



The Order of Australia Association NSW
Newsletter FEBRUARY 2024



Dear NSW Members,

I have for so many decades kept a list of key films that have inspired me to think of others, help them achieve, and gain new friends. It is investing hope into their futures.

These films are subjects for very interesting conversations, and I have also utilized them to motivationally attract people, empower and inspire them, whether the “they” are young people who want role modeling, or whether they are leaders to learn how to be better team leaders, or even to see how encouragement plays a vital part in sharing and caring for others, thereby revealing special talent.

These key film settings are diverse, each one bringing the best out of an individual or a group through encouragement to believe in themselves:

“Chariots of Fire” for commitment to winning and the importance of having personal values and belief in yourself.

“Brassed Off” for the importance of teamwork to make a difference to outcomes and personal relationships.

“Finding Forrester” for mentoring young people to find themselves, despite social disadvantages and discrimination.

“A Brilliant Mind” for realising and recognizing that everyone has a chance to change the world if given understanding encouragement.

“As it is in Heaven” that shows how group leadership can bring great results for an isolated village community.

“Mr. Holland’s Opus” epitomizes the unselfish commitment of a music teacher to bring the best out of unbelieving children.

“Freedom Writers”, again a teacher with a flair to find the creative in young people.

You may have favourites such as “Flying Scotsman”, “The Soloist,” or my latest find, entitled “One Life”. Please let me know their film name.

“One Life” magnetically traces the efforts of an Englishman to orchestrate the expatriation of some 690 Jewish children from Eastern Europe to England before Adolph Hitler took over their homeland. Each child lost all their family but ultimately reestablished their lives in their adopted country without ever reuniting with his extraordinary man until the BBC was introduced to their humble hero.

Additionally, their interest to me is their showing that we need to look for people, child or adult, who are living on the edge of hope. We can be the encouraging mentor to reveal their potential to them to achieve and make a difference to both themselves and to others. We each have a responsibility to bring hope to others, whether they are in despair, in need, struggling to see the purpose of their being, and/or feeling worthless or a failure or not seeing a fruitful future.

I have learned much about this through Scout leadership, athletics coaching, supervising the development of Chartered Accountants, mentoring young adults, and most recently in leading a team of mentors to an Afghani refugee family. We can all mentor for the betterment of the World. Jim Mein AM, NSW Branch Chair, jimmein@bigpond.com

NSW BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FOR YOUR DIARY: TUESDAY 19 March, 2024

Venue, to be confirmed.

Further details will be on our website: <https://theorderofaustralia.asn.au/nsw>

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2024: 16 – 19 May, See details in the cover email SAVE THE DATE: 1 – 4 MAY 2025 – ANNUAL CONFERENCE SYDNEY

Sofittel Sydney Wentworth, 61 Phillip Street, Sydney

The theme of our 2025 Conference will to: CELEBRATE/MOTIVATE/NOMINATE – “Inspiring Australian Achievers”

2023 CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON – December 2, 2023:

Was a great success, with over 80 members and guests enjoying our two Australian Opera Singers, Gaetano Bonanfante, Julie Lea Goodwin, both from Opera Australia. Details will be in our The Order Magazine February edition, published late February.

2024 AUSTRALIA DAY HARBOUR CRUISE LUNCHEON, 26 January, 2024 was enjoyed by Members and their families and friends. See February The Order for coverage.



MEET OUR MEMBERS:

Professor Michael Ralph Fellows AC:

See our story about Professor Fellows AC on our website at <https://www.theorderoaustralia.asn.au/nsw/meet-our-member/>

ILLAWARRA BRANCH BBQ AT BUNNINGS JANUARY 2024:

To kick the year 2024 off, we held another fundraising BBQ at Bunnings, helped admirably by Ron Critcher OAM, David North OAM, Geoff Phillips OAM, David Hadick, and John Meehan OAM.

