



The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

Patron: His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia

SA BRANCH NEWSLETTER, March 2020

This year has started well, with excellent attendance at our Australia Day lunch and AGM, and some noteworthy achievements by our 2019 Student Citizenship Award recipients.

Your committee is very active in arranging a range of activities for members, and attending official events on behalf of the Association.

For general enquiries and RSVPs for functions, unless otherwise noted, the committee can be contacted via the following generic email address:

orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

15 March: Riverland OAA members and honours recipients gathering, Renmark Club Function Room

14 April: SA Branch committee meeting

April: SA Branch committee members to represent the OAA at the 2020 Australia Day Investitures; Government House, Adelaide: multiple ceremonies

30 April: Honours Recipients Fellowship Lunch, Naval, Military and Air Force Club

1 May: Fleurieu Regional Group lunch meeting

7 – 9 May: The Order of Australia Association 34th National Conference 2020, Darwin

18 May: SA Branch Reception for 2020 Australia Day honours recipients; Norwood, Payneham & St Peters Library complex, Felixstow.

12 May: SA Branch committee meeting

8 June: SA Branch Queen's Birthday Lunch

9 June: SA Branch committee meeting; SCA Assessment Panel to meet afterwards

July: proposed trip to Kangaroo Island: see *Expression of Interest form attached*

INVITATION

New Recipients Welcome Reception

All Association members and their friends, and newly announced recipients, are cordially invited to attend the SA Branch Welcome Reception for new recipients from the 2020 Australia Day Honours List.

Date: Monday 18 May 2020, 5.30 to 7.30 pm

Venue: Norwood, Payneham & St Peters Library complex, 2 Turner Street, Felixstow (corner of OG Road and Turner Street)

Cost: \$26 per head; no cost for new recipients

Full-size medals should be worn

RSVP by Friday 1 May: see reply form attached

INVITATION



Queen's Birthday Lunch

All Association members and their friends are cordially invited to attend the SA Branch annual Queen's Birthday Lunch.

The guest speaker will be Senior Sergeant First Class Brian Mattner OAM CEM from the South Australian Police regarding state emergency procedures.

Date: Monday 8 June 2020, 12 for 12.30 pm

Venue: West Adelaide Football Club, 57 Milner Road, Richmond, SA

Cost: \$60 per head for a 2-course meal

Full-size medals should be worn

RSVP by Monday 1 June: see reply form attached

ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION, South Australia Branch
PO Box 1065, CLEARVIEW SA 5085 || orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com

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

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON Saturday 25 January 2020

The guest speaker for our Australia Day luncheon at the Caledonian Hotel in North Adelaide was Mrs Val Oldfield OAM, author of *No Beating about the Bush*, the true story of her life in the outback at Mungeranie Station, living in the gibbers, dust and sand of Australia's infamous Birdsville Track. Her talk was entertaining and, at times, quite emotional. Many thanks for sharing your stories Val!

THE ORDER

Personal contributions, 'Letters to the Editor', advertisements etc may be submitted by any financial member of the Association.

Items may be sent by post (as per details given in *The Order*) or by email to the National Secretary/ Editor:

natsec@theorderofaustralia.asn.au or
secnational@theorderofaustralia.asn.au

Newsletter contributions

Please submit any articles of interest, news snippets and photos before 12 May:

PO Box 1065, CLEARVIEW SA 5085 or
orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHESES

Members of the Order of Australia and all other honours recipients, partners, family and friends, are welcome to share in the fostering of fellowship over lunch, in an informal setting.

Venue: The Naval, Military and Air Force Club,
111 Hutt Street, Adelaide

Time: Held on the last Thursday of every second month, 12 noon for a 12.30 start

Dates: 30 April, 25 June, 27 August, 29 October

These activities are arranged independently of the SA Branch, but all members are invited to attend. There have been many memorable gatherings with interesting guest speakers.

To RSVP, please contact:

Glenys – 0409 848 746

Flavia – 0438 873 025

Pamela – 0400 810 196

A dress code applies at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club: neat business attire, collared shirt, jacket preferred.

