

The Bosun's Call

Vol 15 No 1

Each for All—All for Each

February 2010

Christmas Get Together

The ACT Section Christmas Get Together was held on 22 November 2009.. It was well attended and held in the delightful surrounding of Don and Bev Joce's back garden in Dickson



Merry Christmas

Today's Menu

Assorted Dips and Biscuits

Entrée:

Asparagus and Capsicum sauce
Salmon Pattie
Melon Balls

Main:

Ham, Chicken, Pork w/ Apple sauce
Potato Salad
Coleslaw
Tossed Salad
Italian Tomatoes

Dessert:

Plum Pudding & Custard
Fruit Flan w/ Cream & Ice Cream

Tea & Coffee

served with
Chocolate Marshmallows & Shortbread

*Photos by
Peter McNay*

Events coming up

Sunday 31 January Fish 'n' Chips Canberra Yacht Club 1700

THURSDAY 4 February Monthly meeting Canberra Services Club Manuka

Commencing at 1930

AGM on completion of the General meeting



Newsletter of the ACT Section of the
Naval Association of Australia



Printed by The Sports Club Kaleen

Naval Association of Australia ACT Section

Patron The Hon Sir William Deane AC KBE

Office Bearers 2009

President	Peter Cooke-Russell	02 6258 6892
Vice President	Peter McNay	02 6282 2475
Secretary	Joe Slaats	02 6255 7872
Treasurer	Sylvia Sinfield	02 6288 2350

Committee Members

Welfare	A. McGown	02 6258 6167
	Pat McCabe	02 6291 9185
	David Manolas	
	Mike Hardwick	02 6253 6256
	John Small	02 6258 1216
	JJ Harrison	02 6258 4152
Membership	Peter Cooke-Russell	

Social Sec Vacant

Charitable Fund

Chairman Harry Beardsell

Contact Details

The Secretary
NAA ACT Section
PO Bo 783
GUNGAHLIN ACT 2912
jsl45689@bigpond.net.au

General Meeting Dates and Locations

3 Dec	Manuka Services Club	1830
4 Feb	Annual GM Manuka Service Club	1930
3 Mar	MV Southern Cross	1930 Wed
1 Apr	Kaleen Sports Club	1330
6 May	Manuka Services Club	1930
3 Jun	Manuka Services Club	1930
1 Jul	Manuka Services Club	1930
5 Aug	Kaleen Sports Club	1930
2 Sep	Manuka Services Club	1930
6 Oct	MV Southern Cross	1930 Wed
4 Nov	Kaleen Sports Club	1330
2 Dec	Manuka Services Club	1830

President's Note

Happy New Year.

We have left the 'naughties' and some people mistakenly believe that the first decade of the 21st Century is complete. Wrong. This is the tenth year of the decade and the naught has come to the end.

So much for that. As we enter the new year it is to look to the future. The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 4 February and several people have volunteered and been nominated for jobs but we need more. Fresh ideas and spirit is needed all the time to keep organisations such as the NAA afloat.

One of the two principle objectives of the Naval Association of Australia is to

'promote and assist activities in the wider Naval community in order to improve the health and well being of that community.'

This is being achieved in part by the Welfare and Pensions Officers and Advocates working under the NAA banner. Unfortunately due to age, changing health and other personal circumstances the ACT Section has only one member providing this facility and he is running down due to health and age changes. We need younger people to go through the required training system so that the NAA can continue to look after its members and other ex-service people.

The information on the page opposite is the result of pressure being put upon the DVA to run training courses in Canberra and if they are not filled the DVA will again put training in Canberra on a back-burner.

Cheers
Peter Cooke-Russell

Vale

Kel (Hugh Kelvin) Duncan
11 February 1923—30 November 2009

"Lest we Forget"

NAA ACT Section Event Diary

31 Jan	Fish and Chips Evening Canberra Yacht Club foreshore 1700
28 Feb	Fish and Chips Evening Canberra Yacht Club foreshore 1700
28 Mar	Fish and Chips Evening Canberra Yacht Club foreshore 1700
25 April	ANZAC Day March with post march social Session at East Lake Football Club
7 Aug	HMAS Canberra Memorial Service
7 Oct	Naval Memorial Service

Arrangements are in hand for 2 BBQs and 2 lunch dinner events during the year

Training Information Programme (TIP) Scheduled Courses for 2010

The following is the text of a letter from Kim Daniels , Manager of the Canberra Veterans' Affairs Network Office in Moore Street Civic. The letter is dated 1 December 2009 and contained a copy of the Training Programme. I was advised by the ACT KOC on 7 January 2010 that the Training Programme had changed. The change has been incorporated into the programme on this page.

The ACT Section needs volunteers to get into the Pensions and Welfare side of the NAA business. Please give it some thought. P.C-R

I am writing to provide you with information on the Training Information Program (TIP) and scheduled courses for 2010.

