

ACT OAA

SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

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Immediate Past Chair

Bruce Trewartha OAM

Branch mailbox

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Branch website

www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/ACT

COMING EVENTS

Booking sheet for the following events are enclosed:

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

Morning Tea, Wednesday 17 October 2018 at Royal Canberra Golf Club.

OAA-ANU lecture, Wed 3 October 2018 at University House. See booking details in this newsletter.

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 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.

MORNING TEA – 17 OCTOBER 2018

In continuing the practice of inviting our members to tell their story at our morning tea events, we are honoured to have Di Johnstone AM to be the speaker at our next morning tea to be held at the Royal Canberra Golf Club on Wednesday 17 October 2018. Di's topic will be **"Diplomacy, Art and Community Engagement"**. She will talk on being posted as an Australian diplomat to apartheid South Africa in the early 1970s and collecting and promoting struggle-era art by artists then working in the South African townships; the return of her art collection to South Africa and subsequent establishment of the *Ifa Lethu Foundation*; the nature and work of the Foundation, and also about Canberra community organisations with which she is actively involved. Further details are within the newsletter, and a booking sheet is attached. You can register online at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/76534> and we hope you can attend.



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CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Our 2018 Multi-Faith Observance, held at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture on Sunday the 19th of August, was once again very moving and thought provoking. You can find a report about the Observance below and on the website. May I take this opportunity to thank Branch Committee members Sam Wong AM, Bruce Trewartha OAM, and Director of the Centre, Rt Rev Stephen Pickard, for their roles in making it such a success.

I had the opportunity to represent the Branch at the investiture of Queen's Birthday recipients in the Order at Yarralumla on Friday 7 September. As ever, His Excellency the Governor General and Lady Cosgrove were gracious and generous hosts, and the weather brightened after the ceremony to allow recipients and their guests to enjoy the grounds of Government House under warm sunshine. I met and congratulated several ACT-based recipients and their families, including several who have already joined the Association.

National President, Philip Flood AO, represented the Association on both 6 and 7 September. We look forward to welcoming all new recipients at our reception at the Commonwealth Club on Wednesday 19 September. Please join us for what promises to be another sparkling occasion.

Looking further forward, we can now provide full details of the 2018 Order of Australia Association – Australian National University Lecture, and we have arranged a morning tea for mid-October. You can find all the details here in this newsletter and on the website. Please take the opportunity to sign up early and secure your place.

The national Board is conducting a review of the Association's Constitution, By-Laws and the Model Branch Rules to assess compliance with Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission requirements and alignment with the Board's intentions for a new policy framework. The ACT Branch Committee will consider this matter at its next meeting, but if you have any input you would like to offer, please feel free to contact me or any other Committee member – no later than Friday 28 September please, as we need to get a consolidated response back to the Board by the end of the month.

Many thanks to those members who responded to our last newsletter by providing email addresses and birthdates for the membership database. We continue to welcome updates on these details – please call or email using my details below.

Michael Crane DSC & Bar, AM
Branch Chairman
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OAA 2019 NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN HOBART

Full details of the 2019 National Conference, to be held in Hobart from 11 to 14 April 2019, are now available on the Association's website. The theme for the Conference is *Making the Difference*, and the Tasmanian Branch has put together a wonderful program of supporting events, including:

- a reception at Tasmania's historic Government House;
- a reception at the beautiful harbourside Parliament House;
- a commemorative service at the iconic Anglesea Barracks, the oldest Army barracks still in use in Australia; and
- options for tours to numerous nearby tourist attractions.

If you haven't been to Hobart, or it's been a while, consider making the most of this wonderful opportunity to see something of the Apple Isle while participating in the Association's governance at the Annual General Meeting and hearing inspirational speakers address topical issues at the Conference.

Details and the registration form can be found at: <http://tashost.com.au/oaa/registration.php>.

