



## Welcome from VIC Branch Chair

Welcome to winter and the third edition of the Order of Australia Association VIC Branch e-Newsletter for 2020.

Thank you to our members and their families who embraced 'Light up the Dawn' ANZAC Day 2020 in recognition of all our servicemen and women, past and present.

The Last Post was heard on trumpets and bugles and violins and bagpipes across the suburbs, regional and rural Victoria on a perfect autumn morning.

The innovation of young and old with loving displays of red poppies, wearing sprigs of rosemary, proudly displaying the Australian flag and holding candles has ensured 'Light up the Dawn' on Saturday April 25, 2020 will be part of our history forever.

As we know, earlier this month Victoria experienced a spike in COVID-19 numbers in certain hotspots. We thank the health officials; medical and essential services workers across Victoria and beyond, who have worked so hard to protect us and reduce transmission.

We also say thank you to service providers for their delivery options assisting those working from home and our most vulnerable. We should never forget the maintenance providers ready to assist when the unexpected breakage happens when least expected day or night.

The health and wellbeing of our members is top priority, the upcoming events listed in this e-Newsletter are current at the time of distribution.

We congratulate the 196 Victoria Branch Order of Australia Queen's Birthday Honours recipients representing many communities and cultures statewide, and welcome the opportunity to meet them at their Investitures. Thank you to the recipients who have joined the Association.

**Dr Helene Bender OAM, Chair Victoria Branch** M: 0407 261 951

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### Update regarding assistance with Order of Australia Honours Nominations

Many of you know Stacey Williams is on Maternity Leave from the Department of Premier and Cabinet. If you require assistance nominating worthy women please contact Gina Harris at the Department of Premier and Cabinet via email [awards@dpc.vic.gov.au](mailto:awards@dpc.vic.gov.au)

Please remember the VIC Branch of the Order of Australia Association will assist with all nominations; if required email [chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:chairvic@theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

Regional Groups will also provide assistance if required.



## 'Light up the Dawn' ANZAC Day 2020



Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria in the Shrine's Sanctuary beside the wreath she lay on behalf of all Victorians, Anzac Day 2020.

The Shrine of Remembrance Melbourne was privileged to have more than 70,000 Victorians join them virtually for the live-streamed Anzac Day Dawn Service. It was a poignant moment to have Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria lay a wreath at the Stone of Remembrance on behalf of all Victorians, as thousands stood apart, but together in spirit, a very special Anzac Day for us all.

Image courtesy of the Shrine of Remembrance

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### Support Local

When the planned easing of restrictions was changed on the 20<sup>th</sup> due to the COVID-19 spike, many local businesses were forced to again reduce staff hours and in many cases reduce the purchase of supplies.

We all need to be supporting our local businesses. By shopping local we are supporting others during this challenging time.

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# Regional Group News



## Barwon Regional Group

Instead of missing out on the annual movie afternoon, Barwon Regional Group held a Movie @ Home and Post-Movie Zoom function last month. The movie chosen was "Boychoir" starring Dustin Hoffman and Eddie Izzard. The story was of a young boy with an excellent voice who is sent to a prestige choir school but has trouble adapting.



In the post-movie gathering members talked about the movie, heard about plans for the group from Chair Wayne Myers OAM and about the new Regional Group newsletter from Barbara Abley AM, as well as participating in a Question and Answer time. It was a good replacement for our normal social afternoon.

If restriction requirements improve the Group's Christmas Luncheon will be held on Friday 27 November. Details will be confirmed and advised later in the September 2020 edition of the e-Newsletter.



## Central Highlands Wimmera Regional Group

Due to the current issues, we have regretfully suspended our activities for the remainder of 2020. This includes our Annual School Citizenship Awards that were scheduled for Ballarat, Hindmarsh Shire, Horsham Rural City Council and Yarriambiack Shire Secondary Colleges, along with our Spring Luncheon that was to be held in the Grampians.

At this stage our next Meeting will be the AGM to be held in Ballarat in February 2021 and the next activity being our Annual Luncheon in Ballarat in May 2021. Keep well.

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## Eastern Suburbs Regional Group

The ESRG committee has very little to report because of the corona virus lockdown and the restriction of gatherings of more than 50 members and guests at a function.

We previously had a Morning Tea and Live Theatre Production of songs and music by Carole King and Neil Sedaka booked for mid-June but the recent cancellation of the show has required us to send refunds to our members for the fifty or so who had booked tickets.

We normally would organize a Cocktail Party in September for 2020 Australia Day and Queens Birthday awardees from within our Regional Group but the current lockdown has made this impossible.

