



## Order of Australia

### Victoria Branch

*“fostering love of and pride in Australian citizenship”*

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#### Editor's message

Welcome to the Spring edition and the third E-newsletter for the year. It has been a very cold start to the spring this year and my friends in Regional Victoria tell me that they have been regularly facing several degrees below zero. Hope that changes soon.

In the last few months, the Victoria State Branch Committee had some interesting changes happening which are detailed throughout this newsletter. However, suffice to say that when the dust settled, I found myself taking the role of Deputy Chairman [Metropolitan] in addition to my editorial duties.



The guiding leadership of Chairman Paul Wheelton AM KSJ was a great assistance which no doubt will be continued by new Chair Diane James AM which I am looking forward to.

In this E-newsletter, you will find a new addition of *“News from the National Committee”* since Victoria now has a strong presence on the National Committee with the election of Paul Wheelton AM KSJ as the Deputy Chairman and Victorian Committee member Helene Bender OAM as the State’s representative.

You may also notice that the order of presentations from Regional Groups does not follow the traditional alphabetical order. In this edition the reports/articles are in the order they are received. It seems that the Barwon RG report is the first cab off the rank in both scenarios.

The work of the Regional Groups forms the mainstay of the Association and the countless voluntary hours put in by members can only be described as amazing. The Victoria State Branch Committee always looks forward to providing support to the Regional Groups.

Traditionally, October and November months are busiest for the functions organised by the Regional Groups and the members are encouraged to attend as many of these events as possible.

**Dr John Basarin OAM**

## Chair's message

Thank you for such a warm welcome to the role of Chair of the Victoria Branch. We are indebted to Paul Wheelton AM KSJ for the sound foundation he has established for our Committee. His focus on promoting more women to be nominated for Australian Honours, his generous philanthropy and his initiative in setting up the Inspiring Australians' Oration will long be remembered. We wish him continued success in his role as Deputy Chairman of our National Committee.



One of Paul's final tasks was to convene the OAA Reception for 2017 Honours recipients at the Alex Theatre in August. I was delighted to recognize Paul's upgrade to Member in the Australia Day List (pictured) and we look forward to his Investiture at Government House later this year. We were pleased to see that a number of recipients who attended our reception, joined the Association soon after.

We welcomed the name change for Melbourne Central Regional Group recently, and we thank Trevor Clark for organizing an excellent gathering at The Athenaeum Club, targeting Honours recipients who live or work in the CBD, and generously sponsored by Paul and Angela Wheelton. Mike Brady AM made a surprise appearance, addressing the guests.

I am currently developing my leadership priorities and look forward to sharing these with you in a future edition of this newsletter and at the AGM Luncheon in November. A key priority will be to continue our reach into the community, raising awareness of the Honours system, removing barriers to nomination, and simplifying the process to encourage greater diversity across gender, age and ethnicity.

As detailed later, I am pleased to announce that the Scholarship Fund will be sponsored by the family of late Jack Joel OAM to honour his memory.

I hope many of you will join us at the AGM and Luncheon, a popular event for our members and I look forward to meeting many of you there.

**Diane James AM**

**Upcoming Events**  
**Victoria Branch**

**2017**

**November**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November: State Branch Annual General Meeting and Luncheon.**

This is to be held at William Angliss Institute. The Annual General Meeting commences at 11:00am and the Luncheon at 12 noon.

For information contact **Fred Harrington OAM State Secretary**  
**[atsecvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:atsecvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)**

**December**

**Wednesday 20 December – Jointly with Friends of Gallipoli Inc.**

Commemoration ceremony of coming of peace to Gallipoli, between the ANZACs and the Turks- 12 noon, Shrine of Remembrance. For further information contact **Dr John Basarin OAM, [jbasarin.oaavic@gmail.com](mailto:jbasarin.oaavic@gmail.com)**

**2018**

**January**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January: Australia Day Flag Lowering Ceremony.**

March Past and Flag Lowering Ceremony at The Shrine of Remembrance, St Kilda Road, Melbourne commencing at 4:00 pm.

