

Submarines Association Australia NSW Branch Incorporated

ABN 11 449 001 785

Correspondence, 4 Rajola Place, North Rocks, New South Wales, 2151

Hon. President	Geoff Anderson	Phone: 0413 980 091
Hon. Vice President	Ken Norris	Phone: 0421 058 513
Hon. Treasurer	Wally Whitfield	Phone:
Hon. Secretary	Carol Wilson	Phone: 0411 757 782
Minutes Secretary	Carol Wilson	Phone: 02 4707 5268

Annual General Meeting Minutes Sunday 31st August 2014

11:30 am at the City of Sydney RSL

Meeting opened at 11.45 am

1. ATTENDENCE

Geoff Anderson, Ken Norris, Carol Wilson, Peter Hall, Gary Payseno, Peter Smith, Paul Cripps, John Cornish, Warren Goodall, Anne Bax, Janet Duncan, Maria Cross, Kevin Hayton, William O'Brien, Gus Gillis, Jim Dennis, Roy Cross, Rick Steltenpool, Ken Williams, John Chambers, Mick Lynch, Stephen Farmer, Colin Ware, Alan Gibbs

2. APOLOGIES

Tony Vine, Tom Johnston, Cliff Hobson, Wally Whitfield, Tony Wise, Ray McMinn, Tim Duchesne, Brad Mitchell, Darryl Madden, Wayne Logan

3. WELCOME – GEOFF ANDERSON

Members observed 1 minutes silence and the President read a prayer for those Members still on Patrol.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Accepted

PROPOSED: Peter Smith
SECONDED: Alan Gibbs
CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

a. Action 15 – Deregister SAA NSW for GST.

To be finalised after election of Public Officer.

b. Action 21 - Letter to National re Memorabilia.

Geoff to discuss with interim National President, Graeme Caesar whilst in Brisbane in September.

Post Meeting Note: Interim National President tendered his resignation. Proposal to be submitted to national Committee.

c. New Banner

Col Ware knows of banner manufacturer in Seven Hills.

Col has given Geoff the business card.

Kevin Hayton moved that members be asked to put forward designs for new banner by 1st October and the Executive to make final decision and present design at November meeting.

PROPOSED: Kevin Hayton
SECONDED: Alan Gibbs
CARRIED

6. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – GEOFF ANDERSON**

As per Appendix 1.

PROPOSED: J. Chambers
SECONDED: Peter Hall
CARRIED

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Opening Balance	\$ 8,254.83
Income: Bank Interest	\$ 0.51
Paul Dann	\$ 93.00
Rick Steltenpool Coin Sale	\$ 20.00
Raffle	\$ 60.00
Total	\$ 8,428.34
Outgoing: Website Carol Wilson	\$ 30.00
Total	\$ 8,398.34
Cash In Hand	\$ 40.30
Cash at Bank	\$ 8,388.04

Balance Carried Forward

\$ 8,428.34

PROPOSED: Peter Smith
SECONDED: Bill O'Brien
CARRIED

8. SECRETARY'S REPORT – KEN NORRIS

All correspondence is now almost exclusively sent and received via email so members are requested to inform the Secretary of any change in their email address.

I personally would like to thank all members for their support during my recent adventures with chemo and radiotherapy and with some effort I plan to eat lots of cream and sweets to restore the weight I have lost during the past six months.

One main outstanding action is to tidy up the GST status of the organisation and once the 2014 AGM minutes are agreed I will make application to the ATO to have the SA NSW de-registered for GST purposes and request the ATO to back date our non GST status to 2000.

PROPOSED: Peter Smith
SECONDED: Peter Hall
CARRIED

Kevin Hayton moved a "Special Vote of thanks to Ken for all his work as Secretary in difficult times and especially the organisation of the post Anzac Day March get-together at the Strattons Hotel." By acclamation.

9. WEB MANAGER REPORT

As per appendix 2.

PROPOSED: Alan Gibbs
SECONDED: Mick Lynch
CARRIED

10. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2014-2015

Geoff declared all positions vacant and Peter Smith was elected Returning Officer.

President:	Geoff Anderson	Nominated Ken Norris
Vice President	Ken Norris	Nominated Geoff Anderson
Treasurer	Wally Whitfield	Nominated Peter Hall
Secretary	Carol Wilson	Nominated Geoff Anderson
Minute Secretary	Carol Wilson	Nominated Ken Norris
Welfare Officer	Ken Williams	Nominated Rick Steltenpool

Grants Officer	Vacant	
Public Officer	Ken Norris	Nominated Kevin Hayton, Mick Lynch
Social Committee		

As there were no other nominations all positions carried.

