



Order of Australia Association Ltd Newsletter Tasmanian Branch

State Secretary - Linley Grant OAM, 79 Mount Stuart Road MOUNT STUART 7000

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Congratulations

The State Chairman and members of the Association in Tasmania sincerely congratulate the following recipients of the Honours announced on Australia Day - 26 January 2011.

Australia Day Honours 2011

NAME

Maj. Gen. Aziz G Melick AO RFD

Mr Gary Cleveland AM

Dr Anthony Smith AM

Mr Peter Spratt AM

Mrs Marguerite Eldridge OAM

The Reverend Ivan Jordan OAM

Mrs Verl Jordan OAM

Mrs Cloris Martin OAM

Mr Terence Matthews OAM

Mr Bruce Scott OAM

FOR SERVICE TO

8th Brigade, as Commander and service to the Australian Defence Forces.

the visual arts through executive roles

marine science through research

engineering and conservation of historic buildings

the community of Stanley, and to the arts.

the Indigenous community of the Northern Territory

the Indigenous community of the Northern Territory

the community of George Town via organisations

the community of Devonport via many organisations

Scottsdale veterans and their families

Changes in Membership

NEW MEMBERS: The State Committee and members of the Tasmanian Branch sincerely welcome those members who have joined the Tasmanian Branch of the Association since the previous edition of the Newsletter, including – Mr P Bennison OAM, Mr & Mrs R Boyd OAMs, Mrs J. Creed OAM, Ald S. French AM, Mrs R Hanson OAM, Mr T Reid OAM, Mr K Richards OAM, Mrs L Uptin OAM and Lt Col. O Winter, OAM RFD, ED (Ret).

VALE & RESIGNATIONS: The Branch greatly regrets the passing of : Messrs A Dziendziel OAM MBE, M. Hill OAM, C. Radford OAM and Rev. Dr. T. Wallace AM. A number of members have resigned since the previous edition of the Newsletter; we wish them well.

We recall, with appreciation, the support these members have given to the Association.

Please note that The Order of Australia Association banners are available in each region for use at memorial services for all those members who have been active in the Tasmanian Branch.

Post – Investiture Dinner for New Recipients – 20 May 2011

New Recipients and their guests and members of the Association and their guests are invited to celebrate the achievements of the newest recipients of the Order of Australia Award. Please join together with us to celebrate their achievements at the Post-Investiture Dinner in the Derwent Room, at WREST POINT, Sandy Bay 7005 on Friday 20 May at 6.30 for 7.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. The cost per person is \$70. New recipients are our guests. We are delighted to announce that **Mr Kenneth von Bibra AM** will be the long-awaited Guest Speaker on this occasion. Booking before the RSVP date is sincerely appreciated.

Miniature medals should be worn by members to help identify the new recipients, who will wear their full medals.

DINNER WILL CONSIST OF 'ALTERNATE DROP':

Main Course: Macadamia and rocket pesto crusted chicken breast, potato galette with sauteed spinach and slow roasted tomato served with verjuice cream; or
Slowly braised lamb shank, oven roasted vegetables and herb mash with red currant jus.

Dessert: Chocmisu, layered chocolate and coffee tiramisu, apricot compote and espresso coffee anglaise; or
Pear and almond tart, caramel and rocky road ice cream with sour caramel sauce

ROOM RESERVATIONS

To make a reservation at Wrest Point please phone Group Reservations on 1800 139 760 or

email: groups@federalgroup.com.au, quoting 'Post Investiture Dinner – Order of Australia' and block number **455921**. Room rates range from \$129.00 to \$267.00 per night.

STATE CHAIRMAN'S LETTER TO MEMBERS

This is my first opportunity to welcome new recipients and members and to write in this publication following the recent National Meeting of the Association in Hobart. The Meeting was indeed a great success due to the considerable effort by everyone one involved and I would like to convey my sincere thanks for their hard work. While there were fewer visitors taking the option to participate in the pre and post Meeting tours, all those who did were unanimous in their praise of their tour leaders and the destinations. However, the National Meeting and associated activities were well attended by the 174 registrants.

Some highlights of the National Meeting were the speakers at the Symposium and the Multi-faith Observance. Their thoughtful and interesting presentations were widely appreciated by all attendees. The wreath-laying ceremony provoked much comment as people found it quite a moving experience enhanced with the presence of the Navy's *Young Endeavour*.

The investiture at Government House of the recent recipients of awards announced on Australia Day will be held on Friday, 20th May. I request members to consider attending the Post Investiture Dinner at Wrest Point that evening. In this way we can make the special day for the new recipients even more memorable.

Alastair Douglas OAM

NATIONAL MEETING - HOBART 10-11 February 2011

The 25th National Meeting consisted of a series of experiments with serendipitous results. Our aim was to significantly increase the number of registrants (174) and to have the members feel engaged and not just spectators. It seems that we succeeded. During and since the event, at least 100 registrants have approached our committee members with praise; which far outweighed the few who had minor complaints. Each part of the whole event went off smoothly and successfully and each person involved fulfilled their role most effectively. There were small problems, but nothing major occurred to mar the whole. Even the weather was gentle. The event was run at the lowest cost possible without sacrificing the quality of past Conferences. The financial report is forthcoming; there may be a small profit. The NSW donation of \$2000 and grant of \$1500 by the Premier of Tasmania were greatly appreciated.

