

UK CORONATION MEDAL TO AUSTRALIANS

Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister, we recommend you:

1. Agree the Australian Government has no objection to His Majesty The King making a personal gift of the Coronation Medal to Australian living holders of the Imperial awards of the Victoria Cross or George Cross, and the equivalent Australian awards of the Victoria Cross for Australia or the Cross of Valour.
2. Sign the letter to His Excellency General the Hon David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), Governor-General, advising him of your decision (Attachment A).

☒ Agreed ☐ Not Agreed

☒ Signed ☐ Not Signed

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

PATRICK GORMAN

Date:

4/9/2023

Comments:**KEY POINTS**

1. On 5 May 2023, the Government of the United Kingdom announced that a Coronation Medal for His Majesty The King will be awarded to members of the Armed Forces, frontline emergency service workers and people who actively contributed to The King's Coronation (Attachment B). It is expected there will be approximately 400,000 recipients.
2. The Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat, Government House, has advised us that The King wishes to include in the Royal Household allocation of Coronation Medal Australian living holders of the Imperial awards of the Victoria Cross or George Cross and the Australian awards for the Victoria Cross for Australia or the Cross of Valour. Further information is at Attachment C.
3. Australian living holders of the Imperial awards of the Victoria Cross and George Cross and the Australian awards of the Victoria Cross for Australia and the Cross of Valour are:
 - Mr Keith Payne VC AM
 - Corporal Mark Donaldson VC
 - Mr Daniel Keighran VC
 - Mr Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG
 - Mr Michael Pratt GC
 - Mr Victor Boscoe CV
 - Mr Timothy Britten CV
 - Mr Richard Joyes CV
 - Mr Allan Sparkes CV OAM
 - Mr Darrell Tree CV
4. Should you agree, upon receipt of the letter to His Excellency General the Hon David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), Governor-General, the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat will write to Buckingham Palace with the list of possible recipients.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

5. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II gave Her approval in 1975 for the establishment of the Australian honours system.
 - a. Prior to the establishment of the Australian honours system in 1975, Australians were recognised by awards in the (British) Imperial honours system. In the Australian honours system, the Imperial VC has been replaced by the equivalent award of the Victoria Cross for Australia. The Imperial GC has been replaced by the equivalent award of the CV.
6. Government House has indicated its support for a similar process to the Jubilee Medal, whereby the Australian Government would indicate its support, through the Governor-General, to Australians being offered the Coronation Medal.

s 47C

s 33(a)(iii)

s 47C

Financial Implications

Nil

Consultation

PM&C DIVISIONS – Nil

DEPARTMENTS – Department of Defence, Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General

David Belgrove

A/g Assistant Secretary

Parliamentary and Government Branch

1 September 2023

Policy Officer:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Phone no:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Circulation

PM&C Secretary; Deputy Secretary, Governance & Corporate Group, Williamson; First Assistant Secretary, Government Division, Walter; A/g Assistant Secretary, Parliamentary and Government Branch, Belgrove; First Assistant Secretary, Ministerial Support Division, Martin.

PMO Chief of Staff, s 22(1)(a)(ii) Adviser, s 22(1)(a)(ii)

AMO Chief of Staff, s 22(1)(a)(ii) Adviser, s 22(1)(a)(ii) Adviser, s 22(1)(a)(ii)

ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT A LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

ATTACHMENT B CORONATION MEDAL UK ANNOUNCEMENT

ATTACHMENT C GOVERNMENT HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE



**ASSISTANT MINISTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER
ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE**

The Hon Patrick Gorman MP

Reference: MS23-000552

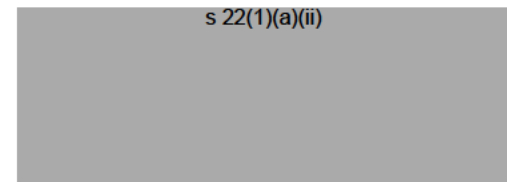
His Excellency General the Hon David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia
Government House
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600

Your Excellency

I am writing to confirm the Australian Government would not object should His Majesty The King wish to make a personal gift of the Coronation Medal to Australian living holders of the Imperial awards of the Victoria Cross or George Cross, and of the equivalent Australian awards of the Victoria Cross for Australia or the Cross of Valour.

