



The Bosun's Call



Vol 26 No 2

Once Navy, Always Navy

March 2021

ADF up to the challenges of 2020



Above: INS Sahyadri, left, HMAS Hobart and INS Karmuk sail in company during a passage exercise in the north-east Indian Ocean.

Right: HMA Ships Hobart and Sirius exercise with Republic of Singapore Ships Tenacious, Valiant, Valour and Dauntless in waters off Singapore during Exercise Singaroo

Photos: LSMN Christopher Szumlanski



Last year was difficult and disruptive for our nation and was a defining year for Defence. At the beginning of 2020, as Australia burned, Defence swung into action with the largest-ever mobilisation of the ADF in response to a domestic disaster. More than 8200 personnel supported authorities in six states and territories as part of Operation Bushfire Assist. As this crisis abated another arrived in the form of a global pandemic.

A Defence COVID-19 taskforce was formed on March 9, with Operation COVID-19 Assist announced on April 1. Since that time, more than 13,000 ADF personnel have deployed across the nation to support state and territory governments. This support continues today.

Despite the horrors of the bushfires and restrictions of the pandemic, military operations, deployments and joint exercises were conducted in and beyond our region throughout 2020. About 16,300 military and civilian Defence personnel deployed on domestic operations and about 4100 on overseas operations.

Navy had an average of 15 ships at sea a day and conducted 44 foreign port logistic visits across 15 nations. Air Force units completed more than 53,000 hours of flying and Army undertook 96 international engagement activities, resulting in the training of more than 500 foreign counterparts.

HMAS *Parramatta* deployed to South and South-east Asia from February to May, engaging in joint exercises with the US Navy.

A joint ADF task group participated in a Regional Presence Deployment from July to October. The task group consisted of five vessels, aircraft based in Guam, and 1500 personnel joining in activities with 11 regional partners. The centrepiece was Exercise Rimpac – the world's largest maritime exercise – involving 10 nations, including seven from the Indo-Pacific, in August.

HMAS *Arunta* deployed to East Asia in October and November and engaged in exercises with navies from Malaysia, Singapore and Japan. HMAS *Ballarat* participated in Exercise Malabar in early

(Continued on page 5)

Events coming up

28 Feb	Last Post Ceremony AWM Loss of HMAS Perth lay wreath for LS Robert Borwick
18 Mar	Fish'n Chips Snapper Take Away CYC
28 Mar	Last Post Ceremony 80th Anniversary Battle of Matapan lay wreath for Stoker Henry Absulom
2 Apr	Last Post Ceremony Lay a wreath Leut Paul Kimlin RAN



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 to be followed:

2021

4 Mar Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
AGM immediately afterwards	
1 Apr Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
6 May Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
3 Jun Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
5 Aug Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
2 Sep Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
7 Oct Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
4 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.

President's Message

Shipmates,

At our next Section and AGM Meeting (04 March 2021), we will take the opportunity to discuss a matter of paramount importance for the families of those who have lost their life and those who have lost a component of their lives in the service of our nation. This has come before the NAA for our consideration as a result of the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal (the Tribunal) being directed to inquire into and report on recognition for members and families of members of the Australian Defence Force who are injured, wounded or killed in or as a result of service. Please see the message provided by Minister Chester and the Tribunal Directive in this Bosun's Call. The Tribunal has then reached out to Ex-Service Organisations (ESO) for our views on this matter. In the NAA's deliberations, this issue may be seen as being in the nature of a long-standing convention which ought not to be amended in any way or, as a proposal that could bring about a sense of closure and perhaps, a degree of healing.

In my capacity as the National President, I have asked Lorraine Grey our National (White) Vice President to formulate a proposal to be submitted to the National Executive and then to the National Councillors for their appraisal on behalf of their Section's Members prior to presenting our Association's Submission to the Tribunal. As with all such processes there is always a deadline and more generally than not, it is limiting in its timing; here it is 31 March 21, for all submissions to be with the Tribunal. Hence the need to act promptly. On his own initiative our Shipmate, Peter Cooke-Russell has delved into this matter and formulated a most thorough and well-presented proposal, which is outlined in this newsletter and will be discussed in more detail at this meeting. Coincidentally, Lorraine has been looking at the same US Medal as well as the recognition presently afforded in the UK, Canada, NZ and Singapore, and where known, other ESO suggestions in regard to this matter.

