

Outstanding student citizenship achievement showcased at Parliament House in September

A gathering of 150 people comprising secondary school students, family members, education representatives and OAA members from across Queensland attended the 2011 Secondary Schools Student Citizenship Awards Presentation on Friday 16 September at Parliament House in Brisbane. This was an unprecedented number of guests and necessitated extra seating in the Red Chamber! Guest of Honour, Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland, presented fourteen students with their medallions and Certificates of Merit, and Awards sponsor, Mr Peter Honeycombe presented Certificates of Community Service to ten local students.

Nominations had been received for 60 students and the judging panel members, Dr Bruce Cook OAM, Mr Bruce Howden OAM, Ms Sallyanne Freney, and Mrs Dina Browne AO, were again

struck by the extraordinary commitment to community service amongst young Queenslanders. The standard was particularly high and the finalists came from across the state, from Gordonvale to Gold Coast. The OAA is grateful for the continued

support of Queensland schools in nominating deserving students for the Awards.

Her Excellency gave a stirring address on the nature of citizenship, drawing attention to the Australian Government's criteria for immigrants seeking citizenship and suggesting that schools should provide all students with opportunities for serious, meaningful exploration of citizenship. Ms Wensley congratulated the students on their involvement in community service which is one of the hallmarks of citizenship.

Eliza Michael (Mareeba State High School) and Emily Moore (Kirwan State High School) on saxophone and flute respectively, provided musical breaks during the ceremony and the function concluded with afternoon tea in the Premiers' Hall. The Governor stayed on for a cup of tea, and delighted students and their families by making

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Welcome
Welcome from Queensland
Branch Chairman
Tony Webber AM
Read his report on page 2

*To foster love of and pride
in Australian citizenship
and to uphold the high
principles and prestige of
the Order of Australia*



The Class of 2011 – Fourteen outstanding young Queenslanders enjoy a moment with the Governor of Queensland at the Red Chamber, Parliament House, Brisbane. In the photo from left to right: Prof Tony Webber AM, Chairman, OAA, Queensland Branch; Stephanie Freeman (Albany Creek SHS); Steven Falconieri (Ingham SHS); Jenna Freeman (Albany Creek SHS); Jack Larkin (Proserpine SHS); Anastasia Musson (St Hilda's School); HE Ms Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland; Jenna-Maree Jacob (Cairns SHS); Rotem Nussem (Brisbane Girls Grammar School); Felicity Honnef (Gordonvale SHS); Stephanie Stone (Lourdes Hill College); Matthew Connolly (Cannon Hill Anglican College); Yasmin Murry (Cannon Hill Anglican College); Patrick Mullner (Rivermount College); Eliza Michael (Mareeba SHS); Emily Moore (Kirwan SHS); Mrs Dina Browne AO. □



Chairman's
welcome

A message
from the
Queensland
Branch
Chairman

Fourteen
outstanding
Australians
honoured

Honours
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the regional
groups

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Message from Queensland Branch Chairman Tony Webber AM

This has indeed been both an interesting and a busy period since our last bulletin.

My wife, Valerie, and I have had the privilege of meeting members in the Sunshine Coast, Bundaberg and Rockhampton regions and by chance I was in Washington DC in June and included in a reception organized by the North American Chapter of the association. More recently the Secondary Schools Student Citizenship Awards in Parliament House and the lunch to welcome recipients of 2011 Queen's Birthday Order of Australia awards have concluded a very busy time for the branch committee.

I did not know just how bad my knowledge of Queensland geography was when I accepted the invitation from Bundaberg Regional Convener, Kevin Gould OAM to the Regional Group's lunch at Mt Perry on Saturday 16 July. Now, while it turns out that Mt Perry is just a short 100km or so from Bundaberg, many of those who attended travelled much further. While the day was decidedly chilly, we were warmly welcomed and enjoyed all aspects of the visit.

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Outstanding student citizenship achievement...

a point of meeting and speaking with them all. The Association is indebted to Ms Wensley for her time, so graciously given, and for the insights she shared with the audience in her address. Special thanks also to Peter Honeycombe from Honeycombes Property Group for his continued generous sponsorship of the event and to Professor Klaus Bremhorst AM for again taking on the role of Awards organiser.

