



The Bosun's Call



Vol 26 No 8

Once Navy, Always Navy

September 2021

HMAS CANBERRA (I) MEMORIAL SERVICE



*Alex McGown, Vice President ACT Section of the NAA and RADM Simon Cullen RAN AM CSC Rtd
President of the Naval Historical Society ACT Chapter laying a wreath at the memorial to
HMAS Canberra I*

Events coming up

25 Aug	NAA National Council Zoom meeting
2 Sep	ACT Section meeting East Lakes Club Gungahlin 1330 Cancelled due to COVID-19
16 Sep	Social coffee Gungahlin Lakes Club 1100 COVID-19 willing (unlikely at present)



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

Office Bearers

President	David Manolas	0427 504 564
Vice President	Alex McGown	02 6258 6167
Secretary	Alan Masters	02 6281 5630
Treasurer	Alan Masters	02 6281 5630

Committee Members

Welfare	Alex McGown	02 6258 6167
Membership	Peter Cooke-Russell	02 6258 6892
	John Small	02 6258 1216
	Tiger Lyons	02 6254 3453
	Kate Reid-Smith	0409 498 924
	Joe Slaats	
Editor BC	Peter Cooke-Russell	02 6258 6892
Social Sec	Bev Joce	0412 732 768

Contact Details

The President ACT Section
0427 504 564
stbdstayportgiveway@gmail.com

The Secretary ACT Section

NAA ACT Section
26 Nelson Place,
CURTIN ACT 2605.

secretary.naa.act@gmail.com
Tel 02 6281 5630

Membership Registrar/BC Editor

peter.cookerussell@gmail.com
0412 757 505

General Meetings Dates and Locations Programme

If the pandemic restrictions are not recycled the following program is to be followed:

7 Oct Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
4 Nov Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330

Tables are normally 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 Message

Shipmates,

We have all watched the televised coverage of the humanitarian mission in Afghanistan and give thanks for the successful completion of ADF operations and the safe extraction of participating personnel from the area. Both the Prime Minister and Minister for Defence have said that without the presence of the Americans, it would not have been possible for our ADF Units to have embarked on this mission.

To then learn of the loss of American lives whilst offering life-saving aid to so many was truly heartbreaking, our thoughts and prayers are with their loved ones and fellow US Service personnel. We pray for all ADF personnel who have served in this war, their friends and families, and those who lost a loved one, and we affirm our pride in you and what was achieved in the name of our nation.

We stand ready to provide whatever support possible to our veterans and to offer 'naval fellowship' to all who would wish to join with us in this endeavour.

Yours aye,

David Manolas



Evacuees from Afghanistan arrived on a flight to Australia on Friday 27 August 2021

Committee meetings

East Lakes Gungahlin
1100 Thursday 7 October
2021

Sydney Harbour to remain at core of east coast defences with navy to expand at Garden Island

Sydney Harbour has had a navy presence since the First Fleet which is set to expand our defences against threats on our east coast. [sic]

Sydney Harbour will retain the naval presence its had since the First Fleet and "the days of the sail" with Defence formally scotching a public push for them to surrender Garden Island and shift elsewhere along the east coast.

NSW is also poised to have a submarines berth for the first time in more than 20 years to strategically boost defences of the most populous side of the nation, with Garden Island at its centre.

After countless reviews since the 1960s through to today, Defence has formally ruled "there's no feasible economic east coast location for the total replacement of the capabilities that are provided at Garden Island".

Investment in the base has concluded it "will remain viable as the sustainment and home port for our east coast major fleet units" well into the future.

The only remaining consideration being the continued push back from residents of Potts Point, Woolloomooloo and Kings Cross whose complaints have already forced the Royal Australian Navy to alter its operations.

There had been government lobbying from some quarters for Garden Island to be part-surrendered to the leisure cruise-ship industry to boost tourism and economy but that notion did not fit with the bigger picture to have a submarine base on the east coast with resources already in Sydney Harbour at its core.

The Federal Government has yet to make an announcement about submarines, which are currently all based in Western Australia, but sources confirmed internal Defence analyses showed a need for a two-ocean basing of a future submarine fleet with a presence on the east coast, at its own base anticipated to be in NSW.

That review also found personnel hiring and retention for the armed forces would benefit if part of the sub fleet were based in Sydney.

