

Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia

#### **SA BRANCH NEWSLETTER, March 2024**

Last year, and again last month, we sent you some information regarding the Order of Australia Association 2024 National Conference being held in Perth in May. I would encourage you to attend if you are able. These events are a good opportunity for networking with fellow recipients of the Order and others from around Australia.

On Sunday 12 May, Government House Adelaide will be holding its next Open Day between 10 am and 4 pm.

Entry is free and registrations are not required.

We will have a Branch Committee member on duty beside the Order of Australia medal display in the Library with our Branch information brochure and insert, to assist with enquiries from members of the public about the Order of Australia.

The *brochure* is directed at existing recipients of the Order of Australia, to give an overview of the SA Branch and the benefits of membership of both the Association and the Branch.

The *insert* provides information about the Order of Australia and a guide to the nomination process.

We thank Her Excellency, our Branch Patron, for this new initiative to support the Open Days.

I encourage you to attend if you are able our King's Birthday Luncheon on Saturday 1 June. We will be celebrating the official observance of the birthday of King Charles III, who is not only King of Australia but is also Sovereign of the Order of Australia.

The venue is the Casa D'Abruzzo Molise Club in Prospect. Further details will be contained on the Reply Form in the April newsletter. We will have an engaging guest speaker – details to follow.

Tony Metcalf OAM SA Branch Chair

## REMINDER



## 2024 NATIONAL CONFERENCE 16-19 May 2024

The 2024 National Conference is being hosted by the Western Australian Branch, with the theme being: "Giving Service Beyond Self".

The Conference, AGM, Members Forum and Dinner and Scholarship presentations will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Perth. There will be a formal Reception on Thursday 16 May, and the Farewell Lunch will be held at Frasers Restaurant in King's Park preceded by a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the War Memorial opposite.

There is further information included in this newsletter.

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Saturday 2 March:** SA Branch Annual General Meeting, Arkaba Hotel (Fullarton Room)

**Friday 22 March:** Riverland and Mallee Regional Group luncheon meeting

Thursday 25 April: Fellowship luncheon meeting

**Sunday 28 April:** Yorke Peninsula Regional Group luncheon meeting in Ardrossan

**Friday 3 May:** Fleurieu Regional Group luncheon meeting

**Sunday 12 May:** Government House Open Day

**16-19 May:** 2024 National Conference and AGM (see notice attached)

(see notice attached)

## STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS 2024

#### ASSESSMENT AND SELECTION PANEL

Our Student Citizenship Awards Assessment and Selection Panel has had its first meeting for the year, and planning for 2024 is well underway.

The Nomination Form has been revised and simplified for 2024, and our Student Citizenship Awards promotional Brochure has been updated. Both have been distributed to schools, and are available on our website (see details below).

Awards Convenor Noel Hender OAM BEM has expressed his thanks to Professor John McKellar AM ED:

Long-serving member Professor John McKellar AM ED has reluctantly retired from the panel after many years of leading and contributing to the Awards, as he will be relocating interstate. We sincerely thank John for his many years of valuable contribution and wise counsel, not only as Panel member but also as Convenor over several years.



SA Branch Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM has also extended his thanks to John

John is moving to Victoria to be closer to his son and daughter-in-law. I sincerely thank John for his many years of service with the Student Citizenship Awards panel, and as a past Convenor. John has also given significant service to the SA Branch as Branch Treasurer in 2010-12 and again in 2020-23, Branch Chairman from 2012 to 2015, and as our Branch Nominated Director on the National Board of the Order of Australia Association. We wish him the best!

## STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS 2024

#### ASSESSMENT AND SELECTION PANEL

We welcome to the Panel Barbara Spears AM, who is Adjunct Professor of Education and Social Development in Education Futures, one of UniSA's seven academic units.

Barbara was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia last year, "For significant service to tertiary education, to research, and to youth" (AD23).

Awards Convenor Noel Hender OAM BEM has provided this introduction:

We are delighted to welcome Adjunct Professor of Education and Social Development Barbara Spears AM to the 2024 Assessment and Selection Panel for the Student Citizenship Awards.

