



# The Bosun's Call



Vol 29 No 5

Once Navy, Always Navy

June 2024

## ANZAC Day Canberra



### Events coming up

17 Jun

Last Post Lay a wreath Stoker Daniel Beer HMAS Parramatta I



Newsletter of the ACT Section of the  
**Naval Association of Australia**

Hardcopy printed by CopyQik Civic

## Naval Association of Australia

### ACT Section

Founded 1 July 1944

Patron The Hon Sir William Deane AC KBE

#### Office Bearers 2024

President	David Manolas	0427 504 564
Vice President	Alex McGown	02 6258 6167
Secretary	<b>Alan Masters</b>	<b>02 6281 5630</b>
Treasurer	<b>Alaric O'Neill;</b>	

#### Committee Members

<b>Welfare</b>	<b>Alex McGown</b>	<b>02 6258 6167</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Peter Cooke-Russell</b>	<b>0412 757 505</b>
	<b>John Small</b>	<b>02 6258 1216</b>
	<b>Tiger Lyons</b>	<b>02 6254 3453</b>
	<b>Pauline Gribble</b>	
	<b>Stewart Gordon</b>	

<b>Editor BC</b>	<b>Peter Cooke-Russell</b>	<b>0412 757 505</b>
<b>Social Sec</b>	<b>Bev Joce</b>	

#### Contact Details

The President ACT Section  
0427 504 564  
stbdstayportgiveness@gmail.com

#### The Secretary ACT Section

NAA ACT Section  
26 Nelson Place,  
CURTIN ACT 2605.

secretary.naa.act@gmail.com  
Tel 02 6281 5630

#### Membership Registrar/BC Editor

peter.cookerussell@gmail.com  
0412 757 505

## General Meetings Dates and Locations Programme

### 2024

6 Jun Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
3 Aug Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
7 Sep Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
5 Oct Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
2 Nov Eastlakes 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.**

## National Council AGM 2024

The National Council will hold its Annual General Meeting in Canberra on 6 June 2024 at the Tradies Club Dickson. Items to amend the Constitution and By-laws are in the Agenda which was issued on 18 May 2024, Consequently it has not been available for discussion at ACT Section level before the National Council meets.

Items for change are:

1. Reduce the time frame for award of Certificates of Service to 10 for the first and then at 5 year intervals thereafter. At present they are issued at 15 year intervals. The argument is that members do not have time to get one. The average age of people becoming members is in the vicinity of 56 –59 years and has not changed whilst the average life expectancy has increased to the 83 year mark.
2. Delete Associate and Social memberships, reclassifying them as Club Members.
3. Insert an Article in the Constitution to apparently clarify a perceived problem of not highlighting changes to the Rules of the Association. Adequate Rules already exist.
4. Removal of the position of Past President from the By-laws. It was accidentally left in the Rules in 2005 when the Constitution was re written.
5. Make an amendment to the Constitution amendment which was agreed at the 2023 AGM concerning the introduction of a new Section dealing with control of Social Media in administration of the Association. The amendment was unsuitable for inclusion in the current constitution, needing further amendment to be included in the Constitution.
6. It is proposed that the Membership Subscription remain the same in 2025 as it is now.

**Comment.** Over the last six years the time scale for issuing agendas has been altered in the NAA because the availability of email type communication facilities are perceived as lessening the time required for people to find out what is going on and responding as a group. The Naval Association is essentially a social group where face to face get togethers are the main reason for its being. In a Section with Sub-sections the problem of getting the grass roots feeling of change is even more difficult.

Editor

**Committee meeting  
Eastlakes Gungahlin  
1100 Thursday 6 June 2024**

## Ex-Service Organisation Representation

26 May 2024

Colleagues,

For quite some time now we in the NAA have been asked to consider a new constitution for the Alliance of Defence Service Organisations (ADSO). I have spoken before of the emergence of a notable number of veterans identifying themselves as being representatives of a hereto unknown or little known, Ex-Service Organisation (ESO); there are consequences resulting from this wherein there are now even more ESOs competing for the limited funds available from DVA's Grants-in-Aid program and there are clear indications that the increasing chorus of voices advocating for a myriad of veteran support initiatives is perhaps deafening rather than alerting, those within Government and DVA to whom we turn for assistance and support.