At the same meeting we will need to conduct a ballot for the Committee Member positions for 2021; please ensure you have your say in this, for it is your entitlement as a paid-up member of the NAA ACT Section to do so. The Section Secretary needs to have received all nominations by 25 February 2021.

Yours aye,

David Manolas

**Committee meeting
East Lakes Gungahlin
1130 Thursday 4 Mar 2021**

Recognition for ADF members and families

Office of The Hon Darren Chester MP Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel

21 January 2021

THE Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal will consider recognition for members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) who are injured, wounded or killed in or as a result of their service, and their families.

Minister for Defence Personnel Darren Chester said following preliminary consultation and advice from the Council of Women and Families United by Defence Service, it was now a matter for the Tribunal to examine.

"The Tribunal will undertake a broader consideration to acknowledge those who have been injured, wounded, or killed as a result of their ADF service, and the impact on their families," Mr Chester said.

"The Tribunal is the independent, expert body established to consider Defence honours and awards and is the most appropriate body to consider recognition for ADF members and their families.

"I am also very grateful for the work of the Council of Women and Families United by Defence Service

in its consideration for appropriate recognition."

The Tribunal is an independent statutory body established to review decisions of the Department of Defence regarding Defence honours and awards, and, at the direction of government, inquire into Defence honours and awards matters.

The Chair of the Council of Women and Families United by Defence Service Gabby Costigan said the council had carefully considered the most appropriate recognition for the families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

"We feel the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal consideration is extremely important and we encourage individuals and organisations to contribute to the Inquiry."

The Tribunal will seek written submissions from ex-service organisations and government agencies, but anyone with an interest in this issue can make a submission to the Inquiry. Submissions to the Inquiry are expected to close in late March 2021 and further information can be found on the Tribunal's website:

<https://defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au/>

Media contacts

Rachel Tharratt: 0419 034 302

Defence Media: media@defence.gov.au

Directive



Australian Government

Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal

INQUIRY INTO RECOGNITION FOR MEMBERS AND FAMILIES OF MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE WHO ARE INJURED, WOUNDED OR KILLED IN OR AS A RESULT OF SERVICE

The Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal (the Tribunal) is directed to inquire into and report on recognition for members and families of members of the Australian Defence Force who are injured, wounded or killed in or as a result of service.

In particular, the Tribunal is to seek and receive submissions and consider whether it is appropriate that members of the Australian Defence Force who are injured, wounded or killed in or as a result of service, or their families, receive an Australian honour or award, or another form of recognition for that service.

The Tribunal is to consult broadly in conducting this inquiry, and is otherwise to determine its own procedures. The Tribunal may conduct its own research, consult with and interview individuals and organisations it considers appropriate in public or in private, and consider material provided to it that is relevant to the Terms of Reference. The Tribunal is to report, in writing, to the Minister for Defence Personnel on the findings and recommendations that arise from the inquiry.

In making its findings and formulating its recommendations, the Tribunal is to have regard to the integrity of the Australian honours and awards system and identify any consequential impact any finding or recommendation may have on that system. The Tribunal may make any recommendation it considers appropriate, that arises from the inquiry.

Submissions to the Tribunal close on 31 March 2021.

Recognition for ADF members and families

Is it appropriate that members of the Australian Defence Force who are injured, wounded or killed in or as a result of service, or their families, receive an Australian honour or award, or another form of recognition for that service?

The Council for Women and Families United by Defence Service (the Council) was established in December 2018 to ensure the needs of women and families united by defence service are understood and visible, and their voices are heard. The Council brings these voices together to provide timely and comprehensive advice to Government on matters that involve or affect them, drive coherent policy outcomes and advocate on behalf of these women and families.

The Council is built on the foundations of contemporary lived experience, inclusivity, collaboration, compassion and respect. The members of the Council represent a broad cross-section of the veteran community and include, partners, widows, parents, current and ex-serving members and reservists and chaplaincy and all bring an interest and passion for supporting veterans and their families.

It is stated in the Minister's media release of 21 January 2021 (at Page 3) that:

"The Chair of the Council of Women and Families United by Defence Service Gabby Costigan said the council had carefully considered the most appropriate recognition for the families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country."

