



Navy Women (WRANS-RAN) Qld

Sub-Section of the Naval Association of Australia

Volume XXV #3 - Sep 2025

Winter Happenings – June to August 2025



NAVY WOMEN
(WRANS-RAN) QLD

ANNUAL
LUNCHEON
2025

**All ex-Navy
(and current serving)
Navy ladies are
invited and welcome**

**NWQ Member \$20
Non-Members \$50**



Beautiful 2 course lunch

*Please advise the Secretary when
booking of any special dietary requirements*

**Saturday, 1 November 2025
11.00am for 12pm**

**Geebung RSL,
323 Newman Rd, Geebung**
Close to Station and plenty of parking

- Lots of raffle prizes
- Lucky Door Prize
- Quiz



Great company!!

Drinks available at bar



RSVP is required, with payment,

before 20 October 2025 to:

**The Secretary (Judy Prewett)
Villa 77/9 Dux Drive, Bongaree.
Phone: 0419 877 59
Email: secretary@nwqld.org.au**

Bank Transfer- BOQ
Acc. Name: Navy Women (WRANS-RAN) Qld
BSB No.: 124 002
Acc. No.: 22446885
Ref. (Surname) Lunch

Don't forget
your 1940's
style hat.
Best Hat Prize



Invite for our November Reunion Luncheon

This date celebrates the 83rd anniversary of the first 14 women enlisting in Brisbane, on 9 November 1942. It is held on the first Saturday of November every year. This year, we will be celebrating at a new venue – one that is familiar to many of our members who regularly attend our monthly meetings.

Renewal of annual FEES : The release of this invite is also a reminder that the annual subs/fees for 2026 are due and payable by 31 December 2025. Many members pay at the same time as they pay for their luncheon.

Bring another Navy Woman and dress the part for another great luncheon organised by our Secretary.

Raffle Prizes – if you wish to contribute to the numerous prizes, please bring something to the value of \$15, that you would like to receive.

Postal Address:

**Navy Women Qld
Unit 77/9 Dux Drive,
BONGAREE Q 4507**

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Meetings: 2024

12 noon on the second
Sunday of each month,
except

May – third Sunday

July – third Sunday.

**December – last Sunday of
November**

Lillian Muriel Davis

From her daughter in law - *Maree Brooks* – with much appreciation

Lillian Muriel Davis was born on 12 April 1926 at Tannalo, near Mackay.

Her parents were Bill and Jessie Davis, who came from Bauple. Bill was working at Tannalo loading sugar cane from the horse drawn wagons into railway wagons at the derrick, to be taken to the sugar mill.

After her sister Doreen was born at Mackay, the family moved back to Bauple. Bill, whose proper name was Cyril Churchill Bevan Davis was born at Bauple on 26 January 1899. His wife Jessie was Violet Jessie Bertram prior to her marriage. Jessie was born at Gympie on the 7 March 1906.

Lillian's first childhood memories were when they lived in tents at Owanyilla, where her father was working on building the road south of Maryborough.

In 1932 at the age of six, Lillian attended the Raby State School at Bauple. The name of the school was changed to the Bauple State School in 1935 after the closure of the Mt Bauple School north of the township in 1933.

She attended the Maryborough Girls High School in 1940/41 after passing the Scholarship Examination in 1939. She passed her Junior exam in 1941 and in the following year she gained employment with the Tiaro Shire Council as Junior Clerk.

The Second World War began in 1939 and in 1945 Lillian joined the Women's Royal Australian Naval Services, WRANS, and served in 'HMAS Moreton'. After being demobilized from the Navy she worked at the Bauple Post Office (manual telephone exchange in those days) until her marriage to Fredrick George Brooks in 1947. Fred was a returned serviceman who was serving at Rabaul in New Guinea when the Japanese bombed Rabaul, then landed there. He spent 3 months in the Jungle in New Britain before he escaped to Cairns on the 'MV Lakatoi'.

They had four children, John born on 25 March 1949, Gary 12 February 1951, Kerrie 13 November 1956 and Neville 23 July 1958. Fred died on 8 January 1976. Sadly Kerrie was killed in a car accident in 1974 and John died in 1981 as a result of an accident he suffered when he was nine years old. Lillian married Joseph Coyne in 1980.

Lillian was the eldest of six children, she was born in 1926, Doreen in 1927, John (Jack) 1930, Nola 1932, Terence 1935 and Graeme 1946. Bill, Jessie and their children always spent their holidays at Tinnanbar. For many years they camped in tents and later built a shack on an allotment purchased by their son in law. Everyone had such carefree holidays there and always shared their catches, be it fish, crabs and oysters with the whole camp.

In 1974 Lillian returned to work in the Tiaro Shire Council Office where she worked until her retirement in 1991.

Because of her Naval Service, Lillian attended WRANS reunions held in all Australian Capital Cities. The WRANS were invited to a reunion at Hastings in New Zealand which she attended. An invitation was extended to the WRANS to participate in a reunion in San Diego organized by the American women, the WAVES. This was extended to a six week tour of America and Canada.

Other overseas trips included The British Isles, Austria, Switzerland and Singapore.

Horses were always her true love. She loved going to dances on a Saturday night.

In recent years she wrote a book about the early history of Bauple district - '*Bauple looking back to Pioneering Times*' and also - '*Tinnanbar as I have known it*'.

Lillian's main interests were in The Mt Bauple and District Historical Society Inc and she was a volunteer at the Bauple museum. In 2003 Lillian received the Citizen Award for 2003 from the Tiaro Shire Council.

Lillian's Poem

She walked a path both proud
and wide,
With grit and grace she did not
hide.
A stalwart soul, so deeply true—
The kind this world sees but a
few.

In Navy ranks she served her
call,
Stood strong, and loyal and
gave her all.
A woman forged through war
and peace,
Her sense of duty did not cease.

She loved the land in dust, and
rain,
Enduring heartache, loss, and
strain.
Her favourite times as a rider
poised,
She rode and worked with quiet
noise.

Four children born from love's
deep thread,
Two she lost, too soon with
dread.
Yet still she rose, through grief
and pain,
With eyes that dared to dream
again.

Twice a bride, through each
flame,
Twice she bore another name.
But always Lillian—firm and
sure,
A heart both fierce and wholly
pure.

Ninety-nine years and her life
has flown,
She created a legacy of her own
She leaves behind a trail of light,
Fond memories burning bold
and bright.

And now her horse does gently
pace,
Across the sky's eternal space.
Lillian rides now, proud and free,
Back with those she has been
waiting to see.

See page 6 for photos

Letter from our President

Hello ladies,

I hope this finds you all well, so sit down with a “cuppa”, put your feet up, and be ready to be enthralled in my life over the past three months. My personal life has certainly been chaotic so thank goodness I have Navy Women to keep me sane.

