



**“The maintenance of the maritime well-being of the nation”**

is the principal objective of the Navy League of Australia

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## 2017 NAVAL VISITORS TO MELBOURNE

Over the past six years, the volume of naval vessel visitors to Melbourne has certainly been at a minimum with an average of six ships visits per year, three only visits in 2015.

These figures compare with 36 ship visits in 2001, 19 in 2004, 21 in 2005 and 15 in 2008. The League hosted eight Navy League welcome ship luncheons in 2001 and seven lunches in 2003, plus many other receptions in following years, all under the auspices of the **Leagues CMDR John Wilkins OAM RFD\* RANR RET'D**.

This year 2017 however, has seen a considerable welcome change to the more recent quiet trend, with eight ships of three navies already showing their colours in Melbourne during the first three months of this year.

The recent naval visitors to Melbourne have included three units of the Royal New Zealand Navy, HMNZ ships ENDEAVOUR, TE KAHA and TE MANA.

In line with the usual practice over recent times, all three ships **berthed at Melbourne's Fisherman's Bend South Wharf** on the Yarra River.

**HMNZ ENDEAVOUR A11, is the RNZN'S 29 year old South**

Korean built replenishment Tanker soon to be replaced by a further new South Korean built tanker.

Both HMNZ ships TE KAHA F77, COMMISSIONED in 1997 and TE MANA F111 commissioned in 1999, are Anzac Class Frigates built at the Tenix Williamstown Dockyard. Eight ships of the Class were built for the RAN and the two afore mentioned ships for the RNZN.

The three RNZN ships arrived in Melbourne on February 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 and departed three days later, with ENDEAVOUR and TE KAHA heading for Fremantle and TE MANA bound for Hobart.

Also spotted in Port Phillip and later at the Williamstown Dockyard **during February of this year, was the RAN'S Hydrographic Survey Ship HMAS LEEUWIN A245** on her first visit to Melbourne for 10 years.

## **2017 NAVAL VISITORS TO MELBOURNE C'TND**

The 2550 tonne displacements LEEUWIN and her sister ship HMAS MELVILLE, both commissioned in 2000, **are home ported at the RAN'S North Queensland base HMAS CAIRNS.**

HMAS LEEUWIN, under the command of LCDR Richard Mortimer with LEUT Clinton Moore as Executive Officer and LEUT Cheyne Colley as Hydrographic Officer, have been engaged in Bass Strait survey tasks prior to making their way to the BAE Williamstown Dockyard for routine maintenance requirements.

**During LEEUWIN'S stay in Melbourne, the Navy League extended invitations to the ships Senior Officers to attend the "Creswell Oration".** The invitations were accepted by LEEUWIN'S XO and Hydrographic Officer. The next ship to visit was the Italian Navy FREMM Frigate ITS CARABINIERE F593. **Aside from the Italian Navy Sail Training Ship AMERIGO VESPUCCI'S visit to Melbourne in April of 2003 this visit by CARABINIERE** was the first visit to Melbourne by a warship of the Italian navy since that of the destroyer DURAND DE LA PENNE in company with the frigate BERSAGLIERE in January of 19097.

**The main purpose of CARABINIERE'S deployment to Australia was to strengthen potential partnerships, further encourage naval diplomacy and to display the capabilities of CARABINIERE'S builder the Italian Company Fincantieri, major sponsor for this deployment.** Fincantieri, is one of the three contenders to provide the RAN with nine **"future frigates"** to be built in Adelaide as eventual replacements to the RAN'S current Anzac Class Frigates.

Following her three day visit ITS CARABINIERE under the command of CMDR Francesco Pagnotta, sailed **from Fisherman's Bend Melbourne on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017** bound for Adelaide South Australia.

**The next naval visitor to arrive in Melbourne was the RAN'S sail training Brigantine YOUNG ENDEAVOUR, berthing at The Seawork's Jetty in Williamstown.**

Following her five day visit YOUNG ENDEAVOUR sailed for Sydney 28<sup>th</sup> February.

**YOUNG ENDEAVOUR'S visit to Melbourne was followed by the RAN'S Huon Class Mine hunter HMAS YARRA M87,** arriving on March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017 under the Command of LCDR Chris Cockerill RAN.

