

# The Bosun's Call



Vol 30 No 2

Once Navy, Always Navy

March 2025



Maritime Urban Quest participants take part in the kayak challenge during the quest around Lake Burley Griffin, Canberra

Photo: Defence

Hosted by HMAS Harman staff, ADF & APS Personnel from Canberra Region took part in the Maritime Urban Quest on 20th February 2025. Throughout the Quest, participants navigate to checkpoints around Lake Burley Griffin and other Canberra landmarks, where they undertake activities that must be completed before progressing to the next checkpoint. The Quest celebrates the Royal Australian Navy's 124th Birthday by exploring Navy's rich history and culture whilst promoting wellbeing, cohesiveness and fun

#### **Events coming up**

28 Feb	Last Post AWM Ldg Stoker Peter G. Allorn HMAS Perth (I) Wreath to be laid by Dennis Lyons
1 Mar	Unveiling HMAS Perth (I) memorial in Fremantle WA, David Manolas to lay wreath
6 Mar	NAA ACT Section Annual General Meeting, aprox 1415 Eastlake Football Club Gungahlin
12 Mar	Last Post AWM Tel Adolf H.G. Rippen HMAS Sydney (II)
22 Apr	Last Post AWM AB Lance Rosevear HMAS Sydney (II)
25 Apr	ANZAC Day
-	



Newsletter of the ACT Section of the Naval Association of Australia

Hardcopy printed by CopyQik Civic

## Naval Association of Australia

ACT Section Founded 1 July 1944

Patron The Hon Sir William Deane AC KBE

#### Office Bearers 2024

President	David Manolas	0427 504 564			
Vice President	Alex McGown	02 6258 6167			
Secretary	Alan Masters	02 6281 5630			
Treasurer	Alaric O'Neill;				
Committee Members					
Welfare	Alex McGown	02 6258 6167			
Membership	Peter Cooke-Russell	0412 757 505			
-	John Small	02 6258 1216			
	Tiger Lyons	02 6254 3453			
	Pauline Gribble				
Editor BC	Peter Cooke-Russell	0412 757 505			
Social Sec	Bev Joce				

#### **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

#### 2025

6 Mar Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
6 Mar AGM Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1400
3 Apr Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
1 May Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
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.

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. Vale

## **Richard Waring**

25 May 1933 to 13 February 2025

## **Editor's Note**

It seems to me that the launching of the MYWay card for travel in the ACT was a bit misleading as published in the September 2024 Bosun's Call. Despite being a copy of the ACT Access article.

Further explanation has been provided by ACT Access which I hope will resolve any difficulties that you might have had in getting a MyWay + card.

Committee meeting Eastlakes Gungahlin 1100 Thursday 6 March 2025

## Parliament passes new veterans' legislation—DVA Report

#### 13 February 2025

On 13 February 2025, the Parliament passed the Veterans' Entitlements, Treatment and Support (Simplification and Harmonisation) Act 2024 (the VETS Act).

The Government developed the improved legislation in response to the Interim Report of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide, which recommended the Government simplify and harmonise the framework for veteran rehabilitation, compensation and other entitlements.

The legislation means that from 1 July 2026, the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 (VEA) and the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation (Defence-related Claims) Act 1988 (DRCA) will close to new compensation claims. All claims received on or after 1 July 2026 will be determined under an improved Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act (MRCA).

Payments being received under the VEA and DRCA prior to 1 July 2026 will be grand-parented, meaning that those payments will continue uninterrupted.

The start date of the new arrangements gives veterans, families and advocates time to familiarise themselves with the new system.

#### The benefits to veterans and families

Consolidating the legislation into one Act will result in a system that is easier for veterans to navigate and ensure more consistent compensation outcomes. A single Act will also be simpler to administer, benefiting veterans and families over time through more consistent and timely claim outcomes.

The Act will implement a range of improvements:

- A new Additional Disablement Amount (ADA), similar to the Extreme Disablement Adjustment (EDA) available under the VEA, will be introduced. Like the EDA, the ADA will compensate veterans who are of Age Pension age or older and who have a high degree of incapacity due to service-related conditions.
- The Repatriation Commission will be able to specify injuries and diseases that can be accepted on a presumptive basis where they are known to have a common connection with military service.
- Eligibility for household services and attendant care will be expanded.
- The higher travel reimbursement amount, regardless of kilometres, will be available to all veterans when a private vehicle is used to travel for treatment.
- The automatic granting of VEA funeral bene-

fits will be retained, with the benefit increasing to \$3,000, and funeral expenses up to \$14,062 for all service-related deaths will be reimbursed.

