

The Newsletter of the Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

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

November 2025



**THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION
SOUTH AUSTRALIA BRANCH**

To celebrate and promote outstanding Australian citizenship

The Order of Australia Association is an incorporated body of recipients of the Order of Australia – our national honour.

The Association supports the Order of Australia and recognises the contribution of its members to the Australian and international communities.

It promotes activities and attitudes which foster harmony, unity and shared futures in which all people are treated with respect and dignity.

The Association achieves its purpose through targeted programs of support, particularly at Branch and Regional Group levels.

Membership of the Association allows you to give further service to the community through our various activities and projects.

The SA Branch supports the national vision of fostering community awareness of the Order and in promoting good citizenship. We support The Order of Australia Association Foundation in providing scholarships to worthy young Australians undertaking tertiary studies.

The Branch is pleased to have as our Patron
Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC,
Governor of South Australia.

Further Information

Please refer to the national website for further information regarding the Order of Australia Association:
www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Find out about the SA Branch, and access important documents such as a name badge order form:
www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/about-us/

Our Branch newsletter keeps you updated on Branch activities and achievements of our members:
theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/newsletter/

Contact Us

For general inquiries or to access information on our regional groups, please contact the SA Branch Chairman:
chairsa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

For membership queries and to update your personal details please contact the SA Branch Member Secretary:
oaasambsec@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Our regional groups allow our members in regional communities to stay engaged and continue to contribute to the community.

The emblem of the Order of Australia is a gold convex disc representing a single flower of mimosa ('Golden Wattle'). When in flower, the Golden Wattle displays the Australian national colours of green and gold.

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIA BRANCH

This updated brochure has been produced to give existing recipients of the Order of Australia an overview of the SA Branch and the benefits of membership of both the Association and the Branch. It contains two notable updates.

The Branch has now subscribed as a Friend of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, supporting a disadvantaged young South Australian to participate in the Award. This aspect of community youth support complements our funding of the prizes in section C003 of the Adelaide Eisteddfod, the School's Choirs section.

Secondly, the brochure notes that our events and ceremonies during 2025 have marked the 50-year anniversary of the institution of the Australian Honours System – and in particular, the Order of Australia.

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



SA BRANCH NEWSLETTER, November 2025

If you attended the Government House Open Day on Sunday 12 October, I hope you said hello to Cathy and Pamela who were on duty beside the Australian Honours display.

They offered brochures and inserts giving valuable information about the Order of Australia, benefits of membership of the Association and the SA Branch, and a guide to the nomination process. Both documents are available on our website, or can be collected at any of our events including fellowship luncheon meetings.

We thank Her Excellency, our Branch Patron, for this new initiative to allow us to support the Open Days.

There is information in this newsletter about the 'Lunch on the Lawns' events at Government House, and the Garden Tours on the same days. Note that both are free – but bookings are required for the Garden Tours.

Thank you to former SA Branch Committee member Gillian Rogers OAM, who was guest speaker at the fellowship luncheon on Thursday 30 October

If you haven't yet booked a seat at our Christmas Morning Tea, I encourage you to join us on this day – the event is free to members and partners/carers.

We have received some lovely feedback from one of our readers:

"Your newsletters are amazing. I've just finished reading mine for the 2nd time, it's so full of everything!! Thanks again for all your work and everything you do, it really keeps us all in touch".

We have already started planning events for 2026. In this newsletter you will find future dates for our honours recipients fellowship luncheon meetings, and also a reply form for our 'Celebration of Australia Day' Luncheon with an Australia-themed meal.

Tony Metcalf OAM
SA Branch Chair

SAVE THE DATE



'CELEBRATION OF AUSTRALIA DAY'

Saturday 17 January 2026

Join us for an Australian-themed 3-course meal at Jarmer's Kitchen in Bowden, 12 for 12.30 pm.

Our guest speaker is Professor Peter Høj AC, currently Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Adelaide. During the University's engagement in a merger process with UniSA, from January 2026 Professor Høj will hold the additional role of Co-Vice Chancellor of the new *Adelaide University*.

