

AMC LSI Association of Vic

Armed Merchant Cruiser/Landing Ship Infantry



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Patrons: Bruce Candy & Hiram Ristrom

TIME is approaching for our annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Remembrance where we hold a ceremony dedicated to those who served on HMAS WESTRALIA, KANIMBLA, MANOORA and ASSAULT. It's a unique, precious and humbling experience to stand inside Melbourne's magnificent sanctuary and pay tribute to those we love who served on above ships and who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Wreath Laying Ceremony

Saturday 10th December at 11am

Shrine of Remembrance

Sanctuary



The ceremony will also embrace young veterans (Gulf and Afghanistan) including those who served during peace time operations. Indeed we will also be remembering those who tragically lost their lives on HMAS Westralia II when a major fire broke out in 1998.

Regardless of whether it is wartime or peace time our men and women who join the RAN commit with the highest ideal to serve our nation and humanity. We owe them so much for their service and sacrifice.

In this newsletter WOMT Paul Corcoran OAM RAN Rtd writes about his mate Brad who along with Midshipman Megan Pelly, Petty Officer Shaun Smith, and Able Seaman Phillip Carroll all lost their lives in that fire. The camaraderie that exudes from Paul's story is testament to the altruistic desire to serve humanity. Our veterans, young and old show this unique characteristic that sets them apart from the rest of us.

They inspire us.

TIME brings change and as we go to press we are yet to receive confirmation of proposed changes to the Order of March for Melbourne's 2017 ANZAC Day. The construction site for the underground railway project between Domain and Flinders Street requires logistical consideration. ANZAC House have suggested that descendants and WW2 veterans will no longer be allowed to march behind the banners, however possibly young veterans will—while our WW2 veterans ride in vehicles. Our next newsletter due out February/March will have the latest protocols for the 2017 ANZAC Day march.

In the meantime if anyone knows these young veterans who marched with us behind the Kanimbla banner this year, please contact us.



TIME brings in the new: Elva McBay is proud to announce that her grandson, Ian McBay who graduated at HMAS CERBERUS last year has completed a year's study passing with distinction to now be qualified as an Electronic Technician (SMN ET). Ian is the third generation McBay to serve in the RAN. His father, Ross is Snr Technical Officer Maritime/Ship Repair at Garden Island. His uncle, Michael McBay served with the Department of Defence (Navy) Logistic Support and Ian's grandfather, AB David McBay trained at HMAS ASSAULT and served on HMAS KANIMBLA, MANOORA and WESTRALIA.

The Navy is in their blood.

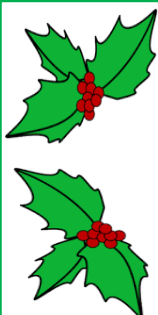


After the Wreath Laying Ceremony, we move to Bentleigh RSL for our

Christmas Lunch Reunion at 12.30pm

Bring your family and friends too

RSVP 4 Dec Ph: 0421 331 643, or email: amclsivic@gmail.com



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MY MATE BRAD

A STORY OF COURAGE AND SACRIFICE

It is with a sense of awkward humility, abiding reverence and overwhelming pride that I write this article. I had the honour of serving in the RAN as a Marine Technician for nearly 21 years and discharged as a Warrant Officer in 2009. I served once as a Petty Officer on HMAS WESTRALIA and then as HMAS WESTRALIA's last Chief Engineerroom Artificer or "Tiff" before it was decommissioned. Departing for a South East Asian deployment, on 5 May 1998 a major fire broke out in the main machinery space on HMAS WESTRALIA. Tragically, Midshipman Megan Pelly, Petty Officer Shaun Smith, Leading Seaman Bradley Meek and Able Seaman Phillip Carroll all lost their lives.

**They went in our uniform, under our flag, in our name.
But their lives were finally given up in support of one another.**

This article is written in the remembrance of "my mate Brad", so that his story may let us inspire the next generation to embrace the world as confident, compassionate people, imbued with the ANZAC spiritual legacy of endurance, courage and a selfless determination to help one another.

I explain to my 13 year old son that the ANZAC Spirit is what fuels today's torch of freedom. It was kindled and lit at Gallipoli by the original ANZAC's. As the torch of freedom swept up the beach heads at Gallipoli it gave those who carried it a zest, a drive and courage. As those holding the torch of freedom fell, they threw to those following the torch of freedom so their quests would continue.

