



Navy Women (WRANS-RAN) Qld

Sub-Section of the Naval Association of Australia

Volume XXIV #4 Dec 2024

Winter Happenings – September to November 2024

VALE : Marie PATTON (Billie) was born on 10 October 1935 in Carlton, Victoria, to Grace (REID) and Richard Dempster PATTON.

On 19 March 1954 in Brisbane, Billie, a Laboratory Assistant, enlisted as a communicator - WR 4429 -. Her service was terminated on 22 April 1954, following the probatory period.

By 1958, Marie was married to **Owen Ernest LAKE**. Owen died on 26 March 2003.

On 1 February 1986, Billie joined the Sub-Section and remained a member until her death on 18 October 2024.

Billies held numerous positions within the Sub-Section:

Committee Member ; Vice President ; Assistant Secretary ; Volunteer in NAA Qld State Office ; Delegate to Naval Association of Australia Qld Section ; Delegate to Council of Ex Service Women Qld (CESWA) ; Member Organising Committee 1993 WRANS Reunion and 2001 WRANS Reunion.

Billie had excelled herself in the organisation of specific events, such as the annual Bowls Day, her work for the 1993 Reunion in Brisbane, accommodation for other members who attended the Reunion in Perth in 1991, and many other fund raising activities, which had been of enormous value to the WRANS Sub-Section.

In 1996, Billie was awarded a **Diploma of Merit** for her contribution to the Naval Association of Australia.

In 2011, Billie was nominated for a Life Membership for her quiet, dependable, unassuming worker bee in the NAA hive for over twenty years

As the WRANS Delegate to NAA Qld Section from 1991 to 2011, Billie had continually and constantly attended NAA State Council meetings on behalf of the WRANS and kept the Sub-Section informed of matters of interest and/or concern. For the years 2006 to 2011 inclusive, she was the WRANS Delegate to the Qld Council of Ex Service Women where she represented the interests and concerns of our members.

She contributed her time, skills and resources as a member of the working party during the 1993 and 2001 National Reunions which were very successfully hosted by WRANS Sub-Section. She was an active part of the team hosting the extremely successful, smooth running 2004 NAA State Conference held in Brisbane.

Billie had been active in supporting other Sub-Sections activities, eg the Golden Rivet, and had represented the WRANS Sub-Section at many functions with the NAA and as the WRANS representative at functions given by other organizations. She was well known and held in high esteem throughout NAA Qld Section for her cheerful



Postal Address:

**Navy Women Qld
112-114 Cocos Drive
NINGI QLD 4511**

Executive Contacts:

NWExecutive@nwqld.org.au

President:

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

Secretary:

Judy Prewett
0419 877 594
secretary@nwqld.org.au

Treasurer:

Lorrae Johnson
0409 638 865
treasurer@nwqld.org.au

Vice Presidents:

Liz Grimes
Bernie Franklin
Pat Nuss
Cath Leung

Wellbeing Officer:

Catherine Leung
0432 227 181
Wellbeing@nwqld.org.au

Editors:

Liz Grimes
0438 766 493
Newsletter@nwqld.org.au
Lorrae Johnson
Editor@nwqld.org.au

Meetings: 2025

12 noon on the second
Sunday of each month,
except
January – no meeting
May – third Sunday
December – first Sunday

participation in its activities and appearance at many functions and memorials.

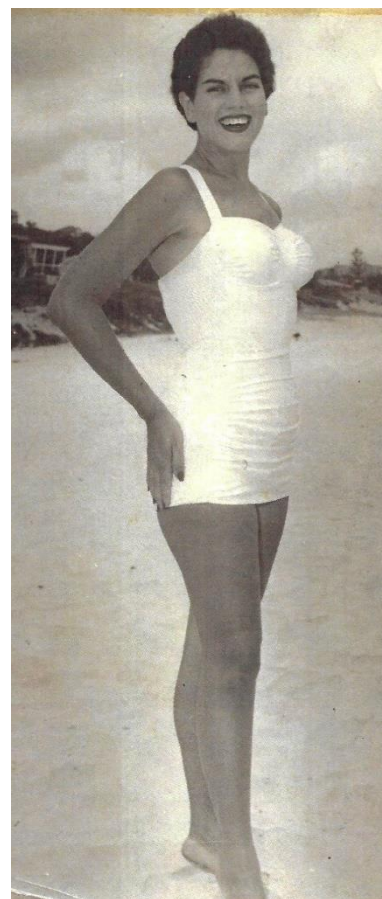


This nomination was rejected as Billie had been a full member since 1989, and at this time, the requirement for full membership was to have served for six months, and Billie did not qualify for full membership. This error was compounded at all levels of the NAA since 1989.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP was awarded on 21 January 2014 in view of the changes in the Naval Association of Australia's Award structure, when it was found that Marie was a worthy candidate, because of her exceptional and exemplary service.

Billie was awarded the 30 years Long Service Certificate on 9 May 2019.

Billie (Marie) Lake died on 18 October 2024. Her cremation service was conducted on 25 October 2024 at the Mount Thompson crematorium.



WWII Treasures

It has long been known that the Ladies from WWII are our **Treasures**. Currently, we have **FIVE Treasures** within our Sub-Section.

Mavis BLACKWOOD (nee MURRAY) enlisted on 16Dec1942 until 14Dec1945 as a Telegraphist. Mavis was born on 15Sep1922 and has recently celebrated her 102nd birthday.

Murielle AHERN (nee McGRATH) first enlisted on 04Apr1945 until 16Sep1946 as a Telephonist and rejoined on 29Aug1952 until 19Sep1952. Murielle was born on 22Jan1925 and will celebrate her 100th birthday in January.

Lillian COYNE (nee DAVIS, formerly BROOKS) enlisted on 03Apr1945 until 29Jun1946 as a Writer. Lillian was born on 12Apr1926 and is now 98 years of age.

Fay ROYLE (nee GOSDEN) enlisted on 05Jul1944 and was discharged on 05Apr1946 as a Teleprinter Operator. Fay was born on 16Jun1926 and is now 98 years of age.

Dawn WALSH (nee PUNTER) enlisted on 02Apr1945 and was discharged on 26Apr1946 as a Teleprinter Operator. Dawn was born on 05Oct1926 and recently celebrated her 98th birthday.

