

ACT OAA

MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER

Patron

Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley

Branch Nominated Director

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Chair

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Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au
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Treasurer

Phil Morrall AM, CSC

Committee

Lynne Duckham OAM
Narelle Hargreaves AM
Dr Joseph Johnson CSC, OAM, AAM
Dr Bill Maiden PSM OAM
Andrew Phelan AM
Coralie Wood OAM

Branch mailbox

GPO Box 423
Canberra City ACT 2601

Branch website

www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/ACT

COMING EVENTS

**OAA-ADF Oration at Russell
Offices Theatre
Thursday 21 April 2022.
A booking sheet is attached.**

**NATIONAL OAA Conference
19-22 May 2022
Booking links are enclosed.**

**Queen's Birthday Lunch at the
Southern Cross Club, Woden with
Dr Brian Babington AM
Tuesday 14 June 2022.
A booking sheet is attached.**

OAA-ADF ORATION – THURSDAY 21 APRIL 2022

The Chief of Army (CA), Lieutenant General Rick Burr, AO, DSC, MVO will present the 2022 “OAA-ADF ORATION” at Russell Offices theatre.



Lieutenant General Burr assumed command of the Australian Army on 2 July 2018 and was appointed an Officer in The Order of Australia on Australia Day 2018 *for distinguished service in the implementation of significant reform and the realisation of strategic capabilities within the Australian Defence Force*. The Oration was established in 2011 with the aim of further recognising the contribution made by military members of the Order of Australia to the fabric of

Australian society. The Oration brings together Defence Force and other recipients of the Order to create a closer understanding of each other's commitment to service as recognised through the Australian Honours system.

To attend this free event, endorsed by the Chief of Defence Force, book at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/PK88W> or use the attached booking sheet.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCH with Dr BRIAN BABINGTON – TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2022



Join us to share fellowship, mark Her Majesty the Queen's birthday and celebrate the achievements of recipients of honours and awards in the Queen's Birthday list at the Southern Cross Club, Woden. Our guest speaker will be Dr Brian Babington AM. The title of Brian's address is **"Putting children first: stories from Australia and elsewhere"**. Between 2005 and 2021, Brian was the Chief

Executive Officer of Families Australia – a national, peak, not-for-profit organisation – and played a leading role in relation to the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children, Australia's first-ever plan to improve child safety and wellbeing. Brian was appointed a Member in the Order of Australia in June 2021 *for significant service to children through safety and well-being initiatives*. Book at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/MIRD0> or use the attached booking sheet.

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Fellow ACT Branch Members,

2022 is already well underway and, while COVID-19 is still with us, life generally seems to be starting to get back on track. Our Branch has had a terrific start to the year with three great events. On Australia Day, our guest speaker Genevieve Jacobs delivered a thought-provoking address about our changing media landscape. Then on 16 February, our AGM was followed by a reception for eight new recipients from the 2021 Queen's Birthday list. On 10 March, we had a wonderful turnout for our morning tea with Dr Peter Pedersen AM. You'll find reports about all those events in these pages and on the website.

More is in store with our annual Australian Defence Force Oration to be held at Russell on Thursday 21 April, appropriately very close to ANZAC Day. Our Orator will be the Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Rick Burr AO, DSC, MVO. I remind all Branch members that this event is not just for current and former ADF personnel – the whole point is to bring together

Defence Force and other recipients in the Order to create a closer understanding of each other's commitment to service.

Then on Tuesday 14 June, our guest speaker at the 2022 Queen's Birthday Luncheon will be new Branch member Dr Brian Babington AM. Brian has worked with children and families for more than 15 years and his remarks about putting children first are sure to be of interest to many members. In a slight departure from previous practice, we're experimenting with holding this event at the Southern Cross Club to contain costs. The Committee very much looks forward to your feedback on this initiative.

As you all know, registration for our National Conference, which is to be held right here in Canberra, is now open. It is disappointing that not everybody will be able to come along to the Vice-Regal reception at Yarralumla, but we do have a waiting list for that event, and there are plenty of other fabulous things on offer over the course of the four days. Please do support the Association, and your Branch Committee, by registering and coming along. I look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, a reminder that from 31 March, all attendees at Association events must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 unless they hold a valid medical exemption. 'Fully vaccinated' means two injections plus boosters as appropriate.

Warm regards,

Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM
Branch Chairman

E: Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

T: 0467 719 020

BRANCH NOMINATED DIRECTOR'S REPORT



The National Board Meeting was again held on TEAMS on Friday 25 February 2022 .

Once again, the financial position of the Association was reported to be in good shape despite COVID.

The report by the ACT Branch Planning Committee for the Conference was considered and it noted the good progress made by the Planning Committee in the planning of the Conference.

The Board Audit and Risk Committee had now decided to include the COVID Vaccination Policy as part of the Health, Safety and Welfare Policy and to make the combined Policy available on-line.