Professor Spears is a distinguished academic, who has been Chair of the SA Charter for Children and Young People for 6 years, and was recently Deputy Presiding Officer of the Child Development Council of SA.

Barbara is also a member of the Programs Committee for the Sammy D Foundation, advising on violence and bullying prevention.

The Assessment and Selection Panel for 2024 will comprise Noel Hender OAM BEM (Convenor), Judith Leeson AM, Peter Routley AM, Adjunct Professor Barbara Spears AM, Elaine Bussenschutt OAM and John Phillips OAM.

The Student Citizenship Awards program is conducted annually as the flagship program of the SA Branch. For information on the awards program, and to download a copy of the 2024 promotional Brochure, refer to the Order of Australia Association website:

## https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/school-awards/



Adjunct Professor Barbara Spears AM
PhD MEdSt BEd DipT



The Student Citizenship Awards brochure for 2024

#### THEBARTON SENIOR COLLEGE

Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP attended the Thebarton Senior College Year 12 and New Arrivals Program Graduation Ceremony on Friday 8 December, where he presented two 2023 'Highly Commended' certificates and medallions.



#### **SUKINA BARATI**

A key member of the Peace Project team for the College, Sukina has been a leading force in advancing positivity, cultural understanding and goodwill for the wider community.

She has been an active participant with the Student Voice group, the Rotaract Club and the Governing Council, is a strong advocate for the environment and sustainability, and continually looks for and finds ways to support disadvantaged students.



#### **HADI JAFARI**

Hadi has consistently demonstrated leadership, compassion and enthusiasm in all that he has undertaken and achieved for his school and broader communities.

As President of the College Rotaract Club for Peace, and through sharing his own experiences and volunteering in a range of programs and activities, Hadi has been an excellent ambassador for refugees within Australian society.

#### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

For these recipients at Thebarton Senior College, Branch member Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP sponsored the two awards in memory of his father who had attended Thebarton Boys Technical School, as it was previously known.

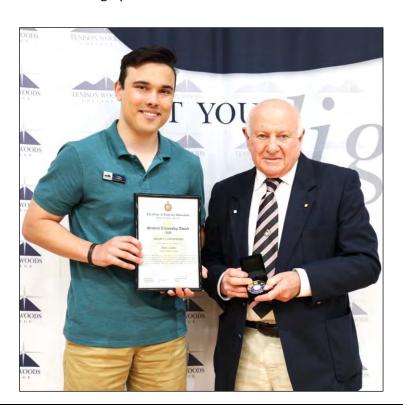
Do you have a special connection with a particular school or college – as an Old Scholar or former teacher, member of their council or governing body, or through the attendance of your children or grandchildren? Or maybe it's just the local secondary institution in your regional area?

Perhaps you might like to sponsor and present the awards at that school. Please email Noel Hender OAM BEM if you would like to sponsor and/or present an award in 2024 on behalf of the SA Branch:

sca.sabranch@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

#### **TENISON WOODS COLLEGE**

Ross Parkinson OAM attended Tenison Woods College in Mt Gambier on Tuesday 6 February 2024, where he presented a2023 'Highly Commended' certificate and medallion to Year 12 graduate Aden Clarke.



#### **ADEN CLARKE**

In addition to the  $wonderful\ contribution$ he has made to his College and community throughout 2022 and 2023 through his roles as School Captain and as student representative on the South Australian Student Representative Council, Aden has provided outstanding leadership and support in pastoral care activities and in many activities such as the Year 12 retreat, Charity Day and St Vincent de Paul shop.

#### **2023 STUDENT CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**



# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Saturday 2 March 2024

Our 2023 Student Citizen of the Year Thomas Oxford, a graduate of Parafield Gardens High School, will be Guest Speaker at our Annual General Meeting.

This will commence with Morning Tea at 10 am.

We have also been advised that the Minister for Human Services' Office will issue an invitation for Thomas to attend as their guest the launch of SA Youth Week on Thursday 14 March.

This collaboration with the SA Government is worthwhile and very welcome.

#### STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS 2023 - TOP TEN

Among the Top 10 recipients honoured by Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia and SA Branch Patron, at Government House last year, was Jesse Isaac from Endeavour College.

Jesse received a 'With Distinction' certificate and an SCA medallion mounted on a wooden plaque for his active engagement with his school and community organisations — in leadership roles as a College Captain and Cadet Under Officer in the Australian Air Force Cadets, and in a mentoring role as a premier league hockey umpire.

As a member of the AAFC, Jesse achieved the highest rank possible for a Cadet and last year was an Eleanore Tibble Pilgrimage Scholarship awardee, travelling to Canberra and then New Zealand to represent the AAFC on Anzac Day. He was a Bronze and Silver awardee in the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, and a Gold Award participant, and also qualified to wear the AAFC Cadet Pilot's Badge.

Of interest, Jesse's grandfather Alan Orrock was awarded the OAM in the 2017 Australia Day Honours List, "For service to the community through a range of organisations".

A special feature on Jesse Isaac was published in the February 2024 issue of the 'Alumni Magazine', released online by the Australian Air Cadets Alumni. The magazine may be found here (CTL + Click to follow the link):

## 'Alumni Magazine', February 2024





## THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

# AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS LIST Friday 26 January 2024

The Chairman of the Order of Australia Association SA Branch, Mr Tony Metcalf OAM, sends his congratulations on behalf of all Branch members to those who have received an award in the 2024 Australia Day Honours List.

On 26 January 2024, His Excellency the Governor-General released the 2024 Australia Day Honours List. This list recognised and celebrated a total of 1,042 Australians, including awards in the Order of Australia (General and Military Divisions), meritorious awards and recognition for distinguished and conspicuous service.

The General Division list includes 49 Australians recognised for their contribution in support of Australia's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

There were 739 recipients of awards in the General Division of the Order of Australia:

- ♣ 4 appointments as a Companion of the Order (AC);
- № 38 appointments as an Officer of the Order (AO), including two South Australians;
- № 194 appointments as a Member of the Order (AM), including 13 South Australians;
- № 503 people were awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM), including 34 South Australians.

In addition, there were a further 20 recipients of awards in the Military Division of the Order of Australia (1 AO, 9 AM, 10 OAM), including 1 South Australian (OAM).

All awards and citations may be found on the Governor-General's website (Ctrl + Click to follow the link):

## https://www.gg.gov.au/australia-day-2024-honours-list

In a few months' time, Branch representatives will attend each of the investiture ceremonies at Government House hosted by Her Excellency the Governor, our Branch Patron.

New recipients will receive our information brochure on the aims and activities of the SA Branch, and the benefits of membership of the Order of Australia Association.

You can find more information about the SA Branch on our website (Ctrl + Click to follow the link):

## https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/about-us/

In the meantime, new recipients will continue to receive a complimentary copy of this monthly newsletter for six months, and you are most welcome to attend any of our events.

## NEW RECIPIENTS' RECEPTION

Following the investiture ceremonies at Government House, the SA Branch will formally welcome all Order of Australia recipients from the 2024 Australia Day Honours List in our traditional New Recipients' Reception.

Further details, and provisions to RSVP, will be provided by letter and in future newsletters.

# ASSOCIATION MERCHANDISE

If you have already joined the Order of Australia Association and wish to purchase an Association name badge, you can find an Order Form on the 'About Us' page of our Branch website (see link above).

A wide range of high-quality Association merchandise is made available at our events for financial members to purchase.

## THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

People from all sorts of backgrounds, of all ages, and who have done just about everything you can think of can be recognised through the Order of Australia.

The system relies on people like you to raise a nomination.

You need to include some examples of the individual's achievements and service, and details of relevant referees who can validate the individual's service.

You do not need to choose which level a person might be recognised at – this will be determined by the independent Council for the Order of Australia during their assessment phase.

Don't worry if you can't make the nomination too comprehensive – additional research and checking with independent referees is undertaken by the Council for each nomination.



