



# The Bosun's Call



Vol 25 No 8

Once Navy, Always Navy

September 2020

## Teddy Sheean Awarded Victoria Cross for Australia



*His Excellency General the Hon David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, with Chief of Navy VADM Michael Noonan AO, announces that Ordinary Seaman 'Teddy' Sheean is to receive a posthumous Victoria Cross*

It was announced by the Governor General at Government House on 12 August that Her Majesty the Queen has approved a posthumous Victoria Cross for Australia to Ordinary Seaman Edward Sheean and he stated that "We will now work with the family and the Navy to arrange an investiture ceremony that will pitch the magnitude of the award."

Attending the announcement, Chief of Navy Vice Admiral Mike Noonan said Ordinary Seaman Sheean's heroism was a standard by sailors of the modern Navy to aspire to.

"It is indeed a great day for our Navy, our nation and for a young Australian sailor who paid the high-

est price to save his shipmates from certain death," Vice Admiral Noonan said.

"His spirit of courage, sacrifice and service is an enduring part of our Navy, living on through our fleet and our people.

"This is a proud moment for his family who have fought for many decades for this outcome and I congratulate them on their perseverance.

"The Victoria Cross for Australia is a great honour for the late Teddy Sheean, for his shipmates, for the RAN, for the ADF and for our nation".

*Edited from Navy Daily webpage*

**Events coming up**

2 Sep	Last Post Ceremony End of WWII and Battle for Australia commemoration
18 Oct	Last Post Ceremony ERA4 HN Richards HMAS Sydney II
27 Oct	Last Post Ceremony CPO DM Viney HMAS Perth



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

Should the pandemic be lessened over the next two months the following provisional meetings are advised. The Committee meetings are back. Venue is to be advised, see Page 3.

3 Sep VSC Burkitt Street Page	1330
1 Oct Place to be advised	1330
5 Nov Place to be advised	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.

### A/President's Note

Shipmates,

August has been a busy and eventful month for our Section. There has been much to celebrate and commemorate, first the wonderful news of Teddy Sheean VC. We can perhaps only imagine how this news was met within the family, particularly after all that they have gone through, our thoughts are with them and every member of the wider Australian Naval community. This is a momentous event in the history of the RAN and the nation. Our WWII veterans: Doug Blake, Ted Bryant, Tim Holt, Lionel Mead, John Cruickshank and Merle Hare, are also in our thoughts and we salute you and thank you for your service, on this the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WWII. How we wish we could be in your company to learn more of your experiences and what your hopes and dreams were when peace prevailed. When we think of WWII, we need to remember and never forget the dangers that confronted our nation during the Battle for Australia.

Our annual commemorative service at the HMAS Canberra Memorial brought us together under very gloomy skies and threatening rain. This year we enjoyed the company of our VIP Guests who braved the conditions and shared in the commemoration of the loss of *Canberra* (1) at the Battle of Savo Island. We were particularly pleased to welcome CN to the service this year and, we are much indebted to those who worked so hard in such trying conditions, to ensure we remembered those lost on 9 August 1942. It was not a day to venture outside without due consideration of all that we are having to contend with right now; for those who were not able to attend, be assured we knew you were with us in spirit and for that we thank you! We are also so appreciative and proud of the service conducted by the HMAS *Canberra* (III) to mark this commemoration in the seas of the Solomon Islands, thank you all.

Some of the other events we have been involved in:

- Myself, Alan Masters and Peter Cooke-Russell attended the HMAS Canberra (1) Commemorative Plaque Ceremony at the AWM on Fri 07 Aug 20;
- Alan Masters represented the Section at the Fri 07 Aug 20 AWM Last Post Ceremony;
- Alex McGown represented the Section on the occasion of VP Day at the Sat 15 Aug 20 AWM Last Post Ceremony;
- Alex McGown represented the Section on the occasion of The Battle of Long Tan Commemorative Service, Tue 18 Aug 20 at the Vietnam War Memorial; and looking ahead,

Alex and I will attend the Last Post Ceremony at the AWM on Wed 02 Sep 20, which marks the anniversary of the Japanese Surrender in Tokyo Bay. This service will also incorporate the Battle for Australia ceremony (usually a separate ceremony).

