



# THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

ACT BRANCH

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

## Introduction

The Committee of the ACT Branch of the Order of Australia Association is pleased to present this Annual Report for 2022.

The Report was developed by the Committee in consultation with the executive officers of the Board of the Order of Australia Association. The report tracks performance for the period 1 January to 31 December 2022.

## 2022 Committee

Branch Nominated Director:	Alan Morrison AM
Chair:	Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM
Secretary:	Robert Altamore OAM
Treasurer:	Phil Morrall AM CSC
Committee:	Lynne Duckham OAM Narelle Hargreaves AM Joe Johnson CSC OAM AAM Andrew Phelan AM Bill Maiden PSM OAM Coralie Wood OAM Desmond Woods OAM (from Nov 22)
Co-opted:	Bruce Trewartha OAM

## Chair's Report

2022 was a very good year for the ACT Branch of the Order of Australia Association.

At the **national level**:

- The 2022 National Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in Canberra.
- The Board continued to develop policies and procedures to improve the governance of the Association.
- The Board advised that the Association's finances remained healthy despite the impact of COVID since early 2020.

Here **in the ACT**:

- We were able to resume a more normal **program of events** (see Table 1), with some exceptions:
  - We coupled the 2022 Branch AGM with a reception for new recipients from Queen's Birthday 2021, as we had to postpone our 2021 Spring reception due to COVID19.
  - We did not hold our usual Autumn reception for new recipients in May due to the National Conference and AGM.
  - We held a combined reception for new recipients from the 2022 Australia Day and Queen's Birthday lists in late October.
- From 19-22 May, we hosted the **2022 National Conference and AGM**, the first time these events had been held face-to-face since 2019 in Hobart. Despite considerable COVID-induced uncertainty in the lead-up, the conference was a remarkable success by most measures: more than 90% of respondents to a post-conference survey rated their overall experience 'pretty darn good' or better (4 or 5/5); we generated a modest financial surplus; about 50% of delegates were attending their first Association conference; entirely online conference registration and event check-in processes were used for the first time; eNews was used extensively to supplement communication via the Association's website and *The Order*; there was good support from local sponsors and benefactors; Their Excellencies the Governor-General and Mrs Hurley and Her Excellency the Governor of Victoria as Administrator of the Commonwealth provided outstanding support; the speakers addressed the conference theme brilliantly, including some who were stood up at very short notice; delegates were exposed to iconic Canberra locations; the Foundation was able to rejuvenate its formal recognition of scholarship winners; and there was an orderly transition to Victoria Branch as host for the 2023 conference. Perhaps above

all, the conference simply worked. Except where external forces intervened, events ran as scheduled, with a minimum of fuss or effort on the part of delegates, and there were no significant complaints or incidents.

- In June, we celebrated the **Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second**. Meredythe and I were honoured to represent the Association at a Jubilee Ball at Government House, Yarralumla, and I was delighted to represent our Branch at a Jubilee Dinner hosted by Tasmania Branch in Hobart.
- In September, we mourned **Her Majesty's death**. I signed the Condolence Book at Yarralumla on behalf of the Branch and I know that many members took the opportunity to add their private condolences.
- Also in September, we celebrated the **accession of King Charles the Third** as Sovereign of the Order.

I would like to thank our speakers and the members of the Branch Committee who helped make our 2022 program work, and the members of the Conference Planning Committee who toiled for more than two years to bring the National Conference together. I would once again especially like to acknowledge Dr Bill Maiden PSM OAM for his outstanding work in leading the very demanding Student Citizenship Awards program.

Our 2022 **financial result** was positive, with an operating surplus for the year of just over \$7,600. As in 2021, this result is atypical, principally this year because of the impact of the National Conference and AGM. More detailed commentary is set out in the Treasurer's Report below.

As the Treasurer has done in his report, I must touch on the issue of the **cost of functions**. In 2022, both our principal venues imposed significant room hire fees which added considerably to our base function prices. We have successfully negotiated relief at the Commonwealth Club and we are still working a solution with the Golf Club. Even so, with COVID still in the community and 'supply chain' issues impacting the economy nationwide, the cost of our functions will inevitably continue to rise. In June, we experimented with holding our Queen's Birthday luncheon at the Canberra Southern Cross Club, which offered a pleasant lunch at a very reasonable price with no room hire fee. This came at the cost of the convenience of easy free parking that we are used to at our other venues and not all those who attended enjoyed the change of ambience. Of course, we can never please everybody, but we will continue to explore venue options to provide good value for money at venues consistent with the *gravitas* of the Association. The Committee asks that

members be patient with us if there are further changes of venue or increases in function prices.

Our Branch **membership** declined in 2022 to about 530. We attracted 19 new members from the 2022 honours lists and there were some transfers into our branch, but these were offset by transfers to other branches, members not renewing and, sadly, a number of deaths. The role of Branch Membership Officer remains vacant.