A summary of the achievements of each of the fourteen students will appear in the near future in the Queensland segment of our website at:

www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au under the section relating to Secondary Schools Citizenship Awards. □

The Sunshine Coast Regional meeting held on 28 July at Tranquil Park in Maleny drew twenty-nine members and twenty-seven guests. In the absence of a regional convener, this meeting was arranged by the branch committee with Secretary Geoff Cowles OAM, handling the bulk of the administrative activities. We all enjoyed a "Christmas in July" lunch in an idyllic setting and I am very pleased to report that Lorraine Marsh OAM has agreed to take on the role of Regional Convener.

Our trip to Rockhampton was really another first as my only previous visit was an overnight stay on an unexpected drive from Cairns to Brisbane during an airline strike. Regional convener Raymond Young OAM made sure we had a good understanding of the city's layout and points of interest on the Sunday and that we were introduced to all who attended the lunch and the "Improving our Community" Awards Presentation where prizes and certificates were presented to Junior High School students on Monday 5 September.

Knowing that a business trip was to take me to Washington DC in June I had contacted Greg Copley AM, convener of the North American chapter of the association, with the view that we meet over coffee or lunch to discuss

items of common interest. He in turn invited me to a reception to be hosted by their Patron, the Australian Ambassador, the Hon Kim Beasley AC, in honour of a visit by OAA National President, the Hon Shane Stone AC, who was attending a meeting in Washington at the same time as my visit. Arriving before the official party I was surprised to be greeted by a gentleman who extended his hand and said, "G'day, my name is John and this is my wife, Janette," to which I could reply, "I do recognize you Mr. Howard." While this occasion was a little more formal than the regional lunches reported above, I was struck by the common bond that, irrespective of political or other differences, the honour and pride of having received an award in the Order is a shared one.

In what was clearly a day of great significance for the fourteen finalists in this year's Secondary Schools' Citizenship Awards, it was my honour to welcome our Branch Patron, Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland, to present to these finalists Certificates of Merit and the association's medallion. The ceremony was attended by over 150, and indeed the whole program is made possible by the generous sponsorship of Mr. Peter Honeycombe of Honeycombes

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Mr Tom Corcoran OAM, The Hon. Kim Beasley AC, Mr Gregory Copley AM, Mrs Josephine Stone AM, The Hon Shane Stone AC, Prof Anthony Webber AM, The Hon. John Howard AC, Dr Paul Scully-Power AM.

Fourteen outstanding Australians honoured at Broncos Leagues Club



Our "Fabulous Fourteen" at the Broncos in September
Front row - Bevan Christensen OAM; Delma Fitton OAM;
Sr Patricia Dent OAM; Elizabeth Grace OAM; Wilfred Ardill OAM.

Back row - Dr Gregory McKeon AM; Laurence Christie OAM;
Peter Numan OAM; Barry O'Shea OAM; Ralph Davies OAM;
Dr Barry Hicks AM; Lewis Lee OAM; Darryl Seccombe OAM;
Gordon Watson OAM

Fourteen of forty-three recipients of Order of Australia Awards in this year's Queen's Birthday honours were special guests at our Luncheon on 28 September 2011 at Broncos Leagues Club in Red Hill, Brisbane.

Ninety people attended the gala event including the recipients, their families and friends and twenty-two members and their guests.

The Broncos put on a splendid lunch following Grace delivered by the amazing Sister Patricia Dent OAM, our oldest recipient at 93 years young. The real highlights, however, were the first hand accounts from each

Report from Geoff Cowles OAM Hon Secretary

recipient. We heard stories ranging from outstanding community service, service to children's music, humanitarian medical aid provided in Ethiopia through to promotion of warehouse cricket, charitable deeds and service to local government and environmental science. We showcased our newest members of the Order of Australia as a great celebration in great style.