For further details contact **Fred Harrington OAM, OAA State Secretary at [secvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:secvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)**

**February**

**Friday 23 February: Order of Australia- Victoria Branch - Oration**

The second annual “Inspiring Australians” Oration is to be held in Deakin Edge at Federation Square commencing at 11 a.m. Bookings are available at: **[www.trybooking.com/267521](http://www.trybooking.com/267521)**. For further details contact **Fred Harrington OAM, State Secretary at [secvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:secvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)**

## **Upcoming Events** **Regional Groups**

**2017**

**October**

### **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>: Melbourne Central**

**Speaker Luncheon series** 12 Noon for 12:30pm start at Kooyong Tennis Club. Guest speaker Professor Geoffrey Blainey AC. Bookings and Payment are only available by clicking on the link [www.trybooking.com/RJYF](http://www.trybooking.com/RJYF). For enquiries or assistance with bookings contact **Trevor Clark OAM** at [tclark@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tclark@bigpond.net.au)

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>: Central Highlands**

Spring Luncheon at Quarry Restaurant, Halls Gap. For bookings or further information contact **Jean Wise OAM** at [honeywise@bigpond.com](mailto:honeywise@bigpond.com)

### **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>: Melbourne Central**

The Networking Evening to be held between 6:00pm and 8:00pm at Deakin Downtown, Collins Square Tower 2, Level 12, 727 Collins St Melbourne. Host and guest speaker is Professor Jane den Hollander AO, Vice Chancellor, Deakin University. For bookings or further information contact **Trevor Clark OAM** at [tclark@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tclark@bigpond.net.au)

### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>: Gippsland**

Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnett Address. Guest Speaker will be Professor Doug Hilton AO, CEO of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute. For bookings or further information contact **Beth Delzoppo OAM** at [bdelzoppo@bigpond.com](mailto:bdelzoppo@bigpond.com)

### **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>: South Central Suburbs**

Annual General meeting and Luncheon. Commencing at 11am at Milanos Hotel Brighton Beach. Guest speaker is Ron Raab OAM on the subject of "Diabetes". For bookings or further information contact **Roger Wilson OAM** at [rbwservices@bigpond.com](mailto:rbwservices@bigpond.com)

**November**

### **Friday 10<sup>th</sup>: Mornington Peninsula**

Afternoon Tea/ Piano Recital at Beleura House and Garden Mornington along with viewing of the Dame Nellie Melba Rose Garden in full bloom. This will also include the presentation of our School Award 2017. For bookings or further information contact **Brian Stahl OAM JP** at [ber.bri@bigpond.com](mailto:ber.bri@bigpond.com)

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>: Gippsland**

The AGM is set down for at Centenary House in Traralgon, where Neil Soullier OAM, CEO of Blue Ribbon Foundation will be the Guest Speaker. For bookings or further information contact **Beth Delzoppo OAM at [bdelzoppo@bigpond.com](mailto:bdelzoppo@bigpond.com)**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>: North East and Goulburn Valley**

Lunch and AGM will be held at Benalla Bowling Club. Guest speaker will be Jordan Eitler who is the recipient of the OAA Victoria Branch Foundation Scholarship. Invitations will be sent out in October.

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>: Eastern Suburbs**

Annual General Meeting and morning tea commencing at 10:00am at the Wheelers Hill Library. Guest speaker will be Kathy Kaplan OAM speaking on her pioneering work in the areas of women's health, domestic violence and working with Aboriginal and Islander adolescents in Northern Queensland. For bookings or further information contact **Dot Browne OAM at [dotandcol23@bigpond.com](mailto:dotandcol23@bigpond.com)**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>: Western Suburbs**

Annual General Meeting. Details to be provided closer to the event  
For bookings or further information contact **John Ravenhall at [jravenhall@bigpond.com](mailto:jravenhall@bigpond.com)**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>: Central Highlands**

Annual General Meeting. For bookings or further information contact **Jean Wise OAM at [honeywise@bigpond.com](mailto:honeywise@bigpond.com)**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>: Regional Groups meeting**

The meeting is to be held between 2:00pm and 4:00pm at William Angliss Institute following the State Branch AGM and Luncheon.