When restrictions are eased, we will again conduct committee meetings and consider events for the future.

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## Gippsland Regional Group

Subject to COVID19 restrictions the Gippsland Regional Group plans are:-

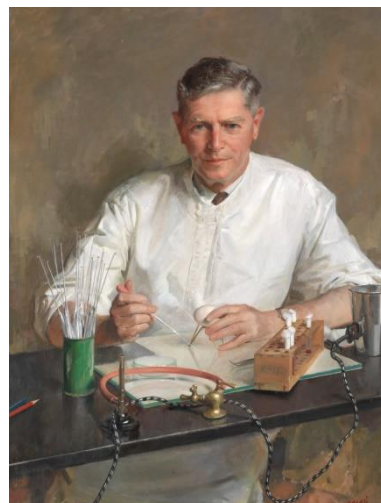
Sunday August 23 luncheon at Dal Mondo Restaurant, Traralgon, guest speaker to be confirmed

The Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet Dinner and Address – The Committee is currently negotiating a new venue as our usual chosen venue will not be opening after the COVID19 restrictions are lifted. The event will still be held in October as it is Burnet's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the announcement of him receiving the Nobel Prize. **CANCELLED**

Planning for 2021 - The RAAF will be celebrating its 100 yrs in 2021. Given Gippsland has a major and historical RAAF Base in East Sale, it is thought appropriate that our April luncheon should have a RAAF theme and be held in a venue in Sale.

We have the support and enthusiasm of East Sale Base Liaison Officer Wing Commander Sharon Bolitho. Please watch this for further announcements.

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## Loddon-Campaspe

No future plans at the moment.

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## Mallee

The Mallee Regional Group has again funded a scholarship in memory of Professor George Russell. Thankfully, member Brian Grogan OAM was able to make the necessary arrangements with La Trobe University.

Like the Mallee Regional Group during COVID-19, La Trobe University Mildura Campus was unable to stage graduations so the award was made in absentia.

The recipient this year is Samantha Leerson and she has responded with the following words:



I am both very grateful and very proud to have been awarded the Professor George Russell memorial prize. The financial support will make covering the necessary costs of my study easier for the remaining semesters of my degree, for which I am thankful. However, just the acknowledgement of my hard work is a prize in and of itself. I entered university knowing I wanted to study.

An Arts degree has allowed me to develop skills that I can apply to many careers while studying English and History – both of the subjects that I love. Studying locally has provided the convenience of studying in my home town. I do not know what I want to do after the completion of my degree, but with an Arts degree I like that my options are open.

Without the La Trobe University Mildura campus I would not be studying. While I could have studied on-line, La Trobe's Mildura campus has given me the experience of face to face education without needing to move away, something I might not have been able to do. I extend my sincere thanks to the Order of Australia Association Mallee Regional Group.

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## Melbourne Central Regional Group

Friday September 11 Lunch at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club Guest speaker Hon. Peter Costello AC

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## North East & Goulburn Valley Regional Group

As we move towards less restrictions and life starts to return to normal we can be thankful that our region has managed very well during the Covid-19 pandemic. Hopefully members have had time to enjoy the time spent in relative isolation.

The following is experiences from two of our members on how they have managed during the lockdown.

### **Mary-Lou Davis OAM**

At the moment, I'm working two days a week at a local primary school as a Learning Support Officer. Only those students who have parents that are emergency workers and those that are

vulnerable are attending school at the moment. Each classroom can fit approximately ten children with social distancing in place. All staff are required to wear a mask (that somehow fogs my glasses up) and gloves (that constantly need to be changed). I think it's important for the schools to be open, because it is the only safe place for some students. Also, there may not have the internet at home or the support needed for their learning. All the teachers and staff members are working so hard behind the scenes to make remote learning for the other students a positive experience.

I am also on the roster as a volunteer, to be called out to provide support for the youth (YRIPP- Youth Referral Independent Person Program) and those with a disability (OPA - Office of Public Advocate) being interviewed in the Police Station. So far, I have attended two locations and happy to do it, as I think it's an important role as there is so many that have no understanding of the process or even why they are there.

At the moment, I'm not available to help out with foster caring due to other commitments. There is a real need for more foster carers; this is due to the increase of domestic violence through isolation.

It's been an adjustment in all our lives, but one that Australians have risen to the challenge. Also, it's an opportunity for everyone to band together and get through this as a community looking out for each other. I think, there are some life lessons to be learnt from this and hopefully there will be some positive changes in the future.

Perhaps, Mother Nature has sent us to our room and told us to stay there, until we learn from all the mistakes we have made in the past.

