**H.M.A.S. SYDNEY & VLSVA Secretary`s Final Report for 2015:**

Members of the Committee have over the last 10 Months, been extremely busy.

Our President Dr. John Carroll, has been researching for at least two years, submissions to the RMA concerning certain SOP`s. The first submission has been presented in which, chronic lymphatic leukaemia, Ischemic heart disease and Parkinson’s are contained within the submission.

John`s research is exhaustive and detailed with a second submission to follow.

The SOP`s he is submitting, should they be accepted, will benefit all Vietnam Veterans not just NAVY.

John is a member of the Vietnam Veterans Education Unit and attends any number of schools each year, whereupon he presents the RAN`s involvement in the Vietnam War.

Senior Vice President Dutchy Andrews has been putting a dissertation together over the last 6 months and will publish it in the next GFL news letter.

Vice President Fred McLeod-Dryden, has been busy representing you the membership at many commemoration services around Victoria and also as our Rep, within the NAAOA.

A thank you must go out to Steve Mika for filling in these last 12 Months as Treasurer, until our long Serving Carl Sorensen returned to pick up the Treasurers’ position. Welcome back Carl.

Thank you to Committee man Bruce Trappett for his tasty meals at our functions.

Another thank you to Committeemen Gary Taylor and Ron Bowkett, who never hesitate to make themselves, available when required.

This year a thank you to our two Leading Seaman LEOS, Tina Abbott and Kerry Scott, who put in their usual amount of hard work, also Slim Whitfield for taking on all of the Association`s rostered Bar duties, at the Club over the past year.

Both Tina and Kerry, were request women and were required to front the table on the 24th of October, for their third GCB and crossing the line certificates.

Unfortunately one of the Leaders missed the ship, while under sailing orders and when CPO Coxswain draws up the charges, she may have to face the table on the 3rd of November.

Her defence will be handled by a close confidante, PO Greenie Scott (if she can get him out of his Hammock).

As we know your average Greenie has more excuses than the current Australian Cricket Team, therefore it will be interesting to listen to the defence.

Did you notice our webmaster has revamped our web site? Great job, thank you Lozza.

To Bill Furey, thank you for your design work in relation to our marketing and the ANZAC Ball Banner.

I would be remiss if I did not mention and thank the Committee of the Frankston Naval Memorial Club for the assistance and use of the Frankston Club.

As you are no doubt aware, for the past 14 months, member Carmel Tom and I, have been organising the ANZAC Naval Commemorative Ball on behalf of the Naval Commemorative Committee Vic.

We started July 2014 and on the 17th of October, the Ball was held at Flemington Race Course Events Centre.

Only way to describe the outcome, is “sensational”, 800 x people attended.

Please keep in mind the **Melbourne Cup Day function** at the Club on Tuesday the 3rd of November. Email or Ring me for Bookings. **Cost $30.00**

**Our last function** **for 2015** will be the **Kids Party**, to be held **on Sunday 29 of November from 1130, BYO BBQ food etc.**

We will have a Jumping Castle, Face Painting, Santa, Juices, Lollies and Competitions for the kids.

**Cost is $10.00 to us** per child under 13 years old; you can pay me on the Day or EFT. This will allow us to buy a suitable present from Santa.

We will place a limited number of tables and chairs out, but if you have your own picnic table and chairs please bring them along.

Please Ring or Email me to book your Grand kids or Kids in ASAP.

I will need a Name, Boy or Girl and their Age, to allow Santa to bring a suitable present.

At this moment in time we have 157 Members not financial ($25.00 per year).

If you receive a Red Dot in the next GFL and do not agree you are not financial, I ask you to please ring or email me, with the details of your last payment.

In Closing I thank you for your support over this past year.

Regards

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