

The Bosun's Call



Vol 25 No 11

Once Navy, Always Navy

December 2020

20 November 2020—NAA 100th Anniversary National Commemoration at the Australian War Memorial Canberra



Above: National President David Manolas lays the NAA wreath at the AWM To his left is CMDR David Salisbury RN, Naval Attaché to the British High Commission

Right: RADM Colin Lawrence laying a wreath on behalf of the Chief of Navy

Photos AWM/Flickr





Events coming up Last Post Ceremony AB Edward Sheean VC HMAS Armidale David Manolas to lay wreath Christmas Lunch Bus trip to Junee

Last Post Ceremony CAPT Frank Getting RAN HMAS Canberra



Newsletter of the ACT Section of the Naval Association of Australia

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Naval Association of Australia

ACT Section

Patron The Hon Sir William Deane AC KBE

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General Meetings Dates and Locations Programme

If the pandemic restrictions are not recycled the following program is be followed:

2021

4 Feb Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
4 Mar Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
AGM immediately afterwards	
1 AprEastlakes 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.

President's Note

Dear Members,

It was my privilege to provide the Address at our Association's Centenary Service in the grounds of the Australian War Memorial (AWM).

Given the restrictions imposed because of Covid-19, the presence of Government and Opposition Representatives, Rear Admiral С. Lawrence AM RAN. representing the Chief of Navy, CO Naval Harman. Attachés. NAA Representatives, ex-Service Association Representatives, a Navy Band Brass Quintet and Vocalist. Navy Chaplain and the Australian War Memorial Director and Staff, ensured the proceedings were a truly memorable celebration of our Centenary.

My best wishes to you all, David Manolas





NAA Centenary 20 November 2020 - Wreath Laying Service

National President – Address



Before us we see: A Sailor's Cap, symbolic of our Members, those serving in the Navy and Naval Veterans; the Counterpane is symbolic of those who are now at rest; and, the Bosun's Call symbolises the heralding of a New Day.

We are gathered here today to celebrate the Centenary of the Naval Association of Australia.

We salute all those who have served our nation as members of the Royal Australian Navy; those whose grave is the cruel sea, wherein the Naval Ode speaks so emotively of their resting place in the depths of the oceans beyond our reach. We salute those who, on returning from war service at sea and ashore, found their lives impacted so harshly by the effects of war. To them all, we are much indebted for the price paid for our freedom.

Our Association exists in order to safeguard their legacy and to minister to the wellbeing and recognition of the naval veteran; those who have completed their naval service and those still serving.

At the passing of one of our members we offer an 'Ode to The Naval Veteran':

In Naval service their duty done At sea and ashore in peace and in war Wounds seen and unseen, deeds known and unknown Now at rest we pray, the memories with us stay

Within the Naval Association of Australia, we are told that a chance meeting of former WWI shipmates in Melbourne in 1920, led to the establishment of an Association that would evolve into the only national organisation solely committed to watching over the interests of Serving and ex-Navy men and women here in Australia. We can look to the Royal Naval Association, with whom we share the motto: 'Once Navy, Always Navy', the Royal New Zealand Naval Association and the Association of the United States Navy, to see comparable examples of like-minded shipmates with whom we share an ethos borne 'in service at sea and ashore, in peace and in war'.

Our 2,860 members in 76 Sections and Sub-sections across Australia, afford each other companionship and support through naval fellowship. We gather together freely: each of equal standing; all with a story to tell of life in the Navy and beyond; a desire to watch out for our members and their loved ones; and, a generosity of spirit welcoming all who wish to join us. Our members actively participate in the full range of national and naval commemorative services where we serve to bear witness and to act as a rallying point for non-aligned naval veterans. We are the custodians of a wealth of naval experience and historic narrative, numerous collections of naval memorabilia and are entrusted with the oversight of a number of Memorials and Commemorative Services. As staunch supporters of our Parent Service, we advocated for an Annual Navy Day. The aim being to provide the wider community with an appreciation of the role and importance of

NAA Centenary 20 November 2020 - National President Address

a strong and capable Navy. The first Australian Navy Day was conducted in October, 1966.