Over many generations that torch has continually been thrown from falling hands. It has kindled pride and a desire to make a difference to others, to never let your mates down whilst doing "our part". I want this article and Brad's story to show that the ANZAC torch of freedom burns as brightly today as the flame which first kindled it. Today's custodians protect it and hold it with the same pride, crafted by hands so many years ago.

I was posted to HMAS CRESWELL and taught Fire Fighting at the RAN School of Survivability and Ships Safety and I can recall the very moment when I was informed there was a fire on HMAS WESTRALIA. Later that night on the news I discovered that one of my mates Bradley Meek had fallen. I knew at that point I had to make a difference for his family. I authored a letter to his parents whom I had never met detailing the stories that we shared, from serving together. Reflecting on this letter it was part of my grieving process, I was determined to get this letter to his family so I drove a ten hour round trip and delivered the letter to a minister of a church who ensured they would receive the letter. I needed to bear any load I could, that would make their path easier because - we were in the Navy family.

A couple of days past and I received a phone call from the Principle Chaplin of the RAN. He informed me that Brad's parents had received the letter and asked me to do Brad's eulogy. His funeral was to be conducted at a church in Camden. I wrote my eulogy which was stained with tears as I put pen to paper. I remember hoping that I had found the words to justify my mate's life, I needed to do my mate proud, the RAN proud and the HMAS WESTRALIA

crew proud. I titled the eulogy "My Mate Brad" and will share it with you:

I had the honour of serving with Brad, who was then Able Seaman Meek on HMAS TOBRUK. I can still recall meeting him for the first time when he posted on-board. I said "Meeky" as we called him it's good to see someone around here with less hair than me. As he had more hair than me at the time I received a bite back straight away!

I cherish many great memories with Brad, we often argued about things like what was a better code of football, ruby league or union. This often led to a wrestling match on the deck, as we both had a similar sense of humour.

Working in the engine room for long periods of time often led to practical jokes being played on one another to make time pass quicker. Often we would end up in strife, no real trouble. We would always be laughing which had an infectious effect on others, normally the person trying to tell us off could not stop laughing as we had water, flour or both dripping off us as we stood there.

Whenever Brad got me, he always had that same smile and laugh, and often he would hear mine just before I got him back.

"Meeky" had a thing about wearing a series of Chux wipes on his head tied into a headband, supposedly to stop the sweat from running into his eyes. I teased him that it was really for polishing his forehead to make it shine, and in his response, he made me a whole Chux hat!

After living so close, (his bunk was 18 inches above my nose) for a few years we tend to grow very close. It is a very unique and special bond, a family, a Navy family. Many friendships are formed in this way in the Navy and with many people. It is amazing you might not see each other for years yet your relationship starts again from the day it left off.

I will always remember Brad for his smile, his laugh and his respect for others.

However his selfless devotion to duty and willingness to undertake the most objectionable tasks deserves special merit. His physical strength and determination to complete such tasks was incomparable, yet he managed to maintain a fine sense of humour during long periods of overtime.

Brad brought considerable credit upon himself with his efforts on HMAS TOBRUK, earned himself the respect of his peers and subordinates.

He influenced my life and the life of many others a great deal. I have nothing but the fondest of memories, unfortunately you don't realise what kind of a friend you have until their gone.

I will always remember those wonderful memories and hold them close to my heart as I have lost a friend, a mate. As long as I can keep these memories, and they live inside me, so does my friend, our friend BRADLEY JOHN MEEK.

On completion of reading the late Leading Seaman Meeks eulogy I introduced myself to his family and we met for the very first time. I stood for the first time with HMAS WESTRALIA crew, I asked for permission to stand with them and they asked me to stand in front of them. To me this was very humbling as I did not face the same challenges they did on the 5th May 1998. They said you have gone out of your way to be part of us – something I will never forget.

The Board of Inquiry (BOI) was under way and I was asked to create and provide an Annex for the Board of Inquiry on ship borne



firefighting. It was to assist all of the families' understanding of how we fight fires in the RAN. I thought that this was an excellent way to help the families and particularly the Meek family whom I have now bonded with.

