

Elizabeth & Salisbury Sub Section
of the Naval Association of Australia [SA] Inc.
Elizabeth Navy Club & RAFA 1200 Club
8 Chivell St, Elizabeth South S.A. 5112

Phone: 82557840 [Bar Operating Hours Only]

Email: President keithfry1@bigpond.com Ph 8252 1351 or Mobile 0439 704 899
Bar Hours: - Mondays from 7:00pm but only open as required for 8 Ball Competition Home Games
Wednesday from 7:00pm - Midnight; **Friday from 3:30pm – Midnight**
Saturday from 1:00pm – 6:00pm; **Sunday from 4:00pm – 8:00pm**

Closing times may be earlier than normal depending on how many customers are at the club

The Bar will not be open Saturdays if the Club is booked for a Club Function, or Private Hall Hire

All Membership Fees are Due as from the 1st January every year. Fees for Membership renewals are: -

Ex- Naval Members \$25.00: Associate Members \$20.00: Club Members \$20.00:

A Joining Fees of \$5-00 applies to all New Members

Newsletter Vol 2 – May 2010

Well at long last I'm able to put together this newsletter & try to keep everyone informed of what has happened at the club since the last newsletter.

The Sick List

As reported in the last edition Member Stan Poston went to Narooma care at Craigmore from his residence at Dunbar Homes in Elizabeth South. I have visited Stan a couple of times, & he now will remain at Narooma. He appears quite settled & content in his new surroundings & frankly appears to be getting on quite well with the female residents there. Stan has decided to maintain his membership of the Association & on my last visit paid up his subs, good on you Stan. Alec James wife June has had an extended stay in hospital, & at last has finally come home. We all hope that you continue on the road to improved health June.

Lest We Forget

Sadly I report the passing of Club Member Ray Carter who passed away 10th March. Ray was also a Member of the RAF 1200 Club. After his funeral service Rays family had a wake for him back at our club. Many of his friends & family attended. I first met ray when he was Driving Buses & he always Volunteered his time & Service each year to organize & Drive the Bus for the Local Anzac Parade & Service to transport those who were unable to participate in the march but wanted to attend the service held at the Octagon Theatre. To Rays Wife & family we offer our sincere condolences & hope that the pain of Rays passing is becoming less as time goes by.

New Members

We welcome aboard New Ex Navy Member Markwin Taylor & Club Member Valerie Cooper. At the AGM 3 New Honorary Memberships were awarded for services rendered to the club over the past 12 months & more in 2 cases. I congratulate those 3 persons, Frank Scott, & Don Butterworth (both are Branch Members of the RAF 1200 Club) & Bev Stringer. Bev has been a volunteer in our galley with the meals & helping out with the Annual Lunches & Garage Sales, Frank & Don have worked continuously with the work party on Monday Mornings since 2006 after the RAF joined us at our club in October 2005. I also congratulate those who have retained their Honorary Member status. There was 1 person who could no longer volunteer her services due to her commitment as a new Mum & so decided to upgrade her status to become a Financial Club Member, that was my daughter Kelly who had assisted Jan in many ways with the galley & the Kids Xmas party over many years. It is very pleasing to have all these people as a part of our membership & I welcome you all.

Speaking in terms of Membership. Recently I had a person contact me in relation to her husband who is ill & was a member back when the club first began. All too often the member themselves drop their membership for one reason or another or when the member becomes ill the N.O.K. allow the persons membership to lapse, then some years later come to us to seek assistance in relation to Funeral Services or some other reason. Although it is in our charter to assist Ex Service Members, priority will always be given to members who are currently financial members regardless of how long they have been a member, over anyone who has allowed their membership to lapse into arrears & to the point where they have been removed from our membership list, regardless of who that

person may be. Often we get a phone call for the loan of a Flag or some other artifact which represents service in the navy for a funeral service for someone who has never been a member of the association & this club. It annoys me to think that the person has taken the time to specify in a will that they would like a particular flag or item displayed at their funeral, but would not join the association or our club when they were alive.

