



The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

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

SA BRANCH NEWSLETTER, July 2024

On behalf of all SA Branch members, I would like to congratulate everyone who has received an award in the 2024 King's Birthday Honours List.

We have celebrated the official Birthday of His Majesty King Charles III, Sovereign Head of the Order of Australia, and our Fellowship luncheons continue, with the next one scheduled for 27 June.

As I have said before but it bears repeating, one of the key aims of our Association is to spread information about the purposes of the Order. We hope to bring you, through this newsletter, some more background information on the Order and what it means in our community.

In particular, I have an opportunity to talk about the Order to our new recipients twice a year. But is this 'preaching to the choir'?

As recipients, we receive a lot of information about the Order, and a very useful information booklet from the Office of the Governor-General. I strongly encourage you to look through this booklet and learn more about your award.

One of the most important things we can do, as identified leaders and role models in our community, is to be on the lookout for the 'next generation' of recipients.

I believe we all have a role to identify who might be worthy of receiving the Order, and either making a nomination or assisting someone else to make the nomination.

If you feel daunted by this task, contact me and we will do our best to put an appropriate member of the Branch in contact with you to offer help and guidance navigating the nomination process.

Tony Metcalf OAM
SA Branch Chair

SAVE THE DATE



SAHMRI TOUR & LUNCH Thursday 19 September 2024

Please join us for an informative one-hour tour of the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute on North Terrace in Adelaide.

Public transport is the best way to get there.

We will assemble in the SAHMRI foyer at 10.45 am, for a guided tour from 11 to 12 noon.

The tour will be followed by lunch at your own expense at the Strathmore Hotel, 129 North Terrace.

RSVP details will be included with the August newsletter.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday 29 July: Closing date for nominations for the 2024 Student Citizenship Awards

Tuesday 13 August: Student Citizenship Awards Assessment and Selection Panel review meeting

Thursday 29 August 2024: Honours recipients fellowship luncheon meeting, Naval, Military and Air Force Club

Friday 27 September: Riverland and Mallee Regional Group luncheon meeting, Barmera

September/ October: Eyre Group meeting

Sunday 27 October: Yorke Peninsula Regional Group luncheon meeting

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION, South Australia Branch

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

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION 2024 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 2024 National Conference was hosted by the Western Australian Branch during the period 16-19 May, with the theme of 'Giving Service Beyond Self'. The SA Branch was represented by Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM, Deputy Chairman Noel Hender OAM BEM, Professor Tony Thomas AC and Nadia Moffatt OAM, and partners.



*Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM and Mrs Cheryl Metcalf,
and Deputy Chairman Noel Hender OAM BEM and Mrs Jill Hender.*

*Brianna (Bree) Harris from
Naracoorte receiving her
Order of Australia Association
Foundation 2023 Scholarship
award from His Excellency the
Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM,
Governor of Western Australia*



*Images courtesy of
7 to 1 Photography
www.7to1photography.com.au*

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

Order of Australia Association Foundation Saturday 18 May 2024

At the Order of Australia Association National Conference Dinner in Perth, the Order of Australia Association Foundation announced its 2023 scholarship recipients. Noel Hender OAM BEM reported:

Congratulations from the SA Branch to Brianna (Bree) Harris of Naracoorte, South Australia for receiving one of six Order of Australia Association Foundation scholarship awards. The award was presented by His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM, Governor of WA, on behalf of the Governor-General.

Bree is currently living in Millicent but is studying long-distance at Charles Darwin University where she is training to be a physiotherapist, and will later be seeking to pursue a Masters of Physiotherapy.

Bree has been extensively involved in her local community in Naracoorte, especially through sport, where she has shown strong commitment as a junior netball coach, umpire and sports trainer.

With her strong academic performance, her commitment to community and her clear view of her future career, the selection panel are confident Bree will become a strong and respected leader in a rural community.

Well done Bree.



Foundation Scholarship recipient **Bree Harris**, pictured with SA Branch Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM and Deputy Chairman Noel Hender OAM BEM.

The donor of this award is Mr Nicholas Paspaley AC.