I am looking forward to our next committee meeting and to seeing those who may be able to join us afterwards for an 'informal' Section Meeting. May I also say that I believe we can all be proud of the stance the NAA took in supporting the Sheean family and the Navy, in the pursuit of the first VC to be awarded to a member of the RAN. Well Done - the NAA!

Thankyou Peter, for putting together another outstanding Bosun's Call.

Please take care in this most eventful year, our thoughts are with each of you and your loved ones.

Yours aye,

David Manolas

A/President  
NAA ACT Section

## Op-Ed — 75 years since the end of the Second World War: Honouring the one million that served

**The Hon Darren Chester MP  
Minister for Veterans' Affairs  
Minister for Defence Personnel**

Monday, 10 August 2020

The Second World War had a significant and enduring impact on all Australians.

Around 20 years had passed since the end of the First World War and during those two decades our country endured significant challenges, from losing 60,000 men, caring for the many thousands that came back, the Great Depression and at points, sky-rocketing unemployment.

And while all these events had a profound effect on Australia, the Second World War changed and shaped our nation forever — redefining aspects of the economic, domestic and international relations landscape, and influencing social issues such as female employment and Indigenous service.

Almost one million Australians served during the Second World War, fighting in theatres of war across the globe, from Europe and the Middle East through South East Asia to the Pacific. Keep in mind, this was at a time when the total population of Australia was around 7 million.

Over 39,000 died and some 30,000 Australian service men and women were made prisoners of war. Most of those taken prisoner were captured by the Japanese during their advance and capture of Singapore in early 1942. While many Australians who were prisoners of war of Germany had a strong chance of returning home at the end of the war, over one-third of prisoners of the Japanese died in captivity.

Australian women played a vital role, serving as nurses overseas, in auxiliary services in Australia and overseas and as workers throughout the war, maintaining our agricultural and manufacturing interests at home.

We should never forget that this was a war not only fought on foreign lands, but one that came to the Australian mainland. From air raids on Darwin, Broome and across Northern Australia, to midget

submarine attacks on Sydney Harbour, there were hundreds of Australians killed.

The fear of an all-out attack on Australia by Japanese forces was very real.

Australia's armed forces employed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in de-facto units to carry out reconnaissance of the northern Australian coastline, where they assisted locating Japanese and Allied aircraft crash sites.

The understanding and connection to country that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people had proved to be of great benefit in the defence of the Australian mainland and islands to the north.

And we should never forget the powerful bonds created with our neighbours in the Pacific, particularly on the Kokoda Track where Australians were supported by the locals of Papua New Guinea who carried supplies forward and transported seriously wounded and sick Australian soldiers to safety.

Their compassion and care earned them admiration and respect from the Australians, who dubbed these men their 'fuzzy wuzzy angels'.

This year on 15 August, we mark the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, also known as Victory in the Pacific Day. This is an opportunity for the Australian community to publicly acknowledge the service and sacrifice of veterans of the Second World War, and also recognise the contribution made by all Australians. More than 12,000 veterans of the Second World War are still with us today.

I encourage all Australians to seize the opportunity to talk to any relative, friend or neighbour who lived through the Second World War to share the experiences and stories of this great generation and to say 'thank you for your service'.

Lest we forget.

### ACT Section Gathering 3 September 2020

**The next NAA Committee meeting will be held on Thursday 3 September 2020 at the Veterans Support Centre (VSC), 9 Burkitt Street, Page, ACT commencing at 1100. This will be followed by an informal gathering of all NAA members from 1230 in the BBQ area of VSC.** The gathering is to gauge member's feelings about holding future meeting at VSC once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. A small eats lunch of party pies, party sausage rolls and baby frankfurters will be provided at no cost, drinks will be available on a gold coin donation basis and will include tea, coffee or soft drinks. Tables and chairs will be set out in the BBQ area in accordance with ACT Health requirements.

For catering purposes, we need to know the numbers attending no later than 1700 on Wednesday 2 September 2020. It would be appreciated if you would reply to this email or contact

**Tiger Lyons on his mobile number 0447793001 and let us know your intentions.**

## Sheean VC—Panel Of Experts Report

Teddy Sheean is the first member of the Royal Australian Navy to receive the Victoria Cross.

