

# Agenda

## Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee Meeting

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I hereby give notice that a Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on:

**Date:** Wednesday, 6 May 2026

**Time:** 10:00 AM

**Location:** Electronically via Teams

Simone Saunders

Chief Executive Officer



**DARWIN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN HISTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Lord Mayor Peter Styles (Chair)

Department of Veterans' Affairs Kacie Austin

Darwin Military Museum Norm Cramp

Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster

General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

Executive Manager Place and Economic Development Susannah Penman

Veterans Engagement and Support, NT Dept People, Sport and Culture Annette Rudd

NT Heritage Branch, Dept of Territory Families Dr David Steinberg

Aviation Historical Society of the NT Iain Summers

Councillor Sam Weston

Tourism NT, Dpt of Tourism and Hospitality Russel Wills

**GUEST**

Warrant Officer Class One/E9, Joint Operational Support Staff – Northern Territory Meika Wright

## Order of Business

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**1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

**2 MEETING DECLARED OPEN**

**3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**3.1 Apologies**

**3.2 Leave of Absence Granted**

**3.3 Leave of Absence Notified**

**4 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE**

**4.1 Electronic Attendance Granted**

**4.2 Electronic Attendance Requested**

**5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF**

**6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee Meeting - 4 February 2026

**7 MOVING OF ITEMS**

**7.1 Moving Open Items into Confidential**

**7.2 Moving of Confidential Items into Open**

**8 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS**

**9 OFFICER REPORTS**

**9.1 BOMBING OF DARWIN DAY UPDATE**

**Author:** Executive Assistant Community  
**Authoriser:** General Manager Community  
**Attachments:** Nil

**RECOMMENDATIONS**  
THAT the verbal update on the Bombing of Darwin Day Update be received and noted.

Officers from the City of Darwin Events Team will provide a verbal update at the meeting.

**10 MEMBER REPORTS**

## 11 GENERAL BUSINESS

### 11.1 AVIATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY - PROPOSAL

**Author:** Executive Assistant Community

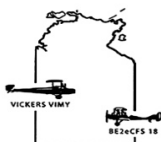
**Authoriser:** General Manager Community

**Attachments:** 1. Proposal [↓](#)

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the Aviation Historical Society of the Northern Territory - Proposal that *the Committee considers how community knowledge could be improved about the 63 bombing raids on Darwin that occurred after 19 February 1942* be received and noted.

The Aviation Historical Society of the Northern Territory organisation member will speak to this item.



## THE AVIATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY INC.

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Winnellie NT 0820  
ABN: 11 170 657 354

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Winnellie NT  
Australia 0821

Tel: (08) 8947 2145  
Email: info@darwinaviationmuseum.com.au

### CITY OF DARWIN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN HISTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE 6 MAY 2026

#### **For discussion**

The Committee considers how community knowledge could be improved about the 63 bombing raids on Darwin that occurred after 19 February 1942.

#### **The Committee's Functions**

Following are the functions of the Committee as identified in its Terms of Reference (*version as at 13 August 2024*).

- develop the tourism, historical, cultural and educational prospects and aspects of both the Bombing of Darwin event and Darwin's broader military history
- provide a strong vision for the infrastructure, activities and events that promote the Bombing of Darwin and Darwin's broader military history
- establish effective partnerships with key stakeholders engaged in participating in and promoting the Bombing of Darwin event and Darwin's broader military history
- promote recognition of the experiences of civilians in the Top End during WWII.

The target groups are:

- WWII veterans and their families, civilians, evacuees, and their families
- residents of the Darwin community
- prospective interstate and international visitors to Darwin.

In accordance with those functions, City of Darwin each year seeks advice from the Committee about the commemoration held on 19 February. While that is a significant and very professionally managed event, more detailed community knowledge about the subsequent 63 bombing raids on Darwin could also be developed.

#### **Improving community knowledge about the other bombing raids on Darwin**

A proposal could be prepared by nominees of COD and the Committee for a public presentation, at a suitable venue, about some of the raids and their impact on military personnel and civilians. This could occur on or around 12 November, the date of the last bombing of Darwin.

As examples of the stories that could be included in a public presentation, significant raids and responses from defenders occurred on 12 June 1942, and 2 May 1943. The AHSNT has a detailed record of the last raid in the early morning of 12 November 1943. The impact on civilians in Darwin during these raids can be further researched.

**Recommendation:** Nominees be invited to prepare a proposal that would identify a suitable content, a presenter, a suitable venue, its duration, the funding requirements, and whether further presentations could be held annually. A report could be presented to the next meeting of the Advisory Committee.

Iain Summers  
Aviation Historical Society of the Northern Territory Inc.