Bree is undertaking a Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science at Charles Darwin University.

Bree is receiving mentorship from Ms Sarah Foley OAM, one of the founders of Kids+ who has been recognised for her outstanding contribution to the Greater Geelong region.



The Order of Australia Association Foundation

The Order of Australia Association Foundation is supporting the next generation of leaders by helping promising young Australians to achieve their potential for the benefit of future generations of Australians.

The Foundation provides a national focus for the purpose of The Order of Australia Association to celebrate and promote outstanding Australian citizenship, by annually sponsoring scholarships to Australian students in their early years of tertiary study.

These scholarships are valued at \$40,000 each spread over two years.

Donations made to the Foundation attract DGR tax deductibility.

More information on the Foundation Scholarships may be found here:

<https://oafoundation.org.au/>

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



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

Sovereign Head
of the Order of Australia



*The Royal Cypher of King Charles III combines
his initials 'C' and 'R' (for Rex, Latin for 'King').*

KING'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

Saturday 1 June 2024

On the first Saturday of June, we held a luncheon to celebrate the official Birthday of His Majesty King Charles III, the fifth monarch of the House of Windsor. We used a new venue, Casa D'Abruzzo Molise Club in Prospect, which proved to be most suitable in allowing for an increased capacity.

Branch Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM welcomed guests and gave the Acknowledgment of Country. Deputy Chairman Noel Hender OAM BEM proposed the Loyal Toast to King Charles III, King of Australia and Sovereign Head of the Order of Australia, and introduced the National Anthem.

Our guest speaker was Clinical Associate Professor Robert Ali AO, who was appointed an Officer of the Order, "For distinguished service to medical and health research, particularly drug and alcohol dependence, and to education and training" (KB23). He spoke on the topic: 'Vaping- Friend or Foe'.



Clinical Associate Professor Robert Ali AO is a public health physician and specialist in addiction medicine.

He is currently a Senior Grant funded research fellow, focusing on screening and brief intervention for substance use related problems in Primary Health Care. He is a member of the Australian National Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drugs, and was the Director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Research into the Treatment of Drug and Alcohol Problems, based at the University of Adelaide. Previously, for 30 years he was Director of Community Based Treatment at the Drug & Alcohol Services South Australia, until October 2016.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



For photographs, and additional information on the Order of Australia and the Association, click here:

[KING'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON, 1 June 2024](#)



Learn more about the
Casa D'Abruzzo Molise Club:

[Casa D'Abruzzo Molise Club Inc](#)

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



Our King's Birthday Luncheon also recalled the Coronation of His Majesty and Queen Camilla on 6 May 2023.



Our special guest Joan Durdin AM FRCNA

Joan Durdin AM FRCNA

A special guest at our King's Birthday Luncheon last year was the late Keith 'Chook' Fowler OAM, who was at that time aged 102.

Following the tradition of celebrating the lives of our centenarian members, a special guest at this year's King's Birthday Luncheon was Joan Durdin AM.

Dorothy Joan Durdin was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the 1985 Queen's Birthday Honours List, "*In recognition of service to nursing education*".

Born in Adelaide on 16 May 1922, Joan gained a General Nursing Certificate from the Royal Adelaide Hospital in 1945. She gained a Midwifery Certificate from the Queen Victoria Hospital in Melbourne in 1947, and completed studies in infant welfare at Torrens House Adelaide in 1949.

She studied at the Royal College of Nursing in London under a Florence Nightingale Scholarship, and returned to the Royal Adelaide Hospital where she was Senior Sister Tutor from 1955 to 1964.

In addition to her ten years' teaching at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, she spent six years as a nurse educator in Papua New Guinea.

From 1974 Joan was a Lecturer in the Nursing Department of Sturt College of Advanced Education, and she was Head of the Department from 1979 to 1981.

From 1981 until her retirement in 1983, Joan was Head of the School of Health Professions at the South Australian College of Advanced Education Sturt Campus.

Joan has been described as, 'an architect of the transformation of nursing training in South Australia from the hospital to the tertiary education sector'.