The potential for award of the Victoria Cross to 10 members of the RAN and one RNer serving in the RAN was reviewed by the Defence Honours and Awards Tribunal (DHAAT) between 2011 and 2013. It did not recommend the award to any of them. Another review of Sheean's valor by the DHAAT was instituted in 2019 with the result that it recommended that the VC be awarded to Sheean.

This was not agreed by the Federal Government, but due to the strong reaction by the people, the Prime Minister asked a panel of eminent Australians (Experts) to examine respectively the detailed work conducted by the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal (the Tribunal) on two separate occasions into Sheean's actions on 1 December 1942 during the sinking of HMAS *Armidale*. The Panel was unanimous in its conclusions and recommendations to the Prime Minister.

The Panel, led by former Memorial Director, Dr Brendan Nelson AO, found compelling new evidence in support of higher recognition for Sheean. The decision was welcomed and it would be a matter for consideration by the Queen.

The Victoria Cross for Australia is the only award within Australia's Honours and Awards system that requires Her Majesty's approval which was announced on 12 August 2020.

□

### Extracts from the Panel's report are as follows:

The Panel is convinced by the evidence that emerged after the writing of the ROP [Report of Proceedings] that Sheean, having received the order to abandon ship, made his way to the ship's side and assisted Able Seaman Edward Keith 'Ted' Pellett to release the ship's motor-boat. He could, like Pellett, have survived. Instead, Sheean rejected the opportunity offered by the relative safety of the motor-boat and returned to his action station at the aft Oerlikon. He made this choice in an attempt to disrupt the Japanese aircraft that were strafing both the ship and his shipmates in the water. Sheean made a conscious choice to fight the enemy and protect his shipmates rather than seek an opportunity to survive.

□

The Australian official history states that "during the action one bomber and one fighter were seen to crash into the sea". The Panel has uncovered new evidence from the Japanese military archives in the National Institute for Defence Studies, Tokyo, showing that two Japanese bombers were damaged but were not brought down. Although the aircraft did not crash, the Panel is satisfied that the effect of Sheean's action was a deterrent to

the strafing pilots and undoubtedly saved his shipmates' lives by drawing fire away from them and onto himself. His action was remarkably effective, given that Sheean was a loader rather than the gunner on the Oerlikon.

□

Distinct requirements and considerations apply to each function. Importantly, the obligations imposed on the Tribunal when it conducts a review do not so bind it when it carries out an inquiry.

It is important to understand that the two Tribunals were engaged in different statutory processes, and were subject to different constraints. The 2013 Inquiry had terms of reference which required it to place an emphasis on Government policy. The 2019 Review was not legally constrained by Government policy and assessed Sheean's actions strictly against the eligibility criteria for the *Victoria Cross for Australia*.

□

As the Panel will set out in section 6.1, the 2013 Inquiry's heavy reliance on {Commanding Officer HMAS *Armidale* LCDR] Richards' inadequate ROP constituted an error of judgment. Several witness statements added essential information that was omitted from the ROP, and in parts contradicted it. The ROP was both incomplete and, in part, inaccurate.

In the 2013 Inquiry, although the terms of reference expressly directed the Tribunal to: "make recommendations on the eligibility of the naval and military members, as listed, to be awarded the *Victoria Cross*, the *Victoria Cross for Australia*, or other forms of appropriate recognition for their gallantry or valour", it did not explicitly address the eligibility criteria contained within the *Victoria Cross for Australia* regulations in its consideration of the Sheean case.

□

The first important evidence was the testimony of the Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Michael Noonan. Informed by months of detailed research undertaken by the Royal Australian Navy, Noonan, in testimony to the Tribunal, said:

*'Sheean's actions on that day, 1 December 1942, were absolutely among the most conspicuous and gallant we've seen in our Navy.'*

The second source of evidence was Grant Sheean's account of a 1992 conversation with Ted Pellett. Pellett confirmed to him that rather than remaining at the gun, Sheean had left his post to assist Pellett in releasing a motor-boat. Sheean then observed his mates were being strafed in the water, and while unwounded, decided to go back to the Oerlikon to return fire on the Japanese aircraft. While accepting the 2019 Tribunal's assessment, the Panel assigned less weight to this evidence, because it was being relayed from the recollections

# Sheean VC—Panel Of Experts Report

of a then elderly veteran 28 years after the conversation had occurred.

