



The Bosun's Call



Vol 29 No 2

Once Navy, Always Navy

March 2024

10 February 2024—Memorial Service for HMAS Voyager II

The RAN honoured the eighty-one members of HMAS Voyager's ship's company and one civilian dockyard worker who were lost in the collision with HMAS Melbourne. Also remembered were those who survived, and the families of those lost with Voyager at a public memorial service at Voyager Park in Huskisson, commemorating the 60th anniversary of her loss.



Below: HMAS Voyager at anchor in Jervis Bay 9 February 1964

Photo: Staff Cadet W. Fowler, RMC Duntroon, taken from HMAS Melbourne



Above right and left: Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Mark Hammond AO RAN addresses veterans, members of the HMAS Voyager Association, families and the local community during a memorial service conducted at HMAS Voyager Memorial Park in Huskisson, NSW.

Photos: POIS Peter Thompson



Events coming up

- 1 Mar Last Post Ceremony Lay a wreath AB Robert G. Doggett HMAS Canberra
- 25 Apr ANZAC Day
- 2 May Last Post Ceremony Lay a wreath AB James Cummings HMAS Sydney II



Newsletter of the ACT Section of the
Naval Association of Australia

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**Naval Association of Australia
ACT Section
Founded 1 July 1944**
Patron The Hon Sir William Deane AC KBE

Office Bearers 2023

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**General Meetings
Dates and Locations
Programme**

2024

7 Mar	Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
7 Mar	AGM on completion of General Meeting	
4 Apr	Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
2 May	Eastlakes Club Gungahlin	1330
6 Jun	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.

**Committee meeting
Eastlakes Gungahlin
1100 Thursday 7 March 2024**

**Extract from the Chief of Navy's
address to the
Fleet Warfare Forum
HMAS Watson
28 November 2023**

Since World War II, we have never been in a more consequential era in our nation's history than right now. It's illuminating to highlight some data on why this is the case.

Firstly, the environment. More than half of the world's population, eight of the top ten Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) claimants and seven of the world's largest militaries call the Indo Pacific home. Australia is the custodian of the third largest EEZ in the world – a herculean responsibility for a small nation. This is the complex terrain that is our backyard.

Secondly, maritime trade and infrastructure. 80% of global trade by volume and 70% by value is transported by sea. Of that volume, 60% of maritime trade transits through the Indo Pacific. For Australia, over 90% of our consumables are imported by the sea. Maritime infrastructure such as undersea fibre optic cables and seabed oil and gas pipelines connect and fuel the world. Faster and cheaper than satellites, undersea fibre optic cables are responsible for 99% of global internet traffic. With increasing reports of suspected incidents or sabotage of critical seabed infrastructure, security of it can no longer be assumed. For Australia, dislocated as we are from other continents, these undersea lines of communication (uSLOCs) connect us to the world and especially our access to global financial markets. It is our Navy that must assure this access. As Alfred Thayer Mahan wrote:

"The necessity of a navy springs from the existence of peaceful shipping, and disappears with it."

Finally, military. The Indo Pacific is home to the largest military expansion in over 70 years. In 2022, the U.S. had the highest military spending globally (USD\$877 billion) and its spending for that year constituted nearly 40% of total military spending worldwide. The PLAN has more than doubled its fleet of principle combatants in a decade, producing eight cruisers since 2020 and an average of 7.2 corvettes per year in the last decade. Similarly, Japan has grown to a force of 44 destroyers and 23 submarines. India has 68 warships under construction.

This is our era. Defined by a complex environment of strategic competition, increasing maritime trade and infrastructure vulnerabilities and increased militarisation. All amidst persistent challenges to the international Rules Based Order and international law. We can see it in Ukraine, Gaza, Taiwan, Korea and the South China Sea. The contest and competition plays out on, above and below the seas. All of these conflicts and crises have a maritime element and a global impact.

[Fleet Warfare Forum, Chief of Navy Address | Royal Australian Navy](#)

Royal Commission—Quarterly Report – Improving the administration of the claims system

The Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide has recommended urgent action to eliminate the claims backlog and make improvements to the claims administration system. This is detailed in their Interim Report, delivered on 11 August 2022, which can be found on the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide website.

