

## **ANARE Club AGM 2023**

### **Item 7.3 Information Technology Report**

As many ANARE Club members may be aware, Peter Field decided to step down as Webmaster at the end of May 2023.

Peter had a major role in setting up and maintaining the Club's website from 2020 onwards. The quality of the website, the ability to renew subscriptions online and the inclusion of many items of heritage and historic interest have been due to his work and we all extend our sincere thanks to Peter for all the work he has done.

Given that this was an unexpected departure and that nominations and elections for National Council were starting shortly afterwards, this change did cause some problems. I was able to step into the role temporarily and keep things on a rather wobbly track for the purposes of getting through the election and the AGM, but I do not possess the expertise to be able to maintain this role indefinitely, besides not having time to do so over and above my duties as Secretary.

Moves are therefore afoot to find someone who can manage the Web and IT side of the ANARE Club's activities. In this age of increasing cyber-risk and the need to manage members' digital data appropriately, we need to ensure we are doing things properly. It is therefore likely that we will have to pay for professional support managed by an ANARE Club representative. More will be advised as we research what is possible!

Meanwhile for the information of Club members, I have included the contents of Peter's reports to National Council in October 2022, February 2023 and May 2023 which will give more clarity as to how this portfolio was managed over the past year.

Many thanks

Melanie Van Twest



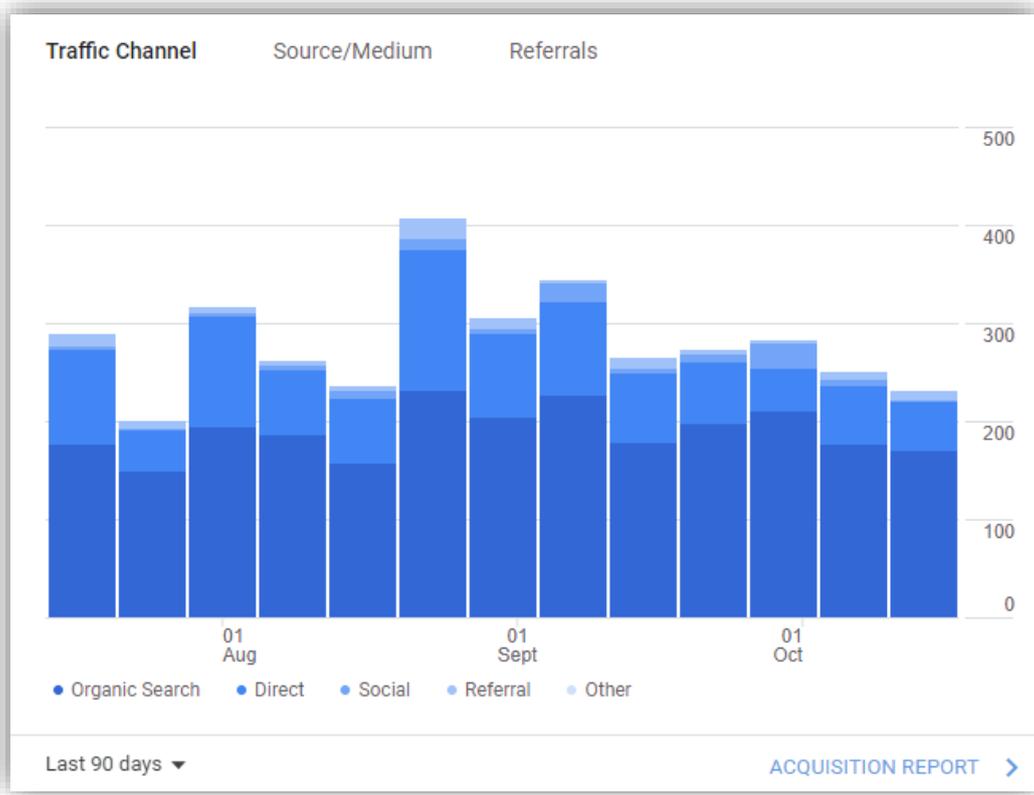
**Report by IT Manager (Peter Field)  
for the ANARE Council Meeting on 22 Oct 2022**

Website Status

All performing well. General updates from AGM reporting and Phil Law Medal article for website. Received a couple of updated Bios of Council Members ( I recommend everyone has a look and see if they might want to update their bio – let me know.)