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OAA-ANU LECTURE - WEDNESDAY 3 OCTOBER 2018

The Order of Australia Association (OAA)-ACT Branch, in partnership with The Australian National University invites you to the 2018 OAA-ANU Lecture presented by Professor Ann McGrath AM at 5.30 pm on Wednesday 3 October at the Common Room, University House, 1 Balmain Crescent, ACTON.

Please note that registration to attend the event is at <http://www.anu.edu.au/events/time-immemorial-dates-history-and-the-deep-human-past> and managed by the ANU. While this is a free event, your booking will facilitate catering arrangements. There is ample adjacent parking.

The lecture topic will be:

TIME IMMEMORIAL? - DATES, HISTORY AND THE DEEP HUMAN PAST.



The concept of time immemorial has poetic resonance, but it also has legal and historical import, dating back to Blackstone's commentaries on the Laws of England in the eighteenth century. This lecture will discuss its uses by the Cherokee in the United States in the 1830s and in more recent Australian cases. Although Australia's Indigenous past has often been referred to as 'timeless', new archaeological research is delivering a series of hard dates, as well as evidence of inventions and dynamism. Can new periodizations of the deep past insert themselves into the

collective imagination like the anniversaries of British 'landings' and 'discovery'? For the purpose of developing a 'deep history' beyond European memory, historians would need to pay attention to Indigenous modes of historical practice and to develop new techniques for understanding Indigenous art, landscape-based memory practices and narratives. More radically, they may need to go beyond dates and to consider other kinds of temporality.



Ann McGrath AM is the Kathleen Fitzpatrick ARC Laureate Fellow and Professor of History at the Australian National University. Her Laureate project is entitled 'Rediscovering the Deep Human Past: Global Networks, Future Opportunities.' She is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences and the Academy of Humanities. Her most recent book, *Illicit Love: Interracial Sex and Marriage in the United States and Australia* won the NSW Premiers History Prize, General Category, 2016. She researches and presents history in a range of mediums, including the prize-winning film *Message from Mungo* (Ronin Films 2014, with Andrew Pike) and in digital works. She co-wrote *How to Write History that People Want to Read* with Ann Curthoys (2009 2011), and with Mary-Anne Jebb, she co-edited *Long History, Deep Past* (2015).

Ann was appointed a Member in 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.*

NEW OAA MEMBERS

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

Emeritus Professor Robin Creyke AO - For distinguished service to administrative law, and to education, as an academic and author, to public administration and tribunal practice, and to professional bodies.

Hon John Kerin AO - For distinguished service to primary industry through roles in agricultural research administration, to the minerals and natural resources sector, and to science-industry linkages and policy.

COL Damian Hill AM – For exceptional service as Commander Combat Training Centre, Commanding Officer of 4th Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery and as acting Commander 3rd Brigade.

Mr Arthur Bradley OAM - For service to the print media, and to the community of Temora.

Mr Kanti Jinna OAM - For service to the multicultural community of the Australian Capital Territory.

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SUPPORT RADIO 1RPH - PRINT HANDICAPPED RADIO



ACT Branch Secretary Robert Altamore OAM, Vice-President of Radio 1RPH is inviting OAA members to attend **Radio 1RPH Fundraising Dinner** with guest speaker, **Air Chief Marshal Sir Angus Houston AK, AFC (Ret'd)**, former Chief of Defence Force. Sir Angus was appointed a Knight of the Order of Australia in January 2015 *for extraordinary and pre-eminent achievement and merit in service to Australia, through distinguished service in the Australian Defence Force, continued commitment to serve the nation in leadership roles, particularly the national responses to the MH370 and MH17 disasters, and in a variety of roles in the community.*

Topic - “100 years of service of men and women in the Australian Defence Force.”

There will be a three course alternate menu with tea and coffee. Vegetarian and special dietary meals are available on request.

Venue: Hellenic Club, Matilda St, Woden.