**During HMAS YARRA'S time at her Fisherman's Bend berth, she entertained a small party** of guests including Navy League members. League executives Ms. Lynda Gilbert and Mr. Ken Crook have very kindly provided images and a most interesting report detailing their visit to the ship, which appears in the April Edition of the NLA Newsletter. **The main purpose of HMAS YARRA'S visit to Melbourne was to participate in their** commemoration ceremony to honour the loss of HMAS YARRA 2 ON March 4<sup>th</sup> 1942 during WW2, now 75 years ago.

The ceremony was held on March 5<sup>th</sup> at the HMAS YARRA memorial located **close to Melbourne's Yarra River** in Newport.

Following her four day visit HMAS YARRA IV sailed from Melbourne 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

**Melbourne's next visitor the 8<sup>th</sup>** for this year to date, was the replenishment Tanker HMAS SIRIUS, anchoring in Port Phillip for a **one day stopover.** **Both SIRIUS 0266 and the RAN'S** other Replenishment Ship HMAS SUCCESS 0304 are scheduled for replacement over the next two to three years by Spanish built ships of the *Cantabria Class*. SPS CANTABRIA spent the most part of 2013 operating with the RAN filling in for the HMAS SUCCESS, at the time undergoing a refit, the RAN no doubt being suitably impressed by the *Navantia built Cantabria's* performance to advise that two units should be purchased.

SPS CANTABRIA paid a visit to Melbourne in February 2013 under the command of CMDR Jose Nieto.

HMAS SIRIUS departed from her Port Phillip anchorage, sailing for Sydney 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

Within a fortnight, HMAS SIRIUS was back in Melbourne berthing at South Wharf for a five day stay, thus bringing Melbourne naval ships visits total to nine for the period January through to March 2017.



HMNZS ENDEAVOUR A11



HMNZS TE MANA F111



HMNZS TE KAHA F77

ITALIAN NAVY FRIGATE ITS CARABINIERE



ITS CARABINIERE

HMAS YARRA M87 ON THE YARRA RIVER MARCH 2017



HMAS YARRA M87



HMAS YARRA M87

# NAVAL HISTORY

The month of April is a memorable period in terms of Naval History. A brief detail of some of the events that occurred during the month of April are listed in the following:-

APRIL 1856      The Williamstown Division of the Victorian Maritime Artillery Corp., was formed in the same year that the **“Sloop of War” HMVS Victoria arrived in Port Phillip Bay.**

APRIL 1871      HMVS CERBERUS arrived in Port Phillip Bay on her maiden voyage.

APRIL 1915      Anzacs landed at Gallipoli and in the same month the RAN lost their second WWI submarine AE2 in **Turkeys Sea of Marmora under the command of LCDR Henry “Darcre” Stoker. The crew were** captured and spent the remainder of WWI as Turkish prisoners of war.

APRIL 1933      Marked the death of the father of Australian Navy Vice Admiral Creswell at the age of 80.

APRIL 1941      We recall the naval evacuation by the RAN of troops from Greece in HMA ships PERTH, STUART, VENDETTA, VAMPIRE, VOYAGER and WATERHEN.

APRIL 1942      **The loss of the RAN’S destroyer HMAS VAMPIRE and the RN’S Carrier HMS HERMES.**

APRIL 1943      The 8 inch gun Heavy Cruiser SHROPSHIRE was presented by the RN to the RAN as a gift to replace HMAS CANBERRA lost at the Battle of Savo Island in 1942. HMAS SHROPSHIRE was commissioned for RAN service at Chatham on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1943.

APRIL 1956      The aircraft carrier HMAS MELBOURNE sailed from Glasgow on 11<sup>th</sup> March 1956 and reached Australian waters for the first time, arriving at the Port of Fremantle on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1956.





The HMAS *Yarra IV* minehunter pulled into South Wharf docks on Thursday after training exercises off Jervis Bay. It was built in Newcastle and was considered the world's best at that time. As Australia relies on maritime trade, the *Yarra IV* keeps our waters safe by detecting and clearing sea channels of mines.

The minehunter is..." the sixth of six Huon Class minehunters built in Newcastle, Australia (and) was commissioned on 1 March 2003. Like her sister ships, *Yarra's* unique hull design is shock resistant with a low magnetic and acoustic signature. This allows the ship to operate in hostile mine environments. When mine hunting, propulsion and precision maneuverability is achieved using retractable thrusters. The Ship uses variable depth sonar to search for and prosecute mines. Upon detection, the ship deploys the remotely operated Mine Disposal Vehicle (MDV) or clearance divers to identify and neutralise mines. The MDV, equipped with a searchlight, camera, sonar and disposal charge, is controlled from Ship's operations room". <http://www.navy.gov.au/hmas-yarra-iv> The ship is 52.45m long, 9.8m breadth, has a displacement of 720 tonnes. It has a speed of 14 knots.

