

The ORDER



THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION EDITION 73 NOVEMBER 2023

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**ONE OF OUR MANY NEW ASSOCIATION MEMBERS
FROM KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST 2023
PROFESSOR GLENDA MARGARET HALLIDAY AC**



For eminent service to medical research in the field of neurodegenerative disorders, including the development of revised diagnostic criteria for Parkinson's disease, and as a mentor.

A short summary from her extensive Citation is at Page 3



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THE ORDER

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THE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

The Association website is a source of important information: it is easy, fast, up-to-date and includes:

- The Association's aims and structure.
- Membership application and renewal.
- Editing your basic membership contact details.
- National Conference
- National Committee membership and contacts.
- National publication — The Order.
- A link to each branch with current information:
 - Committee and contacts.
 - Upcoming functions.
 - Newsletter and local information.
- Frequently Asked Questions about The Order of Australia.
- Nomination process and documentation for awards.
- Merchandise

Make the website your first port of call. If you want further information please talk to your branch committee.

If you have ideas about information you would like on the website please contact your branch committee.

www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S REPORT

HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL THE HONOURABLE DAVID JOHN HURLEY, AC, DSC (RETD)

Having completed our Spring Investitures at Government House Canberra, I found myself reflecting (again) that presiding over investiture ceremonies is one of my favourite responsibilities.

It is a joy that I share with the whole team at Government House and I know that is replicated in Government Houses across the country. The ceremonies are a celebration of the individuals receiving recognition and, I hope, a memory that will last a lifetime for them and their loved ones.

More broadly, I would challenge anyone watching a single ceremony – let alone a week's worth – to not be uplifted or to feel anything other than optimistic for the future. The breadth of talent and achievement never ceases to amaze. The knowledge of not only what recipients have done but also what they will do reaffirms my optimism for our future.

The message that recipients in the Order keep contributing, continuing to have an impact and striving to make a difference is an important one. Members of the Association are a terrific example and I'm uplifted to hear about the great work happening in branches across the country. It is inspiring and reflects the best of our community.

I'm also pleased that the progress we have made in advancing the Order of Australia and its role in celebrating outstanding Australians is increasingly reflected in investiture ceremonies. As the end of 2023 fast approaches, we can take stock at our achievements and reflect on the progress we have made – including reaching gender parity for the first time in the King's Birthday Honours List.

But as Mark Twain is reported as saying, "Continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection."

The job on improving the awareness of the Order and making it more diverse - both for gender and cultural diversity - is not done. We look back on what has been achieved, including working closely with the Association, with pride and look forward to what will be achieved in 2024.

I value the close relationship between my Office and the Association. Linda and I are looking forward to attending next year's National Conference in WA and spending time with members.

I hope that members have a relaxing and safe end to 2023.



PROFESSOR GLENDA MARGARET HALLIDAY AC

The University of Sydney

Professor of Neuroscience, since 2016. Member, Brain and Mind Centre.

Research Awards/Recognitions

Fellowships of Learned Academies – 2021 Member, Australian Academy of Science; 2014 Member, Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences

Scientific Awards and Distinctions – 2022 NSW Scientist of the Year, NSW Premier's Prizes for Science and Engineering; 2021 Robert A. Pritzker Prize for Leadership in Parkinson's Research, Michael J Fox Foundation; 2020 NHMRC Elizabeth Blackburn Investigator Award – for leadership in Clinical Medicine and Science

Australian Research Contributions

Research Fellow in the National Health and Medical Research Council and Australian Research Council systems since 1988. Chief Investigator, thirteen funded National Health and Medical Research Council grants since 2013. National Health and Medical Research Council Research Committee Member, since 2022.

International Research Contributions

Research has shaped diagnostic criteria for neurodegenerative diseases and recommendations for adequate patient identification and management. Member, International Movement Disorder Society task forces for defining Parkinson's disease and multiple system atrophy; Member, International consortia for dementia with Lewy bodies; Member, many consortia for the pathological definitions of neurodegenerative diseases; Member, International Parkinson's Disease Genomic Consortium; Member, International Frontotemporal Dementia Genetics Consortium; Board Member, Multiple System Atrophy (MSA) Coalition, United States, since 2018; Member, Scientific Advisory Board, EMBO Danish Research Institute of Translational Neuroscience, since 2013.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Vicki O'Halloran AO CVO
National President



Greetings all,

We are fast approaching the end of the year, yet there is no slowdown in sight. For many of us this time of year can mean planning for the festive season or if you are lucky, the planning of a holiday elsewhere, elsewhere of course being that magic place where we can forget routine and relax and elsewhere also being that magic and unknown place often referred to by our weather commentators most evenings on our TV screens! Before we get close to celebrating Christmas let us take a moment to also celebrate all of the incredible work undertaken this year by the Associations in each State and Territory. Your commitment to leading by example to celebrate and promote outstanding Australian Citizenship and the many volunteer hours you do to ensure the success of your respective associations and to support your members is commendable.

I have been reflecting on what it means to be a good citizen and very importantly the importance of teaching our children the value and significance of being kind and contributing members of our communities. Conversations are often key. Conversations between family members, colleagues and friends about what that looks like. Is it about volunteering and joining community groups who strive to improve the lives of others, I think it can be different things to different people, but overall, it is about having compassion and empathy, taking responsibility for our own actions, being tolerant and accepting of others beliefs and attitudes and also recognising and respecting the truth. My mother always said it is important to be grateful for what you have and to 'give back' – very sage advice. It is remarkable to learn about the generosity of Australians as I travel, I continually learn more about the true value of citizenship because it is there at every turn and thriving in all communities. We may not always see it but it is there and often happens behind the scenes by humble people who are quiet achievers. These people are Australians who are very worthy of a nomination for an Order of Australia. Let's make it our responsibility to uncover them and nominate them. Recognition at the highest level has an immediate and ongoing positive impact on people's lives. I asked a 7-year-old last week what makes a good citizen and he said, "it is about always telling the truth, being kind to everyone and helping your friends", I thought how fitting, there is always much to learn from others and certainly our children.

Wherever you are in Australia or overseas reading this magazine, I wish you well and send you my very best wishes.

Take good care and go well,

Vicki

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Barry Nunn AO
National Chairman



As 2023 draws to a close we can look back on a year of quiet achievement for our Association. Branch activity is now back at pre-COVID levels, despite the concern of reinfection. Nominations for awards in the Order are high, with considerable promotional effort in Branches and Regional Groups. The emphasis on diversity in nominations has had some success, with the 2023 King's Birthday Honours listing, for the first time, more women than men. Wider diversity to reflect the breadth of Australia's multicultural society is still required.

I ask all members to continue to reach out, particularly, to the disadvantaged in our multicultural communities and to offer friendship and support.

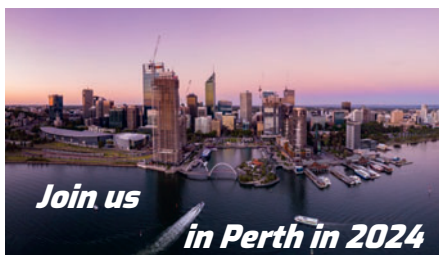
2023 has been a year of turbulence worldwide, with armed conflict, natural disasters and inflation problems widely reported. Although distant from much of this, in Australia the emotional as well as the financial impacts are clear. Your Board is mindful of the increasing financial burden borne by members. As a result of economies achieved throughout the organisation, a reduction in Association membership fees from January 2024 has been agreed, details are on page 15.

We can all play a part in encouraging new recipient membership of the Association by our warm welcome, our ongoing contact and our demonstration of the value of membership.

Our 2024 National Conference, to be held in Perth 16th to 19th May, is developing well with a challenging array of subjects and speakers as well as enjoyable events and outings. The 2025 Conference, Sydney 1st to 4th May is also beginning to take shape.

The annual National Conference is a great opportunity to renew acquaintances, meet new friends and have your say on the direction of the Association. I encourage you to attend and look forward to meeting you there.

I wish you and yours a joyous Festive Season and a New Year filled with hope and achievement.



The Order of Australia Association National Conference 16th - 19th May 2024
Hyatt Regency Perth



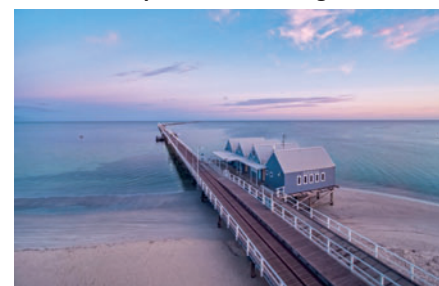
Optus Stadium



National Anzac Centre, Albany



Albany's Historic Whaling Station



Busselton Jetty



Wellington Dam

Before & After Conference Tours

3 day, 2 night Tours: Sun 12th – Tues 14th May

Tour 1: Albany, Geographe Bay & Wellington Dam

Visiting Williams, Albany attractions including National Anzac Centre, Busselton, Wellington Dam & Bunbury

Tour 2: A Sample of the Peel region and Southwest

Visiting Rockingham, Mandurah, Margaret River, Prevelley Park, Cape Leeuwin, Jewel Cave, Leeuwin Estate, Olio Bello, Manjimup (truffles), Wellington Dam, Bunbury

2 day, 1 night Tours: Mon 13th – Tue 14th May

Tour 3: A Taste of the Southwest

Visiting Wellington Dam, Busselton, Canal Rocks, Cape Leeuwin, Jewel Cave, Leeuwin Estate, Olio Bello.

Tour 4: A good Sample of the Southwest

As for Tour 3 but with the addition of visits to Prevelley Beach (home of Margaret River surfing classic), Margaret River, Vasse Felix, Aravina Estate, a little more time at Busselton Jetty and Underwater Observatory.

3 day, 2 night Tour: Mon 20th – Wed 22nd May

Tour 5: A Sample of WA's Coral Coast

Visiting the Pinnacles at Nambung National Park, Cervantes (including lobster lunch), Geraldton, Port Gregory (Pink Lake), Kalbarri & HMAS Sydney II Memorial

For full itineraries and information and to book contact Blue Travel Level 7, 524 Hay St, Perth
T: (08) 6210 0900 M: 0417 989 760
E: mengw@blueco.com.au



Conference Program

Thursday 16th May

- Welcome Reception at Government House Perth hosted by WA Branch and supported by His Excellency Chris Dawson AC, APM, Governor of Western Australia and Mrs Darilyn Dawson

Friday 17th May

- Conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel
- Oration by Hon Malcolm McCusker AC, former WA Governor,
- 3 Keynote speakers and a Panel of 5 on different topics
- *Optional Event:* Lamont's Boutique Restaurant in Cottesloe for "Best of the West" wine tasting, tapas and freshly shucked oysters. *[Suggest taxi sharing]*

Saturday 18th May

- Annual General Meeting & Members' Forum *[Free but registration required]*
- *Optional Afternoon Event:* Visit to the largest collection of historic pianos at WA Academy of Performing Arts (booking essential) *[suggest taxi sharing]*
- Or free time to visit other places of interest *[suggestions in conference bag]*
- Conference Dinner and Presentation of six Scholarships at Hyatt Regency Hotel *[3 course pre-ordered menu]*

Sunday 19th May

- 11.00 am Wreath laying Ceremony Kings Park War Memorial followed by Farewell Lunch and handover to NSW at Frasers Restaurant Kings Park
- 5.00 pm Evangelical Service at St George's Cathedral with supper *[Free]*

For Online Registration Instructions & Fees see Back Page



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Alastair Douglas OAM
Branch Chairman
chairtas@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

After one of the largest number of awardees announced by the Governor-General, the Branch hosted what is possibly the largest number of attendees to an Investiture Lunch. Held on the same day as the morning and afternoon King's Birthday Investitures at Government House, 141 awardees with their family and friends joined members for the memorable day. The Association was pleased to welcome and congratulate many of the 36 awardees of whom some have already joined the Association. As always, the diversity of backgrounds, activities, dedication and achievements of awardees are amazing.

It seems a long way out but initial planning for the Branch Annual General Meeting has commenced. I am very pleased to say that the National President, the Hon Vicki O'Halloran AO CVO has agreed to address the meeting that will be conducted using Zoom. At the AGM it is hoped that all vacancies will be filled so members are asked to consider supporting the Association.

One casual Branch vacancy has been filled in the meantime by Belinda Hazell OAM who I am also delighted to say has filled the important role as Southern Regional Group Co-ordinator. We welcome Belinda who was awarded the Medal on Australia Day 2022 for service to primary industry. She was awarded a Churchill Fellowship and has led with assisting women in agriculture in a number of key leadership positions.