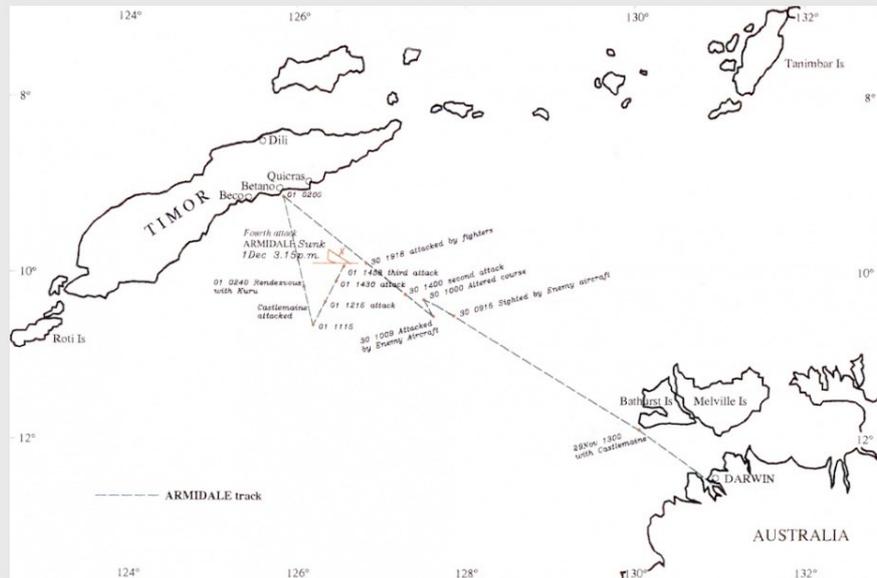
handling of Sheean's citation, as will be set out in section 7.3.

Importantly, the 2019 Review was not required to consider or be bound by Government policy in relation to retrospective *Victoria Cross* awards. It focussed entirely on a merits review of the case against the *Victoria Cross for Australia* regulations.

The Panel's report can be viewed at [www.pmc.gov.au/resource-centre/pmc/historic-victoria-cross-report-expert-panel](http://www.pmc.gov.au/resource-centre/pmc/historic-victoria-cross-report-expert-panel)

The Panel is of the view that the 2013 Inquiry assigned insufficient weight to Pellett's statement. This evidence showed that Sheean was uninjured at the time he made the decision to return. Had he moved to the motor-boat with Pellett, he would have had a reasonable chance of surviving the sinking. In choosing to return to the highly exposed Oerlikon gun while uninjured, in the context of a rapidly sinking ship under heavy strafing from enemy aircraft, Sheean decided to give up his chance of survival in order to protect his shipmates in the water.

The inadequate description of events was not purposeful. Nevertheless, whatever the reasons, the Panel finds that, objectively, maladministration did occur. The incomplete and partly inaccurate ROP, by omission, contributed to the maladministration, compounded by the Australian Commonwealth Naval Board (ACNB) and the Admiralty's



# HMAS Canberra I Memorial Services



As can be seen from the photos on this page, the service remembering the loss of HMAS Canberra I with crew 84 and 1200 USN crew members killed in the Battle of Savo Island was beset by cold and damp conditions which resulted in the memorial service being severely shortened.

Wreaths were laid by:

- The Chief of Navy
- Vice Chief of the RAAF
- USA Naval Attaché
- HMAS Canberra/Shropshire Association
- NZ Defence Attaché
- ACT Section NAA
- Naval Historical Society ACT Chapter
- War Widows Guild ACT Branch



Above: Chief of Navy VADM Michael Noonan laying a wreath on behalf of the RAN

Above: ACT Section President David Manolas talking with Chief of Navy. CAPT Matt Ort USN to right of photo  
Right: HMAS Canberra I Memorial Kings Park Canberra



Left: ACT Section Committee members reminiscing on conditions on the upper deck during inclement weather  
From left to right, Peter Cooke-Russell, John Short, Alan Masters, David Manolas and Alex McGown. Tiger Lyons was there, but missed the fall in call, JJ Harrison was in the Sickbay

# HMAS Canberra I Memorial Services

In a solemn sunrise ceremony in the seas of the Solomon Islands, 84 members of HMAS Canberra III held tiny wooden crosses bearing the names of the 84 crew who lost their lives in a World War II naval battle fought there by the ship's namesake.