The HMAS *Yarra IV* Crest is the same as that mounted on *Yarra I* – the kookaburra is considered symbolic of Australia and is commonly found along the Yarra River. The motto 'Hunt & Strike' was chosen to symbolize and link both the ship's and the kookaburra's characteristics.

Ken Crook, Allan Paull and Lynda Gilbert from the NLA (Vic-Tas Div) Executive were invited to visit the ship. We are grateful to Christine Hirschfield, Honorary Memorial Co-ordinator for HMAS *Yarra II* for setting up the visit on our behalf. We were given a tour by William Hobart who is a crew member and lectures at the University of Sydney. He specialise in Indo-Pacific, maritime and nuclear security, We had a fascinating conversation about Australia's role in world affairs. He took us to meet the Captain, LCDR Chris Cockerill, in the Wardroom who assumed command of the *Yarra IV* on 9 December 2016.

The ship currently carries 50 crew, 8 of whom are female. Its technology has been upgraded and now contains GPS to guide the ship around Australia's 25,760 kilometres of coastline. The sonar (GEC-Marconi Type 2093) tracks the mines. When one is detected, a remote-controlled submersible (Double Eagle), carrying a 400-kilo explosive is despatched. Once the explosive is attached to the mine, the underwater vehicle is brought back on board and the mine blown up. If both Double Eagles are out of action, there are 6 SAS trained Clearance Divers to take on the job of blowing up the mine.

It was most illuminating and very special to talk to crew who put their lives at risk to maintain the safety of Australia and its people. We are grateful for the time given by the crew to show us the ship and the most welcome morning tea on the sweep deck.



HMAS YARRA VISIT TO MELBOURNE MARCH 2017





NLA EXECUTIVE VIC-TAS KEN CROOK ON HMAS YARRA BRIDGE



MORNING TEA ON HMAS YARRA'S SWEEP DECK





NLA EXECUTIVE ALLAN PAULL WITH YARRA'S CO (L) LCDR CHRIS COCKERILL & SBLT HOBART (R)

NAVY LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA VICTORIA-TASMANIA DIVISION AT THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
LOSS OF HMAS YARRA NO.2 COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY MARCH 1942-2017



The 75<sup>th</sup> Commemorative Service for the loss of HMAS Yarra II was held at the HMAS Yarra National Memorial on the Strand at Newport on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 11 am. Some 200-people attended, including 15 Royal Australian Navy Band members and 30 members of the HMAS Yarra IV crew headed by LCDR Christopher Cockerill, RAN. Distinguished guests included Mrs Mena Walsh, wife of the late Angus Walsh OAM; Mr David Leviston; Mr Garry Taylor (Buck Taylor's nephew); Mrs Jan Phillips; Chaplain Kate Lord, RAN; Councillor Peter Hemphill, Hobsons Bay City Council; and CMDR Luke Ryan, HMAS Cerberus.

The Welcome and Introduction was conducted by Mrs. Christine Hirschfield, Honorary National Memorial Co-ordinator for the HMAS Yarra II.

This was followed by an address by Councillor Peter Hemphill, Hobsons Bay City Council who paid respects to the Traditional Owners of the Kulin Nation.

Peter spoke of the bravery of the men who served on the Yarra II and acknowledged the work of the late Angus Walsh to make the Memorial possible. Seventeen years ago, the HMAS Yarra National Memorial Group was facilitated by Angus, and together with businesses and other organisations including Rotary Club of Williamstown and the Hobsons Bay City Council, built the Memorial which was unveiled in 2000. Peter thanked Christine for arranging the retiling of the base of the Memorial for the 75th Anniversary.

Angus' ashes were interred at the base of the flagpole at the Memorial, next to Christine Hirschfield's father, Geoffrey Bromilow, Leading Signaller, one of the last Victorian surviving crew members. Both Angus and Geoffrey had great respect for each other and now were together forever.