Remember to check the Association website for upcoming events in your area.

INVESTITURE LUNCH

Australia Day Awards recipients were recognised at the Investiture Lunch for awardees in the King's Birthday Honour list at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania.



Belinda Hazell OAM (newly appointed as Southern Region Group Convenor and Branch committee), Alison Clark, Rebecca Clark, Sarah Clark, Melissa Harvey, Dianne Gorringe, Graeme Gorringe, Peter Clark, Diana Clark OAM, Barbara Harvey and Graeme Woodward.

Michael Leonard, Sharon Leonard OAM (in front), Crystal How, John Leonard and Karen Leonard.



TASMANIAN BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

Her Excellency, The Honourable
Barbara Baker AC Governor of
Tasmania

Branch Chairman

Mr. Alastair Douglas OAM
(P: 0418 127 897)

Hon Secretary

Mrs Beatrice Lawrence OAM

Hon Treasurer

Mr Ron Blake OAM

National Board Director

Dr Rosemary Callingham AM

Branch Committee

Mr Neville Bingham AFSM OAM
Dr Nicholas Chantler AM
Mr Barry Easter OAM
Mrs Belinda Hazell OAM
Mr Peter Holm OAM
Dr Frank Madill AM
Dr George Merridew AM
Mrs Maureen Oates OAM

Regional Co-ordinators

South

Mrs Belinda Hazell OAM

North

Dr George Merridew AM

North West

Mr Graham Milburn AM

MICHAEL WALSH AM



Michael Walsh AM with his wife Roslyn Walsh

Michael Walsh AM was recognised in the Australia Day Honours in 2023 for his significant service to the Anglican Church of Australia, and to the community of Tasmania.

Michael grew up in Launceston and after deciding he didn't want to be a science teacher, started legal studies and was admitted to the Bar in 1967.

During his student days he joined the Young Liberal Movement and soon became involved in the politics of the day. This interest continued for many years resulting him becoming the State President and Life Member of the Young Liberal Movement. Later, Michael served as a State Vice President of the Liberal Party for six years.

Michael and Roslyn met in the mid 1960's and were married in 1967. Since then, they have raised three sons and five grandchildren.

Michael was recognised in the Australia Day Honours in 2023 for significant service to the Anglican Church of Australia, and to the community of Tasmania.

Michael joined a fledgling legal firm in Ulverstone in 1967. As the firm expanded over the years Michael was able to specialise in Civil Litigation which continued until he retired. During his legal career Michael was appointed a Coroner, a Justice of the Peace and a Commissioner of the Supreme Court.

Michael joined the Ulverstone Apex Club in 1967 and has held

continuous Apex and later Lions Club membership from then to date. Both Apex and Lions focus on service to the community and this emphasis has influenced Michael to be involved in many organisations over the years where his professional skills were helpful.

Michael's involvement with Lions continues. He was District Governor in 2016/17 and has been District Constitutional & By Laws Chairman on six occasions. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow and a Life Member.

Roslyn & Michael have always been active Anglicans. In addition to taking part in the worship aspect of church life, Michael was a Diocesan delegate to the General Synod of the church for 15 years as well as being a member of the Synod of the Tasmanian Diocesan for 21 years and the Diocesan Council for 15 years. Michael was asked to join the Board of Anglicare Tas Inc which he did for 13 years including a term as Board Chair. During this time, he nurtured the expansion of Anglicare's programs to the North and North West Coast. He was made a life member in 2005.

Michael joined the Board of Roland Childrens Homes in 1992 and was the Board Chair from 2004 until 2018.

One of Michael's interests is corporate and organisational governance. In 2010 he was invited to join the Board of Launceston City Mission Inc where he established a governance protocol. He also served as Board Chair and was able to promote the expansion of the mission's services to the North West Coast.

When the Skillshare and CYSS programs were established in the 1970's Michael became a founding Board Member and long serving Board Chair of Leven Training Centre Inc which operated the Skillshare and CYSS programs in Central Coast until 2009.

In 2008 Michael was asked to join the Board of Community Connections Inc which, after a merger became Youth & Family Focus and Community Connections Inc. He was awarded Life Membership in 2015.

In 2013 Michael was appointed the inaugural Board Chair of Cradle Coast Innovation Inc and served on the Board until 2020.

Michael richly deserves his AM Award for his dedication to serving others through his wide commitment across so many aspects of the community.

CIVIC RECEPTION HOSTED BY HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF LAUNCESTON, COUNCILLOR MATTHEW GARWOOD.

A Civic Reception is held in recognition of the Order of Australia Association to acknowledge the new recipients. This was held at the Launceston Town Hall on October 10th.

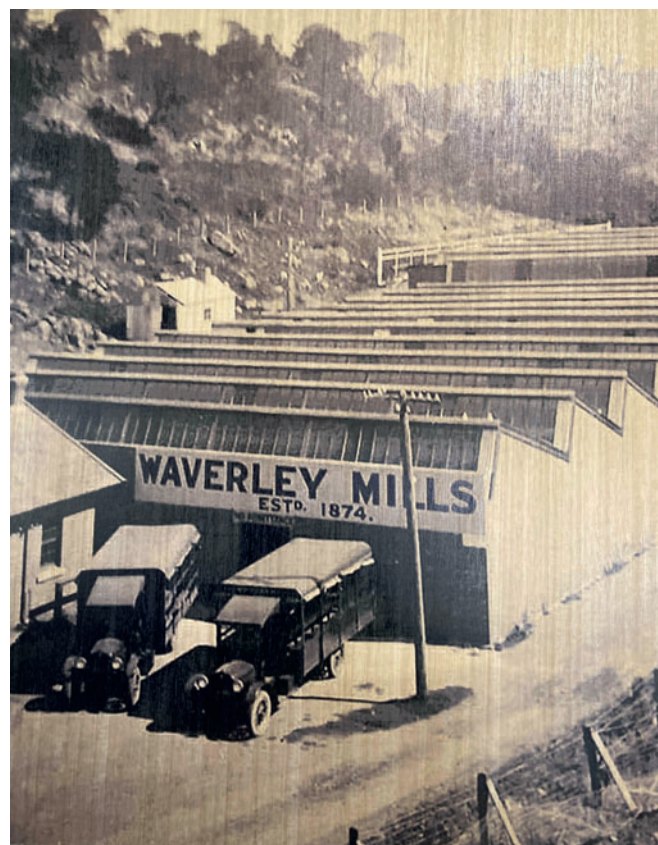
His Worship the Mayor of Launceston, Councillor Matthew Garwood, Mr Lindsay Jon Bourke AM, Mrs Sharon Leonard OAM, Ms Jennifer Logie OAM, Mrs Terese Ann Binns OAM, Mr Jeffrey Douglas Hockley OAM, Dr George Merridew AM - Chair of the Northern Region (Tas) and Mr Kerry Finch OAM





WAVERLEY WOOLLEN MILLS VISIT

Members of the OAA Northern Region visited the Waverley Woollen Mills which has handed down its knowledge and craftsmanship for over 150 years. It is now a world leading textile brand and members were privileged to see the various stages of production.





CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Alan James OAM
Branch Chairman

In March this year at the AGM the OAA NT branch launched a new initiative honouring the contribution of senior members to the Northern Territory, which has been received with enthusiasm by our members.

At the AGM the Hon Austin Asche AC KStJ KC was recognised with an inspiring speech delivered by Richard Ryan AO, as reported in the last Order. At the annual dinner in August both Earl James AM and Wendy James OAM were honoured with the oration delivered by OAA President Vicki O'Halloran AO CVO. In October we attended a function hosted by the Lord Mayor of Darwin Kon Vatskalis. This third members' function in 2023 revived an annual event at Council chambers not held since 2018, and Ted Egan AO was the honoured Territorian.

LORD MAYOR'S RECEPTION

On October 19 the right Worshipful Lord Mayor of Darwin the Hon Kon Vatskalis gave a reception for our Chapter at the Civic Centre. He made a very warm speech about his delight at the reinstatement of this event.

Again, the focus of the evening was a tribute to a distinguished senior Territorian - Ted Egan AO, Administrator of the Northern Territory from 2003-2007. Ted (91), present with his partner Nerys Evans, was honoured in a biographical panegyric by long-time colleague Earl James AM (92) and those present became increasingly aware of the historical significance of this semi-formal social event.

Ted Egan's status and achievements are well known - already an AM, he was promoted to an Officer of the Order (AO) in 2004 as acknowledgement of "the significance of his continuing contribution to the community culminating in his being sworn in as the 18th Administrator of the Northern Territory". Ted Egan is listed among the "Australia's National Living Treasures" by the National Trust of Australia.

But Earl James' tribute was very special - personal, detailed, and full of interesting anecdotes and uniquely Territorian insights. Those present felt moved and privileged to hear about Ted while he was in the room, from a distinguished member of the Darwin community. Ted himself



Alan James OAM, and Earl James AM



Lord Mayor Hon Kon Vatskalis, Nerys Evans and Ted Egan AO with members of the committee Wayne Kraft AM, Alan James OAM, Robynne Burrridge OAM (front) Jai Singh AM, Hon Jane Aagaard AM, and Linda Fazldeen AM.

NT BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

His Honour Professor the
Honourable Hugh Heggie PSM

Chairperson

Mr. Alan James OAM

Deputy Chair

TBA

Secretary

Mr. David De Silva AM

Treasurer

Professor Jai Singh AM

Membership Secretary

Ms. Linda Fazldeen AM

Committee Members

Mrs. Jane Aagaard AM

Ms. Robyn Burrridge OAM

Mr. Wayne Kraft AM

EVENTS



Vicki O'Halloran AO CVO, Wendy James OAM,

The Annual Dinner on August 8 was attended by over 60 members. The evening's tribute was to Earl James AM and his wife Wendy OAM, for their exuberant and illustrious contribution to life in Darwin over 80 years, a time that included the Second World War and the dramatic evacuation of Wendy and her family. Earl entered the Northern Territory's surveying industry in 1952. His projects included the Liquefied Gas Plant at Wickham Point, the Darwin Waterfront redevelopment, and research of the remains of the Overland Telegraph Line, about which Earl wrote a book - Rediscovering the Overland Telegraph Line. Vicki O'Halloran AO CVO, provided an inspiring narrative, after which Earl and Wendy received flowers and Certificates of Appreciation from the Order of Australia Association NT.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Helene Bender AM
Branch Chairman
chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

The Governor of Victoria Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC hosted the Order of Australia King's Birthday Investiture Ceremonies at Government House September 13, 14 and 15 in perfect spring weather allowing recipients and their guests

the opportunity to mingle in the picturesque gardens. Hearing the citations on the Wednesday confirmed the diversity we have in our community and their commitment to make a difference.

The VIC Branch held a Thank You Reception on Wednesday October 4 to thank Order of Australia recipients who have joined the Association this year. The event was hosted and sponsored by Alek Vass OAM at the Alex Theatre St Kilda. David Mann AM was the event MC and read the citations confirming the diversity of our members and the contribution they make in their community, to the State, Australia wide and internationally. Each member was presented with a gift from the Victoria Branch, and while thank you rolls off the tongue easily, please be assured we are genuine in our appreciation you have taken the time to join the Association.

Our final VIC Branch event for 2023 is the End of Year Dinner on Thursday November 23 at William Angliss Restaurant with speaker Natalie O'Brien AM. Her topic is Creating Events with Impact.

With over 30 years in tourism, events and hospitality Natalie will share her insights, learnings and behind scene stories from her time leading Melbourne Food & Wine Festival for 15 years, welcoming 5 million food lovers to Melbourne and regional Victoria. Natalie is now CE of Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre welcoming local and international delegates looking to leave long term legacy and a lower carbon footprint in a highly competitive event market.

Order of Australia Association Foundation 2022 Scholarship recipient Alex Nair will provide members and guests with an update on her studies, community service and work

In the OAA VIC Branch September 2023 E-Newsletter page 7 and 8 covered the story - Convoy of Hope November 2023. Please take the time to read the article, go to <http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au> and click VIC then Newsletters.

It is pleasing to give an update from Chris Leptos AO who will be driving one of the ambulances from Wimbledon to Ukraine this month.

The Ukraine Ambassador Vasyl Myroshnychenko in the photo on the left side of Chris Leptos AO was in Melbourne last month to support this worthy cause.