The solid line is our activity over the last ninety days. The dotted line is activity over the preceding ninety days.



| Page                          | Page Views | Page Value |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|
| /                             | 1,032      | \$0.00     |
| /who-wintered-in-antarctica/  | 658        | \$0.00     |
| /member-login/                | 618        | \$0.00     |
| /obituaries/                  | 509        | \$0.00     |
| /current-news/                | 474        | \$0.00     |
| /my-account/                  | 369        | \$0.00     |
| /our-club/                    | 249        | \$0.00     |
| /2022-anare-club-agm-reports/ | 186        | \$0.00     |
| /members/                     | 168        | \$0.00     |
| /shop/                        | 150        | \$0.00     |

Last 90 days ▾      [PAGES REPORT](#) >

The “/” appears to be our home page.

| Country ?   | Acquisition                                    |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
|   | Users ? ↓                                      | New Users ?                                    | Sessions ?                                       |
|   | <b>9,140</b><br>% of Total: 100.00%<br>(9,140) | <b>8,969</b><br>% of Total: 100.09%<br>(8,961) | <b>13,339</b><br>% of Total: 100.00%<br>(13,339) |
| 1.  Australia      | <b>5,972</b> (65.74%)                          | 5,883 (65.59%)                                 | 9,657 (72.40%)                                   |
| 2.  United States  | <b>972</b> (10.70%)                            | 969 (10.80%)                                   | 1,026 (7.69%)                                    |
| 3.  United Kingdom | <b>282</b> (3.10%)                             | 280 (3.12%)                                    | 349 (2.62%)                                      |
| 4.  China          | <b>225</b> (2.48%)                             | 225 (2.51%)                                    | 240 (1.80%)                                      |
| 5.  Japan          | <b>119</b> (1.31%)                             | 120 (1.34%)                                    | 140 (1.05%)                                      |
| 6.  India          | <b>89</b> (0.98%)                              | 86 (0.96%)                                     | 113 (0.85%)                                      |
| 7.  New Zealand    | <b>87</b> (0.96%)                              | 85 (0.95%)                                     | 95 (0.71%)                                       |
| 8.  Canada         | <b>83</b> (0.91%)                              | 81 (0.90%)                                     | 128 (0.96%)                                      |
| 9.  Germany        | <b>83</b> (0.91%)                              | 82 (0.91%)                                     | 98 (0.73%)                                       |
| 10.  France      | <b>72</b> (0.79%)                              | 71 (0.79%)                                     | 108 (0.81%)                                      |

These are the top ten countries for our website visits since 1 January 2022

### General Items

New Sales items uploaded for Philatelic Sales under our on-line shopping cart.

