



The Bosun's Call



Vol 24 No 7

Once Navy, Always Navy

September 2019

HMAS Canberra I Memorial Service

The ACT Section commemorated the 77th anniversary of the loss of the first HMAS *Canberra* on 9 August 2019 honouring the 84 men of the Royal Australian, Royal and United States Navies, and the Royal Australian Air Force who were killed in action or subsequently died of their wounds. The loss of more than 1,200 American casualties in the USN ships which were engaged in the Battle of Savo Island was also remembered.

Unfortunately due to the weather forecast of rain and the strong winds that were experienced that morning, a Wet Weather routine was implemented and the service was cut short.

Members of HMAS *Canberra* III ship's company were able to attend and it was a great mark that her present Commanding Officer and two of his predecessors were at the ceremony. CDRE Smith *Canberra's* 2nd CO represented the Chief of Navy at the ceremony and laid a wreath on behalf of the RAN. CAPT Morrison laid a wreath on behalf of his ship's company.

Those hardy people who attended the ceremony got together afterwards in Poppy's Cafe at the AWM for a sheltered coffee and lunch.



Above

Three HMAS *Canberra* III Commanding Officers

From Left CAPT T Morrison present CO, CDRE C Smith 2nd CO and CAPT A. Papp 3rd CO

Photo Mrs Maridy Morrison

Left

NAA National Vice President Graham Savage lays a wreath that evening at the AWM Last Post Ceremony marking the loss of HMAS *Canberra* I and members of her crew

Photo Peter Cooke-Russell

Events coming up

- 3 Sep Last Post Ceremony Anniversary of the commencement of World War II
- 4 Sep Battle for Australia Commemoration Service, Australian War Memorial Saunders Court 1045 for 1100
- 11 Sep Last Post Ceremony 105 th Anniversary of the Australian Naval and Military Force landing in New Britain
- 14 Sep Last Post Ceremony Anniversary of the loss of AE1
- 15 Oct WRANS Memorial Service HMAS Harman am



Newsletter of the ACT Section of the
Naval Association of Australia

Hardcopy printed by CopyQik Civic

Naval Association of Australia ACT Section

Patron The Hon Sir William Deane AC KBE

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General Meetings & AGM Dates and Locations

Programme

2019		
5 Sep	Kaleen Sports Club	1330
3 Oct	Kaleen Sports Club	1330
7 Nov	Kaleen Sports Club	1330
2020		
6 Feb	Kaleen Sports Club	1330
5 Mar	Kaleen Sports Club then AGM	1330

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

If you need assistance getting to the meeting and/or functions, call Alan Masters on 6281 5630 who will try to organise transport for you.

President's Note

G'day

The HMAS Canberra Memorial Service was held on Friday 9th. The weather although not as windy as it has been, was bitterly cold (that night it snowed on the AFL game). Thankfully a decision was made on the Thursday to go to a shortened service without the band and catafalque party.

Official guests and HMAS Canberra III Captain and personnel plus past Captains attended. After the service most attended Poppy's Café to warm up.

Eleven members attended the fish and chips on Thursday 15th and sat on the veranda

Yours aye

Alex

Vice President's Report:

Hi,

Of particular note was the HMAS Canberra Memorial Service. The bitter wind and threatening rain squalls limited our numbers wherein we took the opportunity to exercise a modified sequence which meant we could shorten proceedings and retire earlier than we may have expected.

As your MC on the day, I wish to acknowledge the outstanding work Alan Masters undertook on our behalf in organising the ceremonial and coordinating the support personnel and services provided. A job well done; BZ Alan, thank you. I wish also to express sincere thanks and appreciation for the part played by 'Our Senior Quartermaster', John Small. In stormy conditions and before an imposing gathering, John's piping set the appropriate tone for the ceremony; BZ John, thank you.

Yours aye,

David Manolas

**Committee meetings
Kaleen Sports Club
1130 Thursday 5 September 2019**

AWM Director thanked for outstanding achievements

The Hon Darren Chester MP Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel

THE Federal Government will undertake a nationwide search for a new director of the Australian War Memorial after Dr Brendan Nelson AO has announced that he would finish in the role at the end of the year.

After seven years as Director, Dr Nelson told Australian War Memorial staff this morning that he will conclude his service when his appointment ceases at the end of the year.

Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel Darren Chester thanked Dr Nelson for his passion and outstanding contribution to honouring the service and sacrifice of the almost two million people who have served in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

"Brendan has provided leadership to the Memorial that has made it world-renowned, including managing its extensive upgrades and overseeing the Centenary of Anzac program," Mr Chester said.

"Having previously served as Minister for Defence, Brendan's passion for telling the stories of service and sacrifice of current and former Australian Defence Force personnel of more recent conflicts has been extraordinary.

"Under his guidance, the Memorial has also led a range of exhibitions, displays, memorials and documentaries of our First World War, Korean and Vietnam conflicts, and more recently, the commemorations of the Centenary of the First World War, including the poignant display of 62,000 knitted Poppies.

"More recently, I worked closely with Brendan and the Council of the Australian War Memorial to secure a \$498 million investment to expand the Memorial for future generations, which will ensure all Australians who have served in our armed forces are honoured and that their stories are told.

"However, his most important achievement is the solemn and respectful Last Post Ceremony held at the Memorial each night. It was Brendan's vision to have this brought to the Memorial, which is inspired by the daily ceremony held at the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing in Ypres, Belgium.

"I commend Brendan on his passion and commitment to commemorating the service and sacrifice of all Australians who have served our nation. His enthusiasm and leadership will be missed and I wish him all the best for the future."

In 2016, Dr Nelson was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for his services to the Parliament of Australia, to the community, to the advancement of Australian international relations and to major cultural institutions. Dr Nelson has also been conferred Honorary Life Membership by the Returned and Services League of Australia.

Mr Kerry Stokes AC Chair of the Australian War Memorial Council, also thanked Dr Nelson for his dedicated service. "Dr Nelson has overseen a transformation in the Australian War Memorial that has taken it to a new level of awareness and appreciation by the Australian people."

"Working closely with the Memorial's Council and building on the work of his predecessors, Brendan has brought our nation's history to life, emphasised the commemorative and healing role of the Memorial and most importantly, made it a place of immense meaning for young servicemen, women, veterans and their families."

"The generational investment by the Morrison government to grow the Memorial and allow the more stories of 100,000 young veterans will be his enduring legacy."

A recruitment process will commence shortly to appoint the new Director of the Australian War Memorial.

Outgoing Commander Joint Task Force 633 Air Vice-Marshal Joe Lervasi, right, promotes Commodore Mark Hill to the rank of Rear Admiral at the Transfer of Authority parade at Australia's main operating base in the Middle East.

Commander Joint Task Force 633 Air Vice-Marshal Joe Lervasi has officially handed over command of Australian Defence Force operations in the Middle East region.



The command was passed to Rear Admiral Mark Hill at a transfer of authority ceremony on June 28 at Australia's main operating base in the region.

Air Vice-Marshal Lervasi said he had observed an evolution in Australian operations across the Middle East.

"Both the train, advise, assist mission in Afghanistan and the build partner capacity operation in Iraq are achieving milestones," Air Vice-Marshal Lervasi said.

"We have seen, in both Afghanistan and Iraq, their military no longer just receiving training but taking the lead in training themselves."

Air Vice-Marshal Lervasi said the rest of the world had witnessed what Australia brought to the region.

"Australia contributes here in meaningful ways and, more importantly, we come here without vested interests and with the genuine intent of making the situation better," he said.

Women and Families United by Defence Service Council Members announced

The Hon Darren Chester MP Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel

31 July 2019

The membership of the Council for Women and Families United by Defence Service has been announced today ahead of its first meeting on 2 August.

Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel Darren Chester said he was delighted that Army veteran and current Chief Executive of BAE Systems Australia, Ms Gabby Costigan, had agreed to chair the new Council.

"The needs of women and families affected by defence service are not always understood or visible, and their voices are not always heard," Mr Chester said.

"That's why I announced the creation of the Council for Women and Families United by Defence Service, so that women and families could have a direct voice to my office.

"It's important that we recognise—and seek to better understand—the service and sacrifice of women who have either served in the Australian Defence Force (ADF) themselves or been impacted by the service of a loved one."

Ms Costigan was honoured to be a part of the Council.

"I am proud to serve as Chair for the Council and provide my support to delivering better outcomes for veterans and their families," Ms Costigan said.

"I look forward to working with such a talented and experienced group of individuals to help provide a stronger voice for an often unheard part of the community."

The following people have been appointed to the Council to provide advice to the Government, drive coherent policy outcomes and advocate on behalf of women and families united by defence service:

"Each member has lived experience of the challenges faced by veterans and veterans' families.