Time: 6.00 for 6.30 pm **Date:** Friday 21 September, 2018. **Cost:** \$75.00 per person (\$30 will go to 1RPH) - Cash bar available.

Dress: Suit & tie for gentlemen; cocktail equivalent for ladies.

Bookings essential. – closing date Friday 14 September.

For payment by electronic funds transfer - St George Bank BSB: 112-908; Account: 050124079; Account name: Print Handicapped Radio:

Important – Please complete Reference: Name_Dinner

For payment by credit card: Contact 1RPH manager Jenni Rush on 6241 4076 from 9am to 4pm with your details.



Each day people with a print disability have trouble doing what most Australian take for granted: reading newspapers, magazines, books and other printed material, which means they lack access to important information. Radio 1RPH turns print into sound, making this information available. Volunteers contribute 12,000 hours each year to on-air reading, production and administration. Running costs for the Station is over \$100,000 each year. To find out more visit: www.radio1rph.org.au

MORNING TEA 17 OCTOBER 2018

SPEAKER – DI JOHNSTONE AM

A retired diplomat, Di worked for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) from 1973-2004 including as Australian Ambassador to Nepal.

She is Co-Founding Donor and an ongoing collaborator and financial supporter of the **Ifa Lethu Foundation**, a non-profit foundation based in Tshwane, South Africa, established in 2005, and devoted to the development and economic growth of the creative arts sector in South Africa <http://www.ifa lethu.org.za>

Over a number of years, Di has had a long involvement with Canberra community organisations and currently serves in various capacities on the following Committees: Deakin Residents' Association; Friends of the Albert Hall Inc; Pets and Positive Ageing Inc and ACT Rescue and Foster Inc and is a Community member on the ACT Government's Domestic Animal Services Community Liaison Group.

She is a long-standing volunteer for RSPCA ACT and for Domestic Animal Services; more recently for the Northside Community Service Pet Assistance and Wellbeing Service; and a member/volunteer with the Rotary Club of Canberra Burley Griffin. Formerly held positions include Councillor, National Trust ACT; Executive Member, Australian Women's History Forum; community representative, Canberra High School Board; Member, University of Canberra Animal Ethics Committee; and collaborator with Alzheimer's Australia ACT and others on a pilot to deliver dog therapy for dementia residents.

Di is a Life Member of the National Trust ACT, RSPCA ACT, Friends of the Albert Hall Inc, Manning Clark House and Order of Australia Association. She has also established the (private) For Animals Foundation and is Patron of Animal Care for Seniors at Home (Cairns).

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She was given an award by UN Women, International Women’s Day 8 August 2013, as one of the *Canberra Centenary: 100 Years, 100 Great Women*.

Di was appointed a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia on Australia Day 2015 for *significant service to international relations through support for creative arts in South Africa, and to the community of Canberra*.



Di Johnstone AM with Ifa Lethu artist Michael Mmutle and young art students in a mentoring session



‘Untitled’, by Hugh Noluthungu, with a notation “dedicated to a very courageous lady”

MULTI-FAITH OBSERVANCE

Members and friends gathered on Sunday 19 August at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture for the Annual ACT Branch Multi-Faith Observance to hear a variety of inspirational speakers, and reflect on their different readings on the theme for the service, *“Wisdom for the Common Good”*. This was followed by fellowship while enjoying a light afternoon tea.

The ACT Branch is grateful to the Executive Director of the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, the Rt Reverend Professor Stephen Pickard, for hosting and moderating the service. This event continues to underscore the importance of a focus on the things that bind our community together rather than the things on which we might disagree.



Mr Muhammed Asku (Muslim tradition)



l-r: Mr Harry Opperman (Jewish Tradition), Dr Willie Senanayake (Buddhist Tradition), Mr Kanti Jinna OAM (Hindu Tradition), Dr Shahnaz Kouhbor (Baha’i Tradition), Mike Crane DSC and Bar, AM (Branch Chair) and Rt Reverend Professor Stephen Pickard.