Peter Field

ANARE Club I.T. Manager

15 Oct 2022

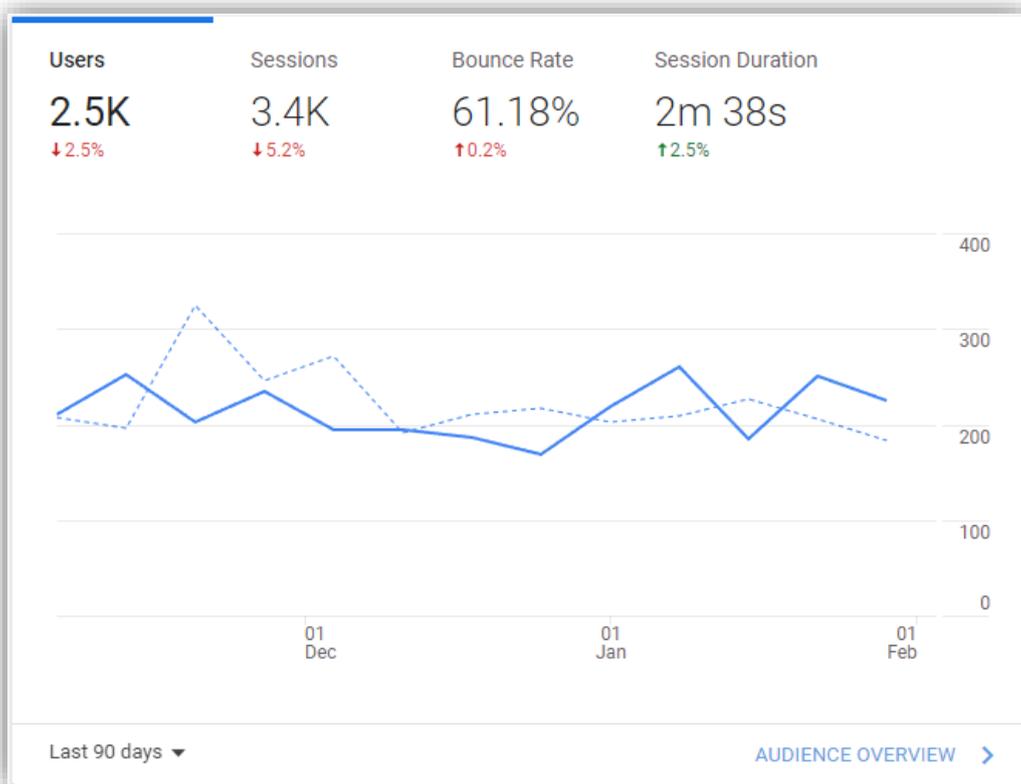


## Report by IT Manager (Peter Field) for the ANARE Council Meeting on 11 Feb 2023

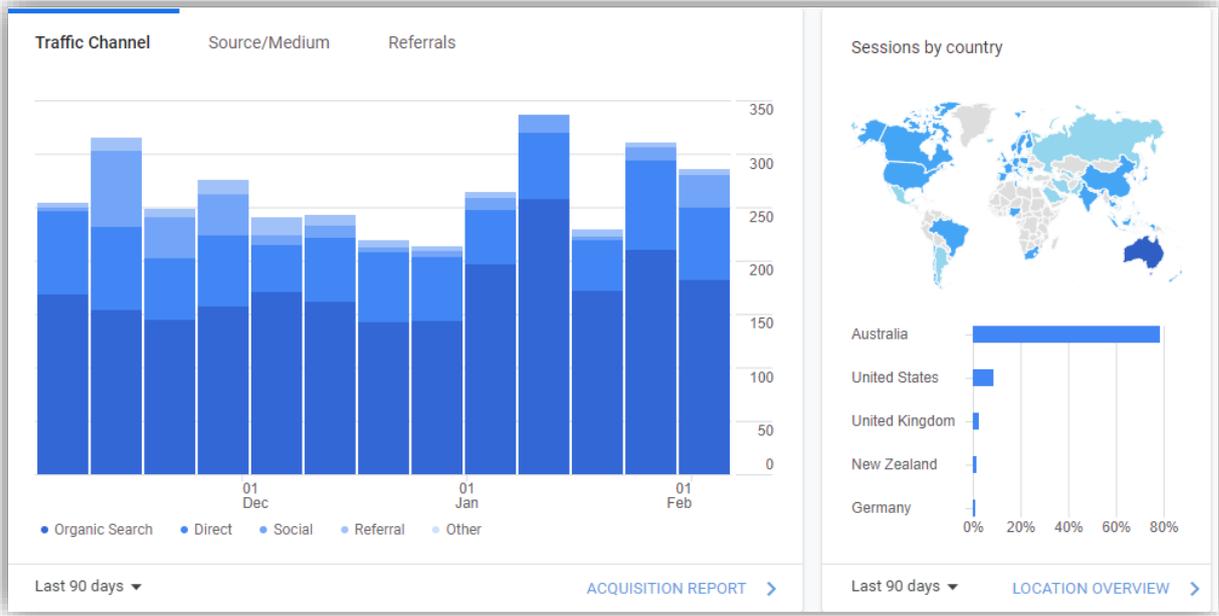
### Website Status

All is performing well. General updates including Obituary notices, current and back-copies of Auroras and cleaning up Branch pages for upcoming State Mid-Winter Dinners.

NSW Branch has provided a Member to be responsible for their State Branch Web pages. This has been set up and I provided a brief training session with Jay.



The solid line is our activity over the last ninety days. The dotted line is activity over the preceding ninety days.



Web searches as opposed to going direct to our website

What pages do your users visit?

| Page                         | Page Views | Page Value |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|
| /                            | 963        | \$0.00     |
| /who-wintered-in-antarctica/ | 519        | \$0.00     |
| /current-news/               | 495        | \$0.00     |
| /obituaries/                 | 421        | \$0.00     |
| /member-login/               | 305        | \$0.00     |
| /our-club/                   | 224        | \$0.00     |
| /my-account/                 | 170        | \$0.00     |
| /subscription-plan/          | 147        | \$0.00     |
| /jim-burgess/                | 144        | \$0.00     |
| /shop/                       | 143        | \$0.00     |

Last 90 days ▾ [PAGES REPORT >](#)

Top ten pages being visited. The “/” appears to be our home page.

| Country ?   | Acquisition                                    |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
|   | Users ? ↓                                      | New Users ?                                    | Sessions ?                                     |
|   | <b>6,014</b><br>% of Total: 100.00%<br>(6,014) | <b>5,889</b><br>% of Total: 100.05%<br>(5,886) | <b>8,485</b><br>% of Total: 100.00%<br>(8,485) |
| 1.  Australia      | <b>4,512</b> (74.81%)                          | <b>4,392</b> (74.58%)                          | <b>6,800</b> (80.14%)                          |