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>: South Central Suburbs**

Annual Dinner to be held at the Sandringham Club commencing at 6.30pm. Guest speaker is Sal Perna, the first Victorian Racing Integrity Commissioner. For bookings or further information contact **Roger Wilson OAM at [rbwservices@bigpond.com](mailto:rbwservices@bigpond.com)**

**Thursday November 30: Barwon**

We have received an excellent response from OAA Victoria members pre-booking for our annual luncheon and Archibald Prize Exhibition tour. All new requests will be placed on a wait list. For additional information please contact **Helene Bender OAM Barwon Regional Group Secretary at [helenebender@westnet.com.au](mailto:helenebender@westnet.com.au)**

**December - No events reported for this edition.**

## News from the National Committee

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The National Board met in Melbourne August 21/22, 2017 with the focus to build on the work of the previous Committee and grow the Order of Australia Association.

Diversity of nominations is essential and now is the time to think outside the square. All Victoria Branch Regional Groups have a diverse community with achievers of all ages who have made a significant difference in service clubs, health & hospitals, sporting clubs, local government, business community, arts, community based services and youth organisations to name a few sectors.



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Membership growth and retention is imperative and work is underway to produce appropriate marketing material next year to assist Branches and Regional Groups grow and retain membership. Cost efficiencies in many areas including The Order magazine whilst retaining the quality is fundamental to our ongoing viability.

The next edition of The Order will include a progress report from National Chair Maj. Gen. Barry Nunn AO RFD ED.

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On another note, I am at times asked by recipients, after their investiture, which medal is correct to wear on which occasion.

The large medal is normally worn to daytime functions.

The miniature medal is worn to evening functions usually from 6.00pm and when the dress code is 'After 5'.

The wearing of the lapel badge is encouraged on civilian clothing at all times. It is not worn with either full-size or miniature insignia.

[[http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/about\\_us/wearing\\_of\\_awards.php](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/about_us/wearing_of_awards.php)]

Victoria Branch invitations will always indicate which medal is appropriate and we encourage Regional Groups to do the same.

**Helene Bender OAM**  
**Victoria Branch Representative**

## News from the State Branch Committee

### Scholarship Sponsored by the Family of late Jack Joel OAM

Jack Joel OAM led a wonderful life until his passing in March 2017 at age 84. Born in Williamstown to the son of the local doctor, Jack was educated at Wesley College and then briefly studied medicine at Melbourne University. He quickly realised that he was not cut out to follow in his father's footsteps and with a strong sense of adventure and entrepreneurial spirit, left university to pursue his own and successful career path.

Whilst Jack did not complete his tertiary studies he always spoke of the importance of a good education and, with this in mind, Jack's wife Karen and his four children have agreed to sponsor an Order of Australia Foundation Scholarship, and to provide a worthy recipient with the opportunity to realise their academic potential, in Jack's honour and memory. Sponsorship will be made in three \$15k installments per year from 2018 onwards.



### National Committee Deputy Chairman, Victorian Representation on the National Committee, State Chair and Deputy Chair - Metropolitan

Paul Wheelton AM KSJ has been elected to the role of Deputy Chairman of the National Committee. Paul's position as the Victorian Representative on the National Committee has been filled by Helene Bender OAM. Following on from Paul's resignation as the Chairman of the State Branch, Diane James AM has been appointed as the State Chair. Dr John Basarin OAM was appointed to the position of Deputy Chair – Metropolitan vacated by Diane. John will also continue in his roles as Editor of the State E-newsletter and the Victorian content for The Order.

## **Recipients of Australia Day and Queens birthday honours welcomed by the Victoria Branch Committee of the Order of Australia Association**

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August, The Alex Theatre in St Kilda was filled with an amazing array of talent and goodwill. The afternoon was the official function organised by the Victoria Branch Committee to honour, congratulate and welcome this year's Australia Day and Queen's Birthday Award recipients.

The incomparable David Mann OAM emceed the function with humour and style. Chairman Paul Wheelton AM KSJ and Committee Member Helene Bender OAM, spoke of the objectives and activities of the Association, nationally and throughout the State.

Creating a wonderful atmosphere The Australian Women's Choir, led by the iconic Wendy Stapleton and her equally talented daughter Ally McNaughton, sang stirring renditions of the *National Anthem* followed by '*I Still Call Australia Home*' and '*I am Australian*'.

