

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

BY HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL

THE HONOURABLE SIR PETER COSGROVE AK MC (Retd)

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA

TUESDAY, 30 AUGUST 2016

## ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

The Governor-General, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove, AK MC (Retd) and Her Excellency Lady Cosgrove will arrive at Parliament House at 2 pm. The Governor-General will be accorded a royal salute by a Guard of Honour and Band and inspect the Guard and Band.

At 2.20 pm and 2.35 pm, the Senate and the House of Representatives bells will ring, respectively.

The President, as the choice of the Senate, and the Speaker, as the choice of the House of Representatives, will then be presented to the Governor-General in the Members' Hall.

At 2.50 pm, the Chief Justice and the Justices of the High Court of Australia will be conducted to their seats in the Senate chamber.

*(Guests rise when the Chief Justice and the Justices are announced  
by Deputy Black Rod)*

The Senate bells will be rung from 2.55 pm until 3 pm, during which time senators will take their seats.

At 3 pm, the President will take the vice-regal chair.

*(Guests rise when the President is announced by the Usher of the Black Rod)*

The approach of the Governor-General will be announced by the Usher of the Black Rod, who will conduct the Governor-General to the dais.

*(Guests rise when the Governor-General is announced and remain  
standing until the Governor-General requests senators to be seated)*

The President will stand to the right of the vice-regal chair and receive the Governor-General at the dais.

The Governor-General, having taken the vice-regal chair, will request senators to be seated and will direct the Usher of the Black Rod to let members of the House of Representatives know that he desires their attendance in the Senate chamber.

When the Speaker and members of the House of Representatives are in attendance, the Governor-General will address both Houses.

At the conclusion of the opening speech, the President and the Speaker will each receive a copy of the speech from the Official Secretary to the Governor-General.

*(at the conclusion of the address a 19-gun salute will be fired from Federation Mall)*

The Governor-General will then withdraw.

*(Guests stand while the Governor-General leaves the Senate chamber)*

The Speaker and members of the House of Representatives will then retire.

The Chief Justice and Justices of the High Court of Australia will then retire.

*(Guests are requested to remain standing until the distinguished guests, seated to the left and right of the vice-regal chair, have left the chamber)*

The sitting of the Senate will be suspended until the ringing of the bells (at approximately 4.55 pm).

Afternoon tea will be served in the Members' Hall.