



THE ORDER
OF AUSTRALIA

Toolkit to encourage nominations in your community

Message from the Governor-General

This toolkit has been prepared to help your organisation increase awareness of and engagement with the Order of Australia, and to encourage nominations across your community.

Australia is a fast-changing, growing and culturally diverse nation. The Order of Australia – our pre-eminent awards system – must reflect our diverse strength. It must represent the best of what we do across the breadth of who we are.

Every Australian should be able to see themselves in the Order of Australia. That will only happen if we all work together: I need you to nominate people from your community who make a positive difference, have served selflessly and whose achievements contribute to our collective strength.

The Order of Australia is uniquely Australian – it relies on nominations by Australians for Australians. From community volunteers to entrepreneurs, from artists to educators, all Australians are eligible for an Order of Australia award or appointment.

Nominating is easy – it can be done by colleagues, leaders, peers, neighbours, anyone who wants to recognise someone else's hard work, service and accomplishments.

My message to you and all Australians is to not leave it to someone else – you can make a difference today by nominating an outstanding person you know.

My Office stands ready to assist. Please do not hesitate to contact them to explore ways that we can work together.

Yours sincerely

His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

Inside this toolkit

This toolkit contains important information about the Order of Australia and promotional materials that your organisation can distribute to staff, members and networks.

We want you to share these messages and stories to help us inspire more Australians to nominate people who go above and beyond and have great impact in our community.



Key messages
about the Order of Australia



Profiles of inspiring
Order of Australia recipients



Ready-to-use promotional
material for your channels



More detailed information
about how the Order works

A short PowerPoint slide presentation including key information about the Order of Australia can be provided separately on request.

If you would like additional support or have any questions, please contact the team at ooacommunications@gg.gov.au

Thank you for supporting this important initiative.

Key messages

- The Order of Australia is our nation's highest honour for outstanding achievement and service. It belongs to all Australians, and it's uniquely ours.
- Every year, hundreds of Australians are celebrated through the Order of Australia. People from all backgrounds, all parts of Australia and who have contributed in all areas are honoured and celebrated through the Order.
- By nominating, we have a say in who is celebrated, and the types of service and achievements that matter to us – in our local communities and beyond.
- Everyone recognised through the Order has something in common – someone took the time to nominate them. No matter how valuable someone's contribution is, they can't be recognised unless they are nominated.
- Don't leave it to someone else – have your say today by nominating someone you know who goes above and beyond, inspires and has an impact locally, nationally and/or internationally. Visit www.gg.gov.au today to nominate someone you know who makes a difference.

Meet some of the Order of Australia recipients

Please share these short videos in your communications. They feature inspiring Australians who have been honoured through the Order of Australia.

Each image is hyperlinked to the video on YouTube.

Short compilations featuring multiple recipients

Just right-click on the image to copy and paste the video link into your communications to share the video.



How does it feel to learn you will receive an Order of Australia?



Recipients come from all backgrounds, and across a range of services and achievements.



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Short (1-2 min) videos featuring stories about recipients

Just right-click on the image to copy and paste the video link into your communications to share the video.

For significant service to migrant and refugee services, and to the community.

DEMANI BAKKUM AM



For service to Indigenous STEM education.

COREY TUTT OAM



For significant service to community health, to remote area nursing, and to the Indigenous community.

SARAH BROWN AM



For service to the multicultural community of New South Wales.

CON PAVLOU OAM



For service to community health.

DR. SMITA SHAH OAM



Written recipient profiles

Instructions

For Mac users

If you are using Preview to see this document:

1. Select the image.
2. Right-click copy, then paste the page in your material (command + c, command + v).
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Dewani Bakkum AM

Dewani Bakkum's appointment as a Member of the Order of Australia recognises her commitment and significant service to migrant and refugee services, and to the community.

"I felt so honoured to receive this on behalf of the whole of this community and my staff, and my family, which represents everybody."

