

# NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST GROUP ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION



## Thank You

to the members who contacted us with email addresses and information about other recipients. This newsletter will only go out to recipients with an email address. If you know of someone without an email, why don't you become their **email buddy** and pass on copies of newsletters and notices.

## Advance Notice Save the date

**NENW Luncheon  
9th October 2021  
Inverell**

## Your committee

Chairman: Fred Edwards OAM  
Tamworth

Secretary: Roger Butler OAM  
Moree

Treasurer: Garnet Wood OAM  
Tamworth

Communications:  
Maria Hitchcock OAM  
Armidale

Committee:  
Peta Blyth OAM  
Delungra

Bruce Stewart OAM

## Zoom Meeting for the Regions 15th November 2020

Report by Roger Butler OAM

**Attendance:** Jim Mein AM (National Director), Peter Falk OAM (Chairman), Martha Jabour OAM (Honorary Secretary), Gail Dunne OAM (Honorary Treasurer), Louise Davies AM (Communications & Community Liaison), Chris Dunn OAM (Web Coordinator), Carolyn Lyons OAM (Youth Alumni Coordinator), Laurie Smith (Mid North Coast Region Convenor), June Cameron (Hunter Region Communicator) and Roger Butler (Secretary NENW). Charles Bogliano and John Wakefield, two other Region Coordinators, and Ron Sharpe, the State Coordinator, could not "get in" to the conference for some unexplained reason.

### Discussion:

**Newsletter:** our Region is the only one which has a newsletter and Maria was highly commended for it.

**Luncheons:** the Coronavirus had made face-to-face gatherings very difficult and, for all practical purposes, eliminated luncheons.

### Regional committees:

those Regions with a "one man" leadership are struggling but those Regions with committees seem to be in "good health". The NSW Board is very keen to support the Regional Groups.

**Affiliates:** under the new Constitution, if adopted, there will be a new class of member called "affiliates" which is for recipients of awards other than the Order of Australia and to permit continued membership of spouses of deceased awardees.

## Can you help?

We need new addresses for the following recipients. Please send them to [maria.hitchcock@gmail.com](mailto:maria.hitchcock@gmail.com)

**Alma CROOK OAM**  
**Dora SPENCER OAM**  
Tenterfield

**Audrey DEARDON OAM**  
**Joan HAUSFELD OAM**  
Tamworth

**Gary DOYLE OAM**  
Mungindi

**Oliver DUFFY OAM**  
Armidale

**Glenn JONES ESM**  
Tamworth

**Hazel LEE OAM**  
Quirindi

**Les NOTT AFSM**  
Boggabri

**Snr Const. Imants RAMMA**  
**APM**  
Tenterfield

**William RICHARDSON OAM**  
Barraba

**Lester THURSTON OAM**  
Tooraweenah

**Robert VARCOE ESM**  
Tamworth

**Kerrie WALLACE AFSM**  
Uralla

**Christine WALTERS OAM**  
Attunga

## On the move

**Paul Cook OAM** of Inverell has moved to Evans Head

**Les Davis OAM** of Armidale has moved to the coast.

**Ken Barker OAM** now lives in Warragul Vic.

## The Zero financial system:

the provision of bank statements and invoices to State Office should assist Region Treasurers with their workload and copies of the statements and invoices will always be available to the Regions.

## Survey responses:

whilst, generally, the responses have been good, conversely in some Regions, responses have been low. The number from our Region was not mentioned.

## “Thanks for asking”:

we were queried as to how this segment was being received and the general impression that it had been quite well supported and was popular. The question was then raised as to whether something similar should continue after the Coronavirus was over.

## Youth community service alumni:

Carolyn Lyons spoke on this subject and sought our support.

## Website:

the Webmaster, Chris Dunn, was anxious to receive articles from Regional Groups as to what is happening in the Regions so that he could include it on the website.

## Automatic awardees:

Laurie Smith reported that in his Region there had been criticism of the fact that Olympic gold medallists become automatic recipients of OAMs. In many cases, to their surprise and to some members of the community, consternation. It was agreed that this matter should be referred to the National Board.

## Awardee lists:

Ron Sharpe has apparently liaised with National and with the Secretariat so that promptly after the making of awards, details of awardees within each Region should be available to those Regions.

**Conclusion:** It was a very satisfactory one and a half hour Zoom conference which helps to engender enthusiasm and a sense of a collegiate spirit – just as our own Region Zoomn conferences do the same.

## Honour Boards

We have prepared Honour Rolls for the following councils

Armidale Regional  
Glenn Innes,  
Gunnedah  
Liverpool Plains  
Narrabri Shire  
Walcha

Letters have been sent to all councils suggesting they install an Honour Board of all recipients in their LGA.

## THE ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Members might recall the creation of an Association National Scholarship Program to allow Branches and individual members to donate into a consolidated account, which when it reaches the Scholarship funding level (currently \$40,000), will allow the award of an Association Scholarship.

Donations may be made to:

### Name of Account:

The Order of Australia  
Association Foundation Ltd  
Gift Account

**BSB No:** 013006

**Account No:** 314735771

Please advise details of EFT transfers to:

[sec@oaaafoundation.com.au](mailto:sec@oaaafoundation.com.au)

Donations through the Foundation attract DGR tax deductibility.

Phil Morrall AM CSC

## Order of Australia recipients 2021 New England Region

**John O'Halloran OAM** – Uralla  
*Services to Rugby League*

**Christopher Hancock AM** – Armidale  
*Significant service to education and on-line research networks, and to Australia-USA relations.*

**Hon John (Sandy) MacDonald AM** – Wallabadah  
*Significant service to the people and Parliament of Australia, and to public administration.*

**Mrs Edwina Sharrock OAM** - Tamworth  
*Service to community health*

**Les Parsons OAM** – Inverell  
*Service to the community of Inverell, and to local government.*

**Gary Mason OAM** - Narrabri  
*Services to the community and on behalf of Returned Servicemen and Women.*

**Charles MacLachlan PSM** – Inverell  
*Outstanding public service to local government in New South Wales, particularly during the emergency response to the 2019 bushfires.*

A letter of congratulations from our committee will be sent out to each of these recipients as soon as we receive addresses.

### Congratulations to Tatts Hotel!

For those of you who attended our 2019 luncheon at Tattersall's Hotel in Armidale, you will be pleased to know that it has received the Australian Institute of Architects 2020 Eat Drink Design Award for the best Hotel design. Congratulations to our member John Cassidy AO and his wife on winning this prestigious award.

### Honours List Article

The Sydney Morning Herald has an excellent article on the Honours System (23/1/21) written by Jacqueline Maley and Nigel Gladstone. Here is the link. It is fairly long so give yourself time. It is well researched and goes behind the scenes as to how Awards are given out.

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/want-an-order-of-australia-it-helps-to-be-rich-powerful-and-male-20201123-p56h13.html>