



THE NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC

ABN 67 616 946 831

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NSAA NATIONAL PRESIDENTS BULLETIN DECEMBER 2024

Dear members and families,

The festive season is upon us again and I have great pleasure in wishing all National Servicemen, Members, and families a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and a healthy and enjoyable 2025.

NSAA National Executive and NSAA National Council Delegates

My ongoing thanks to the members of the National Executive, Vice President Noel Moulder, Secretary Peter Norman, Treasurer Richard Tregear, and Public Officer, John Thorne, and all NSAA National Delegates for your ongoing efforts and leadership in your respective roles. Thank you for supporting me and the association through the work you do on behalf of the Council, our membership, and all National Servicemen.

Issues facing the NSAA

NSAA Membership. While membership in some locations is holding with minimal non-renewals, some branches and Sub-Branches are debilitated and becoming unviable due to a range of well-known circumstances.

Latest figures indicate we are approximately 260 memberships below budget for the year 2024, so your efforts to encourage continued membership will be greatly appreciated for 2025 and beyond.

Longevity and capabilities of the NSAA. These elements are key to the life and future of the NSAA entity and are well known.

There has been significant debate at NSAA Council, Branch, and Sub-Branch levels on this subject since the decision to work toward a dignified winding down and eventual closure of the NSAA. At a National Level, the date of 31 Dec 2026 was debated and agreed as a point at which Member Associations (MA) have implemented their plans for operation beyond that date. MA decisions will inform the future of the NSAA National body.

Sustaining a NSAA National Presence and Membership Post 31 December 2026 – Progress Report

As indicated in my proposal to the NSAA National Executive and NSAA National Council delegates last September, we are barely two years away from what I have effectively named our 'D-Day', 31 December 2026.

The National Council vigorously and diligently debated the proposal in a spirit of dedication, cooperation, and care to ensure the outcome that would give maximum benefit to members in the most practical way.

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National Service Honour Roll: 287,000 served; 212 died on active service

Ultimately delegates unanimously confirmed their preference for Option 1 below. Options 2 and 3 were discarded on practical grounds.

Option 1 – Reform to a nation-wide individual member organisation with a single national management team. States and Territories, and Branches and Sub-Bran­ches will consider whether to Incorporate or revert to social entities.

Feedback from the respective NSAA State and Territories with their individual decisions has been requested to be provided to the NSAA National Secretary by 1 February 2025.

It is my sincere hope that we will achieve real clarity for the way ahead at the GM of 6th March 2025 and from there commence the detailed work, at all levels, to ensure that we maintain connection and communications with members at all levels into the future beyond 1 January 2027.

Projects

NSAA Archives –Vice President Noel Moulder and I continue to work with the National Library of Australia on the specifics of their requirements to catalogue our NSAA National records. Noel and I plan to meet in Brisbane in March 2025 after the AGM/GM to complete the cull, catalogue records from 1987 to 2024, and box the material for transport to the NLA.

We remain grateful to the QLD Branch for their cooperation and good will in providing temporary storage for the records at their Wacol facility.

AWM Sponsored NSAA Commemorations. NSAA National Vice President Noel Moulder maintains a watching brief with the AWM Commemorations Staff and has been very successful in assisting the AWM present our September Commemorative Services. Thank you, Noel. We remain ever grateful for the welcome cooperation and dedication of the AWM staff as they coordinate and deliver our Memorial Services.

AWM UPGRADE PROJECT-NSAA DISPLAY

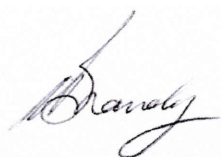
At an appropriate time, and with the input of the National Executive, I will seek some guidance from Matt Anderson on how the National Executive may get involved in the proposed reestablishment of the NSAA display planned for the upgraded AWM Post WW2 area. I think it would be helpful to the AWM for us to offer some realistic suggestions e.g. a publicly accessible, digitally searchable record of our fallen, and the possibility to have public access to our records in the NLA via QR codes affixed to our NSAA memorials throughout Australia. There is a lot more to do for this project.

The Military Shop and Corporate Roses

The Military Shop and Corporate Roses continue to support the NSAA through their annual donations. Please help us by utilising both organizations where possible. I am delighted to confirm that both organisations have been able to forward their respective annual donations derived from sales to the National Treasurer, being \$564.71 and \$425.00 respectively.

It remains for me to again wish all readers a Happy and peaceful Christmas and a happy and healthy 2026. Accordingly, I ask that this bulletin be shared down the line to as many readers as possible.

With warm regards to all,



Ron Brandy
National President
National Servicemen's Association of Australia

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