Donations and pledges are being received from Order of Australia Associations members – a huge thank you for your support of this project.

How to donate:

- Via link à <https://www.ukrainecrisisappeal.org/>
- Please note in the remarks that the donation is for 'Ambulances'.

In signing off for 2023, thank you to our National Magazine Editor Phil Morrall AM, CSC for the time and effort he has devoted to The Order national magazine over many years. This is Phil's last edition; June Kane AM will take over as National Editor January 2024.

Please stay safe, enjoy your upcoming festive season and take care of those who are special in your life.



VICTORIA BRANCH

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Secretary

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Membership Secretary

Fred Harrington OAM

Regional Groups Coordinator

Barb Brook OAM

Committee members

Margaret Attley OAM
Dr Teresa De Fazio OAM
Barbara Thomas OAM

2024 VIC BRANCH EVENTS

Tuesday March 19 – 11.00am Inspiring Australians Oration at the Melbourne Town Hall

12.45pm Annual General Meeting sign in for 1.00pm start

Tuesday June 18 – 12noon Lunch with guest speaker at William Angliss Restaurant

Wednesday July 24 – 5.30pm Virtual Event with guest speaker

Thursday November 21 – End of Year Dinner at William Angliss Restaurant

Pharaoh Winter Masterpieces Introductory Talk and Exhibition at the National Gallery Victoria will be held on a Sunday in July or August, date to be confirmed.

Event invitations will be included in VIC Branch E-Newsletters during the year.

THE VALUE OF AN ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

As a young person who had experienced adversity, I was enrolled at The Pavilion School, a school for young people excluded from education. Becoming the first to ever graduate VCE and attend university, I studied Law/ Arts (Politics) at La Trobe University because I wanted to make a difference in the lives of children let down by the legal and social systems around them. I took on roles to make my community a better place for young people, and this was a big part in my application for the 2018 Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship.

Before providing an update, I want to express thanks to the Foundation for recognising this, and believing in me. Receiving the scholarship marked a pivotal and transformative moment in my life. It set me on a trajectory filled with opportunities and self-belief. It not only supported my studies financially, but provided me a mentorship with The Hon. Julia Gillard AC, which helped me see the bright possibilities that were ahead and deepened my already strong commitment to making a difference in the lives of young people experiencing adversity.

In 2022, I was awarded the Victorian Government John Monash Scholarship and a Rotary Global Grant Scholarship for Community Economic Development. These awards opened doors for me to pursue a Master of Laws Specialising in Social Justice at University College London. My research focused on improving access to justice, criminal law, impacts of punitive policing and the minimum age of criminal responsibility.

Whilst I haven't been home for long, I have taken on the role of co-chair for the Victorian Raise the Age Working Group for Change the Record. I've also had the privilege of speaking at the 2023 Monash Commemorative Service at Parliament, where I connected John Monash's beliefs in education and perseverance in the face of doubt to my own journey and motivations for working with youth. Daily, I work at the Centre for Multicultural Youth, coordinating responses to legal and welfare issues that arise in police station interviews with 10-17 year olds. The program supports young people to live a life away from crime.

Writer of this article Hannah Gandy will be one of the speakers at the OAA VIC Branch Inspiring Australians Oration on Tuesday March 19, 2024 at the Melbourne Town Hall.

Freemasons Victoria supported by Freemasons Victoria Foundation Ltd was the donor of Hannah's 2018 scholarship.

OAA Foundation Scholarships support the next generation of leaders by helping promising young Australians achieve their potential for the benefit of future generations of Australians. Please refer to the OAA Foundation website: www.oaafoundation.org.au for further information about other recipients.



MERCHANDISE NEW ITEMS

Please refer to page 13 of this edition for the Merchandise Order Form.

Two new items have been added to our range.

Cap: premium soft cotton fabric with Velcro closure and comfortable sweatband.

Apron: Bib front with central front pocket side provision for pen and bottle opener.



Both are navy and unisex.

The models are OAA NSW Branch members from Illawarra Region.

The Events Coordinator Di North OAM and the Convenor Phil Thompson OAM at their local Bunnings marketing the Order of Australia Association including the importance of nominating locals who have gone above and beyond.

When ordering merchandise please use the current October 2023 order form.

Merchandise is also available online from the Order of Australia Association Merchandise Shop.

Website: www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/shopping-cart

CITY OF BAYSIDE HOSTS ORDER OF AUSTRALIA RECIPIENTS

The City of Bayside hosted the South Central Suburbs Regional Group's Cocktail Party Reception to acknowledge and welcome the 2023 Australia Day and King's Birthday Order of Australia Honours and Awards recipients.

City of Bayside Mayor Cr Hanna El Mouallem and fellow councillors welcomed recipients to the Sandringham Yacht Club. A total of 54 residents from Bayside, Kingston and Glen Eira had received Honours Awards in recognition of their excellent achievements and fine contributions to their communities.

SCSRG Chairman Jill Page OAM on behalf of the South Central Suburbs Regional Group welcomed everyone, she thanked recipients who have already joined The Order of Australia Association and encourages others to join.



THE GREATEST GIFT

Trevor Cohen AM Member of the Order of Australia QB 2019 recipient for significant service to the Jewish community, and to heritage preservation. Current Chairman - The Block Arcade Melbourne

There has never been a better time for writing family histories than right now.

Self-publishing has become a low-cost exercise that can produce very short print runs, and there are a number of services that, through computers searching data banks, can take the drudgery out of research.

The downside is that there are virtually no gatekeepers on writing, layout or production, meaning that most family histories end up for family consumption and little else, which is often the author's intention anyway. So no harm done.

In his foreword Professor Geoffrey Blainey AC describes the book as "exceptionally frank judged by the standards of most family histories" and he notes that Cohen presents "a story of friction as well as friendships" and encouraged its publication for a wider audience.

But you can forget all this when it comes to Trevor Cohen's 200-year account of where his family came from, beginning with arguably Dickensian characters in London who, by various routes, find their way to the rickety colonial towns of Sydney and Melbourne in the



Front cover photo left: Victoria House, Collins & Elizabeth St intersection, otherwise known as 'Cashmore's Corner' after the author's great-great Grandparents who were its first occupants from 1840.

early 1800s. Like pieces of a jigsaw coming slowly into focus, alliances are formed, marriages made and businesses established – and not always successfully. Apart from the obvious application of hard work and

mental agility, what kept the Jewish immigrants resilient was their traditional adherence to Judaism and their unshakable belief in the envelopment of family.

The Greatest Gift (which the author considers is his ancestors' legacy to the current generation) is really two books in one. The first, and major part, comprises accounts of various family members' lives which, at the same time, colourfully illustrate the opportunities and difficulties of life in pre-federation Melbourne. The second part is a short auto-biography of the authors' life growing up in 1950s Melbourne suburban comfort but certainly not opulence. For the record, Trevor's father founded the Godfreys vacuum cleaner chain but didn't see the fruits of his labour until relatively late in life. After a career as a successful lawyer, Trevor turned his hand to real estate development and uncovered a prodigious skill. Its most visible manifestation was the 2014 purchase of Melbourne's Block Arcade and then fastidiously restoring it to where it has become one of Melbourne's most cherished and outstanding landmarks.

Apart from its storytelling, the book is notable for two other reasons. First it was written by Trevor Cohen himself - a feat made especially praiseworthy because he is not a professional writer, yet manages to appear so. And the second, the book's hard cover production is nothing short of artistic and practical perfection. I have never seen better.

One of the joys of Jewish writing is its underlying laconic humour – and this book is no exception - without meaning to be, I'd guess. One lengthy quotation that had me laughing out loud was from Vaiben Louis Solomon Junior's unpublished autobiography No Taste for Accounting where he recalls his reactions, as an eleven year old boy in 1908, to being sent to live with his religious grandparents.

My grandmother's ever advancing age, weight and respiratory obstructions were forcing a decision to move to a house without stairs. Even the kitchen chair available for relaxation and refreshment on the half-way landing ceased to provide the necessary stimulus for a spirited attack on the last lap.

Book reviewed by Fraser Beath McEwing a school friend and professional book reviewer.

2023 CITY OF KINGSTON YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR



Photo: L to R
Jill Page OAM, Josie Thornton Young Citizen of the Year, Lesley McGurgan OAM, City of Kingston Mayor Cr Hadi Saab

The Order of Australia Association Victoria Branch South Central Suburbs Regional Committee was invited by the City of Kingston to present a Bursary to the 2023 Young Citizen of the Year at Platform 81, Mordialloc.

Jill Page OAM noted it was a great pleasure to represent the South Central Suburbs Regional Group to present an award bursary and certificate, and to meet all the inspirational young finalists.

The Young Citizen of the Year is Josie Thornton. Josie is in a Robotics class at Parkdale Secondary College and is passionate about developing others in the STEM system which covers academic disciplines such as science, engineering, mathematics, astronomy. She also plays a major leadership role in her school by assisting Year 7 students to transition into the school community. SCSRG is very enthusiastic to encourage and support the talented young achievers in our local communities being the Cities of Kingston, Glen Eira and Bayside.



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

Merchandise Order Form

Item and Description	PRICE	QTY	Total \$
1 Blank greeting cards + envelopes (5)	10.00		
2 Key ring in gift box	12.00		
3 Cufflinks in gift box	35.00		
4 Blue/gold Pen	7.00		
5 OAA Lapel Badge with magnetic fitting not OA official investiture pin	15.00		
6 Laptop Satchel	37.00		
7 Barista Travel Cup Low Stock	15.00		
8 Bondi Bucket Hat Size L (60cm)	16.00		
9 Cap	21.00		
10 Apron	30.00		
11 Scarf unisex knitted (grey)	25.00		
12 Rib knit loop scarf Navy	26.00		
13 Roll up beanie Navy	16.00		
14 Socks -unisex	11.00		
15 Ladies' pure silk scarf (silver/grey)	45.00		
16 Ladies pure silk scarf (blue original)	45.00		
17 OAA branded Bag Holder	10.00		
18 OAA aqua stripe black tie	30.00		
19 OAA spotted tie	30.00		
20 OAA charcoal grey tie	30.00		
SUB-TOTAL			
Postage & Handling			11.00
TOTAL PAYABLE			\$ _____

Questions: Please phone 0413 008 571
Email order form with payment details to
merchandise@theorderofaustralia.asn.au
OR
Mail to OAA Merchandise PO Box 18389.
Collins Street East, Melbourne VIC 8003
OR
Order online and pay with PayPal or credit card:
www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/shopping-cart



Updated October 2023

P&H: Multiple items will be put in one postage pack where possible.

Name _____ Phone _____

Email address _____

Mailing address _____

Suburb _____ State/Territory _____ Postcode _____

Total Cost of order: \$ _____ Cheque payable to Order of Australia Association enclosed ☐ Y ☐ N or

Please debit my ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa Card: Number _____ Expiry Date _____ CSV _____



EDITORIAL

Phil Morrall AM, CSC – Editor

This is the last opportunity I will have to share some thoughts with you as Editor, as I hand over to Dr June Kane AM, a member of the Victoria Branch who has agreed to take carriage of our Magazine.

At the outset I should thank those Branch and Regional Group newsletter coordinators who collate and feed the various contributions to me for each edition, it takes time and effort and so often their contribution is forgotten. Ditto to members of our National Board and of course His Excellency, and his staff.

Our printer and publisher Advance Press in Perth do a great job.

On the wider front, if at times like me you have doubts about the state of our Nation may I urge you to do two things:

- Each Australia Day and Kings Birthday take a few minutes to study the Honours List. That on each list, over 700 of our fellow Australians are recognized within our Order, plus others in various awards, says to me Australia is in good shape.
- If you despair at 'today's youth' then please look out for articles on Branch Student and Citizenship Awards and the Foundation Scholarships. Attending these awards ceremonies be it at Branch functions or the National Conference, I find inspirational. How do these young people find the time to study?

You will see details of the 2024 National Conference in Perth in May, could I urge you to consider attending. I find these activities uplifting in terms of fellowship and an opportunity to have a say at the programmed AGM and Members' Forum.

Which brings me to one of my stable of hobby-horses; member participation in the governance of our Association. Regional Group, Branch and National committees offer opportunities for any member to assist with the management and governance. Our Association has one single part-time employee – Ms Heather Willis, who operates the National Office in Old Parliament House.

All the rest of the work associated with our Association is done by volunteers, just like you.

Thank You for the opportunity to be Editor.