Membership of the Council for Women and Families United by Defence Service

Role	Name
Chair	Ms Gabby Costigan MBE
Deputy Chair	Ms Janine Kirk AM
Member	Mr Douglas (Doug) Baird OAM
Member	Mrs Rhondda Vanzella OAM
Member	Mr Michael Bainbridge
Member	Ms Gwen Cherne
Member	Dr Rachel Martin
Member	Ms Anne Pahl
Member	Ms Rachel Ranton
Member	The Venerable Robert Sutherland CSC
Member	Mrs Renee Wilson
Member	Ms Meredith Lane
Member	Flight Lieutenant Amanda Scott
Member	Ms Elizabeth Ward
Ex-Officio	Ms Liz Cosson AM, CSC
Ex-Officio	Major General Natasha Fox AM CSC
Ex-Officio	Ms Kate Pope PSM

"The Council is made up of a diverse range of people including parents, partners and widows of ADF personnel, chaplains, skilled professionals, veterans and ADF members," Mr Chester said.

"I thank each member for agreeing to sit on the Council and I look forward to working with them to further improve the services and support provided to women and families united by defence service."

HMAS *Arunta* completes AMCAP

HMAS *Arunta* has recently returned to Fleet Base West after a 20-month Anzac Midlife Capability Assurance Program (AMCAP) upgrade which includes a platform systems remediation program to improve platform reliability and maintainability. *Arunta* is the first FFH to undergo the program which provides significant improvements to the ship's key sensor and communications systems.



HMAS Arunta departs Fleet Base West and sails into Cockburn Sound, Western Australia.

The Project SEA 1448 Phase 4B component of the upgrade improves the Anzac class Air Search capability by replacing the AN/SPS-49 long range air search radar with a new digital CEAFA2-L phased

array radar developed by Australian company CEA Technologies.

Fire in the hole

HMAS *Hobart* conducted sea trails on ships systems before the commencement of their Unit Readiness Evaluation (URE), a vital step to prove the capability of the ship and crew before proceeding on deployment.

A mix of senior officers, APS personnel and industry representatives from across ship building pro-

jects joined the ship to familiarise themselves with the capability of the Air Warfare Destroyer and its integration with future technologies.

HMAS Hobart conducts a live fire exercise using the vertically launched RIM-66 Standard Missile 2 (SM2) as a test of capability before proceeding to their Unit Readiness Evaluation (URE).



Warm reception for Flag Ship's return

Hundreds of family and friends welcomed HMAS Canberra home on 5 August following her six month overseas deployment through Asia.

The ship's 388-strong tri-service company lined the upper decks as she pulled alongside Garden Island before stepping ashore to greet their loved ones for the first time since leaving Australia in February.

The 230 metre long Landing Helicopter Dock sailed almost 22,000 nautical miles during the deployment, visiting Sri Lanka, India, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore and Indonesia as part of the international engagement exercise INDO-PACIFIC ENDEAVOUR 2019.

During this phase of the deployment, *Canberra* participated in the bilateral maritime exercise AUSIN-DEX with the Indian Navy, conducted the first passage exercise between the Royal Australian Navy and the Vietnamese People's Navy and supported the International Maritime Defence Expo 2019 in Singapore.

She also played a key role in Exercise OCEAN EXPLORER and the Joint Warfare Series, encompassing Exercise SEA EXPLORER, Sea RAIDER and TALISMAN SABRE 2019.

Canberra was home to more than 1400 people during different phases of her deployment with 430,000 meals served to her permanent ship's company and embarked forces from around the world.

Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Michael Noonan was on the wharf as *Canberra* arrived and said that the

ship's company had achieved many key milestone in international engagement and amphibious capability.

HMAS *Canberra* has proven she is a versatile platform, able to lead multi-ship Task Groups to engage with our regional partners far from Australia, as well as played a key role in successful multinational exercises.

"Working with our neighbours is vital to maintaining interoperability and protecting our common interests in promoting peace and stability in the region," Vice Admiral Noonan said.

Commanding Officer of HMAS *Canberra*, Captain Terry Morrison said the deployment had been demanding but his ship's company had met the challenge with enthusiasm.

"A deployment as long and far away as this can be hard work, but I am proud of the crew for their hard work and consistently representing the Royal Australian Navy as a professional force everywhere we sailed.

