



NEWSLETTER of
THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION
Northern Territory Branch

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Patron: Her Honour the Administrator The Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AO

April 2022

Welcome to another year of Order of Australia Association activity in the Northern Territory.

Australia Day 2022 Honours

Eminent Territorians representing a variety of interests were recognized on Australia Day this year for their achievements and contribution to the community, and we applaud them.

Mr. Alan-Roy Bakamumu Marika AM was appointed a Member of the Order



Indigenous leader Bakamumu Marika has devoted his life working for his community on the Gove Peninsula. As chair of the Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation, he works to ensure royalties from bauxite mining operations are passed onto the traditional custodians of the land. However, the Rirratjingu have never been over-reliant on royalties, but have diversified their income and are now running three successful businesses as well as sponsoring sporting programs, education and the arts.

Bakamumu Marika said he wanted to ensure the community was financially self-sufficient by investing in infrastructure, health and cultural programs that would benefit future generations. "After hard work we are now witnessing the fruits of our labor because of the unity of the family [and] we have moved forward to where we want to be."



Mrs. Annette Susan (Floss) Roberts AM was appointed a Member of the Order

The Executive Director of Royal Life Saving Society - Northern Territory Annette 'Floss' Roberts has been honoured for her dedication to lifesaving and water safety. The award recognises Ms Roberts's service to Royal Life Saving, the Northern Territory Water Safety Advisory Council and AUSTSWIM.



Under Ms Roberts's administration Royal Life Saving NT has grown immensely, and NT communities far and wide have experienced Ms Robert's deep commitment to helping them enjoy the water safely.

"I love ... making people's lives better by helping them become confident and capable around the water," Ms Roberts has said. "Our Remote Swim, Survive and Strive program in 26 remote communities is so rewarding to be part of. There is still a lot of work to do in this space to help keep our 22 remote pools open." Floss's advocacy efforts and infectious energy have contributed to and sustained leading child drowning prevention programs, secured resources for remote indigenous swimming pools, and grown the teaching of swimming and water safety.



Mr. Jared Archibald OAM received the Medal of the Order

Jared Archibald has been living in and around museums in the Northern Territory since his family moved here in the late 70s. Within weeks of arriving his taxidermist father was given the job of stuffing 'Sweetheart', one of Australia's most fearsome crocodiles. Today, Jared is the Curator of Territory History at the very same museum where 'Sweetheart' resides – a role he has filled for eight years now. He has been honored for his services to museums and galleries throughout the NT.

Mrs. Leila (Yu Lan) Chin OAM received the Medal of the Order

Mrs. Leila Chin was born in China, but grew up in Hong Kong, parented mainly by her grandmother. She came to Darwin in 1953 having been sought as a bride, taught herself English, and helped in Charlie On's shop in Parap. A Life Member of the Chung Wah Society, Leila has been honored for her tireless work on behalf of the society and the Darwin Chinese Temple over decades. She can never say 'no' to an opportunity to help people, especially where it comes to sharing her knowledge of Chinese customs, and applying them – usually through her talent for cooking – at special events such as festivals, births, weddings and funerals. She helped found the Chung Wah Seniors' Group on May 6, 1992, and has been cooking lunch for the group which meets on alternate Fridays ever since.



Mr. Paul Carter OAM received the Medal of the Order

After participation in his children's swimming club, Paul undertook jobs such as time-keeper, stroke judge, and referee. In 1999 he became President of Casuarina Swimming club, joined the board of Swimming NT, and in 2000 became President of Swimming NT and board member for 10 years. Between 2003 and 2019 Paul was the Swimming co-ordinator for the Arafura Games on 5 occasions, and NT delegate to Swimming Australia from 2000 until 2004. In 2009 he trained in Para Swimming and in 2011 attended the Para Pan Pac Swimming Championships in Canada, where he became an accredited World Para Swimming technical official. Since gaining accreditation, World Para Swimming have appointed Paul to many youth games and Para Championships around the world. In 2010 he won the NT Technical Official of the year at the NT Sports awards, and again in 2017.

Mr. Charles Smith OAM received the Medal of the Order for Service to Commercial forestry

Mr. Alan Young Najukpayi OAM received the Medal of the Order



Born in the early 1930's beside the hospital at the Victoria River Downs homestead, Mr Young Najukpayi worked on a number of cattle stations in the region, as well as working as a drover through Queensland and Western Australia throughout his early life.

More recently, Mr Young Najukpayi's evidence, knowledge, assistance and advice has been vital to a number of successful and ongoing land claims in the Northern Territory, including the Jasper Gorge-Kidman Springs Land Claim, the Wickham River Land Claim and the ongoing Victoria River Native Title Claim.