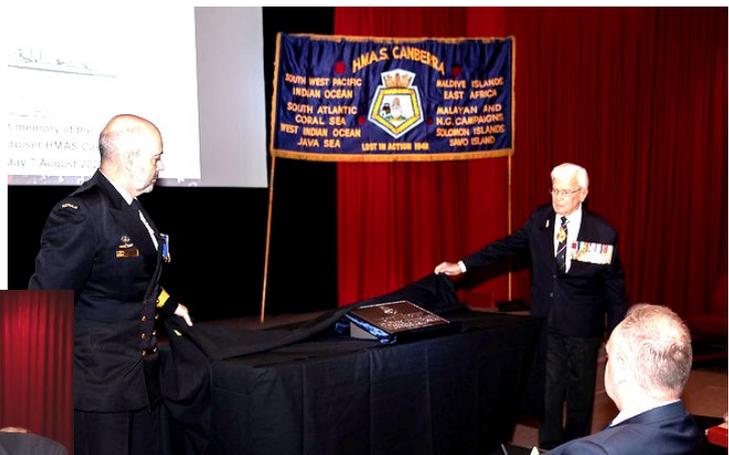
The ceremony was held 78 years after the first Canberra sank in the Battle of Savo Island, on 9 August 1942.

*Right: Commanding Officer HMAS Canberra, Captain Terry Morrison, DSM, RAN, lays a wreath to commemorate the sinking of HMAS Canberra (I) off Savo Island, Solomon Islands.*



## Unveiling of a Memorial Plaque at the Australian War Memorial

On 7 August a bronze plaque was unveiled at the AWM commemorating the service of HMAS Canberra I and HMAS Shropshire. Due to weather conditions, the service was held in the BAE Theatre in the AWM. The service was attended by members of the HMAS Canberra/HMAS Shropshire Association NSW



*Above: The plaque being unveiled by CDRE Ray Leggatt AM CSC RAN previous Co of HMAS Canberra II and RADM Guy Griffiths AO DSO DSC RAN Rtd, Patron of the HMAS Canberra/HMAS Shropshire Association*



*Left Shropshire veteran ACT Section Member Lionel Mead, with RADM Griffiths and below Lionel with friend Penny.*

*Below: Centre Alan Masters and right David Manolas at the service*



## Australian Task Force Commander RIMPAC 2020

Captain Phillipa Hay RAN has become the first Australian woman appointed to command a task force in the 49-year history of RIMPAC

From 17 to 31 August, Captain Hay will command more than 2500 sailors and officers across 11 warships from Australia, Japan, Canada, US, France, and Philippines.

Captain Hay acknowledged the honour of being the first non-US female military officer appointed to the role, but preferred to focus on representing the men and women of the RAN and leading her task force.

RIMPAC is a test of Australia's maritime military capability, from warfighting exercises to the missile firings," she said.

It provides complex and challenging training in a multinational environment, perfect for strengthening interoperability with our regional partners and allies.

I am proud to be part of an Australian force which, with our partners and allies, can continue to train and operate in these challenging times. It demonstrates our collective true grit and resilience.

HMA Ships Hobart, Stuart, Arunta and Sirius, which have been part of the Regional Presence Deployment through Southeast Asia, will take part



*Captain Phillipa Hay, on the bridge of HMAS Hobart*

in Exercise Rim of the Pacific 2020 (RIMPAC).

This will be the first time a Hobart-class Guided Missile Destroyer has taken part in RIMPAC.

Ten nations, 22 surface ships, one submarine, multiple aircraft, and approximately 5,300 personnel will participate

## COVID-19 information for veterans about telehealth

On 20 July 2020, the Australian Government made changes to telehealth services provided by general practitioners.

From 20 July 2020, general practitioners (GPs) will be required to have an existing and continuous relationship with a patient in order to provide telehealth services funded through Medicare and DVA arrangements.

This change responds to advice from medical experts, such as the Australian Medical Association and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, and will ensure patients continue to receive quality, ongoing care from a GP who knows their medical history and needs.

