

ANARE CLUB Inc.
2015-2016 NATIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Statements by Candidates seeking Election to the positions of President & Vice President.

Position of President – Two Candidates - Dr Joe Johnson and Mr Neil Brandie

Dr Joe Johnson

I have been asked to accept nomination as President by several members of National Council, as no other Councillor had nominated for the position. In accepting this nomination I am aware that no-one has held the position of President for more than two consecutive years since Bob Dalton (1955-1957) and that, from this long practice, there is an implied convention that a President should not serve for more than two consecutive terms. The original (1951) constitution of the Club imposed a limit of three years on the President and I have been unable to find any subsequent limitations. The present Rules of Association (and the previous one) do not impose limitations on any office-bearers. Although I am reluctant to break such a convention, I do believe that the Club's President should be chosen from members of the National Council, as this is necessary to give the nominee sound working knowledge of the Club's operations, and it is for this reason alone that I have accepted re-nomination. (I had myself served three years on Council before being nominated, and during those years had been an active member of several subcommittees and had written the present Constitution).

I have been a member of the Club since returning from Casey (where I was the OiC) in 1982. I was the Station Leader at Davis in 1998, have been Voyage Leader twice, was joint author of the feasibility study that resulted in the establishment of the current air link between Australia and Antarctica, and I was for ten years (2003-2013) the Chairman of the Antarctic Names and Medal Committee. I was awarded the Australian Antarctic Medal in 2001. I hold degrees in Arts and Law, and my doctoral thesis was on the history and philosophy of Australian Antarctic science. I am a member of the Royal Society of Victoria and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society – arguably the two learned societies that have made the greatest contributions to Antarctic exploration and science.

If re-elected I will continue to represent and provide leadership to the Club to the best of my ability. I believe that in the past two years the Council has become a truly national one and I am delighted to see that there are now active groups of members in every state and territory except the NT. I also believe that we have achieved a very good working relationship with the AAD and, as there will be a new Director appointed during the life of the new Council, I believe it is appropriate that I provide the continuity between the outgoing and incoming director.

I greatly appreciate the 'vote of confidence' that this re-nomination from serving Councillors reflects and can only hope that, if elected, I can live up to the expectations of those who have put me forward for re-election and that during the coming year another Councillor will be prepared to take over from me.

Mr Neil Brandie

Following on strong support from council members, club members and former Club Presidents I have agreed to nominate for the position of National President of the ANARE Club for 2015/2016. I would feel it a great honour and privilege to serve as President of our prestigious and unique club comprising of over 800 present and former ANARE Expeditioners. If elected I will work tirelessly to continue on with the solid foundations laid by the 2014/2015 National Council.

Although I am relatively unknown to some since wintering at Mawson in 1978, I have been a continuous financial member since then and have attended all Melbourne MWD's and AGM when my work permitted. Due to my work commitments during this time, I was unable to commit to serving on the council.

I am now fully retired and have more time to devote to the club and am at present acting as assistant to Ian Mackie our club historian.

In 2014 I was selected by council to be the club representative and went to Davis on voyage 1 in October 2014, during this voyage I signed up many new members and also did extremely well in selling the club merchandise and developed a good working relationship between the club and Antarctic Division personnel.

During this trip I was in a unique position of talking to the modern day expeditioners and take on board their expectations of the relevance and role of the ANARE Club. On my return, I was invited by council to give a "Club Berth Presentation" to the NSW members at their social day and also to the Victorian members at the Bayview Eden meeting in May.

Being an "Old Timer" myself I am in regular contact with some of our more senior members and am fully aware that we need to respect the contributions, traditions and solid base as laid down by our former councils and members.

On a personal note I am an active operational member of our local CFA Fire Brigade and have served as an officer of that brigade for 10 of my 15 years service, particularly in the Brigade Management Team.

I was recently requested by council to submit a report to the ANAO (Australian National Audit Office) on the AAD operations and I submitted a report on the fact that a lot of old Antarctic equipment such as the Mole Mink, Weasel, SnowTrac, D4 Dozer, dog sleds and man-hauling sleds were going to be dumped to make more room in the AAD stores, I will endeavour to ensure with the backing of Council that these items should be restored and put on permanent display to the public.

Mr Neil Brandie Cont'd

If elected, some of my key policies are:

1. Continue our strong relationship with AAD management.
 2. Eliminate unnecessary costs for club travel and utilise more video conferencing where possible.
 3. Ensure the club "Rules of Association" are followed in all club matters.
 4. To actively support and assist the Editor in his production of the AURORA magazine.
- To conclude, if elected as President or re-elected I will comply with the time honoured tradition of serving a two year maximum consecutive term in this position.

Position of Vice President – Two Candidates - Mr Ian Toohill and Mr Ian Mackie

Mr Ian Toohill

As a long term member of the ANARE Club I have been involved in many of its activities since summering at Mawson in 1983 in charge of a LARC Detachment, as a young Army Reserve Officer.

Significant contributions I have made to date include:

- Making a documentary on Antarctica for schools titled 'Mawson Base Face to Face' (whilst summering at Mawson concurrent my LARC role) this was narrated by Phil Law.
- Covering many functions as a professional photographer and videographer including Phil Law's 90th and 95th Birthday functions.
- Publishing Phil's oral history in 2009 based on interviews I conducted over 20 years.
- Served on council in the early 2000's and have been on Council for the past 3 years currently as VP for the past two years.

I have been vitally interested in Antarctic affairs since watching the film of Fuchs traverse in the IGY and wish to stand as Vice President again this year in order to continue with the work I have initiated recently, which includes taking over responsibility for the Oral History Project, updating the recording and copyright protocols, purchase of modern recording equipment and facilitating this for State Branches. I have also started work on reorganising and consolidating Club records and memorabilia in the facility kindly provided by Brian Harvey. This work will be ongoing for the immediate future. I see both these activities crucial for the future of a viable Club.

I am also committed to maintaining the relevance of the Club in a rapidly changing social environment to ensure its long term survival and have backed the opening up of the Melbourne Mid-winter dinner as one small way of achieving this.

I also feel my recent 15 years as a Defence Public Affairs Officer puts me in a good position to find new ways to promote the Club

I re-elected as VP I will continue with tasks undertaken and engender robust dialogue on council to find new initiatives to promote the Club to younger and older expeditioners alike, members or not, to ensure its continued relevance.

Mr Ian Mackie

I am offering myself as a candidate for the position of Vice President of the ANARE Club for 2015/2016 to support the nomination of Mr. Neil Brandie and to add some solid depth of experience to the senior executive of the club. I am in entire agreement with Neil's policies, and his belief in sound administration while ensuring the clubs future and still respecting the traditions of the past.

I have a strong interest in the clubs history and am currently the club historian, a position that I have held for many years and am willing to continue.

My ANARE and club experience is as follows:

1. 50 Years as a club member, joined 1966.
2. 40 years continuous service on council 1974- 2014
3. President for two years 1983/1985 & 1993/1995.
4. Vice President for five years total.
5. Secretary for five years 1986/1990
6. Social Secretary fifteen years 1980/1981/1982 and 1996/2007
7. Sales Officer 1996/2006
8. Life member 1986.
9. Club Historian seven years (current)
10. Current council member 2014/2015
 1. Carpenter Repstat 1965/1966
 2. Carpenter MacQuarie Island 1972
 3. Club Voyage Representative (Casey 1988)

If elected I will always respect the views and opinions of all club members