Full-size medals should be worn. Association merchandise will be available to purchase.

Please refer to the Reply Form attached and also available online: register and pay via Humanitix if possible, by Friday 9 January 2026.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday 7 November: Fleurieu Regional Group self-funded luncheon meeting

Friday 7 November: 'Lunch on the Lawns'

Friday 5 December: 'Lunch on the Lawns'

Friday 12 December: SA Branch Christmas Morning Tea, Goodwood Community Centre

2026

Saturday 17 January: 'Celebration of Australia Day' luncheon at Jarmer's Kitchen

Thursday 26 February: Honours recipients fellowship luncheon meeting with guest speaker

Friday 27 February: South East Regional Group self-funded luncheon meeting in Penola

Saturday 14 March: Annual General Meeting

Friday 27 March: Riverland and Mallee Regional Group luncheon meeting

Thursday 30 April: Honours recipients fellowship luncheon meeting with guest speaker

16-19 April 2026: National Conference in Brisbane

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA Nominations

The Australian Honours System relies on nominations – people can'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, 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

80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF SARAWAK

Several events were held in Sarawak, Malaysia in early September relating to the 80th Anniversary of the Liberation of Sarawak by troops of the 9th Australian Division, AIF on 11 September 1945. These ceremonies also honoured the service of Brigadier Tom Eastick DSO ED, who was Commander Kuching Force at the end of World War 2, and Military Governor of Sarawak until December 1945, when the territory returned to local civilian rule.

A considerable number of Eastick family members attended these events in Kuching, including descendants of Sir Tom's eldest son Dr Bruce Eastick AM – a member of the SA Branch who recently turned 98 – who was Mayor of Gawler (1968-72 and 1993-00), MHA for Light (1970-93), South Australian Leader of the Opposition (1972-75) and Speaker of the South Australian House of Assembly (1979-82). Dr Bruce Eastick was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia, "In recognition of service to the South Australian Parliament, local government and the community" (AD96).



Sir Thomas Eastick Kt CMG DSO ED JP (1900-1988)

During a courtesy call on His Excellency the Governor of Sarawak, the decorations and medals of Sir Thomas Eastick were displayed at Astana Negeri Sarawak, the official residence of the Governor.

The first is the Distinguished Service Order, which was awarded to Lieutenant-Colonel Eastick for service as Commanding Officer of the 2/7th Field Regiment during the First and Second Battles of El Alamein in the Western Desert campaign in North Africa in 1942.

Pictured below is the insignia of a Companion of the Order of the Star of Sarawak. This was awarded by the last White Rajah of Sarawak, Sir Charles Vyner Brooke GCMG for Eastick's service as Commander of Kuching Force which liberated the Raj of Sarawak, including the liberation of Batu Lintang POW camp, and for service as the military Governor of Sarawak until December 1945.



Datuk Dr Philip Ting PGBK AM

Datuk Philip Ting was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (Honorary) on 1 July 2010, "For service to the Australian Government as the Honorary Consul of Australia – Kuching, in Sarawak, Malaysia".

Datuk Philip is a member of the Order of the Most Illustrious Order of the Star of the Sarawak Hornbill (Darjah Utama Yang Amat Mulia Bintang Kenyalang Sarawak) in the grade of Commander (Panglima Gemilang Bintang Kenyalang, PBK). This appointment carries the title 'Datuk'.

This insignia would typically be worn at the hip suspended from a broad breast sash. The obverse features the Sarawak State bird, a spread-winged Kenyalang or Hornbill, in gold.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

NEW RECIPIENTS' RECEPTION

Monday 22 September 2025

In our second New Recipients' Reception for the year, held at Payneham Library, we acknowledged 24 new recipients announced in the 2025 King's Birthday Honours List, which includes one promotion within the Order, and one recipient who was announced in the 2025 Australia Day Honours List. We thank Mayor Robert Bria of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters for his ongoing support, and Vili's Family Bakery for again subsidising the cost of the refreshments: <https://www.vilis.com/>

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

[New Recipients' Reception, September 2025](#)



SA Branch Deputy Chairman
Mr Noel Hender OAM BEM
was the MC for the event,
proposed the Loyal Toast
to King Charles III and
led the singing of the
National Anthem



SA Branch Chairman
Mr Tony Metcalf OAM
gave an address about the
Order of Australia and the
Association, and he then
introduced each of the
new recipients

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JOHN SVIGOS AM

Our guest speaker was Associate Professor John Svigos AM on the topic, *"Bali beckons me and you!"*.