The Board Committee, formerly named the Marketing and Strategy Committee, was broken down into two committees to give better focus on each of the elements. The strategy Committee would now be chaired by Robin Watts AM, The Director WA, and the Marketing Committee by Dr Alan Morrison AM, Director ACT.

The agenda for the Futures Day, to be held in the Realm Hotel on Thursday 19 May 2022, and attended by the Members of the Board, the Branch Chairmen, and the Secretary of the OAA Foundation, was considered by the Board and approved in draft form.

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The Order of Australia Scholarship Fund was discussed as one of the most tangible benefits delivered by the Association. As a result of the good financial results, the Board Members agreed that a sum of \$45,000 should be transferred to the Scholarship Fund in our accounts as of 31 December 2021. This is the cost of one complete Scholarship.

The OAA Foundation Secretary, Paul Wheelton AM, KSU attended the Board meeting in his ex-officio capacity and tabled the Annual Report of the Foundation for the year ended 30 June 2021. The Report was noted by the Board.

Dr Alan Morrison AM, JP
ACT Branch Nominated Director

2022 NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND AGM: *CELEBRATING SERVICE*

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

The primary means for registration is *Sticky Tickets*. The Board's strong preference is that all delegates register and pay using this means. If you have difficulty or are not able to use *Sticky Tickets*, please contact Phil Morrall AM, CSC (natconference@theorderofaustralia.asn.au; 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.

The program is available on the website <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/national-conference-2022/>.

WELCOME TO NEW OAA MEMBERS FROM THE 2022 AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

Mrs Lynn FLETCHER OAM – For service to the arts through children's literature.

Mrs Anne HAYCOCK OAM – For service to tennis.

Emeritus Professor Virginia HOOKER AM – For significant service to tertiary education, and to Asia-Pacific relations.

Warrant Officer Grant McFARLANE AM – For exceptional service in senior Regimental Sergeant Major appointments, particularly as Regimental Sergeant Major of the Army.

Mr Peter McGRATH AM – For significant service to rugby union as an administrator, and to tertiary education.

FROM THE 2021 AUSTRALIA QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Ms Harriet ELVIN AM - For significant service to arts administration in the Australian Capital Territory and to the community.

HISTORY OF THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM

Members may be interested in a new ANU Press book entitled *Honouring a Nation*, in which author Dr Karen Fox explores the history of Australia's honours system. It is free to read online, or hard copies can be purchased. Details are at <https://press.anu.edu.au/> - search *Honouring a Nation*.

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AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST



On 26 January, members and guests gathered at Royal Canberra Golf Club to celebrate Australia Day and acknowledge the achievements of recipients in the 2022 Australia Day Honours List. Our special guest speaker was journalist and former ABC Radio Canberra broadcaster, Genevieve Jacobs AM, who spoke on **The Media and Challenges to our Democracy**. In a compelling address, Genevieve, who is *Region Media* Group Editor, highlighted the impact of the transition to digital media, the pressures on journalists arising from hollowing out of newsrooms and the risks to our society from a less balanced fourth estate. Genevieve was appointed a Member in the Order of Australia on Australia Day 2021 *for significant service to the broadcast media, and to the community*.



Dr Joe Johnson CSC, OAM, Ian Sayers OAM



Simon Cullen AM, CSC, Cecilia Moar, Paul Hornsby OAM



Rhonda Babington, Dr Brian Babington AM, Sue Packer AO



Stephen Horn, Jim Waddell OAM, Alison Waddell



Genevieve Jacobs AM, Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM



Hashim Abdul Rahman OAM, John Hardy OAM

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WEDNESDAY 16 FEBRUARY: BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & RECEPTION FOR NEW RECIPIENTS



Mary Anne Neilsen, Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM

Our AGM saw the election to the Branch Committee of Joseph Johnson CSC, OAM, AAM and the re-election of Phil Morrall AM, CSC (Treasurer), and Bill Maiden PSM, OAM and Andrew Phelan AM (members). Congratulations to all! Following the AGM, members and guests welcomed eight new members who were recipients of honours and awards from the 2021 Queen's Birthday Honours List. We extend our thanks to the ACT Government and the President and members of the Commonwealth Club for their ongoing support to reception for new recipients.



Jean Bennett OAM



Nerida Cullen OAM



Peta Mantel AM



Roxanne Missingham OAM



Jim Waddell OAM



Brian Babington AM, Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION ACT BRANCH

GPO BOX 423 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Serving the Canberra Region

Web: theorderofaustralia.asn.au

2022 OAA-ADF ORATION

THURSDAY 21 APRIL 2022



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VENUE: Building R1 – Russell Offices theatrette. Free parking nearby.

DATE: Thursday 21 April 2022.

TIME: 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm

COST: Free – Refreshments provided.

DRESS: Jacket and Tie/Day wear– Lapel pins.

