

ACT OAA

JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER

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Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley

Branch Nominated Director

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Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

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Secretary

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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

Booking sheets for the following events are enclosed:

Thursday 25 August 2022
Student Citizenship Awards
Royal Canberra Golf Club

Wednesday 7 September 2022
Morning Tea
Royal Canberra Golf Club

Wednesday 5 October 2022
Reception for New Recipients
Commonwealth Club

STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS PRESENTATION

At 6.00 pm on Thursday 25 August, the Branch will conduct the presentation of Student Citizenship Awards to a number of ACT students whose community service was assessed as outstanding by our judging panel Dr Bill Maiden PSM OAM, Elizabeth Grant AM, Narelle Hargreaves AM and Lyn Fletcher OAM. The event will be held at The Royal Canberra Golf Club and bookings can be made at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/2470F> or on the enclosed booking sheet. This is our special outreach program and we hope you can join us. Light refreshments will be served.

Contact for this event is Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM at 0467 719 020 or chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au.

MORNING TEA WITH EMERITUS PROFESSOR JOHN HARDY WEDNESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2022



Join us at the Royal Canberra Golf Club to share fellowship and to hear ACT Branch member Emeritus Professor John Hardy OAM talk on the subject "**Measure for Measure: Sex, the Law and the #MeToo Movement**" relating Shakespeare's play to current treatment of women. Professor Hardy has held chairs in

English literature in various Australian Universities and promises a fascinating session for members and guests. John was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in January 2021 *for service to tertiary education, particularly to the humanities*. Book at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/77QH5> or use the attached booking sheet.

Contact for this event is Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM at 0467 719 020 or chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au.

RECEPTION FOR NEW RECIPIENTS 5 OCTOBER 2022

Please join us to welcome and celebrate with ACT and area citizens awarded in the 2022 Australia Day and Queen's Birthday Honours. This event will be held at The Commonwealth Club Yarralumla on Wednesday 5 October and will follow the investitures to be held at Government House in the week of 12 September 2022.

Please book at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/UON3X> or complete the booking sheet with this newsletter.

Contact for this event is Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM at 0467 719 020 or chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au.

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Fellow ACT Branch Members,

What an amazing few months we've had since our last newsletter in March. In April, Lieutenant General Rick Burr AO DSC MVO, then Chief of Army, presented our 2022 Australian Defence Force Oration at Russell. Rick has since retired, and we wish him every success in whatever comes next. Then in June, Dr Brian Babington AM was our Queen's Birthday Luncheon guest speaker at the Southern Cross Club. You'll find reports on both these events later in these pages.

In May, of course, we hosted the National Conference and AGM. It was a very busy few days for all concerned and not without its challenges – especially when one of our key speakers and the MC for the conference dinner dropped out at a couple of days' notice having tested positive for COVID-19. We got there in the end, though, and apparently in some style: more than 90% of respondents to our post-conference survey rated their overall experience “pretty darn good” or better (4 or 5 out of 5). We also had some budget challenges, with audio-visual and transport support in particular proving more expensive than expected, but through the generosity of our sponsors and benefactors we finished with a modest surplus which we shared with the Board. If you haven't seen them already, you can find the conference photos and the text of the 2022 Association Oration (delivered by Chair of the Order of Australia Council, Hon Shane Stone AC QC) on the website until the end of July (click on the 2023 link). My thanks to everybody involved in making the conference a success, particularly our brilliant speakers, our very helpful volunteers, and the wonderful members of the Planning Committee.

The Branch Committee has taken a well-deserved breather for a few weeks but is back on track now preparing for the remainder of the year. You'll find details for presentation of the 2022 Student Citizenship Awards and a morning tea with John Hardy OAM in this newsletter. Our Spring Reception for New Recipients from the 2022 Australia Day and Queen's Birthday lists will be held at the Commonwealth Club on Wednesday 5 October. With a double helping of new recipients, it promises to be a bumper night, so check the details and book your tickets today. Early indications are that we'll have the 2022 Australian National University Lecture in the first part of November, so stand by for further news on that one.