Our membership actively contributes to the preservation of the Australian Defence Force legacy and the wellbeing of serving and ex-service personnel, through membership of other groups and associations such as the: Naval Historical Society; Navy League; numerous ship associations; the WRANS and Naval Women's Association; the RSL; Vietnam Veterans Associations; and, a number of Veteran Support Organisations. We are active participants in ex-service consultative and advocacy groups; a foundation member of The Alliance of Defence Service Organisations; and a participant in the Ex-Service Organisation Round Table Forum. Looking to the wellbeing of future generations, our Australian Navy Cadet Liaison Officers are forging closer ties with Cadet Units nation-wide through sponsorship and other support initiatives.

We are proud of these and other achievements wherein:

- the Naval Association was successful in seeking parity for repatriation benefits and entitlements awarded to their Army and Air Force colleagues who had served in Malaya as part of the Far East Strategic Reserve during 1955 – 1960;
- we were successful in having the names of the two Sailors killed while serving in RAN Ships in Malayan waters and the four Sailors who lost their lives in WWII Mine Clearance Operations off the Australian Coast in 1947, inscribed on the Honour Roll in the AWM;
- our efforts were successful in having the risks of asbestosis recognised as being a long-term health risk to sailors living and working beyond the confines of ships' machinery spaces, as asbestos lagging material was used throughout those ships of an earlier era;
- efforts by members of our Association in demonstrating the potential exposure to dioxins through potable water produced by ship's evaporative distillation during the Vietnam War, was of immeasurable benefit to many of the 9,800 RAN personnel who had served in the Vietnam Logistic Support and Escort role and have had to deal with the unforeseen adverse health outcomes; and,
- we, along with so many others, were of firm resolve as to the awarding of a Victoria Cross to Teddy Sheean. This award earned in time of war will soon join the George Cross awarded to Chief Petty Officer Jonathon Rogers DSM, the Coxswain in HMAS Voyager, when the Navy suffered its largest loss of life in peace time. Acts of exemplary courage whilst in naval service 'in peace and in war'.

At a time when we again need to recognise that so many of our Service men and women are bearing wounds that are not necessarily readily apparent, we are encouraged to see that treatment for life threatening conditions such as Cancer and PTSD are now more readily available.

In our veteran's wellbeing endeavours, we are so admirably supported by those who step up to act as advocates. They are worthy of our wholehearted admiration and boundless gratitude as it is through their efforts that many veterans have achieved lifechanging and life-giving support. We are blessed in our nation to have the means and inherent mechanisms to provide such support to our veterans, and for that we give thanks, while remaining ever vigilant in watching over its application.

May I take this opportunity to express my appreciation and admiration of all that our Members and Office Bearers have done during their 'Posting' to the Association. As a core element of the Australian Navy Family you have all shown your commitment to evolve and adapt, for here we are at our Centenary, and still making every effort to fulfil our mission. It is through your resolve to 'turn-to' and 'to stand your watch' that we are still fulfilling this vital role in the wider Naval Community. It is with heartfelt regret that we cannot gather here in the numbers we would wish, but we can all proudly share in our ongoing story and in celebrating our achievements. We can look ahead with optimism and a renewed determination as we emerge from this 'make and mend' period, well placed to sail on onwards.

From your Leadership Team, a Bravo Zulu to you all!



David Manolas delivering the address AWM/Flickr

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NAA Centenary 20 November 2020 _ Canberra

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Right: L-R CN Rep RADM Colin Lawrence, National Vice President Lorraine Grey, National President David Manolas, Past ACT Presidents JJ Harrison and Peter Cooke-Russell

Below: JJ Harrison with RADM Colin Lawrence comparing naval Technical Services

Below right: L-R ACT War Widows Guild President Dr Kathrine Spurling and ACT WRANS and Navy Women Association President Pauline Gribble

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AWM/Flickr

Below: L-R National Vice President Lorraine Grey, New Zealand Defence Attaché CAPT Shaun Fogarty RNZN, National President David Manolas, Director Australian War Memorial Matt Anderson, United States Naval Attaché CAPT Matt Ort USN AWM/Flickr



Remembrance Day 2020—Australian War Memorial



National President NAA David Manolas with Air Force Association National Vice President Sharon Bown laying their wreaths at the Australian War Memorial Canberra service

AWM/Flickr

Last Post Ceremony AWM—HMAS Sydney II - LSTD Bettinson



World War II Commemoration Medallion

Left: Lionel Mead receiving the World War II Commemorative Medallion. Lionel joined the RAN from Queensland on 30 December 1942 trained in gunnery and joined HMAS Shropshire on her commissioning in the United Kingdom in March 1943. He also served at sea in HMAS Kybra a coastal Patrol vessel. Originally a Queensland Public Servant, Lionel transferred to the Commonwealth Public Service on discharge from the RAN in December 1945 and was the QLD DVA Deputy Commissioner prior to retirement. Lionel joined Sydney/Country Sub-section of he NAA in June 1982 transferring to the ACT Section in November 2005.