Booking enquiries: Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM

Mob: 0467 719 020 or Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

RSVP by Monday 18 April 2022

1. **Book tickets online (preferred)** on our StickyTickets web page:

<https://www.stickytickets.com.au/PK88W> Click on the link or copy and enter it directly into your browser. Please give online a try!

2. **Mail or email** booking slip to

Mr. Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM

23 Norman Street

DEAKIN ACT 2600

E: Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

X-----X
ADF Oration 21 April 22

Name and Postnominals.....

Guest name(s) & Postnominals.....

To celebrate and promote outstanding Australian citizenship

The Order of Australia Association Limited ABN 40 008 612 664/007 – A Company Limited by Guarantee

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VALE

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

LTCOL Gordon Hill AM – Queen’s Birthday 1986 – For service to the Australian Army as second in command of the Special Air Service Regiment.

Mr Brian O’Keeffe AO – Australia Day 1992 – For service to civil aviation, particularly international civil aviation. (Brian was for many years secretary to the OAA Foundation).

Emeritus Professor Richard Stanton AO – Australia Day 1996 – For service to economic geology and geological research.

MORNING TEA with DR PETER PEDERSEN AM

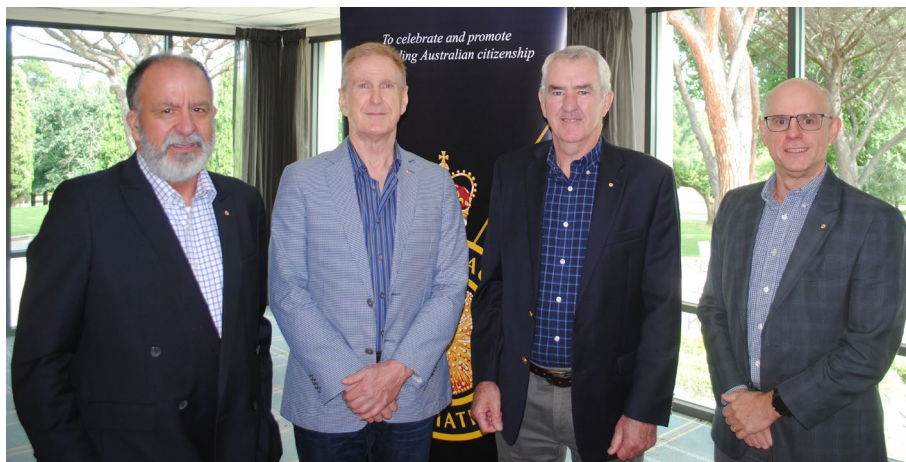


Dr Peter Pedersen AM

At our morning tea on Thursday 10 March at the Royal Canberra Golf Club, renowned military historian Dr Peter Pedersen AM provided forty members and guests with an insightful look at “**Sir John Monash, the man behind the General**”. Dr Pedersen’s related his extensive research into Sir John Monash and his talk addressed his personal traits, including his self-disciplined character and attention to detail that characterised the man who was not only a renowned leader of Australian troops in the First World War, but had a successful career as an engineer both before and after the war. Dr Pedersen opined that Sir John Monash could be considered the greatest Australian. A branch member, Peter was appointed a Member in the Order of Australia in January 2020 *for significant service to military history as an author and researcher*.



Robin Poke AM, Neville Exon AM, Heather Henderson AM



Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM, Dr Peter Pedersen AM, Ian Mansfield AM CSC, Darren Naumann AM



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION ACT BRANCH

GPO BOX 423 CANBERRA ACT 2601

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Members and guests are invited to attend the 2022 Queen's Birthday Luncheon

DATE: Tuesday 14 June 2022

TIME: 12.00 – 2.00 pm.

VENUE: The Orion Room, Canberra Southern Cross Club, 92-96 Corinna Street, Phillip.
Free undercover parking.

SPEAKER: Dr Brian Babington AM



The title of Brian's address is **"Putting children first: stories from Australia and elsewhere"**. Between 2005 and 2021, Brian was the Chief Executive Officer of Families Australia – a national, peak, not-for-profit organisation – and played a leading role in relation to the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children, Australia's first-ever plan to improve child safety and wellbeing.

He was appointed a Member in the Order of Australia in June 2021 *for significant service to children through safety and well-being initiatives.*

COST: \$50.00 per person.

DRESS: Jacket and Tie/Day wear; Large medals.

RSVP: Members and guests please register and pay at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/MIRD0> (preferred) [please include post-nominals] - or email or mail the booking slip below to be received by Thursday 9 June 2022 to:

Mr Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM,
23 Norman Street,
Deakin ACT 2600
Email: Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au
Ph: 0467 719 020

X-----X
QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCH 2022

Name and Postnominals:

Guest name(s) & Postnominals:

Dietary Restrictions

Payment instructions:

My cheque to OAA-ACT for \$_____ is enclosed or ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ VISA

Card Number: _____ CCV _____

Expiry Date: ____/____ Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____ Sum authorized: \$_____