



## Welcome from VIC Branch Chair

On behalf of the Order of Australia Association Victoria Branch welcome to our autumn E-Newsletter.

Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC, Governor of Victoria, hosted Investiture ceremonies for Victorian recipients of the 2024 Australia Day Honours on April 17, 18 and 19 recognising Australians who have made a significant difference to their community, their country or at an international level.

Thank you to the recipients who have joined the Association, we value your membership and look forward to meeting you and your guests at upcoming VIC Branch or Regional Group events.

Website link [www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/vic/upcoming-events](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/vic/upcoming-events) includes Victoria Branch and Regional Group organised events regularly updated during the year.

The first VIC Branch event for the year was the Inspiring Australians Oration delivered by Fiona McLeod AO SC and 2008 OAA Foundation scholarship recipient James Hicks gave members, guests and students an update on his ongoing studies, community work and employment. The Oration was followed with our Annual General Meeting at the Melbourne Town Hall.

We are proud of the diversity of our members in Victoria including their age; gender and culture and ensure our speakers during the year represent the diversity.

Please refer to page 2 for the invitation and booking details for our Mid-Year Lunch on Tuesday 25 June at Angliss Restaurant formerly known as William Angliss Restaurant part of the William Angliss Hospitality TAFE. Supporting the Angliss Restaurant ensures students receive necessary practical experience as part of their study assessment. The restaurant is easily accessible by public transport from metro, regional and rural areas.

We appreciate some of our members for various reasons are unable to attend VIC Branch events in person, our annual virtual event will be held on:

Wednesday 24 July from 5.30pm to 6.45pm via ZOOM with speakers Ian Carson AM Co-founder of SecondBite and OAA National President The Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AO CVO

There is no cost to attend this event; booking details will be available late June early July.

## 2024 national conference, Annual General Meeting and Members'

Forum will be held in Perth Thursday 16 to Sunday 19 May.

Bookings close on Tuesday 30 April 2024

Refer to website [www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/national-conference-2024/](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/national-conference-2024/)

Dr Helene Bender AM - VIC Branch Chair **M:** 0407 261 951 **E:** [chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)





## Invitation for OAA Members and Guests

**Tuesday 25 June 2024 at 12.15pm for 12.30pm**

### **Angliss Restaurant**

Enter from 550 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

### Lunch speakers: **Alaa Elzokm OAM**

As a leader in our community, Alaa Elzokm OAM believes the greatest impact of his work is in establishing and participating in peaceful and cohesive relationships between the Australian Muslim community and the wider Australian community.



“I believe my work also contributes to the establishment of harmony, brotherhood, and sisterhood within the multicultural and multi-faith communities by highlighting our similarities and shared values.”

Recognised for his service to the Islamic faith, and to multiculturalism, Imam Alaa says he is motivated to overcome misconceptions spread among members of the community about both Muslims and non-Muslims and observes that often these misconceptions are held by youth, or by elders.

He says the award of the Medal of the Order of Australia is particularly special for him as a young Muslim Imam (religious leader) and also as a migrant.

**Luke Barron** 2023 Order of Australia Association Foundation scholarship recipient undertaking a Bachelor of Marine Science at Deakin University. The scholarship was donated by the Order of Australia Association (National)

**Cost:** \$37 per person GST included + booking fee. 2 course lunch, cash bar for drinks.

Members please note - Order of Australia **large** medal may be worn at the lunch

Order of Australia Association merchandise will be available to purchase

Book by June 17 at <https://www.trybooking.com/CRDKB>

**Note** table seating list will be at the entrance to the restaurant If you have preferred seating or would like to book a table of 8 to 10 please email [chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

Enquires or assistance with bookings contact Helene Bender AM on 0407 261 951

## Inspiring Australians Oration

The seventh Order of Australia Association VIC Branch Inspiring Australians Oration was delivered by Fiona McLeod AO SC in the Supper Room at the Melbourne Town Hall to members, guests and students on Tuesday 19 March 2024.

Fiona McLeod AO SC is a Senior Counsel at the independent Bar in Australia practising in the areas of commercial and public law matters. She appears in jury and judge-alone trials and appeals and is also briefed in common law and criminal matters.

Fiona is recognised for her clear legal advice, advocacy and strategic thinking. She represented the Commonwealth of Australia in major cases including leading the legal team in the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission, Queensland Floods Commission and the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sex Abuse.

MC William Lye OAM KC warmly welcomed VIPS including Fiona McLeod AO SC and James Hicks 2008 Order of Australia Association Foundation scholarship recipient.

OAA members, guests and students from Camberwell Grammar, St Catherine's School and Strathcona Girl's Grammar

St Catherine's string quartet was acknowledged and thanked for the background music before the formalities commenced. Photo: James Hicks, Fiona McLeod AO SC and William Lye OAM KC



The VIC Branch appreciates and values the support we continue to receive from the Melbourne Town Hall toward the Inspiring Australians Oration.

**2008 Order of Australia Association Foundation scholarship recipient James Hicks** has provided the OAA VIC Branch with his notes to use extracts in communication publications with our members.

"What an honour it was to be asked to speak today. Just over 15 years ago I applied for an Order of Australia Association Foundation scholarship while I was in my second year of university, studying a double degree in Mechanical Engineering and Finance at Swinburne. That decision to apply for an Order of Australia Association Foundation scholarship was one of those sliding doors moments in life that truly changed the trajectory of both my professional and personal lives. The Scholarships have two significant features. Awardees receive:

- A Scholarship of \$40,000 which is tailored to the awardee's individual needs to include tuition fees, living allowance, text books and equipment ; and
- An introduction to a personal mentoring relationship with a volunteer mentor who is a recipient of the Order of Australia and is eminent in the chosen field of study of the awardee.

My scholarship funding was generously donated by Mr David Mandie AM OBE. I will be forever grateful to Mr Mandie and his family for his generous contribution to my scholarship.

And my mentor is Mr Graham Kraehe AO. Note I very deliberately say my mentor "is" not "was". 15 years on, I still refer to Graham as my mentor. Although we don't meet regularly anymore, we have kept in touch over the years since I finished uni and even met a few times where the opportunity has presented. Graham is actually here with us today, so I am really looking forward to catching up with him later on.

Beyond the incredibly generous financial and mentoring support provided by this scholarship, there has also been a range of experiences and access to a network of people that I would have otherwise never had the privilege of experiencing. When reflecting on this, one experience that stands out was the opportunity, along with other scholarship recipients to meet the then Governor General Ms Quentin Bryce AC at Admiralty House Kirribilli. This scholarship also gave me the financial freedom whilst at university to undertake a winter semester at Swinburne's Sarawak campus in Malaysia and a future leaders tour of China in my final year.