TIP provides training and information for welfare and pensions officers who are volunteers working within Ex-Service Organisations (ESOs). TIP training is delivered to enable them to provide the best possible advice to veterans, serving and former serving members of the Defence Forces seeking their services.

TIP is a joint venture between ESOs and the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA). Each State has a consultative group that consists of representatives of ESOs and DVA. This group monitors the conduct of training and provides advice on matters of course delivery, programming and development.

TIP offers training for new Welfare and Pensions Officers, refresher and update training and advanced training for experienced Welfare and Pensions Officers.

Welfare Officer training provides information about the wide array of community services that are available and DVA's health and housing services and others services that are available for veterans, their dependants, war widows and former serving members that are not Pensions related. Presenters deliver modules that provide skills in interviewing, networking, ethics, privacy and the role and responsibilities of Welfare Officers.

Pensions Officer training develops skills to assist with claims under the Veterans' Entitlement Act 1986.

Military Compensation courses cover entitlements under the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1975 and 1988 and the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004.

Training is also provided to advocates who assist with appeals to the Veterans' Review Board and the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

Enclosed is an application form and course schedule for 2010. Course dates and venues are subject to change. Applicants should be encouraged to check the TIP schedule on the website prior to submitting an application form. The schedule and further information on the TIP program including course outlines is available on the DVA website :

http://www.dva.gov.au/ex-service_organizations/tip/nsw/Pages/index.aspx

Yours sincerely

Kim Daniells
Manager - Canberra VAN

Course Programme

The TIP Course Calendar for 2010 has changed. The courses are now –

Canberra

Military Compensation Level 1 (SRCA)	2 March
Pensions Officer Level 1	30, 31 March
Pensions Officer Level 2	13, 14 April
Military Compensation Level 2 (MCRA)	20 April
Pension Officer Refresher	20, 21 July
Welfare	6, 7, 8 July
Welfare	19, 20, 21 October

Sydney (The above courses are also run in Sydney)

Advocacy 16, 17, 18 Nov

Application Forms are available from Peter Cooke-Russell 02 6258 6892
peter.cookerussell@gmail.com

Department of Veteran's Affairs
NEW SOUTH WALES OFFICE

Dear Veteran,

As you will be aware, the Department pays the daily care fees and income-tested fees for former POWs and VC recipients in residential aged care.


The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Alan Griffin MP, has agreed that on and from 21 August 2009 the Department will extend these arrangements to Community Aged Care packages (CACPs), Extended Aged Care at Home and Extended Aged Care at Home Dementia packages (EACH and EACHD). These programs are all administered by the Department of Health and Ageing, and are available to all Australian citizens, following assessment by an Aged Care Assessment Team.

Note that former POWs and VC recipients in residential aged care may have to pay assets-tested accommodation bonds and charges.

The Department will publicise this initiative in Ve-Affairs, but I am taking this opportunity to inform your organisation. This Department has asked the Department of Health and Ageing to inform packaged care providers of these arrangements. Any former POWs or VC recipients in or about to enter these packaged care services should inform the provider of their status to enable DVA to be billed direct.

If you require more information about the new arrangements and their implementation, please contact Mr Wayne Penniall, National Manager, Community & Aged Care Policy Group, by telephoning (02) 6289 6712 or by e-mail to Wayne.Penniall@dva.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Jennifer Collins
 Deputy Commissioner NSW & ACT

7 January 2010

Five Minute Quizz

1. The Quai d'Orsay lies on the south bank of which river?
2. What equivalent to the road traffic sign "Give Way" is used in the US?
3. The Great Wall of China spans approximately how many kilometres?
4. Are oak trees hardwood or softwood trees?
5. What is the name of the religion which emerged among the Jamaican working class and peasants in the early 1930s, in which the sacred use of cannabis is practised?
6. The chemical element chromium gives which precious gemstone its colour?
7. In which year did Constantinople become Istanbul?
8. What was a Roman sword called?
9. McMurdo Sound in Antarctica opens out onto what sea?
10. What is the compound polytetrafluoroethylene better known as?

Answers on Page 12

A Precautionary Ode

(Light-hearted but true)

Veteran, dear veteran, you worry me so,
 I feel I must tell you things you should know.
 That belly of yours gets bigger each year.
 We think it reveals too much holiday cheer.

Don't wait for tomorrow, get healthy today.
 The longer you wait, the more you will pay.
 Your doctor will help, but it's your ticker;
 Too much soft living will make you sicker.
 Try walking or running; it all should be fun,
 But remember it's slip, slop when out in the sun.

A glass of red wine may be good for you,
 But a bottle or two simply won't do.
 Your liver and brain can't stand the strain
 And in the end, there is no gain, just pain.

So much for turkey, plum pud and cold beer;
 You should only do this but once a year.
 Look in the mirror and what do you see?
 That image you see, cannot be me!

Veterans and war widows, let's join in the fight.
 The schedule is to do what is healthy and right.
 So shed a few pounds; veteran what do you say?
 We all want you back to enjoy next Christmas day.