For her work with the College of Nursing Australia (now the Royal College of Nursing Australia), she was granted an Honorary Fellowship in 1984 (FRCNA).

Following her retirement, Joan completed a Bachelor of Arts with Honours degree at the University of Adelaide, and became an active historian. Among her many achievements in this field, she conducted extensive oral history interviews for the Royal Adelaide Hospital Heritage and History Committee (1991-98), and wrote two books:

- ♦ *They Became Nurses: A History of Nursing in South Australia, 1836-1980* (1991)
- ♦ *Eleven Thousand Nurses: A History of Nursing Education at the Royal Adelaide Hospital 1889-1993* (1999)

In 1994, Joan was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the Flinders University of South Australia.

Joan is commemorated by the Joan Durdin Oration, an annual event initiated and sponsored by the Department of Clinical Nursing at the University of Adelaide.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



Cathy Chong AM JP had a wide selection of Association merchandise available to purchase.



We had a display of King Charles III coronation memorabilia courtesy of Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP. The portrait of King Charles III was kindly provided on loan by No 604 Squadron, Australian Air Force Cadets.

The display included a commemorative medallion celebrating the accession to the throne of Prince Charles, Prince of Wales on 8 September 2022 following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at Balmoral Castle on 8 September 2022.

There was a copy of the cover of the Authorised Liturgy for the Coronation Rite of His Majesty the King in the Abbey Church of St Peter in Westminster Abbey on Saturday 6 May 2023, and the cover of the Order of Service for the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

There was a gilt-plated and enamel commemorative coronation coin bearing the St Edward's Crown which was used in the Coronation ceremony, and cased commemorative medallion bearing the Royal Cipher of King Charles III, 'CRIII'.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

KING'S BIRTHDAY EUCHARIST

Sunday 9 June 2024

Some SA Branch members recently attended a Choral Eucharist at Christ Church in North Adelaide in celebration of the birthday of King Charles III.

Christ Church is a pioneering Anglican church which was opened and consecrated in 1849.

The church is a stunning example of Romanesque architecture.

It is made of limestone, sourced from local government quarries on the banks of the River Torrens. The construction was overseen by architects Henry Stuckey and William Weir.

Among those in attendance was Lieutenant-Colonel David Newbold Brook OAM (ret'd), who has previously been a guest speaker at a Fellowship luncheon meeting on the topic of the formation of the Naval, Military and Air Force Club in 1879.



SA Branch Committee members Greg Gordon OAM JP and Flavia De Pasquale OAM.



Pictured (left to right): Lieutenant-Colonel David Newbold Brook OAM (ret'd); David Reding, President of the Royal Artillery Association; Jan Brook; the Reverend Stephen Bloor, Rector of Christ Church North Adelaide; Flavia De Pasquale OAM, SA Branch Committee representative; Dr Richard Harris SC OAM, Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia and Mrs Fiona Harris; Greg Gordon OAM JP, SA Branch Membership Secretary.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



Living conditions in Dili.

AN INTERFET REFLECTION, Part 2 **Brigadier Rob Atkinson AM RFD (ret'd)**

Brigadier Rob Atkinson AM RFD (ret'd) of the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps served four times in East Timor, and has kindly compiled some recollections of his service in East Timor under warlike conditions. He continues to reflect on his first deployment under INTERFET.

As medical officers, we are placed in a unique position to hear information and stories almost first hand – “Guess what happened today Doc”.

There is probably a therapeutic dimension to this, as a problem shared is a problem halved, and most certainly it is a privilege as it is thus to look after those who put themselves in harm's way for us.

However the Army also teaches – “No names, no pack drill!”. Or for us medical officers, these informal chats remain “Medical in Confidence”.

One story I recall was during a riot – a mob was approaching an Armoured Personnel Carrier which was armed with a .50-inch calibre machine-gun. A serious weapon. The lead rioter holding a Molotov cocktail, looked up and saw the weapon training on him. He stopped, smiled and put the cocktail down. The machine-gun tilted up. The riot stopped. I thought it unusually good judgement, as any other soldier may have opened up. Maybe the Australian way was the most sensible.