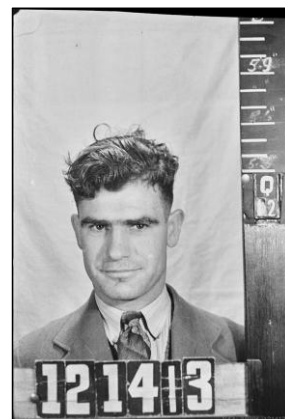
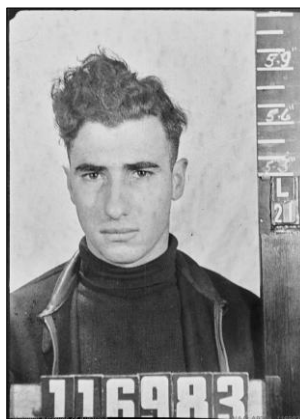
Quite apart from his well-documented career as a distinguished obstetrician and gynaecologist, John Svigos was the son of a World War 2 veteran from East Brunswick in Melbourne, George John Svigos.

During 1971-72, John himself served the nation, as a conscripted National Serviceman. He joined the January 1971 intake at Puckapunyal, and completed his training at the School of Army Health in Healesville, attaining the rank of Captain in the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps (RAAMC).

He was subsequently awarded the Anniversary of National Service 1951-1972 Medal (introduced in 2001), and the Australian Defence Medal (2006).



On exercise south of Darwin



George John Svigos (left) and Anthony John Svigos, 1942

Born on Rhodes Island in Greece on 23 October 1923, George Svigos served with the Royal Australian Air Force from 7 August 1942 to 26 April 1945. He saw active service in New Guinea for 18 months in an Airfield Construction Squadron, working closely with the US Air Force, and was involved with the Battle of Milne Bay and related actions. He finished the war as a Leading Aircraftman with 6 Service Flying Training School.

Also born on Rhodes Island, on 25 August 1919, was John's uncle Anthony Svigos. He served as a Leading Aircraftman with the RAAF from 1 December 1942 until 26 March 1946, and was stationed in Darwin during the Japanese air raids.



George and Jean Svigos

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM presented guest speaker Professor John Svigos AM with a token of gratitude from the SA Branch

Message from Associate Professor John Svigos AM

I would be obliged if you could pass on my heartfelt gratitude to members of the OAA Committee for the opportunity and privilege to be the guest speaker at the Honours Recipients Reception Meeting on Monday 22nd September.

Thank you also for making my sister Varda (Barbara Svigos) so welcome and for the bottle of red presented to me.

I was particularly humbled by the many members of the Association who came forward so that I might remember with them the many shared experiences we have had at the hospitals and other institutions I have been privileged to work at over the decades. The new recipients and the audience were wonderful and like the Committee were attentive, warm and welcoming.



Ian and Lynette Pole were each awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia, "For service to the community through emergency response organisations"

Message from Lynette Pole OAM CSTJ

It was a pleasant and interesting evening being welcomed into the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association.

Met some former Port Pirie residents Toni and Stan Batten, Toni was a St John Volunteer and Trainer, Ann Marsh OAM she taught at Pirie High, and the guest speaker was Associate Professor John Svigos AM – he attended Risdon Primary and Port Pirie High School.

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ORDER OF AUSTRALIA INSIGNIA

Typically when imperial orders and decorations have been created, a key element of the design has been the Royal Crown of the sovereign at the time.