After graduating from university, I packed up my belongings, loaded them into a removal truck and headed inland to the hot, sandy, outback desert town of Roxby Downs in South Australia. I had secured a position on BHP's graduate program as a Graduate Mechanical Engineer at BHP's Olympic Dam mine site. At the time, Olympic Dam was the talk of the mining world. BHP were in the early stages of embarking on an expansion project for Olympic Dam in the order of \$30B that would take it from the being Australia's largest underground mining and metallurgical processing operation, to eventually one of, it not the largest open cut mining and metallurgical processing operations in the world. This was an exciting time to be graduate engineer at Olympic Dam.

Unfortunately a few months later, the expansion project was shelved and unbeknown to me at the time, this was when the first major turning point in my career would take place. Up to this point, I had imagined working in some form of project management capacity on the latest and greatest project and had even dabbled in the sub discipline of cost engineering. But with the growth agenda in a holding pattern and the emphasis quickly turning to optimising the existing operations, I was introduced to a field of engineering that until this point had not been on my radar. That was, Reliability Engineering.

One of the key pieces of advice I clearly remember my mentor Graham Kraehe AO passing onto me was to be open to lateral career moves that may not necessarily be on the career path you had imagined. This was one of those moments. An opportunity to learn new skills, meet new people, experience new things. And guess what? I developed a real passion for Reliability Engineering and the role it plays in making asset intensive industries successful.

The next few years for me were working as a Reliability Engineer, primarily within the surface processing operations, but also some time underground at Olympic Dam. Olympic Dam has nearly 700km of underground roads and tunnels, including an automated railway network operating hundreds of meters underground moving ore from different parts of the mine to the crushing and hoisting system 800m underground to get the ore to the surface. Just stop and



think about that for a second. It is hard to believe. Olympic Dam is also somewhat unique in that it is not just a mine, but has a full metallurgical plant on the surface processing the ore into finished metals including copper, gold silver and uranium. There were some long, hard, hot days (and nights) at Olympic Dam, but it was an experience that I will always be grateful of and one which has certainly shaped my career to this day. It was only last week that I travelled to Adelaide to rally some contacts from my Olympic Dam days to help resolving a business critical breakdown at the home of Famers Union Iced Coffee.

After a few years at Olympic Dam, my wife and I made the move from one of the hottest places in the country to one of the coolest, Devonport on the North West coast of Tasmania. We were just recently married and seeking a new adventure. This led me to Simplot and the wonderful world of French Frys, all 150,000 tons per annum of them

I joined Simplot as a Reliability Engineer, but it was only a few months into my time their when an opportunity presented to take on a new challenge. If I remember back to some of the conversations I had had with my mentor Graham, he had encouraged me to get as close to the decision making as possible and in time take on people management responsibilities.

Just over 5 years ago I joined Bega Cheese – the great Australian food company, as maintenance manager at their Koroit factory down near Warrnambool in the south west

Today I live in the wonderful rural community of Port Fairy with my wife Michelle and 2 young Children Lucas and Bronte. I am currently studying a Masters of Maintenance & Reliability Engineering and am still working for Bega Cheese, but in a national role as the Group Manager of Asset Management.

For those of you in the room who are early in your careers or yet to start your journey in the workplace my advice is to get out of your comfort zone and be open to those lateral career moves that might not appear to be on the direct path to where you believe you want to take your career.

To read the full script from James Hicks that covers his scholarship, mentoring, making time for the community where you live and embracing opportunities that unexpectedly come your way please refer to [Inspiring Australians Oration - The Order of Australia Association](#)



**CITY OF MELBOURNE**



St Catherine's School students Georgia Hennessy, Alice Molnar, Maeli Davenport with James Hicks and Fiona McLeod AO SC

## Inspiring Australians Oration



Paul Wheelton AM and Angela Wheelton OAM and students from Strathcona Girl's Grammar

Paul and Angela are special friends of Strathcona Girl's Grammar; the Wheelton Knowledge Exchange recognises their commitment to and the importance of learning.



St Catherine's School Barbreck String Quartet from left to right:  
Alexi Kusumah, Sienna Xu, Rosie Mokyiu and Elva Zhang

# SAVE THE DATE



2024

## Victoria Branch Events

All venues selected by the VIC Branch are in the Melbourne CBD and accessible by members and guests of all abilities. They are close to metropolitan, regional and rural public transport options.

**Tuesday 25 June** – Mid-Year Lunch for members and guests at Angliss Restaurant

**Speaker: Alaa Elzokm OAM** – Order of Australia citation – For service to the Islamic community.  
**2023 OAA Foundation** scholarship recipient **Luke Barron** undertaking a Bachelor of Marine Science at Deakin University

**Wednesday 24 July** – Virtual Event via ZOOM 5.30pm to 6.45pm

**Speakers:**

**Ian Carson AM** Co-founder of SecondBite

OAA National President **The Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AO CVO**

There is no cost to attend this event

**Sunday 4 August** – National Gallery Victoria

10.45am start includes Introduction Talk and Pharaoh Exhibition

**Wednesday 9 October** – Thank You Reception for Order of Australia recipients who join the Association in 2024.

Event commences 1.15pm at Alex Theatre St Kilda within walking distance of rail and tram services including from Melbourne CBD.

There is no cost for the member and guest to attend

**Thursday 21 November** - End of Year Dinner for members and guests at Stamford Plaza Melbourne 111 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. 6.15pm for 6.30pm seating.

**Speaker: Pamela Clark AO** – Order of Australia citation - For distinguished service to the dental profession, particularly through a range of roles with national and international associations, as a supporter of research and technical dental standards, and to manufacturing.

**2018 OAA Foundation** scholarship recipient **Hannah Gandy** will also speak at this event

**Website** [www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/vic/upcoming-events](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/vic/upcoming-events) includes Victoria Branch and Regional Group organised events site regularly updated

## Which Order of Australia medal to wear when?



### **Day Functions**

The full-size insignia (Main Piece) is generally worn at day functions where decorations have been prescribed by the event, for example OAA Events or Anzac Day

### **Evening Functions**

At events such as evening receptions and dinners where decorations have been prescribed, the miniature insignia is generally worn. The main exception to this is Neck Decorations (AC and AO), which are worn in full-size.

### **Every day Wear**

A lapel pin may be worn on civilian clothes at any time. Only one badge should be worn at a given time and not when other insignia pieces are worn.