He has also contributed extensive mapping of the cultural elements of southern portion of the Judbarra-Gregory National Park and to the Judbarra-Gregory National Park Plan of management. Mr. Young Najukpayi has been a long-term collaborator with anthropologist Deborah Bird-Rose on her books on Aboriginal culture.

NT Chapter AGM

Members and partners of the Order of Australia Association NT met on Monday March 21 for our Annual General Meeting, led by new Chairman Mr. Alan James OAM. There were over 50 people at the event, which was opened by the immediate past Chairman Andy Bruyn AM who outlined the significance of our place of gathering – the Nitmiluk Room in Parliament House – on Larrakia Land, in the precinct of the first administrators of the town, and site of the 1942 bombing.

The Chapter committee affirmed during the official part of the AGM is:

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| Chairman | - | Mr. Alan James | OAM |
| Secretary/Treasurer | - | Prof. Jai Singh | AM |
| Membership | - | Ms. Linda Fazldeen | AM |
| Committee | - | Mr. David DeSilva | AM |
| | - | Hon. Jane Aagaard | AM |
| | - | Mrs. Robyne Burrige | OAM |
| | - | Mr. Wayne Kraft | AM representing the Alice Springs group. |

A vote of thanks was given to Mrs. Nora Lewis AM for her service to the Branch as a committee member and to the national board. Nora has agreed to continue in a non-executive role as communications officer.

Guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Alastair King OAM, CEO of ALPA - the Arnhemland Progress Aboriginal Corporation. Alastair presented an uplifting illustrated report on the work of ALPA and described the way officers and volunteers in the Corporation are working collaboratively with many agencies to improve the quality of life in Arnhemland, especially in relation to the supply and distribution of essential goods during challenging times.



Mr Dick Guit OAM with
Mr. Alastair King AM



Hon Peter Styles



Mrs. Jaya Srinivas OAM



Hon Dr. Daryl Manzie AM, Mrs. Helen Galton OAM, Mr. Andy Bruyn AM, and Mrs. Maureen Manzie.

Mr. Garry Casey AM



Mr. Derek Pugh OAM, Mrs. Sue Bradley AM, Former Chief Justice Hon Trevor Riley AO, Mrs. Jan Riley, and Mrs. Robyne Burrige OAM

Ms. Katrina Fong Lim AM and Mr. Wayne Kraft AM



Mrs. Wendy James OAM, Mr. Earl James AM with Alastair King OAM



Mrs. Nora Lewis AM and Mr. Kevin Davis AM



The Hon Austin Asche AC, QC, Mr. John Harden AM, (Queensland) and Mrs. Yvonne Forrest OAM



Eightieth Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin



This year the Top End Community acknowledged and celebrated the 80th anniversary of the bombing of Darwin on February 19th 1942 in two major ceremonies at the Darwin cenotaph and the Adelaide River War Memorial Cemetery. Ms. Linda Fazldeen AM laid a tribute in the Adelaide River cemetery - *The Empire Strikes South* by military historian Dr. Tom Lewis OAM – which features the town's involvement in the War.

VALE

The NT Chapter of the Order of Australia Association was greatly saddened over the loss of two eminent members of our group – **Mrs. Rosalie Kunoth-Monks OAM** on January 26, and **Mr. James (Jim) Cooper OAM** on Jan 29, 2022.

In 1951, **Rosalie** was 14 and staying at St Mary's Hostel in Alice Springs when she was recruited to play the title role in the film *Jedda*. Her nickname was "Rosie", but her name during and after filming was Ngarla Kunoth. The groundbreaking film was played for audiences at the Cannes Film Festival 60 years later in 2015.

Kunoth spent 1960 -1970 as an Anglican nun in the Community of the Holy Name in Melbourne. She then left the order, married Bill Monks and began employment at the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, setting up the first home in Victoria for Aboriginal children.

Returning to the Alice Springs region, she worked for Aboriginal Hostels, the Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Aid Service and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission. The then Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, the Hon Paul Everingham, appointed her as an adviser on Aboriginal affairs. Kunoth stood for election to the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly in 1980. She campaigned to oppose the proposed construction of a dam that threatened to destroy land sacred to her people. She lost that election but went on to continuing activism working to improve the lives of Indigenous people.

In 2008 Kunoth-Monks became president of Barkly Shire, and at the 2013 federal election, she stood as a senate candidate in the Northern Territory on behalf of the First Nations Political Party. On June 26 2014 she won the Dr. Yunupingu Award for Human Rights at the inaugural National Indigenous Human Rights Awards, and in November that year she was a significant influence in bringing together with Tauto Sansbury a national gathering of Indigenous leaders to unite in the "fight" for their lands – the "Freedom Movement" – in Alice Springs.

