



OMRS Australia Conference

26, 27 and 28 September 2025

Mercure Canberra Hotel

Corner Limestone Ave and Ainslie Ave, Canberra

Welcome

We will be holding our annual conference in September. This conference is open to all medal collectors, you do not need to be an OMRS member. You will hear from many great speakers, meet international guests, meet the representatives of international auction houses, and have a great time talking to and re-acquainting yourself with collectors from all over.

Friday

Friday is a welcome and kick off day. We will officially start with welcome drinks at the hotel at 7pm.

Activity	Where	Time
Exhibit setup	Conference Room, Mercure Canberra	5:30pm onwards. Note that there is no security on this room, it is suggested that you don't leave valuables there overnight or alone.
Speakers test and setup If you want to test your presentation to make sure it works I will have the laptop and	Conference Room, Mercure Canberra	6:30pm

projector ready and we can load it all up.		
<p>Meet and Greet, where we say hello, have some nibbles, have a drink, and collect our name badges.</p> <p>Drinks are kindly sponsored by Spink, as well as after there will be a cash bar.</p>	<p>Conference Room, Mercure Canberra</p> 	7pm

Saturday

Saturday kicks off with a day of presentations, and then winds down with a good and relaxing dinner.

Activity	Who	Time
Open and welcome	Mike Downey	10:00 – 10:15
The Australians who helped sink the Tirpitz – and their medals	Mark Baker	10:15 – 11:00
Searching, searching	Graeme Marfleet	11:00 – 11:45
A chance to look at the exhibits		11:45 – 12:00
Lunch		12:00 – 13:00
The mistaken purchase of Mr Smith – a Second World War and Korea story	Alexander James	13:00 – 13:45
Intelligence Corps - The <i>Stars</i> of the Second World War	Mark Wilson	13:45 – 14:30
Afternoon tea and a chance to look at the exhibits		14:30 - 15:00
Gent, soldier, or bounder?	Steve Danaher	15:00 – 15:45
An African theme	Christopher Mellor-Hill	15:45 – 16:30
A chance to look at the exhibits		16:30 – 17:00
Dinner and after dinner talk		19:00 – 22:00

Saturday Night Dinner

As usual we will meet for dinner and have an interesting guest speaker, Peter Collins the former opposition leader in NSW and a veteran of the Iraq war. We welcome and look forward to hearing from him.

The wine is kindly sponsored by Noonans.



Your conference cost includes the cost of the dinner.

Dress is jacket and tie.

Miniatures are traditionally worn at this dinner.

Sunday

Sunday will continue with presentations, and include some less formal shorter presentations and an opportunity to show and tell or share anything you have recently got or are working on.

Note since we are all in the same hotel we are starting at 9am to get time for all the great speakers.

Activity	Who	Time
		09:00 – 09:30
The Combustible Commodore	Craig Hooper	09:30 – 10:00
Morning tea		10:00 – 10:30
More escapers and evaders	Ryan Darby	10:30 – 11:00
TBD	Jim Johnstone	11:00 – 11:30
Member's Own – free for anyone to do a 5 minute mini talk	Any	11:30 – 12:00
Close and lunch		12:00

Exhibits

As we have had before we will have exhibits along the sides of the room. Setup will take place from 5:30pm on Friday.

Costs

The cost of the conference is similar to last year:

\$200 for the full conference and dinner.

\$140 if you are not coming to the dinner.

\$260 if you are attending the conference and want to bring one guest to the dinner.

To secure your spot please pay into the conference account:

OMRS AUST

BSB 062268

AC 10485566

Or send a cheque made out to OMRS AUST,

At the following address:

Barrett J Carr

PO Box 263

Wentworthville

2145

If you are coming from overseas let me know you are coming and pay when you are here if that is simpler for you.

Hotel

The location of the conference is Mercure Canberra. This is the same hotel we have always used, on the corner of Ainslie and Limestone Avenues in Braddon. You can call them on (02) 6243 0000.

A block of discounted rooms including breakfast have been offered, so mention you are booking for the Orders and Medals Research Society to get a discount. Note there are only 20 such rooms so first in best dressed. This is quoted at \$189 per night with breakfast. It is up to you to arrange and confirm the hotel yourself.

War Memorial Visits

If anyone is planning on visiting the war memorial please beware there is construction there and you need to book a time slot on their website to visit.