It was an honour for all to be in the company of so many distinguished awardees - leaders and contributors in their fields: charity, sport, medicine, welfare and the arts, to name just a few.

Sponsored by the generous Mr Aleks and Mrs Susan Vass, owners of The Alex Theatre, along with the involvement of their fabulous team, guests were treated to a superb afternoon tea and the opportunity to meet and socialise with other worthy recipients.



Chairman Paul Wheelton AM KSJ acknowledging John Gandel AC

## **Annual General Meeting**

The 2017 Annual General meeting will be held on Wednesday 22 November commencing at 11:00 at the William Angliss Institute. The formal Notice of Meeting and Nomination Form for State Branch Committee positions will be mailed to all members to members during October.

A copy of the Minutes of the 2016 meeting and other information are available from the Victoria Branch web pages of the OAA website.

Members should note that there will be **two changes** from previous years. The first of the changes results from the timing of the OAA financial year moving from Oct/Sep to Jan/Dec. As a result, after the business items including elections are completed, the AGM will be adjourned and a Special General Meeting to be held in February 2018 for the sole purpose of considering the end of year financial reports.

The second change relates to the Victoria Branch representative on the National Board. Nominations for this position will be called at the same time as State Branch nominations for State Branch positions and will be included on the ballot paper distributed prior to the Annual General Meeting. However the voting on this position will be undertaken by the State Branch committee in April 2018 immediately prior to the National AGM.

## **State Treasurer**

After a successful term, Julian Stock AM resigned from the position of State Treasurer at the August State Branch Committee meeting. Julian has held the position of Treasurer for the past five years. In addition Julian has been responsible for organising the visit to the National Gallery in recent years. He also has been an integral part of the Merchandising subcommittee.

Julian has been co-opted onto the committee to assist in the transition until the AGM in November. Following Julian's resignation Wayne Myers OAM KGSJ CPA from Barwon Regional Group has been appointed as State Treasurer.

## **The Order of Australia Association – Merchandise**

Association members are able to purchase the Association's merchandise. The current selection of merchandise can be ordered via:

**Mr Richard Rozen OAM, National Merchandise Officer**

**E-mail: [rozenr@bigpond.com](mailto:rozenr@bigpond.com) Phone (03) 9592 8068**

## News from the Regional Groups

### Barwon

#### **Civic Reception for 2017 Barwon Recipients**

On Wednesday July 26, 2017 the City of Greater Geelong hosted at The Gordon Gallery a Civic Reception for the seven Australia Day and fourteen Queen's Birthday recipients noting also one posthumous.

One of the Administrators of the City of Greater Geelong, Peter Dorling acknowledged the excellent contribution all recipients have made for many years to our region and beyond. He also noted there was an AO and 3 AM recipients this year in the Barwon Region.

Diane James AM, State Chair, Helene Bender OAM, National Board Director and State Committee member and Cathy Roth OAM State Committee member also attended the Civic Reception.

Queen's Birthday another husband and wife team from the Barwon Region Group were worthy recipients, Mrs Phillipa Challis OAM and The late Derek Challis OAM.

Phillipa's service to the community includes Director Zonta Club of Geelong, President, Vice President and Membership Convenor. Part-time fundraiser coordinator at Mercy Family Centre, Director Geelong Chamber of Commerce and Chair of Program and Development Committee, Volunteer at McKellar Centre and Barwon Health. Coordinator of TARTS (Top and Really Terrific Sorts) luncheon group who meet the first Friday of the month supporting local charities. Founder Laughter Club of Victoria and Geelong; you will often see Phillipa and the laughter group out and about in Geelong on a Saturday morning.



*Phillipa Challis OAM at the City of Greater Geelong Civic Reception having received her Council crested medallion.*

Derek's OAM was for services to Lions Club International including National Chairman, District Member and Life Member plus District Cabinet Secretary, District Governor, District Chair, and East Timor Projects for seven years. Locally he was a Member and President of the Lions Club of Anglesea and then Geelong spanning 47 years of excellent service above and beyond. Derek was also Vice-President and Secretary of the Victorian Division of the Institute of Mercantile Agents and Managing Director and Founder of the Challis Group, services include process serving and debt collection. Derek's daughter Michelle has taken over as Managing Director. Two worthy recipients who have given years of service to the Barwon community – thank you.

