

President's Report September 2025

The move from the Coorparoo RSL has been completed this period, which saw our memorabilia wrapped and moved over to the Pine River Naval Association of Australia club rooms.

The data base of our QLD membership is continuing to be updated with current contact details being refreshed. With this in mind, I took a couple of weeks to travel across the state to reconnect the regional members with the new leadership and not talk with them but to listen to what they had to say and their concerns. Thank you all for taking the time to have lunch with me. I really enjoyed your company and conversation.

Initially, I left with a list of 18 members and found 14 more members who have fallen through the cracks. A very important and satisfying experience after almost 5,000 kilometres of travel. We'll try this same technique with other sectors in an attempt to revive interest in the SAA QLD Inc, reconnect and provide more social events. The only person I couldn't contact was J Braund. If you get this or someone knows his whereabouts please let me know.

I implore you to attend meetings to provide an input to how your association is to move forward. Without your support there would be nothing.

The AGM National is near on us in Wollongong next month and very serious considerations to how these events are going to be organised with several state associations not being able to provide their contribution to AGMs because of their lack of volunteers participating in the organisation of these events.

Another point I'd like to bring up is that with our memories occasionally going into neutral, when you come across submariners, please record their names and contact information to your executive committees, if those 'found' members give their permission.

Upcoming events are put on our website www.saaqld.net and include the September meeting, AE1 Memorial on the 21st September, National AGM 25th October and our state AGM on the 8th November. There is also an association fund raising lunch being held at Georges on Sorrento Sunday 23rd November. I hope to catch-up with as many of you as possible during my tenure as your president.

Kind Regards,
Eric B. Mateer