These Ladies paved the way for our sisters who are now Sea Going sailors. A very big THANK YOU for leading the way for us.

Thank you, Ladies, for your Service.

To contact any of these ladies, please contact our Secretary, Judy Prewett, who will forward your details. secretary@nwqld.org.au

The Executive and Committee of the **Navy Women (WRANS-RAN) Qld Sub-Section of the NAA** thank everyone for their support in 2024 and wish everyone a **VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

All positions will be declared vacant for the AGM in February 2025, and everyone is welcome to be nominated.

The positions are shown in our **Guidelines, Annex B** and the duties shown in **Annex C**. <https://nwqld.org.au/pdfs/guidelines.pdf>

We look forward to seeing you at our many events, and especially at our OGMs, in 2025.

Your Sub-Section subsidises your "Cuppa / Goffer / Scan" after the meeting at \$15 each., supported by the money raised from the Raffles and money in the Wellbeing account. Please stay after the meeting to socialise.

Letter from our President

Another 3 months have come and gone and here we are getting ready for the Christmas season, although I think I've been participating in it for months already.

The brunches our different groups have are still going strong as we're getting new members coming along to join us, which is lovely to see.

The services at "Jack" have been very well attended as always, and today's service was extra special I thought. It was to commemorate the WRANS and RANs participation in Cyclone Tracy and it's aftermath. It'll be the 50th anniversary of that horrific event this year. The guest speaker was none other than Patricia Collins, the author of *Rock and Tempest*. Her account was nothing short of brilliant. If you can even use that word to describe what she and others lived through. I totally recommend her book, if you haven't already read it, then get a copy and settle down to be spellbound.

Along with other members, I've attended The Pine Rivers Memorial Service for Women who have and are still serving. The Golden Rivet, (which Navy Women didn't win), our Veterans Health Week was a fun day in the City Botanical Gardens. We had our games day after our October meeting with Pat MacKay winning the day.

Our highlight each year is our Annual Reunion Luncheon at The Tattersalls Club, where we all dress up, renew old friendships, and have a wonderful time. Our guest speaker this year was to Commanding Officer of HMAS Morton, Commander Rosemarie Apikotoa. She gave a brief account of her time in the Navy, and she is an "over-achiever".

I'd like to take this opportunity to relate some of a conversation I had recently with one of WW11 treasures, the wonderful Vonnie Hitzke. We were talking about forgetting things (she is after all, 100 years young), and I mentioned that sometimes I couldn't remember what I'd had for breakfast or even if I'd had any. As quick as anything her comeback was "that's alright, breakfast isn't important". 😊 I thought I'd test her memory and asked her what her personal number was. Well she recited it back to me so quickly that I couldn't help but laugh. It only had four numbers in it so of course she could remember it. Vonnie along with one of her friends, Joy Smith, started publishing the "Natterers". A gossip page of all things good, (after all they were very well behaved young ladies), that had happened. They were cautioned by the WRANS Officer in-charge to be very careful about what they printed as "loose lips sink ships you know". It was war time.

The first Sunday of December will be our last meeting of the year and our Christmas party. Mrs Santa will be attending as always, and I'm sure a fun time will be had by all.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone, especially the Executive members, for your hard work throughout the year.

I'd like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe New Year, and I'll look forward to seeing you all next year.

It's an honor.

Barb Jeffreys

President

0437 002 152

president@nwqld.org.au



LIFE Members



Judy Hunter

2001



Barbara Snowdon

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

Annual Reunion Luncheon – 2 November 2024
 Celebrating 82 years since the first WRANS were enlisted in Brisbane, Qld.



The Guest Speaker was Commander Rosemarie Apikotoa, HMAS Moreton's Commanding Officer

We had approximately 82 Ladies at the Annual Luncheon at Tattersalls.

Our guest speaker was CMDR Rosemarie Apikotoa, Commanding Officer of HMAS Moreton.



WWII Veteran - Murielle Ahern & CMDR Rosemarie Apikotoa



WWII Veteran - Murielle Ahern & her daughters



All our Life Members – Wendy, Judy, Pat, Pat with Jennie & Barbara



Best Hat Winner – Renie





A great time was enjoyed by all. Some of us left with raffle prizes and some of us missed out. Better luck next year to those who left empty handed.

We will see you next year at the Geebung RSL for another great Reunion Luncheon to celebrate the 83rd year of the first women enlisting here in Brisbane.

Continued page 16

Around the Traps with Liz

Another three months have passed, and Christmas is just around the corner. Many of us are going on holidays, cruising or just staying at home with family. I, myself will be heading out with my two moggies to spend the festive season with family. Stay safe everyone and we'll see you all in 2025. Merry Christmas to all.

Commemoration

Service Women's Memorial Service

On the second Wednesday of every September, the Council of Ex Service Women's Association (CESWA) holds a Memorial Service at the Pine Rivers RSL Club. The Guest Speaker was Commander Rosemarie Apikotoa, HMAS Moreton's Commanding Officer, an outstanding speaker on the role of women in today's ADF.



The local member for Qld has provided shade cover in recent years. The three women's services were represented in the Flag Party, with Liz representing Navy again this year.



CMDR Rose, Barbara, Maggie, Judy, Wendy, Cath, Alex, Barnie, Lorrae, Barb, Marg & Liz

Battle for Australia Commemoration

Liz and Barb attended the **Battle for Australia Commemoration** Service at the Historical Precinct in Chermside on 4 September, and it was beautifully done. Yet again Barb learnt a lot. Group Captain Tan gave the address and it was brilliant. It's an honour to attend these events on behalf of all Navy Women.



Barb & Liz

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 September – Sandakan Death Marches

The Sandakan Death Marches were a series of forced marches in Borneo from Sandakan to Ranau which resulted in the deaths of 2,434 Allied prisoners of war held captive by the Empire of Japan during the Pacific campaign of World War II at the Sandakan POW Camp, North Borneo. The Allied prisoners included sailors. Only six Australians survived, all of whom had escaped.



Helen, Lorrae, Kaye, Pat, Cathy, Rosemary & Rudi

31 October – HMAS Sydney II Commemoration

The loss of HMAS Sydney (II) is Australia's greatest naval tragedy. Its disappearance in 1941 without a trace left a legacy of uncertainty for decades.