The Military Cross (MC), for example, was created by King George V on 28 December 1914 for, “*an act or acts of exemplary gallantry during active operations against the enemy on land*”. At the end of each of the four ornamental arms of the cross was a Tudor Crown, and in the centre the Royal Cipher of King George V.

Later designs would bear the Royal Cipher ‘GVIR’ for King George VI, and ‘EIIR’ for awards made during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II. Current awards bear the Royal Cipher ‘CIIR’ of King Charles III.

In all cases though, the design retains the Tudor Crown at the end of each of the four arms in tribute to the founding sovereign, King George V.

The Order of the British Empire was established by King George V on 4 June 1917. The insignia is in the form of a cross *patonce*, featuring a Tudor Crown at the top of the upper arm. Again, this crown has been retained in the design under each successive reign.

The Conspicuous Gallantry Cross (CGC) was created by Queen Elizabeth II in 1993: it is in the shape of a cross *pattée* and bears in the central circular medallion the St Edward’s Crown of Queen Elizabeth II. It is expected that this will remain unchanged during the reign of King Charles III.

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. In recognition of the Queen’s position as Sovereign of the Order, the disc was surmounted by the St Edward’s Crown.

Crests and insignia are now being changed from the “Queen’s Crown” of Queen Elizabeth II to the Tudor Crown or “King’s Crown” of King Charles III.

However, in accordance with the tradition detailed above, it is not expected that the crown on the insignia of the Order of Australia will change.

The insignia will retain the St Edward’s Crown in tribute to Queen Elizabeth II who was sovereign at the time the Order was instituted.

The Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat has confirmed that there is no planning underway at this stage to change the current design of the Order of Australia insignia.



This is a Military Cross from World War 1, in its original Garrard & Co Ltd presentation case.

The insignia comprises an ornamental cross struck in sterling silver, privately engraved on the reverse. The suspension ribbon is in watered silk, white, with a broad central stripe of violet signifying valour.

This Military Cross was awarded to Lieutenant John Edmund Hopper of the 6th Machine Gun Company, 2nd Machine Gun Battalion AIF for “conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty” and “courage and leadership” during an attack at Ville-sur-Ancre, near Albert in northwestern France on 19 May 1918.

The four arms are decorated with the Tudor Crown of King George V who instituted the award.

The obverse bears at its centre the Royal Cipher of King George V, the reigning monarch at the time of bestowal: ‘GRI’ denoting George Rex et Imperator – ‘George, King and Emperor’ (of India).

There were just 2,572 awards of the Military Cross to Australians during World War 1.

STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS 2025

TOP TEN – ‘WITH DISTINCTION’

The Student Citizenship Awards program is conducted annually as the flagship program of the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association. Senior students are nominated by their schools and selected from submissions assessed against four criteria – leadership, contributions to the school and/or community and contributions to the environment and/or community development, as well as pride in Australian citizenship.

For 2025, a total of 47 submissions were received for consideration, from 33 schools and colleges. We are pleased to announce that the following students have been identified as the Top 10 recipients for 2025, and will receive a ‘With Distinction’ award:

Ramzia Ashori, Thebarton Senior College

Cody Bollenhagen, St Patrick’s Technical College

Rhys Heinrich, Central Yorke School

Jordan Horne, Sacred Heart College

Callum McIntyre-Gregory, Mount Gambier High School

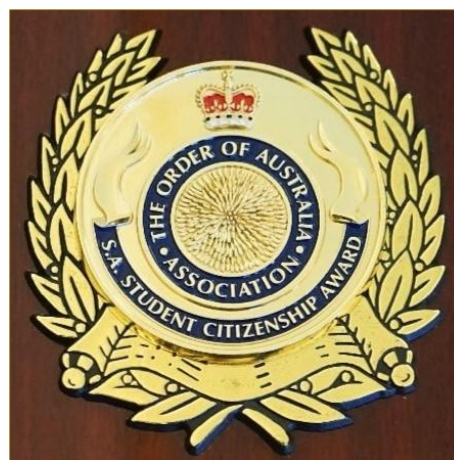
Lincoln Rieger, Concordia College

Natalie Severin, St Mary’s College

Tan Tran, Cardijn College

Amy Wallace, Scotch College

Laylah Wilson, Cardijn College



These students will be presented to Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia and Patron of the Order of Australia Association SA Branch, at a special reception at Government House in December. Each will receive a Student Citizenship Award medallion mounted on an engraved wooden plaque, as well as a ‘With Distinction’ certificate signed by Her Excellency and Branch Chairman Mr Tony Metcalf OAM.