Right: Roy (Tim) Holt receiving his. He entered the RAN in November 1945 joining HMAS Hobart in April 1946 on completion of his gunnery training. He was rated a Leading Patrolman in November 1955 rising to the rating of Master at Arms in June 1968.and later served in HMAS Harman until discharge in July 1973. Tim joined the NAA in November 1981 and was an inaugural member of the Bribie Island Sub-section in Queensland. He transferred to the ACT Section in May 2016.

Photos John Small



Ex-Navalmens' Association Smoke Night Manchester Unity Hall Melbourne 16 July 1925

Table Talk magazine July 1925

Change of Command at Fleet Headquarters

In a small but poignant ceremony on board HMAS *Brisbane*, Rear Admiral Jonathan Mead, AO, RAN hauled down his flag and passed the weight as Commander Australian Fleet to his successor, Rear Admiral Mark Hammond, RAN.

The Sydney Harbour ceremony was attended by a limited group of guests including family members and members of the Fleet Senior Leadership Group.

Since Rear Admiral Mead took the helm in January 2018, the Fleet has welcomed three new Hobart- Class destroyers, and the Mid-Life Capability upgrades for the Anzac Class frigates has begun.

Overall, fleet units are spending increasing numbers of sea days deployed into the Indo-Pacific region.

Joint and coalition activities have become the norm for the Australian Fleet, which has conducted an increased number of engagements with regional navies under Rear Admiral Mead.

Along with the Fleet responsiveness to Operation BUSHFIRE ASSIST and the new reality of enduring operations in the COVID-19 environment, the Fleet looks and operates in a significantly different manner than it did three years ago.

"Serving in this position has been an honour and a valuable education. It is a truly exciting time to be part of Navy," Rear Admiral Mead said.



three new Hobart- Class de- Rear Admiral Mark Hammond, AM, RAN, left, receives the weight of command stroyers, and the Mid-Life Ca- from Rear Admiral Jonathan Mead, AO, RAN aboard HMAS Brisbane at anchor in pability upgrades for the Anzac Sydney Harbour.

"My goals in my tenure were to generate forces, deploy forces and to be prepared to fight. We have made great strides in these areas.

"I have learned so much from the sailors and officers I have worked with these last few years and I leave this position with the utmost respect for the resilience, professionalism and agility of our Navy people.

Rear Admiral Mead will be promoted to Vice Admiral and appointed as Chief of Joint Capability.

Rear Admiral Hammond assumes Command of Her Majesty's Australian Fleet having previously served as Deputy Chief of Navy.

Imagery is available on the Navy Image Gallery: <u>https://images.navy.gov.au/S20203678</u>.



Published on 17 November 2020 LEUT Tanalee Smith (author), ABIS Daniel Goodman (photographer), ABIS Leon Dafonte Fernandez (photographer)

Rear Admiral Jonathan Mead, AO, RAN farewells HMAS Brisbane's ship's company during a 'cheer ship' after completing the handover of command of the Australian Fleet in Sydney Harbour.

Bus Trip to Junee—9 December 2020

As COVID-19 has subsided to an almost zero level in Australia and there are still funds available to use from the DVA grant, we have booked a coach to take us to Junee on 9 December 2020. The first pick-up will be from the rear carpark of the Burns Club, 28 Kett Street, Kambah (rear of the club) at 0800. The coach will then do a second pick-up at the Veterans Support Centre at 9 Burkitt Street Page, at 0830.

We hope to arrive at Harden-Murrumburrah by about 1015. We will visit the "Bill the Bastard" workshop, a life sized bronze statue of the great horse. The history of Bill and the making of the statue will be presented by the artist who sculpted the statue, Carl Valerius.

Carl Valerius is no stranger to what many in his field would call difficult. The lifelong stonemason and sculptor doesn't shy away from his work. The 71 year old has spent the past few months crafting the masterpiece of Bill and his five riders. Carl will turn 72 on 9 August. His wife Faye said "He is supposed to be retired but he is doing it for the soldiers and their memory; he is doing it for the love of it."