Navy Women

WAY WE WERE

with Jayne Keogh

waywewere@news.com.au

Big wind coming, Mrs: The Navy battles Tracy

Life is full of Sliding Doors moments when we have to choose a fork in the road and the choice can be good or bad. These moments of fate are magnified when people are under pressure in an emergency situation like those who lived through Cyclone Tracy, 50 years ago this Christmas.

Darwin has always been a major Naval base and in 1974, had a crew of 351 sailors and WRANS, many who now live in Queensland.

Judy and Max Prewett of Ningi were newlyweds in the Communications Branch at HMAS Coonawarra on that day.

"We were a bit blasé about the warnings as there had been cyclones predicted all year that came to nothing," said Judy. "So we all went to the Junior Sailors' Club to a Christmas Eve party, but I wasn't drinking as I was on duty the next day."

Max was enjoying the party, but as the alerts became more severe, Judy collected him and drove home to their townhouse and houseguest.

Not long after that, the sliding glass doors on their bedrooms blew in.

As the three of them would not fit in the tiny bathroom they sheltered in the ground floor kitchen.

When Tracy had passed, their bathroom and bedroom had completely blown away.

Judy miraculously found her engagement and wedding rings teetering on the edge of the wrecked small deck. Their brand new Holden Monaro, Max's pride and joy, was completely flattened under a collapsed brick wall.

About two weeks before the cyclone, indigenous children told their teacher Robyn Lutton the family was moving inland because "Big wind coming, Mrs".

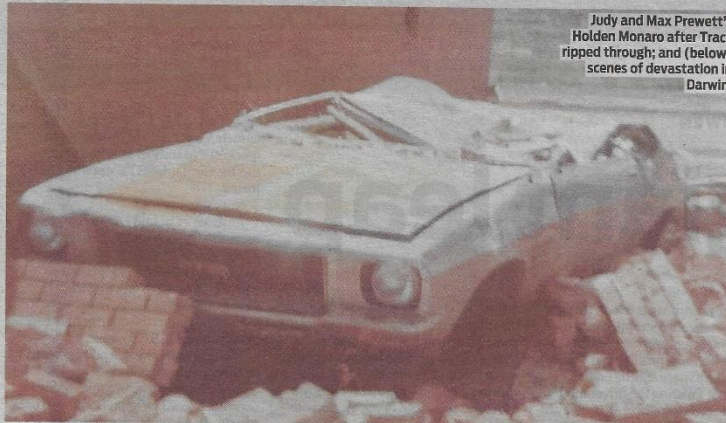
Her husband, the late Allan 'Barney' Lutton of Carindale, was sent home early, as were all the married sailors, and they sheltered in the footwells of their Holden Kingswood in the car port.

During the night they spotted two neighbours in trouble. Their house had been blown away and the woman had a severe gash on her leg after being sliced by flying corrugated iron and the man was bleeding from a heel injury.

"She was in a bad way and was bleeding out," Barney recalled.

All RAN members are trained in emergency first aid, so he raced upstairs and grabbed towels to stem the bleeding and the couple climbed into the back seat of the Kingswood.

The Luttons' whole house was blown away during the night, only one cupboard left standing, where they found their bedraggled tabby cat. The Navy rescue team arrived and



Judy and Max Prewett's Holden Monaro after Tracy ripped through; and (below) scenes of devastation in Darwin.



CONTACT JAYNE KEOGH
If you have an idea for a Way We Were feature or want to get in contact, email Jayne Keogh at waywewere@news.com.au

with typical sailor humor one said "Jeez, love, your yard's a mess, when are you going to clean it up?"

The cat was evacuated with Robyn on a TAA flight and her ticket cost \$1.

Young Lieutenant Ernie McIntyre was Officer of the Day at HMAS Coonawarra on his last day of duty before posting to a ship when Tracy hit the base.

He collected his family and brought them to the safety of the solid brick building, then commandeered a bus and drove around collecting people from flimsier structures until it was impossibly unsafe.

"After the eye passed over us and it was over, we were the only place with generator power and Navy cooks who were used to big numbers of meals," Ernie said. "Everyone collected all the Christmas food from their fridges and the cooks fed around 2000 people instead of 200."

The food lasted until Operation Navy Help Darwin arrived. Tragically HMAS Arrow broke its moorings and was driven under Stokes Hill Wharf with the loss of two lives. HMAS Attack was beached on rocks, the Darwin Naval HQ was destroyed, and large sections of the patrol boat base and married quarters were flattened. The Royal Australian



Patricia Collins in uniform.

Navy embarked upon its largest peacetime disaster relief operation, involving 13 ships, 11 aircraft and some 3000 personnel after Tracy.

Petty Officer WRAN Pat Nuss was one of the Navy women in Sydney who volunteered for the family support team set up to deal with the 35,000 evacuees. They welcomed them at the airport, took them to temporary accommodation at HMAS Kuttabul, arranged transport to the next of kin and all the needs of families with only the clothes they

were standing in. The Navy in Tracy will be remembered at a ceremony at the Jack Tar Memorial at Southbank on Thursday November 28 at 11am by the Naval Association of Australia.

Patricia Collins, who was a WRAN in Darwin during Tracy and is the author of Rock and Tempest, a book about her experience, will give the address.

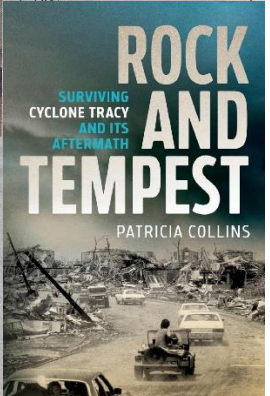
Sheltering in a wardrobe in her room, she recalled: "The rain and wind were so intense that it was actually hard to even breathe."



Who was the first female premier



Liberty Island is in which US city?



When Cyclone Tracy flattened Darwin on Christmas Day 1974, it was the worst natural disaster Australians had ever experienced. Stationed in the city with the Women's Royal Australian Naval Service, Patricia Collins not only lived through Tracy but was part of the massive clean-up effort.

Rock and Tempest contains astonishing first-person accounts of terror and uncertainty as well as courage and survival. It is fascinating and moving.