It was around Christmas and time had passed and the BOI findings had been presented publically and the recommendations were being implemented throughout the RAN. I was still in contact with the Meek family and we had dinner as they wanted to meet my wife Elisa. Over dinner I asked how was their understanding with the BOI detail and findings going? Mr Meek said that they were struggling to understand the acronyms used. As I was teaching firefighting at the School of Survivability and Ships Safety at HMAS CRESWELL I thought you know what – come to my school and I will show you how we fight fires in the RAN.

I knew that this was a significant call at this point given the litigious side that I wasn't privy too, the negative press associated with the incident – but I had to help my mate's family. Something we all would want our shipmates to do right? I was a pretty green Petty Officer at that point and a young man – full of morale courage. I thought to myself it will be easier to ask for forgiveness than permission given the sensitivities involved – so I did it. On completion Mr Meek asked me, "How can I provide this opportunity for the rest of the families?" I suggest that he go through the Chief of Navy at the time whom he was dealing with directly and inform him of what we did today. The Chief of Navy wrote to me and extended this offer to all four families; it made me proud to be able to do this for three of the families.

I was offered a posting as a Petty Officer to HMAS WESTRALIA and my wife and I moved to Western Australia. The ship had spent a long time in a refit and we sailed to Forgacs dockyard in Newcastle for a docking element of our refit. As I was still in contact with the Meek family I invited them to have dinner on board in the Petty Officers mess. I showed them the differences that had been made to our ship because of their son's sacrifice; it was very moving for them to see the changes and most of all to stand at Brad's final resting place. Our bond was shifting now from being friends to being family – something I am still proud of today.

After completing my first stint on HMAS WESTRALIA I posted ashore to HMAS STIRLING remaining in Western Australia. In this time my beautiful wife and I started a family and we decided to call our son Zac "Bradley" Corcoran. This was to ensure that our son grew up knowing the story of my mate Brad with the inspiration of his example for developing his values and behaviour. I can still recall the moment when we rang the Meek family and told them of this news. This has bonded us together for life – turning something so tragic into something so special.

I was promoted and posted back on board HMAS WESTRALIA as the Chief Engineerroom Artificer. I was proud to be the Chief Tiff on this ship, proud of what I had achieved and proud of making a difference to the Meek family. Our son was to be Christened, my wife and I decided it was fitting to do this on HMAS WESTRALIA so we sent an invitation to the Meek family. At the finest point of my life we christened our son Zac "Bradley" Corcoran, with Bradley Meek's name, on the ship where he died, in the presence of the Meek family – whom we officially adopted at this point.

In my last sea posting on HMAS WESTRALIA we were making official plans for its decommissioning. We knew that part of the ship's history included the four individuals that sacrificed their lives. We needed to provide a permanent point of reference and reverence to the Pelly, Smith, Meek and Carroll families. So we cast steel plaques and they were placed in Fremantle's War Memorial Park, with a ceremony where the whole ship and the families' attended as one group.

Leading Seaman Meek joined the Royal Australian Navy on 5

February 1990 and was posted to HMAS CERBERUS. He served on the Submarine HMAS OTWAY and HMAS TOBRUK in 1991. Bradley conducted Operational service on HMAS TOBRUK in Somalia during Operation "Solace". During the next six years Bradley had postings to HMAS PLATYPUS, Marine Headquarters, HMAS TOBRUK, HMAS KUTTABUL, HMAS KANIMBLA, HMAS PENGUIN, HMAS STIRLING and his final posting on 10 December 1997 to HMAS WESTRALIA.

Bradley's Decorations and Medals include: Chief of Defence Force Commendation For Bravery, Commonwealth of Australia Group Citation For Bravery, The Australian Defence Medal, Australian Service Medal with Clasp Somalia and finally the Australian Bravery Medal.

On 9 Sep 2016 at Government House in Sydney Bradley's father, Vic, was presented with the long awaited posthumous Bravery Award. I was fortunate enough to be part of this special day, standing beside the Meek family as I have for so many years. Leading Seaman Bradley Meek's Citation reads:



For bravery in hazardous circumstances, thereby losing his life, following the outbreak of fire in the Main Machinery Space aboard HMAS Westralia on 5 May 1998.

