



# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025**

Held on Friday 28 March 2025 commencing at 12.35pm  
Level 5 The Angliss Conference Centre, 555 Latrobe Street, Melbourne.

## **PRESENT:**

The attendance register is **appended to these minutes**.

### **1. WELCOME & OPENING COMMENTS – Chair Dr Helene Bender AM**

Helene Bender AM opened the meeting at 12.35pm and delivered an *Acknowledgement of Country*

In welcoming those in attendance Helene made note of first-time attendees and guests.

Helene also explained that with the members attending and the Proxies received there was a quorum. List of attendees, together with a summary of the 12 Proxies received are **appended to these minutes**.

Helene asked members to take time to reflect for a minute's silence in memory of members and partners of members who have passed away since our last AGM.

### **2. APOLOGIES –**

The list of apologies received is **appended to these minutes**

### **3 MINUTES OF THE 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

***Moved by: Wayne Meyers OAM***

***Seconded by: Trevor Clark OAM***

***Motion: that the Minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting held on 19 March 2024 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.***

***Carried***

### **4. ANNUAL REPORT BY CHAIR Dr HELENE BENDER AM**

The Annual Report presented by Dr Helene Bender AM has been on the Association website since Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

***Moved by: Dr Helene Bender AM***

***Seconded by: Grahame Leonard AM***

***Motion: that the report of Victoria Branch Chair be accepted.***

***Carried***

### **5 TREASURERS REPORT AND ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2024.**

In presenting the 2024 financial reports, Chair Helene Bender AM advised that the Branch accounts are on the website noting they remain provisional until the national reconciliation and audit are completed. This is the normal process, and the Board meeting is scheduled for early next month.

It is pleasing that to note all Vic Branch Regional Groups lodged their December 31, 2024, Profit and Loss Statements, Balance Sheets and Bank Statements by the due date.

There were no questions.

**Moved by: Dr Helene Bender AM      Seconded by: Trevor Clark OAM**  
**Motion: that the 2024 Financial reports be accepted**

**Carried**

## **6 ELECTIONS OF OFFICE-BEARERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Nominations for committee positions were called in a notice sent to all members via email and via Australia Post if no email address was noted on the national database on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

At the close of Nominations, the following nominations were received, where only one nomination for the position was received. Eligibility was duly checked by Vic Branch Secretary Hatice Basarin OAM with the National Membership Officer Heather Willis in the National Office.

- Chair Fred Harrington OAM      1 year
- Treasurer Luz Restrepo OAM      1 year
- Committee member Helene Bender AM      2 years

The above named are elected to the VIC Branch for the number of years noted. Congratulations.

With two nominations received for the position of Secretary a Ballot was held and ACT Branch member Phil Morrall AM was appointed our Returning Officer.

Jill Page OAM and Graeme Woolacott OAM both nominated for the position.

Ballot papers were distributed on Thursday 13 March 2025 to members with an email noted and mailed to members the same day that did not have an email address noted on the national database.

After the close of voting being 5.00pm on Thursday 20 March 2025 the Returning Officer confirmed the Ballot result:

Jill Page OAM	30 votes
Graeme Woolacott OAM	22 votes
Invalid	1 vote

Jill Page OAM is therefore elected to the position of Secretary Branch for 2 years and the other positions noted above are also elected to their respective positions.

**Carried**

Chair Helene thanked outgoing committee members, Gary Lee OAM, Hatice Basarin OAM (Secretary), Barbara Thomas OAM (Minutes Secretary) and presented Barbara with a Certificate of Appreciation for her time on the Vic Branch Committee.

## **7 OTHER BUSINESS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN RECEIVED**

There were no notices received in relation to any other business.

## **8. OTHER BUSINESS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR**

The Chair asked if any members had any other business:

1. Grahame Leonard AM thanked Helene for her service as Victorian Branch Chair.
2. Grahame spoke about the content in the preceding Oration from John Wylie AC re parts of our society that we do not like. He feels that as an Association we need to take the lead from what John has said and be involved in changing these trends in society.

**Grahame Leonard AM moved** “That the OAA Victoria Branch committee drafts a paper for the Thursday 1 May 2025 combined Board and Branch Chairs meeting for consideration of having meaningful conversations and adopting policies that counter the current trends in society that we do not like.”

**Seconded: Beverley Pinder OAM**

**Carried**

## **9. CLOSE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Chair Helene Bender AM**

In closing the meeting, Helene thanked all the VIC Branch Office Bearers and committee for their work during 2024. Also, thank you to all our members.

The upcoming Branch and Regional Group events are on the VIC Branch Events page of the website; this includes the national conference May 1-4 in Sydney for which bookings are still open.

Chair, Helene Bender AM closed the Annual General Meeting at 12.50pm.