This report outlines progress towards implementing improvements to the administration of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) compensation claims system as recommended in the Royal Commission's Interim Report (Recommendation 3).

Improvements progressed under this recommendation will also implement a number of the 11 priority initiatives from the diagnostic review of the DVA's claims processing system completed by McKinsey & Company in December 2021. The full diagnostic review is available on DVA's website: Government Reports | Department of Veterans' Affairs (dva.gov.au)

Australian Government Response

The Australian Government agrees to this recommendation. The response states:

The Government recognises that some veterans and families do not have a good experience accessing support they deserve.

The Government will consider ways to improve the veterans' experience of the claims system, remove complexity and enhance efficiency in supporting veterans and families navigating the veteran support system.

Measures to improve the claims system will be considered by Government, along with any necessary legislative amendments.

The Government notes that work is already underway in response to this recommendation, taking into account the recommendations of McKinsey & Company's claims process diagnostic to improve the administration of the claims system.

The overall benefits of the implementation of the work program will be demonstrated in the efficiencies reported as noted in the response to Recommendation 2 above.

Progress Update – 1 October 2023 to 31 December 2023

To date, DVA has published two quarterly reports on improving the claims administration system. These can be found on the DVA website.

DVA's program of work for Recommendation 3 is organised into three overarching streams:

- **Efficiency improvements** such as claims screening teams that will reduce times taken to process claims
- **Improvements to the claims experience** such as proactive communications with clients to support the transparency of the claims process
- **Preparing for the future** by undertaking discovery processes for future ICT ecosystem, including ongoing improvements to the MyService portal

Recommendation 3

Recommendation 3 of the Interim Report of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide states:

The Australian Government should improve the administration of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) claims system by 1 July 2024. The changes pursued should aim to improve veterans' experience of the claims system, remove complexity from the system and enhance efficiency in claims processing.

To this end:

DVA, having taken account of the advice received from McKinsey & Company and other relevant sources, should advise the Australian Government about potential measures it could include within a program of work aimed at improving the administration of the claims system.

- The Australian Government and DVA
- The Australian Government should provide DVA, and any other relevant agencies, with the resources needed to implement the agreed program of work. The allocation of these resources to DVA should not be offset by reductions in other resourcing of DVA.
- The Australian Government should seek passage of any legislative amendments required to implement the agreed program of work.
- DVA, and any other relevant agencies, should implement the program of work by 1 July 2024.
- DVA should publicly report on progress towards implementing the program of work on a quarterly basis.
- DVA should publicly report on the expected benefit of each measure included within the program of work, and, once implemented, report on the degree to which each benefit has been realised.

HMAS Diamantina's visits to Hobart— Family Business

HMAS *Diamantina* was the first vessel of its kind to be the flagship of the Royal Hobart Regatta, now in its 186th year. It was a proud moment for the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Commander Georgina Rae-Martin, (at right) and crew.

"It's been such an honour and a privilege to be the first minehunter coastal to come down to be flagship of the Royal Hobart Regatta," Lieutenant Commander Rae-Martin said.



Arriving in Hobart ahead of the three-day Regatta at Princes Wharf No. 1, more than 2000 people toured the ship and asked the crew questions ."

Breaking down barriers and creating a positive culture on board *Diamantina* has been the highlight for Lieutenant Commander Rae-Martin.

"Being the first female commanding officer of a mine warfare and clearance diving vessel not only shows that we can open doors, but break down barriers. When my little girls grow up, I get to show them that they can be anything they want to be," she said.

Defence News



Below: HMAS *Diamantina*'s visit in 1978, —her last before becoming the main exhibit in the Queensland Maritime Museum Brisbane QLD in 1980



Above left: HMAS *Diamantina*'s Executive Officer Lieutenant Daniel McMillan, and his family

Above: ABCD Luke Alderton, with his family

Photos: AB Lucinda Allanson



HMAS *Diamantina* berthed in Hobart yesterday and was immediately dubbed the baby and honeymoon ship.