- Allowances and other payments will be standardised, including acute support packages, education schemes, and additional compensation for children of severely impaired veterans.
- The Repatriation Commission's ability to grant special assistance to veterans and their dependants will be enhanced.
- Veterans receiving DRCA incapacity payments will automatically transition to MRCA incapacity payments on the date of commencement.
- Where the Repatriation Medical Authority updates a Statement of Principles (SOP) between the veteran's primary and reviewable decision, the version of the SoP which is most beneficial to the veteran's circumstances will be applied.
- The Repatriation Commission will be able to determine circumstances where a veteran must receive financial advice before receiving a lump sum payment, helping you make the right decisions.

#### The VETS Act – more information

We are committed to making it easier for you to navigate the veterans' compensation system. A range of resources and scenarios can be found on the dedicated Legislation Reform page on the DVA website (<u>www.dva.gov.au/legislationreform</u>).

You may also wish to seek the advice of a compensation claims advocate or email any questions to <u>legislation.reform@dva.gov.au</u>

You can also stay up to date by following our social media channels and subscribing to our regular monthly newsletter, *e-news*, (go to <u>www.dva.gov.au/vetaffairs-</u>



## Re: Veterans' legislation reform update [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### From: LEGISLATION.REFORM <<u>LEGISLATION.REFORM@dva.gov.au</u>>

Sent: 24 February 2025 11:24

**Subject:** Veterans' legislation reform update [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### Good morning,

I am writing to provide you with an update on veterans' legislation reform, as you or your organisation have previously contributed to the consultation process or requested updates.

Parliament passed the Veterans' Entitlements, Treatment and Support (Simplification and Harmonisation) Act 2025 on 13 February 2025. The Act is the result of extensive consultation over the last three years and responds to the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide Interim report.

#### What will change?

From 1 July 2026, the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 (VEA) and Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation (Defence related claims) Act 1988 (DRCA) will close to new compensation claims and DVA will consider claims after that date under an improved Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004 (MRCA).

The VETS Act also establishes the Defence and Veterans' Service Commission; the independent oversight body recommended by the Royal Commission in its Final Report.

#### What will not change?

Importantly, the VETS Act does not change the existing arrangements for income support payments such as the Energy Supplement (ES), income Support Supplement (ISS), Service Pension (SP). Veterans with Qualifying Service will also continue to be eligible for the Gold Card at age 70. Existing Disability Compensation Payments will not be affected and will continue uninterrupted under the grandparenting arrangements.

#### Benefits of the new system

The changes will create a simpler system, making it easier for veterans and families to understand

their entitlements and receive the support they need, when they need it. Consolidating the legislation into one Act will also provide greater accessibility to rehabilitation and compensation entitlements and benefit veterans and families over time through claims being processed in a consistent and timely way.

Previously determined claims, except those relating to incapacity, will be grand parented under the Act they were approved under, so these changes will have no effect on your current payments. Veterans receiving incapacity payments will automatically transition to MRCA incapacity payments on the date of commencement. Information regarding transfer to MRCA incapacity payments can be found <u>Here</u>.

Most changes will not occur until 1 July 2026. This will allow veterans, families, and advocates time to familiarise themselves with the new system.

#### Where do I find out more?

A range of resources and scenarios can be found on the <u>Legislation Reform</u> pages on the DVA website (<u>www.dva.gov.au</u>). You may also wish to seek the advice of a compensation claims advocate.

You can keep updated via our website and social media. If you're not online, our hard-copy (and digital) newspaper <u>Vetaffairs</u> will keep you informed. You can subscribe to *e-news* or Vetaffairs on the <u>subscriptions page of the DVA web-</u> <u>site (www.dva.gov.au/vetaffairs-and-enews-</u> <u>subscriptions</u>).

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to the consultation process over the last few years.

Yours sincerely,

Legislative Reform Branch Policy Division Department of Veterans' Affairs <u>LEGISLATION.REFORM@dva.gov.au</u>

www.dva.gov.au



#### Australian Government

Department of Veterans' Affairs

To support those who serve or have served in the defence of our nation and commemorate their service and sacrifice.

