

# ACT OAA

## AUGUST 2018 NEWSLETTER

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### Immediate Past Chair

Bruce Trewartha OAM

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GPO Box 423  
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### Branch website

[www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/ACT](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/ACT)

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### COMING EVENTS

**Multi-Faith Observance – Sunday 19 August 2018 at ACCC Barton.**

**Booking sheet for the following event is enclosed:**

**Second Reception, Wednesday 19 Sep 2018 at the Commonwealth Club**

### ANNUAL MULTI-FAITH OBSERVANCE – 19 AUGUST 2018

The 2018 Multi-Faith Observance will be held at the chapel of the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Blackall St, Barton, on Sunday 19 August 2018 from 2.00 to 3.30 pm. The Observance will be moderated by the Executive Director of the Centre, Rt Reverend Professor Stephen Pickard, and feature inspirational speakers from a number of faiths. The theme for The Observance is



*Rt Rev Professor Pickard*

“*Wisdom for the Common Good*”. Members, families and guests are all welcome. At the conclusion of the Observance, a light afternoon tea will be served and there will be an opportunity to tour the Centre’s beautiful grounds. The event is free, but we ask that you register your attendance at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/67916> or contact Bruce Trewartha OAM on 0439887480, email [btrewartha13@gmail.com](mailto:btrewartha13@gmail.com)

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### RECEPTION FOR NEW RECIPIENTS 19 SEPTEMBER 2018

The ACT Branch holds bi-annual receptions as an opportunity for members to honour and share fellowship with new recipients of honours and awards in The Order of Australia, and the next reception will be held at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 19 September 2018 at the Commonwealth Club, Yarralumla following the scheduled investiture of Queen’s Birthday recipients at Government House on 6-7 September 2018.

Register online at Sticky Tickets (preferred) at the link:  
<https://www.stickytickets.com.au/73101>

- Members: Click on “Ticket/Register”, order the number of tickets required.
- New recipients: Click on “Ticket/Register”, then enter promotion code QB18.  
Your ticket is free, guest tickets are \$47.50.

A booking sheet is also enclosed with this newsletter.

This event is generously sponsored by the ACT Government, and we hope you can join us.

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## CHAIR'S MESSAGE



We've had a busy few months here in the ACT, with events including a welcome to new recipients, the 2018 Australian Defence Force Oration and our 2018 Queen's Birthday Luncheon. You can find reports on all these functions on our Events page on the website, in the next edition of *The Order*, and here in this newsletter.

Speaking about events, it has long been of concern to the Committee that our financial situation has not permitted us to invite new recipients to our receptions as our guests, which diminished the congratulatory character of the events considerably. I'm delighted to advise that the Chief Minister of the ACT, Andrew Barr MLA, has recently agreed to provide financial support to our receptions, acknowledging the importance of celebrating Canberrans who are recognised in the Order of Australia. This generous gesture will allow us to invite new recipients to receptions free of charge from now on. I'd also like to acknowledge the support of the National Board, which has agreed to fund the three new flags and poles we purchased earlier in the year for use at our events. This will make a big difference to our 'bottom line' for 2018. Special thanks to National Secretary Phil Morrall AM, CSC for advocating so effectively on our behalf!

The Committee has also been busy on promoting more nominations for women and a couple of membership data matters. There are some important messages on these matters in the pages that follow. I'm sorry to advise that John O'Neill OAM has resigned from the Branch Committee to progress his novel and give more time to his business interests. On behalf of all Branch members, I thank John for his contribution. With John's resignation, there is a casual vacancy on the Branch Committee, and we are particularly looking for somebody to take on the duties of Branch Membership Officer. The task is not onerous but we do need another pair of hands to help with it. Please consider whether you could take this on and drop me a note or call if you would like to talk about it.

Finally, we have more terrific events coming up in the next quarter, with the Multi-Faith Observance on 19 August, the next reception for new recipients on 19 September, and the 2018 Order of Australia Association – Australian National University Lecture on a date to be confirmed in October. We do hope to see you there.

Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM  
Chair  
E: [mandmcrane@live.com](mailto:mandmcrane@live.com)  
T: 0467 719 020

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## SEEKING MEMBERSHIP DATA

The Branch Committee has appreciated the response from life members following our recent requests to provide year of birth details to assist the OAA National Board with actuarial calculations. But if you have not yet forwarded this information, we would be grateful if you would do so as soon as possible. Life members who have joined since June 2015 have already provided this information and do not need to respond to this request.

The Branch Committee has also appreciated the willingness of many members to provide email addresses and agree to receiving correspondence by email. If you have not yet done so, we would be very grateful if you would give this matter strong consideration. Printing and posting hard copies of the Branch newsletter and *The Order* is expensive, very time consuming, and a considerable impost on our small Committee. Providing an email address will also enable members to access the new national bulletin, *e-News*. We understand that this is not for everybody, but your assistance would be much appreciated.

Please contact Mike Crane (E: [mandmcrane@live.com](mailto:mandmcrane@live.com); T: 0467 719 020).

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## WOMEN'S NOMINATION PROJECT

The Order of Australia Association (OAA) - ACT Branch recognises that in the Canberra region the number of women who are nominated for awards in the Order of Australia falls well below an appropriate ratio of women to men.

As an Association we are committed to increasing the nominations of women and have made a direct approach on this issue to institutions, community groups and people involved in women's issues in the ACT. You are encouraged to nominate worthy women and we offer our support in undertaking this important task. For your interest and information please contact Narelle Hargreaves OAM on 62544209 or email: [chindit@ozemail.com.au](mailto:chindit@ozemail.com.au)

Sub-Committee:

Narelle Hargreaves OAM

Dr Bill Maiden PSM, OAM

Frances Rose OAM

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## THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA – ACT BRANCH STUDENT AWARDS

ACT schools have received information outlining how nominations can be made for the ACT Branch of The Order of Australia Association's annual student awards. These awards are made for students who demonstrate, and deserve recognition for, outstanding citizenship.

The awards are available across all ACT school sectors, public, Catholic and independent schools and colleges for students who demonstrate extraordinary acts of caring for others, or other noteworthy citizenship activities within their school communities.

Previous awards have been made to school children of all ages to recognise and acknowledge many remarkable initiatives in supporting and caring for others.

Nominations for this year's awards close on the last day of Term 3, 28 September 2018, with award recipients being announced at the Student Awards event at the Royal Canberra Golf Club on 22 November 2018.

Dr Bill Maiden PSM, OAM and Narelle Hargreaves OAM  
OAA-ACT Student Awards Sub-committee

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## 2018 ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION – AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ORATION DELIVERED ON 24 MAY 2018 AT DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS, RUSSELL BY AIR VICE MARSHAL WARREN MCDONALD AM, CSC CHIEF OF JOINT CAPABILITIES



Members and guests were treated to a very personal and insightful Oration by the Chief of Joint Capabilities (CJC), Air Vice-Marshal Warren McDonald AM, CSC in detailing the establishment of the new Joint Capabilities Group (JCG) within the ADF.

AVM McDonald began by explaining that while each of the Services has its own strong sense of purpose and identity, the Australian Defence Force needs the JCG to rise above inter-Service rivalry. He noted that the process of building cooperation between the services has been happening in the ADF for some years, but contrasted this with defence forces such as Israel's, which have not had the luxury of coming to that maturity over time.

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He described his own journey to recognition that a wider perspective is required, citing his experience as a junior pilot working with the Navy at Nowra and on a posting to Canada, where he was struck by the way that search and rescue operations were organised and conducted without bickering about who owned what part of the job. He described how these impressions were reinforced as he grew more senior, when it became clear that the development of the Air Operations Centre and Joint Operations Command would demand change. He pointed particularly to his experience in the Middle East, when some elements of the Air Force initially resisted the idea of employing the AP-3C Orion, which was designed as maritime patrol aircraft, in support of land operations over Iraq.