Anzac Day Dawn Service

This year we again held the Dawn Service at the club but this year the rain held off so we were able to have the Service in the usual location outside. TS Stuart Cadets as usual provided the Honour Guard & their Parents & Friends Committee again provided the Breakfast. On the Morning I presented to the Commanding Officer of the Cadet Unit a Cheque to the value of \$150-00 being the club's annual donation to the cadet unit. On the Wednesday prior to Anzac Day a Group of Volunteers from Bunnings at Parafield gave our small memorial garden out the front of the club another makeover by trimming up the rosemary bush which was planted last year by them & also planted 10 small Chameleon Rose Shrubs along the clubs front wall in the garden, & generally tidied up the garden area ready for Anzac Day. Ashley Franklin organized his team of workers from Playford Council to sweep & clean up all around the club car park & around the club building in general & removed the trimmings from the rosemary bush. I especially thank all these people for this service which saved me a lot of work. During the morning of Anzac Day we had a very pleasing turn up of members, friends & the general public, & again it was also pleasing to see the No of younger members of the community turn out for the occasion. We had a Raffle going which was a 5 Litre Heineken Keg. Thich was drawn in the afternoon & was won by one of the clubs Bar Staff (Peter Routledge), I thank the Committee for turning out on the Saturday evening to help make sure that all preparations were in place ready for the Sunday Morning. This year we also made sure we were ready to have the Service inside the clubrooms in case the weather turned foul like last year but thankfully the rain held off.

The Club Committee

The Committee has had an injection of new life with 3 new committee members elected at the AGM. The Elected Committee is as Follows: - President/Treasurer/Membership – Keith Fry
Vice Presidents Dennis Dover & Robin Wood, & Robin is also Secretary
The Committee Members are: - Don Brinkley, Graham McCabe, Robert Leggatt, Bill Magrath & Geoff Parkhouse. Our Delegates to the Association State Council is Dennis Dover & Robin Wood with Keith Fry & Geoff Parkhouse as Proxy Delegates. Property & Assets Officers are Keith Fry, Graham McCabe & Geoff Parkhouse. I welcome Robert, Bill & Geoff to the committee & look forward to some new input from these 3 new members. With the addition of these 3 Members it is the largest committee we have had for at least 3 years, & I hope & trust that we can all work together in harmony to the benefit of the Sub Section/Club & the members in general. There is still an allowance for more committee members, & so if any ex Naval Members find themselves with a lack of things to do & want to get involved let me know, & I'm sure anyone of us who have multiple hats/jobs will relinquish a position quite willingly. As I said in the last newsletter it is your Sub Section & you are the ones with the greatest voting power, & so if things are not running to your satisfaction the only way that will change is to become involved, & attend meetings which are held every month on the 3rd Wednesday Evening beginning at 7:30pm.

Overdue Membership Fees

I remind all members that membership fees are due every year from the 1st January. For those of you who are ex navy, you are missing out on your Warship/White Ensign Magazine. If you did not receive the latest issue recently posted then it is because your subs are in arrears & I urge you to pay them ASAP. For all members who have not paid their fees this will be your final club newsletter until your fees are paid. All membership privileges are now at risk of being lost & for those who like a cheap beer you will find yourself paying full bar prices. Also for those who have children & grandchildren if your fees remain unpaid by the end of June you will also loose the right to enter your children & grandchildren into the clubs Kids Xmas Party. These are only 2 reasons (there are more) for keeping your membership up to date other the fact of just being a financial member. We try to look after our members as much as possible, & nothing is free these days, even this newsletter has costs attached to its distribution & printing. For all members if you have difficulty getting to the club, either a Money Order or a Cheque may be sent, & for those who have access to Internet Banking if you wish to you can Pay your Fees direct to the Clubs Bank A/C. All you have to do is contact me either by phone or email for the details. My Phone & email are both in the heading of this newsletter