She was given a state funeral in Alice Springs on 3 March 2022, which was attended by hundreds including the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, the Hon Michael Gunner.

Jim Cooper OAM started in business as a general carrier in West Otago NZ, in 1961 with a Leyland Comet truck, one vehicle authority, a good back and a supportive wife.

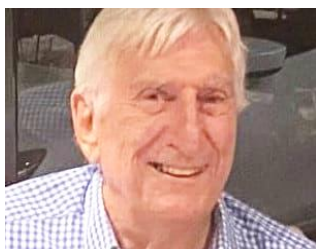


In February 1972, Jim moved to the Northern Territory and took over Gulf Transport, which at that point, had two depots, one in Alice Springs and one in Darwin. He operated with a fleet of two AEC Mammoth Majors and a Volvo G88, a few very worn trailers and a well-organized operation called Co-ord Transport. From that time onwards, Gulf Transport, through a series of expansions, consolidations and acquisitions, has now become the Gulf RTA Group operating in excess of 80 roadtrains throughout its diverse operations spreading through all states of Australia, Canada and USA. The Gulf RTA operation includes above ground bulk haulage, underground haulage on mine sites, cattle haulage, service provider and equipment manufacturer producing power trucks and power trailers.

Jim was a founding member of the Northern Territory Road Transport Association and has served tirelessly as the Northern Territory's representative on the various Australian trucking associations including twelve years as director of the Australian Truck Association. After over 40 years in the industry Jim Cooper can be held as a role model for road transport.

The ATA awarded Cooper the National Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Australian Trucking Industry in 1999. ATA chair David Smith said Cooper leaves a remarkable legacy. "We will never forget all his help in the early days of the Australian Trucking Association. He was a true innovator and a tireless role model who did so much, not just for the NT trucking industry but the Australian trucking industry as a whole. In 2008 he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal in the Australia Day Honours for his service to the transport industry.

Jim's memorial service in Darwin was attended by a large crowd of family and friends at Christchurch Cathedral on March 26th.



Col Fuller AM The Newsletter editor acknowledges that we missed a remembrance and paying of respect to Coll Fuller AM when he died aged 80 in February last year, so we are calling this a first anniversary notice.

Before retirement Colin was head of the NT public service, political adviser and a prominent Territory identity. Col came to Darwin from Papua New Guinea in the early 1970s as a quantity surveyor before working his way up to become the head of the Transport and Works Department and the

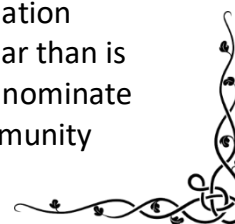
Conservation Commission, then joining the Chief Minister's Department.

Former Deputy Chief Minister the Hon Barry Coulter AO described Mr Fuller as a great mentor to other high-level bureaucrats in the Territory, while Andrew Bruyn AM said he was known for his ability to get things done. All who knew him commended Col for his generous willingness to share his time, knowledge, and experience. This chapter offers belated but on-going condolences to Col's wife Pam, sons Tony and David, daughter Belinda and his six grandchildren; Coby, Daniel, Jim, Rebecka, Nikki and Kain.

Call for nominations for an Order of Australia award.



The Northern Territory Branch of the Order of Australia Association acknowledges that there were fewer honours awarded this year than is usual on Australia Day. This should prompt us to seek out and nominate worthy candidates for an Order of Australia award in any community endeavour. The nomination process is clearly presented online.



Order of Australia Association NATIONAL CONFERENCE in CANBERRA, at the HOTEL REALM



*This event, to be held
19 – 22 May 2022
is for every member and
spouse/partner of the Association
Australia-wide,
and registration is still open.*

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

The organizing committee is promising an interesting time with inspiring speakers.

For example, on Friday May 20, the Association **Oration** will be delivered by **The Hon Shane Stone AC, QC**, who will share experiences as Chair of the Australian Recovery and Resilience Agency.

Session 2 will feature **Jane Halton AO, PSM**, former Secretary, Department of Finance, Department of Health, Department of Health & Ageing.

In **Session 3** speakers include **Kathryn Campbell AO, CSC**, Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade.
Paul Symon AO, Director-General, Australian Secret Intelligence Service.
and **Georgeina Whelan AM, CSC**, Commissioner, ACT Emergency Service.

The **Session 4** Panel speakers include **Jenny Bowker AO**, quiltmaker and textile artist.

Sue Packer AO, paediatrician and advocate for children.
and **Scott Saddler AM**, Director, National Arboretum

For more information, google this event and go online to register and book tickets.

Next social event in our Northern Territory Branch

**The Annual Branch Dinner
is to be held on Monday July 11,
at the Hilton Hotel, Mitchell St.
SAVE THIS DATE!**

More members enjoying the AGM

