

ACT OAA

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

ACT BRANCH

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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 Bruce Trewartha OAM at btrewartha@grapevine.com.au

Newsletter team

Editor, Ian Meikle AM.
Designer, Louise Brooks.
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Jeffery to talk of challenges ahead

FORMER Governor-General and Governor of WA, Maj-Gen Michael Jeffery, AC, AO(Mil), CVO, MC is the guest speaker at the association's popular Australia Day breakfast at the Yarralumla Yacht club on January 26.

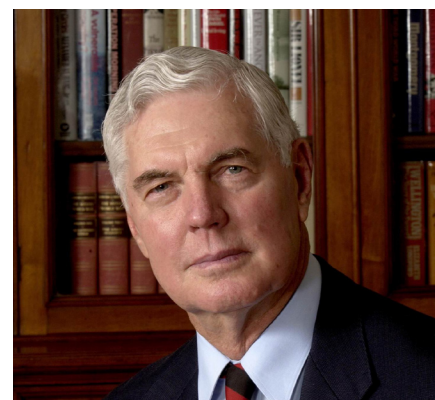
Michael and his wife Marlena are active members of our Branch and his address at the breakfast, which celebrates Australia Day and the honours announcements, will be "Australia – Challenges and Opportunities".

Born in Wiluna, WA, in 1937 and educated at Kent Street High School and the Royal Military College, Duntroon, Michael graduated into Infantry and served operationally in Malaya, Borneo, Papua New Guinea and Vietnam, where he was awarded the Military Cross and the South Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

After command of all combat elements of the Army from platoon to division – including the Special Air Service Regiment – he retired in 1993 to assume the appointment of Governor of WA, which he held for almost seven years.

For his services to the State, he was appointed a Companion in the Order of Australia, a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order and a Citizen of Western Australia.

On his retirement as Governor in 2000 he established in Perth, a not-for-profit stra-



Michael Jeffery, AC, AO(Mil)... Australia Day breakfast speaker.

tegic research institute – Future Directions International – whose objective is to examine longer-term issues facing Australia.

In August 2003 he was sworn in as the twenty-fourth Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, serving in that capacity until September 2008.

Upon his retirement as Governor-General, he has accepted chairmanship of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, FDI and Outcomes Australia, along with patronages of a number of other not-for-profit organisations.

Australia Day Breakfast, Yarralumla Yacht Club, 7.45am for 8am, Wednesday, January 26. Bookings via the form in the newsletter.

Hobart meeting calls

THE Tasmanian organising committee is looking forward to welcoming members to Hobart for the Order of Australia Association's National Meeting on February 10-11. The committee reports that registrations are steadily being lodged and urges everyone to book accommodation early as the central, more popular hotels and motels are expected to fill quickly around the time of the meeting, due in part to the Australian Wooden Boat Festival being in Hobart on the weekend immediately after our gathering as well as the Royal Hobart Regatta and Hobart Cup.

The committee believes the Symposium and the Members' Forum will be of great interest to members. The Symposium will feature well-known and respected Tasmanian speakers and the Members' Forum will be moderated by Assoc Prof Richard Herr OAM, who has a special interest in island governments generally, but in particular the various Pacific Island governments and is a political commentator on local politics.

Registrations and more information at www.tashost.com.au/oa/

Awards draw a crowd

THE Order of Australia Association (ACT) annual Student Awards for Citizenship and Community Service 2010 have been presented for the second time at the ANU. The individual awards are available for students in years 11 and 12 who have displayed outstanding leadership and individual achievement in citizenship and community Service.

The presentations were made by the Branch Patron, Gen Peter Gratton AC OBE, before a well-attended audience in the Drawing Room, University House on November 17. Phoebe Davies, of St Francis Xavier College, was recognised for her initiative and concern for the advancement and well being of others.

Organiser Dr Ray Newcombe OAM said: "She is a natural leader and has particularly organised and worked with younger students in the Young Christian Students movement. The group has promoted social justice issues as Fair Trade and the Stand Up Against Poverty Pledge.

"In her concern for the poor, the disadvantaged and the marginalised she has shown a belief in a fair go for all, in equity and integrity and exemplifies the values of active Australian citizenship."