The ship's chief petty officer, Charles MacKenzie, learned he was the proud father of a baby boy.

And... AB David Nelson, of

Victoria was met by his fiancée, and they dashed off to get married.

Diamantina had been engaged in classification ac-

tivities with Anzus partners, New Zealand, and the United States, for the past three months in the Tasman Sea, Coral Sea, and the South Fiji basin.

● Lieut Peter Corney of North Hobart, shows his mother, Mrs K. Corney, how the radar works.

Hobart Mercury
9 June 1978

Replenishment at Sea (RAS)



8 November 2023

The RAN is undertaking a regional presence deployment in Southeast and Northeast Asia.

During the deployment, HMA Ships *Toowoomba*, *Stalwart* and *Brisbane* demonstrated the Royal Australian Navy's ability to execute sustained operations in the deployed environments through superior Replenishment at Sea capability. During this evolution, *Stalwart* completing her first dual Replenishment at Sea evolution providing HMA Ships *Toowoomba* and *Brisbane* with F76 fuel, and F44 fuel for the embarked MH-60R Helicopters. Concurrently, *Stalwart* launched her embarked MH-60R Helicopter, *Boomerang*, to conduct a Vertical Replenishment of stores and mission-essential equipment to *Toowoomba*.

Regional presence deployments demonstrate Australia's commitment to, and engagement with, the region. The deployments play a vital role in Australia's long-term security and prosperity by protecting Australia's interests, preserving a rules-based order, enhancing cooperation and relationships with regional partners and allies, and developing capability and interoperability.

Photo: LSIS Daniel Goodman

HM Australian Fleet comings



15 December 2023

Left: HMAS *Brisbane* returns to her home port of Fleet Base East, Sydney, New South Wales, following the completion of a successful deployment.

Below: ABBM Melita Tennant greets her partner on arrival of HMAS *Brisbane* berths alongside Fleet Base East in Sydney, following a successful regional presence deployment.

Sydney Photos: *LSIS Matthew Lyall*



13 December 2023

Above: Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Mark Hammond, AO, RAN speaks with family members waiting on the wharf for the return of HMAS *Toowoomba* from a Regional Presence Deployment.

Right: HMAS *Stalwart* returns to Fleet Base West after concluding a Regional Presence Deployment.



A MH-60R Seahawk helicopter conducts a fly past as HMAS *Toowoomba* returns to Fleet Base West after conducting a Regional Presence Deployment.

WA Photos: *CPOIS Yuri Ramsey*

...and Goings

23 January 2024

The RAN is undertaking an Indo-Pacific Regional Presence Deployment throughout South, Southeast and Northeast Asia.

During the deployment, HMAS Warramunga will conduct training, exercises and other engagements with Australia's regional partners.

The Regional Presence Deployments demonstrate Australia's commitment to, and engagement with, the region. The deployments play a vital role in Australia's long-term security



and prosperity by protecting Australia's interests, preserving a rules-based order, enhancing cooperation and relationships with regional partners and allies, and developing capability and interoperability.

Above: HMAS Warramunga departs Fleet Base East for an Indo-Pacific Presence Deployment

Left: CO HMAS Warramunga, Commander Jennifer Graham RAN, is farewelled by her husband and children onboard HMAS Warramunga

Photos: ABIS Benjamin Ricketts

ANZAC Day—Canberra Australian War Memorial

Mr David Manolas
National President
Naval Association of Australia
2 Lakeview Drive
MURRUMBATEMAN ACT 2582

Dear Mr Manolas,

I write to you on behalf of the Council of the Australian War Memorial and the ACT Branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia (RSL), to advise you of the services and ceremonies that will take place on Anzac Day 2024.

The Dawn Service will again be held in the Captain Reg Saunders Courtyard commencing at 5.30 am. The Vice Chief of the Defence Force, Vice Admiral David Johnston AC RAN, will deliver the Commemorative Address on this occasion.