Defence has been reviewing the push since 2017 when internal polling found Navy was haemorrhaging staff in part due to familial separation with the majority of sub crews hired from the east but based in the west.

The submariner ranks have to swell from current 852 personnel to more than 2000

Garden Island, Fleet Base East
(prior to the commencement of CIRP
in 2018)

to accommodate the new fleet of French-designed Barracuda sometime in the next decade and maintain a sea-shore capability.

There are already plans for infrastructure developments at Garden Island and the RAN in NSW, including 900 new accommodation units potentially to be constructed at Randwick Barracks.

Navy Future Infrastructure chief Rear Admiral Philip Spedding described Garden Island as an enduring base "since the days of the sail" that remained viable.

"It does, of course, suffer from urban encroachment, so we have to change some of our practices, and we have done so, to be able to accommodate the demands and needs of the resident population nearby, but it is still a viable site for the Navy going forward," he told a defence committee reviewing infrastructure.

He described Garden Island and the Sydney basin defence precinct including HMAS Penguin, HMAS Watson, HMAS Waterhen and Randwick Barracks, Chowder Bay fuel storage and Sydney Fleet HQ as an interlocked system.

"If you think about moving individual elements out of Sydney, you dislocate the system and introduce inefficiencies and additional costs," he said. "At the moment, our intention is to remain based on the east coast in Sydney, but, as I said, we balance it up between the west coast and the east coast. If the government, on recommendation, were to accept an east coast submarine base, then you might look at what other capabilities it would be sensible to co-locate in that location, but that advice has not yet been provided to government."

Charles Miranda

July 24, 2021 -

News Corp Australia Network



Garden Island (East) Critical Infrastructure Recovery Program (CIRP)

The Garden Island (East) Critical Infrastructure Recovery Program (CIRP). The Department of Defence (Defence) has established this website to provide information to members of the public about the important works that Defence will be delivering under this program.

Defence is delivering critical infrastructure and engineering works at Garden Island (East), Sydney, New South Wales under a CIRP. The purpose of the works is to address significant condition, capacity and compliance issues with the wharves and base-wide engineering services.

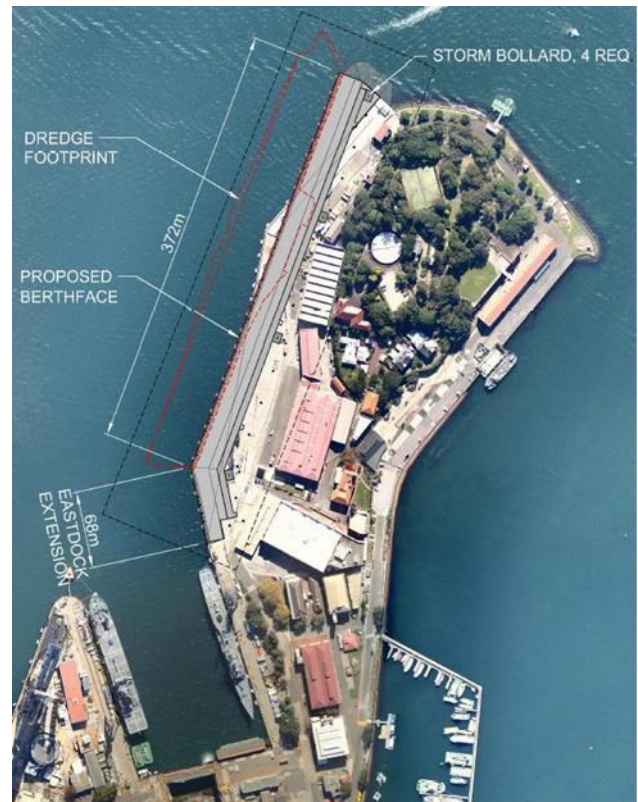
Defence is delivering the CIRP works in two stages:

Stage One will demolish the existing Cruiser and Oil wharves, and build a new wharf in a revised alignment in their place. The new realigned wharf will be equipped with a crane, engineering services and wharf furniture to replace those removed during demolition; and

Stage Two will remediate the remaining wharves as well as base-wide engineering services such as the electrical and fuel systems.

Editor's Note

Stage One has been completed and Stage Two was commenced on 12 August 2019 with a completion date at present set for January 2024.