A well known award is the Purple Heart which is awarded by the President of the United States of America. It is an award that achieves the aim of the Council of Women and Families as stated in the media release. It does however, recognize those who are wounded by actions instigated by an enemy as well as those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Specific examples of services which warrant award of the Purple Heart include:

- a) any action against an enemy of the United States;
- b) any action with an opposing armed force of a foreign country in which the Armed Forces of the United States are or have been engaged;
- c) while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party;
- d) as a result of an act of any such enemy or opposing armed forces; or
- e) as a result of an act of any hostile foreign force.

The ACT Section's thoughts on the Council's aim should be raised and submitted to the NAA National Council for submission to the Tribunal.

For discussion at the General Meeting 4 March 2021

Editor

Saying goodbye to MyAccount

19 February 2021

Services that veterans and their families currently use in MyAccount are being moved into MyService.

The need for better online services has never been more important. Over the next six months, we will increase the services you can access on MyService. We will also be moving to a single, modern online platform for veterans to manage their business with DVA. To do this, MyAccount services are being moved to MyService over the coming months and we will say goodbye to MyAccount later this year.

In addition to managing your income support needs, you can already use MyService to book transport and claim for travel reimbursements for approved medical treatment.

From March, you will be able to use MyService to access official letters that confirm your DVA payments and concession entitlements. If you use My-

Account, the same letters will be available to you in MyService.

When the new services become available in MyService you will notice that we ask some questions differently. That's because we have taken on board feedback and not only simplified the way we ask for information, but reduced the amount we ask for.

'The questions MyService asks are simpler because MyService makes better use of information that you have already told us,' said Glen Yeomans, DVA's Director for MyService. 'This means that you don't need to tell us your story every time you want to make a claim.'

'MyService will be the place for all your DVA online needs when MyAccount is no longer available. Of course, if you prefer to call us or submit a paper form you will still be able to do that. We are excited to be providing you with simpler ways to transact with us online.'

For more information and to register for a MyService account, visit dva.gov.au/myservice.

ADF up to the challenges of 2020 *(continued)*

(Continued from page 1)

November – a quadrilateral activity with the US, India and Japan. Australia was last involved in this exercise 13 years ago.

Australia continued to protect its borders and off-shore maritime interests in the 14th year of Operation Resolute. The ADF, as part of Maritime Border Command's multi-agency taskforce, conducted security and surveillance activities. In 2020, there were regular Regional Force Security Group deployments and a Shadow tactical unmanned aerial vehicle supported maritime border surveillance activities for the first time.

The ADF continued contributing to Australia's environmental and scientific endeavours in the Antarctic as part of Operation Southern Discovery. Defence undertook geospatial and hydrographic surveys to support the development of the Davis Aerodrome and its all-season aviation capability. Air transport missions from Hobart to Wilkins Aerodrome in the warmer months delivered 194 tonnes of cargo, including three tractors and a snow groomer, while a C-130J Hercules undertook an initial proof-of-concept flight.

Under Operation Solania, which commenced in 1988, the ADF worked with 13 other nations as part of Operation Rai Balang in March to track and thwart multiple illegal fishing operations over more than 14 million square kilometres in the Southwest Pacific.

The ADF also engaged in partner capacity-building in Timor-Leste through the trilateral Exercise Hari'i Hamutuk with the US and Japan in September and October. It partnered with Fiji's Military Forces for construction works activity in the ongoing Exercise Coral Sapper.

RAAF Poseidon aircraft made important contributions to regional security. They flew from Malaysia's Butterworth Air Base to conduct maritime surveillance in the North Indian Ocean and South China Sea as part of Operation Gateway, and from the Kadena Air Base in Japan to help enforce UN Security Council sanctions against North Korea under Operation Argos.

Defence also contributed to life-saving humanitarian efforts in the Pacific. The ADF spearheaded the emergency response to Tropical Cyclone Harold in April, conducting relief flights that delivered supplies to Vanuatu and Fiji. In August, HMAS *Canberra* and her helicopters located lost fishermen on a remote Micronesian island.

The ADF also conducted a virtual scoping activity for Nauru under Operation Render Safe – a longstanding initiative to remove unexploded World War II ordnance from South Pacific nations.

Defence's activities and achievements in 2020 are testimony to the professionalism, resilience and dedication to duty of our military personnel and civilians. In 2020, ADF personnel continued to de-

ploy in support of United Nations' peacekeeping missions in the Middle East and Africa. This included around 39 personnel across Operations Charter in Cyprus, Paladin in Israel and its bordering neighbours, Aslan in South Sudan, and Orenda which started in Mali.