The UN placed a Portuguese battalion on the ground. What were they thinking bringing the Colonial power back. Machete wounds resulted, and one day a Timorese Doc raced in and said “give me a grenade”. Hold on, this is a hospital. My father is bowing down to the Portuguese as he was taught (ordered) to do. I agreed we should chuck grenades together. He was amazed and settled down: no grenades, and the world got a little better.

The lessons of Timor were dengue and malaria, and the unsung hygiene people were key to prevention.

Missions take their toll, and I asked a colleague were there any ghosts he wanted slaying. He had caught haemorrhagic dengue and almost died. He was donating to a school that had been trashed and burned during his mission. I was able to send photographs of kids in uniform and the school rebuilt. Ghost slayed.



25th ANNIVERSARY

The International Force East Timor (INTERFET) was a multinational peacemaking task force, organised and led by Australia in accordance with United Nations resolutions to address the humanitarian and security crisis that took place in East Timor from 16 September 1999 until 28 February 2000, known as Operation ‘Stabilise’.

We left on a UN South African C-130 transport plane fitted with rows of passenger seats. There were not many on board. We had a day or so in Darwin, and then back to our separate civilian lives. It was an interesting and precious day relaxing, where we were suspended between two worlds.

The next missions to East Timor were different, as time and circumstances had changed. In particular, the UN Military Hospital had moved away from the Museum and was set up at Dili Airport.

A huge number of refugee tents surrounded the area for those who sought safety. The circumstances were not lost on me, and I published a Paper in the Australian Defence Force Journal (May/June 2002, no 154) on Military Operations Other Than War (MOOTWA), on how to prevent conflict and provide sanctuary.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

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 29 August** at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club at 111 Hutt Street in Adelaide.

The speaker will be **Ann Ferguson OAM JP**: *“Changes in Mt Barker, Challenges and Opportunities”*.

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 || deflavia750@gmail.com

Pamela Rajkowski OAM
0400 810 196 || pamraj@bigpond.com

Ann Ferguson OAM JP

Ann Ferguson was born and raised on Kangaroo Island. In 1964, she moved to Mount Barker and commenced training at the Mount Barker & District Soldiers Memorial Hospital, retiring in 2008. Ann served as a Councillor with Mount Barker District Council from 1991 to 2003; she was Mayor from 2006 to 2010, and served as Council’s delegate to the Southern & Hills Local Government Association.

Ann is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (FAICD). She is a Life Member of the Mount Barker Agricultural Society, and has advocated strongly for her community at local, state and national levels.

Of Mount Barker she has said, ‘We are the jewel of the State’.

Ann’s interests include gardening and cooking, and she has travelled extensively in Canada, Scotland, Turkey, Asia and Spain.

Ann was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the 2014 Australia Day Honours List, *“For service to local government, and to the community”*.

SAVE THE DATES



FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON Thursday 31 October 2024

For our final Fellowship luncheon meeting for 2024, the guest speaker will be Peter Dunn OAM – *“A Life That Just Happened”*.

For 2025, pencil in the following Thursdays: 27 February, 17 April, 26 June, 28 August and 30 October 2025.

SA BRANCH CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA Friday 6 December 2024

Please note the date of this year’s annual Christmas Morning Tea. It will be held at the Fullarton Park Community Centre, 411 Fullarton Road, Fullarton, at 9.30 am for a 10 am start, finishing by 12 noon. Full-size medals should be worn. Association merchandise will be available to purchase. Our Guest Speaker will be Associate Professor Dr Carolyn Palmer AM on the topic *“Working with vision impaired children and some interesting highlights”*.

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

The Order of Australia was established by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Australia, on the advice of the Prime Minister of Australia, by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975 to be “an Australian society of honour for the purpose of according recognition to Australian citizens and other persons for achievement or for meritorious service”. His Majesty King Charles III, King of Australia is the Sovereign of the Order.

Since 1 February 1989, the Governor-General has been Chancellor of the Order, while the Official Secretary to the Governor-General is Secretary of the Order.