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## OAA Lapel Badge from merchandise shop

## OA Lapel Pin from Investiture

Reminder:



The OAA Lapel Badge (on the right) with magnetic fitting available in the OAA Merchandise Shop is not the Order of Australia lapel pin (on the left recipients) receive with the medal pack at their Investiture.



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For additional Order of Australia lapel pins or medals please contact Honours Secretarial via phone or email. Tel: 02 6283 3533 E: [honours@gg.gov.au](mailto:honours@gg.gov.au)





Some of the OAA VIC Branch Regional Groups farewelled and thanked their Chairs and welcomed new Chairs to fill those shoes.

On behalf of the OAA VIC Branch we thank the retiring Regional Group Chairs for their commitment to the Association and their Region over the years:

Loddon Campaspe – Steven Lee AM stood down as Chair, he is still a committee member.  
Incoming Chair is Alex Stoneman OAM

North East & Goulburn Valley – Barb Thomas OAM retired after years of service.  
Incoming Chair Mary-Lou Davis OAM

South West – Dt Peter Habersberger AM retired together with Duncan Stalker OAM (Secretary)  
We also note Peter and Duncan were founding Office Bearers of South West Regional Group.  
Incoming Chair is Georgina Gubbins OAM

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# Congratulations!

On behalf of the OAA VIC Branch congratulations to William Lye OAM KC on his successful election to the position of Deputy National Chairman of the Association effective from Friday 26 April 2024.

The following was penned by William for inclusion in the Tuesday 16 April 2024 OAA VIC Branch committee meeting agenda pack and it is our pleasurer to share it with you.

“As I prepare to conclude my term as the Branch Nominated Director and the VIC Branch Complaints Handling Officer, I would like to take this opportunity to present my final report, reflecting on the journey that began in 2017.

Over the past several years, I have had the privilege of serving alongside a dedicated team, contributing to the growth and strengthening of our Association. My tenure has been marked by numerous challenges, achievements, and invaluable learning experiences that have not only enriched our collective efforts but have also personally enriched me.

We have navigated through evolving community expectations to seeing better gender and cultural diversity representations in appointments and awards, addressed challenging internal matters with fairness and integrity, and strived to uphold the values and standards of the OAA

within the VIC Branch. These experiences have underscored the importance of collaboration, dedication, and the relentless pursuit of excellence.

During my term, there were many initiatives I was honoured to be part of, for example researching and preparing a proposal in June 2018 to the Governor of Victoria to convene and host an information session at Government House for 'under-represented' groups in the community to learn about the Order of Australia and the nomination process. This was an initiative that was led by former Chairman Diane James AM. I was also honoured to learn from Cathy Roth OAM about leading volunteers at the 2023 national conference in Geelong and to be given the opportunity to be the Emcee in the afternoon session of panel speakers.



I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to each member of the Committee, with a special thank you to Dr Helene Bender AM, the current VIC Chairman, and past VIC Chairmen, Paul Wheelton AM and Diane James AM, for their unwavering support and guidance during my tenure. The successes we have achieved were made possible through our collective effort, dedication, and the supportive environment within the VIC Branch. Your commitment to excellence has not only propelled our branch forward but has also set a benchmark for future committees.

As I transition into my new role as Deputy National Chairman, effective from 27 April 2024, I carry forward the lessons learned, and the experiences gained from this role. I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to our Association's success at a national level and look forward to continuing to work closely with all of you in my new capacity.

In closing, we must not forget that we are a team of volunteers seeking to uphold the best traditions of being an honoured member of the Order of Australia. We must be exemplars of the highest standard of integrity and dealings with one another. We should celebrate all that we have accomplished together. I am confident that the VIC Branch Committee will continue to excel and achieve even greater success in the future.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to serve and for the support and camaraderie shared throughout my term".

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## RESOURCES - Promotion Tools

The Order of Australia Association has added a link to the national website named **RESOURCES** – Promotion Tools as a go to site for various information members at times require such as:

- Order of Australia Nominations - How to nominate outstanding achievement and service
- Membership Information including application form and member profile
- The Ode & Guidelines for recipients and members
- Certificates of Appredciation

<https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/national/resources/>

# News from OAA VIC Branch the Regional Groups

## Gippsland Regional Group

Members and guests travelled from Pakenham, Heyfield and South Gippsland to attend the Gippsland Regional Group Annual General Meeting at Traralgon on Sunday 17 March. The meeting was held at Rotary Centenary House which is located adjacent to the recently expanded Latrobe Regional Health Facility (midway between Morwell and Traralgon) in the Latrobe Valley.

Following the formalities an election took place with the result that, of the eight positions available on the Committee, seven nominations were received and subsequently accepted.

The seven members elected to the Committee met shortly after the main meeting and an Executive was formed for the next 12 months.

It was noted that Lorraine Bartling OAM had indicated prior to the meeting, of her intention not to continue to serve on the Committee due to health related issues. The meeting acknowledged Lorraine's dedicated service to the Gippsland Regional Group for the past six years and she was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by the Chair of the Group.

Those present were fortunate to have the Deputy Chairman of Rotary Centenary House Management Committee, Dave Swainsbury deliver a very interesting history of the formation and development of the facility and what the future aspirations of the Management Committee held for the ongoing operation of it.

The Chair reminded members of the Annual Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet Dinner and Oration which is scheduled to be held in Traralgon on Wednesday 23 October with pre-dinner drinks at 6-30pm for a dinner at 7-00pm.

The event is held each year on (or as close to) the 20<sup>th</sup> of October as this is the date the Nobel Prize was awarded to Sir Frank who, incidentally, was also the inaugural Australian of the year in 1960.

Since the initial Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet address in 2013, there have been an impressive array of eminent speakers who have come to Traralgon (the birthplace of Sir Frank) at the invitation of the Order of Australia Association Victoria Branch Gippsland Regional Group. The speakers have delivered addresses on a wide range of medical research topics ranging from the development of the 'bionic eye' to harnessing the immune system to fight cancer. Despite the impacts of Covid19 and the tight economic environment, participation levels have been reasonable over the past two years and it is anticipated that 2024 will see the continuation of this prestigious event.