The formal proceedings, capably handled by Master of

Ceremonies Royce Voss OAM, featured Phil Blakey OAM proposing the Loyal Toast; Ray Young OAM proposing the Toast to the Order of Australia, Adjunct Professor Mary Mahoney AO proposing an eloquent Toast to our fourteen recipients and Professor Tony Webber AM delivering his Chairman's Speech of Welcome. The day's entertainment concluded with a stirring response from Dr Barry Hicks AM, who on behalf of the recipients thanked the Association for putting on such a splendid event. We await the next luncheon in May 2012 for the next Australia Day recipients with great anticipation. □

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Property Group for which the association is most grateful.

It appears that the change to a lunch-time format to welcome new recipients of awards in the Order has been accepted with another successful event held at the Broncos Leagues Club on 28 September for this year's Queen's Birthday recipients. At the four

investiture ceremonies held 26 to 30 September the association was represented by Raymond Young OAM (Monday), Philip Blakey OAM (Tuesday), Paul McNally OAM (Wednesday) and myself (Friday).

Looking forward I hope that many will join us at the morning tea function to be held at the Institute

of Molecular Bioscience at the University of Queensland on 20 October and the Annual General Meeting and Annual Dinner on 21 November.

This will be our last Bulletin for 2011 and while it may be early it is my only chance to wish all members a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year. □



Honours News and Notices

Stumped for somewhere to dine out? Don't let the Annual Christmas Dinner "go through to the keeper"

The Annual Christmas Dinner of the Queensland Branch will be held at a different venue this year and on a different evening and at a reduced cost to last year. Your Committee has secured the Captains' Room at The Pavilion at Allan Border Field, 1 Bogan Street, Breakfast Creek, the home of Queensland Cricket for this gala black tie occasion. It will be held on Monday evening 21 November 2011. Priced at just \$75 a head you will get a three course dinner, tea and coffee, a complimentary bottle of red and white wine on each table, Christmas cocktails and canapés on arrival from 7pm and lots of Christmas trimmings in very pleasant surroundings.

We will ensure that you will be thoroughly entertained with an excellent occasional guest speaker and you will have lots of opportunity to socialize and wish all your friends in the Association the best of Christmas greetings. The venue holds 170 guests and your Committee would love to fill the place to capacity. So book early to avoid disappointment. We even have access to the Grandstand overlooking the



Allan Border Field if you wish to get some fresh air or some quiet time during the evening. An information flyer with an RSVP form attached is included as an insert in this Bulletin or you can download a copy of this flyer from the Queensland segment of our website at www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au.

The really good news is that there is lots and lots of free on-site parking available.

Prior to the Dinner we will maintain past practice and conduct our Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the same venue commencing 6:30pm on the same night. You don't have to come to the AGM to attend the

Dinner. However we would love to have a good turnout attend to find out what your Committee has been doing throughout 2011 and to elect a new Committee. Initial AGM paperwork was circulated to all members in a mail out during late August. This paperwork is also available from our website at www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au.

An agenda is included on the reverse side of the flyer insert.

Enquiries to Geoff Cowles OAM, Hon Secretary on 07 3351 4991 or geoff.cowles@aanet.com.au.

Ensure you and your partner and friends have the "runs on the board" by making sure you intend being there. □

Nominating for an award in the Order of Australia

Members of the Association are encouraged to nominate outstanding Australians for awards in the Order of Australia. If you know a person you consider might be a worthy recipient of an award, you can obtain a nomination form on-line at the Honours web-site www.itsan-honour.gov.au or you can leave your name and postal address on the Honours free call, 24 hour answering service - phone: 1800 552 275.

2012 National Conference

The Order of Australia Association 2012 National Conference will be held in Darwin on 12 and 13 April 2012. Information about the conference is available on the Association's web-site and will be published in The Order.