The Insignia of the Sovereign of the Order of Australia depicted on Australian 22 cent postage stamps (Queen's Birthday 1980), a 33 cent stamp (Queen's Birthday 1985) and postage stamps issued for the 2008 Queen's Birthday.

The Order may be awarded in either the General Division or the Military Division. When the Order was originally created in 1975, it comprised a Civil Division and a Military Division – following the precedent of the Order of the British Empire. The former was retitled ‘General Division’ under Letters Patent dated 24 May 1976. The General Division is senior to the Military Division.



Insignia in the Military Division are denoted by gold edges 1.5 mm in width on the suspension ribbon: pictured above – Companion (AC), Officer (AO), Member (AM) and the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM).

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

Nominations

The Australian Honours 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 by anyone, at any time.



Nominations are made via the online Nominations Portal:

<https://oosgg-ca-prod.powerappsportals.com/>



Detail from the portrait of 'Mrs Singh' by Tsering Hannaford (94 cm x 90 cm, oil on board, 2018) showing the breast insignia of a Member of the Order of Australia in the General Division (used with permission).



Detail from the portrait of Rear Admiral Sir David James Martin KCMG AO by Tsering Hannaford (120 cm x 100 cm, oil on Belgian linen, 2021) showing the neck insignia of an Officer of the Order of Australia in the Military Division (used with permission).

Tsering calls herself 'a contemporary realist oil painter working from life'. You can see some of her works here:

T. HANNAFORD

<https://www.tseringhannaford.com.au/>

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



The screenshot shows the website of the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia. The header includes the coat of arms and the text "The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia". The navigation menu has "Home", "About the Governor-General", "Australian Honours and Awards", and "The Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General". The main content area is titled "King's Birthday 2024 Honours List" and includes a sub-section "The General Division of the Order of Australia". It states that 493 recipients of awards in the General Division of the Order of Australia include:

- [6 appointments as Companions of the Order](#)
- [15 appointments as Officers of the Order](#)
- [131 appointments as Members of the Order](#)
- [341 people were awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia](#)

2024 King's Birthday Honours List

The 2024 King's Birthday Honours List recognises and celebrates 737 Australians – with awards in the General and Military Divisions of the Order of Australia, meritorious service awards and recognition for conspicuous service.

The 493 recipients of awards in the General Division of the Order of Australia include:

- 🏵 6 appointments as a Companion of the Order
- 🏵 15 appointments as an Officer of the Order
- 🏵 131 appointments as a Member of the Order
- 🏵 341 people were awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia

There were 25 recipients of awards in the Military Division of the Order of Australia:

- 🏵 3 appointments as an Officer of the Order
- 🏵 7 appointments as a Member of the Order
- 🏵 15 awards of the Medal of the Order of Australia

The 2024 King's Birthday Honours list includes 34 Australians recognised for their contribution in support of Australia's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On behalf of all members of the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association, Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM congratulates everyone who has received an award in the 2024 King's Birthday Honours List. A representative of the SA Branch will attend each of the investiture ceremonies at Government House, and shortly after we will host a New Recipients' Reception.

Information about the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association is available on our website: <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/about-us/>

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

Regional Group News

Yorke Peninsula Regional Group: The half-yearly luncheon of the Yorke Peninsula Regional Group was held at the Ardrossan Hotel/Motel on Sunday 28 April. SA Branch Committee member Don Clark OAM was the guest speaker.

Those present had the opportunity to discuss a possible project for the Yorke Peninsula Group. It came from a paper suggesting that the Group give thought to and plan for engagement with the secondary schools on Yorke Peninsula, to provide a focus on the SA Branch and its flagship program, the Student Citizenship Awards.

The discussion saw both supportive and cautious opinions, and it was decided to form a small working party to look further into the concept and address both concerns and implementation aspects should it go ahead. A report will be submitted to the next meeting.

The group will hold its next meeting on Sunday 27 October. Noel Hender OAM BEM, as Convenor of the Student Citizenship Awards, has been invited to attend as guest speaker to discuss the program.



Guest speaker Don Clark OAM (centre) with SA Branch Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM and Ken Coventry OAM JP, Regional Groups Coordinator for the SA Branch.