Other awards were made to Radford College and Merici College for service to those in special need at The Black Mountain School. A certificate of commendation was also presented to The Black Mountain School.

For exceptional leadership encouraging community health and charitable support, an award was made to Kaleen Primary School's Kaleen Kangas Skipping Team.

"It is with sincere appreciation that we acknowledge ACTEW Corporation as proud sponsors of the Branch's ACT Student Citizenship Awards for the three years 2010-2012," says Branch chairman Len Goodman AO.

"This support enables us to promote sub-

missions from ACT students and schools, including the presenting of a quality colour brochure.

"We also acknowledge endorsement of the awards by the ACT Department of Education and Training; the Association of Independent Schools of the ACT and the Catholic Education Office, Canberra and Goulburn. We also welcome endorsement by the ACT Chamber of Commerce and Industry."



Phoebe Davies receives her award from The Order of Australia Association's ACT patron Gen Peter Gratton AC, OBE. Photos by Silas



Merici College students receive award from The Order of Australia Association's ACT patron Peter Gratton, AC, OBE.



CSO chief conductor and artistic director Nicholas Milton

Tea, symphony a great success

A WARM and enthusiastic response from members followed the Branch's function with a difference at "Tea and Symphony", the last concert of the CSO's 60th anniversary season with the Canberra Symphony Orchestra and the Australian Ballet.

The OAA had 50 guests, and the afternoon concert itself sold out with demand for hundreds more tickets unable to be met.

Dr Nicholas Milton, the chief conductor and artistic director of the CSO, addressed the OAA reception in the Playhouse Foyer West before the concert, highlighting that the concert was structured and timed to have wide community appeal.

Orchestra CEO Henry Laska, represented the CSO's management, and Branch committee member Andrew Lu OAM, who organised the function, represented the CSO board as acting chairman. At the end of the November 20 concert, Nicholas Milton again spoke one-on-one with some members of the Association, as did Danilo Radojevic, the associate artistic director of the Australian Ballet.



Margaret Hughes and service moderator Dr Royce Thompson.

Faith with a little fun...

THE Branch's annual multi-faith service, this year at Anzac Chapel of St Paul at RMC Duntroon, was engagingly and entertainingly moderated by Air Commodore (Ret'd) Dr Royce Thompson, former director general RAAF chaplaincy and honorary chaplain to the Australian Bravery Association, whose members joined the occasion. Representatives of Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim communities also spoke at the service on August 29.



Sam Wong AM, Valerie Blackley and Leslie Blackley OAM

Association of talent and ideals

MEMBERS of our ACT and region association reflect a broad and dynamic concentration of the very best of Australia's leadership capability.

Across the board, men and women who have been recognised for going the extra mile in positions of national, Territory and local responsibility and achievement – whether it be in government, public service, Defence force, business and commerce, professions, emergency services, clubs administration, trade skills, arts and culture, home management, religious and community service and so on.

Volunteerism also spreads across that board – with people already busy going beyond the pail at work or committing themselves through a wide range of community agencies locally and nationally.

Then there are those too busy as volunteers to stay in paid employment – supposedly “retired”!

Taken together with members who have indeed retired after years of such commitment, our Branch membership stands at some 590 “ordinary Australians” who have done extraordinary things – through visionary application of talents, driven by a desire to achieve and to serve!

There are numerous recipients of the Order of Australia in the ACT and region who have chosen not to join our association. Some would say they are too busy, some find no interest and there are those who may not be fully aware of the association.

Canberra's richly diverse community does, in fact, provide an equally diverse set of opportunities to attend functions, meetings, lectures and performances – so why join “another organisation”?

Well, I would argue that membership of the Order of Australia Association has another maybe less-tangible, yet compelling focus as corporate partners in our association's “flagship” legacies.

1. Our National Foundation in support of the next generation of talented young leaders achieving their potential for the benefit of future generations of Australians.

2. Our ACT Student Citizenship Awards to recognise and encourage “outstanding individual leadership achievement” by Year 11 and 12 students and for meritorious group activity in community service and citizenship projects for students between



From the pen of
chairman **LEN
GOODMAN**

kindergarten and Year 10.