Leading Seaman Meek was a watchkeeper in the engine room of HMAS Westralia when a fuel leakage from the port main engine was reported. He responded by laying out fire hoses within the affected area as per normal safety procedures. A short time later a fire erupted at the starboard main engine and noxious smoke and flames began to engulf the Main Machinery Space of the vessel. Leading Seaman Meek alerted his colleagues to this fact and called for everyone to evacuate.

After pushing a colleague up the port ladder to safety, Leading Seaman Meek remained in the hazardous conditions and assisted others to leave the area. Unfortunately, Leading Seaman Meek was overcome by fumes and collapsed. By his actions, Leading Seaman Meek displayed considerable bravery.

There are so many stories like Bradley's throughout our military history. These stories should be ones in which our responsibilities to one another, our Nation and its future transcend our rights. Bradley's story has always shown me, that the ANZAC Spirit is alive today, we will be at our best if we triumph as he did – over fear. Leading Seaman Meek carried our torch of freedom alongside three other shipmates when they fell, I caught it and tried to carry on its momentum by being the best I could be and by putting others first.

They have no grave but the cruel sea. No flowers lay at their head. A rusting hulk is their tombstone. Afast on the ocean bed. They shall not grow old as we who are left grow old. Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them. Lest we forget.

WOMT Paul Corcoran OAM RAN Rtd



Victor Meek Paul Corcoran

Government House 9.9.2016

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NAVY WEEK

started with the Annual

Seafarers' Memorial Service at St Paul's Cathedral in the presence of Chief of Navy Vice Admiral Tim Barrett AO CSC RAN. The service has been held since 1907 and was organised by representatives from the Mission to Seafarers, Company of Master Mariners & the Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria (NCCV).



One could never be disappointed with the pageantry provided by the Navy and music by the RAN Band. The sermon delivered by The Very Reverend Dr Andreas Loewe, Dean of Melbourne, was articulated with such insight, clarity, compassion and relevance.



The Mission to Seafarers is a mission agency of the Anglican Church, which cares for the spiritual and practical welfare of all Seafarers, regardless of nationality or faith. In Victoria there are Stations in Melbourne, Geelong, Portland and Hastings. Over 21,000 Seafarers use the facilities annually, mainly for contacting their loved ones. The Mission also provides support for Seafarers in hospital, for those with depression, as well as advocacy for those experiencing injustice.



Photo by Rob Lewis



NAVY WEEK

finished with Open Day at HMAS CERBERUS. Melbourne's forecast was

for rain and winds but the day shone on *Cerberus*. Car parking was free and bus shuttles provided easy access to the grounds, which was much appreciated as there was lots of walking to do around the complexes and arenas to see the demonstrations.



Photo by Rob Lewis

There was something for everybody including Military air shows, children's activities, Navy Steam Club, Military/Police Band performances, vintage cars and a whole lot more. The display of innovation and communication was the theme of the day providing action spectacles and loads of fun and interaction. There was so much to see including a sea rescue by helicopter. *Cerberus* really did open up to the public with significant TV coverage that night on news.



Photo by Rob Lewis

The future of HMAS *Cerberus* had been secured with \$500 million in funding for major modernisation as outlined in the Defence White Paper. With over 2,000 Defence personnel stationed at *Cerberus* that will no doubt provide significant benefits to local community and maintain a vital part of Australia's national defence forces.



Photo by Rob Lewis



Photo from Cerberus Ahoy facebook

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Tribute

MURRAY ALBERT BIRD

24 May 1924—3 September 2016

Murray was a true gentleman, beautiful soul and a highly respected committee member of AMC/LSI Assoc of Vic.

His gentle demeanour and extraordinary mind humbled us.

He will be deeply missed and never forgotten.

Murray was born into a large family who were pioneers in the district of Halidon, S.A. He was brought up in an era when lighting was by kerosene lamp, cooking by a wood stove and running water didn't exist—it had to be brought in and heated in the old copper. His family produced their own fruit, vegetables, had cows, cooks and pigs. Food bartering was common particularly during the Great Depression. Even though he couldn't read music he was an accomplished piano player. Prior to enlisting, Murray worked on the family farm.