Patricia was the Guest speaker at the last Jack Service 2024

CYCLONE TRACY – From a Survivor

Like a wrath in the night, she came, she saw, she conquered.

In the middle of the night Tracy, a cyclone's wrath never seen before, devastated the City of Darwin, fifty years ago on Christmas Day, 25 December 1974. Not only did she go through Darwin but did a dance around the city and suburbs wreaking havoc everywhere. Not a building was untouched. Not a light pole unbent. The roar of the wind seemed to have lasted for hours and hours.

HMAS Coonawarra received the brunt of Tracy. The old WRANS Quarters were damaged beyond repair. The Junior Sailors block did not fair any better. Fortunately, all the Wrans survived. However, two sailors from HMAS Arrow lost their lives and HMAS Arrow was damaged beyond repair. The other three patrol boats survived although HMAS Attack was driven ashore.

There were those who lost everything or their homes were damaged but unliveable, others hardly touched. Many made their way to various schools that were mainly undamaged. My mother, my two sisters and two nieces spent the nights after the cyclone at Jingili Primary School (just across the road behind our house) where we dosed down for the nights, returning to our home during the day, cleaning our home of items ruined, getting out what water remained in the house so the floors could dry, and gathering corrugated iron to temporarily fix the roof. My father stayed at the house at night to prevent anyone with looting on their mind. (Yes, unfortunately there were those taking advantage of others misfortune.) Dad looked after our cat, two dogs, chooks, peacock and peahen. My mother and hers youngest daughter and her two children were evacuated to Brisbane, and I reported to HMAS Coonawarra soon after to be evacuated to HMAS Cerberus in a HS748 with other Navy families.

My mother, sister and I went for a walk to see if some friends faired okay. It took us a little while, as all the street signs has disappeared. Finally, we located our friends, and they had survived. In all this devastation, neighbours helped neighbours, friends helped friends and strangers helped strangers. Everyone was in the same situation. And, of course, there was the Australian humour. One bright spark had placed a placard at the Darwin Cinema – “*Now Showing – Gone with the Wind starring Cyclone Tracy*”.

Help came as soon as the fleet could crew and load essential supplies on ships. Many of them who were on leave, returned to their ships ready to deploy. The Navy “invaded” Darwin and started the big cleanup. At Jack on the 28 November, we remembered those who lost their lives, lost their homes and those who were fortunate to survive such a devastating “storm”.

This is my story, an event that has been etched in my mind since the event. I know many others, service and civilians, will never forget the night the “the Big Wind” came to Darwin.

28 November – 50 years since Cyclone Tracy

Navy Women were out in force to support Patricia Collins, including our life members: Pat, Jennie and Pat; our executive members: Liz, Bernie, Judy, Barb and Lorrae, and our members Patricia, Helen, Phyllis, Cathy and Sandy



Those who were in Darwin on 24 December 1974



Raffle Winners – Phyllis won the hamper



Barb & Phyllis



Comms

Liz, Bernie, Patricia & Judy



Camaraderie

Western Suburbs Lunch

Western Suburbs – first Saturday of the Month – 11am
Contact Lorrae Johnson



7 Sep – Forty West Café, Ripley – Barb, Lorrae, Mary, Robyn, Pat, Jennie, Margaret & Marie



5 Oct – Park View, Goodna – Barbara, Margaret, Pat, Barbara, Lorrae, Liz & Marie



9 Nov – CSI Ipswich – Pat, Lorrae, Sandie, Barbara, Liz, Barb & Barbara

Feb 1st – CSI Ipswich

Mar 1st – Karalee Café & Book

Apr 5th – Moselles

May 3rd – Ripley

Gold Coast Brunch

Gold Coast – Third Tuesday of the month – 10am
Contact Sylvia Manners



17 Sep – Le Vintage Boutique Café with amazing gardens – Liz, Lorrae, Gayle, Jan, Sylvia & Lorraine

GOLD COAST BRUNCH –

Jan – I 360 – 360 Marine Parade, Labrador

Feb – The Willow Tree, Shop T12/37 Eggersdorf Rd,

Ormeau – Ormeau Village Shopping Centre

March – South Sharks, Cnr Olsen & Musgrave Ave,
Southport

April – La Vintage Boutique, 1 Kurilpa St, Worongary

May – I 7, 42 The Esplanade, Paradise Point



15 Oct – Southport Sharks – Barbara, Lorraine, June, Lorrae, Barb, Anne, Dianne, Sue, Jackie, Gayle, Glenda, Tania, Sylvia & Diana



19 Nov – Café 7 – Sandie, Jackie, Dianne, Jan, Lorrae, Glenda, Barbara, Barb, Sylvia, Gayle, Wendy & Tania

Golden Rivet – Ipswich

The Annual Golden Rivet, held at the Ipswich CSI, on 14 September, was another successful event, with a large number of our members in attendance.

Date Claimer for next September for a great day of fun with the *Ipswich & West Moreton Sub-Section*.



Team A – Cecelia, Ann, Helen and Pat; Team B – Barb, Barbara, Liz & Lorrae; NAA(Q) State Team: Kaye, Marg, Bernie & Pat; seated Joan; and four Navy Women from other Sub-Sections, including Barbara and Sandie.



The winning team – NAA(Q) State team – Kaye, Bernie, Pat & Marg with Mayor Teresa Harding of Ipswich.

Community

**Sunshine Coast Morning Tea
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 shirts so we are easily identified amongst our sisters, and many reconnections have been made.

SCESWA C&C



5 Sep – Maroochy RSL with Liz, Sandy, Lorrae, Judy, Barb & Anita.



7 Nov – Memorial Service in the Park

**Morayfield / Caboolture
Second Monday of each month**



14 Oct

Permission to use your image

Unless you advise otherwise, it is deemed we have permission to take and publish photos of you in the newsletter or on our Facebook page. If this is not the case, please ensure you are not in group photos or permit yourself to be photographed in our activities.



Navy Women at a Jack service

Breast Cancer Awareness

October is Breast Cancer month, and as is the custom of our Sub-Section, all money raised by the Raffle at our OGM is matched by the Sub-Section and donated to Breast Cancer. This year, our members donated \$357 which was matched. Thank you to everyone for dressing in Pink.



