**REPORT TO NATIONAL COUNCIL**

**VIC\_V00 VICTORIAN SECTION COUNCIL 2023**

This report covers the period 01 January to May 2023.

There is much to achieve during 2023 enabled by the resolutions made at the Victorian Section Council meetings. 2023 is a year of implementation and progress. The Executive meet in February 2023 to organise the Council and Annual General Meeting agendas. The Victorian Council delegates postponed the scheduled Annual General Meeting date until a future date in May 2023.

The Section Executive members, along with representatives from other Ex-service Organisations, attended the HMAS CERBERUS Open Day on 19 March 2023 that highlighted the results of the $500 million redevelopment. Attendees witnessed training simulators designed to provide a real-life feel to training scenarios such as firefighting and damage control, survival at sea, and weapons training quality exhibits open throughout the day and a Ceremonial Sunset end the day’s proceedings. The CERBERUS Command expected 20 000 visitors through the establishment during the day. Sunraysia, South- Western, Box Hill and members from two South Australian Sub-sections attended the day. These Sub-sections received funding from State agencies to reduce out-of-pocket expenses for vehicle hire and other logistic requirements. Esprit de Corps improved as a direct result of Sub-section interaction. The Victorian Section used the Open Day to promote and recruit to the NAA. Council delegates distributed leaflets, funded by the Melbourne Naval Committee, to the unwary soles who ventured too close to the ESO exhibit. The NAA Executive targeted the Senior Sailor, the Junior Officer and Junior Sailor as these people are the future of the NAA. Hundreds of leaflets were handed out during the day.

Two members of the Victorian Council attend a Strategic Grants delivered workshop to enable the Council to establish sustainable, cost-effective grant-seeking strategies to deliver projects that fulfill the NAA organisational missions. Additionally, Victorian Executive members will attend a Zoom training session organised by the Australian Charities Not for Profit Commission, on 03 May 2023. This training will highlight the legal duties of Not-for-Profit Committee members, Directors, and Office holders.

Raised and released by:

**Graham G. Thomas**

**Victorian Section President**

23 April 2023