The First Light Horse Regiment was formed in Harden on the 30th August 1897. When the walers were being selected in 1914 for the 2nd Light Horse Regiment, Bill was one of them. He was massive, 730kg and 17 hands high. He had power, intelligence and unmatched courage. In performance and character, he stood above all the other 200,000 Australian horses sent to the Middle East in the Great War. But as war horses go, he had one serious problem. No one could ride him but one man, Major Michael Shanahan. Some even thought that Bill took a sneering pleasure in watching would-be riders hit the dust. Bill's heroic efforts and excep-

tional instincts in battle saved the lives of Shanahan and four other soldiers, carrying them to safety, at the same time, whilst under fire from the Turks.

By September 1918, "Bill the Bastard" was known by the entire Light Horse regiment, who used his name not as an insult, but as a term of endearment. Bill had become a legend, a symbol of the courage and unbreakable will of the ANZAC mounted force.

We will need to leave Harden-Murrumburrah at 1115 to arrive at the Junee Ex-Services club by about 1215 for lunch. At 1345 we will head to the Licorice Factory to purchase licorice and/or chocolate confectionery. At the time of writing, the factory will not be open for tours.

The coach will leave for Page at about 1415, stopping for a comfort break along the way, arriving about 1700 and then on to the Burns Club.

There will be no charge for the coach. You will need to pay for your own food and drinks.

If you would like a seat on the coach, please contact Tiger Lyons no later than close of business 29 November 2020 by email to <u>dlyo.6547@bigpond.com</u> or give him a ring on 0447793001, stating the following details for each passenger:

Name:

Contact phone number:

Pick-up point:

Organisation:

Kind regards

Tiger (Dennis) Lyons mobile. 0447793001.



Community Bus Services

The Community Bus Service is proudly funded by the ACT Government and operated by the ACT's Regional Community Services. They provide flexible Bus Services for ACT residents, Monday to Friday, generally within their own regional area. Pickup and set down points can be negotiated when making a booking.

The community bus service is for people who are socially isolated because a lack of transport options. Some of the people who may be eligible to use the service may include:

- Seniors with mobility or confidence problems
- People living in nursing homes/retirement facilities
- People with a permanent or temporary disability
- People with health problems who cannot use regular Transport Canberra bus services
- People who are eligible for HACC transport but cannot access them for various reasons e.g. cannot self transfer
- Carers accompanying a person described above
- Parents with young children who are socially isolated and lack transport options
- People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds who lack support networks and have limited transport options

Contact your Regional Community Service for an assessment and to register to use this service. They can provide you with details on how to make a booking, any associated costs and answer any further questions you may have.



Regional Community Services

Belconnen Community Service 26 Chandler Street, Belconnen, ACT 2616 Phone: (02) 6278 8124 Email: transport@bcsact.com.au

Communities@Work Gungahlin

Gungahlin Community Centre 47 Ernest Cavanagh Street Gungahlin, ACT, 2912 Phone: (02) 6126 9090 Email: transport@commsatwork.org

Northside Community Service

Majura Community Centre, Rosevear Place, Dickson, ACT 2602 Phone: (02) 6171 8000 Email: <u>reception@northside.asn.au</u>

Community Services #1

63 Boolimba Crescent, Narrabundah, ACT 2604 Phone: (02) 6126 4700 Email: <u>bus@sscs.org.au</u>

Tuggeranong and Communities@Work 245 Cowlishaw Street Greenway ACT, 2900 Phone: (02) 6293 6500

Email: transport@commsatwork.org



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Annual Subscription for 2021 \$38.00 (Due now)	Nomination Form
Surname	2021 Committee Elections
Given Names	Position
Signature	
Please complete the following details to bring our rec-	Nominee
ords up to date	Proposer: Name (Block Letters)
Preferred TitlePost Nominals	Circumotiumo
Home Address	
Town/SuburbState/Territory	
Post Code	Signature
Telephoner (H)	Date:
Fax	
Email	Endorsement by Nominee
Spouse/Partner Given Name	Nominations are to be delivered to
Note When completed places within this form together with	The Secretary, s NAA ACT Section
your payment to; The Membership Registrar, either at a General meeting or by post to	not less than 7 days before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting to take place; ie by 1.30 pm Thursday 25 February 2020
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	

Minutes of NAA (ACT) General Meeting 5 November 2020 held at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club

The meeting started at 1330 with the Odes recited by David Manolas.