(With thanks to Dr Graeme Killer AO, DVA Principal Medical Adviser)

Future thoughts on Submarines

Future Submarine Design Capability Study

Greg Combet, Acting Minister for Defence, announced on 3 November that a contract had been signed with the United States RAND Corporation to complete a Domestic Design Study for the Future Submarine Project, SEA 1000.

"As outlined in the White Paper, the Government has decided to acquire 12 new Future Submarines, to be assembled in South Australia. This project will be the largest and most complex defence procurement undertaken in Australia's history," said Mr Combet.

"The Domestic Design Study will examine Australia's submarine design capability and capacity. Investigations by the Project to date have aimed at developing an understanding of the capability of the international submarine industry.

"The RAND Corporation brings internationally recognised expertise to the Domestic Design Study having completed similar studies for both the United States and United Kingdom governments," said Mr Combet.

"The results of the Domestic Design Study will inform project strategy options for consideration by Government during 2010 and is an example of the Government's careful planning for Australia's next generation of submarines," Mr Combet said.

"The Defence Materiel Organisation is undertaking a number of studies to identify and explore all the options to ensure we have the appropriate design capability to support our submarines throughout their life. The information we collect through this process will help to develop strategic options for the Government's consideration," said Mr Combet.

The report is to be completed by February 2010.

Speedy Sub

A new super-fast submarine ordered by the US Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency promises to swim circles around existing subs.

The key to its performance is supercavitation, a technique in which the sub glides through the water encased in a bubble of air, cutting drag in half. Supercavitation has been employed in torpedoes but never in a manoeuvrable vessel.

"What we're trying to do is make it more practical so that you can change speeds, manoeuvre and change depths," says Franz Edson of Electric Boat, the company that has been contracted to design the speedy sub.

Current plans call for the sub to be used on short-range missions.

Australian Navy Commander Honoured by the King of Tonga

The Commanding Officer of the Royal Australian Navy's heavy landing ship HMAS *Tobruk*, Commander Peter Thompson, was honoured by the King of Tonga, George Tupou V, at a ceremony on 21 November 2009, at the Royal Villa in the Tongan capital, Nuku'alofa.

Commander Thompson was presented with the Officer of The Royal Military Order of St George, in recognition of the humanitarian relief effort that the Australian Government, and in particular the Australian Defence Force, has provided in the aftermath of the earthquake and tsunami that struck the Pacific Island region on 30 September this year.

King George Tupou V said it was, "Very much appreciated what the Australian Navy and Australian Government had done to help the communities of Tonga affected by the tsunami."

Commander Thompson said, "This Operation has been a chance for the Australian Defence Force, in particular the Royal Australian Navy, to help our Pacific neighbours during a time of crisis and support the local agencies with their relief efforts. I am

honoured and humbled to receive this award on behalf of the Royal Australian Navy and the Australian Government," Commander Thompson said.

The Officer of the Royal Military Order of St George is the fourth-highest military honour that can be awarded by the King of Tonga.

HMAS *Tobruk* has provided support to the nations of Tonga and Samoa, carrying over 500 tonnes of humanitarian aid supplies, and assisting local groups and agencies such as the Red Cross in their work in affected communities.



CENTAUR FOUND

At 8:14am on Sunday 20 December 2009, Premier Anna Bligh announced via her Twitter account that the Centaur had been found. A joint Media Release issued by Acting Prime Minister Julia Gillard and Queensland Premier Anna Bligh announced that the wreck of the Australian Hospital Ship Centaur had been located off the Queensland coast.

Mr Mearns said the wreck location is approximately 30 miles due east of the southern tip of Moreton Island (27 deg 16.98' South, 153 deg 59.22' East) at a depth of 2,059 metres. The team had finalised 5 high-resolution sonar tracklines over the target site, and on Sunday morning was conducting a further run to obtain a clearer picture of the wreck.

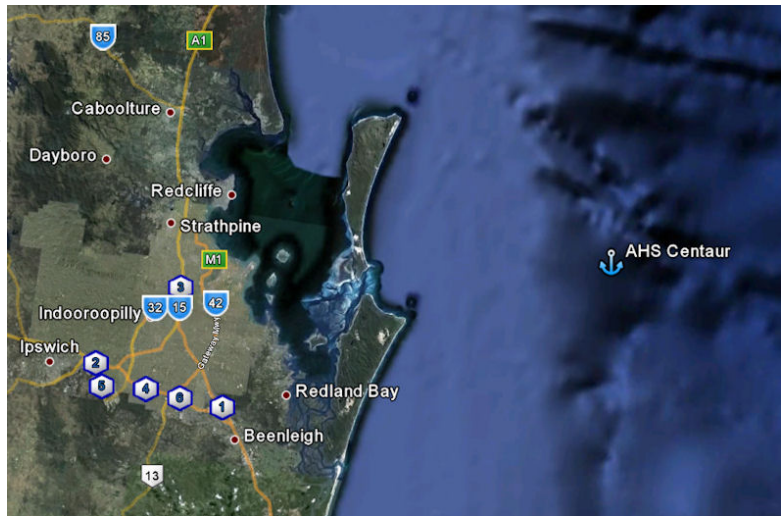
The first possible target that was identified by the team on Monday 14 December 2009 during the first trackline run turned out to be the Centaur. David Mearns commented that the position of the wreck was less than one nautical mile from the position calculated by Gordon Rippon, the Centaur's navigator.

