02/05/2023

Victoria Section

Patron in Chief: His Majesty the King

My first year as Secretary of the Victorian Section has been busy and a huge learning curve. So many things to learn, lot’s of highs and lows.

CARE

Membership is still dwindling as aged members cross the bar and new membership is not keeping up. I attended the funeral for David Dwyer and Alan Garwood during 2022 both services had Naval Tributes and were very well attended by section members, I also attended Laurie Pegler’s wife’s funeral in November . The following list is sub-section VALE’s for 2022

FRANKSTON - Fiona Scott, David Dwyer

FOOTSCRAY - Harry Fennell Douglas Boydle

SOUTH WESTERN - Ross Martin, Win Leslie (Club)

BOX HILL - Walter Stuart, James Paizis

The NAA website dashboard is not a true reflection of current membership and as of today 2/05/23 is only showing 155 fully paid members, partners, and club members. The website will be seeing a great change in the next 18 months as they bring it up to a new version and becomes more real time for all sub sections.

COMMEMORATION

ANZAC Day 2022 was the first time I had marched in Melbourne and I did so behind the NAA banner. Following this we went to the St Kilda RSL where we were well looked after and they had a free sausage sizzle. In March I attended the Battle of Sunda Strait Commemoration service at the Shrine. All commemoration events were well attended by members of the NAA. December would have been a busy month if I hadn’t contracted COVID.

CAMARADERIE

From the sub section reports that are received each month, they are all getting together on a regular basis both socially and at meetings. I had the pleasure of attending the SW Section Annual Dinner together with the President and Naval Officer Commanding Victoria CDRE Greg Yorke and their partners in August 2022. The Guest Speaker was CMDR Ali Withers who is the CO for Recruit School at HMAS Cerberus. Her speech was passionate and the love for her job was obvious in her speech about the lives of recruits and their first days in the Navy.

CADETS

Sub sections are working with Cadets, in the areas that have them currently. Melbourne Sub Section had the pleasure of attending passing out parades.

S Farlie