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



PATRICK GORMAN

4 / 09 / 2023

[Home](#) > [National events and ceremonies](#)

Press release

Coronation Medal to go to Armed Forces and frontline emergency service workers

Members of the Armed Forces, frontline emergency service workers and people actively contributing to The King's Coronation will be among the 400,000 people to receive a Coronation Medal, the design of which is unveiled today.

From:

[Department for Culture, Media and Sport \(/government/organisations/department-for-culture-media-and-sport\)](/government/organisations/department-for-culture-media-and-sport)

Published

5 May 2023



- Culture Secretary unveils design of Medal to mark Coronation of Their Majesties The King and Queen Consort
- Medal will be given to Armed Forces, frontline emergency service workers and those taking part in the Coronation
- Medals, made of nickel silver and plated in nickel, feature image of The King and Queen Camilla

The Medal acts as a thank you gift from the nation to commemorate the Coronation for the people who will make the historic service happen.

Everyone actively contributing and supporting the Coronation on 6 May - including choristers, police officers, military personnel and St John Ambulance personnel - as well as those directly involved in the delivery of the Coronation are eligible.

It will also be given to serving frontline members of the police, fire, emergency services, prison services and armed forces that have completed five full calendar years of service. It is expected that more than 400,000 Coronation Medals will be issued.

The design features a double portrait of Their Majesties on the front and a version of the Royal Cypher, a laurel wreath and the date of the Coronation on the reverse.

The ribbon is made up of red, blue and white vertical stripes - the colours of the Union Flag and are made of nickel silver and plated in nickel.

Culture Secretary Lucy Frazer said:

“ The Coronation Medal will act as a reminder of the important part each person has played in this moment of history. From our Armed Forces who protect our country to the emergency services who care for us at home, alongside those volunteers who are giving up their time to make this event so special, I am delighted that we can mark their contribution to this special day, and for each and every day that they go above and beyond serving their country.”

Deputy Prime Minister Oliver Dowden said:

“ The Coronation would not be possible without the dedication and selfless service shown by our armed forces and other public servants. This Medal is a fitting recognition of their efforts, and a thank you from the nation. It will be worn with pride for years to come.”

Home Secretary Suella Braverman said:

“ This Medal is a symbol of the critical role our emergency services will play in this potentially once in a lifetime opportunity to honour our new King. However, it rightly also goes further and recognises not just those who are helping at the Coronation, but the heroes across our emergency services, such as the police, fire and rescue services, that go to work every day to protect and support us all.”

Defence Secretary Ben Wallace said:

“ Our Armed Forces and the Monarch have a unique bond. Our histories and customs mirror the reigns of Kings and Queens. Our deployments are in their names and our allegiance is sworn by each and every one of us. The Coronation Medal will celebrate that bond and allow huge numbers of service personnel to reaffirm that linkage as King Charles is crowned our new Monarch.”

The double portrait of The King and Queen Consort on the front of the newly unveiled Coronation Medal was designed by Martin Jennings who also designed the official effigy of The King for the new coins issued by the Royal Mint. The Medal is made by Worcestershire Medal Service Ltd in Birmingham.

Those who will receive the Medal for the Coronation of Their Majesties The King and Queen Consort are:

- Individuals who have actively contributed to the official Coronation events in Westminster Abbey and processions, and other officially recognised ceremonial Coronation events;
- Serving members of the Armed Forces who have completed five full calendar years of service on 6 May 2023 or participate in Armed Forces Coronation events during

the course of 2023;

- Frontline emergency personnel who have been in paid service, retained or in a voluntary capacity, dealing with emergencies as part of their conditions of service, and completed five full calendar years of service on 6 May 2023;
- Operational prison services personnel who are publicly employed and who have completed five full calendar years of service on 6 May 2023;
- Living individual recipients of the George Cross or of the Victoria Cross.