Dewani's passion for helping others is deeply personal. It stems from her experience of migrating to Australia from Fiji 40 years ago, and growing up with a single mum. She knows how empowering the right kind of support can be.

Spanning years of volunteering and several committee roles representing migrants and refugees, Dewani has dedicated her life to helping people settle and thrive in Australia.

Today, Dewani is the CEO of the Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services Australia (MARSS). Under her leadership, MARSS delivers a holistic program of settlement support, from finding a job or accommodation to learning a new language.

"We take all the migrants and refugees on the settlement journey from the day they arrive to the day they're fully and successfully settled."



Corey Tutt OAM

Corey Tutt is a Kamilaroi man whose service to Indigenous STEM education has been recognised with a Medal of the Order of Australia.

“I nearly fell off my chair. My heart raced a little bit and I was honoured. I instantly thought of my mother and my family and my grandfather who’s no longer with us.”

Corey is passionate about improving science education for Indigenous kids. That’s why he started DeadlyScience – an initiative that provides schools and students in remote Aboriginal communities with science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) resources. So far, DeadlyScience has shipped over 25,000 books, 700 telescopes, 10,000 Lego kits and other STEM resources to over 180 remote communities around Australia.

Under Corey’s direction, DeadlyScience has expanded to deliver programs for young students. For example, DeadlyLearners is a virtual series that engages remote and rural schools with STEM experts, giving students a chance to learn key ideas and ask questions.

“We need to teach non-Indigenous people that our people always have been and always will be clever, intelligent people with beautiful culture and we also need to educate our kids.”



Sarah Brown AM

Sarah Brown was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for her service to community health, remote area nursing and to the Indigenous community.

“It’s so lovely, and so lovely for the Purple House, that the work that we are all doing is recognised as important. I just have the honour to have been along for the ride.”

Sarah is the inspirational CEO of Purple House in the Western Desert of Central Australia. It offers remote dialysis, social support, aged care and NDIS services, and it runs a bush medicine social enterprise called Bush Balm.

Driven by Sarah’s zeal and focus, Purple House has grown from one dialysis clinic in 2004, to now operating 18 remote clinics in the Northern Territory, Western Australia and South Australia, plus running a mobile dialysis unit called the Purple Truck.

An entirely Indigenous-run and -owned service, Purple House’s community-led model of healthcare has transformed Central Australia from having the worst to the best survival rates for dialysis in Australia.

“The essence of the story is about Aboriginal people having a problem and coming up with their own solution, and being incredibly proud of what they’ve been able to achieve.”



Con Pavlou OAM

Con Pavlou's commitment to multiculturalism and integrating new communities into Australia was recognised with a Medal of the Order of Australia.

"I first felt excitement and I was overwhelmed that I'd be considered for the award of the Order of Australia Medal. At the same time, I feel very humbled that I've been considered and recognised."

Con arrived in Australia from Cyprus when he was nine years old. As an immigrant, he has always been driven to give back.

"Because Australia accepted us migrants with open arms, we in turn gave back what we had to offer. And migrants, as most people know, helped build Australia to what it is today."

Through faith, sport and education, Con has helped nourish and build future generations. Over five decades, he's filled several voluntary roles. He's coached kids' football and helped establish the first Greek Orthodox College in New South Wales. He's held every position at his local Parish of St Spyridon, from President to Secretary and Treasurer. And, as a Justice of the Peace since 1975, he still helps people in a variety of ways.

Con is a proud member of the Greek-Australian community, who continues to give his heart, soul and countless hours of voluntary service.

Promotional materials

With this suite of materials you can deliver clear and consistent messages about the Order of Australia across your communications channels.



Ready-to-use
social media tiles



Draft social media
post text



Editorial and images
for e-newsletters and
websites



Printable A4 Fact
Sheet

Ready-to-use social media tile

Each graphic is ready-to-use. Just select the image, then right-click on it and select 'copy image' to paste it straight into your post.

