



The Bosun's Call



Vol 30 No 5

Once Navy, Always Navy

June 2025

ADV *Reliant* to the rescue



On 09 May 2025, Australian Defence Vessel *Reliant* was en route to a port visit in Suva, Fiji, when it altered course to respond to a search and rescue request from a distressed German-flagged yacht 'Lucky Jonny'. *Reliant* retrieved the four sailors, then towed the yacht back to Suva Harbour and completed its planned delivery of humanitarian stores.

Photos: LCDR B.J. Glover RAN

Events coming up

22 Jun	Last Post Ceremony Ldg Stoker Rupert A. Taylor HMAS SydneyII
25 Jun	75 th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War
1 Jul	83 rd Anniversary of the sinking of Montevideo Maru
27 Jul	72 nd Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice



Newsletter of the ACT Section of the
Naval Association of Australia

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Naval Association of Australia**ACT Section****Founded 1 July 1944**

Patron The Hon Sir William Deane AC KBE

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**General Meetings
Dates and Locations
Programme**
2025

5 Jun Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
7 Aug Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
4 Sep Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
2 Oct Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
6 Nov Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330

Tables are normally booked for drinks and lunch in the host club from 1200 prior to the meeting.

**Just in case you are not
aware of this service**

After-hours telehealth GP service

Welcome to Ochre Anytime, your dedicated video telehealth service catering to the healthcare needs of anyone residing in Australia. With Ochre Anytime, quality care is just a video call away, ensuring that you can access trusted doctors from the comfort of your chosen location.

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday: 6.00pm – 8:00am the following day

Saturday, Sunday & public holidays: 9.00am – 8:00am the following day

Appointments with Ochre Anytime connect you with experienced doctors who practice within Ochre medical centres, ensuring a continuation of the high standards of care synonymous with Ochre Health. For existing patients, accessing your health records during a consultation is seamless, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of your medical history.

We offer both standard consultations for single issues, or complex consultations for patients with multiple issues to discuss.

At Ochre Anytime, we prioritise the well-being of our community by bringing healthcare to your fingertips, combining comfort, and convenience with the assurance of quality medical care. Book your telehealth appointment today and experience healthcare designed around your lifestyle.

Patients will need a device with a camera and microphone, such as a smartphone, tablet, or computer, and a stable internet connection for their telehealth consultation.

If you are experiencing issues accessing the Ochre Anytime service,

- please call [1800 478 353](tel:1800478353); or
- fill in our online support form on our website: <https://ochrehealth.com.au/ochre-anytime/>

**Committee meeting
Eastlakes Gungahlin
1100 Thursday 5 June 2025**

Women in Maritime Security (WIMS) program.



Chief Petty Officer Boat-swain Mark Gibbs from HMAS Kuttabul conducts a tour of Fleet Base East for the Women in Maritime Security (WIMS) program

*Photos:
CPOIS Helen Frak*

The third iteration of the Women in Maritime Security (WIMS) program has brought together 17 women from the Navy, Coast-guard and Foreign Affairs in Australia, Brunei, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines and Vietnam for a two-week program in Australia. The program has three linked goals: law of the sea and maritime security, leadership and linkages. The program aims to enhance the participants' expertise in law of the sea and maritime security issues, build their leadership and management skills, and develop a network of emerging women leaders in maritime security across South East Asia.



Australian Maritime Weapons and Tactics Conference



Left: Commander Australian Fleet, Rear Admiral Chris Smith, AM, CSM, RAN (left), talks with United States Navy and Royal Navy personnel at the inaugural Australian Maritime Weapons and Tactics Conference at HMAS Watson in Sydney, New South Wales

Photos:
LSIS Daniel Goodman



The inaugural Australian Maritime Weapons and Tactics Conference was held on 05-09 May 2025 at HMAS Watson. Fleet Commander and Director General-Fleet Lethality and Force Generation awarded the prize to the member who submitted the winning problem statement which was wargamed during the WEPTAC week. AUSMAR WEPTAC is inclusive and we are ready to professionally partner with colleagues who share our vision and can offer valuable expertise

Right: Commander Mark Linden, CSM, RAN receives an award during the inaugural Australian Maritime Weapons and Tactics Conference



ADF Cadets Tri-Service Leadership Summit

Thirty high-performing senior Australian Navy Cadets, Australian Army Cadets, and Australian Air Force Cadets from across Australia attended the third annual ADF Cadets Tri-Service Leadership Summit in Canberra from 16 to 18 May 2025. Cadets engaged in leadership development activities, participated in the Last Post Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial, and undertook the Leadership Reaction Course at the Majura Range focusing on tri-Service collaboration. They also had the opportunity to engage with senior leadership from the Australian Defence Force during the summit.