A Sea of Pink

Community

Bribie Island Combined Services Lunch

Bribie Island Ex-Service Women Luncheon–

Fourth Monday of the month at the Bribie Island RSL
Contact Anita Cooper.



23 Sep – Anita, Judy, Lorrae and her lovely mum Bev, Liz, Bernie Franklin, Barbara, Sandy, Margie



24 Oct – Army, Liz, Anita, Army, Judy, Army, Lorrae with RAAF in front!!

After another very enjoyable lunch I was asked to write an article why our lunches appear to be so successful. WHY?? I don't really know, but here is a little information about our enjoyable days.

Our setting for these lunches is always at Bribie Island RSL in the Social Café outside where the ambience is second to none amongst the beautiful overhanging and surrounding plants, and since the renovation about five years ago has changed the feel of the club and this area opens about 6 am when breakfast commences at 7 am in itself, unusual for an RSL Club. This has made it very popular also allowing people to bring their fur babies.

We have had, over time since August 2022, when I commenced posting on FB for the group, a mix of 36 Navy, 46 Army, and 5 Airforce ladies. On any given month, we have between 15 and say about 24 amazing ladies, some come every time and others whenever they aren't travelling, feeling unwell, looking after significant others or perhaps life just gets in the way and that's perfectly okay. None of us are getting any younger unfortunately.

We all have our service life in common, good or otherwise, but for most, it is a most memorable time of camaraderie and all 'no nonsense' type of fun attitude.

Our lunches are usually a bit noisy, LOL!, supportive, fun and just a family warmth amongst us as most service get togethers are usually. We tend to sit in our Navy, Army, Airforce groups but then mingle in to catch up with others as well, and I know, from what I hear that all the girls love coming along, to the point that we have girls travelling from Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast, and we all know what challenges these roads can be, especially during 2024, so to them I say Thank You. We love having you, and of course we always have 'the obligatory photo' taken by

friendly RSL staff. So much more interest has evolved on the military FB groups since I started posting the girls names, and their friends from all over have posted little messages etc.

One of our Army girls Dizzy suggested a charity, so beginning of 2023 was the start of 'the charity tin' that is passed around the tables for those who have some spare change etc, certainly not compulsory, but amazingly the ladies raised \$810 which was donated on the island to those homeless and in need through our Neighbourhood Centre. This year and possibly going forward our charity is **ORANGE SKY** and I have heard through a reliable source – my good friend Lesley Lalor, Navy – that there is every chance Orange Sky will come to Bribie Island in whatever capacity our small island needs in the future, so fingers crossed. They are an amazing charity commenced by two young lads Nic Marchesi and Lucas Patchett in 2014 and they were named Young Australians of the Year in 2016. The service has since expanded across Australia offering services to 38 locations, of which 14 are in remote communities. This year so far our charity holds upwards of \$550, so thank you and well done ladies.

For those interested in joining us, our lunches are fourth Monday of the month, February through to November, with November being our Xmas lunch.

It is always held at Bribie Island RSL Social Café outside from 11.30am until whenever, and from what I hear, all love our RSL.

Some more renovations are happening as we speak, so November 2025 will open up to a beautiful new entry area and more exciting spaces for everyone to enjoy.

Anymore information required, please ring me and leave your details on my message bank if I do not answer, and I will get back to you asap. 0402246408 or email me on anitacooper35@gmail.com. Anita



25 Nov – Navy girls – Anita, Liz, Judy, Lorrae and her beautiful mum Beverley, Rosalie, Barbara, Sandy, Janet, Bernie & Lee

Beerwah

Second Wednesday of each month at The Local at Beerwah which is owned by a Navy lady.



Your Executives – Judy, Lorrae & Barb @ Jack's

Making Sandwiches – Eat Up Australia

Ramon Fenton, who started WVNA some ten years ago, started the sandwiches run in Townsville in 2021. With 57 loaves of which were 15% Vegemite and 85% cheese, this has grown to 240 loaves making 2000 sandwiches

This is the Brainchild of a group called **Eat Up Australia** who receive donations from various charities. We use gloves, we cover the tables with plastic, and every sandwich is individually wrapped in glad wrap.

We not only do Townsville primary schools but now also send 200 sandwiches to Weipa Primary School.

We started our operation at Mates 4 Mates. As our orders grew, we needed more space. The Army was involved so we made the sandwiches at Laverack Barack's for a while. As summer arrived, we needed an airconditioned premise. So, with their quota and ours, we were then making over 2,000 sandwiches twice a term, we moved to The Oasis Townsville.

We had a variety of veterans from around Townsville helping out, retired veterans, Vietnam veterans, contemporary veterans, WRAAC veterans, NASHO's and long term retired veterans.

We have new volunteers through the Correctional Centre with six people and looking forward to ten for our next session next month. We have had interest of other groups wishing to join us.

Our feedback from the schools is that attendance has improved by 30% and the children's concentration has improved also.

By *Thea Eastwood*



Thank you Thea and WVNA for this great community effort.



Barb and Lorrae ready to come home for a holiday!!



Reunions Washup

Ops Room Association Australia Inc

On 17 October, Barb and I caught the big bird to Perth, my first time in Business and Barb's first time in Qantas Business. Very exciting for me, but after years of Virgin Business for Barb, she found it a great let down. (I will retain my Qantas Gold membership, thanks Barb).

We hired a car, and set off to Fremantle for the weekend. Friday night was Meet & Greet, Saturday was the AGM, and Saturday night was the Dinner. All well worth it. As usually, the laughs were the best part of the weekend.

We had plenty of daylight hours to tour by foot and by car, and plenty of time for *FOOD*, glorious seafood and ice cream. We walked up to the Markets, down the road to the river, then all over the reclaimed land near The Round House. Next day we visited the Maritime Museum and the Fremantle Prison.



Fremantle Markets



Fremantle Prison



All land from these < pavers to the water line is 'reclaimed' land!



Many Comms rates will remember Darky Rowlands, and his wife, Shirley. My husband has always given him the highest escalades, with his PO Max a very close second. They were guests on Friday.



Barb won the lucky number at the AGM, and you can tell from her smile, that it made her whole weekend. The Bell Ringer was made by Perry White. Her name will now be added to the Associations' Bell frame.