Williamstown was the birthplace of the Navy and King George V designated HMAS Yarra as the first ship of the Australian Navy. 39 vessels had been built at the Williamstown dockyard. Unfortunately, BAE systems was currently being decommissioned and no further ships are planned to be built in Victoria.

Peter mentioned that Seaworks in Nelson Parade currently has a Victorian Navy exhibition and HMAS Castlemaine, stationed at Gem Pier, was built in 1942 and both are worth a visit whilst in Williamstown.

An address by LCDR Christopher Cockerill, RAN, followed. He spoke of the triumph and tragedy of Yarra II. In 1942 the Yarra was employed on escort duties between Java and Singapore. On 5 February, she rescued 1804 people from the burning troop-ship Empress of Asia which had been crippled by an air-attack near Singapore.

On 4 March, five Japanese warships intercepted the convoy. Despite Yarra's great fight, four allied vessels were destroyed. Buck Taylor ignored the order to abandon the Yarra and stayed alone at his gun, firing defiantly at the enemy until he was killed shortly before the ship went down. Only 27 of Yarra's crew members survived the battle and 13 were rescued by Dutch submarine K11, carrying out morning reconnaissance. We trust that we don't have to put our ships or men and women today in such danger.

Mrs Cathy Cave read from Luke 12:35-38 and this was followed by an address by the Chaplain.

The ashes of Angus Walsh were then interred at the foot of the Flagpole by Chaplain Kate Lord RAN from Cerberus, and Mrs Mena Walsh. This was followed by the Naval Hymn. The Naval Psalm 107: 23-32 was led by Mr David Leviston. 'I am Australian' was sung by the RAN Band vocalist, ABMUSN Kirsten Hobbs.

Wreaths were laid at the foot of the flagpole by LCDR Chris Cockerill of HMAS Yarra IV, CMDR Luke Ryan of HMAS Cerberus; Peter Hemphill, representing the Mayor of Hobsons Bay City Council; and Garry Taylor as the HMAS Yarra National Memorial representative. 'The Ode' was led by CPOMLC Scott Clarke, and 'The Last Post' was played by bugler ABMUSN Andrew Bryce followed by the Reveille. The Australian National Anthem and the Royal Hymn followed. The Catafalque Party then dismounted.

Framed certificates were presented by Christine Hirschfield to Peter Hemphill of Hobsons Bay City Council; CMDR Luke Ryan - HMAS Cerberus; LCDR Christopher Cockerill - HMAS Yarra IV; and a representative from TS Voyager. Christine thanked everyone for their attendance.

The gathering solemnly proceeded to the Memorial Jetty to strew rose petals provided by Christine. TS Voyager Cadets provided the Honour Guard to the Yarra River.

As in past years, the Rotary Club of Williamstown set up the seating and marquees and provided attendees with a sausage sizzle. Mrs Walsh served tea, coffee and a selection of cakes. A Reception was held at the Altona RSL Club later in the day - a laid-back affair for the Ship's company and Friends of the Yarra.





NLA VIC-TAS EXECUTIVE KEN CROOK AT THE HMAS YARRA (2) COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY NEWPORT VICTORIA MARCH 2017



HMAS YARRA (2) COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY NEWPORT VICTORIA





AUSTRALIAN NAVY CADETS FROM TS VOYAGER AT HMAS YARRA (2)  
COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE 75 YEARS 1942-2017