I’ve thoroughly enjoyed the last few months. It started with the SCESW holding their mid-year luncheon. The theme this year was “cruising” and everyone outdid themselves in their choice of attire. Afterwards I visited one of our “Treasures”, Vonnie Hitzke. This lady never ceases to amaze me. A few weeks later Vonnie turned 101 years young. Helen Gilmore-Walsh and I visited her the day after her birthday and she was incredible. After celebrating all day, the previous day with her family and friends, she was bright as a spark.



Joan Gilbert, our Honorary member for Life, spent several weeks in hospital, and then went back home. I had the pleasure of visiting her a few times and we had many laughs together. She is now back in hospital awaiting a vacancy.

July had Helen Gilmore-Walsh and me going to the SCSEW’s Christmas in July. First stop was the Cheese Factory at Kenilworth where everyone ate far too much cheese n crackers. Then it was onto the Kadanga Hotel for a traditional Christmas lunch. Another fabulous day out. My choice of outfit was for a winter’s day, and it turned out to be a lovely summers day. Needless to say, I was rather “warm”.

Sadly, many of us drove to Tiaro for the Memorial Service of one of our Treasures, Lillian Coyne. She was 99 years and had lived her life to the fullest.

Our July meeting was our “Christmas in July”. Thank you to everyone who dressed accordingly.

Then it was the Gold Coast ladies turn for their Xmas in July. This was held at *Fox n Hound Hotel*. A typical English pub complete with a roaring fire was the perfect setting and the meal was fabulous. When it comes to socializing, the Gold Coast ladies certainly know how to do it well.

I attended the 80th Anniversary of the end of the War in the Pacific and what a wonderful day that was. Instead of the usual Wreath Laying Ceremony and a guest speaker, it was a musical afternoon, sitting on the bank of the river listening to music from the war era. The day started with a flyover by a Spitfire, followed by the Australian Army Band and a quintet from the US 7th Fleet’s band, and a tribute to the Andrews Sisters.

The Qld RSL managed to get nine WWII Veterans there to be the VIPs. They ranged from 99 to 104 years of age. One of these was our very own Treasure, Muriel Ahern who was one of the younger ones. She is still in very good health and thoroughly enjoyed herself. By the time I managed to say hello, her champagne glass was just about empty.

Until next time,

Thank you all for your service.

Barb Jeffreys
President
0437 002 152
president@nwqld.org.au



LIFE Members



Judy Hunter

2001



Barbara Snowden

2006



Pat McKay

2007



Jennie Rathbone

2016



Pat Nuss

2016



Wendy Griggs

2022



Wendy, Judy, Pat N & Pat Mc with
Jennie & Barbara - 2024

Diploma of Merit

Cecelia Ashe 2001

Joy Moynahan 2012

Certificate of Merit



Liz Grimes 2021

Honorary Member for Life



Joan Gilbert 2014

Current Membership

As at 31 August 2024: 150

- 101 Full members, including Golden and Life;
- 35 Club members; including Golden;
- 13 Social members who are full members at another Sub-Section; and
- 1 Honorary Member for Life who is a full member of another Sub-Section.

If you want to join or have a friend who would like to join us, please see our page for details and application forms:

<https://nwqld.org.au/membership.html>

PROJECT – “WRANS – Where They Rest”

To record the final resting place of every woman who has served in the Australian Navy, whether as WRANS or RAN since 1941, anywhere in the world, buried, cremated, scattered to the Oceans or Winds of the world.

Lead Researcher: Lorrae Johnson (database)

Researchers: Joan (Reynolds) Henstock;

Tania Beaumont (SA); Carol Mills (NQ);

At least two of us are published authors and we all have a solid history of research.

This Project was commenced in January 2024, and to date, we have over 2,000 names of Service Women in the database, resting in various countries including Canada, Hong Kong, India, Netherlands, New Zealand, PNG, UK, USA and Zimbabwe, numerous cemeteries (including Arlington National Cemetery USA), and many dates or places of death without any idea of where they are resting.

NAA(Q) has agreed to sponsor our Project to enable application for grants for a webpage.

Lorrae Johnson (nee Owens)

WransWhereWeRest@gmail.com

Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses

The CMFN fund was established in 1948 to memorialise the nurses and medical personnel who lost their lives when the Australian Hospital Ship (AHS) Centaur was sunk by a Japanese submarine, off the coast of South East Queensland in 1943.

Only one nurse survived this tragedy, Sister Ellen Savage, who was subsequently awarded the George Medal for her bravery and courage.

The fund honours that commitment by supporting development of the nursing profession by acknowledging academic achievements of new graduates and awarding an annual Centaur scholarship for nurses undertaking research for higher degrees.

Applications for the 2025 CMFN Scholarship opened on Monday 4 August. These will close on the 1st business day of November 2025.

More details on Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses is at www.centaurnursesfund.org.au

Have you preserved your Service Story??

Whilst we are not planning to produce another book, we are still offering to collect and preserve your story.

We offer you two options – have it printed in the quarterly Newsletter or preserved for future use.

Only you can tell your story of your Service life through your eyes.

Consider telling your story for the future generations, who have no idea how we survived the 1940's, with alone the years from 1951 to 1985 before women went to sea.

A crowning touch

LEUT Felicity de Fombelle

DEFENCE will begin updating digital images and logos that bear Queen Elizabeth II's St Edward's Crown from next month.

CN VADM Mark Hammond recently approved the updated Navy Badge, featuring King Charles III's Tudor Crown.

From August 1, Defence digital assets, such as service templates and websites, will be updated with the new badge.

The update will be handled in three phases and coordinated to minimise the cost for groups and services.

Navy uniforms are set to be revised as stock bearing the St Edward's Crown runs out, and new orders enter the system featuring the Tudor, or King's, Crown.

Manager Navy Badges Paul Burnett said both versions of the Monarch's crowns are endorsed royal symbols, and the St Edward's Crown is a valid symbol of Navy's royal warrant until replaced.

The last time Defence changed the royal symbol was when Queen Elizabeth took the throne in 1953. Her crown was incorporated into the RAN's Ceremonial Badge on December 3, 1957.

Mr Burnett said the design was a perfect starting point and opportunity to revise the placement of the RAN Badge and Navy brand within



▲ The new RAN Ceremonial Badge with the King Charles III Tudor Crown, to be introduced from August.

the wider Defence environment.

He said it offered a chance to refresh promotional materials and corporate templates, and reflected the ongoing refocusing of Navy directions and intents.

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Breast Cancer Awareness Month is October

In October, the National Breast Cancer Foundation (NBCF) runs Breast Cancer Awareness Month, raising funds for life-saving research aimed at achieving Zero Deaths from breast cancer.