**It is arguably why we now see DVA and The Minister instigating a research program to ascertain the benefits of being able to deal with 'a single voice or Peak Body' when evaluating priorities and objectives in support of veterans.**

**Whilst the early indications are that any such body will 'sit to one side of the Ex Service Organisations Round Table (ESORT) we will need to be watchful for we would not want to see another layer of administration or advisory process through which we would need to wade in representing veteran issues. Another related issue is the assertion by the RSL that 'they are the single voice of veterans', which we must surely agree is not the case.**

These two factors have been the impetus for ADSO embarking on a project to establish this forum as the truly representational inter-service veteran forum to which Government, Politicians and DVA can turn for advice, comment or review of proposed veteran support mechanisms or legislation. In the changing nature and dynamics of the veteran domain ADSO has been revising its governance processes to meet the challenges ahead wherein the stated objectives were identified as: to be more responsive to the needs of its members; to comply with modern governance principles; and be a more effective representative organisation to governments and our nation. Hence the evolution of Constitution we have been asked to consider.

Hopefully we all saw the December 2023, message from Russell Pettis (National Admin Officer) providing a historical insight as to the original 5 ESOs (DFWA, RARA, NAA, RAAFA and SASA), joining together in 2009 to form the ADSO with the aim to

provide a political voice for those ESOs not able to do so themselves. For our forebears within the Naval Association of Australia (NAA) it was seen to be a necessity to take up the opportunity to become a 'founding member' of the ADSO. In Russell's 2023 message he reminded us of the key topics addressed by ADSO during his tenure as NAA National President: successfully campaigning for a Veterans Covenant under PM Morrison; support afforded the NAA in advocating for a posthumous VC for Teddy Sheean; advice to the Federal Government on a new ADF Superannuation Scheme; and Transition from TIP to ATDP Advocacy Scheme.

**As we find ourselves on the verge of a new era for the ADSO, it is timely to see that in the Policy document for 2016-2017, it was observed that 'the complexity of the current Compensation Acts, based on three separate schemes are increasingly unwieldy and unsustainable in the long term'. Therein they went on to say; 'ADSO believes there should be a move towards a single compensation regime for all serving and former members of the ADF'. As we witness the progression of the 'Harmonisation' initiative, headed up by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, we hope that when it is implemented the assurance given that 'no-one will be worse off' will be the case. Based on past-experience, we can be assured that ADSO will be at hand to provide a collective challenge to any anomalies or unintended detrimental consequences. We need to be 'on watch' with our ADSO colleagues in monitoring these most important matters.**

The advice as to the proposed ADSO Constitution was provided by myself to the National Council (NC) via email in November 2023, and the Exposure Draft was promulgated in March of this year. Of those responses received, the principle point of concern has been that of what the 'membership fee' might be. That is a valid concern and one that other ESOs have also identified. I have been very much encouraged by assurances from within this documentation that the intention is 'to call upon members to make a fair contribution based on a Member Association membership and financial capacity to make such a contribution'. Be assured, it is fully appreciated within ADSO that membership numbers are in decline therefore we each face limitations on funds at hand. I find it implausi-

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Ex-Service Organisation Representation

*(Continued from page 3)*

ble that fees would be set at a level that would lead to the demise of the numerical strength of the group. At this juncture I do not see concern over what may be deemed an acceptable fee to ask of each member ESO (based on its financial capacity) outweighing the mutual benefit and collective strength of maintaining our presence within ADSO.