"I thank the families and friends of our ship's company for supporting their loved ones while they've been deployed.

"Know you can be proud of how they have represented Australia these past six months away from home," he said.

Imagery is available on the Navy Image Gallery: <http://images.navy.gov.au/S20191870>

Published on 05 August 2019 LEUT Ryan Zerbe (author), ABIS Jarrod Mulvihill (photographer)



Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Michael Noonan, AO, RAN welcomes home HMAS Canberra as she returns to Fleet Base East from a six month deployment.

HMAS *Harman's* new CO - a Next Generation leader

A diverse and wide-ranging career has led to many positive challenges for the new Commanding Officer of HMAS *Harman*.

Commander Amanda Howard assumed command of one of the Royal Australian Navy's busiest shore establishments last week, having the weight of command passed on from Captain David Luck, who was recently promoted and will take up a new role as the Commandant of the Australian Defence Force Training Centre.

HMAS *Harman*, a former Naval Communication Station, is the primary administrative and logistics hub supporting all Navy personnel located in the Australian Capital Territory and southern New South Wales regions.

Commander Howard said she was very proud to have been selected for command.

"I'm very aware of the responsibility and accountability that comes with command and I look forward to meeting the challenge," she said.

"I'm fortunate to be taking over from someone who has been so committed to the role and I will continue to build on the fantastic work and achievements that Captain Luck has established.

"I know I will be very much focused on achieving balance.

"It's all about the people. My philosophy will be focused on using all available information to make the right decisions, to balance the needs of the Service, the individuals and their families," Commander Howard said.

Finding balance is not something new to Commander Howard, having previously had roles that have seen her fast-rope from helicopters, coordinate logistics to a war zone, draft strategic policy, project manage major maintenance periods, implement personal and logistics reform and materially support Navy capability.

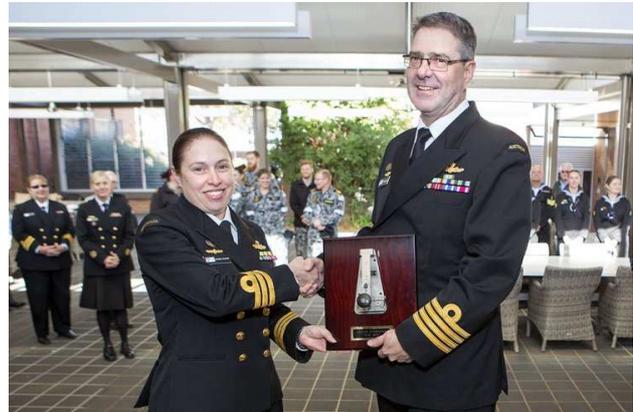
In addition to this, Commander Howard has dedicated time to support her busy and active family of three children and a serving husband.

"It's pleasing to be able to say that this is increasingly the norm," Commander Howard said.

"We should all be able to balance service and family, no matter what the member's rank, age or family circumstances.

"I'm very thankful that the Navy provides access to a vast range of personal and organisational services that have supported me to balance family and career commitments."

Having joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1996 as a 17-year-old, Commander Howard has seen many changes throughout her Royal Australian Navy ser-



Outgoing Commanding Officer HMAS Harman, Captain David Luck, RAN (right) hands over 'the weight' to incoming Commanding Officer, Commander Amanda Howard, RAN, during the handover ceremony held at the Bonshaw Mess, HMAS Harman, ACT.

vice and has, at times, assisted in the development of some of today's policies that have been incorporated into the Total Workforce Model.

"I think the reinvigoration of Navy Values and our recent focus on people and communication has shown a major generational shift and positive cultural change for Navy," she said.

"Our organisation has implemented mature social and professional mechanisms to support our people throughout their careers.

"These progressive opportunities, which are for all Navy personnel, will continue to be a driving need to support current and future capabilities," Commander Howard said.

Her advice to younger and aspiring leaders who have only recently joined the Navy is to appreciate your 'at sea' experiences.

"It is truly the distinguishing aspect of our 'job'.

"But, don't just live in the here and now, think of where you want to be in 10 years and seek out different opportunities to achieve that goal," she said.

Commander Howard was surrounded by family at her transfer of command ceremony, with her husband Simon, children Brianna, Erin and Mitchell, and her parents Ray and Lucy in attendance.

"My entire family have all influenced the person that I am today and I thank them for their love and support," she said.