| 2.  United States  | <b>636</b> (10.55%)                            | <b>631</b> (10.71%)                            | <b>661</b> (7.79%)                             |
| 3.  United Kingdom | <b>158</b> (2.62%)                             | <b>157</b> (2.67%)                             | <b>194</b> (2.29%)                             |
| 4.  New Zealand    | <b>83</b> (1.38%)                              | <b>81</b> (1.38%)                              | <b>90</b> (1.06%)                              |
| 5.  China          | <b>64</b> (1.06%)                              | <b>64</b> (1.09%)                              | <b>83</b> (0.98%)                              |
| 6.  Canada         | <b>61</b> (1.01%)                              | <b>60</b> (1.02%)                              | <b>70</b> (0.82%)                              |
| 7.  Germany        | <b>55</b> (0.91%)                              | <b>55</b> (0.93%)                              | <b>63</b> (0.74%)                              |
| 8.  France         | <b>42</b> (0.70%)                              | <b>41</b> (0.70%)                              | <b>50</b> (0.59%)                              |
| 9. Antarctica   | <b>35</b> (0.58%)                              | <b>33</b> (0.56%)                              | <b>42</b> (0.49%)                              |
| 10.  Russia      | <b>31</b> (0.51%)                              | <b>31</b> (0.53%)                              | <b>31</b> (0.37%)                              |

These are the top ten countries for our website visits since 1 July 2022

### General Items

A discussion was partially including the website and the posting of Australia Day Honours etc. I don't think I was privy to the full discussions on this as it appears the executive had additional discussions to decide policy. I believe this should be discussed at National Council level and not just decided by a select few.

New Sales and updated photos have been uploaded to the website sales pages.

Denise and John Gillies have been ploughing through back copies of Aurora. These are progressively being uploaded.