### Find out more

The Order of Australia is the most important and meaningful awards system in Australia.

Each year, the Governor-General approves and announces awards to people for their outstanding service and achievement.

 More information is available at: www.gg.gov.au

The system relies on nominations. People don't put their hand up to be recognised and they are not selected. They are nominated by peers and considered and recommended to the Governor-General by an independent Council.

A nomination can be made at any time.

• Nominations need to be made via the online portal: https://www.gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awards/nominate-someone-award

Users can log in, complete and submit nominations, and monitor the status of a nomination from submission to completion.

Nominations are then assessed by the independent Council for the Order of Australia – which includes members from each state and territory and community representatives.

Who do you think is worthy of an award?



#### **NEW MEMBERS**

The Chairman, Branch Committee members and members of the SA Branch welcome the following new members of the Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch (as at the time of the February Branch Committee meeting):

Flight-Sergeant Grant Reibel OAM Royal Australian Air Force (Military Division)

Late news: we have just been notified of a further 16 new members who have joined the SA Branch, and their names, and any further registrations, will be listed in the April newsletter.

## Regional Group News

**South East Regional Group:** The group had a successful gathering at Beachport on Friday 23 February (report to follow).

**Riverland and Mallee Regional Group:** The next half-yearly meeting will be on Friday 22 March (details to follow).

**South East Regional Group:** The next gathering will be this month at Beachport, on Friday 23 February.

Yorke Peninsula Regional Group: The next group meeting will be held on Sunday 28 April at the Ardrossan Hotel/Motel. SA Branch Committee member Don Clark OAM, an attending member, will be the 'guest speaker'.

Anyone who might be interested in being interviewed at a future meeting should contact Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM JP.

The following gathering will be on Sunday 27 October.

**Fleurieu Regional Group:** The next half-yearly meeting is scheduled for Friday 3 May.

**Eyre Peninsula:** The next gathering is to be held in Tumby Bay later this year, followed by Cummins in 2025.

# GOVERNMENT HOUSE Lunch on the Lawns || Guided Tours || Open Day



Her Excellency and Mr Rod Bunten have invited the public to come to Government House to experience the gardens.

You can bring a picnic lunch, spread out a rug or unfold a camping chair, and enjoy the surroundings while listening to a community orchestra.

The upcoming free events will be on Friday 5 April and Friday 3 May, from 12 noon to 2 pm.

On these same dates, free guided tours will be hosted in the morning by the Friends of the Botanic Gardens – running from 10.45 to 11.45 am.

*Registrations are required* for these guided tours, by phoning 8203 9800.

Government House will also be holding its first Open Day for the year on Sunday 12 May, between 10 am and 4 pm. Entry is free and registrations are not required. The SA Branch will support the Open Days with a Branch Committee member standing beside the Order of Australia medal display in the Library, with copies of our new Branch brochure and insert.

These initiatives are part of Her Excellency and Mr Bunten's aim to make Government House a place where all South Australians feel welcome and are able to visit.

In particular, we thank Her Excellency, our Branch Patron, for this new initiative to support the Open Days.



Dr Richard Harris SC OAM at Government House Adelaide with his commission as Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia (image courtesy of Government House Adelaide).

# Dr RICHARD HARRIS SC OAM Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia

In a ceremony on Friday 9 February, Dr Richard Harris was sworn in as Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia.

He received the Medal of the Order of Australia on 24 July 2018, "For service to the international community through specialist response roles during the Tham Luang cave rescue in Thailand in 2018".

On the same date he was awarded the Star of Courage (SC) - a bravery decoration created on 14 February 1975 to recognise acts of conspicuous courage in circumstances of great peril.

The Star of Courage is ranked second in the Australian civil bravery decorations in the Australian Honours System.

On 7 September 2018, Dr Harris was appointed a Knight Grand Cross (1<sup>st</sup> Class) of the Most Admirable Order of the Direkgunabhorn by the King of Thailand.

#### Government House reported:

The Lieutenant Governor serves as deputy to the Governor of South Australia and fulfils the Governor's functions role in her absence.