Now perhaps more than ever before in our collective experience, where we see the nature and numbers of veterans changing so dramatically, where allegiances to a 'parent service' or 'parent ex-service organisation' is not as tangible from our perspective as it perhaps once was, we need to rally together and pool our resources if we are to remain relevant to ourselves and to those who control the nature and scope of support they are prepared to afford a veteran. In this time of considerable uncertainty and unrest it is my firm belief that it would not serve our best interests and nor that of our colleagues in ADSO, to set ourselves adrift and to go our own way as a single entity and therein, to fend for ourselves. I have seen no evidence to support the proposition that any other collective body of ESOs outside the ADSO can assume the mantle of being a single, or rather a truly representative, voice for veterans. Similarly, I have already spoken of the 'proliferation of ESO noise' and therein I see that a single voice would find it difficult if not impossible, to make itself heard or to rally support. In my assessment, ADSO is the only body that can be seen to be a collaborative and representative grouping across a range of The Defence Force Veteran Community in the matter of veteran affairs advocacy. To place all of this in a naval context, 'we have a much greater chance of surviving and

being heard if we are in a convoy rather than sailing alone'

Noting that the only matter of concern represented to myself subsequent to the distribution of the Proposed ADSO Constitution in November 2023; the Exposure Draft of the ADSO Constitution in March this year; and, advice as to the 31 May 24 ADSO Zoom Meeting agenda provided to the NC on 13 May 24, is that of the 'membership fee', which I expect will not be determined until after the ADSO Constitution is in place, my recommendation at this juncture is that we agree to those resolutions detailed in the agenda document:

- a. *That the ADSO Limited Constitution be approved."*
- b. *That ADSO Limited be incorporated with [ASIC registration](#)."*
- c. *That the current ADSO Ltd Inc ([ACT](#)) be voluntarily cancelled concurrent with the ASIC approval date."*
- d. *That ADSO Ltd be registered as a Not-for-Profit Organisation with [ACNC](#)."*
- e. *That ADSO Ltd seek endorsement as a [Deductible Gift Recipient](#) from the ATO."*

When we know the outcome of the 'membership fee' calculations we can then act upon that advice; until then be assured we are watching these proceedings closely.

For your consideration.

David Manolas

National President NAA

# ADSO



## ALLIANCE OF DEFENCE SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

The Defence Force Welfare Association (DFWA),  
 Naval Association of Australia (NAA),  
 RAAF Association (RAAFA),  
 Royal Australian Regiment Corporation (RARC),  
 Australian Special Air Service Association (ASASA),  
 The Australian Federation of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Service Men and Women,  
 The Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia,  
 Partners of Veterans Association of Australia,

Royal Australian Armoured Corps Corporation (RAAC),  
 The National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia (NMBVAA),  
 The Defence Reserves Association (DRA),  
 The Australian Gulf War Veterans Association,  
 Military Police Association Australia (MPAA),  
 Australian Army Apprentices Association,  
 The Australian Commando Association and,  
 The War Widows Guild.

In considering the wider defence family's community of interest network, the issues ADSO advocates can impact on the lives of about 4,000,000 Australians.

The Defence Family relies on the Government for fair and equitable treatment of their service conditions in a way that is unique within the Australian community. They expect a Fair Go in

that their conditions of service under which they served will be honoured.

The Alliance has developed considerable credibility and respect from the authorities, the media, the community and professional groups. This has helped to influence governments' decisions impacting our Defence Family, to legislate the Veterans' Covenant and also to gain support and understanding from parliamentarians from all political persuasions.

## Ambitious plan to save Tasmanian-built Huon pine warship HDML1321 from slow death in Darwin

The Tasmanian-made Huon pine patrol boat HMAS HDML1321 took commandos behind enemy lines in WWII, but its biggest mission yet will be finding a way home from its slow death at a construction site in Darwin.

The historic 80 foot (24-metre) warship later known as Rush-cutter sits on a cradle in a commercial shipyard that is being developed into northern Australia's largest ship lift.

The historic vessel is rotting away without a home, but a passionate group of maritime enthusiasts have ambitious plans to try and save it.

Rear Admiral (Rtd) Steve Gilmore said HDML1321 was made in Hobart by Purdon and Featherstone in 1943.

It was the first of nine patrol boats built in Australia for the Navy in WWII.

"It was probably the one that went on to have the most operationally effective career in the war, and then two decades of service with the Navy as a training vessel," he told Leon Compton on [ABC Radio Hobart](#). "One of its more famous moments in the war was landing commandos behind enemy lines in and around Papua New Guinea. I think it's a very important piece of Australia's naval history and consequently Tasmania's great maritime history."

HDML 1321 — the letters stand for Harbour Defence Motor Launch — was used by Australia's elite Z Special Unit during WWII.