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION- STRATEGIC PLAN

A Strategic Plan has been prepared and approved by the Board to take the Association forward for the next few years. A key component of the plan is to grow the Value of the Association to its Members.

The plan was developed with input from the Branches to ensue it has relevance to the various Branches and their membership and their specific needs. Each Branch is, thus, able to take from the plan that which suits their activities and needs.

The Strategic Plan can be found in the OAA Website in the Governance section : Governance - The Order of Australia Association

We encourage members to look at it.

The Strategic Plan is considered a "Live" document and hence, feedback from and the views of members are appreciated.

All the Best

Kathy Wooldridge OAM
Chair Strategic Planning Committee

MAGNETIC LAPEL PINS UPDATE

Thank you to all those who responded to our request for interest in purchasing a Magnetic Lapel Pin/s.

The Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General will follow up with those who have registered an interest when the badges become available.

They are yet to indicate the exact date when the Magnetic Lapel Pins will be available.

Kathryn Wooldridge OAM
National Membership Director
Order of Australia Association
E: natmbrdir@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

IS THERE VALUE IN MEMBERSHIP?

Are you an active member of our Association? Do you attend activities, link up with old friends and new and participate in everything on offer? Or do you find what is offered uninteresting or hard to get to?

Whether you answer 'yes' or 'no' your Branch or Regional Committee needs to hear from you. Committees can only arrange activities if they know what members need.

Our Association has done well in the management of finances over recent years, building up reserves and supporting branch and regional activities with funds for both administration and development.

Our recruiting of new recipients of an award and the retention of existing members is below expectations. We need to properly welcome new recipients and ensure that our member activities are inviting and meet their needs.

We have begun a review of the 'financial framework' of our Association – the way we do business at all levels and, particularly, the best ways to grow membership. One immediate measure, helped by our good financial performance, is to reduce membership fees from 1 January 2024. These new fees will apply both to new members and to those renewing or completing payment of existing membership. An option will be introduced to allow 10-Year membership to be paid in two instalments over two years and Lifetime membership will be limited to 25 years, with an instalment option. Existing Lifetime member conditions will remain unchanged.

The new fees from 1 January 2024, inclusive of GST, will be:

Annual.....	\$70.00
3-Year.....	\$160.00
10-Year.....	\$600.00
10-Year x 2 Instal.....	\$300.00 x 2
Life (25 Year)	\$1,100.00
Life (25 Year) x 4 Instal	\$275.00 x 4

We are looking at ways to better fund Branch and Regional Group activities, make sure we provide member value and allow greater certainty in planning. Your contribution to this is important.

You should get value from your membership. I ask you to speak with your committees and work with them to produce programmes that engage with the community and enhance member knowledge, fellowship, and networking.

Barry Nunn AO
National Chairman

STOP PRESS:

Do you know a Recipient who has not joined our Association? If so, point them to these short YouTube videos to see and hear what we are about and why they might enjoy our company.

2023 - National Conference: https://youtu.be/wzP6fg_GcBw

2023 - National Conference - Vicki O'Halloran AO CVO interview: <https://youtu.be/lChWuF7y4Yk>

2023 - National Conference - Barry Nunn AO interview: <https://youtu.be/SRloJ0cjOwQ>

We thank His Excellency and his staff for their assistance in producing these videos.

Encouraging Nominations.

Anyone can nominate someone for the Order of Australia. If you would like to encourage your community, colleagues or friends to nominate, please use any of these promotional resources.

Order of Australia resources and promotion: <https://www.gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awardsorder-australia/order-australia-resources-and-promotion>

- Case study - Sarah Brown AM - (Facebook and Instagram tiles) - "I think it is really important that stories that don't usually get light on them, get told. And that people understand what a diverse, and creative and resilient country we are."
- Case study - Regula Black OAM - (Facebook and Instagram tiles) - "I do what I do because I enjoy it and I love being in the community - it's just stunning to me that someone appreciates the work."



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Andrew Phelan AM
Branch Chairman
chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

The ACT Branch recently hosted several important events. At the Royal Canberra Golf Club on 24 August, we had the great pleasure of presenting 18 Student Citizenship Awards to outstanding students and student groups from all sectors of ACT schools, in front of 140 members, parents and students, teachers and school administrators. It was wonderful to have received a message of support from our Branch Patron, Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley. On 20 September at the Commonwealth Club, we celebrated 22 local recipients of honours and awards in the King's Birthday 2023 Honours List at our Spring Reception for New Recipients. I am very pleased to have welcomed 16 ACT recipients from that list who have joined the Association.

On 6 November, Professor Kieran Kirk AM presented the 2023 Order of Australia Association - Australian National University lecture on Humanity's ongoing battle with infectious disease. Professor Kirk was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia on Australia Day 2023 for significant service to science education and research, and to professional organisations.

Warm regards,

ACT BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley

Branch Nominated Director

Dr Alan Morrison AM JP

Chair

Andrew Phelan AM
Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au
0417 267 609 (M)

Secretary

Robert Altamore OAM

Treasurer

Phil Morrall AM CSC

Committee Members

Dr Brian Babington AM

Lynne Duckham OAM

Narelle Hargreaves AM

Dr Joseph Johnson CSC, OAM, AAM

Dr. Bill Maiden PSM OAM

Coralie Wood OAM

Desmond Woods OAM

SPRING RECEPTION FOR KING'S BIRTHDAY RECIPIENTS



Kings Birthday reception – New recipients



Branch members gathered at the Commonwealth Club on 20 September to welcome 22 new recipients of honours in the King's Birthday awards. This followed their investiture the previous week at Government House. It is pleasing to see that 16 King's Birthday recipients have joined the Association. The Branch welcomes the contribution made by the ACT Government towards facilitating the welcome event. A selection of photos from the event are provided below.

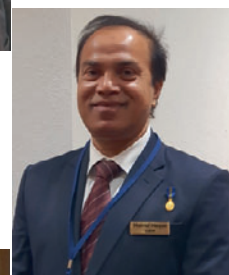
Mrs Jaishri Falcetta OAM



Barry Campton OAM



Ebenezer Banful OAM



Mainul Haque OAM



John Crotty OAM



Robert Clynes OAM

2023 STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS PRESENTATION

The Branch annual Student Citizenship Awards presentation was held at the Royal Canberra Golf Club on Thursday 24 August 2023. There were a record 18 awards presented on the night with students from public, independent and church schools honoured for a wide range of significant contributions. The Branch patron, Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley was unable to attend, but sent the event a message which is enclosed.

The judging panel, Mrs Narelle Hargreaves AM, Ms Lynn Fletcher OAM, Dr Joe Johnson OAM and convenor Dr Bill Maiden PSM, OAM assessed the nominations. A selection of winners are highlighted here.



Mila Costa, a student in Year 4 at Canberra Girls Grammar School, and **Zara Skepev**, a Year 3 Canberra Grammar School student, initiated and led a selfless and highly passionate fundraising campaign to support children suffering from brain cancer. Working together, over six months they diligently handcrafted thousands of pairs of earrings. The culmination of their hard work and dedication was a most successful pop-up store on the lawns of Manuka shopping centre, where they raised over \$14,000.00.

Both students were awarded the Association Branch's top Medallion Plaque Award for outstanding community service and citizenship.

The nomination of **Shiori Ishikawa** (Year 12, Canberra College) contained many high-level examples of her leadership and community service. Her nomination concluded that her leadership, her community-mindedness, and inclusive nature in reaching out to support students across her college was significant in changing the culture of the college's community.

Shiori's conspicuous leadership skills, and passion for making a positive impact in her community, resulted in her being awarded the Association's Medallion and Plaque Award for outstanding community leadership and achievement.



Samia Farhana, (Year 10 at Islamic School of Canberra), is an active and caring citizen who is an energetic volunteer in the support of others. She participates in volunteering in the school garden, assisting clean up her neighbourhood on 'Clean Up Australia Day', and collecting donations.

Samia also has a leadership role in her community in the planning and organising events at her local mosque. She has found her work at a special needs school has been a rewarding experience creating a relationship with students who need it most. In addition, she works with the Young Muslim Sisters Association, where she assists in providing a safe and supportive space for girls in the community. She has also been involved in fundraising efforts to support those affected by the recent earthquake in Turkey. Samia was awarded the Branch's Highly Commended Certificate for significant community involvement.

Katherine Polette (Year 12) strives to make Canberra College a positive, memorable, and equitable place. She volunteers to address college assemblies to promote community building activities, such as running the fundraising bake sale for 'Relay for Life'. She was also a driver of the Canberra College Clothes Swap this year which ran throughout Environment Week.

Katherine's leadership skills were demonstrated with her co-conducting a forum in 2022 designed to hear the voice of Year 11 students and was successfully repeated this year.

Katherine's generosity of spirit has been evident in her significant roles in the College's Harmony Day and she was awarded the Branch's Plaque Award for outstanding citizenship and leadership.



Phoebe Vassallo is a Year 10 student at St Mary MacKillop College who has introduced and led many initiatives over her time at the College demonstrating strong and sustained community service.

A recent example of Phoebe's community spirit and leadership skills was her organisation and running of an outstanding citizenship project, the 'Gift of Life Walk', an event held to raise awareness about organ donation.

The event was most successful with over 100 senior students and staff participating on the day. What was notable about Phoebe's leadership and the project was her success in organising and motivating students who were more senior in years than herself. Indeed, this project served to open conversations with families and friends about organ and tissue donation and, importantly, the walk encouraged people to register with the Australian Organ Donor Register.

Three Year 10 Student Representative Council members at Belconnen High School, **Riddhi Shah**, **Niti Desai**, **Jasmine Dubey** decided that this year they would like to celebrate Harmony Day and multiculturalism at Belconnen High School and proposed a Colour Run aimed at promoting multiculturalism at the school and the wider community and create an event for students to socialise and have fun.

The trio's other aim of the day was to fundraise for a local non-government community-based organisation called Companion House at the suburb of Cook, which works with adults and children who have sought safety in Australia from persecution, torture and war related trauma.

After months of planning, \$1200.00 was raised for these causes on their special day.

These students were awarded the Branch's Highly Commended Certificate for excellent leadership and achievement.





Since **Yuna Rougeaux** (Telopea Park School Year 5) was in Year 3, she has been passionate about all activities concerning sustainable development and, through this interest, has demonstrated a sense of community spirit for other students. Her commitment to the school's community garden is constant and her good citizenship is always on display as she does not hesitate to support arriving

new students by sharing her knowledge with them.

Another example of her citizenship is that Yuna supports younger children in the garden in a kind and helpful manner.

Yuna's nomination describes her excellent organisational and leadership skills. She speaks at school assemblies to share her point of view and announce upcoming events.

Yuna was awarded the Association's Highly Commended Certificate for outstanding leadership.

The **Year 12 cohort** of 264 students from St Mary MacKillop College raised \$74,000.00 for 'Relay for Life' this year. The relay was completed on 1 April with over 25 students walking or running a marathon in 12 hours to support many in the community who are affected by cancer.



Over 185 students were able to volunteer 12 hours on a Saturday to raise awareness and funds for this project. The efforts of the students, generous help from the community and support from teachers and staff before and after the marathon day was remarkable.

The St Mary MacKillop College students' contribution to the Cancer Council was the second highest total in the country. Many Year 12 students worked tirelessly to organise this citizenship project to support families who may be affected by cancer.

For this achievement, the Year 12 cohort at St Mary MacKillop College was awarded the Branch's Plaque Award for exceptional community service.

The nomination of **Angela Xie** (Year 11 Canberra Grammar School) cited many instances of outstanding service and commitment to voluntary work and service leadership over the last two years.



For example, she completed 113 hours of voluntary community service while in Year 10 in which she served both younger and older students and the community. She has served with enthusiasm as the Chair of the Canberra Grammar Service Council and was able to lead a committed group of 14 other students to run large service events at school, including the annual Anglicare Winter Appeal and Pink

Day (Breast Cancer Fundraising).

Angela is highly regarded as a role model for younger students and has been awarded the Branch's Plaque Award for outstanding community service.



Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley

**The Order of Australia Association (ACT Branch)
2023 Student Citizenship Awards
Royal Canberra Golf Club, Thursday 24th August**

It is a pleasure to send you this message on the occasion of The Order of Australia Association (ACT Branch) 2023 Student Citizenship Awards.

The awards recognise and celebrate outstanding citizenship and the wonderful contributions that some students make to the ACT community. I congratulate the winners and nominees, indeed all involved in this important community initiative.