This year, the RSL veterans' march will return to the Parade Ground and will

commence from Anzac Parade at 9.30 am. On conclusion of the march, Afghanistan veteran Mr Damien Thomlinson will deliver the Anzac Day Address.

Later that afternoon, the Anzac Day Last Post Ceremony will conclude the day's commemorations starting at 4.30 pm. The previous official wreath laying will no longer occur, however should you wish to attend and lay a wreath, please contact the Last Post Ceremony team directly at lastpostceremony@awm.gov.au. A representative is not required should you be unable to attend.

For further information regarding Anzac Day, please contact the Events and Ceremonies team via ceremony@awm.gov.au or on 02 6206 9813.

Yours sincerely,


Matt Anderson

20th Anniversary of the opening of the Australian Ex-Prisoner of War Memorial—Ballarat



His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley, attend the Australian Ex-Prisoner Of War Memorial 20th anniversary event at Ballarat, Victoria. This February marks a significant milestone as the Australian Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial in Ballarat commemorates 20 years since its grand opening in February 2004.

This memorial was the first dedicated tribute in Australia to the brave ex-prisoners of war and was the culmination of more than eight years of planning. The idea for the memorial was sparked during a Remembrance Day ceremony in 1996, where remarks were made about the need for a more fitting tribute to Australian prisoners of war and their families.

The memorial stands as a testament to the pain and suffering endured by all prisoners of war, honouring the thousands of mates left behind and recognizing the sacrifices made by families during wartime. It displays 36,400 names of Australian ex-POWs on a 130-meter-long granite wall, serving as a powerful reminder of their courage and resilience.



Above: His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia (right) and Councillor Des Hudson OAM, Mayor of the City of Ballarat, walk past the 36,400 names etched into the Australian Ex-Prisoner of War Memorial in Ballarat, Victoria.

Below: Commanding Officer HMAS Ballarat, Commander Benjamin Dalton, CSC RAN (left) and Able Seaman Medic Adam Falvey lay a wreath during the Australian Ex-Prisoner Of War Memorial 20th anniversary event

Photos: CPOIS Andrew Dakin

It's official: Friday afternoon is the most dangerous time on Canberra's roads (and other crash stats) - RIQTACT

19 February 2024 [James Coleman](#)

The Monaro Highway near Hume has again been named the most dangerous road in Canberra, according to insurance claim data from AAMI.

The stretch of treacherous dual-carriageway tarmac was beaten to the infamous number-one position on 2022's 'Crash Index' by Canberra Avenue in Fyshwick but has returned to take the dubious honour in 2023.

Canberra Avenue is close behind in second place, followed by Gundaroo Drive in Gungahlin and Drakeford Drive in Kambah, while fifth place was a tie between the Monaro Highway again, albeit closer to Fyshwick, and Newcastle Street, also in Fyshwick.

"It seems Fyshwick is still a hotspot no matter the road," the index reads.

The insurance company doesn't include data on the exact number of claims but said it analysed more than 340,000 accident claims across the country to "expose common crash statistics and the most dangerous roads in each capital city and territory".

Nose-to-tail prangs were the most common type of collision in the ACT, making up one in four claims.

In the ACT and nationally, Fridays were the worst day of the week for accidents (16 per cent), while afternoons proved the most common time. Almost one-third of accidents occurred between 1 pm and 4:30 pm.

Male drivers (54 per cent) were more likely than females (46 per cent) to be involved in accidents, and the worst offenders were drivers aged 35-49 (24 per cent).

Kim Bessel is a driver trainer with Fifth Gear Motoring in Canberra and says the data comes as no surprise.

"They're all arterial roads, they're all as busy as heck in the mornings and afternoons, and so it's highly likely you're going to have nose-to-tail accidents because people are rushing to work or home, not leaving enough space and racing through intersections."

This was also common to all other states and territories, except for Hobart and the Northern Territory, "where accidental damage while parked and collisions with an animal were the leading type of crash".

The worst in his experience is Canberra Avenue between Fyshwick and Queanbeyan, mainly for the sheer amount of traffic it has to hold.