### How will GP visits change?

DVA clients can continue to access face-to-face GP services from a doctor of their choice. DVA clients who wish to receive telehealth services from 20 July 2020 will need to have had at least one face-to-face service with their GP or another doctor at that clinic in the last 12 months.

Exemptions to this requirement will apply to:

- infants under the age of 12 months;
- people experiencing homelessness; and
- people living in a COVID-19 impacted area;
- urgent after-hours services (in unsociable hours); and

- services provided by a medical practitioner located at an Aboriginal Medical Service or an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service

### Are telehealth services changing for allied health or specialist treatment?

There are no changes to existing telehealth arrangements for allied health or medical specialist telehealth services.

However, DVA clients are reminded of the requirement that referrals for allied health services may only be provided by the client's usual GP. This means a GP (or another GP in the same practice) who:

- has provided the majority of care to the DVA client over the previous twelve months; or
- will provide the majority of care to the DVA client over the next twelve months.

Telehealth or online GP services which have not provided regular clinical care to the DVA client are not able to issue valid referrals for DVA-funded allied health services.

### Need more information?

For more information about what the changes to telehealth services means for veterans and their families, contact DVA on 1800 555 254.

## Upgraded frigate sonar rollout almost complete



*Post Anzac Midlife Capability Assurance Program (AMCAP) upgrade frigates HMA ships Anzac, right, and Arunta have both undergone the Broadband Sonar Advanced Processing System upgrade. The ships are seen here at Fleet Base West, Rockingham, Western Australia.*

Upgrades to the Spherion B sonar processing systems in the Navy's Anzac Class Frigates under SEA 1408 Phase 2 is almost complete.

The SEA 1408 Phase 2 replaced the existing sonar processing system with the sovereign designed Broadband Sonar Advanced Processing System (BSAPS) while still utilising the existing Spherion B Hull Mounted Sonar Wet End.

The BSAPS was jointly developed in a collaboration between Defence Science and Technology (DST), Saab Australia, BAE Systems and Thales Australia.

Deputy Director Combat Systems Commander Danielle Radnidge said the BSAPS project began life as a submission from DST through the Defence Industry Realisation Fund, a precursor to the Defence Innovation Hub.

"The submission was picked up and commercialised by Thales Australia, and showcases Australia's world class ability to convert science and technology concepts into successful commercial enterprises," Commander Radnidge said.

"This is without doubt, an Australian success story," she said.

The BSAPS replaces the 'ship build' fitted sonar processing system which was supplied to Anzac Class Frigates as part of the original build program in the 1990s.

Responding to the emerging threat situation, a requirement was identified for a system that was more suited to modern submarine and torpedo threats expected to emerge over the lifespan of the Anzac Class Frigate - to date, six of the eight Anzac Class Frigates have been upgraded.

Among the many advantages offered by the SEA 1408 Phase 2 are a significant improvement in sonar passive capability, a greater level of sonar and Combat Management System integration, improved levels of sonar functionality and significant improvements in equipment reliability.

The new sonar system has been integrated with the 9LV Combat Management System and had been successfully demonstrated at sea over a number of years.

This technology has delivered a significantly advanced anti-submarine warfare and torpedo self defence capability to Navy's Anzac Class Frigates and provides Navy with one of the most advanced, sovereign Hull Mount Sonar capabilities in the world, providing exceptional underwater awareness for our frigates.

The upgrade project management occurred through the Warship Asset Management Agreement Alliance with the Anzac Ships Program Office and SEA 1408 Project

## Notes from Committee Meeting 6 August 2020 held at Veteran' 'Support Centre, Page

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

The following are brief notes of the discussion matters.

1. **HMAS Canberra Commemorative Service.** All invitees have responded with the exception of RAAF Association and the RN representative at the British High Commission. Not all invitees will come with a wreath but this is not seen as a problem. David will be MC, Alan will lay the Section's wreath which will be provided by Alex; John Small will pipe the Still and the Carry On. The Order of Service has been printed but strict adherence to it will be subject to the discretion of the MC after taking into account the prevailing weather conditions. Notification has been received that the Public Liability Insurance is now in place thus easing the concerns of the committee. The Secretary was to send out an All Ship/ All Shore message to members reminding them of the service.