I was delighted to hear that nominations were received from all three education sectors, ensuring the awards are truly representative. The nominations were of a particularly high standard and the lengths some students went to in support of others were truly amazing. As will be evident this evening, the quality of our young people and their determination to make a positive difference to their community is inspiring and uplifting.

I want to acknowledge the people behind the successes being celebrated: families, school principals and heads of education sectors. Your support and teachings are a big part of this evening's celebration.

Similarly, I want to recognise the efforts of members of the ACT Branch of the Association in organising this event and for continuing to promote and celebrate Australian citizenship and diversity.

L. Hurley

GOVERNMENT HOUSE CANBERRA ACT 2600 AUSTRALIA
TELEPHONE +61(0) 6283 3533 FACSIMILE +61(0) 6281 3760
WWW.GG.GOV.AU

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR JAMES INGRAM AO FAIIA

Branch Chair Andrew Phelan AM represented the Association at the memorial service for life member, James Ingram AO FAIIA. The service was held at the Australian National University on 9 August 2023. Jim's career included appointments as Australian Ambassador to the Philippines, Australian High Commissioner to Canada, and inaugural head of the Australian Government's Aid Agency (1975-81) where, with Sir John Crawford he was instrumental in establishing the Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research. The highlight of his career was his 10-year (1982-1992) term as head of the United Nations' World Food Programme, which he reformed to enable it to become the world's largest humanitarian agency and in 2020 the programme was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. At the photo, shown speaking at the service is Cindy McCain, the newly appointed Executive Director of the World Food Programme, with the Hon Gareth Evans AC KC looking on after giving his address. The Hon Dr Penelope Wensley AC, former Australian Ambassador to the UN and former Governor of Queensland is standing at the right.



Mr Ingram, who passed away in February at age 94, was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in the 1984 Australia Day Honours for public service.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Tony Metcalf OAM
Branch Chairman
 chairsa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Following on from our successful King's Birthday Luncheon, we held our fourth fellowship luncheon at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club in Adelaide with speaker Mark Bouchier OAM, and then our final luncheon meeting for the year with Mr David Linn OAM.

Our Regional Groups have continued to keep our regional members and other recipients engaged and informed.

On behalf of all of our members, I would like to congratulate all honours recipients announced in the 2023 King's Birthday Honours List.

I, and several of our members, represented the Association at a series of investiture ceremonies. Of note, we have developed a Branch-specific Order of Australia Association information brochure and, with the approval of Her Excellency, this was included in the information folder received by all new recipients. We had the opportunity to meet many of these new awardees at our second New Recipients' Reception for the year on Monday 9 October.

Our Student Citizenship Awards Assessment and Selection Panel finalised its deliberations and selected the Top 10 ('With Distinction') nominees plus additional students who will receive a certificate and medallion. I would like to acknowledge and thank Her Excellency the Governor of South Australia, our Branch Patron, who has agreed to host an award ceremony and reception at Government House.

On behalf of all our members, I would also like to express my gratitude for those who have volunteered their time with the assessment and selection panel, and also with the presentation of certificates and medallions – your largely unseen efforts are greatly appreciated.

Finally, we will wrap up the year with our usual Christmas Morning Tea, where we will hear from Mrs Anne Bachmann OAM JP and Dr Rob Wight OAM.

On behalf of the Branch Committee and members of the SA Branch, I wish all a joyful Christmas and we send our best wishes for the new year.

Tony Metcalf OAM
SA Branch Chair

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 Ziesing OAM

Member Secretary SA
 Mr Greg Gordon OAM JP

**Student Citizenship Awards
 Convener**
 Noel Hender OAM BEM

Regional Groups Coordinator
 Ken Coventry OAM JP (co-opted)

Merchandise Officer
 Kathryn House AM

Editor/Webmaster
 Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP

Other committee members
 Don Clark OAM
 Joe Ienco OAM
 Ted Iuliano OAM
 Flavia de Pasquale OAM
 Pamela Rajkowski OAM

Alternate Branch Nominated Director
 Noel Hender OAM BEM

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

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South East Regional Group
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**Riverland and Mallee Regional
 Group**
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Yorke Peninsula Regional Group
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elaine@yp-connect.net
 Maree Anderson OAM (Minlaton)
mareeanderson@internode.on.net

Eyre Peninsula Regional Group
chairsa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

UPCOMING SA BRANCH ACTIVITIES:

Friday 1 December: SA Branch Christmas Morning Tea, with guest speaker Mrs Anne Bachmann OAM JP

Saturday 20 January 2024: 'Celebration of Australia Day' luncheon with guest speaker Dr Tony Cocchiaro AM MBBS FRACGP.

Friday 23 February 2024: South East Regional Group meeting

Saturday 2 March 2024: SA Branch Annual General Meeting



HONOURING THE FALLEN

Branch members have been involved in some significant commemorative services in the last few months.

Korean War veteran John Jarrett AM, Group Captain Robert Black AM RFD (ret'd), Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Denny AM BM (ret'd) and Major Paul Rosenzweig OAM (ret'd) attended a service of commemoration at the SA National War Memorial on 27 July. This service acknowledged the 70th anniversary of the signing of the 'Korean Armistice Agreement' which ended fighting in the Korean War.



John Jarrett AM (left) served in Korea in 1953-54, and was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia, "For significant service to community health, and to veterans and their families" (AD23) through the Korea & South East Asian Forces Association.

On 18 August, several members joined military veterans and families at a service of commemoration at the Vietnam War Memorial at Torrens Parade Ground, conducted by a group of veteran organisations in partnership

with the SA Vietnamese community. Acknowledging the 50th anniversary of the proclamation to end Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, this service honoured those who died, those who served and the families that support them.

Meanwhile, three important events marked Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day. The SA/NT Branch of the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association hosted a Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day service in Adelaide on 11 August to acknowledge the 57th anniversary of the signing of the Malaysia-Indonesia Peace Agreement in Jakarta on 11 August 1966, which brought to a close the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEONS

The August luncheon meeting speaker was Mr Mark Bouchier OAM, who spoke on the topic: "The Centenary of Legacy ANZAC Commemorative Tour, April 2023". Mark has had a substantial involvement with the Legacy Club of SA and Broken Hill, as Chairman of the SA Badge Day Appeal since 2008, Board Chairman (2015-19) and President (2016-17). He is currently serving on the National Board of Legacy Australia, and is chair of the National Marketing Group.

Our guest speaker for the October Fellowship luncheon meeting was Mr David Linn OAM, on the topic, "Books for Lesotho – a Nation Building Project".

David had a diverse career following his graduation from the University of Adelaide with a degree in Civil Engineering. For his service on the Board of the Australian Refugee Association for 26 years, including 13 years as President, he was announced as Senior Volunteer in the Governor's Multicultural Awards 2014, and he received the OAM, "For service to the community through refugee support organisations" (AD17).

Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia and SA/NT Branch NMBVAA Patron, and Mr Rod Buntin were guests of honour and placed the first tribute. Other Order of Australia recipients in attendance were Group Captain Robert Black AM RFD (ret'd), Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Denny AM BM (ret'd), Lieutenant-Colonel John Spencer OAM RFD (ret'd), Mrs Jenny Macintosh OAM, and Major Paul Rosenzweig OAM (ret'd), the SA/NT Branch President who hosted the service.

The SA/NT Branch NMBVAA then conducted a special service in Kuching, Sarawak in Malaysia on 28 August 2023. Order of Australia recipients in attendance were Major Paul Rosenzweig OAM (ret'd) who ran the ceremony; Lieutenant-Colonel John Spencer OAM RFD (ret'd); Mr Rod Lees OAM (Military Division); Datuk Dr Philip Ting AM PGBK (Honorary Australian Consul to Sarawak); and Dato Lim Kian Hock OAM PSBS (former Heritage Adviser, Sarawak Tourism Federation).

At that time, the SA Governor was visiting Malaysia to promote South Australian educational, trade, and energy opportunities, and to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Sister City relationship

between Adelaide and George Town, the capital city of Penang. On 30 August, Her Excellency visited the Penang (Western Road) Cemetery and laid a wreath in honour of Malaya and Borneo Veterans Day.



Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of SA and Mr Rod Buntin in the West Torrens War Memorial Gardens with Air Force Cadets of No 604 Squadron, AAFC.

David and his wife Liz started Books for Lesotho Inc ('B4L') as a private initiative in 2007. They worked to establish libraries in primary and secondary schools in Lesotho with the support of many local individuals and service groups. The organisation was incorporated in 2016. David is now Chairman of the Board of B4L.



Attendees on Thursday 31 August (left to right): Peter Routley AM (MC), Dr Carolyn Palmer AM, Gillian Rogers OAM (Hospitality), Dr Aileen Connors AM, Shirley Dunn, Peter Dunn OAM, Helen Leake AM, John Bishop AO, Jenny Macintosh OAM, John Phillips OAM (Branch Secretary), Mark Bouchier OAM (Guest Speaker), Professor Jennifer McKay AM, Helen Smith, David Seaton OAM, Flavia De Pasquale OAM (Coordinator). Not pictured: Chris Marron, Group-Captain Robert Black AM RFD.

STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

The Student Citizenship Awards program is conducted annually as the flagship program of the SA Branch. We present awards to year 11 and/or 12 students who have been nominated by their schools to acknowledge the outstanding voluntary service and contributions given by the student for their school and/or local communities.

The following Top 10 students have been identified to receive a 'With Distinction' award:

Aden Croser, Cardijn College

Jessica Grasser, University Senior College

Jack Haddad, Rostrevor College

Jesse Isaac, Endeavour College

Rogayah Hani Abul Khair, IQRA Islamic College

Efthemia Kipirtoglou, Immanuel College

Zoe Lin, Temple Christian College

Alexandra Meneses, Cardijn College

Thomas Oxford, Parafield Gardens High School

Nikki Pfitzner, Berri Regional Secondary College

These students will be presented to Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia and Patron of the Order of Australia Association SA Branch, at a special reception at Government House in November.

Each will receive a 'With Distinction' certificate signed by Her Excellency and the SA Branch Chairman Mr Tony Metcalf OAM, as well as a Student Citizenship Award medallion mounted on an engraved wooden plaque. After presenting awards to the Top 10, Her Excellency will announce the 2023 South Australian Student Citizen of the Year.

We heartily congratulate these students on being selected for this well-deserved award.

A further 29 students – 20 of which were rated as 'Highly Commended' – will receive a framed signed certificate and a cased medallion from a Branch member at a school presentation.

The SA Branch is delighted that the initiative of including a medallion with each award has been made possible through a generous donation from one of our members, Mr Keith 'Chook' Fowler OAM.

The Student Citizenship Awards program is separate from, but proudly presented in collaboration with, the Governor's Civics Awards for Schools.

EVENTS



Our new recipients on Monday 9 October (left to right): Mr Brian Minney OAM, Mrs Annette Forbes OAM, Mr Geoffrey Coombe OAM, Mr Allan Polkinghorne OAM, Ms Dawn Borchardt AM, Mr Ian Grant OAM, Mr Lynton Donisthorpe OAM, Professor Jennifer McKay AM, Mr Rodney Fox AM, Ms Jillian Whittaker OAM, Ms Suzanne Caragianis OAM, Dr Caroline Elliott AM, Mr William Sergeant OAM, Ms Merry Wickes AM, Mr Craig Fosdike OAM, Dr Neville Highett AM, Mr Bruce Ind OAM and Mrs Susanne Harris OAM

In our second New Recipients' Reception for the year, we acknowledged 20 new recipients announced in the 2023 King's Birthday Honours List. Our guest speaker was Associate Professor Tony Phillips AM, who was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia, "For significant service to optometry, and to professional optical societies" (QB21). Tony came to Adelaide in 1982 as a member of a team developing the world's first disposable contact lens, and became Principal Optometrist in the Medical Contact Lens Unit at Flinders Medical Centre. He has moved between academia, hospital work and private practice, has authored more than 50 scientific papers, and is a Churchill Fellow (1992).

The Riverland and Mallee Regional Group held their half-yearly meeting in the Loxton Club in Loxton on Friday 29 September. Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM, Cheryl Metcalf, Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM JP and Di Coventry were in attendance. The guest speaker was Bill Ebert OAM, the older brother of the late football legend Russell Ebert OAM. Bill shared his life story and the aspects that contributed towards his recognition through the Order of Australia.



