

January 2019

Volume 1

Issue 1

Inaugural Issue





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As the Founding Editor, it gives me great pleasure to develop the Inaugural Issue of Aussie Trishakti, the Newsletter of the National Defence Academy Alumni Association Australian Chapter (NDAAAAC).

The Newsletter title is named after the NDA Journal, *Trishakti* with an Australian prefix – Aussie. The aim is to provide periodic updates to NDAAAAC members and NDA Alumni worldwide

Being the inaugural issue, the background to the formation of the association, and the chainof-events forms the key focus and scope of this Newsletter.

<u>The Beginnings</u>: It was sometime in February 2018, that Lt Col Arvind Sinha (E/46/Para-EME), shared the idea to pioneer an "Overseas Chapter" of NDA Alumni. He shared the idea with several Ex-NDAs in Australia, most of who have enjoyed his and Mrs Sinha's hospitality at their warm and welcoming home in Melbourne. There was unanimous agreement to commence

Inaugural Meeting – 08 April 18 L to R: S Panghal, AK Nayyar, AK Sinha, SK Sakhuja, R Kaswan, S Shrivastava and R Seth

further deliberation on the modalities. The inaugural meeting was held in Melbourne (Victoria State) and Ex NDAs living in other states who were in communication were informed. Yours truly Sudhir Sakhuja (H/47/ INF - MADRAS) hosted the meeting at his residence on 08 April 2018.

This meeting laid the foundation for the development of an NDAAAAC Charter; different tasks were delegated to each founding member. Membership focus was to include Ex-NDAs from New Zealand & Pacific Island nations in the

Australian neighbourhood.

Meetings followed for progressing the establishment of NDAAAAC on 05 May, 04 Aug and 17 Nov and were hosted by Major Samir Shrivastava (L/65/INF-BIHAR), Col Rajesh Kaswan (D/77/INF-SIKHLI) and Col Anil Nayyar (I/59/PARA-EME) respectively, at their residences. At the last meeting in Nov the Charter was finalised and development of the Website commenced.





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<u>Inaugural Excursion</u> – To lay the foundation of incorporating our families in all our events, Lt Col Suresh Pangal (I/80/ENGRS-Bombay Sappers) organised a two day excursion to the





picturesque Victorian countryside covering Mount Macedon and Daylesford.

<u>Visits & Reception</u>: Foundations were also laid on inviting Ex-NDA Dignitaries to Australia on Official Duty and those visiting on holidays. The Vice Chief of Staff of the Indian Army, Lt Gen Devraj Anbu, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, YSM, SM who was on an official visit to Australia and his wife Mrs Gowri Anbu were the first to be hosted by NDAAAAC on 8th September 2018 at Lt Col Arvind Sinha's residence. The VCOAS was amazed at the level of NDA spirit and brotherhood Down Under.

The Defence Attaché (DA) at High Commission in Canberra, Captain (IN) Manish Rai and his wife joined us to ring in the New Year at Lt Col Arvind Sinha's residence. Capt Manish an ex-NDA (A/90) has extended all official support to our fledgling Association; and is an Ex Officio Advisor.

It was by coincidence that the 1970 batch of Satara Sainik School was

on visit to Australia for two weeks touring Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra for an overseas re-union with class types. Most being Ex-NDAs, we organised an evening to welcome them, hosted by Col Sudhir Sakhuja at his residence to set another foundation.





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Note-of-Thanks: During the deliberations of establishing the Association, our interstate Ex-NDAs provided advice and immense support all through. Our special thanks to Col Yogesh Kashyap (D/32/SIGS), Col Naunihal Mann (J/36/INF-KUMOAN), Col Bhagwan Godara (H/37/ENGRS/JAG), Wg Cdr Sanu Kainikara (A/39/AF-FP), Col Pramod Kapoor (J/41/SIGS),



Cdr Atul Garg (J/43/Navy), Gp Capt Veliat Anthony (F/43/AF-HP), Cdr Rajesh Mittal (A/46/Navy) &Col Pankaj Awasthi (J/60/INF-PARA).