Post Meeting Note: Wally Whitfield has advised that due to his moving he is no longer in a position to be the Treasurer. The NSW Executive will canvas and seek a replacement.

11. WELFARE REPORT

Ken Williams requested members to contact him in the first instance with any problems they may have. He has had numerous calls from Non-members asking for assistance. Families have expressed appreciation for the attendance of SAA members at funerals.

Janet Duncan and Anne Bax thanked members for attendance at the funerals of their late husbands, Tom and Gary.

Col Ware thanked members for their continued support.

12. ANNE BAX PRESENTATION

Anne Bax gave presentation re: Calling for National Survey of SAA members into all types of cancers and other diseases causing deaths of Submariners in particular as a cluster group to present Paper to Government. See Appendix 3. Kevin Hayton spoke on the Survey he conducted. He stated that the response from approx. 852 members of the Association at the time was only 20% and the total percentage of Submariners who responded (171) was only 6%. He said you need more than 75%, to be able to go forward. He also said that documented proof of the cause of the cancer/disease was needed. This is hard to obtain from Doctors. (These figures are from Kevin's Survey Results he supplied to me).

Paul Cripps mentioned that claims had to fall into DVA Statement of Principles.

After further discussion it was decided to take Anne's proposal to SAA National AGM for further comment and action.

13. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Upcoming Events

12th September 2014 – AE1 Service 7.30p.m. St John's Anglican Church, Pacific Highway, Gordon.

14th September 2014 – AE1 Remembrance Service, Garden Island Chapel.

November 29-30: - Huskisson. Gary Payseno to follow up with Alex Paton.
Backup location is Woy Woy.

January: K13 Service date to be advised.

February: Spectacle Island BBQ date to be advised

March: City of Sydney RSL General Meeting date to be advised

April: Anzac Day 25th with Reunion at the Stratton's Hotel.

June: Long weekend 2015, Wollongong.

Warren Goodall spoke on event for Wollongong over the long weekend June 2015. This is a get together to replace no official Subcon in 2015. It will put out to National membership.

Venue:	Novatel Hotel, Wollongong
Saturday:	Pre-Dinner Canapés, Dinner, 3 course, Band \$120.00 per head (min 80 guests)
Sunday:	If members want we can arrange bus tour to winery etc.
Accommodation:	Novatel Hotel (negotiated price) \$229 per night includes parking? Breakfast at extra cost. Caravan Park – Surf & Leisure

Kevin Hayton moved details to be included on the national Website seeking “Expression of Interest” for Wollongong and maybe as there is no National AGM for 2015, which should be held as per Constitution, that the national AGM could be combined with the Wollongong weekend. Geoff will discuss at the WA National Committee Meeting.

b. SAA NSW Branch Charity: Bob (Tug) Wilson's Walk for Kids with Cancer

Geoff Anderson moved that we increase our support to “The Walk for Kids with Cancer” to \$200.00

PROPOSED: Rick Steltenpool
SECONDED: John Cornish
CARRIED

Carol informed members that next year's walk would be held on 29th March 2015 from Sydney Opera House to Manly.

c. FNSA

Alan Gibbs agreed to attend next meeting of FNSA.

There being no further business the Meeting shut at 1.15p.m.

Geoff Anderson
President
NSW SAA

Carol Wilson
Secretary
NSW SAA

Carol Wilson
Minute Secretary
NSW SAA

Actions

Item No	Action	Responsible	Date
9	Design for Platypus Memorial	Geoff	Ongoing
15	Deregister SAA NSW for GST	Ken	Ongoing
21	Letter to National re Memorabilia	Geoff	Ongoing
22	Investigate cost of replacing the Banner.	Geoff & Peter	Ongoing

Appendix 1

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – GEOFF ANDERSON

NSW SAA President Report 2013 -14

I would like to submit the President report for the year 2013-14.

I represented NSW SAA at the following:

- RN Reunion at Balgowlah RSL on 26 October 2013.
- Visit to Holbrook Jan 2014 – discussions Roger Cooper.
- Centenary of Submarines Launch – Darling Harbour Feb 14.
- April 2014 - Attended the celebrations at Holbrook, including Book Launch of "The Mystery of AE1" by Kathyn Spurling.
- Carol Wilson represented me at the Dedication/Unveiling of AE2 Memorial at Kallangur – 30 Apr 2014.
- 20 May 2014 – Sent letter to Brisbane City Council in support of Qld bid to retain the historic Engine Room at Teneriffe.
- 23 May 2014 – ANI Meeting and presentation by CDRE Scott RAN on Future Submarine.
- 24 May 2014 – 100th anniversary of the arrival of AE1 and AE2 to Sydney Harbour.
- 10 August 2014 – VP Celebrations at the Epping RSL Club,

I was unable to attend the following:

- K13 Ceremony.
- AE1 and AE2 Plaque Dedication at the Australian War memorial – Peter Chegwidden represented SAA NSW.
- Battle of Sydney on 30 May 2014. When I rang to accept the Invitation I was advised that the ceremony was fully booked.