Kadina Regional Contact for the Yorke Peninsula Regional Group Mrs Elaine Bussenschutt OAM and partner Mr Garry Pamment.

Bill was awarded the OAM, "For service to the community of Loxton" (AD16). Members present expressed their great appreciation for his service to others.

The Yorke Peninsula Regional Group held their half-yearly luncheon meeting at the Ardrossan Hotel/Motel in Ardrossan on Sunday 22 October. The Fleurieu Regional Group held its luncheon meeting on Friday 3 November.

At our Branch Christmas Morning Tea on Friday 1 December, Dr Rob Wight OAM will provide an entertainment interlude, and Mrs Anne Bachmann OAM JP will speak on the topic, "Making our courts and prisons kinder". Anne was appointed Special Advisor to the Adelaide Women's Prison in 2013, but had been serving as a volunteer mentor since 1987. Anne was awarded the Department for Correctional Services Meritorious Service Medal in 2014: "For outstanding contribution and dedication to the Department for Correctional Services and the special needs of women in custody".



Mrs Anne Bachmann OAM JP.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mrs Ronda L. Nix OAM
Branch Chairman
chairqld@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

September was a particularly busy month for our Branch. On the 7th September our Sunshine Coast Regional Convener, Marjorie Voss OAM hosted a lunch for members at the Caloundra Power Boat Club, where I presented her with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the Branch to celebrate her 90th birthday. On 14th September I travelled to Cairns for a Reception for new recipients in the FNQ Region hosted by the Mayor of Cairns Regional Council, Cr Bob Manning OAM. Then on 21 September the new Gold Coast Regional Group Convener, Sandra Doumany OAM, organised a well-attended Lunch for members at the Sanctuary Cove Golf Club where I addressed those present. As well as these regional events, the Investiture Ceremonies for the King's Birthday recipients were held at Government House from 11-14 September, and each ceremony was attended by a representative from the Branch Committee. We then held our annual Secondary Schools Citizenship Awards ceremony at Parliament House on the 15th of September.

It was pleasing to finally be able to welcome a number of our 2023 recipients, both in the Australia Day and King's Birthday Honours Lists, at a combined Welcome Lunch in Brisbane on October 11. The Welcome Lunch was a very happy occasion enjoyed by all present.

The Branch Committee is planning a bus trip for members late in November to Whyte Island at the Port of Brisbane for a tour of the Combined Emergency Services Academy which provides special training for members of both the Fire and Ambulances services to be first responders prepared for any and all emergency situations that may arise. This is something the general public does not get to see, so we are privileged to be allowed this opportunity.

In conclusion, a big thank you to our Awards & Metro Events Coordinator Geoffrey Cowles for all the work he does to make the Branch events happen and also to our wonderful Regional Group Conveners who provide fellowship to our county members at functions throughout our vast decentralised state.

QUEENSLAND BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patron

Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeanette Young AC. PSM, Governor of Queensland

Chair

Ronda Nix OAM Tel: 0409 615 514

Deputy Chair

Dr Mick Davis AM ASM
Membership Officer

Secretary

Robyn Porter OAM
Tel: 0407 223 600

Treasurer

Dr Dennis Young AM

National Board Director

Peter McMurtrie AO KStJ.

Committee Members

Qld Branch Editor *The Order*

Graham Hyde OAM

Governance/Policy Review Officer

Paula Penfold AM

Regional Groups Coordinator

Darryl Secombe OAM

Protocol Officer & Regional

Convener Sunshine Coast

Marjorie Voss OAM

Awards & Metro Events Coordinator

Geoffrey Cowles OAM

Assistant Merchandise Officer

Kelvin Brown OAM

Multicultural & Diversity Officer

Irene Cayas OAM

Co-opted Members

Merchandise Officer

Kathy Wooldridge OAM

Assistant Secretary

Dr Carol Cox AM

All correspondence to:

Robyn Porter-Secretary

Email: secqldoaa@iinet.net.au

Regional Group Convener Details

Central Queensland: Dr Wallace

Taylor OAM

Darling Downs: Megan McNicholl
OAM

Far North Queensland: John Hardy
OAM

Gold Coast: Sandra Doumany OAM

Mackay-Isaac Whitsunday: Carmel
Daveson AM

Sunshine Coast: Marjorie Voss OAM

Townsville: David Jackson OAM

Wide-Bay Burnett: Judy Peters OAM

IN MEMORIAM

EWAN Rev Keith Robertson OAM

LEGGAT Prof Peter AM ADC JP KStJ

FINCH Paul James OAM

COOMBS Kevin OAM

MURWOOD Colin Harry OAM

STITZ Dr Russell William AM

HOPKINSON John OAM

SULLIVAN Michael Phillip OAM

NORTHCOTT Ronald Lewis James AM

SCHOLES Marcia Charlotte OAM

DOOLEY Thelma Florence PSM OAM

BENSON Kevin Leonard OAM

McDONALD John Norman AM

OUTSTANDING STUDENT CITIZENSHIP ON DISPLAY AT THE 24TH ANNUAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS CITIZENSHIP AWARDS



Simply the Best!! – Our twelve Awardees for 2023– Back row from L-R – Chloe Forbes-Hood (Glasshouse Christian College); Nicholas Brammer (St Stephen's Catholic College); Caleb Haxton (Mountain Creek State High School); Zachary Stevenson (All Saints Anglican School); Danzel Lewis (Bowen State High School); Elana Magarry (Yeronga State High School); Lily Mifsud (Whitsunday Anglican School); and Lakeeta McGrath (Coomababah State High School). Front Row from L-R – Vanessa Feng (Cleveland District State High School); Mackenzie Head (Heights College); Elle Hetherington (Toolooa State High School); and Penelope Earl (Maroochydore State High School).

The Honourable Paul de Jersey AC CVO KC, the former (26th) Governor of Queensland presented the Secondary Schools Citizenship Awards at the 24th annual Awards Presentation Ceremony in the Premiers' Hall of Queensland's Parliament House on Friday 15 September 2023. We thank Mr de Jersey for his keen support of our awards programme over many years and for his address to the gathering on the value of citizenship and community service. This was the sixth occasion that Mr de Jersey has presented these awards, the previous five times as our Governor.

We had an excellent response from 59 schools comprising both state high schools and private colleges from across Queensland. These schools nominated 94 worthy secondary school students for the award this year. There were 20 more nominations than last year, which was very pleasing.

Awards were presented to twelve 'year 12' school students, recognised for their selfless community service in helping others and promoting true Australian citizenship. The acceptance speeches from the students were inspirational and the students brought great credit to the schools they represented. Three schools, (St Stephen's Catholic College, Mareeba; Bowen State High School, Bowen; and Coombabah State High School, Gold Coast) enjoyed success for the first time with their award winning students.

Music was provided during the Presentation Ceremony by the Cleveland District State High School Chamber Strings. Their rendition of "Pride of the Highlands" by Katie O'Hara LaBrie was quite outstanding and very memorable.

One hundred and fifty guests including students and their families, school principals and representatives, State Members of Parliament and seventeen members of the Association attended.

The Queensland Branch of the Association thanks Mr Tim Fairfax AC for his continued support and sponsorship of the awards programme over a number of years.

Geoff Cowles OAM

SHELTER COLLECTIVE PROJECT ROCKHAMPTON

The Central Qld Region lunch held at the Frenchville Sports Club, Rockhampton on 9 October was attended by 58 members and community representatives. This included 8 senior student representatives from 4 local High Schools. The guest speaker David Grenfell OAM outlined the success of the 'Shelter Collective' project (<https://thesheltercollective.com.au/>) which is aimed at helping to address the increasingly large homeless problem in Central Qld.

The Shelter Collective has to date been able to raise \$1.6 M in cash and in-kind donations through the community, local businesses, schools and volunteer organisations to refurbish 10 unoccupied single bedroom homes for homeless women over 55. Known as the ARC-20 project, this part of the Shelter Collective's 4 projects has been initiated and will be completed within 6 months of the construction commencement and 12 months of the Shelter Collective formation, without government assistance.

The 10 Cottages will be managed through Anglicare who will allocate the cottages to the women over 55 in need. Tenants needing employment will be offered training through Apprenticeship & Training Qld leading to subsequent employment in aged care. There has also been two young men employed as carpentry apprentices on the ARC-20 Project, working with the team completing the current renovations. The presentation inspired an engaged question and answer session with the audience, particularly with the Year 12 students who demonstrated a very keen interest in becoming involved. The meeting has inspired two requests for information on nomination processes for Australian Awards

Dr Wal Taylor OAM
Central Queensland Convener



(l-r) Graeme Brady OAM, Grant Cassidy OAM, Dr Wallace Taylor OAM, Dave Grenfell OAM, Ree Grenfell and Kara Krehlik Principal RGGs. (Pic Peter Lynch, CQToday)



CELEBRATIONS FOR MEMBERS AT SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL LUNCH



Marjorie Voss OAM and Alan Quatermaine OAM

With a marvellous view of the Pumicestone Passage, 63 members and guests gathered in September for lunch and celebrations at the Caloundra Power Boat Club and to be informed by our Guest Speaker Robert (Bob) Reid AM.

Robert spoke of his work for the United Nations in the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and its successor the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals which spanned the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia and the Rwanda Genocide. From 2008 until he retirement in 2020 he was Chief of Operations to the Chief Prosecutor.

The celebrations were for the 100th birthday of long-time member Allan Quatermaine OAM and the 90th birthday of the Region Convenor Marjorie Voss OAM. A fitting tribute was given to Allan by his long-time friend Colin Brewer AM. Colin spoke on Allan's earlier life and his service to his Country and of his ongoing commitment in his civilian life to the communities to which his role as a Bank Manager took him. He also spoke of Allan's ongoing commitment to Legacy and the fact that he was one of the bearers of the Legacy Torch as it passed through the Sunshine Coast in June this year. Allan was presented with a plaque by Branch Chairman Ronda Nix OAM and Region Convenor Marjorie Voss OAM. He and Marjorie then blew out the candles and cut the beautifully decorated Birthday Cake. Marjorie was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers from the Branch Committee.

We were also delighted to welcome a further seven awardees in the 2023 Order of Australia Honours. Dr Kirstin Ferguson AM; Mrs Linda Vann OAM; Mr Edward Vann OAM; Mr Martin O'Shannesey AM; Mrs Judith Bandidt OAM; Mr Milton Bartlett AM; Ms Michelle Lipner OAM. It is always a pleasure to welcome our new awardees to Regional events to involve them in the fun and fellowship enjoyed by our Regional members.

Marjorie Voss OAM
Sunshine Coast Regional Group Convenor

SHE DID IT HER WAY

On Saturday 26 August 6 Committee members and their partners of the Qld Branch gathered at the Kedron Wavell Services Club to join the 100 family and friends to celebrate the 90th Birthday of our Sunshine Coast Regional Convener Marjorie Voss OAM.

Following light refreshments and drinks the sounds of music from the 7 'Von Voss' grand-children (some of whom are trained professional singers) filled the Kittyhawk Room with 5 songs from the early genre of Marjorie's life. That set the scene for a three-hour trip down memory lane.

The Master of Ceremonies Gary (the least favourite son or so he claimed) invited us to enjoy each-others' company over lunch.

Then we had more 5 more sounds from the 'Von Voss' singers again changing the genre and one could actually hear a few voices from the visitors joining in.

What followed was a kaleidoscope of photos of Marjorie's 90 years of life: birth, early school years, Miss Secretary, the Deb Ball, time in Sea Rangers (some serious and party stuff), Marj on the stage, Marj in a Fashion Parade (or 2 or 3) including the 'High Heels', the engagement to Royce, their marriage day at Christ Church Bundaberg, and then the family photos of each child, their marriages, and their children and then their children's children (whew) and Mrs Tupperware.

We then followed Marg's life outside the family; Brownie Pack Leader and being awarded the EMU award for conspicuous service to guiding, teachers aide at Ironside Kindergarten, service National and State level in the Mother's Union over a 60 year period, Committee member of the Qld Branch of The Order of Australia Association and Sunshine Coast Regional Convener, Liturgical Assistant within the Anglican Diocese of Southern Queensland, active member of the National Council of Women Queensland. All this work did not go un-noticed and she was awarded a Medal in the Order of Australia on 9 June 2014 'For service to women, and to youth through the Guiding movement'.

Eventually as time moved on we saw the travel guide: Round Australia Cruise, Vanuatu, the Caribbean, Europe, USA, United Kingdom and also locally, Longreach, Tasmania, the Kimberleys and some places I can't remember.