In Egypt, almost 30 of our personnel contributed to the Multinational Force and Observers' efforts towards the long-standing peace arrangements between Egypt and Israel as part of Operation Mazurka.

Across the broader Middle East region, about 600 ADF personnel deployed on Operation Accordion provided overarching support to Operations Highroad, Manitou and Okra, including communications, air mobility, movements support, and command and control.

In Afghanistan, as part of Operation Highroad, the ADF completed missions focused on mentoring and training Afghan forces – in Kandahar, and at the Afghan National Army Officer Academy in Kabul – complementing the progress made by the Afghan defence and security forces.

With peace negotiations between the Afghan Government and the Taliban progressing – and the security capability of the Afghan forces strengthened – Australia has decreased its troop numbers in Afghanistan to 80 personnel. Australia also reduced its naval presence in the Middle East to prioritise defence activities in our immediate region as we contend with a less-benign Indo-Pacific.

The Navy ceased its major fleet unit rotation under Operation Manitou, with HMAS *Toowoomba* completing the last of 68 ship rotations for Australia over a 30-year period spent thwarting terrorism, obstructing organised crime and preventing piracy. Under Operation Okra, 110 ADF personnel continued to support the international coalition against Daesh to prevent the group's resurgence in Iraq and Syria. Australia completed its contribution to Task Group Taji in June, having trained more than 47,000 members of the Iraqi Security Forces. Our Air Task Group finished its seven-year mission at Camp McNamara VC – a significant Australian hub for airborne operations against Daesh – handing the facility back to the US Air Force. Australia also maintained its commitment to Operation Steadfast – our contribution, since 2019, to the NATO mission to ensure resilient and sustainable Iraqi security institutions.

It is fair to say 2020 threw a lot at Australians. First bushfires, then a pandemic, a global recession and a changing regional and strategic environment which is presenting new challenges.

Throughout it all, Defence was there for Australians, supporting them and protecting our national interests.

Defence News 12 January 2021

Famous Philippines battle commemorated

A group of officers and sailors from HMAS *Stuart* had the honour of representing the Royal Australian Navy in October 2020 at the commemoration of the 76th anniversary of the Battle of Leyte Gulf, the largest naval battle of World War II.

Members of the local community attending the ceremony greeted the 20-person party with handshakes, waves, words of gratitude and countless selfies.

Among the hundreds attending the event at MacArthur Landing Memorial were three Australian veterans who were involved in the battle: Rear Admiral Guy Griffiths (retd), David Mattiske and Leonard Roy McLeod. It was the first time Rear Admiral Griffiths had returned since he served as Fo'c'sle Officer and in an anti-aircraft position in HMAS *Shropshire* in the battle he described as "lively".

"The overwhelming welcome that everyone has given us has been incredible," Rear Admiral Griffiths said. "It's a unique honour. I never would have thought on October 20, 1944, that 75 years later I'd be back to have a look ashore to see why we did what we did."

The ceremony to mark the 75th anniversary of the Leyte Landing – and the famous return of US General Douglas MacArthur – was attended by Filipino, American, Australian and Japanese officials.

Leading Seaman Maritime Logistics-Supply Chain Gabrielle Singe was among the group representing *Stuart*.

"I am so blessed to be here as part of *Stuart*, on my first deployment, visiting this important place to commemorate a part of history." "It was an experience I'd never had before," Leading Seaman Singe said. "I didn't know a lot about the battle and the importance of this region until we were on the way here. Now I feel lucky to be here as a member of the Australian Navy to mark this anniversary."

The Australians were thanked for their role in liberating Leyte. About 4000 Australians took part in the battle and 30 were killed, including Captain Emile Dechaineux, when a Japanese dive-bomber struck HMAS *Australia*.

For Seaman Maritime Logistics-Supply Chain Darren Cruz, visiting the Leyte memorial was fulfilment



The memorial of the Battle of Leyte Gulf, at the 75th anniversary of the Leyte Landing in the Philippines.

Photo: LSIS Tara Byrne

of a life goal. His Filipino grandfather had once told him that the MacArthur Landing Memorial was the most special place a Filipino could visit.

