



nsw branch newsletter

PATRON - HER EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR MARIE BASHIR AC CVO, GOVERNOR OF NEW SOUTH WALES

My first words as your new Chairman are those focused on a 'thank you!' to our outgoing Chairman, Bill Galvin OAM. As a State Branch and Committee we owe him a strong word of thanks and 'well done'. Bill, in his years as our Chairman, brought a dynamic and new dimension to our activities and functioning. Through his wide experience in hospitality and tourism he introduced our members to new activities and positive ways of enhancing our membership's benefits. We have grown numerically through his initiatives. As well, we have benefited from his strong advocacy at the National Committee.

So, Bill - a most sincere and heartfelt "Thank You!" from all our members.

It is incumbent upon us all to continue the momentum generated for us in attracting new awardees into membership of The Order of Australia

Chairman's Word

Association. One way of doing that is to read the twice yearly Honours Lists, when published, and write to the new recipients in your area or suburb and offer congratulations. It is not necessary that they know you personally, but they, like you and me, have been honoured in the Order of Australia.

Organisations that are known as friendly and welcoming are, on the whole, the ones that grow their membership.

I will do my best to represent us well when occasion demands that. I have benefited greatly through the friendships made in our New South Wales Branch. I hope you do also.

I would like to welcome Max Press and Reg Chirgwin as the Branch Secretary and Branch Treasurer and to thank John Laforest, Colleen Wardell and Paul Couvret for their years of service.

As the New Year unfolds ahead of us, may you receive joys that enrich you and strength for the demands that come to or upon you. To say - "Happy 2011" is a wish for you.

May we enjoy each other's friendship and company when we gather in regional or city based functions and find that we are glad we belong to this fine Association.

Kind regards,
Douglas Parker OAM, Chairman

2011

DIARY DATES

Australia Day Celebration Brunch
Wednesday, 26th Jan., 10.00am
The Four Seasons Hotel, Sydney
(see enclosed booking form)

National Meeting
The Order of Australia Association
Hobart (Tasmania)
Thursday & Friday, 10-11 February

Special Morning Tea & Harbour Cruise
Wednesday, 23rd February, 9.00am
(see enclosed booking form)

Historic Garden Island Tour
Thursday, 7th April, 10.10am
(see enclosed booking form)

THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH COMMITTEE

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CO-OPTED MEMBERS

(TO BE ADVISED)

MORNING TEA AND AGM 1.12.2010

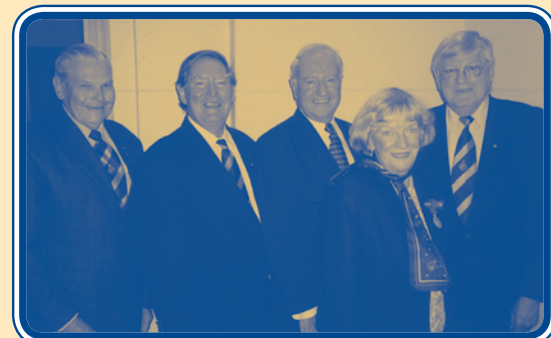
Fifty members/guests gathered at the Swissotel in the CBD for delicious food and the renewal of friendships.

During the morning co-opted member Keith Reeve AM presented Murray Hanstock, CEO of the Young Endeavour Sail Training Scheme, with the medallions which will be presented to outstanding trainees in 2011.

Murray then introduced James Paver, a 2010 Medallion recipient, who gave a vivid account of his experiences on a voyage last month. This fine young man is a wonderful example of those who use the Young Endeavour experience as a training ground for future life.

The Branch should be proud of its involvement in this project. *The 2010/2011 Committee members are listed at left.*

A.G.M. - L/R: Treasurer Reg Chirgwin, D/Chairman John Jobling, Secretary Max Press, Marie McCann (Committee), Chairman Douglas Parker.



2011, NATIONAL MEETING, TASMANIA TIME IS GETTING CLOSE !!

Have you registered yet ?

The 25th Annual National Meeting (new name for National Conference) of The Order of Australia Association will be held in Hobart, Thursday 10 February and Friday 11 February, 2011. An exciting programme, with its interesting content and historical venues, is being offered to Delegates and Guests attending from all over Australia - *Come and be part of this wonderful celebration in its new format and its "friendly" costs.*

For enquiries contact:

Alistair Douglas OAM, 'ph. (03) 6225 2012,
mob. 0418 127 897, or
e-mail: oaameetingtas@tashost.com.au

MEMBERS' MORNING TEA

AT FOUR LOCATIONS, on 27th October 2010, 10 am

The Morning Tea for the **Northern District** was held at the **Harbord Hotel**. Twenty members of the Association attended the function.

The Hotelier, John Thorpe AM, welcomed the members.

He gave an interesting talk on the history of Harbord which is now known as Freshwater. He spoke about the residents of Harbord, who were people who built holiday homes and over the years became permanent residents and built many large homes. On the next occasion when the members have a morning tea at Harbord, John will take members in the Hotel coach to see the many places of interest in Harbord and the surrounding districts.