Not be left out young Royce provided us with details of their early courting days noting his earliest memories of Marj 'as a tall slim attractive young lady neatly dressed in her office attire of white blouse, dark skirt, stockings and high heeled shoes and their 68 years of marriage noting that whilst they both have aged 'Marj still looks pretty good in a white blouse, dark skirt, stockings and high heeled shoes'.

Sweets and the cutting of the Cake was followed by the return of the 'Von Voss' choir to provide the last bracket of 5 songs which had a lot of us singing and some dancing (the host included in high heels).

The final song was a rendition of 'My Way' with slight change to the last verse.

For what is Grandma, look what she's got,
She has all this, and that's a lot.
She says the things, she truly feels.
And does it all while wearing heels.
Let the record show, that we all know.
She does it her way

Marj closed the event by singing 'Yes it was, my way'

Graham Hyde OAM



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

James Mein AM
Branch Chairman
chairnsw@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

We welcome the many new members of the New South Wales Branch and long may you benefit from meeting a multitude of inspiring Australians, like you, who have made a huge difference to Australia's social history and well beyond. There are so many other benefits to be gained such as receiving "The Order", attending our Branch Regional gatherings, access to our member purchasing offerings, and general connecting with like minded people.

August, September and October have been very busy and rewarding months for the NSW Branch with: -

- Our representation at each of the eleven Investiture Ceremonies for our latest Order of Australia Kings Birthday Awardees at Government House.
- The presentation at Government House for this year's twenty-six Youth Community Service awardees from across NSW's 960 Catholic, Government and Independent High Schools.
- Branch regional functions with the Branch Chair, the Regional Groups Coordinator and Treasurer sharing the attendance in Alstonville, Bega, Bathurst, Cardiff, Dubbo, Illawarra, Mittagong, Moree, Nowra and Port Macquarie. By the time this issue of "The Order" goes to our members, we will also have held our New Awardees Welcome luncheon in the Strangers Dining Room of NSW Parliament House, many of whom have already joined the Association. We are awaiting details for the Riverina and Lower Blue Mountains Regions.
- Our 2025 National Conference Planning Committee has had two day-long meetings and the proposed theme is "Celebrate. Motivate. Nominate." Associate Professor Dr John Gullotta AM is the Committee Chair.
- Adopted our 2023-2025 Branch Strategic Plan which includes establishing an advisory group of under sixty years old members to address how we can "youthify" our membership. Many of these members are in full-time employment and need to influence activities that interest them and are time better for their involvement as well as identify and nominate younger Australians for an Order of Australia award.

Shortly, we will be sharing details of our Christmas-time Sydney based luncheon, the Australia Day Cruise and 2024 proposed activities of the Branch and its fourteen regions. Our Annual Branch General Meeting will be held in March and there will be opportunities to nominate for membership of the Branch Committee as one third will be stepping down, including myself as my term will finish at that meeting.

I also encourage your attendance at the Perth 2024 National Conference whereat we will be promoting the Sydney based 2025 National Conference.

Please be involved.

Check out our website
www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

NSW BRANCH OFFICE-HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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OAA Foundation

Mr Harold Sharp OAM
Mob. 0411 044 691

Strategic Plan Implementation

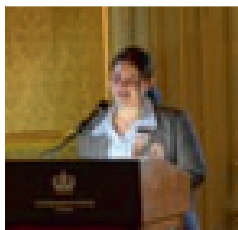
Mrs Diane North OAM

Branch Nominated Director

Mr David North OAM



2023 YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATIONS, GOVERNMENT HOUSE SYDNEY



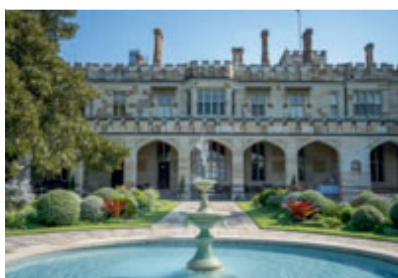
This year's award presentations were once again graciously hosted by Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC at NSW Government House on September 7. Her Excellency personally presented each of the 26 recipients with a trophy and Certificate of Commendation, together with some

wise words of encouragement for their future endeavours in service to the Australian community. Proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks by Asteer Saleem from Mary McKillop College, Wakeley, who thanked Her Excellency and the NSW Branch on behalf of the recipients. Presentations were conducted in the Government House Ballroom, followed by a group photo on the grand staircase. The Youth Community Service Award has been conducted annually by the NSW Branch since 1993 to reward year 11 or 12 HSC or IB (International Baccalaureate) students who have shown exemplary commitment and initiative in service to their

communities, which range from local to international. While Covid prevented its offering in 2020, student initiatives have rebounded strongly,



despite Influenza joining Covid in 2022 as a significant constraint on their activities. This year's recipients came from schools with a geographic spread across Sydney and beyond to Dubbo, Kingscliff, Port Macquarie, East Gosford, Freshwater, Raymond Terrace, Camden, Narara, Penrith and Ulladulla. After the official photo, everyone adjourned for afternoon tea in the beautiful and extensive gardens, where Her Excellency interacted informally with the gathering of recipients, their proud parents and guests.



Nominations for the 2024 award will be forwarded by email to all Principals (972 in 2023 offering the HSC or IB) in NSW High Schools in April, with closing date in late May. Judging by a panel of 3 Order of Australia recipients

will be concluded at the end of June and 25 nominees selected and advised. The date for the 2024 presentations will be advised by Government House when finalised. Further information is available on the Association website at <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/youth-award/>

Dr Frank Kelleher OAM, ASM
Convenor, Youth Community Service Award
convenoryouthawardnsw@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

UPCOMING EVENTS

2nd December 2023 – OAA NSW CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON

Our 2023 Christmas luncheon will be held in the Harbourview Lounge at the Kirribilli Club in Lavender Bay.

The Guest Speaker will be Dr Helen Nugent AC who is the Chairman of The Order of Australia Association Foundation.

There will also be entertainment by a renowned tenor and soprano with a Christmas theme.

This luncheon is a fundraiser to support The Order of Australia Association Foundation, which is supporting the next generation of leaders by helping promising young Australians to achieve their potential.

Bookings via: www.sticktickets.com.au/AXH16

26th January 2024 – ANNUAL AUSTRALIA DAY CRUISE

Our Annual Cruise aboard MV Captain Cook III is a great day on our beautiful harbour with good food, drinks and an opportunity for front row seats on picturesque Sydney Harbour! To be held on Australia Day – Friday 26th January 2024. Bookings via: www.sticktickets.com.au/FIAB4

SAVE THE DATE | 1st - 4th May 2025

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION, NATIONAL CONFERENCE | SYDNEY | 1st – 4th May 2025

The theme of our 2025 conference will be:

CELEBRATE | MOTIVATE | NOMINATE - "Inspiring Australian Achievers"

This theme captures three sub themes of: Celebrate the achievements of our Awardees,

Motivate others, especially our youth, to serve and inspire and also drive people to

Nominate others for the Order of Australia Awards.

These three themes will be expanded on in the sessions with prominent speakers addressing all these points. More details will be in the next issue of The Order Magazine.

Deputy Chairman, Metro Events & Public Relations
Coordinator, A/P John Gullotta, AM

MEET OUR MEMBERS, DR ANDY KUPER AO

It has been just a year since I was welcomed warmly into your community of members. I thought to share a recent milestone that may be relevant to the Order of Australia Association.

I met with both King Charles III and US President Joe Biden in July at Windsor Castle. I was one of 20 global CEOs and Chairs, along with the President of COP28, invited to meet with them during their summit. Prior to the meeting, US Special Envoy on Climate John Kerry and UK Secretary of State for Energy and Net Zero, Grant Shapps, convened the UK-US Climate Finance Mobilisation Forum. We discussed, as a group and then with the King and President individually, ways to raise and deploy hundreds of billions of dollars for climate solutions in emerging and developing markets.

We also announced my firm LeapFrog Investments' plan to invest \$500m USD / \$750m AUD in companies providing green tools and technologies to emerging consumers. We will back companies providing solutions in distributed energy, electric transport, built environment as well as food and agriculture – in countries such as India, Indonesia and Nigeria, that contain most of the world's people. For example, our company Sun King, which started out of Kenya, is already the largest pay-as-you-go solar financier in the world, replacing millions of unhealthy kerosene lanterns with safe home energy systems.



Overall, LeapFrog's investors' capital will empower 50 million low-income people to adapt to and mitigate against climate change.

Below are pictures from the event (these are candid snaps with the King and President as we spoke), and some links, which may be of interest to OAA Members.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/07/10/joint-fact-sheet-president-biden-and-his-majesty-king-charles-iii-meet-with-leading-philanthropists-and-financiers-to-catalyze-climate-finance/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-us-to-rally-efforts-to-help-developing-nations-tackle-climate-change>

<https://impact-investor.com/leapfrog-commits-500m-to-accelerate-green-transition-in-africa-and-asia/>

Warm regards,

Dr Andy Kuper AO

KINGS BIRTHDAY 2023 INVESTITURES, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, SEPTEMBER 2023



Ms. Carol Cooper OAM – For service to the indigenous community of the Blue Mountains

For more photos from our Kings Birthday Investitures, visit:

<https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw/news/>



THE BOARD OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

WILL YOU HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Each member of the Order of Australia has made a distinctive contribution to Australia. For that you have been recognised with the award you have received. The Board of the Order of Australia Association Foundation asks you to consider making a further contribution to Australia by supporting its Scholarship programme.

Why should you consider this request? Here are just a few reasons.

It represents an investment in Australia's future

The Scholarship programme aims to identify full time students in their second year of University who are exceptional in their field of study, who have given back to the community, and who can benefit from the financial support provided by the Scholarship.

Through the Scholarship programme, the Foundation seeks to identify students who have the potential to become future awardees of the Order of Australia.

They come from all disciplines in areas as diverse as health, law, the arts, marine biology, and many, many more. They are all committed to making a difference to Australia. John Atkins AO, Dina Browne AO and I, together with specialist academics have recently completed interviewing all short-listed candidates for the six Scholarship awards to be presented at the Perth Conference in 2024. To say it was an awe-inspiring experience is an understatement. With students of this calibre, we know Australia's future is in good hands.



Dr Helen M. Nugent AC
Chairman

Order of Australia Association Foundation
sec@oaafoundation.com.au

It is life changing for the recipient.

The recipient receives \$40,000 paid over two years. For the students selected, the value of the Scholarship is life changing. It allows them to realise their potential in the face of needing to make trade-offs between work and university, food and transport, completing their degree or taking a year off, living in a van or having a roof over their head, or overcoming other more subtle forms of disadvantage.

The additional benefit the recipient receives is a mentorship from a member of the Order of Australia in the student's area of expertise and career ambition. Winners have described this as having a benefit beyond money. We thank the members of the Order of Australia who have selflessly provided such mentorships.

It is prestigious.

The scholarship is highly regarded not just by the recipients, but also by the universities with whom we work. That prestige is enhanced by the presentation of the Scholarship awards by the Governor-General at the Annual Dinner of the Order of Australia Association. Next year when the Conference is held in Perth, 55 scholarships will have been awarded via 21 different Universities. At that time, six scholarships will be presented: two from the University of Western Australia (in Science and Law); and one each from Edith Cowan University (WAAPA in the Performing Arts); Swinburne (in Business); Deakin (in Marine Biology); and Charles Darwin (in Exercise and Sport Science). Earlier this year, at Geelong, four scholars were presented from RMIT, the University of Adelaide, and two from the University of South Australia. Those present at the dinner were inspired by the scholars and their stories.

It is well governed

The Board of the Foundation maintains the highest standards of governance in relation to the awards, at the same time as keeping costs to an absolute minimum. We seek and value the input of academics from each university in the selection process for each scholarship, at the same time as members of the Foundation Board are actively involved. We give our time and commitment freely, with, over time, the largest single donor group being members of the Foundation Board. To date, 21 scholarships have been donated by members of the Foundation Board. Two of the scholarships to be given in Perth are donated by Mr Nicholas Paspaley AC and Mr Paul Wheelton AM KSJ, continuing their history of generously giving. The other four were donated by the Order of Australia Association; the Western Australia Branch of the Order of Australia; the McCusker Charitable Foundation and the Goodeve Foundation. We are extremely appreciative of the generosity and support of all our donors.

