

# ACT OAA

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

ACT BRANCH

**Patron**

General Peter Gration AC OBE

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**Committee**Ms Trish Keller OAM,  
Andrew Lu OAM,  
EvoI McLeod OAM,  
Ian Meikle AM,  
Derek Robson AM,  
Caroline Turner AM*Immediate past chair  
Liz Scrivener OAM***Co-opted member:**Ray Newcombe OAM  
(*Student Citizenship Awards*)**EMAIL ALERTS**

Your committee can keep you briefed faster (and cheaper) if we have an email address. We understand perfectly the ongoing need for a paper-based newsletter, however we can save valuable funds, resources and time talking directly to you via the net. Please register with Len Goodman at lgoodman@ozemail.com.au.

**Newsletter team**

Editor, Ian Meikle AM.  
Designer, Joran Dilucian.  
Distribution logistics, Anne Cahill Lambert AM.  
This edition was produced through the resources of "CityNews".

## Be there, book now

This year's Australia Day breakfast will again be at the Yarralumla Yacht Club on January 26. Guest speaker will be the branch patron Gen Peter Gration AC OBE, who will be speaking on "Active Citizenship". Members, who have previewed his theme, report he speaks movingly about fostering love and pride in Australian citizenship.

A great speaker, a wonderful venue and the fellowship of members, it will be a marvellous start to this important day. There's a booking form in the newsletter (downloadable if you're receiving the digital edition). Please think about getting a response back before the silly season gets into its full swing.



**Patron Peter Gration... love and pride in citizenship.**

## Hopping happily into the hot seat

### New branch chairman Len Goodman AO looks at the year ahead

AS ACT branch chairman for 2010, and on behalf of committee members, I wish all members a happy, peaceful and safe Christmas and New Year.

Your committee, as elected at the annual general meeting on November 25 is listed separately but we welcome new members Dr Caroline Turner AM and Dr Andrew Lu OAM, who are replacing outgoing Chairman Ms Liz Scrivener OAM, who has completed her five years' service, and Mr Bob Newman OAM, who did not seek re-election. Particular thanks to Liz for her major contribution as committee member, secretary and chairman for the past two years – during which time she was heavily involved in organising the National Conference in Canberra, in February 2008. I am delighted to relinquish secretarial duties to Mr Bruce Trewartha OAM and Mr Brian Acworth AM continues as treasurer.

Among its plans, your committee will be seeking your views about what the



**Len Goodman... seeking your views.**

association means to you, how we can best serve you and how we might attract others to join.

Meanwhile, we invite you to celebrate Australia Day 2010 with breakfast at the Yarralumla Yacht Club to hear our Patron Gen Peter Gration AC OBE speak on "Active Citizenship". There is a booking form within the newsletter. Given the seasonal distractions, an early response would be appreciated.

Please feel free to contact me with any ideas or concerns – and if not already done so, please let secretary Bruce have your email address, or any changes, so that we can keep you more regularly informed.



This is an edited version of outgoing chair\* LIZ SCRIVENER's report to the branch AGM at the Southern Cross Club on November 25.

# Diverse program rewards hard work

THROUGHOUT this year the committee has received wonderful practical support from a large number of our members and from the National Committee. This collaborative approach has enabled us to provide a diverse program of events for our members, and strengthen and develop our association administratively. Reflecting on the 2008-09 year, I am grateful to each of our committee members who has worked so hard to organise the following events:

- **Australia Day Breakfast**, held at the Yacht Club on January 26. Over 100 of members and guests enjoyed a robust breakfast by the Lake. We welcomed Mr Chris Peters AM as guest speaker. Chris spoke on "Australia – We are at the heart of it".
- **National Conference and AGM** in Brisbane from February 18-22. Ten members and their partners attended the conference, all enjoying the experience, particularly meeting with delegates from around Australia.
- **Morning tea**, our first Morning Tea was a pleasant event, with around 50 welcoming guest speaker Phil Morrall AM, who spoke about creating your own oral history. The talk was well received and a "how to" article was subsequently published in our newsletter.
- **Cocktail reception** at University House was held in May, with over 100 members

and guests welcoming new recipients to the order. Each new member was presented with a small gift.

- **Luncheon** was held at The Royal Canberra Golf Club on Wednesday, June 24, where guest speaker Ms Darelle Carmody spoke passionately on a Green Sea Turtle conservation program she had been involved with.
- **Morning tea**, August 5, when guest speaker Canberra Glassworks CEO, Ms Ann Jakle, spoke enthusiastically about the development of the centre and her vision for the future of the Glassworks.
- **Cocktail Reception** at The Commonwealth Club to welcome new recipients, on Wednesday, September 30. There were 115 in attendance. Each new recipient was presented with an Oration booklet and OAA glasses.
- **Multi Faith Observance**, held at Burgmann College, ANU, Sunday, November 1. Representatives of the Christian, Buddhist, Jewish, Hindu and Islamic faiths led sections of the Observance, attended by around 50 of our members and their guests. Morning tea followed.
- **School Citizenship Award** recipients were announced at University House ANU on November 5. Our Patron, Gen Peter Gratton AC OBE spoke movingly about fostering love and pride in Australian citizenship.