The **Central City** function was held at the **Swissotel**, with fifteen members/guests present. Among the new and old members were Jack and Ellie Ball, Helen and John Christian, Mary Doughty, with a short visit from Chairman Bill Galvin. This was a good opportunity for some of our new recipients to meet long time members of the Association.



**Michael Tyrpenou with
Dr Jennifer Fahey AM**

Another morning tea was held at **DB's Restaurant in Double Bay**, with some thirty members/guests. Organised by Allen Jacobson, he and owner Graeme Goldberg gave us a most gracious welcome and delicious refreshments. Young guest speaker, Michael Tyrpenou, spoke of his childhood in Austinmer, his captaincy of Holy Spirit College in Bellambi and his studies at Wollongong University where

he is now completing a Masters Degree in International Studies. He referred to the advantages and the responsibilities the Y-Generation faces and acknowledged the great contribution made to the community by recipients of an award in the Order.

Old Government House in Parramatta was the other venue chosen. Members/guests enjoyed a sumptuous morning tea which was served in the Dining Room of the historic sandstone Garrison House; this was the billet for Governor Lachlan Macquarie's Army Corps during his and Mrs Macquarie's ten year residence at Parramatta from 1810. Our members/guests quickly filled the room with bright and happy chatter, while the aroma of freshly baking scones and pastries wafted in from the old country-style kitchen. It was a truly convivial and memorable occasion.

REGIONAL

ILLAWARRA GROUP

On 19th November, this group gathered for its annual dinner. The evening began with a minute's silence for Keith Phipps who had died the previous Sunday and for other members who died during the past year.

A tribute to Keith was given by the group's co-founder, Brian MacKander, who spoke of his active role in the formation of the Illawarra Regional Group in 1996 and his loyalty and support during the ensuing years. The Guest Speaker for the dinner was Brig. Philip McNamara CSC ESM, who spoke of the importance and social contributions of Legacy. Bill Seay OAM remains as the Regional Convenor, with the support team of Lynn Wilson OAM, Bill James OAM, Jim Lyon OAM, Paul Comelli OAM and John O'Dwyer OAM. This is a very close knit group who enjoy renewing friendships and welcoming new friends, as they welcomed Branch Committee representatives, Silvana and Giulio Vidoni.

19.11.10 Wollongong - The Order of Australia Awardees present.



SOUTHERN TABLELANDS GROUP

16.10.2010 - The function this year was held at the Binalong Hotel, with wonderful support and food provided by Julie Paterson. Despite the dreadful weather which prevented four of our members from Crookwell attending (they were snowbound!!), it was an excellent luncheon for the twenty eight members/guests present - from Binalong, Murrumbateman, Yass and Young, as well as guest members from Bateman's Bay, Canberra, Cootamundra, Cowra and Ngunnawal. Guest Speaker Major General Bill Crews AO is the Immediate Past National President of the Returned Services League of Australia and spoke to 'A Perspective of Citizenship'. The toast to the Order was given by Air Vice Marshal Bob Richardson AO AFC who served as a test pilot and was responsible for the evaluation of the F18 Hornet for the RAAF. Mark McRae OAM acted as MC and has agreed to become the convenor of this group - with great support from his wife, Beth. The Branch was represented by Committee Member Brian Favero. The Branch Committee would like to express its sincere appreciation of the time and effort generously given by Douglass Aspinall AO and June Comins OAM since the group's inception in May 2000.



June Comins, Beth McRae

ACTIVITIES

BY RON SHARPE

MANNING GROUP

Regional Convenor Greg Hartig AM welcomed twenty-six members and guests to the annual luncheon at the Wingham Ex-Services Club on 22nd October. He spoke of the origin of "The Dawn Service" in Australia 96 years ago in Albany in Western Australia, while Daphne Johnstone OAM, of the Hastings Regional Group, spoke of the foresight of those who formed the first regional groups in this area.



Wg Cdr Greg Hartig



22.10.10 Wingham - A view of the luncheon

Branch Secretary, Colleen Wardell OAM, reported on the Branch Community Projects, particularly the Youth Community Service Awards and the Young Endeavour Sail Training programme/scholarship.

Donald MacInnes OAM said the Grace, while Gwen Porter OAM undertook some of the administrative responsibilities. Illness prevented some regular members attending, including two 2010 QB recipients, Nellie Williams OAM and Geoff Williams OAM - both involved in Conservation and the Environment. It was a most enjoyable day.

DUBBO GROUP

On 30th October, this most loyal and well knit group met for the annual luncheon at the Dubbo RSL Memorial Club - members and their guests came from Parkes, Trangie, Wellington, Mudgee, Coonabarabran and Bathurst. John Mackenzie OAM proposed the Loyal Toast and NSW Committee Member Colleen Wardell the toast to the Order. A small string group from the Macquarie Conservatorium, led by Sue Hovenden, provided the entertainment

prior to the formal programme. Professor Fred Watson AM then spoke of his role as the Astronomer in Charge of the Anglo-Australian Observatory at Coonabarabran and replied to some very thoughtful questions from those present.

Regional Convenor Ruby Riach OAM acknowledged the work of her most loyal support team.