Lost and damaged insignia

Replacement insignia and lapel pins can be obtained from:

The Secretary
The Order of Australia
Government House
Yarralumla ACT 2600
Telephone: (02) 6283 3533
Email: honours@gg.gov.au



Vale List

- Arthur Vey Angove OAM**
- Clyde Ian Barclay AM CBE**
- Phyllis Joyce Bonwick OAM**
- John Joseph Byrne OAM**
- Dorothy (Dot) Jean Campton OAM**
- Jacqueline Anne Davie OAM**
- Leonard Giltrow OAM**
- Harry Hauenschild AO**
- Maxwell Howell AM**
- Donald Winston Jowett OAM**
- William O'Brien OAM OBE**
- Robert Peter Schmidt OAM**
- Hazel Winifred Taylor OAM**

Dorothy (Dot) Campton OAM 1932-2011

Dot was an enthusiastic supporter of the Association from the minute she joined after receiving her Award in the Order on Australia Day 1994 for service to youth, particularly to those with disabilities. Dot served on the NSW Branch committee before coming to live in Queensland. She promptly volunteered to help the Queensland Branch and was soon a full-time member of the committee. Dot was an indefatigable worker and attended all the Branch functions, usually manning the reception desk, and acting as host to members and guests. She was the driving force behind the establishment of the Branch's Primary Schools' Citizenship Awards and when budget constraints threatened the award scheme, Dot privately and anonymously provided the sponsorship to keep them going. Ill health meant that eventually she had to give up committee work but she still attended branch functions when she was able to, and she never lost her warmth, wit and ready smile. Dot typified the generosity and commitment for which Honours recipients are recognised. Dot passed away on 25 September. She will be sadly missed. □

News from the Regional Groups

Bundaberg Regional Group

Report: Kevin Gould OAM, Convener

The Bundaberg Regional Group members held their latest event at Mount Perry on 16 July. Queensland Branch Chairman, Tony Webber AM attended and was guest speaker.

The Group's next event will be a Christmas gathering at Childers on 3 December. To celebrate the Group's twelfth birthday members will meet in Bundaberg on 10 March 2012.

Kevin Gould OAM, reports that John Joseph Byrne OAM, a strong supporter of the Regional Group, was farewelled on 26 September at a Requiem Mass celebrated by the parish priest of Bundaberg, the Bishop of Rockhampton and other clergy. Amongst the gathering, of more than 500 were the Federal Member, the Deputy Mayor, former Mayors, a number of regional councillors and members of the Order of Australia Association.

John Byrne's voluntary work was spread over many years and he was made life member of four organisations. He served several terms as secretary and president of the Brothers Sports Club. Other organisations which benefited from his contribution included the Mater Hospital, Kepnock Grove aged care facility and Rotary.

John Byrne was awarded the Citizen of the Year in 2003 and the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2004.

Bundaberg members at Mount Perry luncheon



Gold Coast Regional Group

Report: Bill Collins AO, Convener

Forty-four members and guests attended the Gold Coast Regional Group lunch on 28 June at the Southport Golf Club including three who have joined the Association having received awards in 2011. A local association member Professor Errol Maguire AM RFD spoke on his life including his education at St Joseph's College and Queensland University and then his experience as a surgeon, academic and officer in the Army Reserve. His Reserve service included time overseas in Malaysia, Bougainville and East Timor. All who attended thought he was an excellent speaker and a member of whom the Association can be proud. Geoff Cowles OAM represented the Queensland Branch Committee with his wife Charyl at this event.

One of those attending was Dr Charles Roe AM (Australia Day list 2011) who had served as an RAAF medical officer in World War II in No 76 Fighter Squadron. He was delighted to meet Errol Maguire again as he had taught him in his undergraduate years.



Prof Errol Maguire AM, Dr Charles Roe AM, AVM (Rtd) Bill Collins AO

Gold Coast Region members have received an invitation to the next function, a Garden Party

at "Jabiru", Mudgeeraba, on 29 October 2011. All Association members are welcome to attend and may arrange this by contacting AVM Bill Collins AO on 07 5538 7375. The Association has held a number of such functions at "Jabiru" which is the home of Mr John Kearney AM QC and Mrs Alison Kearney who have again graciously offered the Association the use of the beautiful grounds of their home for this function.