AVM McDonald said that JCG was established in July 2017 to bring together several of our joint capabilities, and that it comprises principally:

- Joint Health Command,
- Joint Logistics Command,
- Australian Defence College, and
- Information Warfare Division.

He reasoned that the establishment of JCG allows more attention to be paid to important elements of the Defence Force that have been given insufficient attention. For example, as part of forming JCG, he was

asked to take on the military policing function. He found that while the service had been neglected, the people were passionate about their job, and that relatively little new investment would be well rewarded.

He explained that there are 2,740 personnel in JCG, half uniformed, half civilian. He said he had been well supported by senior Defence leaders in assembling these personnel, and that his task has been to get across the business as quickly as possible and to homogenise the Group.



*Bill Henman AM; AVM Warren McDonald AM, CSC; Ian Gollings AM*

AVM McDonald then touched briefly on each of the main elements of the Group, describing some of the key challenges. He added that he has a very lean headquarters and needs to focus exclusively on doing only that which is important.

In concluding, AVM McDonald posed the question “What if there was no Joint Capabilities Group?” He considered the answer is that we would find ourselves increasingly behind in the information game, and the progressive introduction of increasingly modern platforms would eventually force us to invent it. A full transcript of the Oration can be found at <http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/act/events/>



*Lieutenant Colonel Nick Floyd; BRIG David Creagh AM (Retd)*



*GPCAPT Craig Meighan AM, David Savage OAM*

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## 2018 QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCH – TUESDAY 12 JUNE

Members enjoyed the Queen's Birthday luncheon on Tuesday 12 June 2018 at The Royal Canberra Golf Club where our guest speaker and Branch member, Mr Glenn Keys AO, gave an inspirational talk on his subject "Giving Back; from Defence, to business to disability".

Glenn provided an insight into his journey from defence to being the co-founder of Canberra-based Aspen Medical, and a significant philanthropist.

His career in the Australian Defence Force saw him undertake a range of tasks from training to test flying



Mike Crane DSC & Bar, AM, Glenn Keys AO

and engineering to logistics support for Army aircraft. Aspen Medical was founded in 2003 and Glenn considers the discipline of military experience to work for practical outcomes has enabled him to provide agility in managing the business. He takes pride that Aspen Medical can respond quickly to provide services where required, it now has a team of over 2,000 staff and operates across 3 continents and 14 countries, from Australasia, the Pacific Rim, the Middle East, Africa, the USA and the UK. The company is a global provider of healthcare solutions which has included establishing the Remote Area Health Corps in Australia and managing Ebola Treatment Units in West Africa in the 2013-16 outbreak.

An advocate of business having a social purpose, Glenn said he placed social responsibility and community involvement at the heart of Aspen Medical's culture. A percentage of the company's profits are allocated to the Aspen Foundation, which was established in 2009 and today is dedicated to the tackling health issues that are often forgotten or missed by larger campaigns. The Foundation has been involved in the eradication of the eye disease Trachoma as well as scabies in remote Indigenous communities in Australia.

As the parent of a child with an intellectual disability, Glenn showed his passion about helping people with a disability reach their full potential. He is the founder and Chair of *Project Independence*, a housing initiative for people with intellectual disabilities, which was officially launched in Canberra in February 2015. Under the model, with land granted by the ACT government and a system developed by charities that cater to those with a disability, he explained how *Project Independence* has built properties for people with a mild intellectual disability with an arrangement for them to develop equity in a home. Glenn believes that this model could be established Australia wide.

As an active member of the Canberra Business Chamber, Glenn is encouraging businesses to incorporate philanthropy into their businesses and professional lives.

In 2013 Glenn was appointed to the Board of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) and in November 2014 was awarded the 2015 ACT Australian of the Year. He is a Board Member of the National Capital Authority & was appointed Chair of the Canberra Business Chamber in Feb 15. Glenn was appointed an Officer of The Order of Australia in June 2017 *for distinguished service to the community of the Australian Capital Territory through contributions to disability support programs, and to business and commerce as an advocate for corporate social responsibility.*



Heather Leedman, Elizabeth Scrivener OAM

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*Gary Nairn AO, John Bullen OAM, Yvonne Bullen*



*Glenn Keys AO, Carolyn Forster OAM*

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## NEW OAA MEMBERS

We would like welcome the following new members to our Branch.