HMAS YARRA 4 C.O LCDR COCKERILL WITH YARRA MEMORIAL COORDINATOR  
MS CHRISTINE HIRCHFIELD



HMAS SIRIUS DEPARTING FROM HER YARRA RIVER BERTH 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2017



HMAS SIRIUS MELBOURNE VISIT MARCH 2017

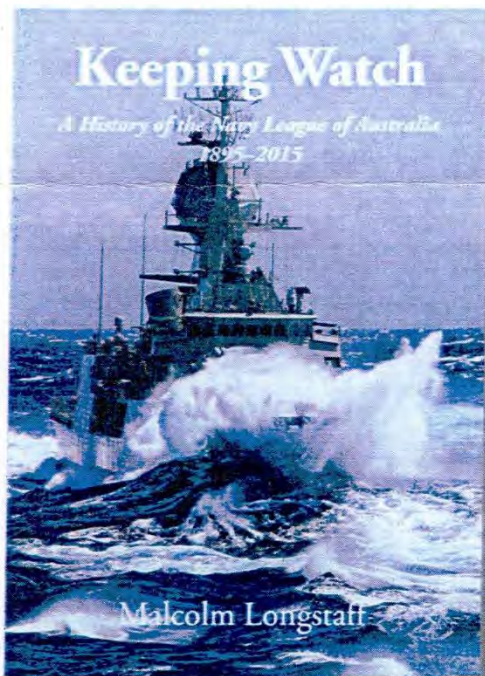




# Keeping Watch

A History of the Navy League of Australia  
1895–2015

Malcolm Longstaff OAM



Malcolm Longstaff has been an active member of the NSW Division of the Navy League of Australia since 1970. His book, recently published by the Navy League of Australia, traces the history of its organisation from the formation of its parent League of Great Britain, in 1895. Formed as a result of growing concern about the increasing naval strength of continental European powers, the League opened its first Australian Branch in Launceston, Tasmania. Growth of the League in Australia was slow until after the early 1910s. The RAN in World War I but, ultimately, the League was represented in Australia. In 1920 it began forming units of sea cadets, known as the Navy League Sea Cadet Corps. Responsibility for the cadets was assumed in 1973 and they are now known as Australian Navy Cadets.

In 1950 the individual branches were consolidated into an autonomous body, The Navy League of Australia, with each state and territory represented on the League's Federal Council.

The League's quarterly national magazine, *The Navy*, is a highly-regarded commentator on naval and defence issues. The magazine has been published since 1938.

With 280 pages including index, *Keeping Watch* has over 70 illustrations and is available as a hardback or soft-cover book. It can be ordered from the NSW Division of the Navy League of Australia using the form below. Payment can be made by cheque or by bank transfer.

**The Navy League of Australia  
NSW Division  
GPO Box 1719  
SYDNEY, NSW 2001**

Please supply me with \_\_\_\_\_ copy/ies of *Keeping Watch* as indicated below:

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***Please ensure that your surname and initials are clearly printed on your bank transfer***

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# AS IT WAS APRIL 2007

Once again, we invite you to join us as we take a look at more recent naval history, at items that **involved, or caught the eye of Navy League over the years on our "Keep Watch" brief.** This time we go back 10 years as we browse through our records and reports of April 2007, we note that it was around this time we reported:-

1. NU SHIPS CANBERRA AND ADELAIDE
2. HMAS MELBOURNE VISITS MELBOURNE
3. RN AND RAN IN THE GULF

## NU SHIP CANBERRA AND ADELAIDE

A plan by Tenix Williamstown to build the hulls of the two amphibious ships for which they are currently tendering in Spain and then piggy-back them back to Melbourne for fitting-out has been proposed by Tenix to Canberra as an option in their tender package.

The \$2 billion project would be a great boost to the activity at Tenix Williamstown now that the 10 ship Anzac programme is well finished, other than maintenance, with the only other work, two only offshore patrol vessels for the New Zealand Navy, one of which NUSHIP OTAGO, has already been launched. Tenix are working with the Spanish company Navantia on this project to provide the RAN with two **27,000 tonne landing ships helicopter docks, LHD'S.**

The other contender, with a Sydney operation, is the French based Thales-Armaris Group which is offering a smaller 21,000 tonne ship already in service with the French Navy. One of the Thales-Armaris tender offer options is a proposal where the bows of the vessels would be built in one part of Australia and the sterns in another. June of this year 2007 is the deadline date for a design choice to be presented to cabinet.

Tenix has advised Canberra that the two 27,000 tonne ships would provide work at Williamstown over five years for 1000 skilled staff and generate up to 300 new jobs.

The Tenix-Navantia proposal would also provide work at dockyards in Newcastle and Brisbane and a further source of work for suppliers in Western Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand.

Tenix-Navantia has given Canberra options that range from a totally-made-in-Australia ship to a part-built arrangement.

The most viable proposition is probably to build the hulls in Spain where Navantia are currently building similar ships for the Spanish Navy. The hulls, complete with their engines and propulsion gear, would then be piggy-backed for the 12,000 nautical mile voyage to Melbourne on submersible ferry ships. The trip from Spain to Melbourne would be carried out in much the same way that the Royal Navy Destroyer HMAS NOTTINGHAM was shipped back to Britain from Sydney after striking a rock and nearly sinking off Lord Howe Island in 2005.