**VALE Major Ian Barnes OAM ED FRD**

August 20, 1927 – August 25, 2017

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Order of Australia Association Barwon Regional Group former Chairman Lloyd Gosling AM attended the funeral service for Major Ian Barnes OAM ED FRD on Friday September 1, 2017 at Lyndon Grove. Lloyd felt it was his melancholy duty to attend the service for his old friend who had a full of giving back to the community.

Ian's life story was told by seven people covering a family tribute, Military Historical Society Australia, Militaria, Military Service and Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies. Barry Abley husband of our current Chair Barbara Abley AM spoke about Ian's service to the National Service Geelong. As expected, most of the speeches centered on Ian's history, his passion for collecting Militaria, and his many years of service to the community.

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Ian was Branch President for over 20 years of the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) promoting National Security of Defence and awarded life membership in 2008. He was Foundation Member of the Geelong Branch and Past President of Military Historical Society, coordinator for re-enactments of notable past events.

He was an active member of Geelong Sub-Branch of the Returned and Services League (RSL) of Australia, former Historian; participant Fort Queenscliff Centenary Celebrations, involved in the establishment of the Fort Museum and Founding Member of 'Friends of the Fort'.



Andrew Hanns Geelong Sub-Branch RSL President oversaw the required protocols for farewelling a member who has been decorated. The Last Post and Reveille were sounded by a bugler and Ian was escorted by Piper John Jordan playing "Amazing Grace. The cortege left Lyndon Grove for the Highton Cemetery with many mourners following in their cars.

Ian and his wife Margaret often attended OAA Barwon Regional Group events; his last service was the laying of a wreath for RUSI on ANZAC Day this year at the Geelong Sub-Branch RSL Wreath Laying Service.

Queen's Birthday 2009 Ian was an OAM recipient for his service to veterans in the Geelong region.

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## **Primary School Citizenship Awards**

The intent of the award is to encourage and recognise Primary Schools in the OAA Barwon Region catchment which clearly demonstrated and incorporated the aims of The Order of Australia Association “to foster love of and pride in Australian citizenship” within their School’s curriculum to promote the value of Australian citizenship in some way.

All Primary Schools in the OAA Barwon catchment area were invited to submit an application, Grovedale West PS, Hamlyn Banks PS and Montpellier PS were asked to present to the judging panel being;

Wayne Myers OAM, Geoff Wilson AM and Maureen Zampatti OAM and members/guests of the Association.

Finalists were presented with a certificate and the winner receiving a cheque for \$500 from OAA Barwon Regional Group presented by Chair Barbara Abley AM who acknowledged the excellent presentations.

Winner, Hamlyn Banks PS Grade 5 and 6 students are offered the opportunity to volunteer for weekly interactive visits with residents at The McKellar Centre. The students undertake a five week visitation block, and the school rotates student cohorts throughout the year.

Laurelle Conder Curriculum Leader at Hamlyn Banks PS said this community based program, which has been in operation throughout the last 4 years enables the students to learn to give back to the elderly and learn ‘life experience’ through positive, engaging interactions with others.

The function was held at the Geelong RSL, which supported the initiative as it aligned to the national and state RSL goals of supporting children during the Centenary of Anzac. The Geelong RSL President, Andrew Hanns, presented the perpetual trophy, the Spirit of Anzac replica sculpture. A larger version of this sculpture designed by a young WW1 soldier Wallace Anderson sits in Geelong’s Johnstone Park.

Guest speaker was Jordan Eitler awarded an Order of Australia Foundation Scholarship in 2016; the scholarship was donated by the Order of Australia Association Victoria Branch with a financial contribution from the North East Victoria and Goulburn Valley Regional Group.



L-R: Isabella (Hamlyn Banks PS Student), Enza Gillespie (HBPS Staff), Janette Purcell (McKellar Centre), Genevieve (HBPS Student), Jessie (HBPS Student), Laura (Past HBPS student and initiator of project) and Andrew Hanns (Geelong RSL). Note photo taken and supplied by Hamlyn Banks Primary School.

## Annual Luncheon and Archibald Prize Exhibition



Thank you OAA Victoria members for your support of our Thursday November 30, 2017 Annual Luncheon and Archibald Prize Exhibition.