The hull of the Centaur appears to be in one piece but there may be one or possibly two breaks in the hull.

The team enjoyed a Christmas party lunch on board "Seahorse Spirit" on Sunday 20 December 2009 to celebrate their historic find earlier that morning. After lunch they planned to attempt to recover the SM-30 side-scan sonar towfish they had lost on Friday morning. Unfortunately they were unable to locate the lost sonar using the other high resolution sonar. They will have another look for the lost sonar some time after 4 January when they return to the area with their ROV.

The "Seahorse Spirit" started back to Brisbane on Monday 21 December 2009 and was expected to arrive at the Brisbane dock at about 10pm. The ROV will be trucked from Sydney on Tuesday 22 December 2009 and the "Seahorse Spirit" was expected to return to the search area around 4 January 2010.

The Queensland and Federal Governments have indicated that a Task Force which will include members of the Centaur Association, the RSL and the Centaur



Location of the AHS Centaur

Nurses Fund will be set up to decide the best way to commemorate the sinking of the Centaur. One of two possible planned ceremonies will be held at a large Brisbane Church and may be open to the public. The other ceremony will most likely be held above the wreck site and be limited to family members, officials and dignitaries. 87 year old Martin Pash from Melbourne one of three living survivors, plans to attend any commemorative services held.

An exclusion zone will be gazetted around the site of the Centaur. The remains of the Centaur are listed as a war grave and are protected under the Commonwealth's Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976.

The Centaur Association has had a plaque made which they had blessed by Rev. Paul Weaver and Fr. Artur Wojtowicz, representing all faiths, in the 113 AGH Chapel at Concord Hospital, Sydney, New South Wales on Tuesday 22 December 2009. They hope that David Mearns and his crew will be able to place the plaque at the site of the wreck of the Centaur. The plaque has an encapsulated CD with the names of all personnel on board the ship, their home state or country, and the service which they belonged to. The plaque partly reads as follows:-



MV Seahorse Spirit

IN MEMORY OF SHIPMATES,
RELATIVES, COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS
WHO PAID THE SUPREME SACRIFICE ON A
MISSION OF MERCY, 14 MAY 1943.

2/3 AHS CENTAUR ASSOCIATION

2010

LEST WE FORGET

HMAS WATERHEN

"The Chook"

Never was ship more aptly named. Out in the combers of the Pacific or down among the thrashing waves of the Bight, she maintained an unenviable reputation of being more often under than on top. It was His Majesty's Australian destroyer *Waterhen*, known throughout the fleet as "The Chook".

Early in 1940 *Waterhen* cleared Port Said and breasted the calm blue of the Mediterranean; not for the first time, but now on work bent. She took up station under redoubtable Cunningham and soon her work commenced. For eighteen months she continued to give grand service in the Mediterranean, ferrying to Tobruk, anti-submarine patrolling, screening the Battle Fleet on it's sweeps of the inland sea, at sea six days in thee week; taking punishment in the form of rocking near misses, nerves strained almost to breaking point, minds wondering dully when all the hellish uselessness of it would end; and it out in the shape of falling, dive bombers, depth-charged submarines and broad sides flung at shore fortifications.

Through all this pattern of high adventure, periods of intense nervous excitement mixed the savage exultation of victory, was woven the ugly fibre of those runs to Tobruk with helpless wounded crammed aboard, the enemy's bombing attacks developed with the certainty of the sunrise which presaged their commencement. It was on one of these runs to the immortal Rats of Tobruk that "Chook" met her fate.

Time was about 7.40 of a calm evening on 30 June. Although the sun had set plenty of light lingered in the immensity above. *Waterhen* slipped easily through on her way to Tobruk, this time carrying, in addition to the usual supplies and ammunition, the Provost Traffic Control Branch of the Sixth Australian Division. She was in company with a British destroyer, disposed to port, both ships cruising at a steady twenty-five knots.

"The Chook" was closed up in the fourth degree of readiness, A.A. and anti-submarine lookouts posted. Lounging on the upper deck after supper, yarning with the Diggers, most of the ship's company were enjoying the

cool of evening before snatching a few hours' sleep before the work started. Eyes subconsciously noted the visibility in the sky, for with blessed darkness their worries were lessened by about eighty per cent.

It seemed that the Sixth Australian Division members would have to wait for their own element to provide their baptism of fire. But at 7.45 the action bells shrilled out their summons. They came over, Stukas, forty-two of them, flying very high in the clear sky.