## **THANK YOU**

Deputy Chair, Trevor Clark OAM then thanked Helene on behalf of the Branch members for all her work as Chair over many years. He acknowledged her work assisting the National bookkeeper with the Branch and Regional Group finances since 2022, assisting with Branch events, the acquisition of merchandise in conjunction with the approval of the committee, producing five E-Newsletters per year and chairing committee meetings. Chairing and overseeing the 2023 national conference in Geelong was greatly appreciated. Thank you, Helene from the OAA Victorian Branch.



			Oration	AGM
Sylvester	Abanteriba	OAM	No	Yes
Betty	Abanteriba		No	
Ariane	Abanteriba		No	
Rosanna	Baini	OAM		
George	Ballas	OAM	Yes	Yes
Hatice	Basarin	OAM	Yes	Yes
Helene	Bender	AM	Yes	Yes
Sarnia	Birch	OAM	Yes	Yes
Douglas	Caulfield	OAM	Yes	Yes
Michelle	Challis	OAM	Yes	Yes
Phillipa	Challis	OAM	Yes	Yes
Kitty	Chiller	AM	Yes	
Trevor	Clark	OAM	Yes	Yes
Ric	Comber		Yes	
Meg	Davoren-Honey	OAM	No	Yes
Penelope	Davies	AM	Yes	Yes
Teresa	De Fazio	OAM	Yes	Yes
Suzanne	Doig		Yes	No
Ann	Ellis	OAM	Yes	Yes
John	Ellis	OAM	Yes	Yes
Felicia	Eng		Yes	No
Patrick	Flannigan	AM	Yes	No
David	Goldsmith	OAM	Yes	
Vera	Ignjatovic	AM	Yes	Yes

Ian	Knight	OAM	Yes	Yes
Genny	Knight		Yes	
Terry	Larkins	OAM	Yes	
Grahame	Leonard	AM	Yes	Yes
Ruth	Leonard		No	
Leonard	Levy	OAM	Yes	No
Jim	Liaskos	AM	Yes	Yes
Andrew	Mackenzie	OAM	Yes	Yes
John	Hasker	AM	Yes	No
Wayne	Myers	OAM	Yes	
Bic Con	Nguyen	OAM	Yes	Yes
Eugene	O'Rourke	OAM	Yes	Yes
James	Ostroburski	OAM		
Milly	Parker	OAM	Yes	Yes
Beverley	Pinder	OAM	Yes	Yes
Mark	Plaisted			
Pam	Pryor	AO	Yes	Yes
Craig	Rayner	AM	No	No
Chris	Reardon	OAM	Yes	No
Luz	Restrepo	OAM	No	Yes
Susan	Riley	OAM	Yes	
Pam	Robinson	AM	Yes	Yes
Jason	Ronald	OAM		
Ann	Rusden	OAM	Yes	No
Mohit	Sidana			
Avni	Sali	AM	Yes	No
Miriam	Suss	OAM	No	No
Michael	Suss		No	No

Barbara	Thomas	OAM	Yes	Yes
Karin	Tiedemann	OAM		
Christine	Unsworth	AM	Yes	No
Paul	Wheelton	AM	Yes	Yes
Simon	Wheelton		Yes	No
Peter	Wilke		Yes	No
Graeme	Woolacott	OAM	Yes	Yes
Jill	Woolacott		Yes	
John	Wylie	AC	Yes	No
Mike	Zervos	OAM	Yes	Yes

## Apologies

Ray Beebe OAM

Leighton Boyd AM

Rosemary Boyd OAM

Barb Brook OAM

Fred Harrington OAM

Irene Harrington OAM

Madonna Grehan OAM

Georgina Gubbins OAM

Beverley Hoskins OAM

June Kane AM

Colin Krycer OAM

Rob McLauchlan OAM

Shane Marshall AM

Anne Payne OAM

Michael Pointer OAM

Cathy Roth OAM

Alan Soward OAM

Diane Wright OAM

## PROXY FORMS RECEIVED

LEIGHTON JAMES	BOYD AM	THE SECRETARY HATICE BASARIN OAM
ROSEMARY FAYE	BOYD OAM	THE SECRETARY HATICE BASARIN OAM
PATRICIA (TRISH)	CROSSIN AM	HELENE BENDER
PETER EUGENE	DALY AM	THE CHAIRPERSON
FRED	HARRINGTON OAM	VIC SEC HATICE BASARIN OAM
IRENE	HARRINGTON OAM	VIC SEC HATICE BASARIN OAM

Dr BERNARD M	JENNER OAM	CHAIRPERSON
PETER M	LEWIS OAM	CHAIR OF THE MEETING
RUPERT	MYER AO	THE CHAIRMAN
MICHAEL	POINTER OAM	THE CHAIR
CHRIS	REARDON OAM	MS HELENE BENDER AM
MARY BERNADETTE	UZELAC AM	MEETING CHAIR