3 September 1901. And he has helped to organise many other significant events – including the First Fleet Re-enactment for Australia's Bicentennial in 1988.

John served as CEO of the Royal Australian Historical Society and was appointed by Sir Colin Hines OBE to help launch the Australian National Flag Association (ANFA) in 1983.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS - SUPPORTING A WORTHY CAUSE

We held our 2021 Christmas Fundraising Luncheon on Saturday 18th December in the Cellos Grand Dining Room at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel with over 60 Members and guests present.

It was our first post COVID lockdown event for 2021 where members had the opportunity to catch up and celebrate the festive season with friends and family as well as lend our support to a very worthy charity - *Feel the Magic*.

Our Guest Speaker was Mr Adam Blatch, CEO of *Feel the Magic*.

Feel the Magic provides early intervention grief education programs for kids aged 7 to 17, who are experiencing pain and isolation due to the death of a parent, guardian or sibling.

Their aim is to create a world where grieving kids and their families feel supported, empowered and can begin to move forward with their lives.

The afternoon was enjoyed by all with excellent food and entertainment and as well as a Christmas carol sing along with renowned Pianist and vocalist Kym Parrish.

The Branch raised \$4000 for *Feel the Magic* which will aid in supporting several young people at a very difficult time in their lives.

A/P John Gullotta AM, Deputy Chairman
NSW Branch

GRACE TRUMAN

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION, NSW BRANCH YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD, 2021



Grace Truman was the 2021 Head Girl at International Grammar School and Student Leader in charge of her school's inaugural Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics portfolio. In these roles Grace sought to promote gender equality and to encourage the student body to engage with social justice issues by launching a Year 9 community service program and the "cohort" video platform, starting a whole high school discussion about morals and moral courage. She is also an experienced actor, with a string of professional credits, and a film-maker with her own internationally award-winning series.

Grace lost her father at the age of 10 and wanting to keep his memory alive she created her initial film series *Amazing Grace*, which explores wellbeing issues confronting many teenagers and particularly families suffering the loss of a loved one. Her second video series *Graceful* continued and broadened these themes and was acknowledged and awarded at the 2021 New York Web Fest as "Best International Web Series" and the 2021 London International Web Festival as "Best Series". Grace was also awarded "Best Female Performance" at the London Festival. Grace is also an ambassador for the charity *flyhighbillie* (<http://flyhighbillie.org>) and its annual B Kinder Day, which is celebrated internationally. In 2021 she spoke at the UNESCO and Mahatma Gandhi Institute's World Conference on Kindness, sharing the difference that kindness has made in her life and encouraging everyone to strive for a kinder world. In 2019, Grace was featured as an inspirational young Australian in the book *Stand Up For the Future*, which highlights exceptional young people who are building a better tomorrow. In 2021 Grace was an ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork awardee.

Grace was one of the 25 NSW High School students who received a Youth Community Service Award from the Order of Australia Association NSW Branch in 2021.

<http://theorderofaustralia/asn/au/nsw/news>

Dr Frank Kelleher OAM

Convenor, Youth Community Service Award

NT BRANCH

INTRODUCING THE NEW CHAIRMAN



Mr. Alan James OAM has succeeded Mr. Andy Bruyn AM as Chairman of the NT branch of the OAA. Alan brings a wealth of managerial experience and administrative expertise to the committee. Alan has also been appointed NT Director to the National Board of the Order of Australia Association.

Alan was born in Katherine, NT, then a town of only a couple of thousand people, and his family later moved to Darwin. When he was 17, Cyclone Tracy struck the city, and Alan found work soon afterwards sorting through the rubble with government clean-up gangs.

In the 1980's while organising Territory tours for elite groups like the Australian Chamber Orchestra he saw an opportunity to take the touring artists into Aboriginal communities as part of his itinerary planning. It was on one of these visits – to Yirrkala in Arnhemland – that Alan met Dr. M Yunupingu AC, who wanted to form a band and was in search of a manager. The band became a reality, of course, as Yothu Yindi. They went on to record six albums with Mushroom Records and toured the world many times. In 1993 Alan won AIM Northern Territory Manager of the Year. In 2001, their hit song “Treaty” was named as one of ARIA's 30 top Australian songs of all time and in 2012 the band (along with Alan) was inducted into the ARIA Hall of Fame. In 2005 Alan was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for his contribution to the arts, in particular, Indigenous arts.

Alan established and was CEO of the not for profit Yothu Yindi Foundation from 1990 to 2010. As part of this work he established and ran the annual Garma Festival for twelve years turning it into the nations most respected indigenous cultural festival.

In 2013 Alan became General Manager of Darwin Entertainment Centre which was struggling financially. He engaged with a business-minded management board, adopted a more creative artistic programme, and revitalised the Centre, over 6 years.

The NT Chapter looks forward to Alan's leadership in the Order of Australia Association.

Alice Springs Mayoral Christmas Dinner

Approximately 40 invitees attended the traditional Mayoral Dinner on December 7 with Mayor Matt competently displaying his BBQ cooking skills, and his Executive Team, providing highly professional waitperson duties.

NT Branch Chairman Alan James OAM, provided an overview relating to the ‘Order of Australia Association’, and outlined a number of progressive ideas including the potential to establish of a number of geographically-sensible ‘sub-committees’.

Awardees really appreciated meeting each other, and partners, in this relaxed setting.



Senior Territorian of the Year



Congratulations to NT Chapter Committee member Mrs. Robyne Burridge OAM, as NT Recipient of the honor of Senior Australian of the Year for 2022. Highly regarded as a leader, advocate, activist and mentor in the disability sector, Robyne has worked tirelessly for practical support for folk with a disability. With a refreshingly open and positive approach to her own experience of cerebral palsy and the challenges it presents in daily life, she has helped many in the community understand the issues surrounding various forms of handicap.

Best wishes in Canberra, Robyne!

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

THE ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Members might recall the creation of an Association National Scholarship Program to allow Branches and individual members to donate into a consolidated account, which when it reaches the Scholarship funding level (currently \$45,000), will allow the award of an Association Scholarship.

Donations through the Foundation attract DGR tax deductibility.

Donations may be made to:

Name of Account: The Order of Australia Association Foundation Ltd Gift Account
BSB No: 013006
Account No: 314735771

Please advise details of EFT transfers to: sec@oaafoundation.com.au

FOUNDATION FACTS

Historical Inaugural Scholarships 2004.

Three scholarships were awarded; to University of Western Australia, in Engineering and Commerce, to Rahul Khubchandani; University of Melbourne, in Commerce and Science, to Felicia Eng; and University of Sydney, in Medicine, to Natalie Rainger.

The generous donor was Mr Hugh Morgan AC. The Mentors were, respectively, Mr Denis Glennon AO, Prof. Adrienne Clarke AC, and Dr John Yu AC.

STOP PRESS

Two new Awardees have just been selected for an Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship. One at the University of Canberra, one at University of Sydney.

They will walk the red carpet and be introduced at the **Conference Dinner on 21st May 2022**. Be there and hear what a difference our Scholarships make!!