

# ACT OAA

## MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

### Patron

Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley

### Branch Nominated Director

Dr Alan Morrison AM JP

### Chair

Andrew Phelan AM

Chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

0417 267 609 (M)

### Secretary

Robert Altamore OAM

altamr@bigpond.com

0423 931 753 (M)

### Treasurer

Phil Morrall AM, CSC

### Committee

Dr Brian Babington AM

Lynne Duckham OAM

Mainul Haque OAM

Narelle Hargreaves AM

Dr Joseph Johnson CSC, OAM, AAM

Dr Bill Maiden PSM OAM

David Templeman AM

Desmond Woods OAM

### Branch mailbox

GPO Box 423

Canberra City ACT 2601

### Branch website

www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/ACT

### COMING EVENTS

Booking details for the following event  
are enclosed:

**Thursday 11 April 2024**  
**OAA-ADF Oration**  
**Russell Offices Theatre**

**Wednesday 8 May 2024**  
**Reception for New Recipients**  
**Commonwealth Club**  
**Yarralumla**

**Tuesday 11 June 2024**  
**King's Birthday Luncheon**  
**Southern Cross Club**  
**Woden**

### THE 2023 OAA-ADF ORATION – THURSDAY 11 APRIL 2024

A special event on our calendar each year is the OAA – ADF Oration



which brings together Defence Force and other recipients of the Order to create a closer understanding of each other's commitment to service as recognised through the Australian Honours system. The 2024 Oration will be delivered by the Chief of Personnel, **Lieutenant General Natasha Fox AO, CSC**. She was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2023 *For distinguished service to the Australian Defence Force people capability as Head People Capability and Deputy Chief of Army*. To attend this

free event at the Ngunnawal Theatre at Russell Offices please book at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/70G2W> or complete the booking sheet with this newsletter.

Contact for this event is Andrew Phelan AM at 0417 267 609 or [chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au).

### RECEPTION FOR NEW RECIPIENTS - 8 MAY 2024

Please join us to welcome and celebrate with ACT and area citizens awarded in the 2024 Australia Day Honours. This event will be held at The Commonwealth Club, Yarralumla on Wednesday 8 May and will follow the investitures to be held at Government House on 8-12 April.

Please book at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/CZ4LM> or complete the booking sheet with this newsletter.

Contact for this event is Andrew Phelan AM at 0417 267 609 or [chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au).

### KING'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON – TUESDAY 11 JUNE 2024



Join us at the Southern Cross Club Woden to enjoy lunch, share fellowship, celebrate the recipients of honours in the King's Birthday list and hear guest speaker Kate Carnell AO, former ACT Chief Minister, who recently completed her five-year term as the inaugural Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman (ASBFEO). Kate is a member of a number of boards including

Beyond Blue. Kate was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2006 *for service to the community of the Australian Capital Territory through contributions to economic development and support for the business sector, knowledge industries, and medical technology advances*.

Please book at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/KGG08> or complete the booking sheet with this newsletter.

Contact for this event is Andrew Phelan AM at 0417 267 609 or [chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

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## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Fellow Branch Members,

Our 2024 AGM was held on 14 February 2024 at the Royal Canberra Golf Club. I congratulate David Templeman AM and Mainul Haque OAM on their election to the Branch Committee and I thank Coralie Wood OAM (who stood down from the committee) for her advice and support. Dr Michael Moore AM, former Minister in the ACT Government and internationally regarded public health advocate, spoke, as detailed elsewhere in this Newsletter. On 20 March 2024, 40 members and guests joined for a morning tea at the Royal Canberra Golf Club, at which Ebenezer Banful OAM, the 2024 ACT Senior Australian of the Year, spoke about his 40-year commitment to assisting African immigrants settle in Canberra and promoting multiculturalism.

We have a very interesting program of activities planned for the next few months, commencing with the Order of Australia – Australian Defence Force Oration, to be delivered by LTGEN Natasha Fox AO, CSC on 11 April 2024. On 8 May 2024, we will have a great opportunity to congratulate Australia Day 2024 recipients of Honours and Awards at the Commonwealth Club. Branch member Kate Carnell AO will be our guest speaker at the 2024 King's Birthday Luncheon, to be held at the Canberra Southern Cross Club on 11 June 2024. I look forward to catching up with as many of you as possible at those events. Booking details are contained in this Newsletter. As mentioned previously, Monica and I are looking forward to attending the National Conference in Perth in May 2024. Booking details are to be found in *The Order* and on the Association's website (<https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au>), and we hope to see as many of you there as possible.