This was a very happy occasion.



Above:
30.10.10
Dubbo Regional
luncheon,
RSL Club

NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST GROUP

Our new Regional Convenor, David Evans OAM, welcomed local members and their guests to the annual luncheon at the Armidale Bowls Club on Saturday, 16th October.

He introduced the Mayor of Armidale Dumaresq Council, Peter Ducat and his wife, Shirley and the guest speaker, popular historian, Dr John Atchison.

Dr Atchison spoke of Saumarez Homestead which is an historic pastoral property and one of Armidale's well known tourist attractions.

Representing the Branch at this most enjoyable function, known for its hospitality and friendship, was co-opted committee member, Sr St Jude Doyle OAM.

YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

This year 67 students received awards for Community Service.

Twenty-one of these received our Certificate of Commendation with Medallion and the remaining 46 received a Certificate of Recognition.

Strong support was given to Social Justice, giving hope to homeless people, the elderly, adolescents involved with drugs and alcohol, mental health issues and the rights of indigenous people.

Support was also given to environmental projects such as land care. One student went to Bangalore in India to a missionary orphanage to which she now gives financial support; another student supports an orphanage in Sri Lanka and another was concerned with human rights violations to Ugandan children. Students were involved with Scouts, Guides and Cadets. Some were members of the Rural Fire Brigade or First Aid Units. One student attended the United Nations Regional Youth Summit. All the students were fundraising for charities, one joined the Salvation Army Night Patrol and some were involved with 'Clean Up Australia'. Community Service included public speaking, drama and music.

J. Lincoln AM, Convenor



24.11.10
Government House,
Sydney -
H.E. Professor Marie
Bashir AC CVO
with the Awardees,
after the
presentation of
the NSW Branch
Medallion to each of
them.

YOUNG ENDEAVOUR YOUTH SCHEME

As part of its Community Projects programme, the New South Wales Branch presents a medallion to the outstanding young participant on each of the voyages of the Young Endeavour Training Ship.

On 25th September, Keith Reeve presented on behalf of the Branch, the medallion to Codie Reed from Yangan, Qld.

Attending the on-board ceremony were the Captain, crew and another Committee member, Reg Chirgwin. This Community Project has now been part of the Branch's activities since 1993.

VALE KEITH PHIPPS OAM

The Order of Australia Association NSW Branch has lost a stalwart with the sudden death of Keith Phipps in Wollongong on 14th November 2010. Keith made many valuable contributions to the Association.

In particular he was responsible, along with Brian MacKender OAM, for the formation of the Illawarra Regional Group. This was the first regional group in NSW and provided the incentive for the 14 regional groups which now function in this State. I was Chairman of the Association at this time (1997-2000) and had the pleasure of working with Keith on the formation of the group. He was a very effective organizer. Furthermore, Keith served on the committee of the NSW Branch of the Association from 1999 to 2002. He travelled up to Sydney from Wollongong for the meetings and was a very active and valuable committee member.

Keith was trained in Electrical Trades and went on to have a successful career in TAFE as a teacher and principal. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and Diploma of Education in 1977, while working full time. He made many contributions as a citizen of Wollongong. He served as an Alderman on the Wollongong City Council for 11 years and was Founding Chair of the Illawarra Performing Arts Centre. He was also the Founding Chairman of the Graduates' Group of the Friends of the University of Wollongong. He was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in 1995 for Service to the Community, Local Government and the Arts.

Keith was a good bloke and he made a difference. Our sympathy is extended to his wife Joan, to their children and their families.

Graham Swain AM



ASSOCIATION'S MEMORABILIA

TIES, CUFF-LINKS, SCARVES, BROOCHES, PENS, etc.

Neckties: New Style	\$35 each	<i>Plus package & postage \$2 for each of the items at left</i>
Traditional Style	\$35 each	
Scarves: Chiffon (Navy Blue)	\$25 each	
Pens:	\$10 each	
Association Brooches:	\$20 each	

Cuff-links: **\$35** (in a presentation box)
Plus package & postage \$5

Sticker (emblem for car window) **\$ 5** *Plus package & postage \$1*

Sir Zelman Cowen 'Speeches to Members of the Association',
86 pp, 15 pics, 4-col. cover **\$10** each book
(G.C. Vidoni OAM, Editor) *Plus package & postage \$2-50*

Contact - **Mrs S. VIDONI, OAM** *Tel. 9550 0049*
68 CARLISLE ST, LEICHHARDT NSW 2040

Cheques are payable to: The Order of Australia Association (NSW Branch) and mailed to the above address.

Only Members are permitted to wear Association ties, cuff-links, scarves, brooches and to use its car window sticker.

REPLACEMENT OF LAPEL PINS

Replacement of lapel pins and ladies' brooches (part of insignia) are available for purchase by contacting the Honours Secretariat, Government House, Canberra. The prices for these can vary so it would be advisable to phone for current price prior to requesting purchase. **The 'phone number to ring is (02) 6283 3617.**

Payment for these can be made by cheque/money order to "The Collector of Public Monies" or over the phone by quoting your credit card details.