Every year, our Sub-Section donates all funds raised from the Raffle at the October meeting to Breast Cancer, and match it \$ for \$.

Our Fund Raising page has been established at: <https://fundraise.nbcf.org.au/fundraisers/lorraejohnson>

Please consider supporting this worthwhile cause.

Australian American Association Queensland Division - Brisbane

Our Secretary regularly receives invites and updates from the AAA Qld Division. You are all encouraged to attend any of their events that they advertise.

The AAA Qld Division secretary regularly attends the monthly events at the Jack Memorial.

Web: www.aabrisbane.com

Around the Traps with Liz

The winter months has been up and down for me. I haven't been able to attend many of the lunches/brunches with the Gold Coast and Ipswich ladies. Oh, how I missed them. However, things are looking up. I have been having work done in my front and back yard. Its almost done so I'll be able to pay more attention to my social life during Spring.

Commemoration

Jack Memorial Service



On the last Thursday of each month the Naval Association of Australia (Queensland Section) (NAA(Q)) conducts a Commemorative Ceremony at the **Naval Memorial** at the South Brisbane Memorial Park, adjacent to the Ship Inn and the Queensland Maritime Museum.

Each ceremony highlights the services of persons who have served Australia.

The ceremonies commence at 11.00 and are open to everyone.

At the conclusion of the Commemoration, there will be fellowship and drinks at the Ship Inn, your own expense.

All are welcomed.

All Navy Women Qld members attending are requested to wear their black shirts (not T-Shirts) or white shirt (T-Shirt) with black jacket with white skirt/trousers. Medals and name badges may also be worn.



26 Jun 2025 – Navy Women in attendance



31 Jul – Navy Women in attendance



28 Aug 2025

Community

WVNA Luncheon at Sofitel Brisbane

Women Veterans Network Australia (WVNA) are very active in providing support and gatherings for women veterans. They have groups all over the country.

They are a not-for-profit charity organisation that solely focuses on helping women veterans connect with each other, share information and access services.



14 Jun – five of our members attended the luncheon on the Gold Coast



20 Jul - Jackie & Sylvia met with Ramon and other members of the WVNA in Brisbane

Christmas In July Bus Trip



On 3rd July, the SCESWA joined with the Defence Service Women's RSL Sub-Branch for Christmas in July at Kenilworth. Navy Women were amongst the members enjoying a great day out with our Service Sisters.

Sunshine Coast Ex-Service & Serving Women's Association (SCESWA)

The SCESWA hold numerous C&C mornings at various sites, and many of our members attend.



We wear our black shirts so we are easily identified amongst our sisters, and many reconnections have been made.

On 5th June, a host of ladies arrived at Maroochydore Departure Lounge to board the SS SUNNY COAST. The ship's crew advised passengers, while waiting to board, to mingle with other passengers and help themselves to refreshments. On arrival at the Departure Lounge, passengers were advised of their cabin number (the table) they had been allocated for the cruise. The time had arrived for boarding - the Purser called out a cabin number - the passengers boarding one cabin at a time.

Once all passengers were on board, the crew proceeded to go through the emergency drill in case the ship were to flounder! It was a hilarious exercise with one crew member having difficulty demonstrating how to put on a life jacket.

After this demonstration, the passengers received their two course meal which was enjoyed by all. During the cruise, passengers took the opportunity to have photos taken by the rail on the stern of the ship with a lovely view of the ocean.

As the ship was due to be decommissioned, the passengers had the opportunity to bid by auction, various posters, table decorations, etc. All good things must come to an end. The ship docked at Maroochydore and, after a wonderful cruise, the passengers and crew departed company and went their various ways.

BZ to the Sunshine Coast Ex-Service and Service Women for a wonderful cruise Photos of the day were numerous, and the following gives you an idea of the fun that was had, as usual every year.



Lillian Coyne Memorial

On 11th September, several groups travelled to Tiaro for the Memorial Service for Lillian Coyne (see page 2).



Navy Women ^^ & SCESWA Women (below)



Camaraderie

Over the past three months, Navy Women again meet at various locations to share fellowship with each other and our fellow sister services. Navy Women met at the Gold Coast and Western Suburbs meeting at various places for camaraderie and lunch. Navy Women met on the Sunshine Coast, Bribie Island and Morayfield to swap stories with their Army and Air Force sisters.

All Navy Women are welcome to meet at the below venues for a few good laughs and lunch. We usually wear our Navy Women shirts, so we are easy to find.

Western Suburbs – first Tuesday of the Month @ 11am

October : Chapters Book Shop, Cafe and Wine Bar | 39/52 Junction Rd, Chuwar QLD 4306

November : Club Services Ipswich | 5 Lowry St, North Ipswich QLD 4305

December : Secret Santa @ Wounded Heroes | 41 Brisbane Rd, Bundamba QLD 4305
Contact Lorrae Johnson

Gold Coast – Third Tuesday of the month @ 10am

October : Cafe 360 - 360 Marine Parade, Labrador

November : Café 63 Runaway Bay - 300 Oxley Dr, Coombabah

December : Secret Santa @ Café 7 Paradise Point - 42 The Esplanade, Paradise Point
Contact Sylvia Manners

Western Suburbs Lunch



3 Jun - Café 63 Springfield - Mary, Lorrae, Liz, Jan, Barb, Robyn



1 Jul – Café 63 Winsome Glades – Robyn, Lorrae, Jackie, Pat, Marie, Sylvia, Barb, Barbara, Letty & Mary



5 Aug – Café 63 Ipswich – Jennie, Liz, Lorrae, Barbara, Pat, Jan, Barb, Mary, Robyn, Marie

Gold Coast Brunch

The ladies from the Gold Coast continue to look for new and interesting places to meet for brunch whilst visiting favourite venues.



17 Jun – Southport Surf Club – Wendy, Lorrae, Tanya, Barb, Anne, Sylvia, Gayle, Jackie, June, Lorraine, Glenda



15 Jul – Christmas in July – Fox & Hound – Barb, Lorrae, Gayle, Wendy, Dianne, Jackie, Tanya & friend, Sylvia, Glenda



19 Aug – Helensvale Bowls Club - Liz, Sylvia, Jackie, Jan, Maxine, Wendy, Dianne, Lorrae, Anne, Glenda, Tania, Glenys, Cathy, Nyla, Pauline, Gayle and June. Anne's friend was there with her too

Ordinary General Meetings



Heads down



Jun 2025





Christmas In July

Events Cinema

Do you feel like taking your friend to the movies during the week for an outing??

All Veterans cards are entitled to a discounted concession price.