It's hoped the upcoming safety improvement works will change the Monaro Highway's reputation as a crash hotspot.

"It's 80 km/h, and then there are traffic lights that force everyone to come to a stop, as opposed to the Tuggeranong Parkway, for instance, where – although they're travelling fast – everybody is flowing."

For the same reason, he's pleased to see the ACT Government finally ridding the Monaro Highway of its traffic lights and replacing the intersections at Lanyon Drive, Mugga Way, Tralee Street and Shepherd Street with high-speed flyovers.

"High speed is about getting volume moving, but when you bring it to a standstill all the time, that doesn't really work."

Kim also confirms traffic on a Friday afternoon to be "mad, especially on a long weekend", to the point he's told his fellow trainers to avoid running Learner-driver courses at that time.

"It comes down to distraction," he says.

"That doesn't necessarily mean everyone is on their phones. Distraction can be as simple as, 'Thank God, the week's over – I can relax'. Or, 'I can't wait to get to my mate's place and finally have a cold beer'. But actually, you're still driving."

Photo: ACT Government. But it's not all bad news.

15 September 2023 Report stated

Monaro Highway in Hume has been named the most dangerous hotspot for crashes in Canberra in insurance provider AAMI's latest Crash Index.

AAMI analysed thousands of motor insurance claims from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 to determine the most dangerous roads in each capital city and territory, as well as some common crash statistics.

1. Monaro Highway, Hume
2. Canberra Avenue, Fyshwick
3. Gundaroo Drive, Gungahlin
4. Drakeford Drive, Kambah
5. Monaro Highway, Fyshwick and Newcastle Street, Fyshwick
6. Gungahlin Drive, down from third place in 2022
7. Pialligo Avenue, a new entrant to the list
8. Sulwood Drive in Kambah, up from ninth place in 2022
9. Majura Parkway, another new entrant.

Australian Defence Force Academy—2023 Graduation



Above: The Chief of the Defence Force, General Angus J. Campbell, AO, DSC, presents Midshipman Georgia Braggett, RAN with the Chief of the Defence Force Sword of Honour for Leadership.

Right: The Deputy Chief of Navy, Rear Admiral Jonathan Earley CSC, RAN (Representing the Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Mark Hammond AO, RAN) presents Midshipman Edward Brownlee, RAN with the Chief of Navy prize

Photos: Thomas Lucraft



The Australian Defence Force's newest officers graduated from the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) on the 14th December 2023.

More than 800 ADFA Trainee Officers were on Parade to celebrate the graduation of 274 Midshipmen and Officer Cadets, which marks the culmination of their three years at the Academy at the completion of their military training and academic studies.

The Parade was reviewed by His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia.

2024 Annual General Meeting Agenda 7 March 2024

The 2024 AGM will be held on 7 March 2024 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 2023 AGM were published in the May 2023 Bosun's Call and are repeated in this issue on the following pages.

The agenda for the 2024 AGM is as follows.

MINUTES

Acceptance of the Minutes of the 78th AGM

BUSINESS ARISING

Business arising from the minutes of the 78th AGM

REPORTS

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Membership Registrar
- Social
- Welfare

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Election of Honorary Members for 2024
- Appointment of Auditor
- Election of Office Bearers for 2024

Date of 79th Annual General Meeting
7 March 2024

Alan Masters

Secretary

Minutes of NAA (ACT) 78th Annual General Meeting held at the Eastlake Gungahlin Club on 2 March 2023

Meeting Opened.

The President declared the meeting open at 1425.

Present.

12 Members as listed in the Attendance book.

Apologies.

Apologies received are listed in Attendance book.

Minutes of 77th AGM.

The minutes of the 77th AGM held on 4 March 2022 were detailed in the May 2022 and March 2023 Bosuns' Call. These were taken as read.

Motion: The minutes of the 77th AGM be accepted.

Moved: Darren Rush Secoded: Stewart Gordon. Carried.

Business arising from minutes of 77th AGM.

Nil.

Reports.

President:

See Attachment A

Secretary.