"I got goosebumps when I saw the memorial," Seaman Cruz said. "I am so blessed to be here as part of *Stuart*, on my first deployment, visiting this important place to commemorate a part of history."

Commanding Officer of *Stuart* Commander Luke Ryan said it was an honour to represent Australia at the 75th anniversary ceremonies. The Battle of Leyte Gulf was of huge significance and it has meant a lot to myself and the ship's company to be part of the commemorations and to be so warmly embraced by the community."

HMA Ships *Sirius*, *Ararat* and *Leeuwin* joined *Stuart* in further events to commemorate parts of the four-day battle.

The ships were in the region as part of two task groups taking part in multinational exercises and regional engagement activities across northern and southern Asia.

Task Group ships visited Guam, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines and Vietnam during their deployment.



Coach Trip to Cooma

To the NSW Correctional Services Gaol Museum in Vale Street right next to the Cooma Gaol.

Learn about the 200 year penal history of incarceration from convict days to the present in NSW Prisons.

There is a collection of displays. Objects related to punishment and crime such as manacles, leg irons, clothing, weapons and escape devices and other visual documentation.

Change in fuels management adds to Navy capability

The management and operation of naval refuelling services in Darwin was handed back to Navy personnel from contractors this year.

The move is part of an ongoing transformation of the base and the Larrakeyah Defence Precinct.

The Commanding Officer HMAS *Coonawarra*, CMDR Moses Raudino said he was pleased to be able to sign off on the handover from the previously contracted workforce.

"The Defence Fuelling Installation is a key capability that ensures Navy is ready to respond to tasking at a moment's notice," he said.

"The complete control of our fuelling evolutions 'in-house' so to speak, is part of providing comprehensive service and support to HMA Ships at our establishment.

"Fuel operations and logistics is administered by the Fuel Services Branch as a joint ADF capability.

"It is important for this handover that we meet all the requirements set out in the policy and governance to keep our people and platforms safe."

Chief Petty Officer Peter Strzelecki leads the fuelling team.

"We kicked off by filling up HMAS *Ararat* with a fresh 28,780 litres of marine diesel as soon as it came alongside," Chief Petty Officer Peter Strzelecki said.

"It was the first fuelling evolution at *Coonawarra* conducted end to end by uniformed Navy personnel with our complete new team.

"These additional billets ashore (land-based jobs) ensure that uniformed personnel are providing a high quality service to our ships that is always available, even on weekends or after hours when it would be difficult to quickly get a contractor in.

"Increased billets ashore also offer our people up here respite from back-to-back sea postings as part of the new Navy Workforce Generation System reset phase."

2021 Annual General Meeting 4 March 2021

The 2021 AGM will be held on 4 March 2021 at the Eastlakes Football Club, Gungahlin commencing at approximately 1430 immediately after the closing of the General; Meeting programmed for that day commencing at 1330. after lunch.

AGM Agenda

Minutes of the 2020 AGM were published in the April 2020 Bosun's Call

The agenda for the 2021 AGM is as follows.

MINUTES

Acceptance of the Minutes of the 75th AGM

BUSINESS ARISING

Business arising from the minutes of the 75th AGM

REPORTS

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Membership Registrar
Social
Welfare

GENERAL BUSINESS

Election of Honorary Members for 2021
Appointment of Auditor

Election of Office Bearers for 2021

Date of 77th Annual General Meeting
March 2022

Alan Masters

Secretary

Coach Trip to Cooma Wednesday 21 April 2021

Itinerary will be:

0830	Pick-up from the Veteran's Support Centre 9 Burkitt St, Page
0900	Pick-up from the Burns Club car park Kambah
1030	Arrive Cooma Corrective Services Museum
1400	Pick-up from Cooma Ex-Services Club 106 Vale Street
1530	Drop-off at the car park of the Burns Club Kambah
1600	Drop-off at the Veterans Support Centre 9 Burkitt St, Page

The museum is 500 metres from the Ex-Services Club

Contact Tiger Lyons 0447 793 001 or Alan Masters 02 6281 5630 to book a seat

Last sortie for LADS

The Royal Australian Navy's Laser Airborne Depth Sounder (LADS) Flight has conducted its final sortie after 26 years of service.

The world-leading capability was developed in South Australia and since 1993 has been providing Navy and the Australian Government survey data for complex coastal and reef waters that are dangerous or difficult to survey by traditional ship-based methods.