Veterans Gold Cards embossed with 'TPI', 'EDA' or War Widows entitle the cardholder to a complimentary ticket **and 1 guest at the concession price.**

Please note exclusions may apply:

- Valid for sessions between Monday to Friday once per day.
- Not valid for films listed under No Free Tickets (NFT).
- Not redeemable for online bookings,
- Not valid in Gold Class, V-Max, 3D 4DX, Event Junior or Premium Seating Concepts.
- Not valid for Chicks at the Flicks, Special Events or screenings, Alternate Content, Skyline Drive In, Moonlight Cinemas or with any other offer.

Radar Plotters Lunch – 12 July



Lorrae & Barb enjoying lunch at the RPs

Community

Bribie Island Ex-Service Women Luncheon

Bribie Island Ex-Service Women Luncheon—
Fourth Monday of the month at the Bribie Island RSL
Contact Anita Cooper.



23 Jun - Judy, Denise, Liz, Lee, Paula, Bernadette, Sandy, Catherine, Truus, Rhonda, Val, Janice, Fran, Lyn, MJ, Cheryl, Carmel, Carol – all services.



28 Jul - Navy- Anita, Liz, Paula, Barbara, Judy, Lee, Jackie, Sylvia, Lorrae and our honorary member mum Bev, Bernie, Margie, Marion, Lee



25 Aug - Navy - Anita, Lee, Liz, Barbara, Paula, Margie, Lorrae and her lovely mum Bev (not in pic) Lee

ACT Ex-Wrans Luncheon

Thank you to ACT XWRANS for your amazing welcome to me and my daughter Natalie at your monthly luncheon. It was a pleasure to meet Merle Hare, a WWII Treasure of 105 years. What an amazing lady. (Anne)



*Standing from left - Anne, Heather, Rae, Olwyn-Ann
Sitting: Natalie, Merle, & Kerry*

Cadets with Pat Nuss

Please contact me if you would like more information.

Pat Nuss
NAA(Q) Vice President (Cadets)
Mobile: 0439 674 199
Email: patricianuss9@gmail.com

<https://www.navycadets.gov.au/>
Service, Courage, Respect, Integrity and Excellence

Containers For Change (C4C)

We are raising funds for the Cadets through *Containers for Change*. We have a separate account, and the funds raised each year are distributed in April and May the following year as a donation for their ANZAC Services.

Our account number is **C10236300** and all donations gratefully appreciated.

Be A Change Maker



Barcode for **C10236300**

Your Wellbeing

Please let our Wellbeing Officer know if you are not well, especially if you are going to hospital, or if you are dealing with a problem.

We practice support through friendship and camaraderie. If you just need to talk to someone, call any committee member, or one of our ladies.

Don't bottle it up, we do not have the answers, but we have an ear to listen whilst you think out your options.

Sometimes, a chat over a coffee is more beneficial than you may realise, so please, always feel welcome to join any of our groups.

Remembrance Day 2025



1100 on 11 November is a time for us to stop and remember as we observe one minute of silence to remember the service and sacrifice of our veterans.

This year marks the 80th year of the end of WWII, when Japan officially surrendered on 2 September 1945 and was preceded by the cessation of hostilities on 15 August 1945, which Australia recognized as Victory in the Pacific (VP) Day.

It also marks the 80th year since recruiting of Wrens stopped on 14 August 1945 and did not recommence until mid-1951 after the commencement of the Korean War.

Celebrating Queensland Seniors Month

The second annual Queensland Seniors Month will be held throughout October.

Events kick off on 1 October, the United Nations International Day of Older Persons and continue to National Grandparents Day, on 30 October before ending on 31 October 2025.

Elder Abuse

If you think someone you know is being subjected to elder abuse, call the Elder Abuse Helpline on 1300 651 192 for free, confidential advice (Monday to Friday, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm).

Visit www.qld.gov.au/stopelderabuse

National Stroke Week

Anyone could have a stroke — and anyone could save a life.

Knowing the F.A.S.T. (Face, Arms, Speech and Time) signs of stroke means you can act quickly when every second counts.

**If you are 65 or over
register now:**

my aged care

1800 200 422

www.myagedcare.gov.au

WRANS CLASS 165 — 50 YEAR REUNION



24-28 April 2026 WESTERNPORT VIC

A variety of activities to take place including dinners, ANZAC Day, outings and of course, back to HMAS Cerberus on 27 April 2026, to reminisce about our first arrival.

More details once numbers are established. Till then .

Contact Margie Durie (Bevan) 0418 489 260
marg.durie@bigpond.com

Spring in Brisbane

Spring has made a swift entrance this year, arriving seemingly in the blink of an eye. It's a bit unfortunate, as spring truly stands out as one of the best seasons in Brisbane. The combination of cool nights and sunny days creates an ideal climate, making it a particularly enjoyable time of year.

Looking Ahead to Summer

As we look forward, it appears that the upcoming summer will be another sizzling season for the city. I have no doubt that summer will make a gradual entrance, lingering through December, January, and February. The heat is expected to persist, so it's wise to prepare accordingly.

Preparing for the Heat

Now is the perfect moment to stock up on your favourite cool drinks and get ready to "Slip, Slop, Slap" and stay safe when summer arrives. For now, I am making the most of the pleasant spring weather while it lasts.

Staying Connected

Navy Women Qld has had a quiet time of late, the usual events have been attended, Jack Ceremonies, Council of Ex Service Women's Association, Annual Memorial Service, for the Women of Australia. Monthly coffee meetings are well attended and continue to offer an opportunity for camaraderie and support.

End of War in the Pacific: WRANS and the Changing Role of Women in Defence (based on Occasional Paper 173: HMAS Magnetic - Naval Historical Society of Australia)

The conclusion of the Pacific War eighty years ago marked a pivotal moment for the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service (WRANS) and Royal Australian Navy (RAN) women. Their contributions during this period not only supported the Allied victory but also helped pave the way for greater acknowledgement of women's abilities in the Australian Defence Force.

WRANS Formation and Essential Roles

Formed in April 1941, WRANS recruited women into vital naval roles previously reserved for men. Among their most critical duties during the Pacific War was their work as wireless telegraphers and signals intelligence operators, providing indispensable support across a range of military operations.

Understanding Key Terms in Signals Intelligence

To appreciate the technical nature of WRANS' work, it's helpful to clarify a few terms:

- Wireless telegraphy (W/T) silence: Periods when ships and military units refrained from transmitting messages to avoid detection by enemy forces.
- Kata kana: A Japanese script used to transcribe intercepted messages for decoding.
- Sigint: Short for signals intelligence, this refers to the process of intercepting and analysing communications for military intelligence purposes.