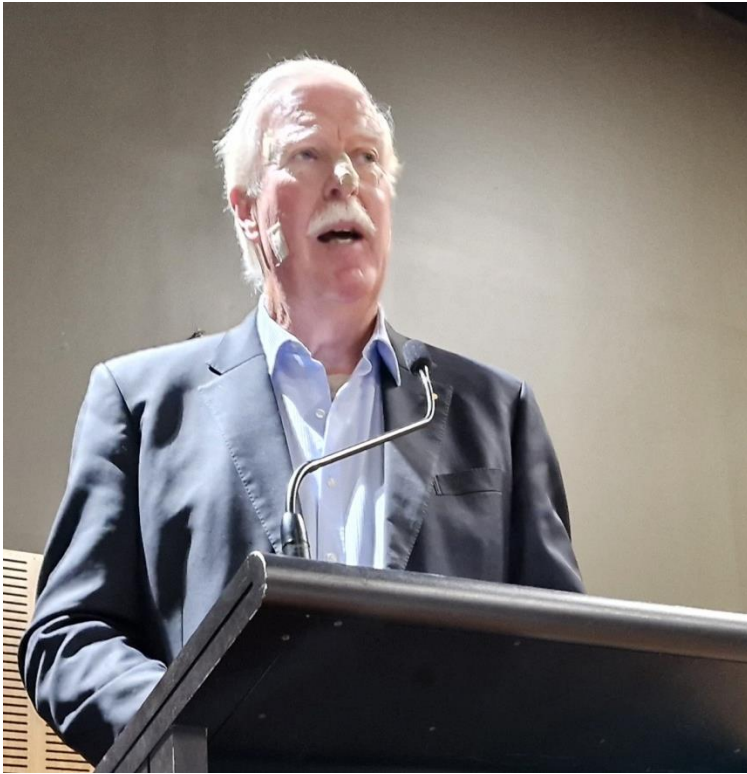
The Gippsland Regional Group Chair invited members and guests to move to the dining area to enjoy the customary 'High Tea' provided by the Rotary Centenary House Fundraising Committee.

Photo: Gippsland Regional Group Chair, Doug Caulfield OAM RFD presents Lorraine Bartling OAM with a Certificate of Appreciation for her years of dedicated service to the Regional Group Committee.



## North East Victoria and Goulburn Valley Regional Group

On Sunday 24 March at the Memorial Hall 2 Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre, 76 members and guests of the NEGV Group gathered for the Annual General Meeting and first lunch for the year.



The guest speaker was former Victorian Deputy Premier, the Hon Pat McNamara AM. (Photo on left). Pat received his award on King's birthday last year, for significant service to rowing, to the Parliament of Victoria, and to the community through a range of roles.

Pat spoke about his experience firstly as Chair of the 2009 Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund, set up by the Victorian Government in partnership with the Australian Government and the Australian Red Cross, raising \$389 million. These were the most devastating fires with 173 killed and being the largest loss of civilian life in Australia. Pat spoke about the way these funds were

distributed to assist those who had lost so much.

After the 2019/2020 Victorian bushfires, an advisory Panel, chaired by Pat, was established to consider, and recommend where funds were distributed to support the community led approach. This provided fire affected communities with input as to how funds were disbursed based on the evolving needs of the community.

More than \$37 million was made available for those most affected by the bushfires. Over \$12.1 million helped people to recover through immediate relief and more than \$25.1 million supported community recovery initiatives. This included \$13.2 million in funding to support the medium to long-term recovery of communities through the provision of funding to local community foundations.

Thank you to Pat for the excellent work he has done to help our bushfire victims.

We thank our members, Susan Campbell OAM, Barbara Thomas OAM, John Brown AO plus OAA VIC Branch Chair Dr Helene Bender AM for speaking on behalf of our retiring Committee members, Peter Ryan AM, Graham Kerr OAM and Barbara Thomas OAM and sincerely thanking them.

### UPCOMING NEV&GV Events

Sunday 23 June - Roast Lunch at Numurkah RSL-\$35pp GST included. Guest speaker Jacquie Phillips OAM - former CEO of Numurkah Health

Sunday 20 October-Luncheon at The Woolshed@ Emerald Bank, Shepparton-guest speaker, Don Kilgour OAM. "The Golden years of Radio and Television"

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## South Central Suburbs Regional Group

The South Central Suburbs Regional Group Annual General Meeting was held Wednesday 6 March at The Bridge Hotel Mordialloc. All positions on the committee were filled and we welcomed with pleasure, a new committee member, Emma Gierschick OAM. Emma is an Order of Australia June 2021 recipient, her Citation is for service to the community, and to reflexology.

Regretfully two of our committee members have retired. Richard Rozen OAM and Alan Rae OAM both have been loyal, committed and devoted members for many years.

Richard was an Australia Day Ambassador for the Order of Australia Association and has served as National Merchandise officer on the Victorian Branch Committee.

Richard's wife, Rysia Rozen OAM has been a staunch support to Richard.

Alan Rae OAM joined our committee in 2015 and has



served as Membership Officer ensuring our membership database was up to date including changes to mailing and email addresses and contact numbers.



Both have offered long honourable service which is worthy of high praise.

Photos: Right Richard Rozen OAM  
Left Alan Rae OAM

Recently, we have welcomed another new committee member Felicity Frederico OAM. Felicity is a January 2019 recipient; her Citation is for service to the community.

Ms Frederico was nominated by the Secretary and Chairman. An email was circulated to the committee all of whom voted in favour of the nomination.

The South Central Suburbs Regional Group is planning two additional events:

- Mid-Year Luncheon on Wednesday 17 July at the Sandringham Club
- End of Year Dinner at The Bridge Hotel on Thursday 14 November.

Full details will be available and circulated soon.

Keep a watchful eye on Website [www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/vic/upcoming-events](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/vic/upcoming-events) includes Victoria Branch and Regional Group organised events site regularly updated

## Western Suburbs Regional Group

**Thursday 9 May** at 12.30 pm at Altona Sports Club, 11 Altona Road, Seaholme

We shall first hear from our Guest Speaker, Martin Stow. Martin used to be a 'Bobby', as he would say. For 17 years a policeman with the West Yorkshire Constabulary, Martin saw it all: assaults, burglaries, the drunks who were apprehended so frequently the police would just take them home to the wife, knowing the 'punishment' there would be more sobering than anything the justice system could mete out. What sticks in Martin's mind most, though, is being called out to road accidents and having to face death and serious injury. Martin carried these memories with him to Australia when, in 1988, he started a new life here with wife Sue and two young sons. After he was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Martin moved on from the police and in time set up his own business, BERTS World, using the latest technologies to provide businesses with ground-breaking solutions to the paper-bound processes that eat up time, space and money.

