

OPTIONS FOR A REUNION OR EVENT AT THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS ON

ANZAC DAY 2017

Hi to all Victorian-based ex-Navy Association "Points of Contact",

Those of you who were able to attend the "workshop" at the Mission to Seafarers on Saturday 4 March will recall that (amongst other things) I encouraged all Victorian-based ex-Navy Associations to consider using the 'free' facilities at the Mission for their post-Anzac Day March reunions in Melbourne. This email is a follow-up invitation for you and your Associations to let me know if you're interested in availing yourselves of this excellent offer. Please consider the following Options and please urgently tell me if you're interested:

Option 1: The MNC & Associations that we support can have free use of the "River Room" (which the MNC rents from the MtS). It is fitted-out with a number of folding tables & stackable chairs (enough to support 60 people comfortably). It also has a "brew boat" for self-help teas & coffees. It doesn't have a kitchenette and so anybody using the room will have to arrange the delivery of meals. (I have the contact details for a number of local cafes that are happy to deliver hot food to the River Room at reasonable prices..... see food-type & cost options attached to the bottom of this email and let me know if you want the contact details for any of the Cafes.) BUT, you may need to share this room with other ex-Navy groups (none booked yet) AND being on the first floor of the MtS building, it is only accessible by stairs! If this proves to be too difficult for some of your members, please consider Options 2 or 3.

Option 2: The MtS has kindly offered us and our Associations free use of the outdoor "Garden Area" (accessible via the back gate off Siddeley Street) for Anzac Day reunions and lunches. Although this area is nicely shaded most of the time, to be safe, I will recommend (if anybody is interested in this option) that the MNC should hire a small marquee (and tables & chairs) to provide cover in the event of wet or hot conditions. Although you could wait your turn to cook a self-catered BBQ lunch in the adjacent courtyard, as this BBQ 'courtyard' will be heavily utilised by Police personnel from the Police Station next door (and other groups), I would suggest that you arrange the delivery of meals (same as for Option 1).

Option 3: If your members aren't fussed about a meal (and really only want to have a chat with old buddies over a cold beer and/or play "two-up"), they could 'share' the main ante-room & bar facilities with other groups and purchase drinks & snacks from the bar. This area could get a bit crowded & noisy and there is limited seating.

Notes:

- a. All alcoholic and soft drinks consumed on the premises MUST be purchased from the MtS Bar.
- b. The Mission has arranged approval for "Two-up" to be played during the afternoon.

Please let me know if your Association is interested in any of these Anzac Day Reunion options. If so, we will need approximate numbers and meal plans ASAP (but by the end of March at the latest).

For ease of reference, I have also attached an extract from the MNC's previous advice to you about how your members can easily travel via public transport to the Mission.

Cheers..... David

David Garnock, Captain, CSC, RAN (Retired), President, MNC , M: 0428 343 822

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CATERING OPTIONS (for groups of up to 30 people) FROM LOCAL CAFÉS:

1) Perso (Lebanese Café) – (\$12.50 per head)

2 Large trays of shaved Chicken & Lamb, Large Salad, Dips, Large bowl of Steamed Rice,
Turkish Bread

2) Pud Thai Vs Pho (Thai Café) – (\$13 per head)

5 large dishes (Green Curry Chicken, Massaman Vegetarian, Pud Ped Chicken, Basil Pork, Pud Thai Chicken), 2 large bowls of Steamed & Jasmin Rice, Roti

3) Sea on Quay (Seafood Café) – (\$14 per head)

Battered and/or grilled fish x 30 (with lemons & tartare sauce) chips, large garden salad.

4) Bababoi (Malaysian Café) – (\$15 per head)

4 large dishes (Beef Rendang, 5-Spice fried chicken, Babi Assam, Ayam Kapitan)

2 large bowls of Steamed & Coconut Rice, Large Salad, Roti

Getting to the “Mission” by Public Transport (preferred option):

By train to Flinders Street Station:

- Then Tram No 70 (using MiKi) or Tram No 35 (the free City Circle Tourist Tram) to Docklands westward along Flinders St.
- Get off at the D6 stop adjacent to the entrance to the Victoria Police Centre
- Then Walk less than 200 metres further westward to the Mission

By train to Southern Cross Station:

- Then walk southwards down Spencer Street (200 metres)
- Then westward along Flinders Street (300 metres)

Getting there by Car:

- Park in the Siddeley Street Parking Station (then 50 metre walk to the Mission)
- On weekdays, \$25 for 1 to 2 hours; \$38 for 2 to 3 hours; \$50 for 3 or more hours
- On weekends & public holidays, all-day parking available on the wharf (beside the Mission) @ \$9.50/day.