After presenting awards to the Top 10, Her Excellency will announce the **2025 South Australian Student Citizen of the Year**. Student Citizenship Awards Convenor, Noel Hender OAM BEM, particularly acknowledges the late Mr Keith ‘Chook’ Fowler OAM, whose generous donations in 2023 enabled us to include a special medallion for all Award recipients for two years. At this year’s reception and award ceremony, the Student Citizen of the Year Award will be officially renamed and presented for the first time as “The Keith ‘Chook’ Fowler OAM Award for the Student Citizen of the Year”.

From 2025 for three years, these medallions are being provided through the generous support of the Government of South Australia.

In addition to the ‘Top Ten’, a further 37 students will receive a certificate and medallion – 19 of whom were rated as ‘Highly Commended’. The balance of the certificates and medallions will be presented by members of the Association to the successful students at school assemblies in Term 4. Perhaps there is a school with which you have a particular affinity and may wish to present a certificate and medallion at a school assembly or end of year ceremony. If you would like to be involved and represent the Association at one of these assemblies, please contact Noel Hender OAM BEM:

sca_sabranh@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

The South Australia Branch of the Order of Australia Association thanks Her Excellency and Mr Bunten for once again making Government House available for this ceremony and reception, and we congratulate all recipients of the 2025 Student Citizenship Awards.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM 2025

HONOURS RECIPIENTS FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEONS

Members of the Order of Australia, honours recipients, partners and friends are invited to share in the fostering of fellowship in an informal setting during our regular luncheon meetings at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club at 111 Hutt Street.

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

Save the Dates

The next honours recipients fellowship luncheon will be held at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club on **Thursday 26 February 2026**.

The speaker will be Dawn Thorp AO on the topic "It's in the Blood - the Stem Cell Story".

Dawn was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia, "*For distinguished service to nursing, and to medicine, in the field of haematology, as an expert clinician and mentor*" (AD19).

Please pencil in these additional dates for 2026:

- Thursday 30 April
- Thursday 25 June
- Thursday 27 August
- Thursday 29 October



NATIONAL eDEPOSIT

Under the *Copyright Act 1968*, publishers from all Australian jurisdictions have an obligation to lodge their works with certain national, state and territory libraries including the National Library.

Legal deposit with the State Library of South Australia is required for material of both South Australian origin and of particular relevance to the state, in accordance with the *Libraries Act 1982* (South Australia).

Our Branch newsletters are being collated by the State Library of South Australia (SLSA) Serials Department, and are lodged on the 'National eDeposit' platform. This means our newsletters are digitally preserved for the community and future generations, to become an important part of Australia's memory.



Regional Group News

Riverland and Mallee Regional Group. Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM JP reports that 12 members and guests attended the group meeting at the Loxton Club on Friday 26 September.

A member of the Group, Wendy Gambling OAM, was interviewed about her life and the award of her OAM.

She received it on Australia Day 2025, *“For service to netball as an administrator”*.

Her service has been significant across many levels of netball, both in the Riverland and the State, including SA Country Teams.

She received a Netball SA Volunteer of the Year Award in 1996, was the Berri/Barmera Citizen of the Year in 2007, and was announced as the South Australia Local Hero in the 2007 Australian of the Year Awards of the National Australia Day Council.

Tim Grieger OAM JP also spoke to those present about the current activities happening with ‘Fruit Fly Control’ in the Riverland.

He was able to detail specific actions: as an example, breeding sterile male flies and introducing them into affected areas. He outlined the general locations where treatments were continuing.