The committee has been actively looking at ways to promote branch membership, developing a branch business plan (a work in progress) and working with the National Committee to move the association forward with essential "underpinnings" being discussed and issues resolved. The ACT branch has been participating in

- A review of the National Association's financial position

- Branch operating structures being examined
  - Future AGM and conferences – whether current model and structure remains relevant to the needs and expectations of the membership
- The ACT Branch agreed to host the 2013 National OAA Conference, the year of Canberra's centenary. Three of our current committee have begun preliminary discussions with the Canberra Convention Bureau to take this forward. I encourage all members to support this initiative. My time on the ACT committee, as a member, secretary and chair (and as ACT delegate to the National Committee for the past two years) has been a rewarding and enriching experience, and I sincerely thank this, and past committee members for their constructive and considered advice and support throughout my journey and I wish the incoming committee well for the coming year. Bob Newman OAM is not re-nominating for the 2009-10 committee. I would like to thank Bob for his valuable contribution to the association, having served on the committee for the past three years. The committee was also grateful for the support of two co-opted members – Dr Ray Newcombe OAM (Citizenship Awards) and Mr Russ Richards OAM (Morning Tea events). Russ stepped down earlier this year, having contributed enthusiastically and with commitment to the committee for the past four years and I thank him for his contribution.

*\*Liz Scrivener OAM, chair for the past two years, has completed the maximum five years service on the branch committee and, as immediate past chair, may remain on the committee in this role for a further year.*

## Come on, tell us where you're @

Today's internet technology allows the branch to communicate quickly and professionally with members without the need to print, pack and post.

Every member who is able to receive the digital edition of the newsletter relieves the branch of a significant cost burden and we

are campaigning to move as many members to the new technology.

If you have an email address but are receiving the printed version, would you be gracious enough to email our secretary Bruce Trewartha OAM at [btrewartha@actewagl.net.au](mailto:btrewartha@actewagl.net.au) and he'll take it from there. If you're not, fear not, we're committed to getting a hard copy newsletter to you, too.





Gen Peter Gratiation AC presents a citizenship award to students from the Holy Family Primary School, Gowrie. Photos courtesy of "CityNews"



Radford College students receive their school's award from Gen Gratiation. Photos courtesy of "CityNews"

# Patron presents first school awards

THE Holy Family Primary School, Gowrie and Radford College are the winners of the first annual Order of Australia Association (ACT Branch) Student Awards for Citizenship and Community Service 2009.

The Holy Family Primary School was awarded the prize for charitable work for the local community and abroad and Radford College for voluntary assistance to children with intellectual disability and their school facilities at Cranleigh School. The awards were presented by branch patron Gen Peter Gratiation AC, OBE, at a ceremony at University House, at the ANU, in November.

This is the first year of these awards in the

ACT. Such awards are well established in NSW, QLD and SA.

Awards are made to schools for meritorious group activities that promote community service and good citizenship. For senior students (years 11&12), awards for individual achievement and leadership are also available. There were no individual awards this year.

The awards were widely promoted to all the ACT schools and colleges in March, May and July via the various schools authority intranets, in print and at meetings of principals of the schools and colleges. The ACT branch committee is grateful to the independent selectors who reviewed

all nominations and made recommendations.

Both schools were awarded a special OAA plaque, suitably engraved, to display in the school. The awards acknowledged a sustained effort over many years and demonstrated a high level of commitment, worthy citizenship and community service. Representatives of the students and parents, with principals and one other teacher, representatives of DEET, Catholic Education Office and the Association of Independent Schools together with all members of the OAA ACT committee and the selection panel attended the presentation.

## Walking and talking together

More than 50 members, guests and participants attended the ACT Branch's annual Multi Faith Observance, this year at the Burgmann College Chapel, at the ANU.

Rev Gayl Mills, as moderator, achieved an easy, participatory balance through the service, based on the theme "Walk the Talk together" with our four presenters from the Buddhist, Hindi, Jewish and Muslim traditions.

A Devonshire morning tea followed.

Many thanks to all who assisted on the day with parking, welcoming and serving the morning tea.



caption



Evol McLeod OAM and Liz Scrivener OAM



caption



# Members and guests are invited to attend the 2010 Australia Day Breakfast

with speaker General Peter Gration AC OBE

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 26, 2010  
**TIME:** 7.45 am for 8 am  
**VENUE:** Southern Cross Yacht Club,  
 Mariner Pl, Yarralumla (ample, accessible parking),  
 overlooking Lake Burley Griffin.  
**COST:** \$30 per person.  
**DRESS:** Jacket and tie/day wear; neck decorations,  
 full medals to be worn.

## ENQUIRIES:

Bruce Trewartha OAM  
 62310281(h) 0439 887480 (m)  
**RSVP** by Friday, January 22 to:  
 Mr. Bruce Trewartha OAM  
 OAA-ACT Branch  
 16 Vansittart Crescent,  
 Kambah, ACT 2902

## Australia Day Breakfast January 26

Name and postnominals \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name and postnominals: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Requirements \_\_\_\_\_

## Contact details for noting:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Facsimile: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Area Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment instructions:

My cheque for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

OR

BANKCARD

MASTERCARD

VISA

Card no.:

Expiry date /

last 3 numbers on the reverse of the card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Sum authorised \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name on the card \_\_\_\_\_