Its most notorious operation was in 1945, when eight commandos used the vessel to go behind enemy lines in Papua New Guinea as part of Operation Copper.



*During wartime the boat was known as the HDML1321. (Supplied: Naval Historical Society of Australia)*

*© Provided by ABC News (AU) 15 May 2024*

The raid on Muschu Island was unsuccessful and only Sapper Mick Dennis survived.

After the war, it was based in Sydney for 20 years as a training vessel, before going into private hands in August 1971 in various places around Australia.

In 2016, the "[Tinnie Terrorists](#)" were said to have backed out of buying the vessel for use in a plot to support ISIS, and five months later in an unrelated incident, it sunk off Darwin and spent two years underwater.

A small group of volunteers known as Save Motor Launch 1321 purchased the boat from its former private owner for \$2, and tried to recover it.

In 2018, it was finally pulled out of Darwin Harbour after a mammoth effort, and has since been sitting in a purpose-built cradle on the site of the \$400 million ship lift development.

Tasmanian Maritime Network chairman Jeff Hawkins said saving the vessel presented several challenges, one being that it sits on private land.

"We are trying to gain access and are talking to the port," Dr Hawkins said. "The port is sympathetic to putting it in a safe place for us ..We don't have that confirmation yet, but that's what we are working on."

+Dr Hawkins said he has also contacted Defence Minister Richard Marles to highlight how

*(Continued on page 6)*



*Informal portrait of four of the crew members of HDML 1321 and NX73110 Sapper (Spr) Edgar Thomas 'Mick' Dennis, Z Special Unit, the only survivor of the ill fated raid on Muschu Island (off the coast of New Guinea), at Brisbane dockyard. Identified, right: to left Spr Dennis; Leading Seaman Clayton; S/6992 Sub Lieutenant Russell Frederick Smith (Second in Command); 25630 Stoker John Francis Sevenoaks; Able Seaman Aitken*

## Ken Cartwright's experience with SDB 1321

In the early 1950's HDML's were reclassified as SDB's (Seaward Defence Boats). SDB 1321 was built by Purdon & Featherstone Pty Ltd in Hobart sometime between 1943-45. She was 80ft 3in (24.46m) overall with a beam of 16ft 2in (4.92m) and depth (midships) of 9ft 3in (2.81m) and powered by Two Buda 6DHMR diesel engines with twin screws. Post WWII she had an extra cabin fitted abaft the wheelhouse. Transferred to HMAS *Rushcutter* (the shore establishment and home to the RAN Reserve Port Division) in the 1950's as a tender to HMAS *Rushcutter*. Her purpose was Reserve Training. She was laid up about 1970 and declared for disposal in 1971.

For one year, (1960) I was her permanent/part time First Lieutenant (XO) the crew varied on an as required basis for class training with the permanent/part time CO & 1st Lieut. One weekend during that year she acted as radio mothership for a Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Sydney/Montague Island Yacht Race, sailing about 1600 on a Friday afternoon prior to the start of a race with a complete crew of RANR Officers and a PNF Communications PO.

On clearing Sydney, and altering to a southerly course we ran into very heavy seas and lost radio communications. In the event, unknown to us the race was cancelled and due to the sea state we had no choice other than continuing battle southwards. During the early hours on the Saturday, we lost the hatch cover and was in danger of flooding the engine room and messdeck. I organised a bucket brigade to empty out and with a SBLT to assist me went onto the upper deck and with lifelines secured, we made our way to the bow and eventually managed to secure a canvas cover over the hatch. I say eventually because we were fre-

quently knocked over and washed into the wheelhouse bulkhead.

During the night we had passed Point Perpendicular and had still been unable to alter course to seek shelter. A short time after passing Montague Island, we were able to come about and reverse our course for Jervis Bay to seek shelter and assistance. Passing the Island, we observed a largish freighter sheltering behind it.

The bilge pump was giving trouble and our Engineer raided the boat's refrigerator motor for parts to fix it. On the Saturday evening we entered Jervis Bay and berthed at the Marine Section. We were immediately visited by a very irate four stripe Captain, demanding why we were there without authority. After my Captain explained our position, the Four Ringer changed his manner and couldn't do enough for us. He quickly arranged for portable pumps and we were able to reduce the flooding but not stop it.