The Organising Committee consisted of eight wonderful, reliable and competent members – Pat Igoe AM, Alastair Douglas OAM, Bill Flassman AM, Brian Sims AM, Maureen Rudge OAM, Kath Venn OAM, Jim Colville AM and Linley Grant OAM who each pulled their weight beyond all asking. Other Tasmanians volunteered their help and were an absolute boon, including several individuals – Col. Anthony McGee AM, Mesdames Bernadette Connor OAM, Bev Harris OAM, Audrey Smith OAM, Jane Short and Jenny Douglas; as well as the teams which helped with the cake cutting, the conference-bag filling, the registration and catering teams at the Registration event. Members state-wide, responded magnificently - about 40 in all. We thank each of them. Two Directors were unstinting in their assistance –National Chairman Dina Browne AO and National Conference Co-ordinator Bill Galvin OAM. The staff at the Town Hall and Wrest Point were most professional and helpful.

The theme *UNITY AND AUSTRALIAN VALUES*, seemed to strike a strong chord with registrants.

The registration process with its opportunity to meet, sit and talk was popular. Also, the snack lunch for the "workers" and the disabled. The Lord Mayor's welcome, the music and the four speakers at the Symposium – UTAS Chancellor Damian Bugg AM, Prof. Kate Warner, Christina Henri MA and Hon. Ray Groom AO, were excellent and well received by an audience of 178. (*Copies of speeches are available if requested*). Members enjoyed the tour and reception at Parliament House. The Multi-faith Observance, attended by 184, was completely different and quite memorable, with several unique features including the leaders of different faiths reading together the World Charter of Compassion, the lighting of the Candle of Unity, the glorious singing of the TSO Chorus and the African Choir, the floating of the Wreath and petals by all members, with the Young Endeavour positioned in front of the ceremony and the sailors floating their flowers with ours and firing a two gun salute to quiet music inside and a bagpiper playing a lament outside, above us. All contributed to the feeling of moving inclusiveness and unity. Sir Guy Green's speech was outstanding. It should not be summarised; (we will forward a copy to any member who requests it). The AGM went off smoothly. MC for the Forum, Richard Herr OAM, flew back especially to take part and ensured its success. The luncheon for 113 at Wrest Point was a buzz of happy talk.

The Reception at Government House was, as always, enjoyably superb; registrants were able to enjoy the peace of the lovely gardens as well as the memorable interior. The Dinner flowed smoothly and was an impressive event, attended by 250 members and community representatives. The décor and quality of service by Wrest Point staff was splendid. The magnificent Anniversary cake was made by a CWA member and cut by outgoing Chairman Dina Browne AO and John and Joan Elliston AMs – with over 50 years of combined membership. The speeches, including His Excellency's and those of the two Foundation awardees were also excellent. The MCs and musicians for each event were outstanding. Many compliments have been received from members and community attendees. A satisfying lunch aboard the *MV Cartela* on Saturday during the Wooden Boat Festival provided a fitting conclusion.

The take-up on the tours was surprisingly low and disappointing, leading to cancellation of coaches and changes in itineraries. All who did take part said that those who did not do so, missed 'something special.' We thank and praise each member of the Regional Groups, in particular Betty Hite, Neville Bingham, Pat Igoe, Graham Barwick, Robin Hood, Bernadette Connor, John Thorne and Linley Grant for their preparations over the past year and for their considerable efforts during the tours. Kay Skillington, Bev Harris and Pat Igoe also deserve thanks for organising very happy dinners before and after the National Meeting.

The only other real disappointment was the lack of media coverage, despite press releases, personal contact and assurances of support. This has been followed up and it is hoped to achieve some photo coverage in the Mercury and interviews with ABC radio of the OAA Foundation awardees, Kate McCambridge and Tye van Dyk.

PHOTOGRAPHS – Photographs taken by Sarah Ryan's team at the Dinner are available for viewing and ordering at \$15 a photograph on Sarah's website.

<http://www.photoviewer.com.au/photoviewer.aspx?fid=sarahryan&albumid=OAA>

Bernadette Connor and others, also took photos of other events. The videos are yet to be finalised.

STATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS (29 July 2010 and 24 February 2011)

The State Committee met twice at Glenara Lakes, Kings Meadows. Business included -

- discussion as to whether similar groups should be allowed to affiliate with The O.A. Association;
- the need for national guidelines concerning the insertion of advertisements into The Order;
- distribution of nomination forms for the Order of Australia and Australian of the Year Awards;
- discussion on the costs of running the Branch, in particular the rising cost of the post-investiture dinners;
- discussion of the status of the OAA Foundation as a separate company which may soon have tax exemption; and the fact that Regional Groups need not raise funds for the Foundation, but support suitable local projects;
- members are asked which organisations they consider suitable to be asked to be corporate sponsors.