Murray Bird

AIF 1st Australian Landing Ship Detachment, 14th Docks Operating Coy, 1944

Murray joined the Army in 1942 as an 18 year old. In September 1943 he was posted to the 1st Australian Landing Ship Detachment, a part of the Royal Australian Engineers. They were allocated for duty with the RAN on board HMAS *Manoora*. Murray's service records show that of his 1,436 days spent in active service, 701 of them were on board *Manoora*. While on *Manoora*, Murray was appointed as a Specialist Group III Stevedore on 9th November 1943; later being upgraded to an Acting Group II Checker in March 1944.

Murray's years on *Manoora* were important to him not only in operating the assault landing craft through the islands of the Pacific Ocean but also in the many friendships that he made as his army and navy friends will attest. After the war, the handling of stores on the ship got him jobs in various stores and finally in 1961 a job as the Store Officer in the newly established Monash University. He later worked in the Biomedical Library.

Murray had an extraordinary mind and was referred to as a "walking encyclopedia" being able to remember every detail of every subject and all the bits in between. He was an avid gardener, nature lover and environmentalist at heart. He had an affinity with animals and was adored, loved and respected by family, friends and colleagues. He always spoke kindly of others.

A Beautiful Soul

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July	Bruce Candy Jim Davison Frank Barrile Ronald Lee Don Eglington 'Curly' Mobbs Allan Booth Des O'Connell Jack Austin Doug Michael Keith Brown Terry Ferguson John Hooper
August	Reg Baggs Rod Kleinig George Carrington Harry Peers
September	Tom Fowler Arthur Lunan Cecil Browning Ern Tyler Bill Baird Bill Robinson Norm Tame David Nelson Syd Atkinson Les 'Snow' Barton Steve Cunningham Max Sluggett
October	Graham Knight Reg May Sam Aitchison Ken Kemp Cyril Bayley-Pike

Special mention

Petty Officer Des O'Connell of Clayton, Vic. turned 101 on 19 July 2016

Congratulations!

And, to those we may have missed—please let us know—and we wish you a "Very Happy Birthday"

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VALE



We regret to advise of the passing of the following veterans.

Our sincere condolences to their families and friends.

Robert Parsons, passed 5/5/2016, Forbes, NSW

Bill Newland, passed 5/6/2016, Glenorchy

Doug Asker, passed 19/6/2016, Springvale

'Snow' Bartlett, passed 23/7/2016, S.A.

Jack Searle, passed 25/7/2016, Narrabeen

Murray Bird, passed 3/9/2016, Mt Waverley

Wally Cumberland, passed 6/9/2016, Reservoir

Don Clough, passed 16/9/2016, Penrith

Terry Sheehy, passed 20/9/2016, Hopetoun

'Duck' Wardle, passed 16/10/2016, Bongaree, Qld

Lest We Forget

If we have omitted your loved-one, please contact us so we can publish their name in our next newsletter.

We all share in your grief.

Don Clough & Keith Krause



There are many ways people deal with grief. Stoker, Keith Krause from Ballina was devastated at the loss of his mate Don

Clough, especially since he couldn't get to the funeral. So Keith planted this beautiful Australian orchid at his front door so he had some way of acknowledging, admiring and still caring for the beautiful, enduring lifelong friendship that they shared.



Our veterans, past & present are always an inspiration to us. When we lost Stoker Wally Cumberland, Sapper Murray Bird and Stoker Don Clough all so close to one another, the only comfort we had was knowing that they were now in good company.

Rest in Peace



MERCHANDISE

Lapel pins for HMAS Assault, Westralia and Manoora are no longer available. To have new stock manufactured we need to place a minimum order. We seek expressions of interest from anyone wanting to purchase a lapel pin. Limited supply of Kanimbla pins are available.