Yorke Peninsula Regional Group. Elaine Bussenschutt OAM reports that the group held its luncheon meeting at the Ardrossan Hotel/Motel on Sunday 26 October.

Fleurieu Regional Group. John Hutchinson OAM advises that the next meeting will be held at the Middleton Tavern on Friday 7 November, with guest speaker the Reverend Marjorie Keeble OAM.

She was awarded the OAM, *“For service to the community of Hamilton”* (QB19). In 2018 she was the recipient of an Australia Day Community Recognition Award in the Shire of Southern Grampians.



Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM JP and Di Coventry, pictured at the SA Branch New Recipients' Reception held at Payneham Library on Monday 22 September 2025.



SA Branch Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM, Riverland and Mallee Regional Convenor Tim Grieger OAM JP, Wendy Gambling OAM, and Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM JP.

Eyre Peninsula Regional Group. Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM JP reports that 34 members and guests attended the Group luncheon in the Tumby Bay Uniting Church Hall on Friday 10 October.

He said: *“Those present enjoyed a wonderful luncheon environment and a great spread”*.

Hagen Stehr AO – a Group member and resident of Port Lincoln – was the guest speaker (*see next page*).

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

Eyre Peninsula Regional Group, *continued*

Hagen is an Australian multi-millionaire businessman, tuna fisherman and founder of the Stehr Group.

He has business interests in fishing and aquaculture, most notably Southern bluefin tuna fishing and offshore ranching in Spencer Gulf for export markets.

The Stehr Group also propagates and grows Australian Yellowtail Kingfish and Australian Mulloway through its aquaculture division, Clean Seas Seafood. The Stehr Group has a commercial fleet of nine vessels.

Hagen is sometimes referred to colloquially as a 'tuna baron' or 'tuna king'.

He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia, "*For service to the commercial fishing industry and to education and training, particularly through the South Australian Fishing and Seafood Industry Skills Centre Inc*" (AD97).

He received the Centenary Medal in 2001, "*For service to the tuna industry and sponsorship of the Australian Fisheries Academy*".

In 2009, he was named Seafood Icon, South Australia, and in 2013 was initiated into the National Seafood Hall of Fame.



SA Branch Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM and Cheryl Metcalf, and Regional Groups Coordinator Ken Coventry OAM JP and Di Coventry joined the Eyre Peninsula Regional Group luncheon. Ken said of the event: "The tables were exceptional and one could be forgiven in thinking we were at a banquet".

Ken Coventry reports that Hagen gave a very interesting talk about his life that led him from Germany to Port Lincoln – at the age of 18 – and the building of his 'fishing empire'.

In his early life, Hagen served with the merchant marine service, worked on cargo ships, and served in the *Légion étrangère* (French Foreign Legion). He became a tuna fisherman in 1961.

 **STHRGROUP**

Regional Group Dates ~ 2026

South East Regional Group. Regional Convenor Eric Roughana AM advises that the next luncheon will be held in Penola on Friday 27 February.

Riverland and Mallee Regional Group. Tim Grieger OAM JP advises that the next meeting of the Riverland and Mallee Group is scheduled for the last Friday in March – 27 March.

Yorke Peninsula Regional Group. Elaine Bussenschutt OAM advises that the next meeting may be held on the last Sunday in April – 26 April.

Fleurieu Regional Group. John Hutchinson OAM advises that the next meeting will be on the first Friday in May – Friday 1 May.

Eyre Peninsula Regional Group. Wendy Holman OAM advises that the next meeting is proposed for the second Friday in October – Friday 9 October.

Note: all proposed dates are subject to change by the respective groups should circumstances deem it necessary.

Photography. Photographs may be taken and may be used in various publications including this newsletter and the national magazine. If you do not wish your photograph to be taken, please notify the organisers that you wish to opt out.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



Riverland and Mallee Regional Group, Friday 26 September 2025

Standing (left to right): SA Branch Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM, David Ward ESM OAM, Max Wurfel OAM, Liz Dymmott OAM, Bill Ebert OAM, Dean Kerley OAM, Riverland and Mallee Regional Convenor Tim Grieger OAM JP.

