

## MEMBERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH

### The following Countries are members of the Commonwealth

United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Ghana, Malaysia, Nigeria, Cyprus, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Uganda, Kenya, Malawi, Malta, Zambia, Singapore, Guyana, Botswana, Lesotho, Nauru, Mauritius, Swaziland, Tonga, Samoa, Fiji Islands, Bangladesh, The Bahamas, Grenada, Papua New Guinea, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Dominica, St Lucia, Kiribati, St Vincent & The Grenadines, Vanuatu, Belize, Antigua & Barbuda, St Christopher & Nevis, Brunei, Namibia, Cameroon, Mozambique, Rwanda, Maldives, The Gambia . Togo and Gabon

These diverse nations representing one quarter of the world's population over every continent, include Republics, National Monarchies and a number of Nations that recognise King Charles 111 as their own Head of State



## THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED

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**[www.thercssa.com.au](http://www.thercssa.com.au)**

President: Libby Ellis OAM

Ph 0412 820 121

Secretary: Julie Gameau OAM

Ph 0407 203 035

## February 2026 – April 2026 NEWSLETTER

### Branch Council Members

President:	Libby Ellis OAM	0412 820 121
Vice President	Judy Clarke	0419 500 218
Treasurer:	Julie Gameau OAM	0407 203 035
Secretary:	Julie Gameau	0407 203 035
Councillors:	Chris Ashton	0419 804 725
	Patsy Beckett	0407 249 850
	William Comley	0499 699 899
	Barbara Mayfield	0422 577 844
	Deb Johnson	0407 244 869
	John Shepherd AM	0467 621 030
	Brenda Wallis	0481 481 116

Please contact the above members for any information regarding the activities and news of the Royal Commonwealth Society South Australia

### Objects of the Royal Commonwealth Society

The objects of the society are to promote the increase and diffusion of knowledge respecting the people and Countries of the Commonwealth, to maintain the best traditions of the Commonwealth and to foster unity of thought and action to matters of common interest

### The Ode

We of the Royal Commonwealth Society shall continue to foster goodwill and affection between peoples of the Commonwealth, so that all may live together in peace, sympathy and understanding

## THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY ( SOUTH AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on

**Sunday 22nd March 2026 at 2.30pm**

**at The Ballroom at St Mark's College,  
46 Pennington Street North Adelaide**

**Come and hear what the Society has done for the last 12 months and  
the plans for the next 12 months.**

**Fellowship and refreshments will follow the meeting**

**Apologies and further details, please contact the**

**President: Libby Ellis 0412 820 121 or**

**Secretary: Julie Gameau 0407 203 035**

**PATRONS**

**World wide Patron**            **His Majesty King Charles III**  
**World wide Vice Patron**    **Her Majesty Queen Camilla**  
**South Australian Patron**    **the Governor of South Australia**  
**Her Excellency, the Honourable Frances Adamson AC**

**DIARY DATES**

Friday 13 February    Rediscovering Adelaide tram trip to Glenelg  
 March 9th–14            Commonwealth Week  
 Sunday 15th March    Commonwealth Day Choral Evensong at  
                                  Christ Church, North Adelaide 6.00pm  
 Sunday 22 March      Annual General Meeting at 2.30pm at the Ballroom at  
                                  St Mark's College North Adelaide

For further details regarding the above functions please contact  
 Libby 0412 820 121 or Julie 0407 203 035

**2026 Subscriptions are due on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026**

**Please pay the Treasurer as soon as possible**  
**The subscription to the RCS entitles all members to offer to be a member of the RCS Council, vote at the Annual General Meeting and other Special meetings, quarterly newsletters and to attend some functions at a subsidised cost.**

**Single membership            \$50**  
**Double membership          \$75**

**Bank details are as follows**

BSB                            105 148  
 Bank SA  
 Account number          5540 20140

**WEBSITES**

the Royal Commonwealth Society in London is  
[www.royalcwsociety.org](http://www.royalcwsociety.org)

the Commonwealth Secretariat  
[www.thecommonwealth.org](http://www.thecommonwealth.org)

The Royal Commonwealth Society South Australia  
[www.thercssa.com.au](http://www.thercssa.com.au)

**RCS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**RCS Edmonton in Alberta, Canada will host an International RCS Conference from September 10th to 13th, 2026 and we look forward to welcoming you...**

The theme of our Conference is Elements and the Commonwealth, focusing on Earth, Wind, Fire, and Water. Covering topics such as emergency management, disaster response, emergency services, and water supplies, from across Canada and the Commonwealth. The relationships between government agencies, military, emergency services, municipalities, indigenous communities, non-profit organizations, and the private sector are a key component of Commonwealth participation, incorporating experiences and perspectives from outside Alberta as well as other countries. Participants will experience seminars, the sharing of ideas, discussions with other participants from other parts of the Commonwealth, and cultural displays and performances from around Alberta. Confirmed details and a registration form will be available soon.

For more information and registration information, please contact

Mary Hunt [info@rcsedmonton.com](mailto:info@rcsedmonton.com)



**International Conference**  
**Elements and the Commonwealth**  
**Disaster/Emergency Management**  
**September 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Royal Commonwealth Society of Edmonton**  
**Edmonton, Alberta, Canada**

**COMMONWELTH DAY SERVICE AT CHRIST CHURCH NORTH ADELAIDE**

**COME AND JOIN US AND THE CHRIST CHURCH CONGRGATION TO CELEBRATE COMMONWEALTH DAY.**

**Sunday 15 March 6.00pm  
Christ Church 35 Palmer Place, North Adelaide  
View the Commonwealth Flag and flags from the 56 Commonwealth Countries**

**At the conclusion of the service join the congregation members at supper.**

**Card of thanks from Anglicare**

Sincere thanks for you generous donation of food and gifts to Anglicare SA’s 2025 Christmas Appeal.  
Anglicare SA seeks to help families who are struggling. We want to make the festive season a time of hope for all people in Adelaide, and to bring a brighter New year to those in need.  
From all of us at Anglicare SA—Thank you

RCS Council

The officers of the Society shall consist of the President, up to two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer and up to six Councillors (Clause 12.1). Any one who wishes to be nominated for the Council at the Annual General Meeting on Sunday, 23 March 2025, please contact either the President, Libby Ellis or the Secretary Julie Gameau.