Cap \$25.00 + P & H

To order phone Max Tozer (03) 9782 8353
or write to 6/19 Robin Drive, Carrum Downs, Vic 3201

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THANK YOU for your donations

We wish to thank and acknowledge the following generous donations received since our last newsletter from:

94 year old Binnie Wilson BEM, Tasmania

92 year old Graham Knight, Tasmania

92 year old Brian Sullivan, NSW

92 year old Frank Barrille, Vic

90 year old Harry Peers, Vic

Jan Lewis in memory of her father

AB Harry Lewis

Jenny Van Kalken in memory of her father

SA Gordon Munro

Mrs Klaenna Pearson in memory of her dear friend AB Ian Dixon & his twin brother

AB Bob Dixon

If you wish to donate to AMC/LSI Assoc of Vic you can either

Send a cheque to
1/129 Surrey Road
Blackburn Vic 3130

or

Transfer funds to Westpac Bank
Account No. **42-2541**
BSB No. **033-070**
In Description Box please state
"donation" & your name.

Congratulations to:



Bruce Candy & and his wife Faye celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary in October this year. Bruce is our Patron and former President of HMAS Westralia Association. Faye; well she's just "Wonder Woman". They first met when Bruce was 15 years young at his first day at work as a clerk—and she was this "pretty young lass sitting opposite".



Brian & Betty Sullivan from beautiful sunny Kincumber celebrated 70 years of wedded bliss this year with family. They are regular supporters of ours.



Keith Krause & Doreen have been married 66 years this year. Though Keith only manages one round of golf a week, they still enjoy a dance and going out.



I get by with a little help from my friends



Dr Stephanie Hodson CSC
DVA Mental Health Advisor

In the lead up to the Christmas break, I have been reflecting on how important it is to use this time to catch up with family and friends. With three teenage sons, weekend sporting commitments, homework, the garden going wild and the need to get organised for the holidays, it is too easy to lose touch with the people who we care about and who are our supports at difficult periods in our lives.

Research with multiple generations of veterans tells us that one of the most important factors in maintaining or improving mental health and wellbeing is social connection. People who have good social networks have been found to manage stressful situations more effectively, are physically healthier and even live longer.

As an ex-military family who moved every couple of years, we have good friends all over Australia, but we do not necessarily get to see them that often. I have realised recently the importance of taking a little bit of time and calling or visiting them over the Christmas break. Sometimes that call can make someone's day, especially if they are going through a stressful period.



Social connection is not just about having a lot of people around you, or friends on Facebook - it is about being connected to these friends and involved in their lives. Good social networks encourage you to be involved and active in life, as well as getting out and doing something you enjoy.

As great as our military network was, on transition from full time service and the realisation that we were finally settled, our family needed to make the transition to civilian social groups. Due to involvement in military social clubs and mess life, serving and ex-serving personnel have great skills that are quickly put to use by community groups. In fact the danger can be making sure you do not always end up as the chair, secretary or treasurer.

In a clinical setting, when a client wants to expand their social network, we start with what interests they have, what have they always wanted to learn or how can they volunteer in the community. The best way to meet new friends is to connect with other people with a similar passion or interest. Whether it is joining a local walk or running club, a committee at your kids' school or joining an art class, it is a chance to meet people with whom you have something in common.

Re-establishing social connection is an important part of mental health treatment, as pulling away from family and friends is a symptom of illness. This need to withdraw not only impacts the individual but their family as they start to avoid activities. Reaching out to someone who is struggling with mental illness, or the carer of someone with mental illness, can really make a difference to the recovery of the whole family.

Another great resource for anyone wanting to improve their social connections is the High Res website and smart phone app on DVA's online mental health portal. This resilience and wellbeing-building website includes a tool that allows you to map your current connections and assist you to set goals to take action to improve them.

If you want to learn more, visit: www.at-ease.dva.gov.au

The Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA) provides support to current and former serving members and their families through a range of benefits. The abovementioned article appeared in the Vetaffairs Vol 31 No 4 Summer 2015.

Christmas is just around the corner and here are a few ideas on how to save some money:

- ❖ Prepare a **plan**, set a **budget** for food, presents, decorations etc and prepare a **gift list**.
- ❖ Share the food load and ask guests to **bring a plate**.
- ❖ Avoid impulse buying, do your **research** on gifts and compare prices. Take advantage of **sales** during the year especially just after Christmas for cards and wrapping paper. Use **Layby** and spread the expense over a number of months. Do **Kris Kringle** or **Secret Santa** by suggesting to family, friends and colleagues to just buy one present each with names secretly drawn out of a hat and set a price for the gift. Purchase unique **handmade gifts** at markets or make your own like this shortbread below. It's the thought that counts!