### Joint communiqué - Veterans' Ministerial Council

#### Friday, 21 February 2025

#### Legislation Reform

Following the Parliament's recent passing of the VETS Act, the Council was advised that the Department of Veterans' Affairs is now working towards implementation. It has developed a communication and education plan, including a roadshow commencing next week, to make the veteran community aware of the changes and how they might be impacted when the Act takes effect as follows:

• New unified appeal process using the Veterans' Review Board from 21 April 2025;

• Statutory Defence & Veteran Service Commission from 29 September 2025; and

## All claims being processed through a single enhanced statutory regime from 1 July 2026.

#### Veterans' Acute Housing Program

Ministers were briefed on the \$30 million in grant funding recently awarded by the Australian Government under the Capital Works Grant and Specialist Services Grant streams of the Veterans' Acute Housing Program. A total of 8 grants were awarded under the \$24 million Capital Works Grant for the construction or purchase of crisis and transitional housing for veterans and families. A further 5 grants were awarded under the \$6 million Specialist Services Grant to assist organisations to deliver wrap-around services to address the risk factors for homelessness. Ministers welcomed the funding to assist those in the veteran community who are experiencing, or are at risk of, homelessness.

Ministerial attendees (all via video)

- Australian Government (Chair): The Hon Matt Keogh MP
- Australian Capital Territory: Suzanne Orr MLA
- New South Wales: The Hon David Harris MP
- Northern Territory: The Hon Jinson Charls MLA
- Queensland: Janelle Poole MP
- South Australia: The Hon Joe Szakacs MP
- Tasmania: The Hon Jacquie Petrusma MP
- Victoria: The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP
- Western Australia: Due to the WA State election, WA was represented by officials.

## **Updates to MyService**

#### 17 February 2025

MyService is the go-to platform for veterans and veteran families to carry out most of their DVA business online.

We've been listening to your feedback and working to make MyService even better. These updates are designed to make your experience smoother, faster and more intuitive.

Here's what's new:

- Booking transport to attend treatment: This enhancement is for Veteran Card holders with eligibility under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* who are 79 years or younger and have access to use the Booked Car with Driver service. The treatment location access criterion has been removed to make it easier to book transport to travel for treatment covered by their Veteran Card.
- Enhanced list of conditions: We updated the list of medical conditions for Initial Liability claims to better align with the Statements of Principles.
- Fix to Representation form processing: A system bug was preventing uploaded Nominated Representative request forms from reaching our processing systems. This meant we often had to ask clients or their representatives to provide another copy. The issue is now fixed. Our apologies to those who were inconvenienced by this.
- Improved readability: We've redesigned the Initial Liability screens to make them easier to read on mobile devices.
- A more unified look and feel: We've made navigation easier by continuing to improve the design of MyService.

For a detailed overview of how MyService can support you, including video tutorials and step-by-step instructions, visit the <u>MyService page</u>.



## What is an ACT Seniors Card?

The ACT Seniors Card is part of an Australia-wide scheme that recognises the valuable contribution of older people in their local community.

<u>COTA ACT</u> (Council of the Aging ACT) administers the ACT Seniors Card program on behalf of the ACT Government.

Permanent residents of Australia residing in the ACT aged 60 years or over who work less than 20 hours per week in paid employment can apply for an ACT Seniors Card. Eligibility is extended to those individuals awaiting outcome of a visa application under permanent Aged Parent Visa (subclass 804) or holding a temporary Retirement Visa (subclass 410). Please contact COTA ACT 02 6282 3777 or email seniorscard@cotaact.org.au to apply.

You can now apply for a senior's card by <u>completing an online form</u>. If filling out the online form is a problem you can <u>download a PDF</u> <u>copy here</u> to print and fill out yourself, or we can mail a hard copy of the form to you. You will then need to either post the completed form back to COTA ACT, Hughes Community Centre, 2 Wisdom Street, Hughes ACT 2605 or visit the COTA office at the Hughes Community Centre to drop it off and receive personal assistance.

The ACT Seniors Card is issued free and provides access to savings on a range of goods and services provided by participating businesses. A combination of government and private businesses make up the more than 500 participating organisations that provide a number of benefits and discounts on a wide range of goods and services. Business and services who offer discounts are listed in the Discount Directory

If you would like your business to participate in the Seniors Card program, please contact COTA ACT on 02 6282 3777 or email seniorscard@cotaact.org.au

# As of November 2024, ACT Seniors Cards are separate from Transport Canberra MyWay+ cards.

For information about obtaining a MyWay+ card

visit the <u>Transport Canberra website</u> or call Transport Canberra on 6207 7711.