Wireless telegraphy (W/T) silence refers to periods when ships avoid transmitting to remain undetected. "Kata kana" is a Japanese script used for transcribing intercepted messages. "Sigint" stands for signals intelligence, the process of intercepting and analysing communications.

WRANS at the Battle of the Coral Sea and HMAS Magnetic

One of the most notable contributions of WRANS was during the Battle of the Coral Sea. Based at the "Y" Station on HMAS Magnetic, located on Magnetic Island and Townsville, Queensland - about 800 kilometres from Brisbane - Wran telegraphists closely monitored Japanese communications. They intercepted signals from the Japanese Command as well as from enemy ships and submarines when they broke wireless telegraphy (W/T) silence. Wran operators became so attuned to the unique sending styles of Japanese radio operators that they gave each a nickname, further aiding in the identification and analysis of enemy transmissions.



"Aileen's Place", 7 Hillside Crescent was the "Y" Station. Cleveland Bay. Magnetic Island is seen in the background

Intercepting, Transcribing, and Forwarding Messages

Working with remarkable focus, Wran telegraphists would monitor two radio channels simultaneously, each earpiece of their headset tuned to a different frequency. The area they covered included Guam, Yap, Wake, Guadalcanal, Manus, the Trobriand Islands, and the Andaman Islands - a vast expanse critical to the war effort. Upon intercepting a message, they transcribed it into kata kana and forwarded it by land line to the main intercept and decoding sites in Melbourne. There, the highly secret decoding work - classified as "Ultra Secret" - was performed, with about 90% of the Melbourne staff being women.

Impact and Legacy

The intelligence gathered by Wran telegraphists was vital in shaping Allied strategies and contributed significantly to successes in the Pacific theatre. Their expertise and dedication not only influenced the outcome of critical battles but also challenged traditional perceptions of women's roles in the military. The achievements of the WRANS during the Pacific War paved the way for greater recognition of women's capabilities in defence and set a precedent for future generations of servicewomen.



WRANS in Brisbane - November 1943 – celebrating the first year of WRANS in Brisbane.

Contact Details



Please feel free to text me a message at 0432227181. Leave your name and number and I will get back to you. I don't always have my phone on me, as many of my friends can attest to. I will respond once I look at my phone.
Wellbeing@NWQld.org.au

Concessions

Are you getting all the discounts you are entitled to in Queensland from the Qld Government:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/community/cost-of-living-support/concessions>

Companion Card

If you have a disability and a lifelong need for 'attendant care support' in order to participate in community activities and attend venues, the Companion Card can help you with the costs of getting out and about with the support of a companion.

Companion Card holders receive a second 'companion' ticket at no charge at participating venues and on public transport. The 'companion' ticket is also exempt from booking fees.

The Companion Card is issued in the name of the person who has a disability, and is valid for 5 years.

A companion is any person who accompanies a cardholder and provides attendant care support.

The cardholder's chosen companion may be a paid or unpaid assistant or carer, family member, friend or partner.

Attendant care support

Attendant care support means significant assistance with mobility, communication, self-care or learning, where the use of aids, equipment or alternative strategies does not enable a person to carry out these tasks independently.

Attendant care support does not include the companion providing only social company, reassurance or encouragement.

Eligibility

The Companion Card is not income or asset tested.

To be eligible for the card, you must:

- be a lawful Australian resident, living in Queensland
- have a disability
- because of the impact of the disability, be unable to participate at most community venues or activities without attendant care support
- need, or be likely to need, lifelong attendant care support.

Coordinated Veterans' Care (CVC) Program

<https://www.dva.gov.au/documents-and-publications/cvc-program-evaluation-final-report>

The report will be provided to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet for further consideration in the context of the Government's response to Recommendation 72 of the Royal Consideration into Defence and Veteran Suicide Final Report.

From VP NAA(S) Ray Sandford:
I would encourage Navy veterans to have a look at this document. Along with the harmonisation of DVA Acts.

For those veterans holding White cards previously accessed under DERCA, it is timely to engage with your advocate.

Navy women may benefit, as well as all younger veterans under 60 years of age.

The Official Newsletter of the Navy Victoria Network "Broadside" is published monthly and available online. Well worth a visit at <https://navyvic.net/>

More than 1000 service personnel, including members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) marched through London to commemorate the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day, marking the end of World War II in Europe.

<https://navyvic.net/broadside/may2025broadside.html>
https://navyvic.net/broadside_archives.html

Ops Room Association newsletter is available at: https://www.opsroomassociation.org.au/index_html_files/ORA%20Xara%20Winter%20Newsletter%2001June2025.pdf

'VETERAN' - whether on active duty, discharged, retired or reserve - is someone who at one point in his or her life wrote a blank cheque made payable to "AUSTRALIA", for an amount of "up to and including his or her life".

Hervey Bay Ex-Servicewomen's Social Club 41st Birthday – 17-19 October

Hervey Bay Ex-Servicewomen's Social Club
41st Birthday

Pres: Julie Chapple 0407766545
Sec: Leonie Mercer 0414828385
Treas: Joanne Williams 0417353481

P.O Box 3042
Hervey Bay Qld 4655
judulie@gmail.com

GO'S Lets Get..... **Groovy**

Friday 17th OCTOBER
"Casual"
Friday night get together
RSL on the Veranda
5.30pm for 6.00pm Start
Cost: Own Expense

Saturday 18th OCTOBER
"Get Your Groove On"
Saturday Luncheon
RSL in Hervey House
11.30am for 12.00pm Start
Cost: \$45
(1 drink voucher pp included)

Sunday 19th OCTOBER
Indicate interest
Numbers needed.
Cafe 63
Breakfast @ 8.00am
Cost: Own Expense

This year we want you to wear.....
Dust of the Bell Bottoms and throw on the Love Beads!

Partners are most welcome. We can't wait to see you there.
The Courtesy Bus is available for transport to the RSL Club
for the Friday night Function and Saturday Luncheon.
Phone: 1300 775 287 to book.

Cheques made out to:
Hervey Bay Ex-Servicewomen's Social Club
Branch Name: _____
Enclosed Cheque for \$ _____

Direct Deposit Details:
BSB 645 646
ACCOUNT 107946858
NAME: Hervey Bay Ex-Servicewomen's Social Club
(If using direct debit please advise the treasurer at judulie@gmail.com)

Friday Night- Own Expense
Saturday Luncheon- \$ 45pp (1 drink voucher pp incl.)
Sunday Breakfast- Own Expense

Dietary requirements: _____

RANCSA SOUTHERN 24 –26 Oct 2025

Regional Reunion (Smokie) —Albury-Wodonga
Big 4 Borderland—Wodonga Holiday Park

For further details, contact Greg Goodwin at
RANCSA.Southern@gmail.com

ACT WRANS Memorial Service – Saturday 19 October 2025

The annual WRANS Memorial Service at HMAS Harman will be held on Saturday 19 October 2024 commencing at 1100 and followed by refreshments in the Bonshaw Mess afterwards.