**12 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**13 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

THAT pursuant to Section 99 (2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and Regulation 51 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

**14 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

# Minutes

## Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 4 February 2026

Unconfirmed

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN  
DARWIN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN HISTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ELECTRICALLY VIA TEAMS  
ON WEDNESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 10:00 AM**

**PRESENT:**

Lord Mayor Peter Styles (Chair)

Department of Veterans' Affairs Kacie Austin

Darwin Military Museum Norm Cramp

Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster

General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr

Veterans Engagement and Support, NT Dept People, Sport and Culture Annette Rudd

Aviation Historical Society of the NT Iain Summers

Councillor Sam Weston

**APOLOGY:**

Tourism NT, Dept of Tourism and Hospitality Russel Wills

Warrant Officer Class One/E9, Joint Operational Support Staff – Northern Territory Meika Wright

**GUESTS:**

Councillor Shani Carson

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<b>6</b>	<b>Confirmation of Previous Minutes</b> .....	<b>5</b>
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## 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

*City of Darwin acknowledges that we are living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We pay our respects to the Larrakia elders past and present and support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future. City of Darwin is committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.*

## 2 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC001/26

Moved: Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster  
Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

The Chair declared the meeting open at 10.02 am.

**CARRIED 8/0**

## 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### 3.1 APOLOGIES

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC002/26

Moved: Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster  
Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT an apology from Tourism NT, Dept of Tourism and Hospitality Russel Wills and Warrant Officer Class One Meika Wright be received.

**CARRIED 8/0**

### 3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

Nil

### 3.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTED

Nil

## 4 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

### 4.1 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE GRANTED

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC003/26

Moved: Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the Committee note that pursuant to Section 95 (43) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the following member(s) was granted permission for Electronic Meeting Attendance:

- Department of Veterans' Affairs Kacie Austin
- Darwin Military Museum Norm Cramp
- Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster
- Aviation Historical Society of the NT Iain Summers

**CARRIED 8/0**

### 4.2 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE REQUESTED

Nil

## 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

### 5.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

Nil

### 5.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY STAFF

Nil

## 6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC004/26

Moved: Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the minutes of the Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5 November 2025 be confirmed.

**CARRIED 8/0**

## 7 MOVING OF ITEMS

### 7.1 MOVING OF ITEMS INTO CONFIDENTIAL

Nil

**7.2 MOVING OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS INTO OPEN**

Nil

**7.3 MOVING CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO OPEN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

Nil

**8 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS**

Nil

**9 OFFICER REPORTS****9.1 BOMBING OF DARWIN DAY UPDATE****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC005/26**

Moved: Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the verbal update on the Bombing of Darwin commemoration by the Manager International Relations & Sponsorship Jessica Fry be received and noted.

**CARRIED 8/0****10 MEMBER REPORTS****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC006/26**

Moved: Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the verbal Member Reports be received and noted.

Aviation Historical Society of the NT Iain Summers

- Updated its Bombing of Darwin video that is part of the introduction to the Darwin Aviation Museum as visitors arrive.
- Thanked the Lord Mayor for his involvement with the commemoration of the Vickers Landing on 10 December 2025.

Darwin Military Museum Norm Cramp

- Visitor numbers down at this time of the year.
- Upgraded a number of the display areas with works continuing.
- Currently working in conjunction with the Jewish community and NTG to establish a small monument to the victims of the Bondi terrorist attack.

Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster

- Requested the Eternal Flame lighting is switched on for the Bombing of Darwin commemoration.
- Anzac Day march route will be changed this year to finish at The Esplanade.

## Department of Veterans' Affairs Kacie Austin

- Minister for Veterans Affairs has announced the successful applicants for the 2025/26 Saluting their Service commemorative grants.
- Director of War Graves will be in Darwin for the Bombing of Darwin commemorations.

Veterans Engagement and Support, NT Dept People, Sport and Culture Annette Rudd

- Purple Poppy Day 21 February at Reg Hillier House from 10 am – 12 pm.
- Cor Infinitus ceremony planned to be held in the dry season.

**CARRIED 8/0**

## 11 GENERAL BUSINESS

### 11.1 GENERAL BUSINESS

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC007/26

Moved: Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the following General Business be received and noted.

- Update on Cylone Fina's recovery works and priorities, including East Point Reserve provided by the General Manager Community Matt Grassmayr.
- Councillor Sam Weston informed that he has received positive feedback on the Cor Infinitus memorial.
- Lord Mayor informed that the Australian American Association plans to write to the Chief Minister for an update on the USS Peary.

**CARRIED 8/0**

## 12 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC008/26

Moved: Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the next Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee be held on Wednesday, 6 May 2026, at 10:00 AM (Open Section followed by the Confidential Section),electronivcally via Teams.

**CARRIED 8/0**

## 13 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Nil

**14 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION MHAC009/26**

Moved: Darwin RSL Sub-Branch Stephen Gloster

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the meeting be closed at 10.34 am.

**CARRIED 8/0**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee Meeting held on 6 May 2026.**

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**CHAIR**

Unconfirmed