HMAS Platypus

I have attended 2 meetings of the SHFT, one of which included a tour of the facility, photos of which were posted on "Up periscope". As usual there have been delays and completion is now due late 2014. What the future holds is unclear due to there being no funding for the next stage. The SHFT has agreed though to ensure we are part of any future negotiations and considerations and remain supportive of a memorial.

Fleet Review October 2013.

A great day and our thanks go to Ken for his organisation.

Apologies must be extended though to Ken Williams who unfortunately missed the ship on sailing – through no fault of his own.

External Patrol

It is a sad fact of life that some of our members have passed on, namely:

- WOCOXSM John Curtain,
 - WOCOXSM Max Hardy,
 - LREM Eric Briggs,
 - LSSTD Tony Moore,
 - LSRP Les Benson,
 - CAPT Brian Baynham,
 - CPOMTP4SM Kevin Marengo,
 - ABEM Daniel John O'Brien,
 - ABUW Ken Horn,
 - CPO Bob Bobilak,
 - CMDR Peter Johnstone-Hall,
 - CMDR Henry Cook.
 - CPORSSM Doug Manners,
 - CPOMTPSM Frederick Garry Bax,
 - CPOMTSM Mark (Blue) Lydiard,
 - CERA GJE 'Jeff' Westwood,
 - ABMTPSM Colin Watts,
 - WOCOXNSM John Curtain,
 - CPOETSSM Paul 'Mango' Mangan,
 - CERASM Malcolm 'Jock' Campbell.
 - POUCSM Les Clarkson
-
- I personally attended and participated in the funerals of WOCOXN Max Hardy and LSRP Les Benson.

 - Letters of sympathy were also sent to the families on the passing of John Curtain, Max Hardy, Eric Briggs, LSSTD Tony Moore, LSRP Les Benson, CAPT Brian Baynham, Kevin Marengo,

There is no doubt that from what I have witnessed and reported to me, the families appreciate the efforts of Submariners to attend and pay their respects.

Spectacle Island.

The annual Spectacle Island visit on 16 February was very successful despite the dreadful weather the day before and the rain on the day. Many thanks to those who assisted in the organisation. Note that due to the weather and the uncertainty of who was going, we did not cater on the day but still made money through a successful raffle.

NSW Branch Charity.

Carol Wilson continues to support Walk for Kids with Cancer, which the NSW Branch has adopted as our Charity. We donated \$100 last year. I also walked with Carol from Manly to the Opera House this year, around the magnificent shores of Sydney Harbour. Many thanks to those who supported us.

Branch Meetings

We have continued the very successful system of holding at least one meeting outside of the CBD and went to Bombaderry in November 2013 and Newcastle March 2014. Our thanks to those who stepped forward and organised the events.

Submarine Centenary

The 100 yrs. celebration of Submarines is being held in 2014.

NSW will be celebrating on Friday 12 September and our annual church service with the SMMCC and the Navy organised Service at GI on Sunday 14 September. I encourage as many members to attend as possible to show our support to the submarine community and to the descendants. Note that the Governor General will be attending and will be at the heritage centre afterwards. Unfortunately I will not be attending as I will be in Brisbane for the weekend.

Finally I would like to thank the committee and those who have supported me throughout the year.

It has been an honour to be your President for the last year. I have nominated for an additional year and will again accept the position if accepted today.

I hereby propose that this report be accepted.