**MEMBERS PLEASE REMEMBER**

- Rediscovering Adelaide Friday 13th February
- Commonwealth Week 9th to 14th March 2026
- Commonwealth Day Choral Evensong at Christ Church North Adelaide Sunday 15th March at 6.00pm
- Annual General Meeting Sunday 22nd March at 2.30pm at the Ballroom at St Mark’s College North Adelaide

**NOMINATION FORM**

The Royal Commonwealth Society  
South Australia Incorporated

We, being members of the above Society entitled to vote.

Hereby nominate.....

- |                     |                |                          |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| For the Position of | Vice President | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                     | Secretary      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                     | Treasurer      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                     | Councillor     | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Dated this.....day  
of.....2026

Signature of Proposer

Signature of Seconder

I hereby agree to accept such position if elected thereto.

Signature of Nominee

Send to President or Secretary 7 days prior to the Annual General Meeting

**DRAFT AGENDA**

- Open meeting and welcome members and guests
- Apologies
- Minutes of the AGM held on 23 March 2025  
Minutes of the SGM held on 23 March 2025  
Minutes of the SGM held on 14 September 2025
- Receive and adopt a report from the President
- To receive and adopt the audited Statement of Accounts
- To elect Officers and Council members
- To appoint an Auditor
- Any Other Business TBA
- Closure

If there are Further agenda items a notice will be posted out to all financial members

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### SEASON'S GREETINGS

Happy New year to everyone. Whatever your beliefs, I hope your summer break was happy and safe.

### LOOKING FORWARD

Rediscovering Adelaide

Your Council has decided that the series of visits, collectively known as Rediscovering Adelaide will continue into 2026. Julie, with help from Brenda and Judy will be providing details about these visits as we progress into the year.

Commonwealth Talks

In 2025, we started a new series of events, known collectively as Commonwealth Talks. We haven't quite worked out the format for these yet, but Patsy Beckett has agreed to rejoin our Council to coordinate these events. Patsy is relatively new to Adelaide and would be delighted to hear from members and friends with suggestions, not only about potential speakers but also times, days, venues and frequencies. We are offering them for our members, so we would like our members to be proactive in making them happen.

### ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS

During 2025 we established several of these, and we plan to maintain and strengthen these links in 2026.

#### Commonwealth Week service.

Christ Church, North Adelaide. We attended this service last year, but this year we are planning to stage a parade of Commonwealth flags. If any RCS SA member, or their children or grandchildren would like to take part in this very traditional Commonwealth Week activity, please let either Julie, William, or me know, asap.

Glenthorne National Park.

Through Judy Clarke and the Friends of **Glenthorne**, we are still in the process of creating some art work to enhance the munitions huts, the war horses and the whole national park experience. It is taking us longer than we had hoped but we plan its completion in 2026.

**Co-Opera Incorporated.** With our assistance Co-Opera has received enough guaranteed funding for three years to enable it to get back on its performance feet after the massive blow of Covid. Again in 2026 they have a wonderful year planned of operas and concerts, so stay tuned, buy tickets and introduce your friends to the joys of opera in an informal setting.

#### RCS SA Scholarship.

In 2025 we created a perpetual scholarship and asked the Board of St Marks to manage it on our behalf. We hope to strengthen our ties with the College in 2026, and we look forward to meeting the first recipients and unveiling our Honour Board.



President

## 2025 Christmas Reception

Members and friends gathered in Libby's home in Tomsey Street to celebrate the Christmas season.

It was a fun filled evening with guests enjoying the festivities and sharing news.

Thank you Libby for allowing to use your home as the venue for the party.

### REDISCOVERING ADELAIDE

February Rediscovering Adelaide.

#### Friday February 13<sup>th</sup>

We are catching the Glenelg tram and experiencing travelling across the new tram overpasses at Morphett Road, Marion Road/Cross road and South Road. On arriving at Mosley Square, Glenelg we are visiting the **Asia Oasis Street Food Festival by the Sea on the Glenelg Foreshore.** Taste the delights of Asian Food— smoky grills, noodles, dumplings, seafood, sugarcane and coconut ice cream at Asia Street Festival By the Sea.

Free entry. BUT it is a Cashless event if you are tempted to enjoy the delicious Asian food

Meet at South Terrace at 11.10am and catch the 11.18am tram to arrive at Glenelg at 11.45am.

Please RSVP to Julie so that the trip can be coordinated

Further Rediscovering events will be sent via emails

### Council Co-option

During the last two months, as there were two casual vacancies, the RCS Council has Co-opted Deborah Johnson and Patsy Beckett onto the Council until the AGM in March. Both Deb and Patsy will need to be nominated and voted for at the AGM to be held in March.

### VALE

The RCS Council and Membership extends condolences to Judy and the Clarke family for the unexpected death of Harold (Harry) Clarke. Harry was a great supporter of the the RCS South Australia. He attended all functions and attend and participated in International and Regional meetings. We will all miss Harry.