You can use the prepared post text below to accompany these graphics.

Instagram - Twitter



Ready-to-use social media tile

Each graphic is ready-to-use. Just select the image, then right-click on it and select 'copy image' to paste it straight into your post.

You can use the prepared post text below to accompany these graphics.

Facebook - LinkedIn



Editorial for newsletters and websites

**Nominate someone you know who
goes above and beyond.**

We all know someone who makes a positive difference. Someone who enriches the lives of others through their hard work, dedication and service. They make our communities – and our country – a better place. They inspire us to be better.

The Order of Australia is our nation's highest honour for outstanding achievement and service. It belongs to all Australians, and it's uniquely ours. Every year, hundreds of Australians are celebrated through the Order of Australia. People from all backgrounds, all parts of Australia, and who have done all types of work.

By nominating someone for an Order of Australia, you get to have a say in who is celebrated, and the types of service and achievements that matter. Anyone can nominate someone for an Order of Australia at any time – there is no deadline.

You don't need to know every detail about the person you nominate.

You need:

- the full name and contact details of the person you are nominating
- your full name and contact details
- an outline of how your nominee has made a significant contribution to the community
- the names and contact details of up to four referees who can directly comment on your nominee's contribution.

Visit www.gg.gov.au today to nominate someone you know who makes a difference.

Selection of accompanying images

Instructions

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Caption: Order of Australia recipients

Alt text: photo montage of six people, including five Order of Australia recipients, and one of the Governor-General of Australia pinning a medal on a recipient's jacket



Caption: Order of Australia recipients

Alt text: photo montage of seven smiling people, who are Order of Australia recipients.



Caption: Order of Australia medal

Alt text: A row of gold-coloured medals attached to blue ribbon laying on a green surface



Caption: The Governor-General presenting a recipient with her medal of the Order of Australia

Alt text: a woman smiling as a medal is pinned to her jacket by the Governor-General of Australia

More detailed information

About the Order of Australia

- The Order of Australia is our nation's highest honour for outstanding achievement and service.
- It belongs to all Australians, and it's uniquely ours.
- Recipients are people who go above and beyond. They have enriched the lives of others and made our country a better place.
- There are four levels of Order of Australia awards (the level of award is determined by the Council for the Order of Australia – you don't nominate someone for a specific level):
 1. **Companion of the Order of Australia (AC)** – for eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large.
 2. **Officer of the Order of Australia (AO)** – for distinguished service of a high degree to Australia or to humanity at large.
 3. **Member of the Order of Australia (AM)** – for service in a particular locality or field of activity or to a particular group.
 4. **Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)** – for service worthy of particular recognition.



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Who can be nominated?

- Anyone can be nominated – from community volunteers to scientists, from entrepreneurs to educators.
- To be eligible, a nominated person must be:
 - alive at the time their nomination is received, and
 - an Australian citizen or permanent resident.
- The Governor-General believes the Order of Australia must represent the diversity of Australia. This can only happen if we all nominate people that inspire us and who go above and beyond.
- Some parts of our community have been historically underrepresented in the number of nominations and, therefore, appointments to the Order. To address this we need more nominations of women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with disability and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
 - Every Australian should be able to see themselves in the Order of Australia.
 - Acknowledging contributions from people across our diverse Australian community places their achievements on the public record and creates more visible role models.
 - Through nominating, we can all play an important role in making sure the Order of Australia reflects who we are as a nation.
- All nominations are confidential. The person being nominated should not be told about their nomination or approached for information at any stage.

Why nominate?

- By nominating someone for an Order of Australia, you have a say in who is celebrated, and the types of service and achievements that matter to you.
- By nominating are recognising someone's hard work, service and dedication. Nominating is a meaningful way to demonstrate how much you value someone's efforts.
- Being recognised can be a life-changing event.
- No-one, no matter who they are or what they have done can be recognised without a nomination.

Who can nominate?

