



Patron in Chief: Her Majesty the Queen

# NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

National President Letter to Members - 5/2019

As we press on with 2019 it will soon be time to contemplate our achievements so far this year. A number of objectives were agreed to by the National Council, each considered as beneficial to the Association and worthy of being progressed during this calendar year. Each Sub-section needs to measure their progress against each of the objectives. If necessary, please go to our website and appraise yourself on what the National Council think is important to our future. One matter of concern is our ability to make best use of the website software. Each Section and their Sub-sections have an Administrator, this role is to enable members to discuss and learn how to use the system to best advantage. Section Administrators are particularly crucial to this role, they need to be able to explain and demonstrate how the system works to Sub-section Administrators. Every Administrator needs to be sufficiently up to speed to maximise the benefit to their respective members and the Association generally. Benefits at hand include payment of subscriptions through the website. Subscription payments should ideally be made through the website, using PayPal. For some this is a stretch, a simple bank transfer is the next option using a 'reference number' available through the website. Log in, go to 'Subscribe to Naval Association', click 'Renew Membership', then scroll down to see the block with the reference number. The reference number is the unique identifier to ensure we track any payments made. We are discouraging the use of cheques due to the manual effort required and difficulty in tracking payments. We are also very keen to hear from anyone with any administration skills willing to assist with the membership register. Much of the work updating data associated with every member is related to the website, however, there is also an off-line data base that complements the website. Repeat - if you think you can help and have the time, we need you - so please let us know.

👑 CARE: The matter of care remains a crucial commitment, working with the Alliance of Defence Organisations (ADSO) has proved most beneficial over the past year. Much of this work has been aimed at various studies and reviews directly aimed at DVA, the outcomes are yet to be realised. We presume most are aware of the Veterans' card.


👑 COMMEMORATION. Battle of the Coral Sea occurred in May 1942, the Battle was a strategic turning point in WWII. It was the first time the Imperial Japanese Force had encountered resistance, arresting their advance. It was also the first time a sea battle had occurred where no visual contact was made between the surface warships. Services to commemorate this significant event have occurred already in several states, a service has been arranged by Stanthorpe Sub-section for Saturday, 25MAY19.

👑 CADETS. ANCCadets have been active in support of the Battle of the Coral Sea Services. Their participation is welcomed and in some cases they are the only 'uniformed' presence. Support of ANC is encouraged wherever an ANC Training Ship is within close proximity to a Sub-section.

👑 CAMARADERIE. Now that we have passed 30APR, quite a few Shipmates are now unfinancial. No doubt they intend to remain Shipmates, however, a reminder is in order so they don't just drift away. We need to keep the pressure on recruiting as well. All of us need to rise to the occasion, soliciting any potential Shipmate whenever you meet someone entitled to join the team. Arrival of a new Shipmate should be heartily welcomed into the Sub-section.

👑 Next year is our centenary, the National Council resolved that each State Section is to arrange a major event to mark the occasion. A state located event is to enable every Shipmate to participate. There will also be an opportunity to involve local Navy resources, this will assist in highlighting our profile within Navy. If you have an idea that may assist in making these events more appealing, please make your proposal known to your own Sub-section in the first instance. If they support your idea, then urge the Executive to forward it to the State Council. Planning needs to commence now so that we maximise the profile of the Association within the wider Veteran community as well as in Navy.

👑 Some of our Shipmates, stalwarts of the Association, have yet to be recognised for their extraordinary effort. Have a look around and if you think someone should be formally recognised, then please make it known.

*Yours age,*  


Terry Makings

7MAY19