Commanding Officer LADS Flight, Lieutenant Commander Mark Matthews, said LADS had likely prevented numerous groundings on what would otherwise have been uncharted dangers.

"LADS is an incredible capability that allows us to survey more than 20 square nautical miles an hour in places that are not suitable or practical for hydrographic ships," Lieutenant Commander Matthews said.

"For the past three years, LADS's primary mission has been to survey the Great Barrier Reef and other offshore coral reefs and atolls across northern Australia, resulting in major improvements in the charting of these areas.

"Over its life, LADS has charted vast areas of the Australian coast and has deployed to the Cocos Keeling Islands, the sub-Antarctic, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand, collecting hydrographic data to improve the safety for all shipping."

"I am proud of the extraordinary work the LADS Flight has achieved and thank everyone involved over the years."

In total, the LADS Flight has flown more than 3000 sorties, conducted 186 surveys and covered an area of more than 50,000 square kilometres.

Commander Australian Fleet, Rear Admiral Jonathan Mead, paid tribute to the more than 180 Navy personnel who have served in the LADS team and the many contractors who have delivered services in support of the LADS Flight.

"I am proud of the extraordinary work the LADS Flight has achieved and thank everyone involved over the years," Rear Admiral Mead said. "It is a sad occasion to see the end of service of a Navy unit, but it is an opportunity to reflect on an excellent job, Bravo Zulu LADS Flight."

In line with the Defence White Paper 2016, the current hydrographic capabilities of Navy will be replaced by commercial hydrographic companies through the Hydro-Scheme Industry Partnership Program.

More information on LADS Flight is available at: navy.gov.au/fleet/aircraft/laser-airborne-depth-sounder



Navy's Laser Airborne Depth Sounder Flight crew, from left, Petty Officer Jarrod McCann, Chief Petty Officer Luke Heard, Lieutenant Commander Mark Matthews, Lieutenant Cheyne Colley and Leading Seaman John Krasicki.

Photo: Able Seaman Jarrod Mulvihill

While relatively unknown, the Royal Australian Navy used to employ an extremely capable and effective airborne survey asset. The Navy's Laser Airborne Depth Sounder (LADS) Flight formed in 1992 after more than 20 years of research and development.

The first LADS aircraft used was a Fokker F27 built in 1976 and operated by East-West Airlines before being modified to for LADS operations, with modifications including a laser bay and doors under the fuselage, additional fuel tanks, precise navigation systems, and a stabilised platform for the laser.

The Fokker F27 was replaced in November 2009 with a de Havilland Dash 8-202.

The Dash 8 had previously been employed by Fugro LADS Corporation (formally Tenix LADS Corporation) to conduct similar LIDAR survey activities internationally. The Royal Australian Navy was the first and one of only a few military organisations in the world to have employed airborne laser bathymetry.

The heart of the survey system was a powerful laser that determines aircraft height information above the sea surface (and ellipsoid) whilst producing a scan width of up to 598 metres (typically 193 metres for IHO Order 1b surveys), recording depths up to 80 metres deep in pristine waters and topographic heights up to 50 metres above sea level.

Navy personnel operate the survey system from the main cabin of the aircraft. Back on the ground the data is processed prior to being sent to the Australian Hydrographic Office in Wollongong, New South Wales for incorporation into updated nautical charts.

Navy Website

Minutes of NAA (ACT) General Meeting held at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 4 February 2021

Welcome.

Prior to the formal meeting starting, the President welcomed some first-time attendees. Chris Woods, whilst being a member for some time, was making his first attendance at our meetings; COVID and other commitments had precluded earlier attendances. Darren Rush is a member of the Nirimba Sub-section and joined us for the first time. He now lives in Canberra and so we look forward to seeing him more often. Darren's graphic design skills have been utilized in the production of the White Ensign Magazine. The President outlined the meeting procedure that we will follow this year.

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

Present: 13 members as per attendance book.

Apologies: Don Joce, Mike Hardwick, Mike Taylor, Richard and Clare Hobbs, John Small, Kate Reid-Smith

Minute of Last Meeting. The last general meeting was on 5 November 2020 and the minutes appeared in the December 2020 edition of the Bosun's Call. It was considered that there was no outstanding business from that meeting.

Reports.

President. Nothing new to cover.