Radical Concept for the revitalisation of Garden Island, Sydney

Urban Task Force—Garden Island Concept 2017 The laboratory for Visionary Architecture (LAVA)

LAVA's concept for the rejuvenation of Garden Island in Sydney sees nineteenth century heritage buildings reimagined as cultural facilities with new residential and recreational buildings inspired by the natural forms of Sydney Harbour.

The ideas for the harbour location turn a previously inaccessible headland into a cultural, leisure, and community destination.

LAVA was commissioned to explore how the area could evolve in future decades when current Navy uses are relocated.

The former dry-dock would be used for floating mar-

kets, harbour baths, theatre performances and boat shows, whilst a new residential precinct is inspired by the sweeping curves of Sydney Harbour with all its wonderful bays and beaches and sandstone headlands.

A new pyramid structure houses events and functions, fulfilling a proposal by Australia's first Government Architect, Francis Greenway, for a pyramid to be constructed on Garden Island.

The new buildings make a departure from the traditional vertical apartment box model. Instead they are conceived as a green and sustainable, airy tower landscape, with roof terraces, balconies, swimming pools and community facilities.

The creation of a new city precinct on the waterfront revitalises Garden Island.



MERCATOR—Maritime Domain Strategy 2040

Chief of Navy Message

Our Vision: A credible and sustainable permanent joint maritime presence

As an island continent, Australia is first and foremost a maritime nation. Our security and prosperity is directly linked to the oceans and seas. Controlling our seaborne approaches and supporting international efforts to assure the global maritime commons is essential for our continued prosperity.

With the increasing pace of technological and geopolitical change, we have entered into a prolonged period of strategic competition that will continue to shape our region for decades to come. We will continue to prioritise our immediate region. Doing nothing, or waiting for allies to solve our challenges is not an option.

Government has directed the implementation of a new strategic policy that signals Australia's ability – and willingness – to project military power and deter actions against our interests. MERCATOR is our Maritime Domain strategy to achieve this. Our intent to Shape, Deter and Respond is a coordinated national endeavour.

This is my strategy as the Maritime Domain lead for Defence. I commend MERCATOR to you and ask you all to continue to contribute to it, improve it, and execute it – together.



The Strategy is available on the following internet addresses

[MERCATOR Maritime Domain Strategy 2040
\(\[navy.gov.au\]\(https://www.navy.gov.au\)\)](https://www.navy.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/MERCATOR_2040.pdf)

https://www.navy.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/MERCATOR_2040.pdf

DVA—Defence Engagement Appointment

Tuesday, August 24 2021

The Hon Andrew Gee MP
Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Minister for Defence Personnel

Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel Andrew Gee today announced the appointment of Mr Stuart Smith AO DSC as Defence Engagement Commissioner.

"Following a distinguished military career spanning 37 years rising to the rank of Major General, and post service employment as the State Disaster Recovery Coordinator in Queensland, I'm pleased to announce Mr Stuart Smith has been appointed as Defence Engagement Commissioner, to lead the Repatriation Commission's engagement with the Australian Defence Force (ADF)," Minister Gee said.

"Mr Smith has been acting in the position since August 2020. During this time he has worked closely with Defence and the Department of Veterans' Affairs to strengthen cooperation and outcomes for our veterans.

"In particular, Mr Smith works with many ex-service organisations to discuss support for serving veterans and the delivery of programs that enable veterans and their families to secure meaningful employment once they transition.

"Over the past year, he has also worked closely with the Joint Transition Authority to establish a framework for transition support and services." Mr Smith has actively engaged with Defence leaders, ex-service organisations, veterans and Defence personnel. He has undertaken roundtables and visits to Defence bases around the country to listen and grasp a fuller understanding of the ADF experience.

In 2012 Major General Smith was appointed Commander Joint Task Force 633, responsible for Operation Slipper and Australian forces operating in the Middle East.

"During my period of command in Afghanistan six Australian soldiers were killed and three were wounded in action," Mr Smith said. "I have been

(Continued on page 6)

Stuart Smith — Defence Engagement Commissioner

Commissioner Smith rounds out a 100-year legacy of family members serving our nation, from South Africa to Afghanistan. His exposure to military service came early in life. His father Bernard Smith served two tours during the Vietnam War, and was tragically killed in action in 1969 when he was an infantry sergeant with the 5th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment (RAR).