If the weather permits, the service will be held at the WRANS memorial, just inside the main gate. Otherwise, it will be held in the Bonshaw Mess as we have been required to do on the last two occasions.

Navy Women Canberra 2027 Reunion

A group of women have taken on the 2027 Reunion to be held in Canberra. Judy Lambert is the organiser with Angela Ballard, Colleen Gould and Lyn Jensen – "The Greenies":



Judy Flash Lambert

★ Rising contributor 1h · 🌐

Navy Women's Reunion 2 - 4 July 2027

The Greenies are happy to announce the next reunion in Canberra ACT

Theme - Christmas in July

Venue - Hellenic Club, Woden. ACT.

02 July - 1200 to 1600 Registration, Meet and Greet. Partners welcome after 1600.

03 July - 1200 Registration, 1230 Long Lunch.

04 July - TBC

(Please note these times may alter dependant on numbers)

Registration will open shortly.

Email - navywomen2027@gmail.com

End of Life presentation

NAA(Qld) state executives have been rolling out sessions on **End of Life**.

If a session is offered in your area, it is well worth the time to attend and to hear from the NAA(Qld) State Chaplain; Psychologist and other specialist on the various things we all should be covering NOW.

Aged Care – Veterans' Home care – Community Nursing – Home Care Package – DVA services.

Talk about your wishes with your loved ones and decide who you want to make decisions if you are unable to – Advance Health Directive (Qld) - Palliative care - Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD).

<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/support/my-care-my-choices>

Do you have a WILL? Is it up to date? Have things changed? Have you completed a Health Directive? Who knows where these are kept?

Resources:

A Guide To Putting Your Affairs In Order. Preparing for and coping with Bereavement. An Australian Government Department of Veteran's Affairs publication. A sixty-two- page pdf document.

Really useful Death and Dying information A twenty-page pdf booklet prepared by The Natural Death Care Centre and Tender funerals.

Guarding your legacy estate planning .. A thirty-three-page pdf document that covers a lot of what was said today. James O'Connor has pulled this together from various documents.

Many others!! Most Funeral Directors, Religious organisations, hospices, friends.

<https://www.manage-affairs-after-death.services.qld.gov.au/>

New Members – Welcome Aboard

No new applications this quarter

Care with Liz

Sick Bay

Please let us know if you are unwell, or in hospital, and we may be able to organise a visit to cheer you on.

Joan Gilbert is unable to live independently and is waiting for a vacancy in care.

Our thoughts and prayers are with anyone spending time in Sickbay or Hospital.

Vale

We have received news from interstate, and the notices included in their Newsletters or which are shared via email are detailed here. We will report the loss of our sisters when we are advised.

COYNE
Lillian Muriel
(formerly Brooks,
nee Davis)
WWII WRAN



Of Maryborough, formerly of Bauple. Passed away peacefully on June 14, 2025 at the wonderful age of 99. Loving wife of Joe Coyne and Fred Brooks (both dec'd). Loved daughter of Bill and Jess (both dec'd). Loved sister and sister-in-law to Doreen and Eddy (both dec'd), Jack (dec'd) and Kerry, Terry and Bette (both dec'd), Nola and Graham (both dec'd), Graeme and Georgina. Loving mother and mother-in-law of John (dec'd), Gary and Judy, Kerrie-Leigh (dec'd), Neville and Maree. Adored gran to Renee (dec'd), Dean and Melissa and great gran to Hayden and Macey. Loving grandma, great and great great grandma, aunt and great aunt. Loved and respected by all who knew her.

Missed Dearly & Forever In Our Hearts
As per Lillian's wishes, she was privately cremated.

SA – Scranbag:

Lena Ellen ALDOUS (03Feb1923-25Jan2025) **42524 Wren Steward TURNER**. She served at HMS SKIRMISHER, Milford Haven and Westcliff-on-Sea before an overseas draft to HMS GOLDEN HIND in Sydney. She was discharged in July 1946 at Rushcutters Bay Naval HQ.

Margaret Anne NALLY (nee FOLEY) (28May1933-20Jul2025) **WR4103 Leading Wran Tel** (31Jul1951-30Jul1955). She served at HMAS' Cerberus and Harman and was discharged from HMAS Penguin.

Roslyn Kaye JAKES (nee NIELSEN) 03Jan1941-06May2025 **R84991 WRRO** (08May1959-08Oct1960)

Astrid GOOCH 08Oct1961-10Aug2025 POWRMTD
More information required.

Rhelma Christine (nee KLEIN) SPENCER
W119760. (1950-26May2025) Enlisted 1976

WWII Treasures in 2025

Betty (nee THOMPSON) BYRNE WR/451 (22Oct1923-01Jan2025). Betty enlisted on 29Dec1942 as a Wran Writer and was discharged engagement expired on 04Feb1946 as a Leading Writer.

Laurel Valetta (nee SMITH) MUNDAY WR/1363 (30Jan1923-6Feb2025). Laurel enlisted on 08Jun1943 as a Wran Writer and was discharged engagement expired on 08Apr1946 as a Wran Transport Driver.

Joan Cecily (nee ROWLEY) DEAN WR/2985 (24Aug1926-02Apr2025). Joan enlisted on 01Jun1945 as a Wran Stewardess and was discharged on 19Jul1946.

Marie Winifred BREARLEY (nee HOGAN, formerly YOUNG and EWINGTON) WR/1318 (30Nov1923-02Apr2025). Marie enlisted on 04Jun1943 as a Wran Teleprinter Operator and was discharged...engagement expired on 15Feb1946 as a Leading Teleprinter Operator.

Gwenyth Heaton SNEESBY (nee FORSTER) WR/379 (17/06/1924-10/04/2025) Gwenyth enlisted on 09Dec1942 as a Writer and was discharged on 15Nov1945 as a Leading Wran Writer.

Marcia May Noelene (nee HOCKING) MURRAY WR/1605 (18Jun1925-27Apr2025). Marcia enlisted on 02Aug1943 as a Wran Writer and was discharged engagement expired on 26Mar1947.

Lillian Muriel COYNE (nee Davis, formerly BROOKS) WR/2851 (12Apr1926-14Jun2025). Lillian enlisted on 03Apr1945, as a Wran Assistant Writer. She advanced to a Wran Writer on 02Mar1945 and was discharged engagement expired on 28Jun1946. HMAS Moreton was her only posting.