- Anyone can nominate someone for an Order of Australia. No-one can be recognised unless they are nominated by someone else.
- Nominations may come from an individual or a group.
- You can make a difference today by nominating an inspiring person you know – don't leave it to someone else.

How to nominate

- The Order of Australia nomination form is available at www.gg.gov.au – it can be completed online or downloaded for completion in hard copy.
- Alternatively, you can:
 - Phone the Honours free call 24-hour answering service on 1800 552 275 and leave your name and postal address
 - Request a copy of the nomination form via post to Secretary, Order of Australia, Government House, Canberra ACT 2600
- Nominations can be submitted at any time – there is no deadline.
- You don't need to know the person you want to nominate or know every detail about them.
- To complete a nomination, you need to provide:
 - The full name and contact details of the person you are nominating.
 - Your full name and contact details.
 - An outline of how your nominee has made a significant contribution to the community.
 - The names and contact details of up to four referees who can directly comment on your nominee's contribution.
- You do not nominate someone for a level of award – just for recognition in the Order.
- The information you provide on the nomination form is strictly for the purpose of researching the nominee (by the Honours Secretariat) and assessing the nominee (by the Council for the Order of Australia).

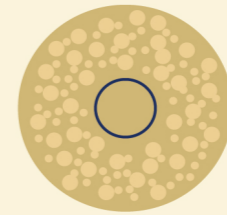
Order of Australia selection process

There are five stages in the Order of Australia award selection process.

1. **Nominate:** nominations come directly from the community.
 - Every nominee is considered on their merits.
 - The quality of the information in the nomination form does not determine the outcome.
2. **Research:** once a nomination is received, it is independently and carefully researched by the Honours and Awards Secretariat, including confirming information with referees.
3. **Review:** once research is completed, nominations are reviewed by the independent Council for the Order of Australia, which decides how nominees progress. The Council considers whether a nominee has:
 - demonstrated achievement at a high level
 - made a contribution over and above what might be reasonably expected through paid employment, or
 - whose voluntary contribution to the community stands out from others who have also made a valuable contribution.
4. **Recommendation:** selected nominees are asked if they would accept an award if offered one. Those who say yes are recommended by the Council for an appointment or award to the Governor-General.
5. **Approval:** the Governor-General considers and approves the final list of recipients, which are announced on 26 January and in June.

What happens if my nominee is successful?

- Successful nominees receive a written offer of an award in the Order of Australia.
- Nominators are contacted approximately one week before the official publication of the honours list for which the nomination was considered.
- After recipients are announced, they are invited to attend a ceremony at Government House in the State or Territory where they live, and are presented with an award medal and lapel pin.
 - Each honours list includes hundreds of Order of Australia recipients.



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Order of Australia Fact Sheet

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond, making your community a better place?

Nominate them today for an Order of Australia – our nation’s highest honour.

Every year, hundreds of Australians are celebrated through the Order of Australia. People from all backgrounds, all parts of Australia, and who do all kinds of work are honoured through the Order. It belongs to all Australians, and it’s uniquely ours.

By nominating, we have a say in who is celebrated, and the types of service and achievement that matter to us.

Anyone can nominate and nominations can be submitted at any time

Your nomination is the first critical step.

1. Nominate

1. The name and contact details of the person you are nominating
2. Your name and contact details
3. An outline of your nominee’s contribution
4. Names and contact details of referees

Don’t leave it to someone else – have your say by nominating an inspiring person you know.

Who will you nominate?

gg.gov.au

honours@gg.gov.au

[f AussieHonours](#)

[#OrderofAustralia](#)

2. Research



Your nominee is independently and carefully researched by the Honours and Awards Secretariat, including confirming information with referees.

3. Review



Nominations are reviewed by the independent Council for the Order of Australia, which decides how nominees progress.

4. Recommendation



Selected nominees are asked if they would accept an award if offered one. Those who say yes are recommended by the Council for an appointment or award to the Governor-General.

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