Members of the Yorke Peninsula Regional Group in Ardrossan on Sunday 28 April (images by Di Coventry).

Regional Group News

Fleurieu Regional Group: The half-yearly luncheon meeting was held on Friday 3 May at the Chiton Rocks Surf Life Saving Club on Hindmarsh Esplanade, Hayborough, with 32 members and guests present.

The guest speaker was Bob Bruce, one of the members of the Group, who received the Medal of the Order of Australia, "*In recognition of service to surf lifesaving*" (AD89).

Bob spoke of his enjoyment and experiences in surf lifesaving over several decades.

The next half-yearly meeting is scheduled for Friday 1 November.

Riverland and Mallee Regional Group: The next gathering will be at the Barmera Sports Club, Dean Drive in Barmera on Friday 27 September at 12 noon, for a luncheon in the side room.

Eyre Peninsula: The next gathering will be in Tumby Bay later this year, most likely at the Tumby Bay RSL. The 2025 gathering will most likely be in Cummins.



Bob Bruce OAM addressed the Fleurieu Regional Group luncheon on his history in surf lifesaving.



Members of the Fleurieu Regional Group at Chiton Rocks on Friday 3 May (images by Di Coventry).

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



WINTER CONVERSATIONS AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Friday 5 July 2024
and Friday 2 August 2024

As the temperature drops and winter sets in, Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, is opening the doors of Government House for a series of thought-provoking conversations with inspirational South Australians.



Her Excellency is pleased to welcome members of the public to join the Winter Conversation events at Government House. Upcoming sessions will be held on the first Friday of July and August, from 12.30 to 1.30 pm. All sessions are free – but do require a booking.

In these Winter Conversation events, the Governor will be joined in conversation by prominent South Australians on topics of relevance to the prosperity and wellbeing of our state.

The session being held in July is titled, 'Healthcare of the Future – Genomics and Precision Medicine'.



Bookings for the third session on 'Environmental Leadership' with Tim Jarvis AM, the 2023 SA Australian of the Year, and Tiahni Adamson, the 2023 SA Young South Australian of the Year, will open on Monday 15 July.

Her Excellency invites members of the public to attend the free sessions and to pose questions to her and her guests.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

CENTENARIAN

Sir Eric James Neal AC CVO KStJ

In our June newsletter, Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM paid tribute to one of our Branch members who would soon mark his 100th birthday.

The Honourable Sir Eric Neal was born 3 June 1924 in London UK.

He was appointed a Knight Bachelor in 1982. Among his many positions of distinction, Sir Eric served as the 32nd Governor of South Australia – from 22 July 1996 to 3 November 2001.

To mark the occasion, Her Excellency the Governor and Mr Bunten hosted a dinner at Government House to celebrate the life of Sir Eric and his significant contributions to our State.