Limited parking may be available in the Club's car park.



For further information on the Honours Fellowship Lunches held at the Naval, Military and Air Force Club, and to make bookings, please contact Pamela Rajkowski OAM (left) or Flavia de Pasquale OAM (right).

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

FROM: STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS 2019

One of our Top 12 Student Citizenship Award recipients was Caitlin McMahon from Grant High School in Mount Gambier.

The citation for Caitlin's Student Citizenship Award reads as follows:

"Over the past several years, Caitlin has actively and significantly contributed to her school and community through her extensive volunteering, sporting and performing arts participation. Not only has Caitlin achieved excellent academic results across her school subject areas, but also has been an outstanding achiever and leader by example for her peers in many sporting, school and community activities".

Caitlin received her Student Citizenship Award at a reception at Government House, Adelaide on 22 October 2019 hosted by His Excellency the Governor of South Australia, the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, and Mrs Lan Le.

On 26 November 2019, Mr Ross Parkinson OAM attended the Grant High School Presentation Evening in the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre to again present Caitlin with her Award and Certificate in front of her school and peers.

In the same award ceremony, Faith Monger received the Student Citizenship Award 'Highly Commended' certificate.

Below: Faith Monger (left) and Caitlin McMahon with their Student Citizenship Award certificates, with Mr Ross Parkinson OAM at the Grant High School Presentation Evening on 26 November 2019 (image used with permission).



South Australia's 2020 Young Citizen of the Year Caitlin McMahon with the Lieutenant Governor of South Australia Her Excellency Professor Brenda Wilson AM and Mr Adrian Esplin, CEO of Sarah Constructions Pty Ltd at the Australia Day Council of SA award ceremony (image supplied by ADC-SA; used with permission).

TO: AUSTRALIA DAY 2020

The SA Branch extends our hearty congratulations to **Caitlin McMahon** from Mount Gambier, who was announced by the Australia Day Council of SA as our 2020 South Australian Young Citizen of the Year. Her citation reads as follows:

2019 Order of Australia Association, South Australian Branch, Student Citizenship award recipient Caitlin McMahon has an extensive resume showcasing her natural leadership in several spheres within her community and her quality contribution towards humanity across several community organisations.

As an active member within her community, the City of Mount Gambier, Caitlin has also demonstrated considerable contributions towards her schooling, sporting and work commitments. As a highly motivated and passionate individual, Caitlin demonstrates a clear consciousness for the importance of hard work, organisation and selflessness.

Caitlin received the Young Citizen of the Year Award from the Administrator of South Australia, Her Excellency Professor Brenda Wilson AM, and Mr Adrian Esplin, Chief Executive Officer of major sponsor Sarah Constructions Pty Ltd, in an award ceremony hosted by the Australia Day Council of SA on 20 January this year.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch

FROM: STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS 2019

One of the Highly Commended recipients was **Zahra Bayani** in recognition of her outstanding citizenship and leadership at Thebarton Senior College and in support of several community charities.

Zahra is the President of the Thebarton Senior College Rotaract Club, President of the Global Peace Rotaract Club, an Ambassador for the Australian Migration Museum, and a volunteer with the Australian Red Cross and St John Ambulance. Her award citation read (in part):

"She is an outstanding leader, who is supportive of other students in the college. Zahra demonstrates passion and care for the wellbeing of others".

As well as our Student Citizenship Award, Zahra also received the Caltex Best All Rounder Award and a Stage 2 College Distinction Award. Zahra gave the following response:

"I am grateful for all the opportunities that the school has provided me. Thanks to everyone for all the memories. We will carry a piece of each other into everything that we do next. I would like to thank my teachers and friends for the continuous support and encouragement. A big shout out goes to the rocks of my story, my parents who guided and supported me every step of the way".

Below: SA Branch committee member Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP attended the Thebarton Senior College Awards and Graduation Ceremony on 6 December to present a 2019 Student Citizen of the Year "Highly Commended" certificate to Zahra Bayani (image supplied by Thebarton Senior College; used with permission).