Peter Field

ANARE Club I.T. Manager

4 Feb 2023



## **Report by IT Manager (Peter Field) for the ANARE Council Meeting on 27 May 2023**

### Website Status

During the last quarter, we've had a critical issue with our website. It was first reported to me via a new member joining, for her father. She noted she received multiple (hundreds) of welcome emails to our club being sent to her email.

I rang the member and discussed the issue she noted and asked for her to forward on a sample of the emails which I was then able to pass on immediately to our website hosts. Being a weekend, this was followed up in the following business hours and a temporary "Website Unavailable" message was posted preventing people from accessing our website until we investigated further.

After a few days, it was noted some of our open-source plug-ins had not been updated. Although I can perform this task, I'm reluctant as it involves possibly introducing new code and features to our website that we may not be aware of which could cause other issues or worst case, a total website crash. I'll leave this to the professionals when needed.

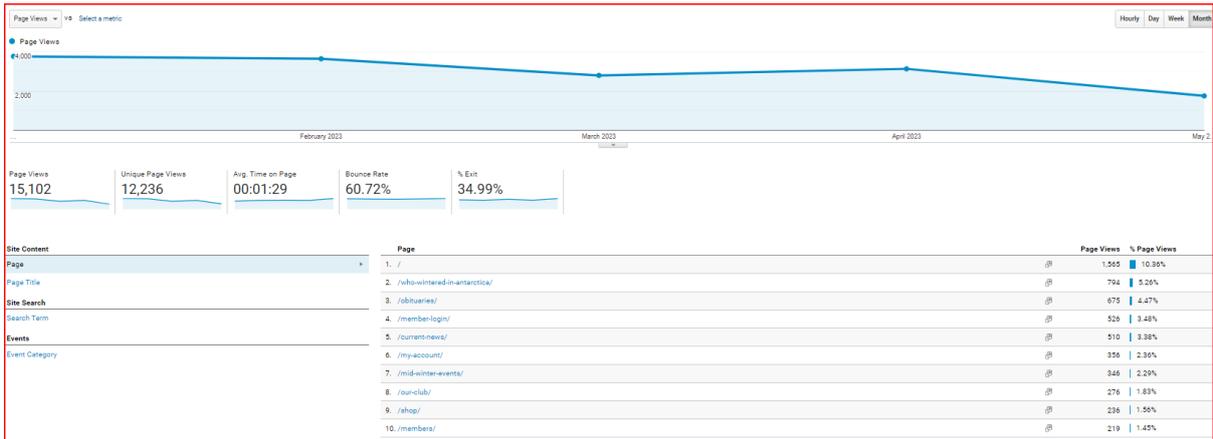
I was under the understanding we were under a maintenance agreement, but as it turns out, our contact who built our website, Your Digital Solutions (YDS) do not host our website but is hosted in Sydney via a third party. Our maintenance agreement is with this third party to perform back-ups of our website and will re-commission the website if I (or a hacker) damage the website. They'll re-instate the last good build. They provide the security against hackers etc (the anti-virus so to speak).

Our issue appears to have been a combination of using older software and plug-ins that were not kept up to date (similar to applying Windows updates etc). YDS have now updated most of our Plug-ins (free of charge) and updated our core WordPress platform. The website was recommissioned in a timely manner with the Membership Portal posing a different issue. This has also since been re-instated.