A third-generation doctor, Dr Harris completed his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at Flinders University in 1988.

After completing his anaesthesia training in the UK, Adelaide, and New Zealand, he joined Specialist Anaesthetic Services practice in 1998.

During his three-decade career, Dr Harris worked in a variety of critical care and aeromedical retrieval environments in Australia, the UK, Vanuatu, and New Zealand. In 2012, Dr Harris started working with the South Australian Ambulance Service (SAAS) MedSTAR and served as the medical lead for the South Australian Urban Search and Rescue Task Force.

An experienced medical retrieval expert and accomplished cave diver, Dr Harris shot to international repute after taking part in an international rescue operation in July 2018 to rescue 12 boys and their soccer coach from the flooded Tham Luang Nang Non cave in Thailand.

Dr Harris was the joint 2019 Australian of the Year with his dive partner Dr Craig Challen (Dr Challen was also awarded the Star of Courage and Medal of the Order of Australia).

He retired as an anaesthetist in 2022 and now works primarily as a speaker, author, and film maker.

The Lieutenant-Governor's profile may be found here:

https://www.governor.sa.gov.au/governor-of-south-australia/the-lieutenant-governor



## FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM 2024

Members of the Order of Australia and other honours recipients, partners and friends are invited to share in the fostering of fellowship, in an informal setting, during our regular luncheon meetings.

The next honours recipients fellowship luncheon will be held on **Thursday 25 April** at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club at 111 Hutt Street in Adelaide.

The speaker will be Mrs Jenny Macintosh OAM on the topic: "My time in the Outback"".

Guests should arrive at 12 noon. Lunch commences at 12.30 pm, the guest speaker begins at 1.15, and the event will conclude by 2 pm. A dress code applies at the NMAF Club: smart day wear for ladies, and long trousers and jacket for men. To RSVP please contact:

Flavia de Pasquale OAM
0438 873 025 || <u>deflavia750@gmail.com</u>
Pamela Rajkowski OAM
0400 810 196 || <u>pamraj@bigpond.com</u>

#### **Mrs Jenny Macintosh OAM**

Jenny Macintosh was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day Honours List of 2011, "For service to the community, particularly through the Embroiderers' Guild of South Australia, and to the Guiding movement".

Jenny was born in Melbourne, and spent time there and in Wangaratta during World War 2, and then returned to Melbourne where she finished school in December 1952. She recalls that she married aviator and Korean War veteran Bob Macintosh in April 1954 – when she was just 19, and then spent until 1978 as an Air Force wife.

They moved house 19 times, and had four children! As well as working part-time, Jenny was a Brownie leader and then a Girl Guide Leader, and then Assistant Region Commissioner for Elizabeth Region. Jenny was later Assistant Region Commissioner for South Metropolitan Girl Guides, and started with the Embroiderer's Guild.

Bob retired from the RAAF in 1978, and was ordained in the Uniting Church of Australia in 1981. Jenny recalls that she then lived as a Minister's wife, including living at Meekatharra in WA where they were both pilots, flying around an area about half the size of South Australia. Jenny became a Girl Guide District Commissioner.

Bob Macintosh was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the 2015 Queen's Birthday Honours List, "For service to the community, particularly through church and veterans' organisations".

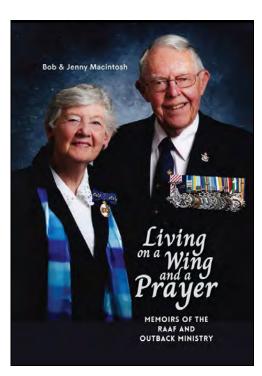
In June 2022, Jenny released a 'double autobiography'.

Uniquely, the book was written by both herself and her late husband, Wing Commander Bob MacIntosh AFC OAM MID, Royal Australian Air Force – *Living on a Wing and a Prayer; Memoirs of the RAAF and Outback Ministry.* 

The hardcover book was published by DoctorZed Publishing, and is available online, via Kindle and through most bookstores.

Jenny has maintained her interest in aviation, and in 2022 took to the skies again – in a 1918-model Tiger Moth. She said the memories came flooding back as soon as she got into the cockpit.