Please retain your ACT Seniors Card to use as flash card to access discounts and concessions on local interstate transport.

#### This is the official ACT Seniors Card website.

There is no application fee to apply for an ACT Seniors Card, it is a free service provided by ACT Government to assist our senior community in accessing special offers, discounts, and concessions with their card.

If you require assistance with the application process, please contact the COTA ACT office on (02) 6282 3777 and the staff will assist you in completing the online form.





Hughes Community Centre, Wisdom Street, Hughes (next to Hughes shopping ctr)

🥒 (02) 6282 3777

≤ seniorscard@cotaact.org.au

## MyWay+ is here

#### FOR CLARIFICATION OF EARLIER ADVICE IF NEEDED

ACT Seniors are eligible for a free MyWay+ travel card, available from <u>MyWay+ retail outlets</u> or online through your <u>MyWay+ account</u>.

ACT Seniors cardholders are entitled to:

- o free travel for those over 70 at all times
- o free off-peak travel for those aged between 60-69 working less than 20 hours per week.

To be eligible for an ACT Seniors Card you must be:

- 60 years of age or older
- a permanent resident of Australia
- residing in the ACT and
- not be in paid employment for more than 20 hours per week.

For information on the ACT Seniors Card including applying for a new or replacement card visit the <u>ACT</u> <u>Seniors Card website</u>.

#### Changes to the combined ACT Seniors/TC MyWay card

The combined ACT Seniors/TC MyWay card can no longer be used for tapping on and off public transport. However, you should keep your ACT Seniors Card to continue accessing other benefits, such as discounts arranged through the Council on the Ageing (COTA) ACT. The only difference is that the TC MyWay side of the card will no longer work to tap on and tap off at the MyWay+ validators. ACT Seniors cardholders will still be entitled to the same concession travel discounts.



#### Transitioning to MyWay+

Until June 2025 ACT Seniors cardholders can use their Seniors Card as a flash card while travelling for free (60-69 year old during off peak times and 70 years and over at all times). After June 2025, all customers will be required to either create a <u>MyWay+ account</u> or use a MyWay+ travel card

#### NAA – ACT SECTION 79<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Held at the Eastlake Gungahlin Club on 7 March 2024

#### Meeting Opened.

The President declared the meeting open at 1337.

#### Present.

11 Members as listed in the Attendance book.

#### Apologies.

Apologies received are listed in Attendance book.

#### Minutes of 78<sup>th</sup> AGM.

The minutes of the 78<sup>th</sup> AGM held on 2 March 2023 were detailed in the April 2023 and March 2024 Bosuns' Call. These were taken as read.

Motion: The minutes of the 78<sup>th</sup> AGM be accepted.

Moved: Stewart Gordon Seconded: Rex Kendall Carried.

Business arising from minutes of 78<sup>th</sup> AGM.

Nil.

Reports. President: See Attachment A Secretary. See Attachment B Treasurer Membership Registrar See Attachment D

#### **Appointment of Honorary Members**

In accordance with constitutional requirements, the following are to be appointed Honorary Members for 2024:

The Honourable Sir William Deane, Patron VADM M. Hammond, RAN, Chief of Navy CAPT K. Quarderer USN CAPT B. O'Hara RAN, Commanding Officer, HMAS Canberra CAPT B. Gerritsen, RNZN CMDR M. Magzoub, RN CMDR M. Collinson RNZN Mr M. Anderson, Director AWM Mrs M. Hare

Motion: The above named persons be appointed Honorary Members for 2024.

Moved: Alaric O'Neill Seconded: Stewart Gordan Carried

#### **Election of Office Bearers**

The President declared all committee positions vacant. The nominations forwarded to the Secretary matched the vacant positions and thus there was no need for an election. Stewart Gordon and Joe Slaats declined nominations to committee positions due to forthcoming commitments. They were thanked for their contributions to the committee. The President duly declared the nominated persons elected to the positions as listed:

President David Manolas

Vice President Alex McGown Secretary Alan Masters Treasurer Alaric O'Neill Committee Peter Cooke-Russell, Dennis Lyons, Bev Joce.

#### Appointment of Auditor.

As explained by Peter Cooke-Russell, the ACT Incorporations Act has been amended to state that an audit of the Section's accounts is no longer required and therefore the appointment of an auditor is no longer required.

#### Next AGM.

The next AGM will be held on 6 March 2025.

There being no other business the President closed the meeting at 1415.