See Attachment B

Treasurer

See Attachment C

Membership Registrar

See Attachment D

Appointment of Honorary Members

In accordance with constitutional requirements, the following are to be appointed Honorary Members for 2023:

The Honourable Sir William Deane, Patron
VADM M. Hammond, RAN, Chief of Navy

On notification of the name of the naval representative at the Embassy of the United States of America, he/she will be offered Honorary Membership

CAPT J. Hutchison 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

Ms Caroline Kennedy will be offered Honorary Membership for the duration of her appointment as Ambassador of the United States of America to Australia

Motion: The above named persons be appointed Honorary Members for 2023.

Moved: Joe Slaats Secoded: Stewart Gordon. Carried

Election of Office Bearers

The President vacated the Chair and invited Harry Beardsell to be the Returning Officer for the election of office bearers. He declared nominations received by the Secretary were in order and as there were no positions being contested, he duly declared the nominated persons elected to the positions as listed:

President David Manolas

Vice President Alex McGown

Secretary Alan Masters

Treasurer Alan Masters

Committee Peter Cooke-Russell, John Small, Dennis Lyons, Joe Slaats, Stewart Gordon, Alaric O'Neill.

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 now be reviewed as required. Therefore the appointment of an auditor is no longer required.

Next AGM.

The next AGM will be held on 7 March 2024.

There being no other business the President closed the meeting at 1440.

Acting Secretary

Dennis Lyons

NAA(ACT)



Attachments A, B, C and D to Minutes of 77th Annual General Meeting of the ACT Section of the Naval Association of Australia

Attachment A—PRESIDENT’S REPORT

I wish to take this opportunity to thank those who were able to participate in the AGM and, to congratulate the members of the 2022 Section Committee for your efforts and companionship throughout the year. We are all enriched through your dedication and tireless efforts; BZ to you all.

David Manolas
President
NAA (ACT)

Attachment B—SECRETARY’S REPORT

Administration of the business of the Section is a simple but not an onerous task. It requires, for the most part, regular attention to the numerous e-mails, not all of which require an action. I have been ably supported by other committee members and in particular wish to thank Stewart Gordon for the excellent work he did in the organizing of the HMAS Canberra 2 Commemorative service in August and Dennis Lyons who stepped in and took the minutes of the meetings while I was overseas. I would also like thank Peter Cooke-Russell for his wonderful support. He is the NAA memory bank for me and I am most grateful for his advice and, in particular, his roles as Editor of the Bosun’s Call and as the Membership Registrar. Without the BC I can foresee a fall off in our membership numbers.

Through my eyes, the real picture of the Section is one of us having about 15 – 20 active members and the remainder being inactive members. This is probably a realistic situation given the age profile of our membership. This profile drives our timing of meetings and thus creates a dilemma for our younger members who are still in the workforce. It is noteworthy that the Committee membership has an average age in the late 70s and I, for one, give notice now that I will not offer my services in a committee role in my 86th year which is only two years away. The replacement of committee members is perhaps our biggest challenge and one that is probably shared by many other NAA Sections and Sub-sections.

I believe we are meeting the NAA objectives, albeit on a small scale, and that is something we should all be proud of.

Alan F Masters
Secretary
NAA(ACT)

Attachment C - TREASURER’S REPORT

The end of year financial report has been audited and shows a loss has been incurred again in our operating expenses. The full picture of the financial situation is apparent in the audited return which is available from the Treasurer.

Our main source of income remains the subscription fees and with a full financial membership approaching 55 this means we have an operating income of \$2100. This can increase by the few donations that come from generous members. Our fixed costs include NAA capitation, our pro rata contribution to volunteer insurance cover, printing and postage for the Bosun’s Call, accommodation costs for our delegate’s attendance at National Council meetings when held outside of Canberra and our donations to selected charities. This year the purchase of a new computer added an expense that will come around every five years at most.

We are fortunate to not have to pay for meeting rooms and not to reimburse our volunteers for their ceremonial contributions that help us meet one of the national objectives.