Very early on the Sunday morning we proceeded to sea and were able to return to *Rushcutter*, still pumping out. An inspection after arrival showed large sections of our copper sheathing had been stripped from the hull and wheelhouse windows cracked. I was relieved sometime later as the 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, to undergo a diving course and in 1962 formed the Sydney Reserve Diving Team (Diving Team 5) at *Rushcutter* as it's 1<sup>st</sup> OIC.

In December 1968 I renewed my association with SDB's as OIC Seamanship School HMAS *Leeuwin*, where SDB 1325 was attached as the Commodore Barge and for Junior Recruit Training.

Ken Cartwright 2015

## Ambitious plan to save Tasmanian-built Huon pine warship HDML1321 from slow death in Darwin

(Continued from page 5)

fence Minister Richard Marles to highlight how important the vessel is.

"The first challenge we have is to protect it so that it's not in the way of the ship lift," he said. "The second part is the logistics of how to get it to Tasmania."

Rear Admiral (Rtd) Gilmore said the 50 tonne vessel would need to be delivered to Tasmania by ship.

"It would require a heavy lift crane," he said.

"That's certainly been done before, it's not an impossible task. But it will take planning and it will take resources."

Dr Hawkins said the vessel needed to be protected due to its historical significance.

"We are putting together what's needed in terms of resources and the logistics," he said. "We want to get it back here to restore it here in Tasmania."

He said it was a beautiful vessel that was still in reasonable condition.

"With wooden vessels you can do real magic and make them look fantastic, but they do need a lot of love and care," Dr Hawkins said. "The most exciting part is the restoration in Tasmania — we definitely have some very good expertise in Tasmania for that. It's going to take money and a lot of passion."

Rear Admiral Gilmore said the condition of the boat was testament to Tasmania's materials and people.

"A personal vision would be to see it in the water fully able to operate underway, restored to its WWII configuration and open to the public to see what Australians did, what Tasmanians did," he said. "I think there's lots of people who will wish to be involved."

ABC News 15 May 2024

## email to the Editor

Good afternoon

The above case, *Searle v Repatriation Commission* is interesting for a number of reasons.

First. The veteran claimed that whilst he was in the infantry between 1976 and 1982 he carried weights in excess of 20 kg per day. he argued that this ADF service has resulted in his lumbar spondylosis and bilateral osteoarthritis.

When the veteran left the army in 1982 he worked as a store man and he also had a motorcycle accident. The latter resulted in some back injury.

In 2019 he lodged a claim with DVA arguing his back problems were a result of his army service. However, in his discharge medical he said he had no back complaints.

The VRB found the date of clinical onset was July 2019. The SOP stated the clinical onset had to be within 25 years of a medical practitioner diagnosing the condition. The veteran was outside the 25 years.

Although the veteran argued he became aware of his back complaints earlier than 2019 this was not supported by medical evidence.

The veteran also claimed he had accrued rights under an earlier SOP. This was granted but it did not help his case much.

The veteran lost his appeal to the VRB and also at the AAT. The time has not yet elapsed to determine if he will appeal the AAT decision to the FCA.

**Lesson One.** When ADF personnel are leaving the service and they have an injury or ailment they should make that known so it can go on their records for later reference. Being a hero in their 20's can adversely impact claims when they get older.

**Lesson Two.** Veterans should ensure that they do not leave it too late to make a claim. Some SOPs have a time limit for the condition to manifest itself - the date of clinical onset. If a claim is made for a condition and it is outside this date of clinical onset it is very difficult almost impossible to prove a case.

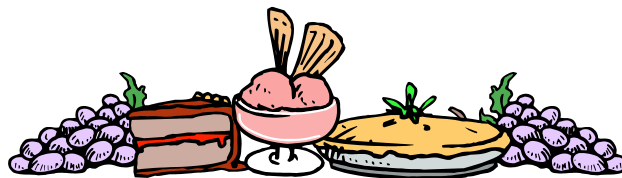
**Lesson Three.** If a veteran begins to experience symptoms of a condition which can be related to service they should contact a medical specialist and get the condition recorded. I would suggest getting a copy off the report and keeping it with the individual's personal papers.