She said that she remembered all the controls, and was so excited to be able to take to the skies again. Jenny flew with her daughter Mandi: they both said it was a magical experience.



Jenny Macintosh OAM and the late Bob MacIntosh AFC OAM MID

## SAVE THE DATE



King Charles the Third, by the Grace of God King of Australia and his other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth

## KING'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON Saturday 1 June 2024

Please join us for the SA Branch King's Birthday Luncheon at Casa D'Abruzzo Molise Club, 86 Churchill Road, Prospect, 12 noon arrival for 12.30 start.

The cost will be \$75 for Order of Australia Association members and their spouse/partner, and \$85 for non-members and friends, for a 3-course meal (main course alternate drop); cash bar.

A Reply Form will be provided in the April and May newsletters, and may also be found on the Association website (SA Branch) under 'Events'.

Full-size medals may be worn if you wish. Association merchandise will be available to purchase.



The official portrait of His Majesty King Charles III, taken at Buckingham Palace following the Coronation Service.



#### THE KING'S BIRTHDAY

Charles III is King of the United Kingdom and the 14 other Commonwealth realms, the fifth monarch of the House of Windsor.

He was born in Buckingham Palace on 14 November 1948 during the reign of his maternal grandfather, King George VI, as 'Charles Philip Arthur George'.

The King's Birthday is the designated day in most Commonwealth realms on which the birthday of the monarch is officially celebrated. It does not always correspond to the date of the monarch's actual birth.

The first time the sovereign's birthday was officially marked was in Great Britain in 1748, for King George II.

Most Australian states and territories now observe the King's Birthday on the second Monday in June.

Until 1936, the King's Birthday celebration was held on the actual birthday of the monarch, but after the death of King George V it was decided to keep the date on the second Monday in June.

This allows the public holidays to be more evenly spaced through the year.

This now remains the case, with the actual birthday of King Charles III falling shortly after Remembrance Day.



This effigy of King Charles III, in coronation robes and wearing the Tudor Crown, appears on the new Volunteer Reserves Service Medal and Efficiency Medal issued in the United Kingdom.

## VALE: Mrs Joyce Ross AM 10 August 1928 – 18 November 2023

Bryce Saint OAM, Secretary of the SA Branch from 2000 to 2003, and Chairman from 2003 to 2006, has provided this reflection on the life and service of the late Joyce Ross AM.

We remember Joyce with great affection and gratitude.

I had known Mrs Joyce Ross AM since Adelaide Teachers College days in the mid-1940s when we sang in the College choir. Joyce, a young country lady, was such an enthusiastic Music student that the Music lecturer helped her select and buy a piano for use in her boarding room. She continued vocal lessons at the Elder Conservatorium after leaving College, travelling each weekend from her first teaching appointment in the Mid-North.

Joyce married a farmer from Salters Springs near Hamley Bridge, and they had one daughter (her husband Des was himself a Member of the Order, "For service to local government")

Joyce continued with teaching appointments, and also with her deep interest in performing arts both in her local community around Balaklava and at state level.

In the Australia Day 1999 Order of Australia honours, Joyce was appointed a Member of the Order "For service to the visual and performing arts in South Australia". She joined the Order of Australia Association, and spent much of the next two decades in some form of service. She was Branch Secretary from 2005 to 2008.

She was a constant participant in Branch activities, and when Flavia de Pasquale invited a few members to discuss the formation of a Fellowship group, Joyce was there and stayed on with the group which delivered the Fellowship luncheon meetings. Through her membership of the Naval, Military and Air Force Club, she hosted meetings at the Club.

Thank you dear constant and reliable friend. We will miss you.

**Bryce Saint OAM** 



Members and guests at the Fellowship luncheon meeting in the Naval, Military and Air Force Club on Thursday 24 June 2021. Seated (clockwise, left to right): Jill Hender, Jill Paterson OAM, Bill Paterson OAM, Elizabeth Rogers OAM, Ken Smith AM, Anne Levy AO, Margaret Ford OAM, John Thomas AM, Dr Aileen Connon AM.