The Branch used to conduct multi-faith services annually, but interest and participation waned, and the events ceased a few years ago. I would be interested in gauging Branch members' views on whether a multi-faith event should be resumed. To this end, I invite members to email me at [chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairact@theorderofaustralia.asn.au) with their views and suggestions.

Warm regards  
Andrew

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## BRANCH NOMINATED DIRECTOR'S REPORT



The National Board met on the 16 February via TEAMS.

Once again, the financial results were good, the key aspects were that the budget variation report showed that the actual income was \$25,008.04 more than budget and the actual expenses were \$1,966.42 less than budget. A further \$15,000 was to be set aside for an Association Foundation Scholarship.

The Board noted the investment advisors report and agreed that:

- IWP proceed to restructure the portfolio and increase the offshore proportion; and
- The existing Investment Policy be endorsed.

The National Membership Director presented a Report, and some key aspects were:

- There were 750 recipients in the Australia Day Awards,
- The number of men and women were about the same, and
- Changes have been made to the website and there is now a section entitled 'Resources' which has a wide range of information for use of Members and Branches.

There was a report on the progress of the Perth Conference which included:

- All speakers have been confirmed and the programme is now complete.
  - Additional sponsorship of \$20,000 and \$5,000 has been received from benefactors.
  - Confirmation of attendance by the Governor General and Mrs Hurley, the WA Governor and Mrs Dawson has not yet been received, and
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- There was a request for local volunteers to assist on conference days.

The Sydney Conference 2025 was well ahead with its planning although there was some concern about the high cost of accommodation in Sydney. 2025 will be the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Order of Australia and the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Order of Australia Association and at this stage any arrangements will be subject to discussions at the National level with the new Governor General and a Draft Budget is yet to be provided.

The Marketing Committee Report was presented by the chairman, some key aspects of which were:

- Rob Ayling (Governor General's Office) advised that the AD recipients received good media coverage with a list of diverse recipients,
- When a new Governor General is appointed soon, the Association marketing material will need updating,
- A positive response has been received from four members to join the Social Media Sub-Committee,
- The promotion of Benefits of Membership were discussed, and it was noted that some Branches have such documents which are on their branch websites.

The Nominations Committee had an extensive discussion about the process of appointment of the Deputy National Chairman.

The Investment Committee Chairman noted that for the year ended 31 December 2023, the portfolio had had an increase of 6.91% over the last 12 months including value growth and dividends.

The Foundation Secretary reported that 6 scholarship holders will attend the Perth Conference and that great publicity for the Foundation Scholarships had occurred via the Governor General's Australia Day Address.

The next meeting of the Board will be held at 1400 hrs AEST on Friday 19 April 2024 via TEAMS.

Dr Alan Morrison AM, JP  
ACT Branch Nominated Director

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## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS FROM THE 2024 AUSTRALIAN DAY HONOURS

**Professor Kuntala LAHIRI-DUTT AO** - For distinguished service to natural resource management research and innovation, to gender equality, and to tertiary education.

**Air Marshal Robert Timothy CHIPMAN AO CSC** - For distinguished service in responsible positions as Australia's Military Representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation; and as Head of Military Strategic Commitments Branch.

**Emeritus Professor Dudley CREAGH AM** - For significant service to science, and to tertiary education.

**Emeritus Professor Christian LUECK AM** - For significant service to neurology and neuro-ophthalmology through medical research and clinical practice.

**Mr Colin STEELE AM** - For significant service to librarianship, and to digital information sharing.

**Clinical Associate Professor Kathleen TYMMS AM** - For significant service to rheumatology, and to professional associations.

**Mrs Vicki BROWN OAM** - For service to education, and to the community.

**Dr Benjamin FIELD OAM** - For service to osteopathy.

**Captain Jacqueline KING OAM RAN** – For meritorious service to the Australian Defence Force in seaworthiness, explosive ordnance safety and policy.