Commissioner Smith followed in the family tradition, enlisting in 1981 with scholarship entry to the Royal Military College Duntroon. He was appointed Commanding Officer of 1RAR in 2003, and commanded the 3rd Brigade in Townsville from 2009 to 2011. The following year, he was promoted to Major General and appointed Commander Joint Task Force 633, responsible for ADF operations in the Middle East.

On his return to home soil, Commissioner Smith assumed command of the Headquarters 1st Division/Deployable Joint Force Headquarters in Brisbane for three years and in 2015 was appointed Deputy Chief of Joint Operations until his retirement from the Australian Army in 2017.

During his military career, he participated in several humanitarian operations, including earthquake/tsunami assistance in Sumatra, Indonesia in the 2004 summer, and leading the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Disaster Response to Cyclone Yasi in North Queensland during February 2011.

His last formal duty prior to his transition to civilian life was to read the story of his father's service at The Last Post Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial on 18 August 2017.

'So that closed the circle on five generations of service by our family,' Commissioner Smith says.

After leaving the ADF, he became an advisor to the Queensland Premier on community solutions to youth crime and from late 2018 until mid-2019 he was State Disaster Recovery Coordinator for the Central Queensland Bushfires and the North Queensland Monsoon Floods, where he led social, infrastructure, economic and environmental recovery activities across Queensland.

In reflecting on his time in service, Commissioner Smith notes moments when service men and women demonstrated unique qualities of selflessness as stand-out memories.

'I am forever grateful for being able to witness soldiers, sailors, airmen and women personifying values of excellence, respect and courage,' he says.

'I witnessed calm excellence in the manner in which our soldiers maintained the peace and trained border police in Timor in 2003.

'I saw empathy and respect displayed by Defence men and women towards disaster stricken communities in Far North Queensland during response and recovery operations after Cyclone Yasi in 2011. They adapted ways to clear debris, open roads, evacuate the vulnerable, restore power and get vital supplies into the region.

'And I was humbled by the persistent courage demonstrated by the people I commanded in the Middle East as they completed complex land, sea and air operations across the Gulf and Afghanistan.'

Commissioner Smith plans on drawing on these inspirational moments in his new position. As the Defence Engagement Commissioner, he is responsible for engaging with the Department of Defence on behalf of the Repatriation Commission, with a focus on strategic planning and advising on what future generations of veterans will look like. He will inform DVA on the future direction of the ADF, ensuring our future veterans have the support they need, when and where they need it.

'My primary objective is to understand the pathway that a veteran is on from enlistment, through training, operations and transition to another career,' he says. 'What are the touchpoints on that pathway for DVA, and how can we improve those touchpoints in terms of policies and procedures to ensure that the next generation of veterans are looked after in the best possible way? Success is a seamless transition.'

The Commissioner planned his own transition well in advance. He suggests serving members need to take a long-term view when considering their transition plan. He believes that the first step is to visualise what work and lifestyle you want for you and your family after your Defence service.

'Once, you have that vision, you can plan early for the other aspects that will contribute to the wellbeing of you and your family, such as what education you might wish to undertake, housing, and health support.

'I was fortunate in that I took early advantage of opportunities to prepare myself for transition such as accessing the Defence Home Owner Scheme, completing part-time tertiary study, and submitting my health records through the MyService portal. My goal now is to work with DVA and Defence to replicate a smooth pathway for all our emerging veterans.'

DVA—Defence Engagement Appointment

(Continued from page 5)

working hard to ensure the support for those veterans and their families affected by service has been synchronised between Defence and the Department of Veterans' Affairs.;

"With the rapidly changing situation in Afghanistan and many veterans reflecting on their service, getting that support to where it is needed has never been more important."

Minister Gee said he warmly welcomed Stuart Smith's appointment.

"With a deep professional understanding of the ADF and extensive public and private sector experience, I am positive Mr Smith will continue to contribute highly to the close cooperative relationship between the Repatriation Commission and the ADF to better support Defence personnel, veterans and their families," Minister Gee said.

China warning as ships delayed

The construction of the first three of the navy's nine new frigates will be delayed by up to 18 months, as Defence Minister Peter Dutton warned China's rise meant Australia could not afford further slippages in the timeline for its new frigates and submarines.

A frustrated Mr Dutton has delivered a blunt message to all prime contractors for the \$45bn frigate project and the \$90bn submarine project, saying Australia cannot allow these crucial projects to drift at a time of growing strategic uncertainty.