Zahra Bayani received her 2020 Leadership in Languages and Culture Award from the Honourable Michelle Lensink MLC on 20 January, in a ceremony hosted by the Australia Day Council of SA (image supplied by ADC-SA; used with permission).

TO: AUSTRALIA DAY 2020

The SA Branch extends our hearty congratulations to Ms Zahra Bayani of Thebarton Senior College, who was announced as the recipient of the 2020 Leadership in Languages and Culture Award presented by the Australia Day Council of SA.

Zahra received the award from the Honourable Michelle Lensink MLC, Minister for Human Services at an award ceremony on 20 January.

The Australia Day Council of SA provided a citation which reads as follows:

Zahra Bayani is passionate about motivating and empowering youth, which she hopes to inspire to follow their dreams and reach their full potential, by sharing her own life experiences.

Zahra has a focus on celebrating cultural differences, educating the wider community, and assisting those with limited English literacy.

She is grateful for the opportunities and hopes to inspire other disadvantaged youth to integrate well into the Australian society and enrich this beautiful country.

More information about the Leadership in Languages and Culture Award can be found here:

<https://australiadaysa.com.au/pages/languages-cultures>

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



34th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Saturday 15 February 2020

A very successful Annual General Meeting of the SA Branch was held at the Fullarton Community Centre on 15 February. An outstanding presentation was given by our guest speaker, the 2019 Student Citizen of the Year William Gillett from Loxton High School.

Congratulations to the following members who have been appointed or re-appointed to the committee for 2020:

Chairman: Mr Tony Metcalf OAM

Secretary: Mr Paul Thomas AM

Treasurer: Professor John McKellar AM ED

Committee members:

Mr Ken Coventry OAM JP

Mr Martin FitzPatrick OAM

Mrs Gillian Rogers OAM

Mr Noel Hender OAM BEM

Mr Brian Holecek OAM

Ms Flavia de Pasquale OAM

Mr John Phillips OAM

Miss Pamela Rajkowski OAM

Mr Paul Rosenzweig OAM JP

National Director: Professor John McKellar AM ED

Specific portfolio roles will be determined at the next committee meeting.

The committee formally expressed its thanks to Emeritus Professor Allan Johnson AM for his past service as our National Director, and also to retiring committee members June Genders OAM, Brian Mattner OAM and Mr Francis Wong OAM.

RIVERLAND HONOURS RECIPIENTS

A gathering of Riverland Order of Australia Association members and other honours recipients will be held in the Renmark Club Function Room on Sunday 15 March commencing at 2 pm.

Afternoon tea will be provided by the SA Branch of the Order of Australia Association.

The SA Branch is encouraging the formation of Groups in regional districts across the State.

These Groups will provide an opportunity for award recipients to come together once or twice a year in an informal setting for social connection and interaction.

It is intended that there would be no formal structure, nor membership fee for the group.

This meeting will be facilitated by Mr Ken Coventry OAM JP, Immediate Past Chairman and Regional Groups Coordinator of the SA Branch.

For further information or to advise of attendance please contact Mr Tim Grieger OAM JP on 0409 099 122 or tgrieger@riverland.net.au

SA BUSHFIRE APPEAL

In response to the terrible bushfire issues affecting the State, the SA Branch committee unanimously agreed to make a donation towards the SA Bushfire Appeal, State Disaster Relief Fund, on behalf of the members of the Order of Australia Association, SA Branch.

The following excerpts are taken from the letter of thanks sent to the Branch by the Honourable Steven Marshall MP, Premier of South Australia:

Dear Mr Metcalf

I write to personally thank you and the Order of Australia Association (SA Branch) for recently donating \$1,000 to the SA Bushfire Appeal . . .

One hundred percent of your donation to the SA Bushfire Appeal will directly support those who have lost their homes and livelihoods in the wake of these tragic fires . . .