Seated: Ken Coventry OAM JP, Mrs Cheryl Metcalf, Wendy Gambling OAM, Pam Kerley. Photograph by Mrs Di Coventry.



Eyre Peninsula Regional Group, Friday 10 October 2025

Left to right: Ken Coventry OAM JP, Liz Habermann OAM, Julie Low OAM, Hagen Stehr AO, Eyre Peninsula Regional Convenor Wendy Holman OAM, Brian Treloar OAM, Annette Hall AM, SA Branch Chairman Tony Metcalf OAM, Nancy Stewart OAM, Dr Graham Fleming AM. Photograph by Mrs Di Coventry.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



GOVERNMENT HOUSE OPEN DAY Sunday 12 October 2025

Open Days are held twice a year at Government House.

These events provide an ideal opportunity for members of the public to explore the residence of the Governor of South Australia, tour through the gardens and meet the Governor.

At the most recent Open Day, we had two Branch Committee members on duty at the Australian Honours medal display.

They offered our Branch information *brochure*, which is directed at existing recipients of the Order of Australia to give an overview of the SA Branch and the benefits of membership of the Association and the Branch.

We also had on hand an *insert*, informing members of the public about the Order of Australia and the nomination process.

We thank Her Excellency, our Branch Patron, for this new initiative to support the Open Days.



NEW MEMBERS

The Chair, Branch Committee members and members of the SA Branch welcome the following new member of the Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch:

Leslie Desmond Hampel OAM

ASSOCIATION NAME BADGE

Members may wish to obtain an Association name badge using the Order Form found on our website:

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

Our website can also be accessed via this QR Code:



The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Lunch on the Lawns



As the weather warms up, Her Excellency and Mr Rod Bunten have again offered an invitation to come to Government House to experience the gardens.

The popular Government House 'Lunch on the Lawns' events will run until May 2026.

You can bring a picnic lunch, spread out a rug or unfold a camping chair, and enjoy the surroundings while listening to a community band or orchestra.

Just come through the main gates and choose your picnic spot.

The upcoming free events will be on 7 November and 5 December, from 12 noon to 2 pm.

The proposed dates for the free 'Lunch on the Lawns' events in 2026 are 9 January, 6 February, 6 March, 10 April and 1 May 2026.

'Lunch on the Lawns' is part of Her Excellency's and Mr Bunten's aim to make Government House a place where more South Australians feel welcome and are able to visit.

On the same days, Garden Tours are offered between 10.45 and 11.45 am. These are free – but bookings are required.

For more information, please refer to the QR codes below or contact: governors.office@sa.gov.au.

GARDEN TOURS

10:45AM - 11:45AM

FREE ENTRY

BOOKINGS
REQUIRED



SEPTEMBER 5
OCTOBER 3

NOVEMBER 7
DECEMBER 5

JANUARY 9
FEBRUARY 6

MARCH 6
APRIL 10

MAY 1

LUNCH ON THE LAWN

12PM - 2PM • FREE ENTRY
BYO PICNIC



GOVERNMENT HOUSE
ADELAIDE



The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



For more information visit our website: <https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/sa/about-us/>



Contributions

Contributions for this newsletter or *The Order* may be submitted to the SA Branch Editor:

Major Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP (ret'd)
c/- chairsa@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Photography

Please note that photographs may be taken at our events, and may be used online and in publications including this newsletter and the national magazine, *The Order*. If you do not wish your photograph to be taken, please notify the organisers that you wish to opt out.