Under the hull-ferry arrangement, Williamstown and the other Australian dockyards in New South Wales and Queensland would complete the superstructures, internal fit-outs and the command and control and electronic warfare systems.



# AS IT WAS APRIL 2007 C'TND

The decks of the Spanish ships would be strengthened to carry the Army's new Abrams Tanks and Chinook Helicopters. The proposal also includes a port-side ski-jump which would support the use of **STOVAL aircraft as used by Australia's allies.**

Driven **by gas turbines, the Spanish LHD'S would have a top speed of 20 knots and a maximum** cruising range of 7050 nautical miles at 12 knots. They would be manned by a crew of 243 and capable of accommodating up to 1120 troops, 12 helicopters and 4 landing craft.

## HMAS MELBOURNE VISITS MELBOURNE

The Tenix-Williamstown built Adelaide-Perry Class guided missile frigate HMAS MELBOURNE FFG05, VISITED Melbourne during March arriving at Station Pier Port Melbourne 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2007 and departing 26<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

One of **HMAS MELBOURNE'S main tasks during her visit was to represent the RAN and act as start** ship for the commencement of the Melbourne to Osaka yacht race.

HMAS MELBOURNE, currently under the command of CMDR Stephen Hughes with LCDR Paul Johnson as Executive Officer, arrived from Sydney where she has been undergoing for the past 15 months an upgrade and modification refit. She returned to Sydney to continue with upgrade plus proceed with further tests and sea trials.

Prior to heading for Melbourne, HMAS MELBOURNE participated in exercises with the Spanish Air-Warfare Destroyer ALVARO DE BAZAN off the new South Wales Coast.

**The Spaniard was in Australia to show the flag and promote the class as a contender for Australia's Air Warfare Destroyer contract.**

During my visits to HMAS MELBOURNE, I was conducted on a tour of the ship by the Commanding Officer. This included an inspection of the upgrade to the operations centre, the bridge and the new vertical launch missile system. The tour was followed by refreshments with CMDR Hughes during which time I was able to provide a little assistance to the Commanding Officer in the preparation of his speech for the **evening's on-board cocktail party and presentation to the City of Melbourne's Lord** Mayor John So.

The cocktail party at which the League was represented, attracted a sizable gathering of guests including representation from the Japanese Consulate, in line with the Melbourne-Osaka yacht race connection. Also in attendance was Senior Naval Officer Victoria Captain David Garnock and Senior Officers from HMAS PERTH, which at the time was undergoing repairs at Tenix Dockyard Williamstown.

**The Anzac Class Frigate HMAS PERTH'S Executive Officer LCDR Richard Boulton represented Perth's Commanding Officer CMDR Simon Greg** who was on leave in Sydney. HMAS PERTH sailed on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2007 from Tenix Williamstown bound for Western Australia where further repairs are scheduled to be carried out to the ships propulsion system.

It is expected that the next Commanding Officer for HMAS PERTH will be CMDR Michelle Miller. This posting may take place in July of this year. Victorian League Executives will perhaps remember Michelle as LCDR Miller, Commanding Officer of the Fremantle Class Patrol boat HMAS BUNBURY, when Michelle was one of the Leagues guests of honour at the NLA Centenary Celebrations in Launceston Tasmania during 2000. Executives may also recall that LCDR Miller was Executive Officer of HMAS STUART when that ship hosted League executives to morning tea on-board at Williamstown during July of 2003.

## AS IT WAS APRIL 2007 C'TND

Should this posting eventuate for CMDR Miller, it will be the first time that a female Officer of the RAN has achieved command of an RAN vessel of this type,

As for HMAS MELBOURNE, it is expected that by this years end HMAS MELBOURNE, during the course of her deployment will have circumnavigated Australia and she may perhaps be back in the City of Melbourne during February of 2008 for a freedom of entry engagement.

### RN AND RAN IN THE GULF

Following the abduction of 15 Royal Navy sailors by Iranian elite revolutionary guards in Iraqi waters recently, the RAN are especially vigilant in their patrols of the Arabian Gulf.

The Royal Navy sailors from the frigate HMS CORNWALL were captured at the mouth of the Shatt-Al-Arab waterway by Iranian guards in fast attack speedboats.

The British sailors in ribs, were returning to HMS CORNWALL after inspecting an Indian Merchant ship. Iran claims the sailors were within Iranian waters.