Veronica Joyce (Vonnice) (nee HIBBETT) HITZKE WR/1539 (19Jul1924-10Sep2025). She enlisted on 22Jun1943 as a Wran Supply Assistant and was discharged engagement expired on 26Feb1946. HMAS Moreton was her only posting.

Lest We Forget

Please let us know of the death of any Navy Woman - member or not; from any state and we will mention them in the next newsletter.

Merchandise for Sale to Financial Members only

Stores@nwqld.org.au

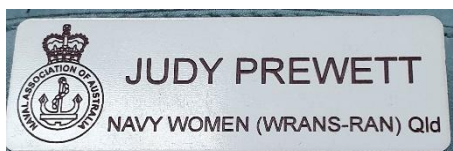
Navy Women (WRANS-RAN) Qld has a 'uniform' so that we can present a uniform appearance when gathered as a group.

White Hats are a non specific brand of Panama style – acquired from various department stores – Kmart, Target, etc

POCKET BADGE with magnets for Jacket >



^ **TALLY BAND**



NAME TAG with your name and our brand ^^



POLO SHIRTS with EMBROIDERY on right side



Formal Occasions:

(Funerals; ANZAC Day)

White skirt, pants or dress, worn with the white shirt, black jacket with the magnetised pocket badge, and white hat with our Tally Band.

Shoes to suit.

Alternatively, the black blouse can be worn in lieu of white shirt and black jacket.



AUSSIE PACIFIC POLO SHIRT with EMBROIDERY on right side

Informal Occasions:

(Coffee mornings, bus trips, social gathering)
Black tops with your choice of bottom half.

Wearing of medals:

Large medals are worn for events that commence in the day time;

Miniatures are worn for events that commence at night;

Ribbons are worn during the day for non-Ceremonial events.



BIZ OASIS button front SHIRT with EMBROIDERY on right side



Orders for shirts and name tags take 3 weeks.
Payment must be received before orders are placed.

For details of price, and to place orders, contact:
Judy Prewett on 0419 877 594 or email Stores@nwqld.org.au



Meetings are Essential to the Association
A Quorum is Essential to a Meeting
Your Attendance is Essential to a Quorum

Calendar of Events 2025 – subject to changes

Date	Event	Notes
3 Sep	Battle of Australia Commemoration	
10 Sep	CESWA Commemoration to Service Women of Aust	Women's Memorial Pine Rivers Kallangur Formal Uniform
14 Sep	Navy Women Qld OGM Geebung RSL	
13 Sep	NAA Golden Rivet 2025	CSI Ipswich – Hosted by NAA State Black Shirts
25 Sep	Service @ Jack Southbank	Vietnam HMAS Vendetta
13 Oct	Navy Women Qld GM Geebung RSL	Breast Cancer Fundraising WEAR PINK
October	Hervey Bay Birthday weekend	
31 Oct	Service @ Jack Southbank	HMAS Sydney II –
1 Nov	Navy Women Annual Reunion Luncheon	Geebung RSL Club
9 Nov	Navy Women Qld OGM	
11 Nov	Remembrance Day Service	
20 Nov	NAA(Q) State Council meeting	
27 Nov	Service @ Jack Southbank	Navy Women – All Navy Women
30 Nov	Navy Women Qld GM Geebung RSL	Xmas Party closest to 1 st December
	Summer Break	
Feb	Service @ Jack Southbank	Honouring HMAS Voyager (II) Lost Crew
8 Feb	Navy Women Qld AGM & OGM Geebung RSL	Geebung RSL - First meeting for 2025
19 Feb	NAA(Q) State Council meeting	Delegates attend
23 Feb	Navy Week	HMAS Moreton - TBC
26 Feb	Service @ Jack Southbank	RAN Navy Week Hosted by HMAS Moreton:
Feb	Voyager (II)	St Mary's - Kangaroo Point
1 Mar	HMAS Perth and the USS Houston were lost during the Battle of Sunda Strait on 1 March 1942	
9 Mar	Navy Women Qld OGM Geebung RSL	
7-8 Mar	NAA State Conference –	Delegates attend – everyone invited
14-16 Mar	WRANS-RAN National Reunion – Tasmania	
27 Mar	Service @ Jack Southbank	HMAS Yarra (ii) - Focus – Rankin & Taylor
3 Apr	Good Friday	Happy Easter
12 Apr	CESWA Tri-Service Luncheon Geebung RSL	Singing Competition
13 Apr	Navy Women Qld OGM Geebung RSL	Easter Bonnet
25 Apr	ANZAC Day 0600 Service at St John's Church Northgate Corvettes Assoc Service Newstead 0930 Parade in Brisbane City	Formal Uniform
9 May	Battle of the Coral Sea	Newstead Park, Brisbane
May	Victory in Europe Service 08May1945	South-Eastern District RSL New Farm
18 May	Navy Women Qld OGM	3 rd Sunday due to Mother's Day date
29 May	Service @ Jack Southbank	ANMEF 1914 - Navy & Military Expedition
5 Jun	Sunshine Coast Ex-Service and Serving Women's Assoc Inc Luncheon Maroochydore	Civilian dress with name tags
14 Jun	Navy Women Qld OGM Geebung RSL	
25 Jun	Service @ Jack Southbank	
4-5 Jul	Reserve Forces Day Wondai	
12 Jul	Navy Women Qld OGM Geebung RSL	
26 Jul	Korean Veterans Day	
30 Jul	Service @ Jack Southbank	
9 Aug	Navy Women Qld GM Geebung RSL	
Aug	Victory in Pacific Day 15Aug1945	South-Eastern District RSL New Farm
18 Aug	Vietnam Veterans Day	
27 Aug	Service @ Jack Southbank	

First Tuesday of each month
 Second Monday of each month
 Second Wednesday of each month
 Third Tuesday of each month
 Fourth Monday of each month
 Last Thursday of each month

Western Suburb Lunch
 Morayfield / Caboolture
 Glasshouse Country Women United by Defence
 Gold Coast Brunch
 Bribie Island Lunch
 Jack Memorial
 Bribie Island RSL Social Cafe
 Ship Inn, South Bank

Meeting Times

Navy Women Qld meetings are held on the **second Sunday of every month****,

1200 to approx. 1400

Geebung RSL Club

(323 Newman Road, Geebung - near the Geebung Railway Station)

**** Except May, when it is the third Sunday of the month (not Mother's Day) ****

December is 30 November Christmas Party

Arrive by 11am to socialise with your sisters before the meeting - stay afterwards for a Welfare subsidised brew.



August 2025 meeting

Email us your Updates & details of Payment

Amount paid:

Date paid:

Subs : Full Membership \$40 pa
Social / Club Membership \$15 pa.
No more than a maximum of 3 years in advance.

Event:

Special Diet:

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

Please advise if your next of kin details change.