In 2022, the **Branch Committee** welcomed Joe Johnson CSC OAM AAM following his election in February and in November appointed Desmond Woods OAM to fill a casual vacancy. I am very grateful to all members of the Committee for their diligence and ongoing commitment to the good governance of the Branch. We continue to manage succession very carefully, and I strongly encourage all Branch members to consider nominating for a term of service on the Committee.

Finally, I thank all Branch members for their support in 2022 and over the period of my tenure as Chair. I will stand down at the Branch AGM in February 2023, although I have told the Committee that I am happy to continue on a co-opted basis for as long as that is useful to the new Chair. It has been a great privilege to serve as your Chair and I thank members for the opportunity. I wish the Branch every continuing success in 2023 and beyond.

Michael Crane DSC & Bar AM  
Chair

## Our Program

The list of events conducted in 2022 is shown in Table 1 below. More detail on each event is available under the Events tab on the Branch page of the Association's website.

Serial	Date	Event
1	26 Jan	Australia Day Breakfast: Genevieve Jacobs AM
2	16 Feb	Annual General Meeting and reception for new recipients from Queen's Birthday 2021
3	10 Mar	Morning tea: Peter Pederson AM
4	21 Apr	2022 OAA-ADF Oration: Rick Burr AO DSC MVO
5	14 Jun	Queen's Birthday Luncheon: Brian Babington AM
6	25 Aug	Student Citizenship Awards
7	7 Sep	Morning Tea: John Hardy OAM
8	31 Oct	Reception for 2022 new recipients
9	7 Dec	2022 OAA-ANU Lecture: Rory Medcalf AM

**Table 1. 2022 Events**

## Treasurer's Report

The ACT Branch **Profit & Loss Report for 2022** and **Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2022** are set out below. These statements are not audited but will be integrated into the Association's consolidated financial statements and audited as part of the national audit process.

2022 was another atypical year, with the National Conference and AGM in addition to our usual functions and other events. I therefore caution against comparing the financial outcomes directly with those of previous years.

Our apparent surplus of \$7680.47 is influenced by the following:

- \$900.00 included in this figure is the residual portion of the Chief Minister's grant for use at new recipient receptions. These funds will be expended at the first reception in 2023.
- The 2022 OAA-ANU Lecture did not require the \$500.00 allocation from Branch funds.
- The 2022 Student Citizenship Awards required only \$700.00 of our \$1700.00 allocation.
- Our share of the surplus from the National Conference was \$1900.00.
- Our share of merchandise sales at the National Conference was \$340.00.
- The Balance Sheet includes a GST liability of minus \$3722.00 (in fact an asset) flowing from pre-payments and internal transfers associated with the National Conference. This will be clarified during the full National Account reconciliation, but I expect that we will be paid this windfall early in 2023.

I estimate that the 'actual' operating surplus in 2022 was about \$4700.00.

I must again draw the attention of members to function prices. For many years we have sought to generate modest surpluses at our bigger and more popular activities, Australia Day Breakfast and Queen's Birthday Lunch, in order to help finance no-income activities such as the Student Citizenship Awards and the OAA-ANU Lecture. This is not possible in the current circumstances. It is a reality that the cost of functions has increased particularly because of COVID impacts in the hospitality industry and a general increase in commercial operating costs. Therefore, the cost to members will also need to increase if we

are just to break even. The Committee is well aware of the necessity to balance attendance numbers and ticket prices and will monitor this issue closely as 2023 proceeds.

Phil Morrall AM, CSC  
Treasurer



# Profit and Loss

ACT Branch of the Order of Australia Association Ltd  
For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022
<b>Trading Income</b>	
ACT Government Grant	2,000.00
Branch Support Grant	4,142.00
Functions (200)	3,906.69
Functions: National Conference	80,228.54
Functions: New Recipients Functions	5,059.30
Functions: Other Functions	3,972.78
Investment Interest Received	36.88
Merchandise Sales	308.77
Other Sundry Income	27.27
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>99,682.23</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>99,682.23</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	
ACT Gov Grant Expended	2,250.27
Conference Expenses	74,930.48
Gifts	77.73
New Recipients Functions	4,858.84
Newsletter	1,437.46
Office supplies	49.99
Other Branch Functions	7,898.19
Postage	357.64
Student Citizenship Awards	141.16
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>92,001.76</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>7,680.47</b>

# Balance Sheet

## ACT Branch of the Order of Australia Association Ltd As at 31 December 2022

31 DEC 2022

### Assets

<b>Bank</b>	
Term Deposit A	8,404.07
Term Deposit B	14,802.71
THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION LIMITED ACT BRANCH OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION LTD	18,022.75
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b>41,229.53</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>	
ACT Association banner	1,758.85
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>1,758.85</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>42,988.38</b>

### Liabilities

<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
GST (820)	(3,722.13)
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>(3,722.13)</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>(3,722.13)</b>

<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>46,710.51</b>
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### Equity

Current Year Earnings	7,680.47
Retained Earnings (960)	39,030.04
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>46,710.51</b>

**The Order of Australia Association**

**(ACT Branch)**

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