Darling Downs Regional Group

Report: Paul McNally OAM, Convener

Several members from the Darling Downs Regional Group enjoyed a fine morning tea in Toowoomba on Friday 14 October 2011 held at the Town and Country Club in Neil Street. Karl Hertle OAM, a member of the Regional Group addressed the gathering of around 40 people on his work in establishing Life Education Queensland.

Central Queensland Regional Group

Report: Raymond Young OAM, Convener

The Capricornia "Improving our Community" Award programme conducted by the Central Queensland Regional Group reached its climax at a special presentation at the Annual Luncheon held in Rockhampton on Monday 5 September 2011. Tony Webber AM, Queensland Branch Chairman, was guest speaker and presented the Group's 2011 Student Community awards. The Award is presented to students selected from their school community from Grades 8, 9 or 10 who speak on a subject of their choosing which illustrates an initiative to improve our community..

Improving our Community award winners with Raymond Young OAM and Prof Tony Webber AM



Sunshine Coast Regional Group

A very successful Christmas in July Lunch for the Sunshine Coast Regional Group was attended by 56 members and their guests at Tranquil Park, Maleny, on Thursday 28 July 2011. The Queensland Branch committee organised this event in the absence of a current Convener. As mentioned in the Chairman's report, Lorraine Marsh OAM has agreed to be the new Convener of the Group for 2012.

Townsville Regional Group

Report: Neil Weeks AM MC, Convener

Each year the Townsville Regional Group holds its Annual Order of Australia Association Dinner, this year on Saturday 10 September. Thirty-one award recipients attended with their partners and friends.

We were honoured to have several new awardees attend their first dinner with us - Ron Store OAM and his wife, Carmel; John Jewell OAM and his wife, Dorelle; and Jim Rebgetz OAM and his wife, Lorna. We also welcomed the following recipients who, for various reasons, had been unable to attend a previous dinner: Barbara Hayes OAM; "King" Glendon OAM and his wife, Anna; Mick Johnson OAM and his wife, Sharon (Mick had just recently returned from a tour of duty in Afghanistan); and Doris Moore OAM and her son, John.

Our Guest Speaker was Dr Vic Callanan AM, Senior Staff Anaesthetist at the Townsville Hospital and an Adjunct Professor at the James Cook University Medical School. Dr Callanan gave an outstanding presentation on the growth of medicine in the Townsville region, where he has lived and served in various medical appointments for 36 years, being the Director of Intensive Care for 27 of those years. He spoke of his involvement with the treatment of box jellyfish i n v e n o m a t i o n by the use of vinegar (previously methylated spirits

had been used which simply "fired up" the sting and exacerbated the in venomation). Dr Callanan had also been involved in developing the very first "stinger suits" and retains his original garment despite approaches to donate it to a museum!! Vic held us all spellbound with his historical account of anaesthetics and other matters and he was warmly applauded for a most informative address which was interspersed with the humorous side of medicine.

Neil Weekes AM thanked Stuart Smith AM and his wife, Karen, as well as Grant McFarlane OAM and his wife, Tracey, for their excellent support during the last three years. Stuart has been posted to Afghanistan at the end of the year and Grant departs at the same time for Sydney. □

Membership of the Order of Australia Association

The Order of Australia Association invites and encourages all women and men who have received an award in the Order of Australia to become members of the Association. Our Association has branches in each state and territory and in the United Kingdom. The national body and each branch undertake activities in support of the community and social activities for our members. We promote and encourage the nomination of our fellow Australians for awards within the Order. For lots of information about the Association go to our website:

www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au



Stuart Smith AM, Karen Smith, Doreen Callanan, Vic Callanan AM, Beverley de Jersey at Townsville Dinner

Queensland Branch



Patron: Her Excellency, Ms Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland

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Mr Phillip Blakey OAM, Member

AVM (Rtd) Bill Collins AO, Member

Mr Bruce Howden OAM, Member

Dr Mary Mahoney AO, Member

Mr Paul McNally OAM, Member and Bulletin Editor

Mr Raymond Young OAM, Member

Mrs Dina Browne AO, Co-opted Member

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