Information about HMAS *Harman*, its history and current day roles is available on the Royal Australian Navy website: <http://www.navy.gov.au/establishments/hmas-harman>.

*Published on 07 August 2019 LEUT Dave Devlin (author)
LSIS James McDougall (photographer)*

Open Arms retains mental health accreditation

The Hon Darren Chester MP

Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel

22 July 2019

Veteran-specific lifeline *Open Arms – Veterans and Families Counselling* has successfully retained its Mental Health Accreditation under the National Standards for Mental Health Services (NSMHS).

Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel, Darren Chester, has welcomed the decision, made this week, saying the service provides an invaluable counselling support service to veterans and their families.

"Accreditation follows a rigorous assessment process conducted by an independent, external assessing agency, Quality Innovation Performance Limited (QIP)," Mr Chester said.

"QIP's accreditation report stated that Open Arms had met all requirements of the NSMHS and commended Open Arms on its many strengths and positive feedback from clients and stakeholders."

Mr Chester said comments made from veterans and their families about Open Arms included:

- *The help they gave me early on probably saved my life – now they're keeping me stable*
- *I feel it's safe because it's a public service organisation. They understand military context – it makes the world of difference*

- *They were and are a lifesaver*
- *The staff are skilled and genuinely concerned about me and my family*
- *Helped me understand what my partner was going through with PTSD and why they acted the way they did*
- *I felt very validated and supported*
- *They have an understanding that we're constantly in fight mode...they get it and they understand that, it's respectful*
- *I find the service very easy to get to.*

"The Government is committed to putting veterans and their families first — their mental health and wellbeing is a top priority," Mr Chester said.

"Mental health is everyone's business – families, friends, employers, community organisations and the Ex-service Organisations all have an important role to play in supporting veterans and their families.

"I encourage any veterans—or their family member—who are struggling with their mental health to reach out for support.

"You are not alone; support is available whenever you need it. Free and confidential help is available through Open Arms and available 24/7, 365 days a year. Open Arms can be contacted on 1800 011 046."

For more information visit www.openarms.gov.au

Not us': Push for new ACT coat of arms gathers momentum

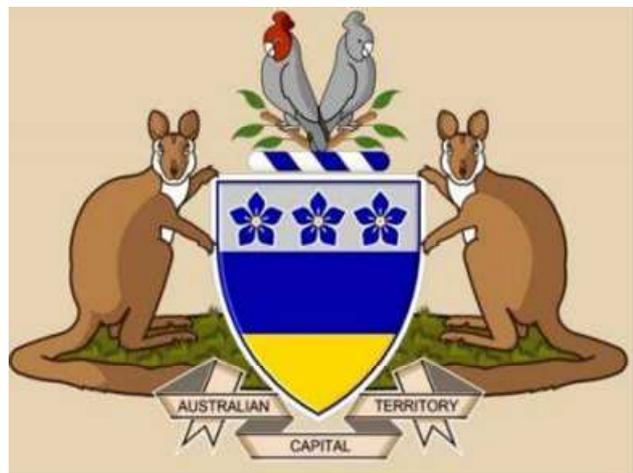
Canberra Times 23 Aug 19 Dan Jervis-Bardy

The push for a new Canberra coat of arms is gathering momentum, with a report showing the 91-year-old crest is widely viewed as "anachronistic" and "unreflective" of the modern-day ACT.

The Assembly committee inquiring into the city's heraldry handed down its final report on Thursday, recommending the government either adopt a new coat of arms or update the existing emblem.

The government should also heed the "widespread displeasure" with the ACT flag and design a new one, the committee recommended.

Alternative coat of arms designs which featured the ACT's floral emblem, the royal bluebell, and new mammal emblem, the southern brush-tailed rock-wallaby, were presented to the committee as part of the inquiry.



Alternative option for ACT coat of arms.
Source: Ivo Ostyn

Minutes of General Meeting on 1 August 2019 at Kaleen Sports Club, Kaleen.

Fallen Comrades. The Ode was recited by shipmate JJ Harrison. In addition the Naval Veteran Ode was recited in memory of Len Timbrell.

Meeting opened. Vice President, David Manolas opened the meeting at 1335.

Attendance and apologies. 14 members were in attendance and 2 apologies were noted.

Minutes of last meeting. The minutes of the 6 June 2019 meeting as appeared in The July issue of the Bosun's Call were taken as read.