Left: Cadets participate in a formal dinner with Lieutenant General Susan Coyle, AM, CSC, DSM (third from left) at the Royal Military College - Duntroon Officers' Mess, during the ADF Cadets Tri service Leadership Summit

Photos : Defence

Right: Chief of Personal Lieutenant General Natasha Fox, AO, CSC shares her leadership experience with cadets at the ADF Cadets Tri-Service Leadership Summit





proudly present

MyAgedCare / DVA / Harwell Home Care
Presentation

2nd July 2025 @ 10:30am
LDK Greenway Auditorium
260 Soward Way, Greenway ACT



The ACT KOC in conjunction with the Ex-Service Organisations
of the ACT and surrounding areas

Invites all Veterans and their families to attend a presentation on the changes and ramifications of the new MyAgedCare Act and it's effect on the Veteran Community.



myagedcare



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

RSVP — 20th June 2025

Email: president@actkoc.org

Phone: 0417 291 546

Morning Tea will follow the presentation.



ADV Reliant bolsters Pacific partners

29 April 2025

Australia's Pacific Support Vessel, Australian Defence Vessel (ADV) *Reliant*, has departed Darwin on its second deployment of 2025, responding to needs and requests made by our Pacific partners.

ADV *Reliant* and her crew, including a RAN liaison officer, will spend the next three months visiting Pacific island countries delivering vital stores and equipment as part of Australia's ongoing commitment to the region.

During the deployment, ADV *Reliant* will deliver humanitarian assistance and disaster relief stores to Fiji and protective equipment to His Majesty's Armed Forces of Tonga to support their contribution to Exercise Talisman Sabre 2025.

ADV *Reliant* is deployed for up to 300 days a year utilising a multi-crew system to provide vital support such as search and rescue, maritime surveillance, transport of essential cargo, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

Chief of Joint Operations, Vice Admiral Justin Jones, RAN said ADV *Reliant* supports the com-

bined response by Australia and Pacific island countries to regional challenges.

"We recognise our region experiences concurrent threats and disasters, having impacts on multiple nations at various scales of severity," he said.

"The Pacific family is best placed to respond to the needs of our region."

"The Pacific has a proud record of working together across common security concerns, which will continue long into the future," Vice Admiral Jones said.

ADV *Reliant* will also deliver essential spares and stores to Fiji, Tonga and Tuvalu needed to support the operation of their Guardian-Class Patrol Boats delivered through the Pacific Maritime Security Program.

ADV *Reliant*'s previous deployment saw the delivery of firetrucks to Kiribati, emergency service supplies and infrastructure support to Tonga, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief stores to Solomon Islands. During earlier deployments, the ADV *Reliant* has also conducted hydrographic survey taskings to support safe navigation in vicinity of Pacific island ports.

USS Blue Ridge returns to Port Jackson after an absence of 39 years



Left: USS Blue Ridge berthing at Garden Island, Sydney in May 2025

Below: USS Blue Ridge as she was pictured in the commemorative publication of the Fleet Review held in October 1986 marking the 75th Anniversary of the naming of the RAN on 11 October 1911.

Below: (L-R) U.S. Coast Guard Attaché, Captain Amanda Ramassini, Commanding Officer USS Blue Ridge, Captain Nick DeLeo, Sydney Consul General Christine Elder and Commanding Officer HMAS Kuttabul, Captain Rebecca Levitt, RAN, talk on the wharf after USS Blue Ridge berthed alongside Fleet Base East in Sydney

Photos: Defence



USS *Blue Ridge* (LCC 19), the command ship of the U.S. 7th Fleet, visits HMAS *Kuttabul* as part of a voyage to forge relationships with allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific. The *Blue Ridge* and embarked U.S. 7th Fleet staff conduct regular Indo-Pacific patrols to deter aggression, strengthen alliances and partnerships, and advance future warfighting capabilities

Defence

Minutes of NAA (ACT) General Meeting held at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 1 May 2025

Meeting started at 1340 with the Odes recited by the President.

Present: 14 members and one visitor were present.

Apologies: Joe and Mary Slaats, S. Lyons, A. Vickers, B. Joce, R. Ridgeway

Minutes of April meeting. The minutes of the April General meeting appeared in the May 2025 Bosun's Call.

Motion: The minutes of the 6 April 2025 General Meeting be accepted.

Moved: Stewart Gordon, Seconded: Alaric O'Neill. Carried

Reports:

President's Report. Thanked all for support at ANZAC March and for the redesigned Banner.

Vice President's Report.

- Advised dates for Last Post Ceremonies at AWM.
- KOC have advised the logo for the Veteran's Lounge at TCH.

Secretary. Business as usual.

Treasurer. Funds continue. Sub-section is solvent and viable.

Membership. We currently have:

48 Financial members
7 Unfinancial members
9 Honorary members
1 Club member
3 Honorary Life members

Motion: The reports be received.

Moved. Alan Masters. Seconded. Dennis Lyons. Carried

General Business.