In India, Col Sneh Sharma (L/46/INF-SIKH) connected us to our the Alumni Association at Khadakvasla. Sincere thanks to him and also to Brig Mahendra Kushwaha (C/46/INF-MAHAR) & Col Vipin Khullar (D/52-/INF-SIKH) for their expert advice. Once in shape-to-reckon with, we presented our success to Maj Om

Prakash Mohan (1/38/EME), the most highly regarded and adored Ex-NDA in Australia.

Contributions: Lt Col Arvind Sinha was instrumental not only in just conceiving the Association,



but in also taking the lead to Draft Charter, assisting in opening of bank account, initiating the Incorporation procedure of the Association, hosting visiting dignitaries and in being pro-active to increase membership through his wide network of contacts.

The current Charter/Rules and the incorporation was done by Maj Samir Shrivastava. He needs to be specially applauded for getting the NDAAAAC incorporated in accordance with the laws.





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Col Rajesh Kaswan took on the task of managing the finances and took the lead to design the merchandise of the association.

The management skills of Lt Col Suresh Pangal have been very evident in his successfully organising various events. Lt Col Anil Nayyar and Maj Rajiv Seth, both coursemates, have contributed tremendously in the development of office bearers duties and organisation set-



up and continually providing critical advice.

All members need contribute to our website, including any nostalgic incidences whilst at NDA. I also request our members in other Australian states to update their activities for inclusion in future newsletters. All Regular/long stay visitors to Australia can apply for Associate Membership. We are committed to extending our hospitality to you; and will ensure that you receive regular updates.

Annual General Body Meeting: The Inaugural Annual General Body Meeting is tentatively planned for Jun/Jul 19 in Melbourne. The plan is to host the Interstate members to the best of our ability, by accommodating in our residences, providing ground transport, and organising sight-seeing in the "World's Most Liveable City – MELBOURNE"

<u>Spread the Word</u>: Please inform the Ex-NDAs that you are in touch with that we the Alumni Down Under are just a telephone call or WApp/Email away to be of any assistance in Australia.

I close by wishing you all and your families a very happy, healthy, safe and prosperous 2019!

Website/ Contact: https://ndaaaac.org.au

Col Sudhir Sakhuja Founding Editor

We as Founders are also indebted to Col Sudhir Sakuja, who, all through, had an Eagle's eye on the progress to ensure correctness at each stage. Thanks Sudhir!





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Members

Special thanks to these Members, who pioneered the membership applications. This provided the much needed initial support, in the formation of the Australia Chapter. Please publicise to further grow the membership.

Ser No	Sqn/Course	Rank	Surname	Name	Remarks
1	E/46	Lt Col	Sinha	Arvind Kumar	Para EME
2	H/47	Col	Sakhuja	Sudhir Kumar	Inf Madras
3	D/59	Мај	Seth	Rajiv	Sig
4	1/59	Lt Col	Nayyar	Anil Kumar	Para EME
5	D/77	Col	Kaswan	Rajesh	Inf Sikh LI
6	1/80	Lt Col	Panghal	Suresh Singh	Engrs
7	L/65	Мај	Shrivastava	Samir	Inf - Bihar
8	B/84	Cdr	Pratap	Amit	IN - Submarines
9	J/36	Col	Mann	Naunihal	Inf - Kumaon
10	K/72	Col	Mann	Nirmal	Ord
11	D/62	Wg Cdr	Subba Raju	Indukuri Satya	IAF-ATC
12	1/67	Capt	Surapaneni	Nagarjun	ASC
13	D/50	Col	Sharma	Vinay Kumar	Inf - Mahar
14	A/91	Maj	Dhillon	Barry	Inf - MLI





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Photo Gallery













Registration No. CRM 0138333