### **John Brown AO -Brown Family Wine Group, the 2020 Vintage and COVID-19**

The Corona Virus impact occurred at the same time as the 2020 vintage!

At the Brown Family Wine Group Milawa site extraordinary measures were taken to keep staff safe while securing a successful harvest.

Around forty staff are employed in the winery with cellar hands split over three shifts and seven days a week. Each shift was kept completely separate with no sharing of staff room facilities, frequent hand sanitation and keeping distances whenever possible. Rest and meal breaks were held outdoors when suitable.

The winemakers and cellar management team normally work in two shifts but this vintage worked largely from home while utilising Microsoft Teams for daily communication to keep things coordinated.

All people were temperature checked at the beginning of their shift with a process in place to isolate anyone with above normal temperature.

In the vineyards most grapes are machine harvested where very few staff are involved and normally well separated. For the hand-picked portion each picker was allocated a row rather than sharing a row so that safe distances were maintained.

We were impressed by the positive attitude and willingness of the teams to adopt the changed way of working.

The vintage is now successfully complete and the permanent staff are continuing the new practices.

### **October 11<sup>th</sup> Luncheon 2020**

Please keep the date Sunday October 11<sup>th</sup> free in your diaries. We have re-booked the Park Lake Hotel Shepparton. At this stage it is still not possible to know whether we can hold the luncheon but we will keep you informed as soon as we know what is possible.

**Please note:** We have postponed the Mitchelton Winery Luncheon until Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021. This will also be our AGM.

### **Queen's Birthday NEGV OA New Recipients**

We congratulate the nine Order of Australia recipients and invite them to be part of our great Regional Group.

In the meantime, we hope you are enjoying catching up with family and friends again.

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## **North Central Suburbs Regional Group**

Modified program for 2020:

**Sunday Lunch** in August (Date to be confirmed) at the Yering Meadows Golf Club Café commencing at 12:00Noon

**Spring Lunch** to be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September commencing at 11:45am at the Sycamore St Coffee Shop.

**Reception for 2020 Honours Recipients** to be held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at the Heidelberg Uniting Church commencing at 1:30pm

The group is hopeful that these events will occur in some form.

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## **South Central Suburbs Regional Group**

Strange times indeed, difficult times indeed and the strength and the breadth of the strangeness and difficulty is measured by the individual, it varies within all of us, although we still share in general the restrictions placed upon us by the COVID-19 virus and the regulations by Governments, both State and Federal.

We asked one of our esteemed members, Professor Garry Jennings AO if he could prepare a precis on Taking Care and Keeping Safe. This was to make it simple and to cut through all of the information that was coming out of the States, Territories and out of Canberra. They were simple guidelines that really cut to the chase on personal care. We are very grateful and thankful for that information that was emailed out to our membership.

We, like most of Australia have had to cancel functions and we look forward to face to face time once again. To that end we have locked in our End of Year Dinner on **Wednesday November 25<sup>th</sup>** and it shall be at the Victoria Golf Club. We have the date we have the pricing but we do not have

the final outcome of the restrictions on numbers and how seating and feeding protocols will have evolved by then. Watch this space for booking when answers on restrictions have been cleared away.

During this time of isolation many of our membership have come "of age" with electronic messaging and electronic virtual meetings which has taught a bit of self-discipline with muting and unmuting when talking.

South Central Suburbs congratulates the fourteen Queen's Birthday Honours recipients in our region and welcome the opportunity to meet them late this year or early next year.

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## VIC BRANCH ANNUAL LUNCH 2020

**Tuesday November 17** at William Angliss Restaurant subject to COVID-19 restrictions that include social distancing

Guest speaker: Dr Robert (Robbie) Gillies OAM He's only 30 but already, Robbie Gillies has founded four charities, studied four university degrees, volunteered overseas and in remote Australian communities – and now works as a doctor in The Alfred emergency department. So it's a fitting tribute that Robbie was named Young Victorian of the Year in 2017.

Further details will be included in the September 2020 e-Newsletter edition.

Please save the date.

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## MERCHANDISE SHOP

Go online to shop at

<https://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/shopping-cart>



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## Your opportunity to have your say!!

In the August 2020 edition of *The Order*, our national magazine there will be a two page 'Magazine Reader Survey', welcoming feedback from members. Please take the time to respond.