Once again, thank you for the generosity you have shown in supporting South Australian communities during this challenging time. It is greatly appreciated.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



How do I find out more about the SA Branch?

The Order of Australia Association SA Branch has an active website which contains information on our role and purposes, the Student Citizenship Awards, the calendar of events, our committee members and our Patron.

You will also find our newsletters and reply forms for forthcoming events. Please refer to this site regularly to keep updated:

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

REGIONAL GROUPS

Fleurieu Regional Group

Meets on the first Friday in May and November, with a social activity followed by a luncheon.

The first meeting for 2020 will be held on Friday 1 May.

Convenor:

Mr Rex Keily AM JP

Mobile: 0400 279 297

RNKeily@activ8.net.au

South East Regional Group

Meets annually in November.

Contact:

Mr Eric Roughana AM

Mobile: 0408 817 260

roseric1@bigpond.com

Barossa Regional Group

Gawler and District Regional Group

General enquiries:

orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com

Do you have email?

We still have some members who receive this newsletter through the post, either because they do not use email or because we do not have their email address recorded.

We will continue to post the newsletter to you if that is what you wish. But if you have an email address that you would like us to use, could you please advise the SA Branch Membership Officer:

orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com

AUSTRALIA DAY 2020

Congratulations to all award recipients announced in this year's Australia Day Honours List.

The 2020 Australia Day Honours List, and further information on recipients, may be found here:

<https://www.gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awardsaustralian-honours-lists/australia-day-2020-honours-list>

The SA Branch arranges several social functions throughout the year. Key among them are the two New Recipients Welcome Receptions, held soon after each set of investitures conducted by His Excellency the Governor.

New recipients and their guests, and Association members, are cordially invited to attend the next Welcome Reception, which will be held on 18 May at the Norwood, Payneham & St Peters Library complex. There is no cost for new recipients.

Full-size medals should be worn.

A reply form is included with this newsletter. Please RSVP by Friday 1 May.

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



Reply Forms should be sent with payment to PO Box 1065, Clearview SA 5085
or by email to Professor John McKellar AM ED at jmck1279@bigpond.net.au

Cheques or money orders: Please make payable to "SA Branch, Order of Australia Association"

Payment can be made by EFT: Account Name – Order of Australia Association
BSB 105-900, Account No. 147028640 (Bank SA)

Please give your name and the event code in the 'Reference' box

[CUT] -----

REPLY FORM – SA Branch New Recipients Welcome Reception – Monday 18 May 2020, Norwood, Payneham & St Peters Library complex, 2 Turner Street, Felixstow (corner of OG Road and Turner Street), from 5.30 to approx 7.30 pm. Full-size medals should be worn.

Cost: \$26 per head; no cost for new recipients – for EFT payments use code 'ADR-20 + surname'

Please RSVP by Friday 1 May

Name: [please print] [post nominal/s]

Email or Address:

..... Phone Contact:

I will be accompanied by [please print name/s]

.....

Dietary requirement [if any]

Enclosed is my payment of \$ being for people at \$26 per person (excluding new recipients)

[CUT] -----

REPLY FORM – SA Branch Queen's Birthday Lunch – Monday 8 June 2020, West Adelaide Football Club, 57 Milner Road, Richmond, 12 for 12.30 pm. Full-size medals should be worn. The guest speaker will be Senior Sergeant First Class Brian Mattner OAM CEM from SAPOL regarding state emergency procedures.

Cost: \$60 per head for a 2-course meal – for EFT payments use code 'QBL-20 + surname'

Please RSVP by Monday 1 June

Name: [please print] [post nominal/s]

Email or Address:

..... Phone Contact:

I will be accompanied by [please print name/s]

.....