Leading Seaman Orken was quartermaster at the wheel, and his first intimation that the attack had commenced was the First Lieutenant's shout reaching him down the voice-pipe. "Duck! "

The Q.M. obeyed. Fifty yards off the ship's side the sea was convulsed into spouting columns of climbing white, discoloured at the base with bursting high explosive. Missed. The first flight swept up into the sky again, where the rest circled round, waiting their turn. Then, in position again, they fell off on one wing and dropped headlong upon her.

Twisting and weaving at full speed the gallant little craft strove to escape the downpour. The fourth black shape streaked in for the kill. He was further behind his predecessors and by the time he got in range of the point fives and captured Bredas the smoke and spray had cleared away.

Teeth clenched, fingers curled round triggers, in their hearts a savage hate, the gunners waited.



HMAS Waterhen

Even in this holocaust their superb training asserted itself. They knew the range of their weapons and not a round was wasted. The whole port of the destroyer burst into flickering stabs of orange flame at once.

Met by the concentrated fire the Nazi turned away, his big bomb clearly visible under the oil-streaked belly. As he turned a stream of Breda shells ripped into his guts. There came a flash of brilliant light, a thudding explosion, and bits of Nazi bomber drifted swiftly seaward.

Petty Officer Durham was manning a Breda on the quarter deck. His Number 2 had been knocked out by a splinter and as the cartridge belt was too heavy to feed in without him the gun was useless. Durham saw a Stuka come in astern. The two bombs were plain under his wings. He let go. They flashed over Durham's head and exploded at the base of the foremost funnel. Motorboat, fenders, tinned fruit, all rose into the air in a splintered mass. A burst tin of best Bartlett pears landed on the gunner's mate's head, and in great trepidation, as the sticky mess oozed over his face, he pulled off what he firmly believed to be his nose!

The destroyer heeled suddenly to port, over' further, until her lee gunwale was almost awash in the creaming sea. Down they came, a stick of four and all lobbed over, except the last. The bomb struck near the exposed ship's side and, its fuse started, exploded abreast the engine-room with shattering effect. A hole big enough to sail the whaler in was blown in her side and what with crippling near misses the brave little ship had had enough. She slowed down and listed to port as the water poured in, a black scum of escaping fuel oil spreading from her wound.

The bombers had drawn off, their loads exhausted, and the British destroyer nosed her bow in to take off "The Chook's" crew. It was then the First Lieutenant uttered his famous "last words".

Someone had suggested souveniring the ensign before she went.

"Pipe down you bastard! " came the Jimmy's shout. "We aren't sunk yet!"

Every man was transferred and they drew off to watch her go. She made a sad picture, rolling sluggishly on the oily sea, guns pointing at all angles in the direction of their last target, boats smashed to splinters, jagged holes in her funnels and upper works.

At dark she was still afloat and it was decided to attempt a tow. The First Lieutenant with volunteers pulled over in a whaler and crawled up the sloping side on to her fo'c'sle. Suddenly he whispered: "Quiet. There's somebody aboard!" They drew pistols and crouched there, eyes striving to pierce the blackness. There was no sound save the occasional clink of empty cartridge cases and the flap,

flap of a torn canvas screen. A smell of burnt cordite was heavy on the air. Then abaft the capstan a torch flashed on, and off. The First Lieutenant shouted: "Who's that? Answer or I fire." No answer. Quickly he fired four times at the light. The only result was another flash. With drawn guns the party scrambled over the tilted deck, guided by the light: to find the interloper was only a torch, flicking on and off as the roll took it over the button.

They set to work swiftly and soon the tow was passed. The boat returned, was hoisted, and the British captain ordered slow ahead. "The Chook" once again moved through the water, but only for a moment. A sudden tautening of the tow wire till it quivered like a bow string warned them to slip. It was too much for her. Weakened bulkheads had given in. Her slim bow rose in the air, then quietly and gracefully she slipped under. Silently her men watched her go.

Followed three weeks in a base camp in Alexandria, and finally word got round that they were going home. One rainy afternoon a merchantman pulled in to Prince's Pier at Melbourne and a line of sailors filed quietly ashore. There were no bands or plaudits awaiting-only the eager arms of wives and sweethearts.

General Characteristics

Displacement:	1,100 tons
Length:	300 ft (91 m) o/a , 312 ft
Beam:	26.75 ft (8.15 m)
Draught:	9 ft (2.7 m) standard, 11.25 ft (3.4 m) in deep
Propulsion:	3 Yarrow type Water-tube boilers Brown-Curtis steam turbines 2 shafts 27,000 shp
Speed:	34 knots (63 km/h ; 39 mph)
Range:	320-370 tons oil, 3,500 nmi (6,500 km) at 15 knots (28 km/h ; 17 mph), 900 nmi (1,700 km) at 32 knots (59 km/h ; 37 mph)
Complement:	110
Armament:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 x QF 4 in Mk.V (102mm L/45), mount P Mk.I • 2 x QF 2 pdr Mk.II "pom-pom" (40 mm L/39) or; • 1 x QF 3 inch 20 cwt (76 mm), mount HA Mk.II • 6 (2x3) tubes for 21 in torpedoes