His comments came after he publicly confirmed for the first time that construction of the first of the new Hunter-Class frigates had been pushed back by up to a year and a half due to delays in the development of Britain's Type 26 Frigate, on which the Australian ship design is based.

Under a revised schedule, the delay will be recovered only by the time construction begins on the fourth ship, meaning the first three frigates will now face a delayed introduction into naval service from the early 2030s.

"It is frustrating to see an up-to-18-month delay to the start of construction of ship one, but importantly this delay will be recovered over the term of the project," Mr Dutton told *The Weekend Australian*. "We are making difficult decisions in the national interest.

"It is important to note that the Australian changes are not the cause of the delay. The delay is directly related to the UK's Type 26 design maturity which flows through to our program."

He warned that Australia could not afford further setbacks in its major naval shipbuilding projects, given the rise of China.

"Our strategic circumstances with regard to the CCP (China) in our region mean I don't intend to just sit back and let these projects drift," he said. "I have delivered a blunt message to all the primes and made it very clear they are to deliver these defence projects on time and on budget."

Both the plan to build the frigates – the mainstay of Australia's future fleet – and 12 new French-designed submarines have hit problems early before steel is cut on any of them.

The frigates will be based on Britain's Type 26 frigate but will be modified to include a US combat system and an Australian radar, among other changes.

However, the development in Britain of the Type 26, which is not yet in service, has been delayed by design and weight problems, as well as by the Covid-related lockdowns in the UK this year.

This has meant the design is still too immature for the Australianised ver-

sion to proceed as scheduled in Adelaide, and Mr Dutton has accepted advice that a delay of up to 18 months in the first ship would reduce design-related risks for the Hunter-Class boats.

The revised schedule means all nine frigates will still be delivered as originally planned by 2044. However, steel will not be cut on the first ship until 2024. It will not be completed until 2031, and will not enter service until 2033.

There is a concern that the weight of the new Hunter-Class frigates is already too heavy to accommodate future upgrades to weapons or other systems, potentially limiting their lifespan as effective warships.

The evolving design work on the Hunter-Class has seen the ship's weight jump from a full displacement weight of 8800 tonnes to more than 10,000 tons.

The vessel's weight margin – in other words the margin of growth to place future systems on the warship in years to come – is only 270 tonnes, or 3.3 per cent. By contrast the current ANZAC-class frigates had an initial weight margin of growth of 10 per cent, although this was larger than normal because they were built without several key systems.

"The risk is you won't be able to evolve the vessel over its career because essentially you have used up the weight margin to add future systems to it as the threat evolves," said Marcus Hellyer, a senior defence analyst with the Australian Strategic Policy Institute.

Craig Lockhart, the managing director of the frigate builder, BAE Systems Maritime Australia, denied the ship was too heavy and said its weight would not detract from its performance. "The Hunter ship ... is within the design criteria to meet key whole-ship performance characteristics," he said.

The government recently revealed that the cost of the project had jumped from \$35bn to \$45bn.

Cameron Stewart

Associate Editor—The Australian





Colleagues,

Please promulgate the attachment as widely as possible. You will see that the NAA is not listed as one of the ESOs participating, accordingly, I wish to advise that on the day before the DVA hosted Session with the Minister of Veterans Affairs, we received late notice of the scheduled timing. As I was already committed to participate in a Zoom Session with the AWM, wherein the timing did not allow me to participate in both Sessions, I provided my apologies. I am disappointed The Minister's Office did not acknowledge that when listing those ESOs attending the session with The Minister. We are all very conscious of the many ADF personnel who have served in Afghanistan and other conflicts, and the support and sacrifice given so wholeheartedly by their friends and families. The NAA fully supports every effort and initiative to watch over and provide for those who are and have served.

David Manolas
National President
Naval Association of Australia

Ex-Service Organisations convene support for Afghan Veterans

Wednesday, August 18 2021

The Hon Andrew Gee MP

Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Minister for Defence Personnel

Ex-service organisations from across the nation have met with the Australian Government today to throw their support behind efforts underway to assist veterans and families impacted by the situation in Afghanistan.

The Minister for Defence Personnel and Veterans' Affairs convened the extraordinary meeting of the Ex-Service Organisations (ESO) Roundtable, bringing together key players in the Defence and veteran community, to coordinate veteran mental health outreach and support.