If you have pre-booked your invitation will be emailed to you late September.

All new bookings will be subject to availability and may be placed on a wait list.

If you have any questions regarding this event please contact OAA Barwon Regional Group Secretary Helene Bender OAM [helenebender@westnet.com.au](mailto:helenebender@westnet.com.au) or M: 0407 261 951

## Gippsland

### **Newspaper article presents two members of the State Branch assisting in the East Gippsland Shire's announcement for Australia Day Awards**

Officially launching the East Gippsland Australia Day Awards, East Gippsland Shire councillors and staff were joined by previous award winners and recipients of Australia Day honours at council's Corporate Centre for a celebratory morning tea and to hear from OAM recipients. Anne Macarthur OAM was a Guest Speaker and she was able to talk about the Awards and what it meant to her. [East Gippsland News, 23.8.2017]



State chairman of Red Cross Victoria and The Order of Australia Association Gippsland Regional Group secretary, Anne Macarthur OAM, and The Order of Australia Association Victoria Branch state membership secretary, Tony Smith OAM, at the launch of the 2018 East Gippsland Australia Day Awards last Friday. K1107-75

We are looking forward to our two activities in the near future the Macfarlane Burnet Dinner and Oration in Traralgon on October 18th. A pleasing feature of the September gathering is that several of the Queen's Birthday awardees who are not yet members have accepted. It was a great chance to meet them face to face and explain what the Association is about. Five new awardees also attended the State Branch function at St Kilda, as did the Gippsland Chairman.

At a recent Presentation Night held by Anglicare Victoria in Melbourne Wayne Bass OAM was nominated for a Volunteer's Award for the work he and his wife Debbie do as Foster parents. Our Gippsland members do get about!

**The Gippsland AGM is set down for November 12th at Centenary House in Traralgon, where Neil Soullier OAM, State Branch Committee member will be our Guest Speaker.**

## North East Victoria & Goulburn Valley

Seventy three members and guests enjoyed a beautiful lunch on Sunday August 20th at the historic Euroa Butter Factory. The building dates from 1901 and was a butter and ice factory before becoming a function centre.

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Guest speaker was Prof Jim Bishop AO, who was appointed inaugural Executive Director of the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) in 2011. Following the establishment of the VCCC and with funding secured for the next 4 years, he stepped down from these roles in December 2016. Jim who has had a vast experience in medicine, spoke about this new facility which is the first Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Australia. The Centre has partnerships with 7 major hospitals, 2 leading medical research institutes and Australia's top research university. It employs around 1400 cancer researchers and brings cancer research and cancer services together.



Photo credit: Kym Smith

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It was very encouraging to hear from someone who is so passionate about cancer research and the value of partnerships. We are most fortunate to have had Jim's contribution to Australia through his medical expertise and commitment to establishing this outstanding facility which benefits all of us.

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Our November lunch and AGM will be held at Benalla Bowling Club on 12th November. Guest speaker will be Jordan Eitler who is the recipient of the OAA Victorian Branch Foundation Scholarship. The NEGV OAA Regional Group donated \$2,500 towards this scholarship and we are looking forward to meeting Jordan and hearing about his life and studies. Invitations will be sent out in October.

## Mornington Peninsula

*Miss Danai Harawa, a year 12 student from Frankston High School, is the winner of the prestigious Roy Ward Leadership Prize*



From L-R: Mr SIMON CAMERON: FHS Acting Senior Campus Principal; Ms HELENE BENDER OAM: National Committee, Mr ALLAN PIZZEY AM: Awards Convenor; Mr BRIAN STAHL OAM JP: MPRG Chairman; Miss DANAI HARAWA Winner at the Presentation Ceremony

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Roy Ward Leadership Prize sponsored by Spowers Architects, was presented to Danai by Ms Helene Bender OAM National Councillor, on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017, at the Order of Australia Association's Mornington Peninsula Regional Group's Annual Luncheon at the Safety Beach Sailing Club and Community Centre. The Guest Speaker was Cathy Roth OAM Victoria Branch committee member who spoke with eloquence and humour on "the Journey to Leadership".