Barb is a new VP and I am the second Qld representative.

By *Lorrae Johnson*

Cadets with Pat Nuss

As the NAA(Q) State Vice President for Australian Navy Cadets, please contact me if you would like more information.

The ANC Units are always looking for more volunteers as well as young people to join.

Pat Nuss
NAA(Q) Vice President (Cadets)
Mobile: 0439 674 199
Email: patrician@netspace.net.au

<https://www.navycadets.gov.au/>

Service, Courage, Respect, Integrity and Excellence

Containers For Change (C4C)

We are raising funds for the ANC Units 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.

This year, we donated \$250 each to four Training Ships: TS Diamantina ; TS Walrus ; NTS Gympie NTS Vengeance.

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



Anzac Park Toowong

This park includes many memorials to members of the ADF – well worth a walk around to note the trees surrounding the various sites.

Official Opening of the “**National Defence Chaplains Memorial Grove**” at *Anzac Park Toowong*, to Honour all Defence Chaplains who Served our Country in Wars and Conflicts was held on 9 October 2024.

This is the first time anywhere in Australia that a portion of a civic park has been set aside for a public memorial dedicated to Australian Defence Force Chaplains and the incredibly significant role which they have performed.

WWI Nurses who died as a result of their services are recognised in this park.



Jennie & the Lions

My daughter, Jenelle, my friend Maree and I attended the Brisbane Lions end of season Championship Dinner at the new Star Casino in Brisbane. This picture is with Harris Andrews, Lions Co-Captain (and Jenelle’s and my sponsored player).



Harris is a Queenslander and we’ve been sponsoring him for 10 years. He is one of our best defenders and a multiple All-Australian squad member, chosen every year by the AFL to honour the best players throughout the entire Australia-wide competition.

Cyclone Tracy – 50 Years Later Recognition being sought

Were you recalled from your leave to help with Cyclone Tracy cleanup or to help in southern states?

<https://adfcyclonetracyaward.com.au/>

This group is seeking recognition for all ADF Personnel who were involved in Cyclone Tracy on the 24 December 1974 including personnel who were called back to depots, for standby to man ships heading to Darwin, or even depot personnel who were utilised to complete logistic work for supplies to be sent directly to Darwin. Next of Kin can apply for a deceased member.



Maxine Dreyer lost her husband in mid October. His cremation service was conducted on 25 October 2024 at the Mount Thompson crematorium, half an hour before Billie’s service. Some of the Navy Women attended his service in support of Maxine, then walked around to Billie’s service.

<<< **Birthday** celebrations

Every year, they have celebrated their birth within a six week period of the same year, and again this year, they gathered to celebrate their birthdays at the Kedron Wavell Service Club.

<< *Pat, Liz, Pat & Jennie*

Care Wellbeing with Cathy Leung

Christmas is nearly here, and the year is nearly over. It has been a busy time for Navy Women, lots of activities, laughter and fun mixed in with the necessary admin that is part of any organisation. The monthly meetings have become quite streamlined and short. All business is attended to as effectively as possible.

Each meeting ends with a raffle the proceeds paying for our afternoon tea. Any shortfall is met by the Wellbeing Fund. The purpose of any meeting is to provide opportunity for conversation and company.

Wellbeing information concerning DVA and RSL activities will continue to be mentioned in the Wellbeing monthly reports and information regarding organisations providing Gold or White Card Services will be cast to our Facebook page. Be mindful that these are company advertisements and are not Navy Women Qld endorsements.

Wellbeing highlights for the year so far, include, afternoon teas, a Games Day, Trivial Pursuit games, Pink Day, Veterans Health Week, and soon, our Christmas Party.

Pink Day for Breast Cancer and the \$4\$ contribution from Operational Account raised \$714 for Breast Cancer.

Veteran's Health Week grant was put to good use. A fun day walking the Brisbane City Botanic Gardens. The Gardens Café shares a link with Navy Women, as it was once part of the WWII WRANS Officer's Mess.

Our Christmas party received a small donation from the Brisbane Lord Mayors Seniors Celebration Donation 2024. The Christmas Party will finish our year.



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

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.

Walk in City Botanic Gardens



L-R Sue, Judith, Anthea, Sammie, Judy, Marg, Carmel, Phyllis, Pam, Lorrae, Barb, Pat and Liz. Rae was enroute. Photo by Cath.



Judith, Phyllis, Anthea, Sue, Pam & Carmel

Thank you for a wonderful day in the Botanical Gardens. As the girls from Bay were in the Big Smoke for the day, the Wello Wrans took a wander through the new casino. The view from the Sky Deck was fabulous.

DVA

1800 555 254
Advice and claims
1800 838 372

Mates4Mates
mates4mates.org

Open Arms—
Veterans & Families
Counselling
1800 011 046

Safe Zone 24/7
1800 142 072

Lifeline 24/7
13 11 14

www.lifeline.org.au

ADF Health & Wellbeing Portal
www.defence.gov.au/health/healthportal

Defence Family Helpline 24/7
1800 624 608
www.defence.gov.au/DCO/Defence-Helpline.asp

Health Direct 1800 022 222
Poisons Information 13 11 26
Elder Abuse 1800 737 732

<https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/community-and-safety/community-support/seniors>

Be on the watch for false or misleading representations

Veterans and families are encouraged to be on the lookout for third-party organisations making false or misleading claims that they are working on behalf of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA), or any other Australian Government department. DVA is aware that some third-party organisations are trying to access funding via our clients.

As a DVA client, you will have access to a range of health care services and programs designed to support your physical and mental health and well-being.

You may be contacted by people falsely claiming to represent a DVA approved service provider and suggesting you use their services.

We encourage all veterans and families to be wary of any advertisements or other representations made by third-party organisations – especially when they claim to be doing so on behalf of DVA, or with our approval.

Signs of a false or misleading representation

- Being offered vouchers, discounts or other gifts We will never directly send you unsolicited goods, such as retail vouchers or gifts.
- Being offered unsolicited health-related services We will never offer you or your family any health-related services without your consent.
- Being asked to call a random phone number to talk in more detail If someone contacts you claiming to be from DVA and asks you call a random number, you can call us direct on 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372) to check the validity of their claim.