Without generating a constant increase in our membership, future treasurers will have to maintain an even closer control of our expenditure.

Alan F Masters
Treasurer
NAA (ACT)

Attachment D— MEMBERSHIP REPORT

2023 AGM Membership Report

Full Mem- bers		56	
Restricted Members			
	Honorary	9	
	Club	2	
	Hon Life	2	
Total		69	
During 2022	Gains		Losses
Members	Full	2	
Deceased	Full		3
	Restricted		1
Archived	Full		8
Total		2	12

Peter Cooke-Russell
Membership[Registrar
NAA (ACT)

Minutes of NAA (ACT) General Meeting held at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 1 February 2024

Meeting started at 1335 with the Odes recited by David Manolas.

wish to be raised should be forwarded to the President.

Present: 15 members and two visitors as per attendance book.

The reports were received by members present.

Apologies: J Small, M. Hardwick, J. Slaats, P. Gillin

General Business:

There were no general business items.

Minute of Last Meeting. The minutes of the General meeting on 2 November 2023 appeared in the December 2023 edition of the Bosun's Call. It was considered there was no outstanding business from that meeting.

Close of Meeting.

The meeting closed at 1412.

Motion: The minutes of the General Meeting held on 2 November 2023 be accepted.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, 7 March 2024 at 1330 at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club followed by the 79th Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Alex McGown Seconded: D. Lyons Carried.

Alan Masters

Reports.

Secretary / Treasurer

Vice President. There will be Last Post services on 8 and 28 February, any volunteers to lay the wreath will be gratefully accepted

NAA (ACT)

Secretary. Business as usual.

Treasurer. Subscription renewals are coming in and the books are ready for the auditor's checking.

Membership. On 1 February we had 36 full financial members with 18 still to renew their membership. Honorary members for 2023 will be appointed at the AGM.

Welfare. John Small's treatment continues, and Joe and Mary Slaats are presently encountering rough seas. Best wishes are given to them all.

Social. Fish'n Chips has resumed at the Canberra Yacht Club – see BC for details.

President. The RAN bereavement pin package was shown to members. This package was made available, on request, by the previous Chief of Navy to anyone who had served in the RAN. Member Darren Rush had provided input to the card to accompany the pin and his efforts were gratefully acknowledged.

- Letters of appreciation supporting the award of certificate of merit were awarded to Alex McGown and Alan Masters along with the Certificate of Merit to Alex.
- A welcome was extended to Heather Milward on her joining the Section.
- The AGM of the NAA will be held in Canberra in May and any matters members may

Notes from Committee Meeting 1 February 2024

Present: David Manolas, Alex McGown, Alan Masters, Peter Cooke-Russell, , Dennis Lyons, Stewart Gordon, Alaric O'Neill
Apology: Joe Slaats

Discussions focused on the agenda for the General Meeting and issues relating to:

- the challenges of member recruitment,
- the creation of a Veterans' Hub in Queanbeyan to be managed by RSL Life Care, NSW,
- affiliation of other veteran organisations, especially WRANS and Naval Women's Association, ACT,
- an invitation from Canberra Services Club for support and an offer to use their facility for meetings, and
- nominations for committee positions for 2024.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be at the Eastlakes Gungahlin Club on 7 March 2024 at 1100.

Alan Masters
Secretary / Treasurer

**NAA ACT Section
Nomination Form
2024 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 29 February 2024

**Subscription and Records Update 2024
Annual Subscription for 2024 \$40.00 (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 banking 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 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

- 7 Mar Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 1200
- 21 Mar Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
- 4 Apr Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 1200
- 18 Apr Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
- 2 May Lunch Eastlakes Gungahlin 1200
- 16 May Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
- 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
- 5 Aug Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

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 epartment 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
March 2024**

Heather Milward

John Small

Jack Aaron

NB

Annual General Meeting

Will be held on

Thursday 7 March 2024

At

**Eastlake Football Club Gungahlin
commencing after the General meeting starting at 1330**



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

**POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA**

Paste Address label Here

The Bosun's Call Vol 29 No 2