Talking about *The Order*, please consider opting to receive the quarterly magazine in **E-COPY**. This releases Association funds for other purposes and helps to minimise the use of paper and plastic wrapping, thus contributing to a better environmental outcome

Send an email to: [aaanatmbrofficer@theorderofaustralia.asn.au](mailto:aaanatmbrofficer@theorderofaustralia.asn.au) and note E-COPY in the Subject line. Thank you in advance for your support

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## How to Spot a Fake Invoice Attack

People around the world are being targeted with a cyber-attack that sends victims a fake invoice that looks real enough to fool to most people. It is based on an old scam that used to see invoices faxed or mailed to the victims and now it has made its way into the digital world and instances are on the rise.

The current attacks though are much more advanced as they look completely legitimate and are often from companies and suppliers you actually use. The logos are correct, spelling and grammar is spot on and they might even refer to actual work or services you regularly use. The senders name may also be the normal contact you deal with at that business as cyber criminals are able to 'spoof' real accounts and real people. While it is worrying that they know enough about you to wear that disguise so well, a successful attack relies on you not knowing what to look for.

Here are the two main types of invoice attacks you may receive:

### **The Payment Redirect**

This style of fake invoice either explicitly states that the payment should be made to a certain account (perhaps with a friendly note listing the new details) or includes a payment link direct to a new account. The victim believes they are doing the right thing by making the payment and unwittingly sends money to a third party. Unfortunately, the problem is usually not being discovered until an invoice from the real supplier comes in. Due to the most cyber-crime being committed off-shore; it's unlikely you'll be able to recover the funds even if you catch it quickly.

### **The Malware Link**

Rather than immediate cash grab, this style of attack asks you to click a link to download the invoice. The email may even look exactly like the ones normally generated by popular accounting tools like QuickBooks, Xero or MYOB. Once you have clicked the link, malware is downloaded to your systems that can trigger ransomware or data breaches. While an up-to-date anti-virus should block the attack at that stage, it's not always guaranteed (especially with new and undiscovered malware). If it does get through, the malware quickly embeds itself deep into your systems and often remains silent until detected or activated.

### **How to Stay Safe**

Awareness is key to ensuring these types of attacks do not impact you or your computer in any way. As always, keep your anti-virus, firewalls and security software up to date to minimise the risk of the emails getting through in the first place.

Secondly, make sure you verify any bank account or payment changes with a phone call (to the number you have on record, not the one in the email) to the provider. Also, double check the invoices against the services you have actually received. Simple preemptive checks like hovering the mouse over any links before clicking and making sure it looks correct can also help. If anything looks off, hold back on payment / clicking until you are able to verify it. Fake invoice attacks may be increasing, but that doesn't mean you will become a statistic, especially now that you know what's going on and how you can stop them.

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Pam Robinson OAM, member of VIC Branch committee went one-on-one with  
**Marion Lau OAM JP** – Living Generously

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Please enjoy this informative read and thank you Pam and Marion for your time.

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***Tell us a little about yourself, your family, what your cultural background is and your fondest childhood memories. If born overseas, when did you come to Australia?***

I was born in Malaysia, of Chinese Heritage. I had always wanted to travel and visit other countries and taking up nursing was a good opportunity to do that.

I did my Registered General Nurse Training in London, followed by Midwifery training in Scotland. This was consolidated by undertaking the Unit Managers' Course at the Royal College of Nursing in London. On return to Malaysia, was employed as the Night Supervisor of a Catholic Hospital in Kuala Lumpur.

In the late 1960s, I read about the proposed abolishment of the White Australian Policy, so decided to travel to Australia and arrived into Melbourne, January 1969.

After a couple of years, I decided that I should upgrade my education in the area of the health system in Australia and was successful in graduating with a Bachelor of Health Administration from the University of NSW.

***What career path did you choose, where did you qualify and what was your first job? How did this lead on to your subsequent positions both in paid employment and what took you to participation in the volunteer sector?***

After various clinical and middle management positions, I was head hunted to commission a new 120 bed surgical hospital in Windsor, Melbourne. On completion of the building, I was employed to manage its operations, being the first Asian woman to take up this senior executive position. After the hospital's owners sold the hospital, I worked in a variety of management positions, including as Nurse Advisor in the then Department of Health.

It was during this time, that I was introduced to the wider Chinese community by my late husband. They were trying to set up an organisation to look after their older members. Most of them spoke only a little English or none at all. That was the beginning of my community advocacy role.

***What organisations over the years have you been a member with and when did you become a JP and why did you take on that role in your community.***

In the years that followed, I involved myself in a number of ethnic NGOs, both in Victoria as well as nationally. I am still actively participating in many. My work in this area includes health & wellbeing of older Australians, women, and children, particularly those from non-English speaking backgrounds, as well as migrant small business owners. This work also takes me to advocating for cultural diversity and multiculturalism.