"We have a network of incredible veteran and community groups across the nation who are, everyday delivering much needed services and support," Minister Gee said.

"I hosted a meeting this morning with our ESOs to join forces to support the veterans who served in Afghanistan and other conflicts, and also their families.

"Community and ex-service organisations play a critical role in the support of the veteran community and today they reiterated their commitment working with the Australian Government to deliver a united effort at this difficult time," Minister Gee said.

Organisations in attendance included the Air Force Association, Australian War Widows, Defence Families Australia, Australian Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Veterans' Association, Defence Reserves Association, Legacy Australia, Partners of Veterans Association of Australia, Returned and Services League of Australia, TPI Federation Australia, Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia and the Vietnam Veterans' Federation of Australia.

"Over the last 20 years, Australia has been a steadfast contributor to the fight against terrorism in Afghanistan. Now the Defence and veteran community need to know that we are steadfast in our commitment to their wellbeing at home.

"Earlier this week I directed the Department of Veterans' Affairs to phone the families of ADF members who lost their lives in Afghanistan, as well as veterans that the department is aware of who could suffer adversely as a result of what is currently happening in Afghanistan, and let them know that support is available if it's needed.

"I encourage anyone in need of help to access the services that are available to them and their families.

"I would also encourage Australians to pick up the phone to say g'day to any veterans you may know. Now more than ever it's vitally important to stay connected. A friendly voice can make all the difference to a mate who may be in need."

Support services

Open Arms — Veterans & Families Counselling service is available 24/7 on [1800 011 046](tel:1800011046)

Safe Zone Support on [1800 142 072](tel:1800142072) is a free and anonymous counselling line for current serving ADF personnel, veterans and their families available 24/7

Defence Family Helpline available for ADF members and their families, available 24/7 — dial [1800 624 608](tel:1800624608)

Media contacts

Minister Gee's office: [0459 966 944](tel:0459966944)

DVA Media: [02 6289 6466](tel:0262896466)

Office of the Hon. Andrew Gee, Canberra ACT.

Open Arms — Veterans and Families Counselling provides support for current and ex-serving ADF personnel and their families. Free and confidential help is available 24/7. Phone [1800 011 046](tel:1800011046) (international: [+61 8 8241 4546](tel:+61882414546)) or visit www.OpenArms.gov.au

Memorial Service HMAS Canberra I 6 August 2021



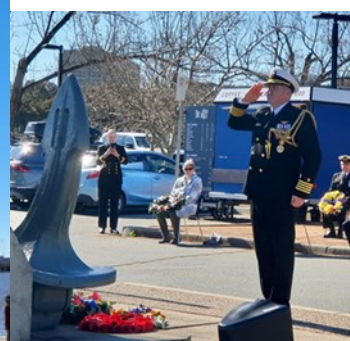
CDRE S. Ottiviano RAN on behalf of the RAN



CMDR B. Westcott RAN on behalf of HMAS Canberra III



AIRCDRE K. Ashworth RAAF with CPL L. Purdon on behalf of the RAAF



CAPT M. Ort USN on behalf of the USN



CMDR M. Magzoub RN on behalf of the RN

From L-R: CPT L. Purdon, Dr K. Spurling on behalf of War Widows, P. Gribble on behalf of Navy Women and CMDR D. Radnidge RAN CO HMAS Harman

Photos: Kath Masters

In Australia, a commemoration was hosted by the Naval Association of Australia, ACT Section at the HMAS Canberra I Memorial on the north eastern shore of Lake Burley Griffin which was unveiled by ADML Sir Anthony Synnot KBE AO RAN on 9 August 1981. RAAF Corporal Lance Purdon whose grandfather, a PO Blacksmith survived the sinking of Canberra, assisted Air Commodore Karen Ashworth RAAF in laying a wreath on behalf of the RAAF.

On August 9, 2021, the crew of HMAS Canberra remembered the first ship to bear her name during a small ceremony at sea, marking 79 years since the Battle of Savo Island.

Commanding Officer Canberra Captain Jace Hutchison said the Battle of Savo Island formed part of a shared history between Australia and the USA.

"It has seen our alliance and friendship strengthen in the face of adversity," Captain Hutchison said. "The name *Canberra* has lived on since World War II, not just in the RAN but also in the United States Navy, which has named two ships after *Canberra*."