It is tax deductible

Any donation made to the Scholarship programme of the Foundation is tax deductible. We have a rigorous programme of acknowledging your donation and providing a receipt to enable you to claim your tax deduction.

We need donations for awards to be made in Sydney in 2025

We need to be proactive. By early next year, we need to be organised to award Scholarships for the Sydney Conference Dinner to be held on 3rd May, 2025. Working with the donors, we will determine the Universities and faculties in which the scholarships will be awarded. The Universities advertise the scholarships to the relevant pool of students, following which a short list will be developed. And then we will come full circle to members of the Foundation Board. Working with academics from each university, the Selection Panel will meet face to face with the short listed students to make a decision, before making recommendations to the Foundation Board.

You can help. You can help by making a tax deductible donation to the Order of Australia Association Foundation. Alternatively, if the Branch in your state is working to fund a specific scholarship, you can donate directly to the Scholarship appeal via your Branch. That too is tax deductible. A donation can be made by the form below or through the Foundation's website. <https://oaafoundation.org.au/>

By making a donation, you will make a real difference. Thank you in anticipation.

Dr Helen M. Nugent AC
Chairman
Order of Australia Association Foundation
sec@oaafoundation.com.au

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Members can donate directly to the Foundation. Alternatively, members can donate to an Association National Scholarship Program which allows Branches and individual members to contribute to a consolidated account, which when it reaches the Scholarship funding level (currently \$45,000), will allow the award of an Association Scholarship.

Donations made directly and indirectly attract DGR tax deductibility.

Donations should 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 Tel: (02) 6273 5995

THE ORDER MAGAZINE – ADVERTISING PROPOSAL ADVERTISING IN THE ORDER MAGAZINE

The Association's Board has decided to trial the inclusion of limited advertising in the National magazine.

All advertising must accord with the objectives and values of the Association. Specifically, any advertising should not be politically or socially partisan and issues of significant community debate will not be sanctioned. Preference will be given to advertisements of a national character, that have a relevance to most if not all Association members.

In the first instance possible advertisers would be sought from Association Members with business or other commercial affiliations.

The intention is that the National Editor and the National Membership Director control and administer the advertising issue including judging suitability and setting conditions etc. Any unsolicited enquiries would be considered on their merits.

Contact Editor for rates and administrative conditions. nateditor@theorderofaustralia.asn.au



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mrs Bettine Heathcote AM
Branch Chairman
chairwa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

It is hard to believe we are almost at the end of another year with end of the year functions only weeks away. Add to that next year's National Conference is coming

ever closer and planning for that is in the final stages. We are working hard to keep the attendance cost as low as possible and details are in this issue of 'The Order'. Registration for the Conference will be open on November 30th on the WA website and will be in the next edition of 'The Order'. We look forward to welcoming many members from other Branches.

We were delighted to have the opportunity to recognise and congratulate 28 recipients of an award in the King's Birthday Honours at the Reception hosted by the Wanneroo City Council. It is always a privilege to share the stories of these recipients and to acknowledge the contribution each has made.

128 members and guests attended the Annual Black tie dinner at Royal Perth Golf Club and our Guest Speaker Dr Tom Ridsdill-Smith gave a most informative address on energy and its future.

Barry Nunn's talk, attended by 40 members and guests, on 'Catalinas in Crawley' was most informative and elicited many memories for those of us who remembered wondering how on earth these large planes would ever get off the water. A visit to the Aircraft Museum as part of the morning's activity was also thoroughly enjoyed.

The Annual South West Region function was a most enjoyable lunch at the Augusta Hotel attended by 55 members from the region as well as some from Perth. It was interesting to hear the stories of some who were attending this event for the first time. At the end of November, the Great Southern Region Church Service and lunch will be held in Albany.

We will wrap up the year's activities with our Christmas Lunch at Fremantle Sailing Club. Although a little early, on behalf of the members of the WA Branch we extend Seasons Greetings to all.

COFFEE MORNING

At the RAAFA Estate Bull Creek on Tuesday 17 October members and friends were entertained with a fascinating walk-through WWII history by Major General Barry Nunn AO. "Catalinas in Crawley" is a little unknown but important episode in WWII. Five ex-British Royal Navy Catalina's were stationed in Matilda Bay to enable Qantas to maintain a civilian air service from Matilda Bay in Perth to Lake Koggala Ceylon (Sri Lanka). The first flight was on 29 June 1943. They flew at 2,000 feet. Each flight took from 28 – 35 hours non-stop and were loaded with a large amount of fuel and three passengers requiring 6km to lift off and clear the Fremantle Traffic Bridges. These were known as the Double Sunrise operations as the first sunrise was at Exmouth, the second sunrise was over the Indian Ocean. The pilots were from Qantas and the 4 crew wore Qantas Uniforms flying and off duty were in civilian clothes. They flew 271 crossings non-stop and with no radio communication, navigation was by dead reckoning! They carried VIPs, War priority cargo, and mail. Members were able to see a Catalina in the Aircraft Museum after the talk but not the specific planes as after the war all were destroyed, being on lend lease loan from the US.

Some members stayed on to enjoy lunch at RAAFA.

SOUTH-WEST REGION ANNUAL EVENT



Hon Barry House AM Convenor of the SW Region welcoming members and guests.

On 20th October at the Augusta Motel Hotel 55 members and guests enjoyed a buffet lunch organised by Hon Barry House AM the SW Convenor. Dr John Williams spoke about using a light plane to fly around his country practice. At one stage he even landed on an Aircraft Carrier!



Graham Teede OAM and Jim Williams OAM



Mona Katelsen, Sue Hassell and Bill Hassell AM



Major General Barry Nunn AO

UPCOMING EVENTS

OAAWA Christmas Lunch at the Fremantle Sailing Club
7th December 12 pm

Annual General Meeting 2024
to be confirmed

National Conference Perth
16-19th May 2024.

THE OAAWA ANNUAL DINNER 2023

On a balmy Spring evening in September the OAA WA Branch once again held its Annual Dinner at the Royal Perth Golf Club. Members and Guests were welcomed by the Chairman, Bettine Heathcote AM, who raised a toast to the King and was followed by the National Chairman, Major General Barry Nunn AO who toasted the OAA Association. Grace was said by Venerable Canon Kathy Barrett-Lennard OAM.

A delicious meal followed with the after Dinner Speech given by Dr Tom Ridsill-Smith, an academic who has worked in the private sector and at the University of Western Australia. Dr Tom Ridsill-Smith challenged his audience with the problem of the Global Energy Transition.

"Our Challenge is the ever-growing consumption of energy. Despite the increasing development of energy sources with renewables, nuclear and hydropower, we do not generate enough to supply our



Dr Tom Ridsill-Smith



Major General Barry Nunn AO, His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM, Governor of Western Australia, Dr Tom Ridsill-Smith

increasing needs as the global population gets larger and richer. Fossil Fuel use has grown for the last 200 years and is still growing. Back in 1800 the world's population was 1 billion and the energy consumed was in wood and animal dung. In 223 years the population has grown 8-fold, our total energy consumption is 32 times greater. On average each person uses 4 times more energy today than they did in 1800. We have a dramatically raised standard of living in many parts of the world. Despite this nearly 800 million people around the world do not have access to electricity. It's like the energy transition bus is driving hard to catch us up, while we just continue to accelerate away from it. The challenge for developing nations is to provide clean, affordable energy to lift their poorest citizens out of poverty. The developed nations need to reduce the amount of energy we use. This is not easy." Tom asked us to take up the challenge in our own lives and in the other parts of our lives be that business, government, NGOs, clubs and so on. "Solutions are going to come from many places and will need to be implemented in an equitable manner by people who understand the impact they will have on our lives. Don't let perfect be the enemy of good – the energy transition needs all our ideas."



Michael Lee OAM, and Mrs Wendy Lee, Bettine Heathcote AM, John Garland AM, Joy Sinclair OAM

KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS RECEPTION



Anthony (Tony) House OAM

On 4th August a Reception for the King's Birthday Honours Awardees was held at the City of Wanneroo Banksia Function Rooms. Mrs Bettine Heathcote AM and Her Worship the Mayor of the City of Wanneroo, Mrs Linda Aitken JP, welcomed all present. The Mayor welcomed us, "Kaya koorda. Wandju nidja Noongar Boodja," she acknowledged all present and that among the 26 awardees present, she was proud that four were from the City of Wanneroo.

Tony House OAM responded succinctly thanking the Mayor and Councillors present saying that "it is a real privilege for me to offer to you and to those involved in the organization of this Reception for the recipients of His Majesty the King's Birthday honours list, indeed the first of his reign – the thanks of us all for your hospitality, kindness and warm welcome to both the Association and the City of Wanneroo.

I know I speak on everyone's behalf. From the moment we arrived, those who were named in the King's Birthday list, were treated as known friends, but even more importantly, we have been made to feel a part of each's award, a part of that wider community than our own circle, a part of the healthy activity that works for the betterment of our State and Nation. The recognition of which – not of the individuals so honoured – is the recognition of the myriad of challenges still

existing and which needs people and their abilities to create an even healthier and more compassionate community."

The National Chairman, Major General Barry Nunn AO acknowledged that the awards are a team award where the recipient is supported by family, friends, and community. He noted that WA received 5.5 – 6% of the awards which is lower than the 11% of the Australian population. This is the first time since 1975 that the percentage of women has exceeded that of the men awardees. We need to broaden the scope of the awards. The Reception ended with a delicious supper.

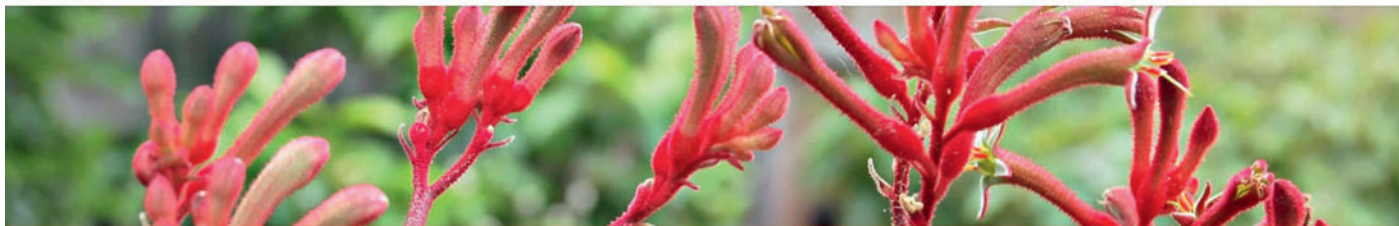


The King's Birthday Honours Recipients 2023



The Order of Australia Association
To celebrate and promote outstanding Australian citizenship

National Conference 16th - 19th May 2024
Hyatt Regency Perth



Where to stay

Hyatt Regency Reservations 13 12 34

Access Special Rates via <http://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/australia/hyatt-regency-perth/perth?offercode=EVNT>

*Rates subject to change based on availability at time of booking.

Quest East Perth: www.questeastperth.com.au

Book by 12/4/24 for Special Rate using code **NATCONFER** via www.questeastperth.com.au

Full prepayment required at time of booking - No refunds for cancellations less than 30 days prior to arrival date.

Crowne Plaza Perth cpp.reservations@ihg.com.

For Special Rate (15% off Best Flexible Rate until 31/12/23 mention **The Order of Australia National Conference 2024** when booking directly via email to cpp.reservations@ihg.com.

Ibis Styles Eastside: (08) 7099 3400

18% off dynamic rate only valid for 15-21/05/24 subject to availability at time of booking by referring to

Order of Australia National Conference and using Business client: SCP4218055 and Access Code: TH787AU651
via email to H9318@accor.com Note: Property is Ibis Styles Eastside

Fraser Suites 1800 099 465

10% off best available rate at time of booking through: <https://www.frasershospitality.com/en/australia/perth/fraser-suites-perth/>

Enter Promo code **EVENTS**, input dates required and follow the prompts to finalise the booking

Prepayment required at time of booking. Full refund on 24-hour's notice prior to arrival date

Registration – Opens on 30 November [See inside page for full program]

Register online via the WA page of the association's website at: www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au.

We can also be contacted on chairwa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Full Registration \$335

Optional Events: Best of the West: \$80 (\$55 if no oysters) Historic Pianos: Free (but registration required)

Individual Event Registration:

Welcome Reception: \$50 Conference: \$100 Gala Dinner: \$100 Farewell Lunch: \$85

Preparation

While we usually anticipate glorious weather in May, it can be wet and cool as well so please come prepared.