68 Members and Guests attended, including Mr Fred Harrington OAM Victoria Branch Secretary and Mrs Irene Harrington OAM, the Mornington Peninsula Shire Mayor, Ms Bev Colomb and local Councillors, Hon Edward O'Donohue MLC, Mr Martin Dixon MP, Mr Barry Irvine Director and Mr Gary Sanford Manager, Bendigo Bank Rye.

29 Schools from the Frankston City and Mornington Peninsula Shire were invited to submit nominations for students in years 11 or 12, who they considered to have shown qualities of character, leadership, and community service, which exemplify Australian Citizenship, over an extended time period.

Danai demonstrated as a leader, an ability to manage change, one of the most difficult challenges of leadership, and clear life skill planning that was guiding her future professional and personal life. She hopes to study International Relations and Law so that in the future her voice will not be limited to Australian communities, but the world around her.

## South Central Suburbs

### Special Luncheon

Melbourne's world-famous Kingston Heath Golf Club was the venue for this year's Special Luncheon in July, attended by nearly sixty members and guests enjoying an excellent meal and great fellowship in the Elsternwick Room, overlooking the magnificent course.

State Branch Committee Chairman Paul Wheelton AM KSJ was an overseas apology, but Victorian State Branch committee member Helene Bender OAM took his place, proposing the Toast to the Order of Australia Association.

After a splendid address by Geoffrey Knight, Kingston Heath President, in which he described the Club's proud history and the reasons why it takes its place at the forefront of Australian and international golf, many of the first-time visitors to the Club were suitably impressed.



*Dr Helen Drennen AM*

The distinguished guest speaker was Dr Helen Drennen AM BA BSc (Hons) PhD Dip Ed FACE FACEL, Principal of Wesley College Melbourne, the first female Principal to be appointed since Wesley College opened in 1866.

Helen addressed her theme "Preparing for leadership starts at School" by comparing schooling in the times of most listeners, when scholastic results and subsequent university places were to the forefront of measurement. She illustrated her modern strategic approach to education, in which no less than four different strands of development run concurrently, with scholastic knowledge just one measurement and leadership skills developed from the outset of schooling.

The combination of venue, meal, toasts and speakers produced a memorable experience, confirmed by many messages of appreciation.

### RECOGNIZING OUR 2017 ORDER OF AUSTRALIA AWARDEES

At a civic reception held on 24 August, Kingston City Council Mayor Cr David Eden and his Council, joined by Cr Alex del Porto, Mayor of Bayside City Council and Cr Nina Taylor, representing Cr Mary Delahunty, Mayor of Glen Eira City Council recognized each 2017 Honours Awardee present as they were introduced by Roger Wilson OAM, Chairman of our Regional Group Committee. Each received a handsome framed Certificate of

Appreciation for their valuable services to the community. Those unable to attend will also receive a Certificate.

*Photo below: L-R: Attila Marffy OAM with his daughter Boglarka receives his Certificate. Also pictured are Cr Alex del Porto, Cr Nina Taylor and host Cr David Eden*



With the fine hospitality and music, the event continued as a major feature provided since 2008, instituted in collaboration with our three regional group Cities of Bayside, Glen Eira and Kingston. In addition to regional public recognition of such a worthy group of individuals, it gives our Committee members an opportunity to meet each attendee, encouraging them to join the Order of Australia Association.

We are most grateful to the Kingston City Council for providing a memorable occasion.

### **Editor's Note:**

South Central RG has managed to secure the co-operation of three relevant city councils to hold an annual Order of Australia Reception. The Councils take turns and invite all the new recipients to a cocktail function. It provides a great opportunity to welcome the new awardees and promote the Association at the local community. In the deliberations of the State Branch, the collaboration potential with the local Councils and Shires are always brought up as an important link to have at the local level. This link is rather valuable and productive.

The example set by the Southern Central RG is highly commended to other RGs if they do not already have such links.



**A DINNER TO REMEMBER - YOU SHOULD BOOK NOW!**

Our End of Year Dinner is to be held at 6. 30 pm on Wednesday 29 November, again at the Sandringham Club, 92 Beach Road, Sandringham. This promises to be another most enjoyable event. All Association Members are welcome to attend.