Operation COVID-19 Assist

19 August 2021

Nationally

Then Minister for Defence, Linda Reynolds, announced Operation COVID-19 Assist on April 1, 2020.

Current nationwide Defence support includes:

- About 2,063 personnel are deployed as part of Operation COVID-19 Assist.
- The ADF is supporting law enforcement agencies with mandatory quarantine arrangements.
- The ADF will not be authorised as law enforcement officers as this remains the responsibility of the states and territories.

Additionally, the ADF:

- Has established the three-star-led COVID-19 Taskforce to coordinate Defence's internal response to COVID-19 and support the whole-of-government effort.
- Is supporting Emergency Management Australia-led (EMA) planning for the National Communicable Disease Incidence of National Significance Plan in response to COVID-19.
- Is supporting the Department of Health with logistics and specialist staff.
- Has been supplying clinical and epidemiological support to the Department of Health National Incident Room since early February 2020.
- 95 ADF and Defence APS personnel are embedded in various Australian Government agencies, including the Department of Health and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

State-by-state breakdown

*Note: Personnel in Joint Task Group headquarters, supporting roles, and those preparing for tasks are included in overall state-based figures but are not captured in the list of tasks.

Queensland – 271 personnel

- 227 ADF personnel are supporting quarantine compliance management efforts, including at airports and hotels.

New South Wales – 956 personnel

- 230 ADF personnel are supporting state police quarantine compliance monitoring, reception and repatriation efforts at Sydney airport and hotels.
- 500 ADF personnel are supporting state police community presence activities in Greater Sydney.
- 108 ADF personnel are supporting NSW Health.

- 71 ADF personnel are supporting NSW Health vaccine outreach teams.

Victoria – 322 personnel

- 187 ADF personnel are supporting quarantine compliance management in Melbourne.
- 88 ADF personnel are supporting the Victorian Department of Health Household Engagement Program.

South Australia – 161 personnel

- 106 ADF personnel are supporting South Australia Police quarantine compliance management at six Adelaide metropolitan hotels.
- 33 ADF personnel are supporting South Australia Health COVID-19 testing activities.

Western Australia – 59 personnel

- 32 ADF personnel are involved in quarantine assistance at hotels and at the Perth Airport.

Tasmania – 61 personnel

- 55 ADF personnel are currently involved in quarantine assistance in Hobart.

Northern Territory – 132 personnel

- 111 ADF personnel are supporting Australian Federal Police and Northern Territory Police quarantine compliance management.

Australian Capital Territory – 35 personnel

- 24 ADF personnel are supporting ACT Health COVID-19 testing activities.

Defence COVID-19 cases

208 Overseas/other	0 ACT	13 NSW
1 NT	1 QLD	2 SA
0 TAS	17 VIC	2 WA
	Total 244	Recovered 234





Exercise Talisman Sabre 2021

Exercise Talisman Sabre 2021 (TS21) is the largest bilateral training activity between Australia and the United States, commencing on 14

July 2021. A biennial exercise since 2003, held every two years, TS21 aims to test Australian interoperability with the United States and other participating forces in complex warfighting scenarios. In addition to the United States,

TS21 involves participating forces from Canada, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom. The exercise includes of a Field Training Exercise incorporating force preparation (logistic) activities, amphibious landings, ground force manoeuvres, urban operations, air combat and maritime operations.

Activities will peak over the period of 18 – 31 July across Queensland. TS21 is a major undertaking for all attending nations and demonstrates the combined capability to achieve large-scale operational outcomes within a COVID-19 safe environment.

HMAS Brisbane conducts a Replenishment at Sea with USNS Rappahannock, during Exercise Talisman Sabre 2021.

Participants

Approximately 17,000 military personnel from seven nations are participating across all domains during Talisman Sabre 21 - maritime, land, air, information and cyber, and space.

The approximate breakdown of personnel by nation is:

- 8,300 Australians
- 8,000 Americans
- 200 Japanese
- 250 Canadians
- 230 South Koreans
- 130 British
- 20 New Zealanders.