The tradition of Coronation Medals dates to the reign of King James I when the first Medal was awarded in 1603. This Medal featured a bust of James I wearing the costume of a Roman Emperor. Its reverse included a crowned lion rampant holding a beacon and a wheat sheaf.

ENDS

Notes to editors

For those eligible, there is no application process - eligible staff will be automatically notified via their employer.

Government departments are responsible for applying the eligibility criteria (agreed across Government) to their staff and those organisations they sponsor for Honours purposes.

View the [Coronation Medal on Flickr](https://www.flickr.com/photos/thedcms/albums/72177720308029215) (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/thedcms/albums/72177720308029215>).

Find out more about [the Coronation on gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronation) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronation>) and visit the [Coronation website](https://coronation.gov.uk/) (<https://coronation.gov.uk/>).

Published 5 May 2023

Explore the topic

[National events and ceremonies \(/society-and-culture/national-events-and-ceremonies\)](#)

Topical events

[Coronation \(/government/topical-events/coronation\)](#)

OGL

All content is available under the Open Government Licence
v3.0, except where otherwise stated

© Crown copyright

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To:
Cc:
Subject: FW: CORONATION MEDAL 2023 * OFFICIAL * [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 10 August 2023 9:02:48 PM
Attachments: [VC GC CV \(Aus\) - Nominal Roll.docx](#)

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

I hope you are well.

We have received correspondence from s 47F at the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood in London in relation to the awarding of The King's Coronation Medal.

He has advised that HM The King wishes to continue the tradition of commemorative medals by including in the Royal Household allocation of the Coronation Medal, the living holders of the VC, VC for Australia, GC and the Cross of Valour. He provided the attached list of the relevant awardees. We will double check titles, however I note he has incorrectly put the Victoria Cross as being awarded to Mark Donaldson, instead of the Victoria Cross for Australia.

He has asked if we could confirm that this acceptable. As such, I am seeking advice, much the same as we did in relation to the Platinum Jubilee Medal last year.

Many thanks for your assistance. I am happy to discuss if you have any questions.

Cheers
s 22(1)(a)(ii)



s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat
Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General
Government House, Canberra ACT 2600

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

| W: www.gg.gov.au

F: [Governor-General on Facebook](#) [Australian Honours on Facebook](#)

Do you know someone who could be considered for an award in the Australian honours system? [Click here to nominate.](#)

The Office acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.

"Let go of who you think you're supposed to be; embrace who you are." Brene Brown

From: s 47F
Sent: Thursday, August 3, 2023 11:54 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Cc: [REDACTED] s 47F [REDACTED] s 22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au'
s 22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au>; [REDACTED] s 47F

Subject: CORONATION MEDAL 2023 * OFFICIAL *

Dear [REDACTED] s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Thank you for your help last year with the distribution of The Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medals. Much has happened since then...

HM The King wishes to continue the tradition of commemorative medals by including in the Royal Household allocation living holders of the VC, VC for Australia, GC and the Cross of Valour.

I would be grateful if you could confirm that this is also acceptable, and that if it is, you would again be able to help with the distribution of the medals, perhaps with [REDACTED] s 22(1)(a)(ii) help in London?

We have the names from the Platinum Jubilee Medal in the attached document.

Many thanks in advance,

Best wishes,

[REDACTED] s 47F

[REDACTED] s 47F

Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood
St James's Palace London SW1A 1BH

[REDACTED] s 47F

Visit our website at <https://www.royal.uk>

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>

IMPORTANT: This message, and any attachments to it, may contain information that is deemed confidential and may also be the subject of legal professional or other privilege. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, you must not review, copy, disseminate or disclose its contents to any other party or take action in reliance of any material contained within. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by return email informing them of the mistake and delete all

copies of the
message from your computer system.