I will record *Searle v Repatriation Commission* in my periodic case references.

I hope this helps, particularly with veterans who are exiting the ADF and believe that discussing their medical conditions is a sign of weakness..

Regards

Allan Joyce



## 4th July 2024

## Independence Day

Freedom from the regular meeting  
routine

Lunch to be held in lieu of the meeting  
**at the Burns Club Kambah**  
**Commencing at 1200**

# ANZAC Day Canberra



Above: ADFA Guard on the new AWM Parade Ground

Right: HMAS Sydney Association

Below: WRANS and Navy Women march past the Governor General

Photos Flickr



Right: Centenarians, Les Cook (Corporal 2/14th Battalion, 2 AIF) 101 last January and Merle Hare (POSV WRANS) 104 also last January share a moment at the ANZAC memorial Parade 2024 in Canberra

Photo; Flickr







**Loss of HMAS Perth on  
1 March 1942 is  
remembered  
at the  
Last Post Ceremony on  
28 February 2024**

*Above: ABC Field Recording Unit onboard HMAS Perth, recording messages to be broadcast "back home" in Australia whilst at sea in the Middle East region*

*AWM 023734*

*Right: Sailors man the gun HMAS Perth*

*AWM 006602*



*Below: Loss of HMAS Perth Last Post Ceremony 28 February 2024*

*USN PO, Peter Eveille, Alex McGown Jack Aaron, Dean Walkington, Rus Shalders, Terry Rogers and the USN Attache*

*Photo: Flickr*



## Minutes of NAA (ACT) General Meeting held at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 2 May 2024

**Meeting started** at 1330 with the Odes recited by David Manolas.

**Present:** 14 members and one visitor as per attendance book.

**Apologies:** J Small, M. Hardwick, R. Ridgeway, D. Rush, W. Lissing, J. Slaats

### Minute of Last Meeting.

The minutes of the General meeting on 4 April 2024 appeared in the May 2024 edition of the Bosun's Call. It was considered there was no outstanding business from that meeting.

*Motion: The minutes of the General Meeting held on 4 April 2024 be accepted.*

*Moved: Tony Vickers    Seconded: Dennis Lyons Carried.*

### Reports.

#### President

Our Section contingent at the ANZAC Day March was augmented by 12 marchers from a variety of navy backgrounds. The new banner was a success. Given the falling numbers of members marching, for mostly age and health reasons, it is proposed that consideration be given to joining with other navy associations at next year's march. As there will not be a meeting in July, but a lunch instead, it was agreed that the mid-year lunch be held at the Burns Club in Kambah.

#### Vice President

Last Post ceremonies to be held 2 and 24 May; there are vacancies for volunteers in September ceremonies. The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the loss of submarine AE1 is coming up soon.

#### Secretary

Business as usual.

#### Treasurer

Represented Section at the funeral service for late shipmate, Robin (Rags) Herron. In receipt of a notice from Australian Taxation Office of new reporting arrangements for Tax File numbers. Will advise of situation at a later meeting. About this time each year consideration is given to donating funds to worthy charities. Members are requested to give this matter further thought.

#### Membership

The membership remains steady.

#### Welfare

John Small is still undergoing chemotherapy.

### Social

As per BC notices.

*Motion The Reports be received.*

*Moved: Alaric O'Neill    Seconded: Stewart Gordon Carried*

### General Business

- Allan Joyce enlightened members of the progress of the matters relevant to the Harmonisation of Bills impacting on the treatment of veterans.
- The HMAS Canberra Memorial service will be on Friday, 9 August 2024.

**Next Meeting** Next General Meeting will be held at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 6 June 2024 starting at 1330.

**Close of Meeting** There being no other business the President closed the meeting at 1435.

Alan F Masters

Secretary

NAA (ACT)

## Notes from the Committee Meeting 2 May 2024 Held at Eastlakes Gungahlin Club

Present: David Manolas, Alex McGown, Peter Cooke-Russell, Alaric O'Neill, Alan Masters, Dennis Lyons.

