**FROM THE SECRETARY’S DESK 28 August 2015.**

Members:

This year has been a busy year for me and other members of the Committee.

As you are aware, I am the ANZAC Day Marshal for the Melbourne March.

The ANZAC 100th Anniversary was huge and we started planning as far back as 2013.

The 2015 ANZAC March, saw our Association march in numbers, we have not seen since our inception.

Do not forget next year 2016, Vietnam Veterans lead the march, with Navy stepping off first in the Vietnam Veterans section.

I think we should all keep in mind, this will be the last time our Association will be given this honour, therefore I ask on ANZAC Day 2016, come into Melbourne, bolster our numbers and march.

Your Suburban march will still be there in 2017, but leading the Melbourne March, will not happen again.

One of our members PO Carmel Tom along with John Goss and myself, have been busy organising the ANZAC Naval Commemorative Ball, to be held at the Flemington Race Course Events Centre, on Saturday 17 October 2017.

We have at today’s date 820 Bookings.

Commander Terry Makings RAN Rtd, has been able to arrange a Ball Train, to run from Flinders St to Flemington Race Course (details on the web site).

Have a look at the Ball web site **(**[**www.anzacball2015.org**](http://www.anzacball2015.org)) and go into the Silent Auction section.

There are some fabulous items and you can bid on them all, even though you are not attending.

Many thanks to the following:

Bruce Hathaway for the 4 years he has been in the Committee, Bruce did not stand this year for family reasons.

Steve Mika and wife, who so ably filled in as Treasurer this year and a big welcome back to Carl Sorensen who once again takes over the Treasurer’s position.

President John Carroll, for his ongoing work in addressing anomaly’s in some DVA SOPS, which directly affect you, the RAN Vietnam Veteran.

This work when successful, will also impact positively on our ARMY and RAAF Vietnam Veterans.

Association founder and Vice President Fred McLeod-Dryden, for his work on ANZAC Day and the many commitments he attends representing our Association.

Senior Vice President, Dutchy Andrews for Association News Letter the GFL.

 My right hand man Ron Bowkett, Gary Taylor the Man for all jobs, Mary and Bruce Trappett for the delicious meals.

Haydn Slim Whitfield, our rep on the Club Bar roster, Bill Fury for his design work on behalf of the Association.

Our LEO Girls Tina and Kerry, the Naval Memorial Club Members and Committee, who have accepted us as one of their own, Club President Barry Mc Daniel, Vice President Ray Surridge, along with Mark “Together we can do anything” Kinder and Gary Hermsen for promoting the Association.

**Social Functions**: As you are no doubt aware, I have not been able to organise the usual amount of functions due to other commitments.

Our first for this Year will be the Melbourne Cup Function Tuesday 3rd of November (for details see the flyer).

The last function for the year 2015, will be the KIDS s XMAS Party, to be held on Sunday the 29th November, starting at 1000, BYO BBQ, This year we will be asking for $10.00 per child.

This year we will have a Jumping Castle, Father Xmas, Races, Fruit Juice and ice-cream for the kids, the XMAS Hamper Raffle @$5.00 per ticket, the Bar will open from 1130.

More details soon.

Regards

David Speed Dwyer Secretary