Very Easy Melt & Mix Shortbread

250g butter, melted
 ½ teaspoon vanilla essence
 ¼ cup caster sugar
 1/3 cup icing sugar
 1/3 cup cornflour
 2 1/3 cups plain flour (can be Gluten Free flour but cook a little longer)

1. Sift dry ingredients.
2. Add butter with vanilla and beat until crumbs combine.
3. Press into slice tin lined with baking paper, lightly sprinkle with caster sugar and prick with a fork.
4. Bake in moderate oven (180deg) for 30 minutes.
5. Cut into fingers while still warm. Leave to cool in tin.



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WHAT'S ON

- 19 Nov 2016 12noon** HMAS SYDNEY—Wreath Laying Ceremony
Shrine of Remembrance—Sanctuary
- 20 Nov 11.30am** HMAS GOORANGAI—Wreath Laying Ceremony, Queenscliff
12.30pm Lunch RSL Hall King Street [Must book, ring Jan for details (03) 9786 5371]
- 25 Nov** **Divisions at HMAS CERBERUS** with the Governor General. This will be one of the final official activities of Captain Stephen Bowater, Senior Naval Officer Victoria. Following Divisions, His Excellency will be invited to officially declare the new HMAS Sydney Room open. The importance of this occasion will not be lost as it is understood that His Excellency was posted to HMAS Sydney III during the Vietnam era.
- 1 Dec 10am** HMAS ARMIDALE—Wreath Laying Ceremony
Shrine of Remembrance
- 10 Dec 11am** HMAS ASSAULT, KANIMBLA, MANOORA & WESTRALIA
Wreath Laying Ceremony
Shrine of Remembrance—Sanctuary
Followed by:
- 10 Dec 12.30pm** HMAS ASSAULT, KANIMBLA, MANOORA & WESTRALIA Xmas Reunion
Bentleigh RSL, 538 Centre Road, Bentleigh
RSVP by Dec 4 Phone Gaye: 0421 331 643 or email amclsivic@gmail.com
Raffle tickets will be on sale for our beautiful gift basket
- 12 Feb 2017 10am** 75th Commemoration of the Fall of Singapore
Shrine of Remembrance
Ex-POWs welcome everybody to attend.
Tea, coffee & ANZAC biscuits provided afterwards.
- 15 Feb 10.30am** Australian Ex-POW Memorial Service at Ballarat.
There have been several changes to the events commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Fall of Singapore at Ballarat for the service and sacrifice of all Australian POWs. The breakfast is no longer being held. All POWs and one carer each will be seated at front of the service. Those attending service and lunch please ring Joy (03) 9629 5365 before end November for reservations.
- Photo by Syd Harvey of a poster hanging in the bar at HMAS Cerberus. The date shown 4/1/1946 was at the time when HMAS Westralia had just returned from Japan carrying POWs—some of their names appear on the poster.



SPIRIT OF ANZAC

Toll Group is proud to announce its support for the **Spirit of Anzac Centenary Experience** – the flagship community project of the Anzac Centenary national program – as the travelling exhibition's official logistics sponsor. The highly interactive exhibition has been made possible through an innovative partnership between the Australian Govt., the Australian War Memorial and the Department of Defence, and will be visiting 23 locations around Australia over the next 20 months. We highly recommend that you attend this exhibition when it comes to your town.



The following schedule is subject to change so please check <http://www.spiritofanzac.gov.au>

STATE	TOWN	VENUE	SHOW DATES
WA	Perth	Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre	27 Nov—10 Dec 2016
WA	Bunbury	Eaton Recreation Centre	9—15 Jan 2017
WA	Kalgoorlie	Goldfields Oasis	26 Jan—1 Feb 2017
VIC	Geelong	Geelong Arena	14—20 Feb 2017
NSW	Orange	Venue coming soon	3—9 Mar 2017
NSW	Newcastle	Newcastle Entertainment Centre	19—28 Mar 2017
NSW	Sydney	Sydney International Convention Centre	8—25 Apr 2017

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Mission Statement

To honour and remember those who served with the AMC/LSI including but not limited to
HMAS WESTRALIA, KANIMBLA, MANOORA & ASSAULT.