*Motion: The minutes of the 6 June 2019 General Meeting be accepted. Moved: David Manolas
Seconded JJ Harrison Carried.*

Business arising from the minutes.

Nil matters arising.

Reports.

President. As per the August Bosun's Call

Vice President. Nil to report.

Secretary. Business as usual

Treasurer. Section funds remain in a healthy state.

Membership Registrar. Membership numbers are slowly creeping upwards. At the end of May there were 92 people with various membership status, most being full members. Changes to the list of Honorary Members have come about due to postings. CAPT Terry Morrison RAN has assumed command of HMAS *Canberra* and CAPT Matt ORT USN has replaced CAPT Tony Defrias at the US Embassy. Accordingly both are to be formally admitted to the Section.

*Motion: Honorary memberships be offered to CAPT T. Morrison, RAN, Commanding Officer, HMAS Canberra and CAPT M. Ort USN, Defense Attache, US Embassy.. Moved: Peter Cooke-Russell
Seconded: A F Masters Carried.*

Welfare. Tony (Irish) Vickers is recuperating well after major heart surgery.

Social. Bev Joce had nothing to add to the notes she has provided in the BC.

*Motion: The reports be accepted. Moved: Don Joce,
Seconded: John Small, Carried.*

General Business.

Bus Trips. No response as yet to our application for the trips.

Battle of Australia ACT Council donation request. The ACT Council for the Battle of Australia has been left with the role of organizing activities in the ACT associated with the commemoration of the anniversary of the declared date. The ACT Section, along with other ACT veteran groups, have been invited to financially support the Council in continuing with the commemoration of the Battle

of Australia activities. Shipmate, Peter Cooke-Russell has served on the Council and was able to enlighten members of its role and that the Battle of Australia has been given Governor-General approval in the same manner as ANZAC Day and Armistice Day as a declared activity. The amount sought is \$100. After a discussion of this request it was agreed that the ACT Section donate \$100 to the Battle of Australia (ACT Council).

Motion: The ACT Section donate \$100 to the Battle of Australia (ACT Council). Moved: Peter Cooke-Russell, Seconded: Bob Ray, Carried.

Charitable Donations. Discussion continued to centre on to whom we should make a donation. Legacy and a Navy sponsored charity (Keeping Watch) were the two favoured charities but it was considered that further information about Keeping Watch would be useful in making a considered donation and the Secretary would undertake to get this information and hopefully even get a Keeping Watch representative attend a future meeting.. Harry Beardsell suggested there was merit in giving consideration to charities such Heart Foundation, Cancer Research et al since these organisations indirectly supported many of our members. To be discussed at the next meeting at which the President would be in attendance..

HMAS Canberra Memorial Service. Arrangements have been completed for the conduct of the service on 9 August 2019. All that is now needed is fine weather on the day but if this is not so then a wet weather routine will be used.

Ceremonial Activities. There are a number of ceremonial activities that the Section supports that are coming up in the next months. Volunteers are always sought for these activities and for the next few the Section will be represented by:

Legacy Launch 2 September Alex McGown

Battle of Australia 4 September Peter Cooke-Russell

WRANS 19 October David Manolas

Last post 21 August Dennis Lyons

Last Post 3 September Peter Cooke-Russell

Last Post 11 September JJ Harrison

Last Post 14 September Dennis Lyons

Close of Business. The meeting closed at 1423

Next Meeting. The next General Meeting will be held at the Kaleen Sports Club, Kaleen on Thursday, 5 September 2019 at 1330

Alan F Masters

Secretary

NAA (ACT Section)

AGE-FRIENDLY CANBERRA—A VISION FOR OUR CITY

Gordon Ramsay, the Minister for Seniors and Veterans discussed with National Seniors ACT Policy Advisory Group (PAG) the development of an aged-friendly Canberra for the future. The framework for this is being developed and will become Government policy in early 2020. He intends to further consult with us in November when more consultations have been completed. The initial proposal was developed in conjunction with the Ministerial Council on Ageing. Here is some of the document

“VISION STATEMENT Older Canberrans are recognized as valued members of our community and enabled to lead productive and active lives as they age.

12 key principles have been suggested as a basis for the plan. These include:

- ***The contribution that older people make to the Canberra community is valued and recognized.***
- ***Older people are consulted and empowered. The voice of older people is heard in policy development and delivery.***
- ***The abuse of older people in any form is not tolerated. The protection of older people from any form of abuse is a priority and is paramount.***
- ***The city's services meet the specific needs of older people.”***

When these principles are confirmed an action plan will be developed that will be used as the basis for action Canberra wide and to inform budget decisions.

