

[00/01/02 President's Report by John Carlyon](#)

Isobel and I would like to wish everyone a Happy and healthy 2002.

2001 was a great year for approximately 15 000 Australian ex servicemen. On 1 January 2001, full recognition of FESR service was finally granted.

Reflecting on the years preceding 2001, the effort of a small number of dedicated shipmates lobbied the Government for recognition, some of the schemes enacted were thought to be out of order or outrageous, the result was National TV and Radio coverage. These dedicated shipmates, they know who they are, kept pressure on the Government until recognition was granted.

During this time the FESR Association was born, a proud group of ex naval veterans who also played their part.

There is still plenty to do to assist our shipmates and other members of the Veteran's community; our association can play a big part in this.

The other significant milestone was the dedication and unveiling of the first FESR Memorial Plaque on 29 July, 2001 at Bundamba ANZAC Memorial Park. An identical plaque will be dedicated and unveiled in Adelaide in 2003.

John Carlyon

PRESIDENT