



The Order of Australia Association, Queensland Branch



PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Compiled by
Geoff Cowles
OAM



GALA BLACK TIE DINNER celebrating 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA and KING'S BIRTHDAY

A once in
a lifetime
event

Truly a
night to
remember

In the presence of

*Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM,
Governor of Queensland
and*

Professor Graeme Nimmo RFD

*The Honourable Jarrod Bleijie MP,
Deputy Premier of Queensland*

The Lady Mayoress of Brisbane, Mrs Nina Schrinner



Monday 9 June 2025

**The Grand Ballroom,
Tattersall's Club, Brisbane**

GALA BLACK TIE DINNER - MONDAY 9 JUNE 2025



The Arrival photo

From L-R – Mr Darryl Seccombe OAM (OAAQ Committee Member); Adj. Professor Keith Nix; Mrs Ronda Nix OAM, (OAAQ Chairman) ; Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeanette Young AC PSM, Governor of Queensland; Professor Graeme Nimmo RFD; The Honourable Jarrod Bleijie MP, Deputy Premier of Queensland; The Lady Mayoress of Brisbane, Mrs Nina Schrinner and MAJGEN Professor John Pearn AO GCStJ RFD (guest speaker)

Cutting the Cake are from L-R – The Lady Mayoress, the Deputy Premier, Ronda Nix OAM, OAAQ Chairman and Her Excellency the Governor of Queensland



CUTTING THE CELEBRATION CAKE

"Happy 50th Birthday to The Order of Australia"



GALA BLACK TIE DINNER - MONDAY 9 JUNE 2025



Portion of the 157 guests assembled in the Tattersall's Club Grand Ballroom at the Gala Dinner on Monday 9 June 2025



Photo-Right Table 2 – clockwise from lower left –Kelvin Brown OAM; Christine Brown; Vivienne Miller; Jim Miller; Frances Golding; Gary Golding OAM; Charyl Cowles and Geoff Cowles OAM

Photo-Right Table 6 – clockwise from lower left – Dr Ian Airey OAM; Judeen Airey; Gwynneth Petrie AM; Dr Andrew Petrie; Professor Scott Harden; Dr Maarit Harden; Dr Nora Lewis AM; and Associate Professor John Harden AM



PROGRAMME

Emcee – Mrs Dina Browne AO

Arrival of Official Party

National Anthem

Advance Australia Fair

Address

*Her Excellency the Honourable Dr
Jeannette Young AC PSM,
Governor of Queensland*

Grace

= Main Course =

Address

*Mrs Ronda Nix OAM, Chairman,
The Order of Australia Association,
Queensland Branch*

Loyal Toast

British Anthem

God Save The King

The 50th Anniversary Cake Celebration

Toast to The Order of Australia

Musical Interlude

Western Suburbs String Quartet

Guest Speaker

*MAJGEN Professor John Pearn
AO GCStJ RFD
"Celebrating a special Golden Jubilee"*

Musical Interlude

Western Suburbs String Quartet

= Dessert =

Fellowship



Photos from top to bottom

1. Dina Browne AO – the Emcee
2. Her Excellency the Governor of Queensland
3. Ronda Nix OAM, OAAQ Chairman
4. MajGen Professor John Pearn AO GCStJ RFD – Guest speaker
5. The Western Suburbs String Quartet

GALA BLACK TIE DINNER - MONDAY 9 JUNE 2025

PRESENTATIONS



The Western Suburbs String Quartet presented with their Certificates of Appreciation



Guest speaker **MAJGEN**
Professor John Pearn AO
GCSJ RFD receives a gift and
Certificate of Appreciation
from Emcee **Dina Browne AO**

THE MENU

= *Main Course* =



*Roasted beef fillet wrapped in
prosciutto
With colcannon potato and sauce bery*

OR



*Harissa maple glazed chicken breast
With carrot puree, lemon herb cous cous and
spiced yogurt*

= *Dessert* =



*Orange and almond cake
With orange date salsa and baklava ice cream*

OR



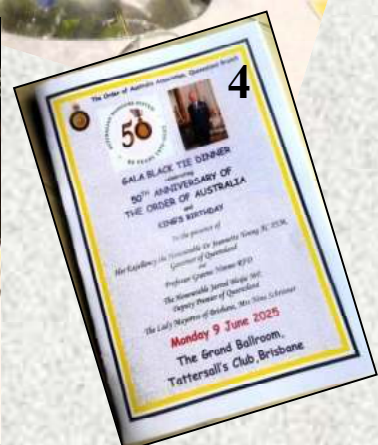
*Sticky date pudding
With caramel sauce and vanilla ice cream*

GALA BLACK TIE DINNER – MONDAY 9 JUNE 2025



PARADE OF QUEENSLAND BRANCH CHAIRMAN at the Gala Dinner

Spanning 17 years – from L-R - *Mrs Ronda Nix OAM* (2023-2025); *Dr Gary Bacon AM* (2020-2022); *Associate Professor John Harden AM* (2015-2019) *Dr Mick Davis AM* (2008-2010) and *Mrs Dina Browne AO* (2005-2007)



The little things that made the night special

1. Our History on display
- 2 The Centrepiece on each table
3. That sensational 'cup cake tower' celebration cake
4. The souvenir programme

GALA BLACK TIE DINNER – MONDAY 9 JUNE 2025

A night where everyone in attendance felt at ease leaving their tables and enjoying good fellowship – even our special guests



Introducing **Greg Rollason OAM** from Bribie Island – a notable guest having received his award in the King's Birthday Honours on the same day as the Gala Dinner – King's Birthday - Monday 9 June 2025



This highlights package including photos has been produced by

Geoff Cowles OAM
Awards and Metro Events
Coordinator

*The Order of Australia Association,
Queensland Branch
June 2025*

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA 1975 – 2025

1975 - The first Order of Australia honours and awards were conferred on Queen's Birthday – 9 June 1975. **One hundred and eight awards** across Australia were made, as follows –

- (a) Companions of the Order (AC) – 6 in the General Division and 2 in the Military Division
- (b) Officers of the Order (AO) - 8 in the General Division and 5 in the Military Division
- (c) Members of the Order (AM) – 53 in the General Division and 34 in the Military Division.

2025 – Now fast forward 50 years to the day. On the King's Birthday -9 June 2025 we celebrated at this Gala Dinner **617 awards** across Australia, as follows

- (a) Companions of the Order (AC) – 14 in the General Division
- (b) Officers of the Order (AO) - 31 in the General Division and 3 in the Military Division
- (c) Members of the Order (AM) – 123 in the General Division and 10 in the Military Division.
- (d) Medal of the Order (OAM) - – 413 in the General Division and 23 in the Military Division.

**50 years - Congratulations
on achieving this great milestone**