Vice President. Nil to report.

Secretary. Business as usual.

Treasurer. Financial records have been completed and await auditing.

Membership. We have 46 financial members with 21 still to renew their subscriptions.

Welfare. All shipmates appear to be in good health.

Social. Bev Joce outlined a proposal to vary our Fish'n Chips arrangements during the winter months. The weather works against outdoor dining and furthermore with proposed renovations to Snappers the Yacht Club venue closure will force a change to our arrangements anyway. Bev has suggested we replace our Fish'nChip lunches with a coffee and cake morning tea, say 1100 start, at the GUNGALIN LAKES club in Gungahlin. Members wishing to stay on for lunch could do so easily. This proposal was accepted unanimously and details of arrangements will be made in later Bosun's Calls.

General Business:

Bus Trip. There remains \$1265 unspent from the DVA Grant for bus trips to facilitate outings for veterans. The grant was for bus hire and with the costs of hire having increased due to COVID the range of the trips has been shortened. For example, a trip to Batemans Bay is now beyond our fund limit. Dennis Lyons has investigated

the options and a trip to Cooma to visit the jail and its museum best fits in with our finances. Lunch could be taken at the Services Club which is close by to the jail. A date under consideration is 21 April 2021. This proposal was accepted unanimously by the members present.

Committee Tasking. The Secretary has developed a list of tasks that are needed to be undertaken to ensure the Section meets its obligations. The committee will occasionally seek support from members in relation to some representational duties, for example wreath laying at the Last Post services. A greater sharing of the tasks will ensure the willing horses will not be worn out.

Raffle. Bev conducted a raffle and the winners were Sue Lyons and Graeme Quinn. A reminder that being present at our meetings ensures eligibility to go in the draw for the Christmas raffle.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 4 March at Eastlakes Gungahlin Club starting at 1330 following lunch starting at 1200. The Annual General Meeting will follow the General Meeting.

Meeting closed at 1430.

Alan Masters
Secretary / Treasurer
NAA (ACT)

Notes from Committee Meeting 4 February 2021

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

Brief discussion focussed on the matters to be discussed at the General Meeting.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 4 March 2021 at 1100.

Alan Masters
Secretary / Treasurer

NAA ACT Section Nomination Form 2021 Committee Elections

Position

Nominee

Proposer: Name (Block Letters)

Signature

Seconder: Name (Block Letters)

Signature.....

Date:.....

Endorsement by Nominee

Nominations are to be delivered to

The Secretary, s
NAA ACT Section

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

Subscription and Records Update 2021

Annual Subscription for 2021 \$38.00 (Due now)

Surname.....

Given Names

Signature

Please complete the following details to bring our records up to date

Preferred Title.....Post Nominals.....

Home Address.....

Town/Suburb.....State/Territory.....

Post Code.....

Telephoner (H)

Fax

Email

Spouse/Partner Given Name

Note

When completed please return this form together with your payment to; The Membership Registrar, either at a General meeting or by post to

4 McEachern Crescent MELBA 2615 or pay via the ebanking system to Nav Direct transfer of funds to the NAA (ACT Section). transfer funds to Naval Association of Australia –ACT Section Account BSB: 633 000 Account Number 162 834 097

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.**
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.

18 Mar	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
13 Apr	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
21 Apr	Bus trip to Cooma
20 May	Lakes Golf Club Gungahlin 1100
17 Jun	Lakes Golf Club Gungahlin 1100
1 Jul	Christmas Lunch in July
13 Jul	Lakes Golf Club Gungahlin 1100
19 Aug	Lakes Golf Club Gungahlin 1100
16 Sep	Lakes Golf Club Gungahlin 1100
19 Oct	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
18 Nov	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
2 Dec	Christmas /New Year Lunch
16 Dec	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

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)

International callers:

+61 2 6289 1133

POSTAL ADDRESS FOR ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES:

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

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
March 2021**

- 8 Ted Bryant
- 12 John Small
- 17 Michael Baranovsky
- 22 Jack Aaron
- 24 Bob Ray



HMAS Sirius conducts a replenishment at sea with Japanese Ship Ise in the southern waters off Hawaii during Exercise RIMPAC. Photo: Leading Seaman Christopher Szumlanski



If undeliverable return to
NAA ACT Section
26 Nelson Place
Curtin ACT 2605

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