**Mr Peter MURRAY OAM** - For service to the community of Canberra.

**Mrs Ann SUTTON OAM** - For service to the community through a range of organisations.

**Mr Peter WATERMAN OAM** - For service to the media as a journalist.

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & DR MICHAEL MOORE AM PRESENTATION

WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2024

The 2024 ACT Branch Annual General Meeting was held at the Royal Canberra Golf Club, with a good number of members in attendance. Branch Chair Andrew Phelan AM presented the Annual Report for approval. David Templeman AM and Mainul Haque OAM were nominated for the 2024/25 Committee. Coralie Wood OAM stood down from the committee and was thanked for her participation.



Following the AGM, Adjunct Professor Dr Michael Moore AM spoke on *Population Health*. Michael was a former independent member of the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly who served as Minister for Health and Community Care in the Liberal minority government led by Chief Minister, Kate Carnell AO and later, Gary Humphries AO. Following his time in ACT local government where he pioneered sometimes controversial health policies, he became involved in promoting public health initiatives, including as CEO of the Public Health Association and President of the World Federation of Public Health Associations. Slides from Michael's talk can be viewed at <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/240214-Order-of-Aust-Assoc-Presentation.pdf>. Michael was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 2017 for significant service to community health, particularly to social policy reform, and to the community of the Australian Capital Territory.

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## MORNING TEA – WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH 2024

Forty members and guests met in the Royal Canberra Golf Club for morning tea and to hear Ebenezer Banful OAM, 2024 ACT Senior Australian of the Year, relate his story. He spoke about the countless hours he has dedicated over the 40 years since his arrival in Australia to helping others understand Ghanaian and African values and promoting multiculturalism, while offering advice and assistance to newly arrived communities to help them integrate into Canberra. He related particularly to the difficulties of integration faced by refugees and African migrants when they first arrive in Australia. Ebenezer was awarded a Medal in the Order of Australia in the King's Birthday 2023 honours list for service to the African community, and to health.



John Sheldrick OAM, Ian Gollings AM

Monica Phelan, Ebenezer Banful OAM

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## VALE

We regret to advise the recent passing of the following ACT Branch members and pay our respects for their contribution to the Association and the Australian community.

**Professor John OVINGTON AO** - For service to conservation, particularly as Director, National Parks and Wildlife Service.

**Dr Angus McINTOSH OAM** - For service to medicine, particularly in the field of paediatrics, and as chairman of the Medical Board in the Australian Capital Territory.

**Mr. Christopher NORWOOD OAM** - For service to the community of the Australian Capital Territory through Probus, Rotary International and tennis organisations.

**Mr John SEALEY OAM** – For service to the community, particularly through a range of veterans' welfare groups.

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The Order of Australia Association National Conference 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
Hyatt Regency Perth  
*To celebrate and promote outstanding Australian citizenship*



## Before & After Conference Tours

**3 day, 2 night Tours: Sun 12<sup>th</sup> – Tues 14<sup>th</sup> May**

**Tour 1: Albany, Geographe Bay & Wellington Dam**

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

**Tour 2: A Sample of the Peel region and Southwest**

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

**2 day, 1 night Tours: Mon 13<sup>th</sup> – Tue 14<sup>th</sup> May**

**Tour 3: A Taste of the Southwest**

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

**Tour 4: A good Sample of the Southwest**

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

**3 day, 2 night Tour: Mon 20<sup>th</sup> – Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

**Tour 5: A Sample of WA's Coral Coast**

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



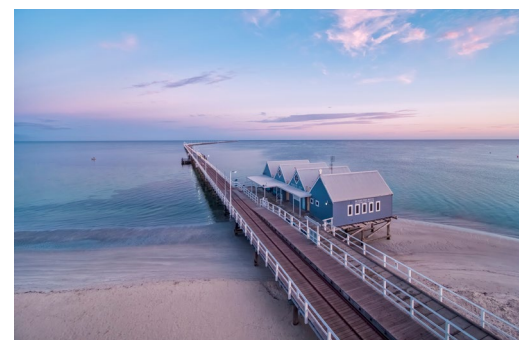
Optus Stadium



National Anzac Centre, Albany



Albany's Historic Whaling Station



Busselton Jetty



Wellington Dam

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



## Conference Program & Where to Stay

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



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

National Conference  
16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024



To register online click the REGISTER NOW button or by phone scan the QR code above