The feature of the night is our Guest Speaker Sal Perna, Victoria’s inaugural Racing Integrity Commissioner. The Office of the Racing Integrity Commissioner gathers information on integrity related issues regarding the Victorian Racing Industry, across the harness, greyhound and thoroughbred racing codes.



Sal Perna's background includes 20 years with Victoria Police, reaching Commissioned Officer rank and serving twice in the Homicide Squad. His corporate career includes 11+ years as the head of Australia Post's Corporate Security Group and 3+ years as Director Corporate Security at Telstra.

Cost is \$50 pp, including a three-course meal and a drink on arrival. Guests are welcome, but capacity is limited so immediate bookings are advised. Dress is jacket and tie for gentlemen and equivalent dress for ladies. Miniatures should be worn. Drinks available at bar prices. Off-street parking is available. The booking form is below.

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**END OF YEAR DINNER AT THE SANDRINGHAM CLUB**

I wish to attend the End of Year Dinner to be held at the Sandringham Club, 92 Beach Road, Sandringham, on **Wednesday 29 November** 2017, 6.30pm.

Please find enclosed cheque for .....persons at \$50 each \$.....

Cheques should be made payable to The Order of Australia Association and mailed to the Treasurer by **22th November 2017**. Alternately, pay by Direct Debit to Bendigo Bank BSB 633-000. Account number 132398835.

No receipts will be issued.

If paying by Direct Debit please tick box  indicate "Dinner".

Name and Post Nominals: .....

Phone.....

Email.....

Guest/s.....

Special dietary requirements.....

Please post to the **Hon Treasurer Ross Newton OAM, 8 Eddie Street, Highett VIC 3190**

Phone 9555 5549. Email rhnewton@hotmail.com

## North Central Suburbs

### Vale Don Kinsey AM

Members were saddened to hear of the passing of Don Kinsey on 30 August 2017 at the age of 86. Don received his AM in the 2008 Queens Birthday Honours list *for service to the community through public speaking programs and a range of executive roles with charitable, child health care and educational support organisations.*

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Don has been a member of the NCSRG committee since its formation. Our committee meetings while productive have always been enhanced by the experience and wisdom of Don and in particular his many stories and anecdotes told at each meeting.

Don's contribution to the NCSRG as well as his contribution to the Victoria State Branch, particularly as the MC extraordinaire at the Australia Day Flag Lowering service at the Shrine, will be sadly missed.



*[Photo Credit: The Royal Children's Hospital]*

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### 2017 Events

Events planned for the remainder of the year include:

**October:** Morning Tea and tour of the Costume Collection, which was postponed to allow members to attend the funeral of Don Kinsey AM.

**November:** Annual General Meeting, new awardees reception and guest speaker hosted by the Mayor of Nillumbik. As November is 'White Ribbon' month we are proposing to invite an Ambassador from the White Ribbon Foundation as our guest speaker.

For further information contact Fred Harrington OAM at [fred.harrington@gravity.net.au](mailto:fred.harrington@gravity.net.au) or 0417 116 304

## Melbourne Central

### Change of Name

Members will note the change of name from Central Suburbs Regional Group to Melbourne Central Regional Group. This name change was suggested by State Branch as part of the program to assist the group in organising and promoting events such as the networking evening which have a focus on attracting group members who live or work in the Melbourne CBD.

### Networking Evenings

Thank you to nearly 50 members and guests for your support of the recent networking evening held at the palatial Canberra Room of the Athenaeum Club on 15 August. Thanks to Paul and Angela Wheelton for sponsoring the event and also to Mike Brady AM for his address at the evening.

The attendees were also given an expose of all the exquisite paintings in the room.



Paul Wheelton AM KSJ at the podium

### Next Networking Evening

The next of the networking events is to be sponsored by and held at Deakin Downtown, Collins Square Tower 2, Level 12, 727 Collins St Melbourne. Full details of this event, including booking arrangements, can be found in the *Upcoming events* section of this newsletter.

### Luncheon Series

Trevor Clark OAM, on behalf of the group is arranging a series of luncheons over the next few months. The first of the Luncheon series is to be held on Tuesday 3 October 2017 with Professor Geoffrey Blainey AC the guest speaker. Full details of this event, including booking arrangements, can be found in the *Upcoming events* section of this newsletter.