



ANVVA NEWSLETTER APRIL 2018

**Next Meeting – AGM - Swan Yacht Club
11.00 am, Monday 30th July 2018**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I urge all those who can make it to attend the AGM meeting mentioned above as we need to endorse your committee efforts during the last year.

We have again reached the end of the 2017 – 2018 financial year and I am again preparing the half-yearly and annual reports for DVA, the Charities Commission and the Community Grant Hub for the BEST Grant consolidation processes.

Thanks again to all our hard working office people and those who go out and visit our aged people, most of whom who are probably not in such good shape as we like to believe we are. I am also processing travel payments to those mentioned above, who have remembered to submit their copies of log sheets.

I have previously submitted the new BEST grant application, to the new governing body for the 2018-19 financial year. This is now totally submitted electronically, which requires careful recalculation of all cases including progress made, as it is based upon details from the previous calendar year being transferred to the appropriate financial year. Lots of time is required to do this, so advocates, please ensure you always record details so I can read them!

The last six months have been a little trying, to say the least. Partly due to an indiscretion by Allan Ellis, which although intended in jest, unfortunately resulted in an incident which could have damaged our Association's reputation, as well as our future at the future location of the new Medical Centre. Fortunately, diplomacy prevailed and after a written apology to the young lady, Allan has voluntarily withdrawn from our association rather than cause any further grief.

This event has been a wake-up to all of us to think before putting mouth into gear, particularly when dealing with people who may not share experiences comparable with our own, or our own version of humour!

With regards to our work in support of, and assisting veterans, we have shared some great successes during the last period. Unfortunately also some of what I can only call tragic defeats, resulting in many tears and frustrations for those involved. Sometimes our best efforts cannot match the squillions of dollars the Government is prepared to pay to medical and legal contractors to oppose appeals which are decided on what is essentially the correct interpretation of

words within an Act or legislative decision, as defined by the appropriate standard of proof!

This is in fact the situation which lost the case for an Army widow I was defending at AAT. Her name is Susanne Carter, of whom I have mentioned several times, and who I hoped would eventually take over as Secretary of this Association.

To say that she was devastated by the decision would be an understatement. I hope that one day she will be able to assist us, at least on a casual basis, as she has proved a tenacious and very intelligent researcher, of whom I have gained a great admiration and respect. (She can also type much better than I can!)

I have already placed the request for a flypast for our 30th November Memorial event and hope that it will be another spectacular day (with appropriate refreshments afterwards).

I would once again like to thank all those who devote their time and energy, but also to the support given by our family and friends. I note of course my wife Carol who keeps telling me to slow down, but realizes this is a forlorn hope.

I have also to thank members of various Orders within the Freemasons of WA, who have donated quite large amounts of money to our Association when our funds were running low and kept us afloat. Several of these also donated out of their own pockets as well as the charity funds of their Order.

I cannot conclude without mentioning our friends at Turner Freeman who have supported us for many years and sourced compensation for asbestos related claims for those who we could not assist through DVA. We have just added Kacey and her mob to our website.

Kacey Wuelfert Partner

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Many regards,
Trevor & Carol