Friday Night Meals

These have continued, but sadly one must say this year the attendance has been very spasmodic. We had the largest attendance this year on April 15th with some 47 Meals served but then the next one on 7th May the attendance dropped right down to 23. With No's rising and falling by such large No's it makes it impossible to cater without either a large waste or running out of food which thankfully the latter has not happened yet. For those who leave arriving until late will find the choice of meals is down to one selection & some items such as mushy peas will be run out or very low. The Volunteer staff that assists Jan has increased by 2 this year, 1 of which is a male. Yes that's right we have a Male volunteer & his name is Mel, The 2nd person is again a female whose name is Julie. Both have also assisted with the last Garage Sale & looked after the Sausage Sizzle. The sausage sizzle wasn't doing too well to begin with & it wasn't long before Mel got onto the idea of spruking as people were exiting from the club & soon began to pick things up a bit, well done Mel. As a reminder for those who are not regular attendees at the meal nights these are on the 1st & 3rd Friday Evening each month & meal orders begin to be taken at 5:15. Final orders are to be in by 6:15pm. We also run a Meat Tray & Meal Voucher raffle on these nights & the winner gets to choose their prize out of the 2. I thank Bar Manager John Kroon who comes in early & sells the Tickets for us. This raffle plays a vital part in helping to keep our prices as low as possible, & for those who regularly buy tickets I thank you for participating & hope that you have success in a win at some stage.

Garage Sale

The next garage sale will be conducted on Saturday 26th June. Anyone with anything to donate for the sale can begin bringing small items into the club now but all larger items we ask you to hold onto these until 2 weeks prior to the 26th June as storage space is very limited at the club. I also remind everyone that **all items must be in a clean, serviceable & working condition.** Please check items & if faulty or damaged then dispose of them as we cannot sell such things & we do not have the facility to dispose of these items either.

Carpet Bowls Competition

Anyone interested in forming a team to play indoor carpet bowls & represent our club should contact Lou Barr in the first instance by phone on 8283 0675 or mobile. Unfortunately last year's team was decimated with sickness, & so now Lou would like to form a new team to begin when the next season starts later this year if at all possible. We have all the equipment, but no team.

Here's a poem I received before Anzac Day which I believe is very fitting to all ex military service people like our members.

He was getting old & paunchy his hair was falling fast,
He sat around at his local club telling stories of the past.
Of a war he once fought in and the deeds that he had done,
His exploits with his buddies they were heroes, every one.

And 'tho sometimes to his neighbours, his tales became a joke,
All his mates listened quietly, for they knew where of he spoke.
But we'll hear his tales no longer, for ol' Bob has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer for a Soldier died today!

He won't be mourned by many just his children & his wife,
For he lived an ordinary very quiet sort of life.
He held a job and raised a family, going quietly on his way,
And the world won't note his passing, 'tho a Soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing, & proclaim that they were great.
Papers tell of their life stories from the time that they were young,
But the passing of a Soldier goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land,
 Some jerk who breaks his promise and cons his fellow man?
 Or the ordinary fellow who in times of war and strife,
 Goes off to serve his country, and offers up his life?

The politician's stipend and the style in which he lives,
 Are often disproportionate to the service that he gives.
 While the ordinary Soldier who offered up his all,
 Is paid off with a medal and perhaps a pension, small.
 It's so easy to forget them for it is so many times
 That our Bobs and Jims and Johnnys,
 Went to battle, but we know.

It is not the politicians with their compromise and ploys,
 Who won for us the freedom that our country now enjoys.
 Should you find yourself in danger with your enemies at hand,
 Would you really want some cop-out with his ever waffling stand?
 Or would you want a Soldier – his home, his country, his kin,
 Just a common Soldier who would fight until the end!

He was just a common Soldier, and his ranks are growing thin,
 But his presence should remind us we may need his like again.
 For when countries are in conflict, we find the Soldiers part
 Is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.

If we cannot do him Honor While he's here to hear the praise,
 Then at least let's give him homage, at the ending of his days..
 Perhaps just a simple headline in the paper that might say:

“OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING A SOLDIER DIED TODAY”

A veteran is someone who at one point in his life,
 Wrote a blankcheque made payable to
 'Australia', 'New Zealand', or any other God fearing country
 For an amount “up to and including my life”
 That is Honour, and there are way too many people in this World
 Who no longer understand it

I know that adding the above makes this a very long newsletter, but I find it a very fitting piece. The use of the word Soldier in this case is representation of all Service Persons be they Sailor, Soldier, or Air Force. In Ancient times/writings instead of Soldier it would be **“Warrior”**

President
 Keith Fry