It was while working on these solutions that Martin came up with the idea for BERTS Alert™. He tells the story of attending a car accident in his policing days: there were two people in the car, the driver and a passenger. The driver was dead but the papers he carried identified him and allowed his family to be notified. The passenger was clearly a backpacker who had hitched a ride and was now lying injured, unable to speak and unable to tell the police and paramedics attending him whether he was taking medications, had any allergies or indeed any other information the emergency room might need to save his life.

Martin set to work and developed BERTS Alert™, a unique response to this problem and one which goes a long way to satisfying his dream of saving lives.

After Martin's talk, we'll go to eat in the Bistro, where you will find a varied menu, including Seniors' meals.

As always, friends and family are welcome. Please reply to [oaamelbwest@gmail.com](mailto:oaamelbwest@gmail.com) by Sunday 5 May.

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Thank you to those who served and those who are serving



## New 2024 VIC Branch committee members profiled

The OAA VIC Branch welcomed three new committee meetings at the Tuesday 19 March 2024 Annual General Meeting.

Hatice Basarin OAM VIC Branch Secretary

Gary Lee OAM VIC committee member assisting with events

Beverley Pinder OAM committee member assisting with events

**Hatice Basarin OAM VIC Branch Secretary** was awarded her Order of Australia Medal on Australia Day 2018. The citation was "for service to the preservation of Australian and Turkish military history".

Hatice was born in Izmir, Turkiye, and arrived in Australia in 1979 as a young married woman with a Town Planning Degree (from METU, Ankara, Turkiye).

Obtaining her Masters in Urban Planning in 1983 from University of Melbourne, Hatice pursued a career within the Victorian Public Service undertaking forward planning, policy development, research and analysis projects to do with state wide land use planning, local government and public housing related issues.

Leaving public sector employment in 2002, Hatice focused on raising her two young daughters, while still co-authoring and preparing books for publication, undertaking freelance projects and community work.



Between 1985 and 2015, Hatice co-authored seven published books (\*) with her former, husband Dr Vecihi (John) Basarin OAM.

All Hatice's books, except for one, are about the Gallipoli Campaign - the first of which, *A Turkish View of Gallipoli: Canakkale*, published in 1985, (like two later ones in 2003 and 2015) was a collaborative effort with eminent Australian historian Dr Kevin Fewster AM OBE. An Australian first in 1985, the book told what it was like on the other (Turkish) side of the trenches at Gallipoli as a parallel story to that of the ANZACs.

While Hatice's Gallipoli themed books provide an insight into the first significant encounter between Australians and Turks on Turkish soil in 1915, *The Turks in Australia Celebrating 25 Years Down Under* (1993) told the lived experiences and challenges faced by the first migrant families who came from Turkiye to Australia in 1968 by air (not ship) under a migration agreement signed one year prior.

Hatice received the Australia Council Literature Board award in 1992 to research and write this book, which marks the second major encounter between Australians and Turks- and this time, on Australian soil.

## Hatice Basarin OAM continued

From 2011, Hatice accompanied many tour groups to Turkiye, assisting the tour leader in an informal capacity. Two of these groups were the OAA Battlefield tours in 2018 and 2019.

Hatice is passionate about International Affairs. She also loves travelling, socialising, movies, reading, writing, watercolour painting and she enjoys cooking for family and friends.

- (\*) *A Turkish View of Gallipoli: Canakkale* (Melbourne, 1985);  
*The Turks in Australia: Celebrating Twenty-five Years Down Under*, (Melbourne, 1993).  
*Gallipoli: The Turkish Story* (Sydney, 2003)  
*Gelibolu 1915: Savaşla Başlayan Dostluk*, (Istanbul, 2005)  
*Beneath the Dardanelles: The Australian Submarine at Gallipoli*, (Sydney, 2008)  
*Canakkale Bogazinin Derinliklerinde*, (Istanbul, 2009)  
*Gallipoli: The Invasion, Denizler Kitabevi*, (Istanbul, 2015)
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**Gary Lee OAM VIC Branch Committee member** was awarded his Order of Australia Medal on Australia Day 2023. The citation was “for service to the community through a range of organisations”.

*AFL Multicultural Community Ambassador of the Year 2016*  
*Manager, International Education, City of Melbourne*

Born and raised in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, Gary arrived in Melbourne as an international student. He quickly made his mark as a community leader. He undertook the role of President of the RMIT Association of International Student, established two award-winning dance crews and volunteered for many charities, including the Starlight Express Room at the Royal Children’s Hospital.

Even as a child, Gary has been passionate about getting people together, activating and empowering communities. So it was natural that his current endeavours often, always involve people.



Dynamic, creative and visionary, he has over 20 years’ experience in the areas of high level strategic planning and design; policy development and advice; design and delivery of complex projects and student wellbeing initiatives.

Currently, he leads the international education portfolio at the City of Melbourne in delivering the Council Plan 2021–25 and the Economic Development Strategy 2031. He also oversees City of Melbourne’s collaboration with State Government on the International Education Recovery Plan 2025.

Driven by programs and outcomes that are co-designed by students and practitioners, Gary has led, partnered and delivered high impact, award-



## Gary Lee OAM continued

winning initiatives including the Lord Mayor's Student Welcome, Student Welcome Desk (Vic), the Essendon Football Club 'GLOBALL program' and The Couch – International Student Centre (run in partnership with The Salvation Army 614).

He also led the implementation of a \$2million 'Our Shout' food voucher program during Covid and the 'Art of Translation' project (which evolved into a semi-permanent exhibition 'Forget the Stereotypes' at the Immigration Museum) which profiles international students' contribution to Melbourne.

Gary is a member of numerous advisory committees including the North Melbourne Football Club's The Huddle, the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC) Regional Advisory Council, Crime Stoppers Victoria and the Australian Government's Best Practice in International Student Engagement Project.

Outside work, Gary has and continues to support many community causes including the Moroccan Children's Appeal, the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC), Travellers Aid; and is an ambassador for Bully Zero Australia Foundation, Melbourne Victory, the AFL Multicultural Community Program and Welcoming Australia.

He also sits on the steering committee for the African Music and Cultural Festival, Colours of Malaysia and the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne.

The act of being generous can result in greater inclusivity, diversity, and understanding, ultimately benefiting society as a whole; and Gary embodies these values from his core.

[LinkedIn/X/Instagram - @garyleecious](#)

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**Beverley Pinder OAM VIC Branch Committee member** was awarded her Order of Australia Medal on Australia Day 2023. The citation was “for service to the community through a



range of organisations”. Beverley has been an outstanding public relations practitioner for more than 40 years.