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on

**Thursday 4 February
2010**

**Commencing at approxi-
mately 2000 on completion of
the monthly meeting**

**At the Canberra Services
Club Manuka**

Agenda

Confirmation of the Minutes of the
AGM held on 5 February 2009

Business Arising

Reports

Election of President, Vice Presi-
dent, Secretary, and Treasurer

Election of the Committee

Nominations are required to fill the
positions of the ACT Section and
are to be received by the Secretary
no later than 7.30 pm Thursday 28
January 2010

**Members must be financial
for 2010 to vote at the AGM**

**See page 9 for Nomination
Form**

**Joe Slaats
Secretary**

Annual Subscription

**Annual Membership
Subscriptions are due
Now**

Full Members \$25

**See Page 9 for payment
form**

Thrifty Car Hire

Thrifty has provided the RSL with new and exclu-
sive corporate rates for vehicle hire requirements.
The discount is up to 20% of the normal rate.

The Corporate Discount (CD) Number has these
special corporate rates linked to suit the needs of
the RSL. All employees, related companies and
members of the RSL are eligible to access the new
rates.

You can commence use immediately of your spe-
cial corporate rate. Please ensure that you quote
your exclusive CD Number **4908002721** at the time
of reservation. This number allows access to your
special corporate rate, whereby form of payment
must be by credit card.

To book a vehicle: Phone: 1300 367 227
Internet: www.thrifty.com.au
for 24-hour booking capability.

Note: When booking online using your CD
Number simply enter this number into the
"Promotion Code" field of the Thrifty home-
page.

**NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA - ACT SECTION
TREASURER'S STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING
31 DECEMBER 2009**

Brought Forward 2008		\$15,915.79
Receipts		
Subscriptions	2,896.00	
Donations	97.50	
Interest	55.40	
Sundry	2,590.00	
BBQ ^J	120.00	
Raffles	541.70	
Sale of Merchandise	30.00	
Poppy Sales	2,277.30	
	\$8,607.90	\$24,523.69
Payments		
Capitation	1,165.50	
Charitable Fund	292.00	
Postage Bosun's Call	682.00	
Sundry	1,114.34	
Banner	874.50	
BBQ	120.00	
Canb. Times	231.85	
Insurance	346.50	
Wreaths	460.00	
RSL	2,049.60	
Welfare	196.90	
	\$7,533.19	\$16,990.50
Balance as per cash book		\$16,990.50
Balance as per Bank Statement		\$19,481.95
Less U/P Cheques	24487	12.00
	24493	6.00
	24497	261.00
	24499	77.00
	24500	2,049.60
	24501	58.05
	24503	27.80
		\$2,491.45
Cash at Bank		\$16,990.50
Consisting of:		
Section Funds	16,086.89	
NHSA Funds	903.61	\$16,990.50
Items held for Sale	243.00	
Fittings & Equipment	936.00	
Secretary's Advance	100.00	

Sylvia Sintield
Honorary Treasurer
8 January 2010



NAA ACT Section

Nomination Form

2010 Committee Elections

Position

Nominee

Position

Nominee

Proposer: Name (Block Letters)

Signature

Seconder: Name (Block Letters)

Signature.....

Date:.....

Endorsement by Nominee

Nominations are to be delivered to

The Secretary,
NAA ACT Section

not less than 7 days before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting to take place; ie by 7.30 pm Thursday 28 January 2010

Subscription and Records Update 2010

Annual Subscription for 2010 \$25.00 (due 1 January 2010)

Surname.....

Given Names

Signature

Please complete any of the following details if there has been a change in the last 12 months

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 ACT 2615

When Nelson Lost His Arm (and returned to work half an hour later)

The accounts of surgeons who treated the admiral show the horrors of naval warfare 200 years ago.

The true horror of life on board British fighting vessels in the 18th and 19th centuries has been depicted in a fascinating collection of 1200 naval journals not seen in 200 years. They include details of the medical treatment given to Horatio Nelson.

Researchers in Britain's National Archives in Kew have gathered personal accounts written by surgeons at sea, including the medical log from the Battle of Trafalgar. The journals also reveal some of the first scientific investigations into diseases such as scurvy, the scourge of the sailor at the time.

The Independent has been given exclusive sight of the records before cataloguing is completed in 2010. Among the most historically significant are a handful of journals showing how surgeons nursed back to health the Royal Navy's most revered and successful admiral after he lost an arm fighting in the Canary Islands.

In July 1797 Nelson led a doomed assault on the Spanish island of Tenerife, in which he was hit in the right arm by a musket ball shortly after stepping ashore. Bleeding heavily, he was taken back to HMS *Theseus*, where the injured limb was amputated. On July 25 the ship's surgeon, James Farquhar, wrote in his journal, "Compound fracture of the right arm by a musket ball passing thro a little above the elbow; an artery divided; the arm was immediately amputated and the following given him."