It was during this time that I determined to do more for the wider community and set about to know more about how things worked in Australian Society, the systems, the rules, etc. Being a Justice of the Peace would give me an opportunity to learn more I decided and in 1991, I applied and was successful in being appointed as a Member of the Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices.

After the passing of my husband in 1995, I inherited his restaurant business.

It was during this time that I realised many small business owners from Non-English speaking backgrounds and due to lack of English proficiency, were not familiar with many regulations governing small businesses, nor information available to them on government websites.

I completed a programme of business counselling and mentoring to equip myself to assist them. Then I accepted an invitation to join the Small Business Mentoring Service as a Mentor, giving me a platform to support many in a more structured process.

***What year did you receive your OAM, what was the Award citation and what has it meant to you to be so Honoured? Are there other Awards that you have received that you would like to share with us?***

In 1996 I was awarded the OAM for service to Elderly Chinese and Older Australians.

Other Awards I have received are the Centenary Medal for services to multiculturalism in 2003, the Albert Nelson Award for outstanding services to the Small Business Mentoring Service and the Small Business Community in Victoria. I was inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll for Women and appointed as an Australia Day Ambassador. I am also a Rotarian and a Paul Harris Fellow.

I was the first woman to be elected Chair of the Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria, and the first woman elected as President of the Chinese Community Society of Victoria and appointed as People of Australia Ambassador in 2012 & 2013.

I am delighted to still sit on several NGO Boards as well as Government Advisory Boards and committees.

***What advice would you have for someone wanting to follow in your footsteps?***

As a community volunteer and advocate, one needs to be flexible and objective.

Most of all, one needs to understand and believe in the issue at hand, and not be judgemental. Be a good listener.

***What are you most passionate about for yourself, your family, your community and in relation to life in general?***

I am most passionate about the health and well-being of my family and latterly, my own self. I have a passionate commitment about many things hence I still actively participate on a number of Forums/Committees/Boards. I care deeply about the well-being of the community, particularly in areas of social justice and equal access to services and welfare and seeing that all people are treated with respect and dignity and without discrimination.

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## A GIFT TO THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

The University of Melbourne Archives contain many treasures including the Lucy Kerley collection of 44 boxes of Ledgers and documents relating to the Students and Masters of the National Gallery of Victoria Schools of Art.

After the death of Lucy Kerley in 1996, the collection was stored at the Victorian College of the Arts and was transferred to the University of Melbourne Archives in November 2007.

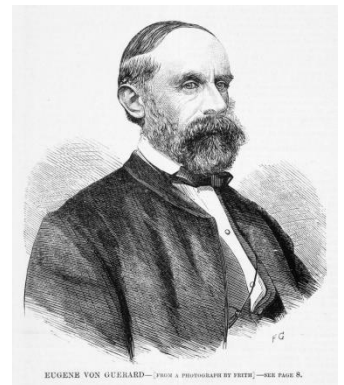
Prior to this collection becoming available, documents that were accessible to researchers in this area were inadequate and on checking against the original records in the student Ledgers, were also found to be incomplete and inaccurate.

Given this situation and to make it easier for future generations of researchers I decided to create two new Student Registers with the first Register recording the seventy five students who were admitted to the School of Design between 20 June 1867 and 20 May 1870, prior to the appointment of Masters and the second, a main Register, recording the enrolment details of the students in the School of Design / School of Drawing and School of Painting between 1870 and 1925 inclusive.

This main Register also notes the enrollments in the Night or Evening Classes provided by the School of Drawing between 1904 and 1912 as well as providing the full names of over 620 students and cross references for more than 140 of the female students from their married names to that as it appears in the main Register.

In all, these Registers record over 12,000 individual enrolment entries, covering the enrolment of approximately 4,000 students, with an enrolment ratio of 2:1 in favour of the female students.

The 20<sup>th</sup> June 2020 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Eugene von Guerard being officially appointed the first Master of the National Gallery of Victoria Schools of Art and in celebration of this historic occasion I am presenting the National Gallery of Victoria with a gift of these two Registers that list the names and enrollment details of all students in the National Gallery of Victoria Schools of Art between 1867 and 1925 inclusive.



Eugene von Guerard wood engraving by Frederick Grosse  
Published in *The Illustrated Australian News for Home Readers*, 27 July 1867

Andrew Mackenzie OAM - Art Historian  
Mornington Peninsula Regional Group

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# VIC Branch Regional Group Chairs

As at March 31, 2020

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