

## 2022 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE AAAGCD PRESIDENT CAROLE MORRIS CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS AND GOOD WISHES TO ALL!

On behalf of the AAAGCD Executive Committee and Members, I extend our wishes for a very Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year 2023 to all our members and friends.

A special thank you to all our volunteers who helped us with over 12 major programs and activities as well as those who attended our monthly Meet & Greet at the Southport Yacht Club this past year. A very special thank you to 2021-2022 Executive Members: Keith Shackley, Amber Bennett, Richard Williams, and Keith Carroll for their tireless efforts and support in keeping the organization and the activities program alive! And, now, a very special welcome to Monica Griffiths!

2022 was an ambitious year of programming and new member recruitment activity. The highlight of the year, of course, was the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea Commemorative Service in May. The full weekend program, organized in conjunction with the AAA Brisbane and the Battle of the Coral Sea Commemoration Committee attended by so many dignitaries was of special note.

However, many of us also enjoyed our St Patrick Day Lunch, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic, AGM/Dinner, Oktoberfest Lunch @ the German Club, the AAA Federal Meeting in Canberra (attended by myself, Keith and Amber), Thanksgiving at Spaghetti and Jazz and tonight, of course, our Christmas Dinner tonight. In addition, many of us have represented the organization at the Korean War Memorial, ANZAC Day & Memorial Day Services, Peter Dutton Morning Tea organized by Angie Bell's office, Volunteer Awards, Multicultural Association of the Gold Coast activities— and the list goes on!

May God's Peace, Love, Hope and Joy be your gift this Christmas and your blessing all the year through.

On to 2023!