Bank Details:

Bank of Queensland

Name: **Navy Women (WRANS-RAN) Qld**

BSB No: **124 002**

Account No: **22446885**

Reference: **Surname reason/event**

December Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for next newsletter is 30 November 2025.

Please send your stories and photos to:

Editor@nwqld.org.au and include

Treasurer@NWqld.org.au

Newslette@NWQld.org.au

New Membership Fees:

<https://nwqld.org.au/membership.html>

Membership Type	Initial Fee + Badge	Annual Fee	Total Fee
Full	\$5	\$40	\$45
Social		\$15	\$15
Club	\$5	\$15	\$20

Membership Fees: From 2025

Membership Type	Annual Fee
Full	\$40
Social	\$15
Club	\$15

FACEBOOK

Under the Events tab of our Facebook page, I attempt to add every event that I am aware of that is open for us to attend. Please check them out.

<https://www.facebook.com/wrans.qld/events>

If you are a financial member, there is an events tab in our Members Only page – with other events.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/563214483732517>

PHOTOS of YOU

Unless you advise otherwise, it is deemed we have permission to take and publish photos of you in the newsletter or on our Facebook pages.

If this is not the case, please advise the Secretary in writing.



Poppy Service

If you wish your service to our country to be recognised at your funeral, you need to let your funeral director or your family KNOW. It is your family who ask the Funeral Director to arrange to have the Poppy tribute. We cannot interfere with your service.

Smell Free

In 2022, we voted not to wear strong smelling perfumes to our meetings. Perfumes affect the health of many members, so please be considerate of our sisters when you are preparing to attend any functions.

Harman, the ship without water

Navy's long-serving 'stone frigate' plays a vital role in communications and personnel support, **LSIS Nadav Harel** writes.

ABOUT 120km from the nearest ocean sits Navy base HMAS Harman, outside of Canberra.

This 'stone frigate', a naval term for a shore-based facility, plays a vital role in Australia's defence, though not in the way one might typically associate with a Navy base.

Harman's story began in the 1920s, when the Australian Commonwealth Naval Board recognised the need for strategic wireless stations in Canberra and Darwin.

Canberra was chosen specifically for its inland location, out of range from potential naval bombardment during wartime.

The facility, initially known as the RAN Wireless Station Canberra, commenced operations in 1939.

It was commissioned as Harman on July 1, 1943, taking its name from a combination of the surnames of two key naval signals officers, CDRM N. Harvey and LCDR J. B. Newman.

During World War 2, Harman was a critical communications hub, providing essential services for allied navies operating in the Pacific.

It became the first establishment where women, specifically the WRANS, served as telegraphers, handling coded messages and Morse code communications.

Today, Harman continues its core function of providing communications effects to Defence.

While the traditional large transmitting/receiving masts are long gone, it now houses the Naval Communications Area Master Station Australia and Naval Communications Station Canberra, integral to Defence-wide communications, cyber, intelligence and information warfare capabilities.

Beyond its communications role, Harman also serves as an administrative and personnel support base for Navy personnel stationed in

the ACT, southern NSW, and Navy non-operational positions overseas.

Furthermore, the base hosts various other Defence units, including Army Reserve and Air Force elements, as well as four ADF cadet units.

CO Harman CDRM Dean Thompson, a maritime human resource officer, initially joined Navy as a marine technician sailor before commissioning to become a maritime warfare officer.

He started as his career as a 17-year-old seaman recruit and now

There has been someone on watch monitoring communications since 1943 and that's pretty amazing

CDRM Dean Thompson
CO HMAS Harman

commands 3500 Navy personnel, overseeing their welfare, careers and overall lives in the Navy.

"I feel really privileged to be in command of a landlocked Navy base because of its touch points to not only Navy, but Defence more broadly. We are a very integrated base," CDRM Thompson said.

"While I'm not directly responsible for communications effects here at Harman, there has been someone on watch monitoring communications since 1943 and that's pretty amazing."

▲ WRANS personnel join the mess line-up at HMAS Harman in 1941.
Photo: Courtesy Australian War Memorial P0301.006

▼ HMAS Harman's youngest sailor SMN Patricia Narayan and CO Harman CDRM Dean Thompson cut a cake at the Wodonga RSL to celebrate Navy's 126th birthday during Navy Week.
Photo: L030 Nadav Harel



▲ WRANS personnel at work in the wireless telegraphy room at HMAS Harman in 1941.
Photo: Courtesy Australian War Memorial P0301.003





DVA aged care publications and resources



The veteran's guide to living independently

– Accessing DVA services

Information about the DVA services available to keep you living independently at home:

To view this book:
www.dva.gov.au/ac



To order this book:
<https://portal.nationalmailing.com.au/dva>



The veteran's guide to moving into an aged care home

– Accessing DVA services

Information to help you through your journey from living at home to moving into an aged care home:

To view this book:
www.dva.gov.au/ac



To order this book:
<https://portal.nationalmailing.com.au/dva>



The veteran's guide to living in an aged care home

A guide to help you better understand the health and wellbeing support available from DVA when living in an aged care facility:

To view this book:
www.dva.gov.au/ac



To order this book:
<https://portal.nationalmailing.com.au/dva>



The veteran's guide to better hearing

Online information on aged care services and supports available to help you access hearing support:

To view this book:
www.dva.gov.au/ac



To order this book:
<https://portal.nationalmailing.com.au/dva>



Planning Ahead

A guide and checklist to help you get your personal affairs in order:

To view this book and checklist:
www.dva.gov.au/planning-ahead-kit



Department of Veterans' Affairs website

The DVA website has a range of helpful information for our older clients, including the following:

DVA website:
www.dva.gov.au



Aged Care webpages:
www.dva.gov.au/ac



Open Arms website:
www.openarms.gov.au



Most of these resources can also be ordered by calling **1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372)**

My Aged Care and DVA services

If you are a DVA client 65 years or over* and receiving DVA services that only partly meet your needs, you can apply for an assessment to determine whether additional services can be provided through [My Aged Care](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au).

Support and services might be subject to a needs assessment and confirmation that there is no duplication in the type of help being received. Other eligibility criteria may apply.

It is important you consider all services offered by both DVA and [My Aged Care](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au).

We encourage you to register with [My Aged Care](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au) early as it can take time to be assessed and get services in place. Get started by calling **1800 200 422** and arrange an aged care assessment.

**The eligibility for My Aged Care is 50 years or over for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Exceptions may apply for individuals who have a low income, are homeless or at risk of being homeless.*



My Aged Care website

My Aged Care is the agency responsible for helping all Australians with in-home and residential aged care services.

My Aged Care website:
www.myagedcare.gov.au



My Aged Care resources:
www.myagedcare.gov.au/resources