- The President advised that work is underway to bring the DFRDB up to date. DFWA has been granted an extension to make their submission. *[Life Expectancy]*
- National Executive Council is holding their AGM in Canberra on 28-29 May. Members are welcome to attend.
- President announced the possibility of a Fleet Review being held in to celebrate 125 years of the RAN. More information will be provided as it comes to hand.
- Surplus monies provided by Federal Government to be used in the search for HMAS Sydney (II) were accepted by former NAA National President Les Dwyer for establishing and maintaining the HMAS Sydney Virtual Memorial. Issues are now arising with the

memorial which needs updating/upgrading. An analysis to determine the extent and cost of work has been estimated at \$10k. ACT Section votes no and would prefer to see the Virtual Memorial placed in the guardianship of an entity more suited for the purpose (such as the AWM).

- A working party for the HMAS Canberra II Memorial has been established, consisting of D. Rush (Secretary), Alaric O'Neill (Treasurer) and Stewart Gordon. President also suggested having something mentioning the NAA and possible installation of hooks to facilitate the hanging of wreaths.
- There exists a Memorial for the NAA at Edison Park, Woden which includes an Anchor. Alaric O'Neill will investigate the feasibility of having it moved to the ACT Services Club in Barton.

Next Meeting will be on Thursday, 5 June 2025 at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club.

Close of Meeting at 1350.

Darren Rush

Secretary

NAA (ACT) Section

Notes from Committee Meeting 1 May 2025

Present: David Manolas, Alex McGown, Darren Rush, Alaric O'Neill, Peter Cooke-Russell, Dennis Lyons

Discussions were about matters relating to the General and AGM meetings.

Next meeting On 5 June 2025 at usual venue.

Darren Rush

Secretary

NAA (ACT)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

\$40 for 2025

Action to renew membership for 2025 can now undertaken in a number of different ways. The following, in order of preference for the Treasurer, are listed below, but any of them can be utilised.

The use of e-banking provides for ease of payment and your bank records act as your receipt. The annual subscription for 2025 is \$40

1. **Direct transfer of funds to the NAA (ACT Section).** Using e-bank facilities, transfer funds to Naval Association of Australia –ACT Section Account **BSB: 633 000 . Account Number 162 834 097** *Please ensure you have identified yourself as the payer in order that the Treasurer can correctly credit your payment.*
2. Payment using the mail system. Please do not send cash through the mail system. Cheques can be forwarded to Membership Registrar, 4 McEachern Crescent, MELBA ACT 2615. Receipts will NOT be mailed to payers.
3. Direct payment to Treasurer. The Treasurer will gladly accept cheques or cash from members at General Meetings. A receipt will be given to payers.

IF YOU HAVE CHANGED ANY OF YOUR CONTACT DETAILS SUCH AS HOME ADDRESS, E-MAIL ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS PLEASE ADVISE THE MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR.

Social Program

Fish 'n Chips is on the program, Snapper has reopened . Sun will shine.

2025

19 Jun	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
3 Jul	Xmas in July Place to be advised
17 Jul	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
21 Aug	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
18 Sep	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
16 Oct	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
20 Nov	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
4 Dec	Christmas Lunch

Bev Joce

Social Secretary

DVA CONTACTS

Information on health services may be obtained from DVA. The contact numbers for health care providers requiring further information or prior financial authorisation for all States & Territories are listed below:

PHONE NUMBER:

Telephone:
[1800 VETERAN \(1800 838 372\)](tel:1800VETERAN)

International callers:

[+61 2 6289 1133](tel:+61262891133)

POSTAL ADDRESS FOR ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES: D

Health Approvals & Home Care Section Department of Veterans' Affairs
GPO Box 9998
BRISBANE QLD 4001

DVA WEBSITE:

<http://www.dva.gov.au/providers/allied-healthprofessionals>

DVA email for prior financial authorisation:
health.approval@dva.gov.au

The appropriate prior approval request form can be found at: <https://www.dva.gov.au/providers/servicesrequiring-prior-approval>

CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT

For information about claims for payment visit:
www.dva.gov.au/providers/how-claim



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**A Happy Birthday to you
June and July 2025**

June

Peter Gillin
Ray Horne
Peter McNay

July

Richard Hobbs
Kiwi Rooks
Glen McNamara
Darren Rush

Legal Aid for Veterans

Have you or your partner:

- Served in the Australian Defence Force?
- Served overseas in a Australian Government sponsored Peacekeeping role?
- Have a medical condition related to this service?

Legal Aid ACT can help veterans and their partners seek entitlements and lodge claims with The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).

We can help you with:

- Rights and entitlements under Commonwealth laws relating to veterans and families
- Completing claim forms, questionnaires and writing statements in support of claims
- Your dealings with DVA and, if necessary, review tribunals.

Legal Aid ACT advice services are free, confidential and independent of the DVA and Department of Defence



Call us: 1300 654 314

Email: civil@legalaidact.org.au

Legal Aid ACT



If undeliverable return to
NAA ACT Section
4 McEachern Crescent
MELBA ACT 2615

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