



Victorian Chapter

## President's Musings – November 2019

Friday December 6 is only a few weeks away! Have you booked in to attend the 'Event of the Year?' We have begun to organise the table placements already. We are anxious to ensure you will be sitting with your friends, but please make it easier for both Marty and I by sending your cheque to Marty, or making your direct debit payment today.

- Cheques: to be made payable to the 'Naval Historical Society, Victoria' and posted to Marty Grogan at 26 Forbes Drive, Aspendale Gardens Vic 3195.
- Direct Debit: BSB-633000, Account 118958503. (Bendigo Bank Highett). Please enter your name. Also please send a brief email to Marty at [grevillethedevil@gmail.com](mailto:grevillethedevil@gmail.com) indicating that you have made a payment and this will be confirmed.

We are so delighted to have as our guest our 'Chief of Navy', doubling as our Speaker as well! We'll have our Christmas raffle, which includes some of Lynda's Christmas cakes, and loads of fun! We would like you to be there!

Next year the 50th anniversary of the establishment of our Society occurs on May 25. To mark the occasion a members event will be held in Sydney. The actual date and other details will be advised when our Patron the Chief of Navy's availability is known. Details will be advised as soon as possible in the New Year. Personally I am looking forward to celebrating with our Sydney and interstate colleagues. Hope you can join me!

Our Victoria Chapter was formed the following year!

It is with considerable pride that we acknowledge the promotion of Captain Darren Grogan CSM RAN to Commodore in October this year. Darren is the son of our Treasurer Marty Grogan. Our Editor Frank has obtained some

photographs of the occasion to share with us in the THD. Bravo Zulu, Darren!



*CDRE Darren Grogan with CN VADM Mike Noonan*



*CDRE Darren Grogan with VADM David Johnston*



*What better way to celebrate than with a premiership beer.*



*Father and Son*

The Naval Historical Society of Australia consists of a National Office on Garden Island in Sydney, and Chapters in Victoria, Western Australia and the ACT. We held our AGM in October but the National AGM is being held

at the City of Sydney RSL on Thursday 21 November. All members are welcome to attend personally or to vote by placing a proxy. Full information is included in an Email from our National President David Michael sent to members on 12 November.

We have received advance copies of the National President's address to the AGM and I wish to share page one of David's report with you. It details highlights of 'Achievements During the year' and an outline of the society's business plan goals. Having made several visits to the 'Boat Shed' over the years I am well aware of how dedicated our Sydney colleagues are, and I am proud to be part of such a vital national organisation, dedicated to our Navy and the preservation of Naval History!

Yours Aye!

*Rex Williams*

*National President's address below.....*





Naval Historical Society  
of Australia

## Presidents Report 2018-19

### Achievements During the Year

#### Highlights

Highlights of Society activity during the period 2018-19 included;

The *Naval Historical Review* was reformatted with larger font in A4 size from September 2018.

Commenced posting *The Buzz* and *Naval Historical Review* to the members web page.

Conducted a public essay competition with generous assistance from Chatswood RSL Club.

Ships plans in digital format added to the website shop.

Tours of the Garden Island Hill and Garden commenced on a monthly basis.

Commenced E-book project to convert and republish all Society books for sale on the Web.

Archive Digitisation Project commenced.

Strong bookings for guided tours of Garden Island.

Recruitment of new dedicated volunteers for work in the Boatshed and remotely

New Committee member Colin Randall filled position of Geoff Barnes on retirement.

Financial health of the Society remains good.

Continuous growth in the number our Facebook followers.

Growing circulation of the monthly newsletter, *Call the Hands*.

#### Business Plan

Initiatives in the business plan endorsed by the Committee on 20 June 2017 continued to be implemented as and when resources (generally volunteers) become available.

The four business plan goals are as follows;

- Goal one is about being a 'centre of excellence' which is very much 'business as usual'. That is, keep doing those things which we already do (research, publishing, presentations etc).
- Goal two is about conducting, facilitating and encouraging research and writing on Naval historical matters.
- Goal three is about growing membership and meeting the needs of members and the community through a set of improvement projects.
- Goal four is inward looking at the Society, making us stronger, more innovative and accountable.

The plan is available to members through the members page of the website.