Is your imagination captured by “ownership” of these two initiatives with the potential for future achievement? We may never see the outcome of our association's incentive boost – but I, for one, am excited by dreaming of the as yet unheard of possibilities! I suspect that I do not dream alone?

Therefore, I invite members to inquire if friends and colleagues who have likewise received Order of Australia awards are association members – and if not, to invite them to join.

Membership applications forms are available from our Hon. Secretary Bruce Trewartha OAM at btrewartha@grapevine.com.au or call 6265 1848.

GOING a further mile – have you considered friends and colleagues worthy for nomination to the Order of Australia Secretariat? Do you know men and women who meet the criteria, who have gone “above and beyond what would reasonably be expected – and in doing so encourage national aspirations and ideals of the highest community standards and values” (extract from the Nomination Form – obtainable from the Australian Honours Secretariat Phone 6283 3604 or from the website www.gg.gov.au)?

BY virtue of association there is a synergy between the Order of Australia and the Order of Australia Association. We have frequently heard exhortations by Governors General as Chancellor's and the Council of the Order calling for nominations. I suggest as a corollary to that – we, as previous recipients should heed their challenge – and likewise encourage recipients to join us in an association of like-minded, service-oriented Australians.

AT our cocktail reception on September 28, His Excellency Mr Michael Bryce AM AE KStJ took us on an enjoyable and, at times,

humorous “Travels with the Governor General” complete with a pictorial show.

For Mr Bryce, it was a quick turnaround after returning to Government House at the climax of an historic day with Her Excellency the Governor General officiating at the Opening of Australia's likewise historic Parliament.

THE inaugural OAA-ANU Lecture was delivered by the ANU Vice Chancellor Prof Ian Chubb AC at University House on October 19. Prof Chubb gave a stimulating past, present and future address about the ANU's record of achievement measured against its founding principles – with his perspective on the university's place as a national centre for academic excellence, research and challenge. Prof Chubb's lecture will soon be posted on our Branch website.

THE Australia Day breakfast address will be delivered by former Governor General and Branch member, Maj-Gen Michael Jeffery, AC, AO (Mil), CVO, MC (Retd), 8.00 am Wednesday 26 January at the Canberra Southern Cross Yacht Club, Yarralumla – see booking form for details.

THERE are already some diverse and exciting plans for 2011 to be listed in your next Newsletter – including the inaugural “OAA-ADF Oration” delivered by the CDF Air Chief Marshall Angus Houston AC AFC (also a branch member).

On behalf of your 2010 Branch committee, I wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year season – with bright prospects for 2011.

Len Goodman
AO, chairman

BEST WISHES TO LEN...

And we wish the chairman a speedy recovery from a painful and prolonged setback in recent surgery. While he is ever-more his cheery self, Len faces a long period of recovery. The Branch wishes him and Joyce all the very best of good wishes for the New Year.



Members and guests are invited to attend the 2011 Australia Day Breakfast

DATE: Wednesday 26 January 2011
TIME: 7.45 am for 8.00 am
PLACE: Southern Cross Yacht Club, Mariner Pl, Yarralumla
 (ample, accessible parking), overlooking Lake Burley Griffin.

CELEBRATE AUSTRALIA DAY AND HONOURS ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPEAKER: Major General Michael Jeffery, AC, AO(Mil), CVO, MC (Retd) delivering the Australia Day address on "AUSTRALIA - CHALLENGES and OPPORTUNITIES". Former Governor-General and Governor of Western Australia, Major General Michael Jeffery is Chairman of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the strategic research institute Future Directions International, Outcomes Australia and a number of other not-for-profit organisations. Michael and his wife Marlena are active members of our Branch.

COST: \$35.00 per person.

DRESS: Jacket and Tie/Day wear; Neck decorations, full medals to be worn.

RSVP by Friday, January 21:
 Booking slip below to be mailed to:
 Mr. Bruce Trewartha OAM
 OAA-ACT Branch
 16 Vansittart Crescent
 Kambah ACT 2902

ENQUIRIES: Bruce Trewartha OAM | 6231 0281 (h) | 0439 887480 (m)

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

MASTERCARD

VISA

Card no.:

Expiry date /

Signature _____ Sum authorised \$ _____

Name on the card _____