It is claimed that within 30 minutes, Nelson was again issuing orders to his men. On 1 August Farquhar noted, "Admiral Nelson; amputated arm; continued getting well very fast. Stump looked well; no bad symptoms whatever occurred ... The sore reduced to the size of a shilling in perfect good health, one of the ligatures not come away."

A year later, Nelson was to win a famous victory against the French at the Battle of the Nile. But he was shot in the head by a French navy sniper. The surgeon's log of HMS *Vanguard* describes the treatment administered: "Wound on the forehead over the right eye, the cranium is bare for more than an inch, the wound three inches long. Discharged 1 September. The wound was perfectly healed on the first September but as the integuments were much enlarged, I applied (every night) a compress wet with a discutient embrocation for nearly a month which was of great service."

Yet in 1805, Nelson's dying moments at the Battle of Trafalgar were omitted from the naval journal of



the *Victory*. Experts at the National Archives believe the omission was deliberate as Sir William Beatty, the surgeon who tended Nelson's mortal wounds, wanted to save the details for his own book, *Authentic Narrative of the Death of Lord Nelson*, published in 1807.

Many of the surgeons serving with the Royal Navy used their journals to record much more than a daily inventory of the illnesses and wounds of the ship's company. There are also illuminating watercolours of the flora and fauna and indigenous people that the surgeons encountered on the long voyages. Some of them included pictures of anthropomorphic monkeys and other creatures, recreated in fine detail.

Some of the journals demonstrate how the navy was struggling to combat the effects of scurvy. The surgeons fought hard to find new ways to alleviate the terrible effects of this disease. Some of the graphic drawings and annotations show the range of debilitating symptoms sailors suffered, including black, pustular skin.

There is also a surgeon's account of one of the first combined army and navy diving operations off Spithead in 1840 to raise the *Royal George*, which sank in 1782. The surgeon's principal interest is the illnesses suffered by the divers, but he has also provided a unique pictorial description of an early diving expedition.

However, it is the daily treatment of sailors which provides invaluable insights into the horrors of naval warfare at this time. One of the most gripping is contained in the log written by Robert Young on

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

board HMS *Ardent*, which saw action at the battle of Camperdown on 11 October 1797.

Young wrote, "I was employed in operating and dressing till near four in the morning, the action beginning about one in the afternoon. So great was my fatigue that I began several amputations, under a dread of sinking before I should have secured the blood vessels."

He complained, "Ninety wounded were brought down during the action, the whole cockpit deck, cabins wing berths, and part of the cable tier, together with my platform, and my preparations for dressing were covered with them. So that for a time, they were laid on each other at the foot of the ladder ..."

It was this kind of medical skill and bravery under fire that gave British sailors a much greater chance of surviving their wounds than their French and Spanish adversaries.

(Independent)



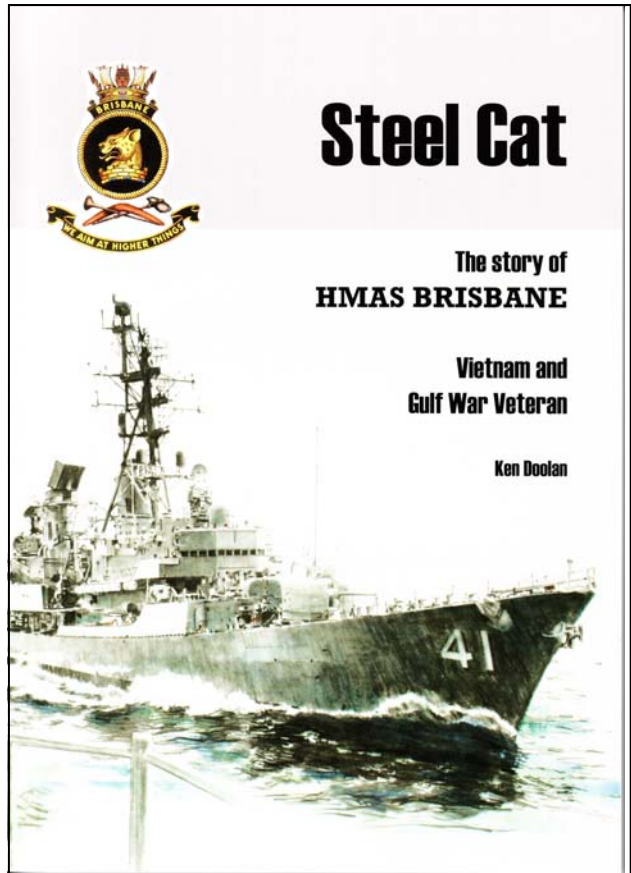
February 2010

David Clinch Peter Cooke-Russell, John Crawley, Tony Eccleston, Bill Kemp (Leap Years only), Ray Lawton, Bob Mc Donnell, Frank Shugg and Greg Sweetapple

A Happy Birthday to you all.