2. **HMAS Canberra/Shropshire Plaque Dedication.** A dedication of a plaque for HMAS Canberra will take place on the lawns of the AWM following our service, starting at 1200. David and Alan have volunteered to attend this ceremony but anyone else interested in joining in is welcome to do so. Advice has been received that in the case of severe weather conditions the dedication will take place indoors at the AWM.

3. **ACT Section Meeting Venue.** Discussion continued on from the last meeting on two of the venues that show most promise.

- **Veterans' Rooms, Page.** There is a meeting room for which the hire of it could be \$130. This cost also includes use of the kitchen facility and provision of hot drinks and biscuits (self help) and in the summer months use of the BBQ facility and outdoor eating area. The cost of the BBQ would be \$5 per head, an

alternative is to have party pies/ sausage rolls / small frankfurts /or sandwiches (TBD), for the same price per person. Whilst this venue lacks the sophistication of the larger club facilities it does allow any expenditure on room hire go to a kindred organisation. Car parking in the street is available if the carpark is full.

- **Eastlake, Gungahlin.** \$120 is the hire rate of a meeting room for four hours. A restaurant is available for meals. Good car parking is available.

**The proposed way-ahead on a Meeting Venue.** The two options above are presently under consideration. The first is to pursue the Eastlakes option wherein there can be no undertaking by either party until the club re-opens post the stringent COVID-19 meeting limitations. The second, is the Vietnam Veterans' Centre at Page. In both instances we will aim for the first Thursday in the month. While we wait for the meeting venue to be sorted, we will still aim to meet, weather permitting, at Snappers by the Lake for fish and chips on the third Thursday of the month (Feb – Nov), COVID permitting.

4. **NAA Centenary Wreath laying AWM.** David has spoken with AWM re the arrangements proposed but they have as yet not given confirmation to them.

**Next Meeting.** We will meet on Thursday, 3 September at the Veterans' Support Centre, Page with the Committee meeting to start at 1100. All shipmates and partners will be invited to join in a lunch of small eats and drinks prior to a General meeting. This will allow the wider membership to provide the committee with feedback on the suitability of the venue for future meetings.

Alan Masters  
Secretary/Treasurer



*Nuship Supply berthed at Navantia's shipyard in Spain, prior to departure to Australia for final fitout.*

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS38 2020**

Action to renew membership for 2020 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 2020 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.**

17 Sep	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
15 Oct	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
19 Nov	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200
<b>3 Dec</b>	<b>Christmas lunch</b>
17 Dec	Fish 'n Chips CYC 1200

*Bus trip program is in abeyance*

**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:**

1800 550 457 (Select Option 3, then Option 1)

**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](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  
(Option 2 Allied Health)



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**A Happy Birthday to you in  
September 2020**

1 Mike Hardwick  
7 Rex Kendall  
12 John Combe  
14 Harry Beardsell  
14 Peter Galvin  
15 Michael Taylor  
15 Ian Holmes  
25 Ian Spaulding

### Older Persons ACT Legal Service (OPALS)

The new Older Persons ACT Legal Service (OPALS) is a specialist service within Legal Aid ACT offering flexible legal assistance to older people. OPALS can help in many situations, such as if you:

- have concerns about your safety
- are being pressured to change your living arrangements, sign documents, or provide details of your finances
- are having money taken from you without your permission
- owe money and are not sure how you will pay
- are being abused, threatened or bullied
- are being denied access to grandchildren, other members of your family or support services
- are being discriminated because of your age

If you think you need legal advice, please feel free to contact OPALS:  
Address: 2 Allsop Street, Canberra, ACT; or  
Telephone: (02) 6243 3436 or 1800 353 374  
Email: [opals@legalaidact.org.au](mailto:opals@legalaidact.org.au)  
[www.legalaidact.org.au/opals](http://www.legalaidact.org.au/opals)

OPALS has a strong community legal education and outreach component and provides information and referral services to concerned family, friends and workers. OPALS draws on the expertise of other practices in Legal Aid ACT when providing advice and representation services.

OPALS is a **free** service and all cases are treated in confidence. We can also help make referrals to other specialist services if you choose not to take legal action.



If undeliverable return to  
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