Apology: Nil

The President provided a review of the ANZAC Day march. Our limited number of marchers were joined by others behind our new banner. Matters for the General Meeting were discussed and it was to be noted the timing of the National Council meeting on 6 June would impact on the attendance of some of the committee at our General Meeting.

**Next Meeting.** The next meeting will be at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 6 June 2024 at 1100.

Alan Masters

Secretary

NAA (ACT)

**NAA – ACT SECTION  
79<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Held at the Eastlake Gungahlin Club on 7 March 2024**

**Meeting Opened.**

The President declared the meeting open at 1337.

**Present.**

11 Members as listed in the Attendance book.

**Apologies.**

Apologies received are listed in Attendance book.

**Minutes of 78<sup>th</sup> AGM.**

The minutes of the 78<sup>th</sup> AGM held on 2 March 2023 were detailed in the April 2023 and March 2024 Bosuns' Call. These were taken as read.

*Motion: The minutes of the 78<sup>th</sup> AGM be accepted.*

*Moved: Stewart Gordon    Seconded: Rex Kendall  
Carried.*

**Business arising from minutes of 78<sup>th</sup> AGM.**

Nil.

**Reports.****President:**

See Attachment A

**Secretary.**

See Attachment B

**Treasurer****Membership Registrar**

See Attachment D

**Appointment of Honorary Members**

In accordance with constitutional requirements, the following are to be appointed Honorary Members for 2024:

The Honourable Sir William Deane, Patron

VADM M. Hammond, RAN, Chief of Navy

CAPT K. Quarderer USN

CAPT B. O'Hara RAN, Commanding Officer,  
HMAS Canberra

CAPT B. Gerritsen, RNZN

CMDR M. Magzoub, RN

CMDR M. Collinson RNZN

Mr M. Anderson, Director AWM

Mrs M. Hare

*Motion: The above named persons be appointed  
Honorary Members for 2024.*

*Moved: Alaric O'Neill    Seconded: Stewart  
Gordan    Carried*

**Election of Office Bearers**

The President declared all committee positions vacant. The nominations forwarded to the Secretary matched the vacant positions and thus there was no need for an election. Stewart Gordon and Joe Slaats declined nominations to committee positions due to forthcoming commitments. They were thanked for their contributions to the committee. The President duly declared the nominated persons elected to the positions as listed:

President David Manolas

Vice President Alex McGown

Secretary Alan Masters

Treasurer Alaric O'Neill

Committee Peter Cooke-Russell, Dennis Lyons,  
Bev Joce.

**Appointment of Auditor.**

As explained by Peter Cooke-Russell, the ACT Incorporations Act has been amended to state that an audit of the Section's accounts is no longer required and therefore the appointment of an auditor is no longer required.

**Next AGM.**

The next AGM will be held on 6 March 2025.

There being no other business the President closed the meeting at 1415.

Secretary

Alan Masters

NAA(ACT)

**Attachments to Minutes**

President's Report

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

Membership Registrar's Report

**Attachment A to Minutes of Annual General Meeting for the ACT Section of the Naval Association of Australia**

ACT Section President's Report for 2024 AGM  
7 March 2024

The NAA ACT Section remains a vibrant and welcoming environment in which to interact with fellow members. Whilst member attendance and participation numbers remain generally stable, we are always delighted to welcome new members to our Section. At our 2024 AGM it was again most encouraging to see others so willingly taking up the opportunity to join the Committee. Our participation in the Australian War Memorial's (AWM) Last Post Ceremony remains a key component of the Section's commemorative endeavours, under the stewardship of Mr Alex McGown, our Section Vice President. That and the HMAS *Canberra* Memorial Service in August each year, constitute our principle commemorative events. This year we will welcome new Naval and Defence Attachés from the RAN, RN, USN, RAAF, RNZN, and Government Representatives to the memorial service in August.

On Anzac Day 2024, we were delighted to be able to march-past on the new AWM Parade Ground. The progress being made to refurbish and expand the display spaces is most impressive and speaks

*(Continued on page 12)*

**NAA – ACT SECTION  
79<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Held at the Eastlake Gungahlin Club on 7 March 2024**

*(Continued from page 11)*

well for what will emerge at the end of this work.