**Dr Rosalie Balkin AO** – For distinguished service to maritime law through roles with a range of organisations, to the improvement of global shipping transport safety and standards, and to education as an academic and author.

**Mrs Jennifer Bowker AO** – For distinguished service to Australia-Middle East cultural relations through the preservation of traditional creative and visual arts, and as a textile artist and educator.

**Dr Andrew Singer AM** – For significant service to emergency medicine as a clinician, educator and administrator, and to professional medical organisations

**Mr Richard Cordy OAM** – For service to Rugby Union.

**CMDR Francis Owen OAM RANR (Retd)** – For service to the military maritime sector, particularly to submarines.

**Mr William Reid OAM** – For service to the sport of full-bore shooting.

**CMDR Glenn Williams OAM RAN** - For meritorious service in the field of Navy Communications and Information Systems.

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## NATIONAL NEWS

The OAA Board met in Sydney on 28 July. In addition to considering routine financial and membership matters, the Board agreed to establish a new policy framework to help govern the Association's operations. Policy will expand on the Constitution and By-Laws on matters where it makes sense to have a consistent national approach - such as on privacy, for example. The Board also considered the draft Strategic Plan, which is expected to be released by the end of the year.

Following the meeting, the National Treasurer, Tony Metcalf OAM, resigned from the Board. We await advice on a replacement.

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## OAA-ANU LECTURE – OCTOBER 2018

The eminent guest speaker for the 2018 OAA-ANU lecture in October will be Professor Ann McGrath AO. She was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in June 2017 *for significant service to the social sciences as an academic and researcher in the field of indigenous history and to tertiary education*. Further details and booking arrangements will be provided in the next newsletter.

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## EXHIBITION OF PRINCE CHARLES' WATERCOLOURS AT THE NGA

Due to the efforts of Andrew MacKenzie OAM, a member of the Victorian Branch of the OAA, an exhibition of the watercolours of HRH Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales is being held at the National Gallery of Australia from 10 August to 18 November 2018.

Prince Charles is an experienced water colourist and passionate patron of the arts and he has been painting for most of his adult life. This exhibition is to celebrate his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, and will display 30 of his artworks.

Money raised through this exhibition will go to the Prince's Trust Australia which supports many worthwhile projects throughout Australia – including many youth programs and environmental projects such as protecting young migratory turtles in Queensland.

To accompany the show, the Prince of Wales has recorded a message, which will be available to be viewed by visitors.



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## VALE

We regret the recent passing of the following ACT Branch members and pay our respects for their contribution to the Association and the Australian community.

**LT-GEN H. John Coates AC MBE (Rtd)** – Australia Day 1992 – In recognition of service to the Australian Army, particularly as Chief of the General Staff.

**Dr. Katie Helms AO** – Queen's Birthday 1989 – For service to agricultural research.

**Dr. Robert Lee AO** – Queen's Birthday 2012 – For distinguished service to the aviation industry, to the development of air safety and accident investigation standards, and to national and international professional associations.

**COL Reg Beesley AM (Rtd)** - Queen's Birthday 1980 – In recognition of service as CO, Special Service Regiment.

**Dr. Robert Bell AM** – Queen's Birthday 2010 – For service to contemporary craft and design as a curator and advocate, and to the Art Gallery of Western Australia and the National Gallery of Australia.

**Mr. Keith Hawke OAM** - Queen's Birthday 1998 – For service to Rugby Union football in the Australian Capital Territory for more than 50 years as a player, coach, selector and administrator.

**LT-COL Michael Heal OAM (Ret'd)** – Queen's Birthday 1999 – For service to visually impaired people, particularly through the Canberra Blind Society.

**Mr. Ken Marland OAM** - Queen's Birthday 1993 – For service to the community and to youth.

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