

# Once Navy



# Always Navy

Letter to members from the National President

1/2018

PO Box 3362,  
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Welcome to the new year and an opportunity to make a difference. Members eager to step up to the plate, now is the time as we need your energy, optimism and above all your enthusiasm. Many are happy to rest on their laurels, others silently eager to have a go - irrespective of your intentions, do your best to support any change that has the best interests of the NAA, that is Naval Service and Ex-Service men and women at heart. Try not to unwittingly diminish the efforts of others who are endeavouring to improve the work of the NAA. We are commencing a review of our Rules, structure and processes to determine if we can make ourselves more effective. Progress reports will be made available, take note of correspondence received by your Sub-section!

**CARE.** There is considerable effort required to sort out where the focus of the NAA will provide the best outcome for those folk that need our support. We have work to do with respect to knowing the extent of our interaction on matters of compensation and welfare. The changes initiated by DVA, are moving very quickly and we are lagging behind. Most of our volunteers, who have made a considerable contribution, in some cases over decades have rescinded from active welfare & compensation support. It is apparent that we need a strategy, a simple plan to achieve our stated objectives. We have several very well meaning folk attending DVA forums on our behalf and what we need is a means of learning about issues relevant to Serving Navy and ex-Navy men and women. At the moment, much of this support is diverted to the RSL or other Ex-Service Organisations. Is this to be the extent of our effort, our principle of care? If so, then the 'Rules' need to be amended. If we are serious about our current purpose, we need members capable of that support to step up and be counted. Do you know such a person, encourage them to be more active - how else will the NAA contribute?

**COMMEMORATION.** The next meaningful event is the loss of HMAS Voyager, 10FEB18.

**CADETS.** CDRE Mark Hill CSC RANR, DG Cadets & Reserves has an interest in how the NAA intends to support Cadets. Request Cadets to attend commemoration services!

**CAMARADERIE.** No doubt Christmas and the New Year have provided plenty of scope for members to socialise and most importantly ensure our shipmates are okay.

**GENERAL.** Do not forget we have a facebook page and twitter account, each provides a means of keeping abreast of important activities. We are also progressing the website software program, likely to be in place during the second quarter of this year. It will be important that members have access to a computer. These days if there is a library within your area, then you have access to a computer - you just need to make an effort! Members need access to information, be wary of how much is filtered out in the name of efficiency - it is important that all members have a handle on what the NAA is about.

Yours aye, *Ferry Makings*

8JAN18

ps: *Have you visited our website lately, also try facebook!*