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Notifications

Please notify the Member Secretary SA of any changes in your personal contact details, or if you are able to receive this newsletter via email:

oaasambrsec@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Regional Group Contacts

Regional Groups

Coordinator: Ken Coventry OAM JP
kencoam08@gmail.com

Eyre Peninsula Regional Group

Meets annually on the second Friday in October, rotating through locations throughout the Region
Regional Convenor: Mrs Wendy Holman OAM
0439 870 066 || wendy.holman@bigpond.com

Fleurieu Regional Group

Meets on the first Friday in May and November
Regional Convenor: John Hutchinson OAM
0427 525 670 || johnhutc@bigpond.com

Riverland and Mallee Regional Group

Holds luncheon meetings twice a year, typically on the last Friday in March and September
Regional Convenor: Mr Tim Grieger OAM JP
0409 099 122 || tgrieger@riverland.net.au

South East Regional Group

Meets in Mount Gambier biannually, and at an alternative regional location in the alternate years
Regional Convenor: Mr Eric Roughana AM
0408 817 260 || roseric1@bigpond.com

Yorke Peninsula Regional Group

Holds luncheon meetings twice a year
Regional Convenor: Elaine Bussenschutt OAM
0417 806 839 || elaine@yp-connect.net



2025 CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA


REPLY FORM – SA BRANCH CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA, Friday 12 December 2025 – at the Goodwood Community Centre, at 9.30 am for a 10 am start, finishing at 12 noon. There is no cost for members and guests. Full-size medals should be worn.

We will have the usual entertaining raffles, and Order of Australia Association merchandise will be available to purchase.


The guest speaker will be Deborah De Williams AM, on the topic “Faithful Success”.

Please RSVP not later than **Sunday 30 November 2025**



 Register online using Humanitix (preferred) using the link below:
<https://events.humanitix.com/sa-branch-2025-christmas-morning-tea>

 Alternately, forward this Reply Form via email: oaasa.events@gcgordon.id.au

 If necessary, forward this Reply Form to:
SA Branch Events Sub-committee, PO Box 1065, CLEARVIEW SA 5085

Name: [please print] [post-nominals]

Preferred name: Phone Contact:

Email or Address:

Dietary requirements [if any]

I will be accompanied by (additional guests are very welcome: *please advise names using the email address above*):

Guest 1: [post-nominals]

Guest 2: [post-nominals]

Guest 3: [post-nominals]

Refund policy – No refund is possible after 24 hours before the start time of the event



Photography – Please note that photographs will be taken and may be used in various publications including this newsletter and the national magazine, *The Order*. If you do not wish your photograph to be taken, please notify the organisers that you wish to opt out.

We hope you can join us for this significant event!



CELEBRATION OF AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON

REPLY FORM – SA BRANCH ‘CELEBRATION OF AUSTRALIA DAY’ LUNCHEON, Saturday 17 January 2026 – at Jarmer’s Kitchen, 18 Park Terrace, Bowden; arrival from 12 noon for 12.30 pm start. Full-size medals may be worn. Association merchandise will be available for purchase.



The cost is \$85 for Order of Australia Association members and their partner, and \$90 for non-members, partners and guests, for a 3-course Australia-themed meal, alternate drop; cash bar.

The guest speaker will be Professor Peter Høj AC, Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Adelaide.

Please register to attend and make payment not later than **Friday 9 January 2026**



Register online using Humanitix (preferred) using the link below:

<https://events.humanitix.com/celebration-of-australia-day-luncheon-9fnwmlql>



Alternately, pay online via EFT, using the code “ADL + your surname”

Account Name – ‘Order of Australia Association’ || BSB 105-900 || Account no 147028640 (Bank SA)

Scan and send this form to: oaasa.events@gcgordon.id.au



If necessary, forward this Reply Form to (please note that we would prefer not to receive cheques and money orders):

SA Branch Events Sub-committee, PO Box 1065, CLEARVIEW SA 5085

Name: [please print] [post-nominals]

Preferred name: Phone Contact:

Email or Address:

Dietary requirements [if any]

I will be accompanied by (please include post-nominals if applicable):

Guest 1: [post-nominals]

Guest 2: [post-nominals]

Payment enclosed (OAA member & spouse/partner): for people (\$85 per person)

Payment enclosed (non-members and friends): for people (\$90 per person)

Refund policy – No refund is possible after 24 hours before the start time of the event



Photography – Please note that photographs will be taken and may be used in various publications including this newsletter and the national magazine, The Order. If you do not wish your photograph to be taken, please notify the organisers that you wish to opt out.

We hope you can join us for this significant event!