There is much we can all look forward to in our collective enterprises and ongoing efforts to watch over the needs of our members and those serving, and the enjoyment and life enriching benefits inherent in 'naval fellowship'.

I wish all within the ACT Section every joy and happiness in the coming year and extend my congratulations to the incoming Section Committee. It has been a privilege to serve with all within the Section throughout the year, and I thank you for the opportunity to fulfil the role of Section President for another year.

Yours aye,



David Manolas  
ACT Section President  
02 March 2024

**Attachment B to Minutes of Annual General Meeting for the ACT Section of the Naval Association of Australia**

**SECRETARY's REPORT for the year ending  
31 December 2023**

Administration of the business of the Section basically remains constant from year to year. It requires, for the most part, regular attention to the numerous e-mails, not all of which require an action and most of which are initiated by the National Council. I have been ably supported by other committee members and especially Peter Cooke-Russell for his wonderful support. His knowledge of the machinations of the NAA serves the section well and his editorship of the Bosun's Call, with the inclusion of useful DVA news and the minutes of our section meetings, reduces the secretary's workload.

The replacement of committee members is perhaps our biggest challenge and one that is probably shared by many other NAA Sections and Sub-sections. This report may well be my penultimate report, if not my last. I certainly will not be secretary in 2025 and I look forward to someone from our younger shipmates to step up to the committee roles. A good start is to learn the ropes as an

assistant to an executive committee member.

Alan F Masters  
Secretary  
NAA(ACT)

**Attachment C to Minutes of 78<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of ACT Section of Naval Association of Australia held on 2 March 2023**

**TREASURER's Report for the year ending  
31 December 2023**

The state of the Section's finances remains sound despite a loss being recorded again. The income is solely from subscriptions and donations and with a declining membership and rising expenditures avoidance of an operating loss is challenging. Capitation payments to the National Council are mandatory and the only discretionary expenditure relates to our donations to selected charities. The loss this year came in at \$370 and is manageable now. Full details of the financial transactions are detailed in the following reports.

Finance

**Annex D to Minutes of 78<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of ACT Section of Naval Association of Australia held on 2 March 2023**

**MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR's Report for year  
ending 31 December 2024**

**Membership Registrar**

The Section ended the year with 67 members, made up of

54 full members,  
9 Honorary members  
2 Club members, and  
2 Honorary Life Members.

Six members crossed the bar, 5 were archived and one member was transferred to a Queensland Sub-section. The trend is downward for membership numbers, a phenomenon common to many organisations but six new members were enrolled.

Peter Cooke-Russell  
Membership Registrar

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

### \$40 for 2024

Action to renew membership for 2024 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 2024 is \$40

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.*
2. 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.
3. 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 CONTACT DETAILS SUCH AS HOME ADDRESS, E-MAIL ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS PLEASE ADVISE THE MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR.

### Social Program

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

#### 2024

- 6 Jun Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 1200
- 20 Jun Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
- 4 Jul Christmas I July Lunch
- 18 Jul Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
- 1 Aug Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 1200
- 15 Aug Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
- ..5 Sep Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 12-00
- 19 Sep Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
- . 3 Oct Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 12-00

Bev Joce

**Social Secretary**

## 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 \(1800 838 372\)](tel:1800838372)

International callers:

[+61 2 6289 1133](tel:+61262891133)

#### POSTAL ADDRESS FOR ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES: D

Health Approvals & Home Care Section Department of Veterans' Affairs  
GPO Box 9998  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

#### DVA WEBSITE:

<http://www.dva.gov.au/providers/allied-healthprofessionals>

DVA email for prior financial authorisation:  
[health.approval@dva.gov.au](mailto: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](http://www.dva.gov.au/providers/how-claim)

Claim Enquiries: 1300 550 017



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**A Happy Birthday to you  
June 2024**

Peter Gillin

Ray Horne

Peter McNay

Bob Ridgway



If undeliverable return to  
NAA ACT Section  
4 McEachern Crescent  
MELBA ACT 2615

**POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA**

Paste Address label Here

The Bosun's Call Vol 29 No 5