It appears to PAG to be an extremely worthwhile proposal and deserves our support and we look forward to further consultations with the Minister. Of course, the devil will be in the detail and in what actually happens on the ground. But we can hope.

We will keep you informed over the next 6 months.

A brochure on the project is available at Libraries or on the website

cityservices.act.gov.au

www.communityservices.act.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/1324355/CSD-Age-Friendly-Canberra-Statement-of-Direction-2019.pdf

Bill Donovan
Chair, PAG
National Seniors ACT Association
6 August 2019

PAG

In each state and territory, the Policy Advisory Group works with the National Seniors Policy team to:

- strengthen National Seniors' state and territory policy expertise
- provide a member perspective on policy issues and proposals of relevance to older Australians, including issues initiated by Branches, Zones or individual members
- provide an enhanced knowledge base about the particular issues and circumstances affecting the over 50s in their State or Territory.

While Policy Advisory Groups are not decision-making bodies, as policy decisions and directions rest with the Board on advice from our Policy team, they do provide important perspectives and advice on policy issues.

The Chairs of each Policy Advisory Group liaise with state and territory politicians and government agencies on key policy issues, while members represent the needs of the older Australians through their participation in state, territory and national advisory groups on key policy issues.

If you'd like to get involved in the Policy Advisory Groups, please contact the Chair of your state or territory Policy Advisory Group by email at policy@nationalseniors.com.au or call 1300 76 50 50 and leave a message for a return call

Notes of Committee Discussions on Thursday, 1 August 2019 at Kaleen Sports Centre, Kaleen.

Informal discussions covered “

- donations to charitable organisations,
- the request for a donation to the Battle of Australia ACT Council ,
- the ACT Section content on the NAA website,
- the successful use of material from the Section Naval Veteran Funeral Order of Service at the funeral for late shipmate Len Timbrell, and
- the latest on the state of the organisation for the HMAS *Canberra* Memorial Service

Next Meeting. The next meeting will take place at 1130 on Thursday, 5 September 2019 at the Kaleen Sports Centre.

Alan F Masters
Secretary
NAA (ACT).

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS 2019

Action to renew membership for 2019 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 2019 is \$38

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 Programme

Programme

19 Sep	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
17 Oct	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
21 Nov	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
5 Dec	Christmas Lunch venue to be advised

A decision on funding for the bus trips has yet to be made by the Federal Government.

***Bev Joce
Social Secretary***

All Navy Reunion 2019

25-27 October 2019

Maroochydore, Queensland

Should you want any further clarification / have enquiries please contact:

All Navy Reunion Secretary:

Mark Reading:

allnavyreunion2019@gmail.com

0438 800 799

All Navy Reunion Coordinator:

Billy Hayward:

bloggshayward@yahoo.com

0411 024 985



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**A Happy Birthday to you in
September 2019**

Mike Hardwick

Rex Kendall

Harry Beardsell

Mike Taylor

Ian Holmes

Rob Glanvill

Ian Spaulding

Older Persons ACT Legal Service (OPALS)

The new Older Persons ACT Legal Service (OPALS) is a specialist service within Legal Aid ACT offering flexible legal assistance to older people. OPALS can help in many situations, such as if you:

- have concerns about your safety
- are being pressured to change your living arrangements, sign documents, or provide details of your finances
- are having money taken from you without your permission
- owe money and are not sure how you will pay
- are being abused, threatened or bullied
- are being denied access to grandchildren, other members of your family or support services
- are being discriminated because of your age

If you think you need legal advice, please feel free to contact OPALS:
Address: 2 Allsop Street, Canberra, ACT; or
Telephone: (02) 6243 3436 or 1800 353 374
Email: opals@legalaidact.org.au
www.legalaidact.org.au/opals

OPALS has a strong community legal education and outreach component and provides information and referral services to concerned family, friends and workers. OPALS draws on the expertise of other practices in Legal Aid ACT when providing advice and representation services.

OPALS is a **free** service and all cases are treated in confidence. We can also help make referrals to other specialist services if you choose not to take legal action.



If undeliverable return to
NAA ACT Section
26 Nelson Place
Curtin ACT 2605

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