Geoff ANDERSON

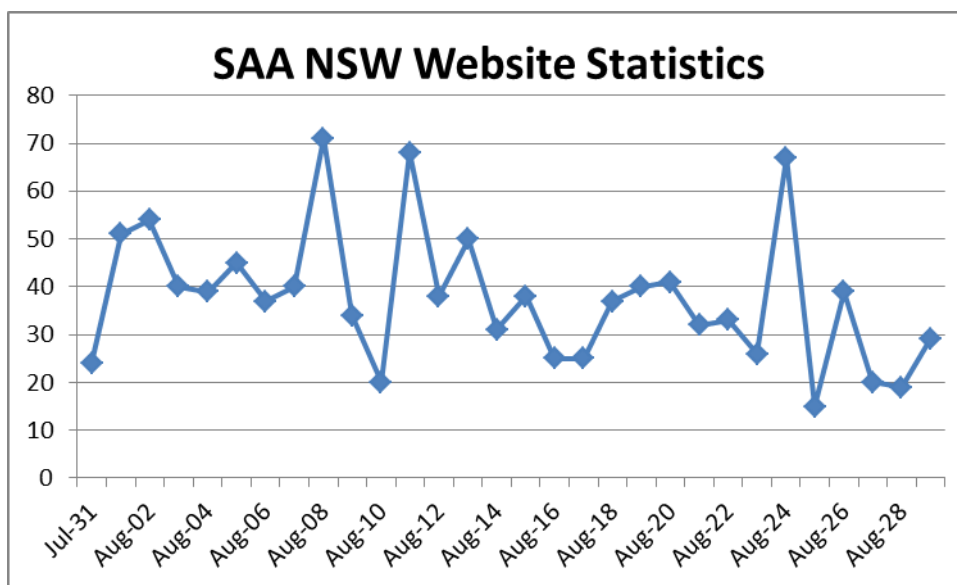
31 August 2014

Appendix 2

SAA NSW WEBMANAGER REPORT AUGUST 2014

I am pleased to say the website is being visited on a regular basis as the graph below shows for the month of August.

I update the site on a regular basis with information, news and photos of events etc. If you have anything of interest you would like me to add just email details to me, Geoff or Ken. The site is only as good as the information provided.



I have \$5.45 in hand for site upkeep. No fees are due until January/February.

If any of the members have any suggestions of what content you think we should have or change please use the feedback form on the website.

Carol Wilson
Webmanager

<http://www.saansw.com/index.html>

P.S: Geff and I completed "Bob (Tug) Wilson's Walk for Kids with Cancer" on 30th March with 99 walkers taking part. The "Walk" raised over \$47,000.00.

Bob's "Walk" is on again on 29th March, 2015. We will be launching the walk in October so get training and come and join me on the scenic 38km walk around Sydney Harbour from the Opera House to Manly.

Appendix 3

Anne Bax Presentation

Proposal *A survey of as many ex submariners and partners as possible is conducted to determine the specific causes of death and disability especially relating to the many forms of cancer. Once returns are received the figures to be collated and analysed, if need be professionally, to determine the patterns of the various cancers among this very specific community.*

Objective Whilst DVA accepts cancers from ex submariners and has, in recent years, finally accepted diesel as a carcinogenic substance there is still the perception among many in that department and in the medical profession that the way of life generally of serving submarines was and is a major causative factor in the “acquiring” of cancers of many types rather than the environment. To bring about change in thinking we have to be able to provide solid statistics, not just generalisations

Reasons Very little is known about the levels of exposure to various substances and combinations of carcinogenic substances leading to the development of cancer.

We are paying the price of the ignorance of the navy, individual and corporate, government policy makers, the medical professions and DVA. If we want to change this we have to change the attitudes of those of the O Boat fraternity who have, so far, escaped, and those of the Collins Boat fraternity who not yet know about this price we must start examining what has happened in much closer detail.

We need a solid statistical basis. I know that has been attempted before and am aware that it was generally disregarded as ‘more paperwork’, ‘can’t be bothered’ or “why bother”. What do you prefer some paperwork now or your wife/ partner having to do 20 reams when you are dying? I can tell you it is dammed hard when your husband has been told he will not live to be doing it then! It is even worse when he has just died. Is that what you want to leave behind? Is that your legacy for your children and grandchildren?

I am not suggesting a 20 page survey. I am trying to suggest that each state send out to the members/associate members a form which asks about 10 questions

1. Have you had a diagnosis of cancer?
2. What sort/s of cancer?
3. When was your diagnosis for each cancer?
4. What has been suggested by your specialist as being the cause of
The cancer?
5. How long did you spend on boats?
6. Has the cancer been related to any other part of your service career?
7. Have you any other health problems linked back to your time on boats.

Where the form is going to the partner of a deceased submariner I suggest the form be modified accordingly.

Only by working together, getting a good solid statistical database established can we obtain a better picture. Then we stand a chance of being able to educate groups such as the Cancer Council, the Kidney Foundation and the DVA. There are many in the medical profession who make all-encompassing assumptions based on smoking patterns and histories, they are blissfully unaware of the health price being paid by those who have served in submarines. We owe ourselves, those who have already died current submariners and those who are yet to serve better.

It has been suggested before. Are you, as a group, prepared to get out of your comfort zones and start pushing?