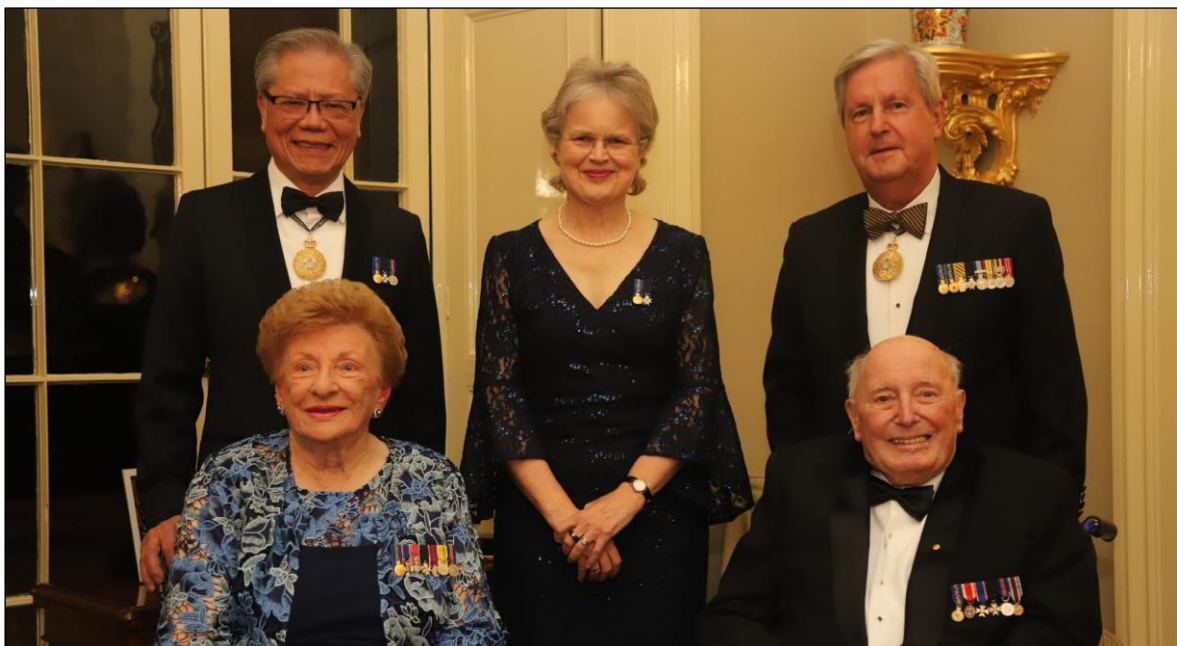


Image courtesy of Government House Adelaide

Government House reported the event: *Joined by the Premier, former Governors, and Sir Eric's family and friends, Her Excellency honoured Sir Eric's many achievements as Governor from 1996 to 2001, including his distinction as the first South Australian appointed to the role from a business background.*

Trained as an engineer, Sir Eric had a long career in the private sector, including 14 years as CEO of Boral Ltd. He brought expertise, skills, connections and experience to the position that no one had before. A tireless advocate for our State domestically and internationally, Sir Eric was also a strong supporter of the South Australia community, engaging extensively with the arts, sport, young people, volunteers and the not-for-profit sector.

Many happy returns Sir Eric



The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

VALE

The Honourable Jennifer Lilian Cashmore AM (1937-2024)

We received the following announcement from Government House on Monday 10 June:

The Governor and her family are saddened to announce that Her Excellency's mother, The Honourable Jennifer Cashmore AM, died peacefully at home earlier this morning at the age of 86.

Ms Cashmore was only the third woman elected to the South Australian House of Assembly and served as the Member for Coles (now Morialta) from 1977-1993 and as a Minister of Health and Minister for Tourism from 1979-1982.

As a Parliamentarian, Ms Cashmore played a key role in developing the Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care Act 1995 and she dedicated much of her post-parliamentary life to supporting the cause of palliative care.

In paying tribute to her late mother, the Governor said she was a remarkable woman and a courageous trailblazer in many areas, including environmental protection and renewable energy and in drawing attention to the failure of the State Bank of South Australia.

Ms Cashmore was a lifelong campaigner for women's equality. Through her compassion and dedication to public service, she instilled in her three children a strong sense of service and community commitment.

Her Excellency will adjust her program of engagements and a Governor's Deputy will be appointed.

For most of her political career she was known by her married name of Jennifer Adamson, but reverted to her maiden name Cashmore in 1986.

The Honourable Jennifer Cashmore was appointed a Member of the Order in the 1998 Australia Day Honours List, "For Service to the Community, particularly in the areas of Palliative Care, Women's Issues, and Economic Development, and to the South Australian Parliament".

On behalf of all SA Branch members, State Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM has written to Her Excellency, our Branch Patron, to pass on our condolences.



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:

David John Bryant OAM

Stuart Paxton OAM

Maxwell Arthur Slee OAM

MERCHANDISE

Members of the Association who wish to purchase a name badge can find an Order Form on our website:

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

NEWSLETTERS

All South Australian recipients of the Order of Australia will receive complimentary copies of the SA Branch monthly newsletter for a period of 12 months. We encourage you to become a member of the Order of Australia Association – the benefits of membership can be found on this brochure:

[Benefits of Membership](#)