If you suspect false or misleading representation

If you receive a phone call but are not sure if you're speaking to a genuine DVA staff member, or if you suspect a third-party may be misrepresenting DVA – hang up and call us directly on 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372).

You can check the validity of any emails or letters you have received by phoning the same number.

You can also request a call back by using MyService or submit a general enquiry form at our website <https://www.dva.gov.au/form/general-enquiries>.



For all of our events, especially funded events, please wear your black shirts to show we are a social gathering and that we are a proud Veterans group.

There is often a lot of planning into various outings, and if we wear our black shirts, it shows we are clearly identified as **Navy Women Qld**, not just a group of senior women.

DVA Veterans Health Week

A guided walk in the City Botanic Gardens which are Brisbane's original botanic gardens established in 1828 to provide food for the early penal colony, with lunch at The Garden Club afterwards.

The Gardens Club is nestled in a secluded spot in the beautiful Brisbane City Botanic Gardens. The Art Nouveau style building used by The Gardens Club is steeped in history. It was built as a curator's residence in 1908. During World War II it was used as a wardroom for the WRANS officers of "HMAS Moreton". After the War it was again used as a curator's residence until the 1980s.



Catching the free bus – Liz, Judy, Sammie, Lorrae & Barb

Fun "wildlife."

New Members – Welcome Aboard

BLACKWOOD Mavis (nee Murray) **WR/418** served from 16Dec1942-14Dec1945 as a Telegraphist. She served at HMA Ships Harman, Cerberus, Moreton, Kuttabul, Penguin and Rushcutter. Mavis is joining Navy Women as a **GOLDEN** Member.

BLUNSDON Christine Beryl 8559668. Christine joined the ANC in Nov2018 and is a **LEUT ANC** serving on NTS Vengeance and is still serving. Christine is joining as a **FULL** Member.

COLEMAN Kim (nee Wilson) 8093299. Kim was a member of Navy Reserves from 12Mar1991 to 16Jan1994 as a **SBLT**. Kim joined the Navy on 17Jan1994 as a **LCDR** serving on HMA Ships Kanimbla Flinders and Adelaide and various shore establishments and is joining Navy Women Qld as a **SOCIAL** Member.

FLOYD (Margo) Margurette (nee Hayes) W118582 served 04Sep1975–03Aug1979 as a **SWRRP**. Margo served at HMA Ships Cerberus, Watson, Kuttabul, and Watson. She served in the Reserves from August 1979 to 1984. Margo is joining Navy Women as a **CLUB** Member

LAWRENCE Diane W103644. Diane joined on 26Aug1968 as a **WRROM**. She served on HMA Ships Cerberus and Harman and was discharged on 01Aug1970 as a **WRROM** and is joining Navy Women as a **FULL** Member.

McKAY Lee (nee Bowman) W105348 Lee served from Nov 1968-Nov 1974 as a **WRROM**, serving at HMA Ships

Cerberus, Albatross, Cerberus, Penguin, Watson and Penguin. Lee discharged in Nov 1974 as a **POWRROM**. Lee is joining Navy Women as a **FULL** Member

ROBERTSON Alexandra Maegan (nee Pace) 8613165 Alex joined 01May2015 serving on HMA Ships Adelaide and HQ Australian Amphibious Force. She was discharged as a **Leading Seaman** on 19Jan2022 and is joining Navy Women Qld as a **FULL** Member.

Sick Bay

We ask you to select a family member to notify us when you are unwell so we can arrange a visit.

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

Joan ALDEN had another visit to hospital and after rehabilitation, has returned home.

Vale

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

Marie (Billie) LAKE (nee PATON) – 10Oct1935-18Oct2024 WR4429 Served from 19Mar1954 until 22Apr1954.

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.



Our WWII Treasure, Murielle Ahern attended with her daughters, Josephine and Siobhan.



Lorrae

Membership 2025 and onwards - As at 30Nov2024

If your name is NOT on this list, you are not financial for 2025. Details for payment is on the final page.

Surname	First	Year
Cunningham, OAM	June	2028
DREYER	Maxine	2027
GILL	Elizabeth	2027
BELSTEAD	Kerrie	2026
BOTT	Toni	2026
CASTLES	Carol	2026
GORDON	Elizabeth	2026
HAUSMANN	Ingrid	2026
HERMANN	Janelle	2026
HILLIS	Angella	2026
HOLLOWAY	Norine	2026
MAGANN	June	2026
MAGNUS	Noelani	2026
MCKAY	Carmel	2026
ABRAHAM	Janet	2025
ADAMS	Patricia	2025
AHERN	Murielle	2025
ALDEN	Joan	2025
ALLAN	Kathrine	2025
ANDALORO	Jacqueline	2025
ARCHBOLD-THOMAS	Michelle	2025
ASHE	Cecelia	2025
BAKER	Lynette	2025
BARRETT	Jennifer	2025
BARROW	Betty	2025
BELL	Mavis (Jenny)	2025
BELLERI	Sandra	2025
BENNET	Mary	2025
BLINKHORN	Julie	2025
BLUNSDEON	Chris	2025
BOWERS	Jan	2025
BRAND	Robyn	2025
BRAUNS	Amy	2025
BROOKE	Donna	2025
BROOKS	Maureen	2025
BROWN	Lorraine	2025
BROWN	Paula	2025
BRUNTON	Christine	2025
BRYAN	Sammie	2025
CAMERON	Kim	2025
CLARK	Gail	2025
COLEMAN	Kim	2025
COLLINS	Patricia	2025
CONN	Barbara	2025
COOPER	Anita	2025
COYNE	Lillian	2025
CURRAN	Jacqueline	2025