Finally, warm congratulations to those who received honours and awards in June. Of just over 700 awards in the Order Australia-wide, 46% went to women, while here in the ACT, 15 of the 23 recipients in the civil list were women. Looks like things might be turning for the better at last.

Warm regards,

Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM

Branch Chairman

E: Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

T: 0467 719 020

A SELECTION OF PHOTOS FROM THE 2022 OAA CONFERENCE



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BRANCH NOMINATED DIRECTOR'S REPORT



The National Board Meeting was held on Friday 17 June. It was once more held as a TEAMS meeting. The meeting had a slightly different character as the members had all met, many for the first time, at the Futures Day held during the National Conference in May and now knew each other.

Reports from each of the Board's Committees were received. The Finance Report confirmed that the Association was in good financial shape with a Portfolio valuation as at 15 June of \$1,614,704 and a current surplus of \$27,710.97. However, it was noted that currently share markets are on the downward trend and the portfolio value reflects the general drop in the market.

There were some interesting comments in the Membership Report from the National Membership Director. Comparative awardee data for the AD and QB awards showed that there were 56 less awardees in the QB awardee list and 46% of awardees for the QB were female. It was also noted that the TV Program 'The Order of Australia: Celebrating Australians' was aired on Monday 13 June in all States and Territories except WA.

There was substantial discussion about Futures Day 2022. The outcomes were to be sent to the Chairmen of the branches who were attendees for comments and, once received and considered by the Executive Committee, the final report would be sent to the branches for action.

The Board discussed the notes from the Member's National Forum held at the Canberra National Conference and concluded that:

- The relevant extracts re future conferences were sent to the chairmen for Victoria and WA with the extracts from the Futures day Session.
- Notes would be sent to the Branches.

There was a general agreement by Directors that the Canberra Conference was a very successful event, and that the ACT Branch was to be congratulated on their planning and conducting of the 2022 Conference. The National Secretary advised that a full Report on the Conference would be available for the August Board meeting.

The Board noted that the planning for the 2023 National Conference to be held in Geelong was underway and progressing well and that planning for the National conference in Perth for 2024 had commenced.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Friday 26 August 2022.

Dr Alan Morrison AM, JP

ACT Branch Nominated Director

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA – CELEBRATING AUSTRALIANS

On the Queen's Birthday, 13 June 2022, Channel 7 screened a video "Order of Australia – Celebrating Australians" and we sent an email message to members on to Friday 10 June 2022 to advise of the timing of the screening.

For those members who missed the viewing, or may wish to see it again, it is available on signing up free at 7plus.com.au streaming and searching for video.

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THE OAA-ADF ORATION

Prior to his retirement on 1 July, the Chief of Army (CA), Lieutenant General Rick Burr, AO, DSC, MVO presented an insightful 2022 OAA-ADF Oration at Russell Offices theatre on Thursday 21 April 2022.

General Burr canvassed a wide range of current issues, focussing on the importance of developing the people capable of delivering an army that is ready now and ready for the future. Following the Oration, he engaged in a Q&A session with the members and guests.

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. The transcript of the Oration is available at <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/act/events/>.



WO Grant McFarlane RSM of the Army, Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM, Lt Gen Rick Burr AO DSC MVO

WELCOME TO NEW OAA MEMBERS FROM THE 2022 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Professor Tanya MUNRO AC - For eminent service to scientific and technological development, to research and innovation, to tertiary education, particularly in the field of photonics, and to professional organisations.

Ms Bethlyn BLACKWOOD AM – For significant service to secondary education, and to youth.

Major General Jason BLAIN DSC, AM, CSC– For exceptional performance of duty as Director General Force Options and Plans, Branch Head National Security Division in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and Commander 7th Brigade.

Rear Admiral Ian MURRAY RAN AM – For exceptional service to the Australian Defence Force in strategic logistics and operations support.

Ms Liesel WETT OAM – For service to medical administration.

Lieutenant Commander Desmond WOODS RAN (Retd) OAM – For meritorious service in support of current and ex-serving Navy people and their families.