Standing (left to right): Helen Wang, Glenys Jones OAM JP, Noel Hender OAM BEM, Neil Andrew AO (Speaker), Joyce Ross OAM (NMAF Club Host), Peter Routley AM (MC for lunch), Professor Anthony Thomas AC, Dr Joan Thomas, Gill Rogers OAM, Don Blesing OAM, Helen Smith, Flavia De Pasquale OAM.



For more information visit our website: <a href="https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/about-us/">https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/about-us/</a>

#### Do you have email?

If you are receiving this newsletter by post, could you please advise us of your email address:

Mr Greg Gordon OAM JP

oaasambrsec@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

#### The Order

Contributions may be submitted by any financial member, by post (as per details given in *The Order*), or by email:

nateditor@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

#### **Newsletter contributions**

Contributions may be submitted to the SA Branch Editor:

Major Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP (ret'd) PO Box 5, SMITHFIELD SA 5114 **or** 

chairsa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au



#### **VALE**

We offer our condolences on the passing of the late Governor of Sarawak, His Excellency Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib (1936-2024) on 21 February 2024, aged 87.

There is a substantial and long-standing connection between the late Governor and Adelaide.

In 1956, Taib won a Colombo Plan scholarship to read law at the University of Adelaide. While studying in Adelaide, Taib married fellow student Leijla Chalecki in 1959, and their first child was born in Adelaide.

After his graduation, Taib worked in Adelaide as an associate to Justice Sir Herbert Mayo (Knight Bachelor) of the Supreme Court. Taib returned to Sarawak as Crown Counsel in 1962.

While Chief Minister of Sarawak, Taib was appointed an Honorary Officer of the Order of Australia on 21 December 2001, "For service to Australian-Malaysian bilateral relations".

#### **REGIONAL GROUP CONTACTS**

#### **Regional Groups**

Coordinator: Ken Coventry OAM JP kencoam08@gmail.com

#### Fleurieu Regional Group

Meets on the first Friday in May and November Regional Contact: John Hutchinson OAM 0427 525 670 || johnhutc@bigpond.com

#### South East Regional Group

Meets in Mount Gambier biannually, and at an alternative regional location in the alternate years Regional Contact: Mr Eric Roughana AM 0408 817 260 | roseric1@bigpond.com

#### Riverland and Mallee Regional Group

Holds luncheon meetings twice a year, typically on the last Friday in March and September Regional Contact: Mr Tim Grieger OAM JP 0409 099 122 | tgrieger@riverland.net.au

#### Yorke Peninsula Regional Group

Holds luncheon meetings twice a year Regional Contact, Kadina: Elaine Bussenschutt OAM 0417 806 839 || elaine@yp-connect.net

Regional Contact, Minlaton: Maree Anderson OAM 0407 975 174 || mareeanderson@internode.on.net



#### **2024 NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

The 2024 National Conference is being hosted by the Western Australian Branch during the period 16-19 May, with the theme being: "Giving Service Beyond Self". The WA Branch Committee is keen to encourage as many members as possible attend the conference and associated events in Perth.

The Conference, AGM, Members Forum and Dinner and Scholarship presentations will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Perth. There will be a formal Reception on Thursday 16 May, and the Farewell Lunch will be held at Frasers Restaurant in King's Park preceded by a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the War Memorial opposite.

Attached is a list of before and after conference tours which may interest you.



https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/national-conference-2024/

Click on the red banner graphic above to find out more about the 2024 National Conference – this will take you to the WA National Conference page on the Order of Australia Association website. Alternately, Ctrl + Click on the URL.

This includes options for accommodation, and tour options (with contact details for the tour operator).

Click on the second graphic below to take you to the Registration System, or use your smart phone to scan the QR Code.



We hope you can be available for this important event!

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION, South Australia Branch

PO Box 1065, CLEARVIEW SA 5085 || 0412 774 122 || chairsa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au







**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 & Where to Stay

Click on "Click here for further info" link on OAA website Home Page