Secretary

Alan Masters

NAA(ACT)

Attachments to Minutes President's Report Secretary's Report Treasurer's Report

Membership Registrar's Report

#### Attachment A to Minutes of Annual General Meeting for the ACT Section of the Naval Association of Australia

ACT Section President's Report for 2024 AGM 7 March 2024

The NAA ACT Section remains a vibrant and welcoming environment in which to interact with fellow members. Whilst member attendance and participation numbers remain generally stable, we are always delighted to welcome new members to our Section. At our 2024 AGM it was again most encouraging to see others so willingly taking up the opportunity to join the Committee. Our participation in the Australian War Memorial's (AWM) Last Post Ceremony remains a key component of the Section's commemorative endeavours, under the stewardship of Mr Alex McGown, our Section Vice President. That and the HMAS Canberra Memorial Service in August each year, constitute our principle commemorative events. This year we will welcome new Naval and Defence Attachés from the RAN, RN, USN, RAAF, RNZN, and Government Representatives to the memorial service in August.

On Anzac Day 2024, we were delighted to be able to march-past on the new AWM Parade Ground. The progress being made to refurbish and expand the display spaces is most impressive and speaks well for what will emerge at the end of this work.

There is much we can all look forward to in our collective enterprises and ongoing efforts to watch over

#### NAA – ACT SECTION 79<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Held at the Eastlake Gungahlin Club on 7 March 2024

the needs of our members and those serving, and the enjoyment and life enriching benefits inherent in *'naval fellowship'*.

I wish all within the ACT Section every joy and happiness in the coming year and extend my congratulations to the incoming Section Committee. It has been a privilege to serve with all within the Section throughout the year, and I thank you for the opportunity to fulfil the role of Section President for another year.

Yours aye,

Manolas

David Manolas ACT Section President

Attachment B to Minutes of Annual General Meeting for the ACT Section of the Naval Association of Australia

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT for the year ending 31 December 2023

Administration of the business of the Section basically remains constant from year to year. It requires, for the most part, regular attention to the numerous e-mails, not all of which require an action and most of which are initiated by the National Council. I have been ably supported by other committee members and especially Peter Cooke-Russell for his wonderful support. His knowledge of the machinations of the NAA serves the section well and his editorship of the Bosun's Call, with the inclusion of useful DVA news and the minutes of our section meetings, reduces the secretary's workload.

The replacement of committee members is perhaps our biggest challenge and one that is probably shared by many other NAA Sections and Sub-sections. This report may well be my penultimate report, if not my last. I certainly will not be secretary in 2025 and I look forward to someone from our younger shipmates to step up to the committee roles. A good start is to learn the ropes as an assistant to an executive committee member.

Alan F Masters Secretary

Attachment C to Minutes of 78<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of ACT Section of Naval Association of Australia held on 2 March 2023

TREASURER's Report for the year ending

31 December 2023

The state of the Section's finances remains sound despite a loss being recorded again. The

income is solely from subscriptions and donations and with a declining membership and rising expenditures avoidance of an operating loss is challenging. Capitation payments to the National Council are mandatory and the only discretionary expenditure relates to our donations to selected charities. The loss this year came in at \$370 and is manageable now. Full details of the financial transactions are detailed in the following reports.

#### Finance

#### Annex D to Minutes of 78<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of ACT Section of Naval Association of Australia held on 2 March 2023

#### MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR's Report for year ending 31 December 2024

#### Membership Registrar

The Section ended the year with 67 members, made up of

- 54 full members,
  - 9 Honorary members
  - 2 Club members, and
  - 2 Honorary Life Members.

Six members crossed the bar, 5 were archived and one member was transferred to a Queensland Sub-section. The trend is downward for membership numbers, a phenomenon common to many organisations but six new members were enrolled.

Peter Cooke-Russell Membership Registrar

# 2025 Annual General Meeting

### Agenda 6 March 2025

The 2025 AGM will be held on 6 March 2025 at the Eastlakes Football Club, Gungahlin commencing at approximately 1430.

#### AGM Agenda

Minutes of the 2024 AGM were published in the June 2024 Bosun's Call and are repeated in this issue on pages 8 and 9.

The agenda for the 2025 AGM is as follows.