FROM THE 2022 AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

Mr David WILLIAMS AM – For significant service to people with a disability, and to education.

FROM THE 2021 AUSTRALIA QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Dr David O'ROURKE OAM – For service to medicine, and to the international community of West Timor.

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QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCH with Dr BRIAN BABINGTON AM

On Tuesday 14 June, members and guests marked Her Majesty the Queen's birthday in her Platinum Jubilee year and celebrated the achievements of recipients of honours and awards in the Queen's Birthday list at the Southern Cross Club, Woden. Our guest speaker was Dr Brian Babington AM, who spoke on the importance of putting children first. Dr Babington has worked to improve child, family, and community welfare in Australia and overseas in a career spanning more than four decades. 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.

You can read the text of Brian's address at <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/act/events/>. Brian was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in June 2021 *for significant service to children through safety and well-being initiatives*.



Rhonda Babington, Dr Brian Babington AM,
Jennifer Horsfield



Meredythe Crane, Vikki Templeman, Margaret Beamish

STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS AT THE ROYAL CANBERRA GOLF CLUB

VENUE: The Royal Canberra Golf Club, 71 Bentham St, Yarralumla

DATE: Thursday 25 August 2022.

TIME: 6.00 – 7.30 pm

COST: \$25.00

DRESS: Smart casual – Lapel pins.

Booking enquiries: Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM

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

RSVP by Thursday 18 August

Buy tickets online (preferred) on our StickyTickets web page: <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/2470F>.

Click on the link or copy and enter it directly into your browser.

Email booking slip to: Mr. Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM at Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

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STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS 25 AUGUST 2022

Name and Postnominals.....

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

Dietary Restrictions

Payment instructions MASTERCARD

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VISA:

☐

Card Number: _____ CCV _____

Expiry Date: ____/____/____ Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____ Sum authorized: \$ _____



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION ACT BRANCH

GPO BOX 423 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Serving the Canberra Region

Web: theorderofaustralia.asn.au

MORNING TEA AT THE ROYAL CANBERRA GOLF CLUB



ACT Branch member **Emeritus Professor John Hardy OAM** is our guest speaker. John's topic is **"Measure for Measure: Sex, the Law and the #MeToo Movement"**. 'Measure for Measure' is one of Shakespeare's more difficult plays, and none has been more argued about. In the context of the wronged woman's plight, John will explore its central idea that justice should be tempered by mercy. John was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in January 2021 *for service to tertiary education, particularly to the humanities*.

VENUE: The Royal Canberra Golf Club, 71 Bentham St, Yarralumla

DATE: Wednesday 7 September 2022.

TIME: 10.00 am – 11.30 pm

COST: \$25.00

DRESS: Smart casual – Lapel pins.

Booking enquiries: Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM

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

RSVP by Wednesday 31 August

1. **Buy tickets online** (preferred) on our StickyTickets web page:
<https://www.stickytickets.com.au/77QH5>. Click on the link or copy and enter it directly into your browser. Please give online a try!
2. **Email booking slip to:** Mr. Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM at
Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

X.....X

MORNING TEA 7 September 2022

Name and Postnominals.....

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

Dietary Restrictions

Payment instructions:

MASTERCARD

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VISA

☐

Card Number: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ CCV _ _ _

Expiry Date: _ _ / _ _ Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____ Sum authorized: \$ _____

To celebrate and promote outstanding Australian citizenship

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

ACT OAA NEWSLETTER – JULY 2022

MEET OUR MEMBERS

ROSALIE BALKIN AO



Dr Rosalie Balkin AO is an Australian maritime lawyer, international legal scholar and public servant.

She was educated at the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, completing BA, LLB and PhD degrees and moved to Australia in 1977, where she taught for some years at Melbourne and then New South Wales University Law Schools before joining the Federal Ombudsman's Office as his Legal Adviser.

From 1987 to 1998 Rosalie was employed by the Australian Attorney-General's Department, culminating as assistant secretary, Office of International Law. In 1993 she was ACT Human Rights Commissioner. She then moved to London in mid-1998 to take up the position of Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division at the International Maritime Organization (IMO), rising to Assistant Secretary-General in 2011, before retiring at the end of 2013.