Surname	First	Year
DEAN	Marg	2025
DE SILVA	Noala	2025
DEEGAN	Rosalie	2025
DENNIS	Wendy J	2025
DUESING	Klawdia	2025
EASTWOOD	Theadora	2025
FLOOD	Glenda	2025
FLOYD	Margo	2025
FRASER	Glenys	2025
GADD, OAM	Pamela	2025
GIGGINS	Bernadette	2025
GILBERT	Joan	2025
GILMOUR-WALSH	Helen	2025
GRIGGS	Wendy	2025
GRIMES	Elizabeth	2025
HALES	Helena	2025
HAUSMANN	Ingrid	2025
HEWSTON	Clare	2025
HISLOP	Helen	2025
HITZKE	Veronica	2025
HOWARD	Tania	2025
HUNTER, OAM	Judith	2025
HYSLOP	Rae	2025
JACKSON	Barbara	2025
JEFFREYS	Barbara	2025
JEISMAN	Robyn	2025
JOHNSON	Lorrae	2025
JOHNSTON	Susan E	2025
KELLY	Jennifer	2025
LANE	Theresa	2025
LAWRENCE	Diane E	2025
LEUNG	Catherine	2025
LEUTTON	Margaret	2025
LOUIS	Marie	2025
MANNERS	Sylvia	2025
MCGAHAN	Marie	2025
MCKAY	Lee	2025
MCKAY	Patricia	2025
MCNEILL	Denise	2025
MCSWAIN	Dianne	2025
MORRIS	Pamela	2025
MORRISSEY	Janice	2025
MURRAY	Mavis	2025
NICHOLS	Ann	2025
NUSS	Patricia	2025
OGLIVIE	Jean	2025
ONGER	Rae	2025
PALMER	Susan	2025

Surname	First	Year
PARKE	Neridah	2025
PAYNE	Lorelle	2025
PREWETT	Judith	2025
QUINLAN	Patricia	2025
RATHBONE	Jennifer	2025
REID	Suzanne	2025
RETALLICK	Elaine	2025
ROBERTSON	Alexandra	2025
ROYLE	Doris (Fay)	2025
SHEPHERD	Susan	2025
SLATTER	Gayle	2025
SMITH	Shirley	2025
SNOWDON	Barbara	2025
SOUTHORN	Jacqueline	2025
SOUTHWOOD	Fiona	2025
SOWIK	Christine	2025
STANDON	Margaret	2025
TIERNAN	Marlene	2025
TWIGG	Anthea	2025
VANDIJK	Rosemary	2025
WALKER	Anne	2025
WALSH	Dawn	2025
WALTERS	Janice	2025
WEBBER	Faylaine	2025
WHATLEY	Lynette	2025
WHYTE	Sandy	2025
WILKINSON	Annette	2025



On behalf of the Executive Committee, we wish you a *Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

Thank you Judy for our wonderful Christmas cake. Absolutely amazing taste as well as so beautifully decorated.

(December photos will be in the March 2025 Newsletter.)

Merchandise for Sale to Financial Members only

Stores@nwqld.org.au

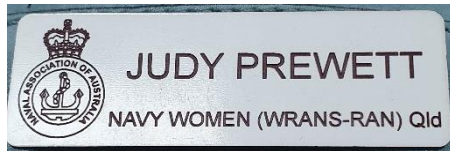
Navy Women (WRANS-RAN) Qld has a 'uniform' so that we can present a uniformed appearance when gathered as a group at any event.

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 ^^

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.



POLO SHIRTS with EMBROIDERY on right side



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



Calendar of Events 2025 – subject to changes

Date	Event	Notes
Feb	Service @ Jack Southbank	Honouring HMAS Voyager (II) Lost Crew
9 Feb	Navy Women Qld AGM & OGM Geebung RSL	Geebung RSL - First meeting for 2025
Feb	NAA(Q) State Council meeting	Delegates attend
27 Feb	Navy Week	HMAS Moreton
27 Feb	Service @ Jack Southbank	RAN Navy Week Hosted by HMAS Moreton:
Feb	Voyager (II)	St Mary's K. Point
28 Feb	Service @ Jack Southbank	HMAS Perth Lost Crew
9 Mar	Navy Women Qld OGM Geebung RSL	
14-16 Mar	WRANS-RAN National Reunion – Tasmania	
7-8 Mar	NAA State Conference –	Delegates attend – everyone invited
27 Mar	Service @ Jack Southbank	HMAS Yarra (ii) Focus – Rankin & Taylor
12 Apr	CESWA Tri-Service Luncheon Geebung RSL	Singing Competition
13 Apr	Navy Women Qld OGM Geebung RSL	Easter Bonnet
18 Apr	Good Friday	Happy Easter
25 Apr	ANZAC Day 0600 Service at St John's Church Northgate Corvettes Assoc Service Newstead 0930 Parade in Brisbane City	Formal Uniform Ship Inn after March
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
8 Jun	Navy Women Qld OGM Geebung RSL	
26 Jun	Service @ Jack Southbank	Timor Leste Ships
5-6 Jul	Reserve Forces Day Wondai	
13 Jul	Navy Women Qld OGM Geebung RSL	
31 Jul	Service @ Jack Southbank	Gulf War 1&2
Jul	CESWA Annual Church Service	Formal Uniform
26 Jul	Korean Veterans Day	
10 Aug	Navy Women Qld GM Geebung RSL	
Aug	Victory in Pacific Day 15Aug1945	South-Eastern District RSL New Farm
18 Aug	Vietnam Veterans Day	
28 Aug	Service @ Jack Southbank	Seafarers
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
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
7 Dec	Navy Women Qld GM Geebung RSL	Xmas Party First Sunday...

First Saturday of each month Western Suburb Lunch
 Third Tuesday of each month Gold Coast Brunch
 Fourth Monday of each month Bribie Island Lunch Bribie Island RSL Social Cafe
 Last Thursday of each month Jack Memorial Ship Inn, South Bank

The Natterer

Does anyone have any copies of these publications from HMAS Moreton war years??

The set that has been donated to Navy Women by Joy Smith (one of the Wran authors) are very faded.

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)

**** July is 3rd Sunday & December is 1st Sunday (none in January)**

Arrive by 11am to socialise with your sisters before the meeting - stay afterwards for lunch/afternoon tea, subsidised by the Raffle and Welfare Account.



8 Sep – Games Day

Email us your Updates & details of Payment

Event:

Special Diet:

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

Amount paid:

Date paid:

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**
Refence: **Surname reason/event**

March Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for next newsletter is 28 February 2025.

Please send your stories and photos to:

Editor@nwqld.org.au and include

Treasurer@NWqld.org.au

Newsletter@NWQld.org.au

FEEs for 2025 are due

PLEASE NOTE: The NAA National Council has raised the Full membership fee **by \$2 from 2024.**

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 2024

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> or
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/118436646770769/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>



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.