Dietary requirement [if any]

Enclosed is my payment of \$ being for people at \$60 per person

We hope you can join us on these special occasions

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



SUMMARY OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIA BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT 2020

- The Australia Day 2019 New Recipients function was held on Monday 13th May: 26 new recipients and 78 friends and guests attended.
- The Branch purchased two more SA Branch advertising banners.
- Saturday 1st June – SA Futures Day. Thanks to all those members who contributed. Strategic Plan developed. The summary from the day was circulated along with the draft Strategic Plan and discussed at June committee Meeting. The outcome built on the planning day held in July 2018. The resulting plan will be co-ordinated with the National Strategic Plan. The cost was the major contribution to the loss recorded in our 2019 Financial Report.
- National asked for a SWOT report for their Futures Day. Sent off a summary, together with the preliminary survey report from our Futures Day.
- Emeritus Professor Allan Johnson AM resigned as our State Board Member (National Director) and we appointed Professor John McKellar AM ED as his replacement.
- The Fleurieu regional lunches were attended on Friday 4th May and Friday 2nd November. The next one is on Friday the 1st May 2020.
- The Queen's Birthday Lunch was attended by 41 members. Our speaker was Chris Selwood AM who gave a very entertaining talk on the history and growth of the "Solar Car Challenge", which again took place in October 2019.
- Four members of the committee attended a session on Governance and Board Effectiveness.
- No interest from members in taking on our Membership portfolio. The Membership portfolio is important to the success or otherwise of our communication with members and also in the contact of New Recipients
- Queen's Birthday New Recipients reception held on Monday 14th October 2019: 27 Australian honours recipients, together with 87 friends and guests attended.
- Tuesday 22nd October – the 2019 Student Citizenship Function was held at Government House. Congratulations to Noel and the organising committee. Indications at this stage are that we will get a better nomination response next year. The 2019 South Australian Student Citizen of the Year was William Gillett from Loxton High School, selected in recognition of his extensive contribution both to his school and the Riverland community.
- Other students who were awarded Highly Commended Certificates have had their award presented in front of their school during Term 4.
- Thursday 14 November 2019 – SA Branch committee members were guests at a Garden Reception hosted by His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia, and Mrs Lan Le to acknowledge community organisations of which the Governor and Mrs Le are Patrons or are otherwise closely and formally associated with.
- Wednesday 4th December – the 2019 Christmas Morning Tea was well attended, and we were treated to a short piano recital from Dr Rob Wight AM.
- Saturday 25th January 2020 – the annual luncheon to celebrate Australia Day was attended by 67 members. The guest speaker was Mrs Val Oldfield OAM, author of "No Beating about the Bush", the true story of her life in the outback at Mungeranie Station. The date was set to avoid any clash with Australia Day events.

Tony Metcalf OAM – SA Branch Chair

The Order of Australia Association, South Australia Branch



PROPOSED VISIT TO KANGAROO ISLAND

The SA Branch is considering arranging a trip for members and their guests to Kangaroo Island. This will allow our members to observe first-hand the effects of the recent bushfires, to allow for social interaction with honours recipients on Kangaroo Island, and to assist with stimulation of the local economy. To assist with planning, we would like to receive *expressions of interest* from members.

The proposed 3 day / 2 night package will be on a weekend in July. The suggested package will most likely include accommodation (breakfast included), and sightseeing and coach travel on KI. Proposed events are a semi-formal evening social function with Order of Australia and honours recipients (own expense), and an informal barbecue dinner (funded by the SA Branch). The ferry will depart Adelaide (using the Sea-Link bus transfer from Franklin Street), with collection points along the way (no change to price).

This invitation is being extended nationally. We hope to attract at least 30 participants to make the trip viable. Pls advise by 31 March if you would be interested in such a proposal.

REPLY FORM – SA Branch visit to Kangaroo Island – a 3 day/2 night package on a weekend in July.

Cost – to be advised, but the maximum likely cost is \$1,000 per person (ex-Adelaide)

Name: [please print] [post nominal/s]

Email or Address:

..... Phone Contact:

I will be accompanied by [please print name/s]

.....

Dietary requirement [if any]

Please forward to: PO Box 1065, Clearview SA 5085 or by email to orderofaustraliasa@gmail.com

to be received not later than **Tuesday 31 March**

We hope you can join us on this special occasion