Former Miss Universe Australia, businesswoman and philanthropist, Beverley Pinder is no newcomer to the field of civic duty, charity work and publicity.

Her own introduction to inclusion and a spirit of sharing in Australia came shortly after her family emigrated from Sri Lanka to Australia.

A very helpful role model was John Staughton, a former Mayor of St Kilda (1968-69), who left an indelible impression on Beverley, and inspired her desire to always contribute something back to the community from which she has benefited so much. This led to her serving two terms as a Councillor of the City of Melbourne.

## Beverley Pinder OAM continued

Beverley's path has been sprinkled with loads of volunteer hours - including as a mentor to international students, which she continues to do to this day. She, along with her husband, Russell Mortimer, recently supported students from remote communities in the Northern Territory donating 15 laptops to St John's Catholic College in Darwin.

For more than five decades, Beverley has assisted various charities and not-for-profits, both with cash donations and contributions of her time, energy and ideas. She maintains that her involvement with organisations like the Father Bob Maguire Foundation has been greatly rewarding for her.

In October 2023, Beverley released her autobiography: *Pride without Prejudice* (beverleypinder.com), which she will launch in her native Sri Lanka in May 2024 where her basic message will be - Australia is a nation that gives you a go: 'Seek out and grab the opportunities as they arise, being prepared to give something back to the country that gives you every chance to succeed.'

Semi-retired, Beverley spends her days (and nights!!) mentoring; supporting her charity that addresses homelessness, Turning Hope Into Action; being an active member of the Country Women's Association; supporting the Australian Ballet School; as a Patron of the Melbourne Men's Shed; fundraising for the National Institute of Integrative Medicine; and, as a Committee Member for the OAA Victoria Branch.

The sense of 'belonging' that she desired as a young immigrant is complete. Having been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia only spurs her onto bigger, better and brighter things!

Photo: Refer to Page 17 Beverley Pinder OAM and her husband, Russell Mortimer with former Governor of Victoria Her Excellency Linda Dessau AC CVO in the gardens of Government House at 2023 Investiture.

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## Merchandise Shop

Online shopping: <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/shopping-cart/>



Spotted tie \$30

Check website for other tie options

Unisex knitted grey scarf \$25  
Check website for other scarf and beanie options



Plus postage & handling noted on merchandise website

## Treasurer or Bookkeeper required

The OAA VIC Branch currently requires a dedicated **Treasurer** or **Bookkeeper** to manage the Branch financial records with accuracy and integrity. You will be a critical member of the VIC Branch Executive.

### Responsibilities:

- Maintain accurate books on accounts payable and receivable, financial entries and reconciliations
- Prepare monthly financial reports for VIC Branch committee meetings
- Stay compliant with government and OAA financial reporting policies and requirements
- Assist with budget preparation and financial planning processes
- Use bookkeeping software

### Qualifications:

- Proven bookkeeping experience
- Solid understanding of basic accounting principles
- Experience with general ledger functions and the month-end/year-end close process
- Proficient in Microsoft Office
- High degree of accuracy and attention to detail

Note this is a Voluntary position.

The National Treasurer (Frank) will assist with required training as will the fee for service bookkeeper currently assisting the VIC Branch.

For further information please contact the OAA VIC Branch Chair Helene Bender AM on mobile 0407 261 951 or E: [chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

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## Order of Australia 2024 Investitures, recognition and pride

The 2024 Australia Day investitures were held April 17, 18 and 19 at Government House Melbourne with Governor Margaret Gardner AO providing a warm and welcoming environment for the new recipients, their family members, and friends.

As always, there was an air of quiet excitement that filled the stunning ballroom in anticipation of the ceremony and, in recognition of the honour that would be bestowed on the community members who were to be acknowledged for their services.

Toni (Tonina) Rochelle Joel was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for her service to community through social welfare initiatives. The story behind the award is her vision and work for over 20 years with the *OffYour Back Winter Coat Drive*. Toni was inspired to create this drive after she saw a man sleeping rough in the St Kilda streets. She took her coat and laid it over him – and that was the genesis for the organisation which began through simple requests to friends and networks to donate their spare coats to assist community members in need.

Toni never imagined this Drive would be responsible for a total of 300,000 coats being donated and distributed. At Government House, in the company of her husband and two sons, Toni beamed as she was awarded her medal.

Loc Huu Lam OAM arrived as a refugee in 1980 to a land that welcomed him, but there were significant challenges. Learning a new language, new ways, feeling isolated from his family and



friends in a war-torn Vietnam, and trying to heal the trauma that is part of the refugee experience.

At 73 years of age, Loc stood tall as he was awarded the Order of Australia for services to the Vietnamese community. He has spent many years nurturing his own family of four children and giving back generously through many charitable organisations, including as President of Springvale Rotary for four terms. His motivation – “I want to pay back to the community which has embraced me”.

There is no slowing down for Loc. Beaming with pride, he explained that the Medal bestowed to him was “unbelievable ...humbling. I feel that I should now do even more for the community to be deserving.” As Director of the planned Vietnamese Museum, he has a lot of work ahead of him

The stories behind the many deserving recipients remind us of the dedication and selflessness of many in the community.

The Awardees represent, as Governor Margaret Gardner explained, the diversity of the community – and the common value of social cohesion.

Gov. Gardner also pointed out that it was only the second time that more than 50% of recipients were women in the history of the Investitures, “interesting as women have been around for a lot longer than the Honours.” With this, she reminded the guests that “we all have a role to play in creating the society we want it to be”.

Photo: Loc Huu Lam celebrating with his family.  
By Dr. Teresa De Fazio OAM



## Dr. Jenny Gray AM PSM - Zoos Victoria CEO

There were so many births the week Dr Jenny Gray AM PSM was born that the mission hospital cribs had run out. So, baby Jenny started life in a tomato box in Swaziland.

*Expect the unexpected* seems to be a theme in Dr. Gray's life trajectory who received her Australia Day 2024 award for significant service to wildlife management, and to zoological industry organisations.

Dr. Gray spent her formative life in her family's homeland of South Africa. Following her father's footsteps, she studied civil engineering at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. Through a program by the City of Johannesburg she was able to undertake a Master of Engineering at the University of California. She specialised in transportation engineering, shaping

her early career during which she focussed on road planning, road design, public transport, and road safety.

She moved into leadership and ran a bus company, Durban Transport, "I was able to lead significant changes, effectively dismantle the structures of apartheid like segregated transport." Her path continued to evolve moving from transport to banking and then to the Johannesburg Zoo, "a well-loved but challenging facility".