If readers know of members who are changing contact details, it would be appreciated if you can let the Secretary know as soon as possible.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY POST-INVESTITURE DINNER SEPTEMBER 2010

The Investiture for the Queen's Birthday recipients and their families and friends, was followed by a dinner at Wrest Point which was attended by 105 members, new recipients and guests. The program, with Rev. Jim Colville AM as MC, was most enjoyable. The Guest Speaker was Mrs Elizabeth Daly OAM, Chair of the UTAS Alumni Council, who spoke on her involvement with the Smith Family charitable institution.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 21 NOVEMBER 2010

The 2010 Annual General Meeting of the **Tasmanian Branch** was held on **21 November** at the Longford RSL Club. Members provided four questions for the National Meeting. Prior to the AGM, Rev. J. Colville AM again conducted a moving Service of Reflection. Lunch was substantial and Guest Speaker, Emeritus Professor Colman O'Flaherty AM provided food for thought as well as good humour on the virtues of ageing. Following the AGM, the State Committee met and the office-bearers were elected.

REPLACEMENT INSIGNIA

To replace lost or damaged insignia contact - The Honours Secretariat, Government House, Canberra ACT 2600. Or, Phone Nicole McDermott (02) 6283 3659

MEMBERS OF THE STATE COMMITTEE ELECTED FOR 2011

Alastair Douglas OAM – State Chairman and appointed a National Director
Rev. Jim Colville AM – Vice Chairman
Mrs Linley Grant OAM – Hon. Secretary (one year)
Mrs Maureen Rudge OAM – Hon. Treasurer

		Terms will expire in
North -	Graeme Barwick OAM	November 2012
	Pat O'Bryan OAM	November 2011
	Pat Igoe AM, State Chairman	November. 2013 (re-elected)
North-west -	Dr. Geoff Haward AM	November 2012
	Betty Hite OAM	November 2011
	Ron Blake OAM	November 2013
South -	Alastair Douglas OAM	November 2012
	Dr. John Thorne AM	November 2012
	Bernadette Connor OAM - Functions	November 2011
	Rev. Jim Colville AM, JP -Vice-Chairman	November 2011
	Maureen Rudge OAM Treasurer	November 2013
	Linley Grant OAM, State Secretary	November 2011 (re-elected)

Dr Geoffrey Haward AM has since resigned as a North-West representative. We extend our good wishes to him and the Acting Chairman, North-West Regional Group, Noel Viney OAM and thank Dr. Haward for his support.

REGIONAL GROUP REPORTS – September 2010 - February 2011

Northern Regional Group

At the AGM, Chairman Roger Valentine OAM, Hon. Secretary Mrs. Pat O'Bryan OAM were re-elected and Hon. Treasurer Mrs Joan Jacks re-appointed. The Northern members organized two successful day tours prior to and, following the National Meeting, a launch trip on the Tamar and farewell dinner The first function will be held at the Cataract Bistro on 30 June 2011. As a future function, Graeme Barwick has suggested a luncheon and tour of the Maritime Museum in George Town and a visit to the Pilot station at Low Head. He will present information at the May committee meeting.

North West Regional Group

Only two visitors enjoyed a NW tour during the National Meeting. This was disappointing as Betty Hite, in particular, had spent hours in preparation. Neville Bingham AFSM OAM, took the visitors on a very happy one day tour.

The North West Regional Group held its first meeting for 2011 at a Luncheon at the Forth Bridge Hotel on Sunday 13 March. Mr. Noel Viney OAM, who was previously the Vice Chairman, was endorsed as Acting Chairman due to the resignation of Dr Geoffrey Haward AM in early February 2011. At the AGM, Mr Ron Blake OAM was elected Treasurer and Mrs. Betty Hite was re-elected as Secretary. Further functions for the year will be the Queen's Birthday Luncheon on Monday 13 June and a Reception in late September at venues yet to be confirmed.

Southern Regional Group

The Southern Regional Group re-elected Chairman Robin Hood AM, Vice-Chairman Leona Bradley OAM and Secretary/Treasurer Alan Swinton OAM QPM, at its Annual General Meeting in October 2010. Julia Fassina, General Manager of the Royal Life Saving Society gave a very interesting outline of her activities upon receiving a Churchill Fellowship. Southern members were extensively involved in the enjoyable events related to the 2011 National Meeting. Appreciation is extended to all involved. At the regular, quarterly meeting in February, Mr Wesley Ford, the General Manager, Marine and Water Resources Division, of DPIPW spoke on the huge damage caused by a viral infection in abalone. The next meeting will be held on 25 May from 10 a.m. at the Domain Athletics Centre. It is a time of enjoyable friendship with short meetings and very interesting guest speakers.

NEWSLETTERS

State Branch Newsletters – will be emailed if you request this. Please send email addresses.

Regional Group Newsletters - Please notify your Regional Group Secretaries if you wish to receive these. They will not be forwarded otherwise. The National Web-site includes Tasmanian Branch Newsletters at www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au;

OAA TIES, SCARVES, PENS, BADGES, CONFERENCE BAGS & MORE

The State Treasurer Mrs Maureen Rudge OAM, <maurk@bigpond.com> is holding various items for sale.