Answers to Five Minute Quiz:
 1. Seine; 2. "Yield"; 3. 6400; 4. Hardwood; 5. Rasta, or the Rasta-fari movement; 6. Ruby; 7. 1453; 8. Gladus; 9. Ross Sea; 10. Teflon



Steel Cat
 The story of HMAS Brisbane, veteran of the Vietnam and Gulf Wars.

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HMAS Brisbane was the third and last American built guided missile destroyer acquired by Australia in the mid 1960s. The warship has the unique distinction of being the only Australian destroyer to have been deployed on active service to two major conflicts during the second half of the twentieth century. She was assigned for active service in the Vietnam War in 1969 and again in 1971. Twenty years later *Brisbane* was the only Australian destroyer sent to the Persian Gulf during the 1990/1991 Gulf Crisis and Gulf War.



Minutes of the General Meeting Held at Canberra Services Club Manuka on Thursday 3 December 2009

Meeting Opened

Meeting was opened at 1835 by the President with the reading of the ode, reminding members to sign the attendance book and to pass on apologies of those members unavailable for this evening.

Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting, 05 November 2009 were presented to members.

Proposed: Don Joce Seconded: Sylvia
Sinfield Accepted

Business Arising

NIL

Correspondence Report

Letter received from Veterans Affairs informing members of the network processes over the Christmas period.

Letter from the Canberra Times with reference to two invoices for payment.

President's Report

The President passed on his thanks and appreciation from the members to Don and Bev Joce for an outstanding BBQ. The president went onto mention a successful HMAS BRISBANE book launch at Ken Doolan's place at Carwoola. This activity combined with the unveiling of HMAS BRISBANE's Jack Staff.

Vice Presidents Report

Nil

Secretary's Report

Nil

Treasure's Report

Presented.

Membership Officer's Report

Financial Members	141	
Un-financial		10
Restricted	11	
Un-financial		1
Totals	152	11

Welfare

Nil

Social

Discussion was had with a view to organising a number of functions and their locations for next year. It was thought that an occasion on each of the North side (Gungahlin Golf Club) and South side (Sailing Club, Hellenic Club), would be suitable and planning would start to support this. In addition, dates for the fish and chip nights would also be determined for next year.

General Business

The President congratulated JJ Harison on a job well done as the Welfare member for this year.

Peter Launder, member of the Canberra Sub-Branch requested assistance from members to help Legacy with their 'Wrap A Gift for a Donation' program for Myers at Tuggeranong. Gifts would be wrapped for Myers customers in exchange for a donation to Legacy. All dates and timings for this activity are as follows:

Dates: 7 – 24 Dec;

Days: Monday – Sunday;

Timings: 1100- 1400 (Mon – Fri);

1700 – 1800 (Friday Evening);

1000 – 1600 (Sat & Sun).

President announced that there would be an AGM in February and that a replacement for Secretary was required.

Peter Launder announced that he would volunteer to take on the role of Membership Secretary for 2010.

Close of Business

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed at 1920.

To be confirmed

Mark Fullick

Acting Minute Secretary

Naval Association of Australia
ACT Section

5 December 2009

**Thanks to the Canberra Services Club Manuka,
for its support**



Rivers Dining

At the Sports Club Kaleen
(sponsoring the printing of Bosun's Call)

...relax and enjoy yourself!!

Weekly Bistro Attractions

Monday Night Schnitzel

Plus a complimentary middy of beer, glass of wine or soft drink.

Tuesday Lunch Raffle

Purchase a meal from our Bistro between 12 pm and 1.30 pm and receive your complimentary ticket to go in the draw for a 1st prize of \$100 food hamper and three other prizes.

\$8.50 Friday Lunch

Great choice, great value!
Select from T-bone or Rump Steak,
Tempura Battered Fish or
Chicken Schnitzel with Chips & Salad

\$9.00 Sunday Family Roast

A meal the whole family will enjoy! Enjoy a selection of tender Roast Meats, Roast Potatoes, Roast Pumpkin & fresh Seasonal Vegetables.

Senior's Menu

are smaller portions

Fish of the Day (Battered or Grilled)	\$10.00
Roast of the Day	\$10.00
Chicken Schnitzel	\$10.00
Weiner Schnitzel	\$10.00
Parmigiana Topping	\$ 1.50

Lunches Daily \$7.00

Rivers Dining Bistro is open seven days a week:

Lunch 12 - 2 pm

Dinner 6 pm - 9 pm

16 Georgina Crescent Kaleen, ACT 2617

Ph 02 6241 1560 www.thesportsclubkaleen.com.au

Information for Members and invited guests

Reunions

April 2010	HMAS Leeuwin 19th Intake Maroochydhore QLD Contact Neville Clarke 0410 150 646
July 2010	50th Anniversary JR Training Scheme
August 2010	RAN Band Townsville Contact Peter Martin 07 4723 2909
23 - 26 April 2011	RAN Communications Branch Association - Adelaide SA



The NAA ACT Section is very grateful for the support provided by the Canberra Southern Cross Club



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