Dr. Gray, however, is not one to give up easily. There she learnt about "complexity of zoos" which in turn enabled her next move to run Werribee Open Range Zoo in January 2008. From there, her tenacity and dedication has led her to becoming the well-respected CEO of Zoos Victoria and to some remarkable leadership work in zoo conservation and animal welfare.



"I have spent a lot of my life outdoors, walking in wild areas, diving under the ocean, and visiting game reserves. When you stop and look there are so many incredible creatures all around us and to think that we might lose them through negligence, or even intentionally, seems incredibly wrong." It is this mindset that has driven Dr. Gray's notable work.

Impactful conservation approaches at Zoos Victoria has led to turning around the conservation status of the Eastern Barred Bandicoot in Victoria. Further, the incredible work with the Victorian Grassland Earless Dragon which was *presumed extinct* was recently found and is part of a very careful breeding program to move it to next classification, *endangered*. It is no wonder; the conservation model at Zoos Victoria has captured the attention of conservationists and zoos globally.

Dr. Gray acknowledges that conservation work is dependent on strong partnerships and philanthropic contributions, and she is hopeful of continuing to make a difference through such support.

"We live on an incredibly improbable and vulnerable rock, travelling through inhospitable space. On this rock is the most wonderful diversity of life. From strange, tiny insects and fungi all the way through to mighty gorillas and tigers. We have an obligation, each and every person on this planet, to keep making it viable for the incredible diversity of life that also call earth home."

Dr. Gray's Order of Australia recognition has been a significant achievement. However, in true humble Dr. Gray style she attributes it to the "success of the incredible work of everyone at Zoos Victoria, our Board, our staff, and our volunteers. My success is only a result of everything that they all do."

By Dr. Teresa De Fazio OAM

Foot note: Dr Jenny Gray AM spoke at the OAA VIC Branch virtual event last July on the topic of Passion for Extinction in her role as CEO Zoos Victoria.

## Dr Francis Acquah AM service to Mental Health

In January 2024, Francis Acquah was recognised for significant service to Mental Health and the Community and appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

Francis travelled to Australia in 1986 and worked at Larundel Hospital, Bundoora before joining the North-East Crisis Assessment and Treatment Team (CATT).

Francis was awarded Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) Honoris Causa by Commonwealth University UK in 2017 and in 2021 became an International Nursing Council (GNLI) Scholar. He is a Fellow of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses, the Founder and Clinical Director of the Positive Wellness Recovery Centre (PWRC), and the Founder & President of the Mental Health and Well-Being Foundation, a non-profit organisation. Francis attended Latrobe University in Bundoora where he developed interest in Transcultural Mental Health for immigrants and refugees.

Francis has over 37 years of experience as a Psychiatric Nurse across public and private healthcare settings utilised his experience to establish the PWRC which provides Mental Health support, counselling, psychosocial rehabilitation, and reintegration into society for people with mental health conditions. His practice includes working with Australia's Youth Justice Services.

Francis is a Master Mental Health First Aid Licenced Instructor, and he has used his experiences to educate the community about mental health and stigma reduction. Francis is a Community Trainer and was involved in the delivery of *"Stepping out of the Shadows"*: Reducing Stigma in Multicultural Communities, a Mental Health training service for the community. Francis has received numerous awards including ACMHN Mental Health Nurses Achievement Award, in 2023 was recognised for Outstanding Community Service by Australian Council of Multicultural Entrepreneurs. Francis has been recognised by Rotary International as a Paul Harris Fellow. Francis has served as board member for a number of organisations



including the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses a national body. The Mental Health and Well-Being Foundation has hosted five international conferences in Ghana along with several seminars designed to promote awareness and destigmatise mental illness.

Francis is the President and Founder of Mental Health and Well-Being Foundation (MHWBF) which has undertaken several projects such as facilitating Ghanaians Mental Health Professionals with the support of University of Newcastle, New South Wales to receive PhD scholarships to study in the area of mental health, the MHWBF renovate a Psychiatric unit in Accra, Ghana, build a 12 seater toilet block in a cured lepers village in Ho, Ghana and built a well-equipped Neonatal Intensive Care unit modern technologies to support newborn care at Ketu South Hospital, Alfao, Ghana.

Francis has developed the new Kalkallo Wellness Hub at the old St John's Presbyterian Church grounds in Kalkallo built in 1860 that is now serving northern metropolitan Melbourne and nearby regional towns and communities. The Kalkallo Wellness Hub provides mental wellness programs, disability support, and alcohol and other drug (AOD) counselling and treatment. The Hub bolsters these programs and services by providing education and training, student

placements and is developing housing, recreation, and healthy-living activities – a place to welcome all, including members of interfaith and minority groups.

Francis' recognition highlights how local health care professionals are responding to Australia's current and expanding mental health needs. These needs have been documented for years:

- The Australian Bureau of Statistic's "National Study of Mental Health and Wellbeing 2020-2022" reported that in a 12-month period, thus 21.5% or 4.3 million people, ie, one-in-five Australians, experienced a mental health problem such as mood disorder, anxiety or substance abuse.
- The Royal Commission into *Victoria's mental health system* (State of Victoria, 2021) recommends that the Victorian Government: ensure people can access Local Mental Health and Wellbeing Services through a referral from a general practitioner or any other service provider, or through a discussion with the relevant service's access and navigation support worker. The establishment of the new Mental Health and Wellbeing Act.
- Fisher *et al.* (2020) reported that mental problems were at least twice as prevalent as before the COVID-19 Pandemic. Mental Health problems in Australia increased during the pandemic, with greater impact on younger people, 18 to 44, who experienced a tenfold increase in serious mental distress.

Australia is struggling with a mental health crisis due to increased levels of psychological distress that show as mood disorders and anxiety. Gaps in mental health services lead to long waiting lists, limited public beds and services filled to capacity. Receiving appropriate care is also affected by a serious lack of access to affordable mental health professionals.

People from the CALD (Culturally and Linguistic Diversity) communities face greater challenges when trying to access mental health services, due to language barriers, lower health literacy and difficulties navigating an unfamiliar system, thus, placing them at risk of poorer quality mental health care.

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## Landcare Australia acknowledges two OAA VIC Branch members

**Susan Campbell OAM** - As a Landscape Architect with the Victorian Ministry of Housing in the 1960's, and later with the Albury Wodonga Development Corporation 1972-1990, Susan managed the planting of 50,000 trees and shrubs, set up their nursery and worked closely with others to establish several Landcare Groups in the North East Victoria area, thus extending the reach of the Commission's work.