She is now the Secretary-General of the Comité Maritime International (CMI), a non-governmental international organisation headquartered in Antwerp and dedicated to the uniform application of international maritime law. She is the first woman to hold that office in the CMI's 125 year history.

Rosalie has published extensively in Public International Law and International Maritime Law and is the author (with Prof JLR Davis) of the "Law of Torts". She was part of the five-member Compulsory Conciliation Commission established under the 1982 Law of the Sea Convention which facilitated the Governments of Timor Leste and Australia reaching agreement on their long-disputed maritime boundaries in the Timor Sea.

In the 2018 Australia Day Honours Dr Balkin was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia *for distinguished service to maritime law through roles with a range of organisations, to the improvement of global shipping transport safety and standards, and to education as an academic and author.*

DR DAVID O'ROURKE OAM

Obstetrician and co-founder of Mother Ignacia Hospital, West Timor



After an overseas trip in 2009, Dr David O'Rourke decided to join the Flinders Overseas Health Group in raising funds for a charitable project that would change the lives of thousands of people in West Timor, Indonesia – a place with high mortality rates for mothers and infants.

On 11 June 2016, with the support of his wife Sue-Ann, David opened the Mother Ignacia Hospital in Soe, West Timor. To date, David, his family and generous patients have contributed over \$1.5 million in patient fees earned at his private practice in Deakin, Canberra.

Since opening its doors, the hospital has treated more than 46,000 patients in the poverty-stricken town where the per capita expenditure on health is just \$94 compared to \$7,772 in Australia. The facility focuses on child and maternal health, but also accepts general admissions.

A father of four from Garran, Dr O'Rourke began his medical career as a general practitioner in rural New South Wales before specialising as an obstetrician and gynaecologist. He has delivered thousands of babies in hospitals in the local region across both the public and private sectors throughout his career. David is highly regarded by Canberra locals for his generosity, professionalism and good humour.

"You can't change the world, but you can make the world better for some people along the way. We are so privileged where we live and I'm determined to give some of my privilege back to others" stated Dr O'Rourke, "This is the tool I do it by. It's an easy fundraising model. You're just swapping skill you do every day for your charitable project, so anyone could do it."

Dr O'Rourke was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in June 2021 *for service to medicine, and to the international community of West Timor.* Recently, he was also recognised as nominee of the 2022 Australian of the Year (ACT).



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION ACT BRANCH

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With kind permission of the President of the Commonwealth Club, Members and guests are invited to attend a Cocktail Reception to welcome Newly Invested Recipients.

DATE: Wednesday 5 October 2022.

TIME: 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm.

VENUE: Commonwealth Club, 25 Forster Crescent, Yarralumla.

An opportunity for members and guests to welcome the 2022 Australia Day & Queen's Birthday recipients of honours and awards in the Order of Australia from the ACT region, and share fellowship with existing members in the ambience of the Commonwealth Club. This event is generously sponsored by the ACT Government.

COST: \$60.00 per person for members and guests. New recipients and partners free of charge.

DRESS: Jacket and Tie/Day wear – Miniature Medals

Booking enquiries: Mike Crane DSC and Bar, AM. Mob: 0467 719 020 or

Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

RSVP by Wednesday 28 September 2022.

1. **Buy tickets online (preferred)** at StickyTickets: <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/UON3X> - Click on the link or copy and enter it directly into your browser.

For recipients of 2022 Australia Day & Queen's Birthday honours and awards **only**: Click on "Ticket/Register", then enter your promotion code to activate your complimentary ticket.

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

Mike Crane DSC and Bar, AM

23 Norman St.

DEAKIN ACT 2600

E: Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

X.....X

2022 October Reception

Name and Postnominals:

Guest name(s) & Postnominals:

Payment instructions:

MASTERCARD

☐

VISA

☐

Card Number: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ CCV _ _ _

Expiry Date: _ _ / _ _ Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____ Sum authorized: \$ _____

Phone: _____