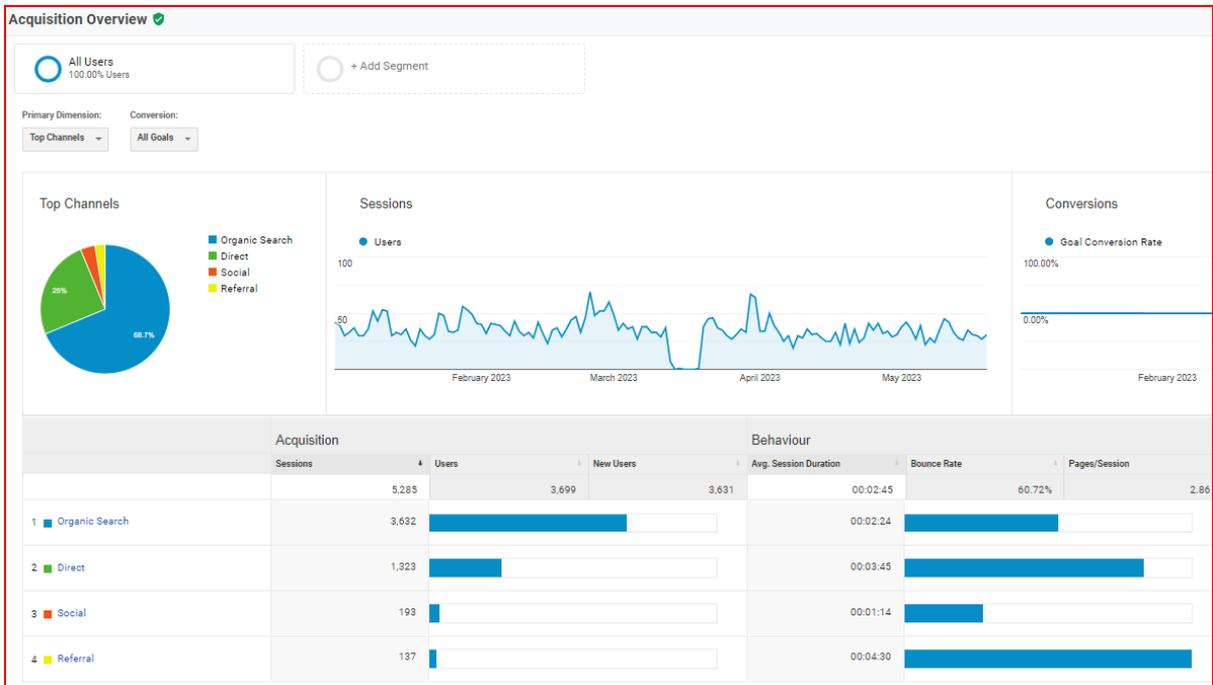
Going forward, we may wish to consider a budget for use if the event occurs again as YDS may not necessarily be readily available nor prepared to do the work free of charge. I mentioned about a YDS Maintenance package, but YDS advised this was not necessary, but we may wish to consider putting money aside to replace the website at some time in the future. As you may remember the previous website and how times and expectations have changed over the years. YDS suggested a website needs a refresh every five to ten years. New platforms become available and new features, membership and commerce interactions become common expectations of internet users.



Daily visits to our website since 1 January 2023. Notice the section in March showing when the website was down.



These are the more frequently visited pages since 1 Jan 2023. The first line is our home page.



Source of the visits since 1 Jan 2023. As you can see people doing a “Search” for Antarctica or related items rates high followed by people coming direct to our page. People being referred to our site from other websites, keeps them on the site on the average a bit longer. This could be from searching for a topic and seeing an article or story keeping them here for a while.

### General Items

A couple of months ago I read through and made my recommendations to updating the ANARE Club Rules of Association particularly around on-line Membership registrations. Hopefully these are being addressed or discussed.

I've also provided my feedback to the provision of a ANARE Club Privacy or Information policy. Again, hopefully these are still progressing. One item I did not raise on the policy front was the Membership database. Some previous National Council members have been of the opinion this should be retained as a record of members of the ANARE Club, albeit since the 1990s (??). Personally, being impacted by some of the major corporation Privacy Breeches, I draw to the attention of the Council, retaining this data exposes everyone's personal data to possible breeches. As Council for the Club, we are responsible for these policies. I see no reason to retain such data of past Members beyond say five years. We do not store financial details but quite often a full name, phone number, home address and email address. Even these details are not kept up to date.

Peter Field

ANARE Club I.T. Manager

20 May 2023