Present: 15 members as per attendance book.

- **Apologies:** Don and Bev Joce, John Coombe, Bob Ray, Doug Blake
- **Minute of Last Meeting.** The last general meeting was on 1 October 2020 and the minutes appeared in the November 2020 edition of the Bosun's Call. It was considered that there was no outstanding business from that meeting.

General Business:

- NAA 100th Anniversary of being established. A service is to be held in an outside area at the AWM on 20 November at 1200. Only invited members can in this service
- Donations to Charitie

Motion: It was moved that \$100 be given to each of Dementia Australia, Australian Cancer Research Foundation, National Heart Foundation and Legacy.

Moved: Alan Masters. Seconded: Harry Beardsell. Carried.

- Welfare Issues. Members were requested to advise committee members whenever they come across shipmates who are not well.
- **Membership Report.** We have 80 members who are fully subscribed and 11 who remain unfinancial.
- **Committee Vacancy.** Since joining the section Kate Reid-Smith has demonstrated much keenness and a willingness to assist the committee.

Motion: It was moved that Kate Reid-Smith be appointed to the committee.

Moved: David Manolas. Seconded: Alan Masters. Carried.

- **DVA Medallion Presentation.** The Section was honoured to have in attendance today two of our surviving WW2 veterans., namely, Lionel Mead and Tim Holt. President, David Manolas, presented each of them with the DVA Medallion and Certificate of Appreciation. Lionel responded by expressing his gratitude and recounted his long association with the veteran's community and his wartime experiences.
- **Bus Trip.** If you wish to join in the bus ride to Junee then contact Dennis Lyons. See note in BC.
- HMAS Australia Memorabilia. Kate Reid-Smith had brought in a piece of memorabilia from the HMAS Australia. It was a framed photograph of the ship in a frame made from some of the original timbers of the ship. Kate is very

interested in naval history and any members who have memorabilia should contact Kate to ensure it is not lost with the passage of time.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be at Eastlakes Gungahlin Club starting at 1330 following lunch starting at 1200.

Meeting closed at 1430.

Alan Masters Secretary / Treasurer NAA (ACT)

Notes from Committee Meeting 5 November 2020 held at Eastlakes Gungahlin Club

Present: Alan Masters, Peter Cooke-Russell, David Manolas, JJ Harrison, Alex McGown, Dennis Lyons, John Small

The following are brief notes of the discussion matters.

- NAA Wreath Laying Service for NAA 100th Anniversary. David informed the committee of the progress with arrangements for the conduct of the service. The AWM have imposed limitations on attendance numbers and the Section is limited to two members.
- Presentation of DVA Medallions and certificates of Appreciation. Presentations will be made to Lionel Mead and Tim Holt today.
- NAA Governance. A matter was recorded in the National AGM minutes that inferred there was a lack of corporate governance at the national level. It was suggested that we should requests specifics from complainant. However, after some discussion it was agreed that no further action be taken as personalities has changed and a new leadership team was now in place.
- **Next Meeting.** The next meeting will be at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 4 February 2021 at 1100.

Alan Masters Secretary / Treasurer

NAA (ACT)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS38 2021

Action to renew membership for 2021 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 2021 is \$38

- 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 Frogram

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

3 Dec	Christmas lunch Eastlakes Gun- gahlin
9 Dec	Bus trip to Junee —see page 9 for details
17 Dec	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
2021	
15 Jan	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

Bev Joce Social Secretary

Next issue of the Bosun's Call will be for February 2021

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: 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372)

International callers:

+61 2 6289 1133

POSTAL ADDRESS FOR ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES:

Health Approvals & Home Care Section epartment of Veterans' Affairs

GPO Box 9998

BRISBANE QLD 4001

DVA WEBSITE:

http://www.dva.gov.au/providers/alliedhealthprofessionals

DVA email for prior financial authorisation: health.approval@dva.gov.au

The appropriate prior approval request form can be found at: https://www.dva.gov.au/providers/ servicesrequiring-prior-approval

CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT

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



A Happy Birthday to you in December 2020 and January 2021

December 2020

- 13 Michael Noonan
- 20 Stewart McDowell

January 2021

- 10 James Sandison
- 16 David Manolas
- 20 Merle Hare
- 20 Bruce Muir
- 30 Keith Smith





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