#### MINUTES

Acceptance of the Minutes of the 79th AGM

#### **BUSINESS ARISING**

Business arising from the minutes of the 79th AGM

**Committee Member REPORTS** 

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Election of Honorary Members for 2024 Appointment of Auditor Election of Office Bearers for 2024

# **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



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NAA AU Section	Subscription and records opuate 2023
Nomination Form	Annual Subscription for 2025 <b>\$40.00</b> (Due now)
<b>2025 Committee Elections</b>	Surname
Docition	Given Names
	Signature
Nominee	Please complete the following details to bring our rec-
Proposer: Name (Block Letters)	ords up to date Preferred TitlePost Nominals
Signature	Home Address
Seconder: Name (Block Letters)	Town/SuburbState/Territory
Signature	Post Code
Date:	Telephoner (H)
	Fax
Endorsement by Nominee	Email
Nominations are to be delivered to	Spouse/Partner Given Name
The Secretary, s NAA ACT Section	Note When completed please return this form together with
not less than 7 days before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting to take place; ie by 1.30 pm Thursday 27 February 2025	your payment to; The Membership Registrar, either at a General meeting or by post to
	4 McEachern Crescent MELBA 2615 or pay via the ebank- ing system to Nav Direct transfer of funds to the NAA (ACT Sec- tion). transfer funds to Naval Association of Australia –ACT Section Account BSB: 633 000 Account Number 162 834 097

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## Minutes of NAA (ACT) General Meeting held at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 6 February 2025

**Meeting started** at 1330 with the Odes recited by David Manolas.

**Present:** 18 members and four visitors as per attendance book. **Apologies:** J Small, M. Hardwick, G. Quinn

**Minute of Last Meeting.** The minutes of the General meeting on 7 November 2024 appeared in the February 2025 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 7 November 2024 be accepted. Moved: Peter Cooke-Russell Seconded: D. Lyons Carried.

#### Reports..

- **President.** The President advised members that CN had sought NAA approval for the use of its logo by the South Sydney NRL team. Approval was granted. CN has given approval for NAA to use the naval Ensign at NAA endorsed functions.
- Vice President. Attended KOC meeting and gained advice that a new Veteran's lounge would be opened in the Canberra Hospital for use by friends of veterans in hospital. KOC is seeking funding . Ceremonies will be held during the year to commemorate action in Malaysia and Korea. Legacy is now helping those veterans in dire trouble and Legal Aid is available to assist veterans. A Last Post service in June features a naval veteran.
- Secretary. Business as usual.
- **Treasurer**. The financial report has been completed and will be delivered at the AGM
- **Membership.** On 1 February we had 37 full financial members with 16 still to renew their membership. With Club and Restricted and Honorary members our total membership is 67. Honorary members for 2025 will be appointed at the AGM.

Welfare. Nil to report.

**Social**. Fish'nChips has resumed at the Canberra Yacht Club – see BC for details.

Motion: The reports be received by members present.

Moved. Alaric O'Neill Seconded: Harry Beardsell Carried

#### General Business:

- The President will be absent until end of March.
- Nominations for executive and committee positions are sought, and nomination forms are in the BC.

Ideas are sought for ways of providing more activities for members including some to be part of the monthly get togethers.

#### Close of Meeting.

The meeting closed at 1402.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, 6 March 2025 at 1330 at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club followed by the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting.

Alan Masters Secretary / Treasurer NAA (ACT)

#### Notes from Committee Meeting 6 February 2025 Held at Eastlakes Gungahlin Club

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

Apology: Nil

Discussions focused on:

the agenda for the General Meeting.

- An invitation from the Naval Historical Society of Australia to attend a get together with other naval veterans in Canberra,
- A letter from the son of a veteran seeking support for a name change to Blamey Place, Campbell, ACT,t
- The Treasurer's financial report for year ending 31 December 2024.

**Next Meeting.** The next meeting will be at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 6 March 2025 at 1100.

Alan Masters Secretary / Treasurer NAA (ACT

#### \$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.
- 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.
- 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 CON-TACT DETAILS SUCH AS HOME ADDRESS, E-MAIL ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS PLEASE ADVISE THE MEMBERSHIP REGIS-TRAR.

## Social Trogram

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

#### 2025

20 Mar	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
17 Apr	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
15 May	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
19 Jun	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
3 Jul	Xmas in July Place to be advised
17 Jul	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: <u>1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372)</u>

International callers:

+61 2 6289 1133

## POSTAL ADDRESS FOR ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES: D

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#### CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT

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



## A Happy Birthday to you March 2025

Heather Milward

John Small

Jack Aaron

## NB

## Annual General Meeting 6 March 2025 Approx 1415 Eastlakes Football Club, Gungahlin



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