Australian elements

Maritime domain

- Frigate, Helicopter
HMAS Parramatta
HMAS Ballarat
- Destroyer, Missile Guided
HMAS Brisbane
- Minehunter, Coastal
HMAS Diamantina
- Hydrographic Survey
HMAS Melville
- Submarines
HMAS Collins
HMAS Rankin

Amphibious Elements

- Landing Helicopter Dock
HMAS Canberra
- Landing Ship Dock
HMAS Choules
- 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment
- 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment



Minutes of NAA (ACT) General Meeting held at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 5 August 2021

Meeting started at 1335 with the Odes recited by David Manolas.

Present: 10 members as per attendance book.

Apologies: M. Hardwick, Frank Reid

Minute of Last Meeting. The minutes of the general meeting on 3 June 2021 appeared in the July 2021 edition of the Bosun's Call. It was considered there was no outstanding business from that meeting.

Motion: The minutes of the General Meeting held on 3 June 2021 be accepted.

Moved: John Small. Seconded: Graeme Quinn. Carried.

Reports.

- **President.** National business keeping him busy. He reported on discussions with other veterans and senior navy personnel about changes relating to conditions of service for serving navy personnel. The ongoing issue of advocates and DVA continues to be discussed.
- **Vice President.** Coming up is a Last Post Ceremony on 14 September.
- **Secretary.** Business as usual.
- **Treasurer.** Financial records remain in a healthy state, there being little activity in the last month.
- **Membership.** Membership renewals slowly continue bringing the potential full membership to 70. There are 15 restricted and club members.
- **Welfare.** Shipmate Frank Reid had a nasty fall needing hospitalisation. He is not sailing smoothly. No other reports.
- **Social.** Bev Joce reminded members of the coffee mornings at the **Gungahlin Lakes Club** and friends are welcomed to join in.

General Business:

- **New Members.**
- CAPT Jace Hutchison RAN (CO HMAS Canberra) and CMDR Michael Collinson RNZN (Naval Attache NZ High Commission) are eligible for Honorary Membership whilst serving in their positions.
- *Motion: CAPT J. Hutchison RAN and CMDR M. Collinson RNZN be offered Honorary Membership of the Section.*
- *Moved: Peter Cooke-Russell. Seconded: Alan Masters. Carried.*
- Glen McNamara has applied for full membership of the Section.

- *Motion: Glen McNamara be accepted as a Full Member of the Section.*

- *Moved: Peter Cooke-Russell. Seconded: Stewart Gordon. Carried.*

National Bosun's Call.

- The National Bosun's Call, based largely on our Section's BC, will be sent to all NAA e-mail addressees.

HMAS Canberra Commemorative Service.

- The service will be conducted using our inclement weather routine. This routine reduces the service time to 15 minutes.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 2 September 2021 at Eastlakes Gungahlin Club starting at 1330 following lunch starting at 1200 (subject to ACT COVID restrictions)..

Meeting closed at 1428.

Alan Masters
Secretary / Treasurer
NAA (ACT)

Notes from Committee Meeting 5 August 2021 held at Eastlakes Gungahlin Club

Present: David Manolas, Alan Masters, Peter Cooke-Russell, Alex McGown, Dennis Lyons, John Small, Joe Slaats, Kate Reid-Smith

Matters discussed related entirely to the arrangements for the HMAS *Canberra* Commemorative Service.

Next meeting. Next meeting will be on 2 September 2021 starting at **1100** at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club.

Alan Masters
Secretary
NAA (ACT)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS38 2021

Action to renew membership for 2021 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 2021 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 Program

Fish 'n Chips is on the program, Snapper has reopened but will shut about May for renovation to the CYC, re-opening, we hope, sometime in September. Hence the use of the Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club.

16 Sep	Lakes Golf Club Gungahlin 1100
7 Oct	Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 1200
21 Oct	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
4 Nov	Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 1200
18 Nov	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
2 Dec	Christmas /New Year Lunch
	Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club 1200
16 Dec	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

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)

International callers:

+61 2 6289 1133

POSTAL ADDRESS FOR ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES:

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



**A Happy Birthday to you in
September 2021**

- 1 Mike Hardwick
- 7 Robert Kendall
- 12 John Coombe
- 14 Harry Beardsell
- 15 Mike Taylor
- 15 Ian Holmes
- 25 Ian Spaulding

*HMAS Canberra III remembers the
loss of her predecessor whilst at sea
in Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 21*
RAN



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

**POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA**

Paste Address label Here

The Bosun's Call Vol 26 No 8