



Government House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

5 October 2022

**Honorary Award - General Division - October 2022**

The Governor-General is pleased to announce the following honorary award in the Order of Australia:

**HONORARY MEDAL (OAM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION**

**Mr Lionel Léonard LAMOTTE**, Dernancourt, France  
For service to Australian-French relations, particularly in commemorating the role played by Australians in the defence of France during World War I.

By His Excellency's command

**Paul Singer MVO**

Official Secretary to the Governor-General

**AWARDED AN HONORARY MEDAL (OAM)  
IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA**

**Mr Lionel LAMOTTE**, Dernancourt, France

For service to Australian-French relations, particularly in commemorating the role played by Australians in the defence of France during World War I.

For over thirty years, Mr Lionel Lamotte has demonstrated a strong commitment to honouring the service and sacrifice of Australian soldiers in the defence of France, and the village of Dernancourt in the Somme, during World War 1.

As a former Mayor of Dernancourt, Mr Lamotte has personally reinvigorated and fostered this strong relationship, which dates back to 1918. Australian soldiers, especially members of the Royal South Australian Regiment, fought a series of battles there between 28 March 1918 and 5 April 1918, as part of allied Western Front Forces.

Since 1991, Mr Lamotte has hosted many visiting school groups, military tours and officials to Dernancourt and is dedicated to educating locals and visitors alike about our shared history. He also led the Aidons l'Australie campaign to raise funds for bushfire relief in early 2020 following the devastating 2019-20 bushfires in Australia. In addition, Mr Lamotte has ensured Anzac Day commemorations have been held in Dernancourt since 1991.

Mr Lamotte's service to Australia-French relations, and commemorating the role of Australian soldiers during World War I, is worthy of formal national recognition by awarding an Honorary Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM).