



# THE NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC

ABN 67 616 946 831

Patron: Matt Anderson PSM, Director Australian War Memorial

Secretary: Office of the National Secretary  
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## NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC. (NSAA) NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S BULLETIN APRIL 2024

Greetings to all National Servicemen, families, and friends.

### NSAA National Executive

It is a privilege to lead the members of the NSAA National Executive, Vice President Noel Moulder OAM, Secretary Peter Norman, Treasurer Richard Tregear, and Public Officer John Thorne ESM, and I offer my sincere thanks to them for the work they do on behalf of the Council and our membership.

### NSAA National Council

The NSAA National Council met again in Canberra on 7th March 2024 to address and manage the affairs of the National Association. We welcomed a new delegate from Tasmania Jeff Gray, acting NSAA Tasmanian President, who replaces Barry Sonter who has had to stand down as both NSAA Tasmanian Branch President and council delegate through ill health. We sincerely thank Barry for his advocacy for his Tasmanian members, his camaraderie, and contributions to the Council. We look forward to working with Jeff Gray as a Tasmanian Delegate and his ongoing leadership role in NSAA Tasmania.

### Appointment of our new NSAA National Patron

At the NSAA National Council meeting held on the 7th of March 2024, the council approved a proposal for an invitation to be extended to Mr. Matt Anderson PSM, Director of the Australian War Memorial, to be our NSAA National Patron. I am delighted to advise the Minister for Veterans Affairs has approved Mr. Anderson's appointment to the role of NSAA National Patron with immediate effect.

President: Ron Brandy  
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***National Service Honour Roll: 287,000 served; 212 died on active service***

On your behalf I thanked Mr. Anderson for accepting our invitation, congratulated him on his appointment, and welcomed him to our association. I'm sure you will join me in welcoming Mr. Anderson to the role of National Patron and we look forward to him being able to join us when we meet in Canberra in September 2024.

### **Sustaining the NSAA National Presence**

You will be aware that collectively, the National Executive and the National Council, have been actively involved with the subject of our future as an association for some time. Without dwelling on the obvious and well documented reasons, the association is collectively doing its best to support NSAA State/Territory Branches who are struggling to maintain active and viable management committees that can maintain the administrative governance requirements necessary for the sound and accountable management of their respective branches.

Significant work by the National Executive has culminated in the association being able to welcome former members of closed State and Territory Branches to the National Association as individual members. This has been achieved through the success of a motion put to Council at our 7th March 2024 Council Meeting that formalised an amendment to our Rules and By-laws that now includes this new membership category.

As a result of this approved change, the NSAA National Association has enabled former Northern Territory and New South Wales Branch members to join the association. The NT members have already been processed and the NSW members are in the process of having transfer forms provided to them.

I am very grateful to the respective State and Territory teams, our National Executive, the National Council, and Vicki Blundell, our Direct Membership Manager, for their great work in making this happen. Thank you all.

### **Archives Project**

The consolidation and culling of our NSAA National Archives have continued since I last reported to you. Currently, all known and available archives have been collected, but there may well be more yet to be uncovered. Culling of financial and administrative archives, treasurers, and secretaries, have been culled and are to be co-located with our late National President's archives in the near future.

The NSAA National Executive, on your behalf, extends our gratitude to the NSAA Queensland Branch for providing us with a safe storage and working (culling) area at their Wacol facility.

At the completion of the culling phase, NSAA National Vice President Noel Moulder OAM and I will engage with the National Library of Australia (NLA) on the next phase of physical assessment of the collected material to determine the extent to which, or not, further work is necessary before embarking on the phase of passing our records to the NLA.

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Should it be necessary, we will apply to the NLA for a grant to fund further processing.

### **Annual Governance and Commemorative Activities**

Typically, the first few months of the new year include the conduct of Annual and General meetings to complete the governance requirements of our respective Branches and Sub-Branched. This often leads on to the Commemoration of National Servicemen's Day and other Memorial activities.

Now, as we enter into the April period, our attention turns to ANZAC Day commemorations and the all-important ANZAC Appeal and badge selling. On behalf of your NSAA National Executive, I wish all members, families, and friends a successful and enjoyable ANZAC Day in which to connect with mates, honour the fallen, and relish the camaraderie as Nashos.

With very best wishes and kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Brandy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'R'.

Ron Brandy

National President

National Servicemen's Association of Australia

1/4/2024

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