She is particularly known for her keen involvement with the early establishment of the Springhurst Byawatha Hills Landcare Group, one amongst the firsts in Victoria.

As a Member of the Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers, Susan was President for three of her 20 years on the Board.

Other leadership roles undertaken have been as a Member of the Landcare Victoria Board, on the North East Regional Catchment Land Protection Board, the Warby Range National Park Advisory Committee, Winton Wetlands Environmental Committee and as Chair of the VFF "Oral History" project relating

to voices from those involved across Victoria who were in early Tree Groups and Landcare Groups.

Recognition of her extensive input, particularly with Landcare and Primary Production, has seen Susan receive Awards over several years; those including the North East Regional Landcare Service Award for 25 years' service and acknowledgement in the Landcare Hero Honour Roll 2014.

Susan was awarded an OAM, for Conservation and Environment in 2015

**Pam Robinson AM** - came from Ireland for a Gap Year in 1963. Growing up with 'hands on' in the Irish environment through family, school and Guiding activities she fell in love with the Australian countryside, later marrying an Aussie and running a fine wool operation at Warrenbayne.

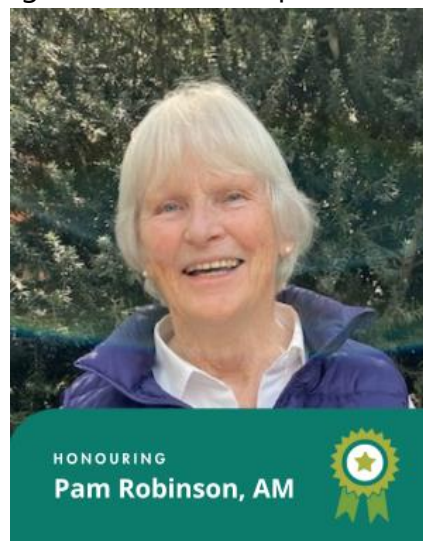
She and her neighbour became concerned about areas in their paddocks in the 1970s when they noticed patches of land, denuded of vegetation, began showing up. Sheep would roll on the bare ground and then lick at the fleece. They had uncovered an emerging problem with dryland salinity.

Pam set out on a mission to find out what was happening to the landscape and, through contacts with the Soil Conservation Authority and with the support of other concerned area farmers, in 1983 helped to develop a local land management plan for the Warrenbayne-Boho Land Protection Group.

The management plan morphed into Landcare in the days when the organisation was still emerging in Victoria. Pam was an inaugural Member of the Goulburn-Broken Salinity Pilot Program Advisory Council and appointed to the first State and National Landcare Advisory Committees.

As a Councillor and Shire President of the former Shire of Violet Town, her connections for Local Government with Landcare were strong. Pam was on the first Environment Committee of the Municipal Association of Victoria, and in the mid 2000's, as Manager Climate Change and Environment with the Cities of Darwin and Palmerston she worked closely with Landcare Groups and the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory.

Pam was acknowledged in the 2021 Queen's Birthday Honours; appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for significant service to conservation and to the environment, and to the community.



### **Passover and Greek Orthodox Easter**

April and May 2024 is when some of our members will reflect and spend time celebrating with family and friends Passover and Greek Orthodox Easter. Stay safe and enjoy.



## Rehabilitation of Catchments in Victoria

Angus Hume AM has been fortunate to be involved with the development of rehabilitation of catchments over the past 25 years as CEO of West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority and Chair of the National Resource Management regions.

The importance for the 52 Natural Resource Management regions focuses on a genuine collaboration with regional communities, including Traditional Owners, community, all levels of government and stakeholders such as the National Farmers Federation to improve the health of waterways while maintaining and improving biodiversity across Australia's diverse landscapes. This has occurred with a clear aim of restoring agricultural landscapes and developing sustainability practices to benefit agribusiness and environmental sustainability.

The 52 Natural Resource Management regions across all States involve relatively small yet passionate teams, coordinating and empowering the phenomenal Landcare networks to deliver projects on behalf of the Federal and State governments.

The national improvement in agribusiness practices is a direct consequence of how in each State, the long-held commitment by NRM in engaging Traditional Owners, ensures their water rights and supports self-determination, improved water conservation strategies and maintaining collaboration in sustainability projects.

Across the nation. Landcare's role and volunteer engagement is pivotal. For example the Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program highlights the substantial and environmental contributions by volunteers. In Victoria recently over 12000 volunteers contributed a huge 290000 volunteer hours making a \$12 million contribution to the State's economy. Their efforts in revegetation, weed control and biodiversity protection are instrumental in ecosystem conservation.

This outstanding example is reflected nationally and illustrates how agribusiness and ever improving environmental sustainability bring direct benefits to Australia.

Angus has been a Dairy Farmer/Apiculturist in South Gippsland since 1985; he has also been Chair FL Gippsland Commission, Member Advance TAFE Board and Officer in Charge Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition.

Angus Hume AM was awarded his Member of the Order of Australia January 2021 for significant service to water catchment management, and to agribusiness.



Order of Australia Association Victoria Branch committee appreciates the ongoing support we receive from members attending events, buying merchandise and renewing their membership

## OAA VIC Branch 2024 Committee

Elected and endorsed Tuesday 19 March 2024 Annual General Meeting

Chair – Helene Bender AM

Deputy Chair – Trevor Clark OAM

Secretary – Hatice Basarin OAM

Treasurer – Vacant

General – Gary Lee OAM

General – Beverley Pinder OAM

Membership Secretary – Fred Harrington OAM

Minute Secretary – Barb Thomas OAM

Regional Group Coordinator – Barb Brook OAM

VIC Editor *The Order* magazine – Teresa De Fazio OAM

VIC E-Newsletter Editor - Helene Bender AM

Branch Nominated Director – Grahame Leonard AM from 27 April 2024

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## OAA VIC Branch Regional Group Chairs at 15 April 2024

Barwon	Wayne Myers OAM
Central Highlands Wimmera	John Burt OAM
Eastern Suburbs	Geoffrey Grinton OAM
Frankston Mornington Peninsula	Heather Barton AM
Gippsland	Doug Caulfield OAM RFD
Loddon-Campaspe	Alex Stoneman OAM
Mallee	VIC Branch committee
Melbourne Central	Trevor Clark OAM
North Central Suburbs	Fred Harrington OAM
NE & Goulburn Valley	Mary-Lou Davis OAM
South Central Suburbs	Jill Page OAM
South West Vic	Georgina Gubbins OAM
Western Suburbs	June Kane AM

