



# Order of Australia

## Victorian Branch

*"fostering love of and pride in Australian citizenship"*



### Message from the Chairman

I am delighted to reveal the new initiative of the e-newsletter for a couple of reasons, reasons that are important for us to move forward in a positive sense.

One of our biggest expenses from the Victoria Branch State Committee was sending out the newsletter in the post so obviously an e-newsletter will save us time and money, and importantly will enable us to put in place a needs basis.

It's pleasing to note we already have over 50% of our association members with email addresses and aim is to increase that to 90%, with either recipient having their own email address or through a work place, family or friends.

My thanks go to State Branch Members who have worked tirelessly on this project but also to Fred Harrington, Todd Trimble and Tony Smith who have lead the charge on making "the dream" a reality.

I acknowledge there will be some members who will not have access to an email address and for those State Branch or the Regional Groups will pick up the phone, have a chat to them and see how we can cater for their needs.

It's important to note that "The Order" will continue to be distributed in hard copy four times a year and will contain all of State Branch and Regional Group updates and I encourage you to contribute to that publication as often as possible.

I know along with Duncan Stalker and Diane James in particular, who started this project many months ago, that we hope you enjoy our first electronic newsletter.

Happy New Year to all of our Asian friends.

**David G Mann OAM**

Chairman Victoria State Branch



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### Editor's Welcome

Hi and welcome to this introduction to our forthcoming State Electronic Newsletters.

My name is Fred Harrington and I will be coordinating the preparation of the electronic newsletter content.

By way of background I was awarded an OAM in the 2011 Queen's Birthday awards for services to the community of Eltham. Part of my contribution included 15 years as a member of Eltham Apex Club and also as a member of the Eltham Cemetery Trust since 1983, chairman since 1991. Combined with this I worked for the Shire of Eltham for 18 years during my 45 years in Local Government.

Currently I hold the positions of Deputy Chair of North Central Suburbs Regional Group and Minute Secretary of the Regional Groups. I now look forward to working with State and Regional representatives and all state members in the preparation of this State Branch Electronic Newsletter.



### Fred Harrington OAM

#### The Newsletter

The purpose of the newsletter is to compliment the communications provided in The Order. To do this, it will be distributed between each of the quarterly editions of The Order.

The State Electronic Newsletter will provide information and updates by listing forthcoming state and regional events, promoting forthcoming State Branch functions and providing opportunities for regional groups to promote their forthcoming activities to other regional groups.

Additionally the newsletter will encourage the sharing of details and contacts of functions held by the various regional groups that can be used by other group or groups proposing that or a similar function.

#### Deadline

The deadline for articles for our first edition, as conveyed to the various Regional Groups representatives was 5:00pm Sunday 15 March. This will then allow the first of our State Branch Electronic Newsletter to be distributed late March / early April.

Contributions, for future editions, including any photographs should be sent to me at [fred.harrington@gravity.net.au](mailto:fred.harrington@gravity.net.au)

Deadlines for the remaining 2015 newsletters will be included in the first edition of the newsletter.

I look forward to working with members to provide this State Branch Electronic Newsletter.