Other bad news was received from RN during late March, when they announced the tragic death of two RN sailors and the serious injury of one other RN sailor in the submarine HMS TIRELESS.

The submarine was on Artic patrol when the tragedy occurred, which was due to a failure of the air purification equipment.

HMS TIRELESS is a 5000 tonne Trafalgar Class Nuclear submarine with a crew of 140.

In the Arabian Gulf, the RAN presence continues with the Anzac Class Frigate HMAS TOOWOOMBA FFH156 currently deployed in the region.

# SHRINE REPORT APRIL 2017

## CEREMONIES

### ANZAC Day 2017

**Tuesday 25 April, 6am**



Join us for the Anzac Day Dawn service to commemorate the service and sacrifice of all Australian service men and women. This year marks another significant year in our centenary commemorations of the First World War with the horrific battles on the Western Front. It will also commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Tobruk and New Guinea campaigns of the Second World War. On this day, we honour and reflect on the impact of war, conflict and peacekeeping operations in Australia's history. Plan your journey on public transport and assemble on the Shrine Forecourt by 4.30am for a 6am start.

From 9am, veterans will lead the Anzac Day March down St Kilda Road, a commemorative service will follow at 1pm on the Shrine Forecourt, including an address from the Governor of Victoria, Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AM.

### Melbourne Legacy Ceremony for Students

**Friday 21 April, 11am**  
**Wreath laying on the Forecourt**

Each year prior to Anzac Day, Legacy holds a special ceremony for school students. This service, first held in 1932, combines education with commemoration and is attended by thousands of school children. All students are welcome to attend. The Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria will address the students and the ceremony will include Defence Force Cadets, school band & choir and a RAAF fly-over.

Students from each school are encouraged to honour deceased relatives by wearing medals on their right-hand side. As a symbol of remembrance, students will receive a sprig of rosemary. Two students from each school are invited to lay a floral tribute at the Eternal Flame. Representative students from each school are invited to take part in a banner procession.

A program given out on the day will outline the order of service. There are over 4000 bookings already. After this special Legacy service teachers and their students are invited inside the Shrine of Remembrance (via the Visitor Centre Courtyard) to view the Shrine Crypt and Galleries of Remembrance or lay a poppy at the Stone of Remembrance in the Sanctuary. Volunteers and staff will be positioned throughout the Shrine to engage with and answer students' questions.

## Villers-Bretonneux Day

**Monday 24 April, 1.30pm**

**Wreath laying at Tree B45**



Villers-Bretonneux Day, 24 April, marks the successful counter-attack and recapture of Villers-Bretonneux in 1918. This action played a significant role in the overall defeat of the German attack launched in March 1918. This annual commemorative service is conducted by the Friends of the 15th Brigade.

## TALKS & EVENTS

### The Issue That Divided a Nation

**Thursday 20 April, 2pm**

**Maryborough Town Hall, Clarendon Street, Maryborough VIC 3465**

**Regional Lecture with Dr Joan Beaumont**



Australia was the only country to put the issue of conscription to popular vote during the First World War, and to reject it, if only by narrow margins. Why did the Hughes government fail where other governments had succeeded? And what was the impact of the defeat of conscription on Australia's war effort and its later political culture?

## **One Woman's War & Peace**

**Wednesday 3 May, 12 noon.**



Wing Commander Sharon Bown's remarkable 16- year career with the Royal Australian Air Force saw her deployed to East Timor, Bali and Afghanistan. From barely surviving a helicopter crash to commanding a combat surgical team, Sharon's journey is a confronting but inspirational account of military service.

## **The Battles of Bullecourt**

**Saturday 13 May 11am**

To mark the centenary of the Battles of Bullecourt, a special commemorative service will be held in the Sanctuary at 11am followed by a talk by author Dr David Coombes. Bookings are required for the talk as seating is limited in the Auditorium.

## **BOOKS**

### **Flagship – Mike Carlton**





In 1924 the grand old battle cruiser HMAS Australia I, once the pride of the nation, was sunk off Sydney Heads. She had saved Australia from a German attack in the Pacific in World War I, but after the war she was a victim in the race to disarm. There was a day of national mourning when they blew the bottom out of her. In 1928 the RAN acquired a new ship of the same name, the fast, heavy cruiser HMAS Australia II, and she finally saw action when World War II began, patrolling the North Atlantic on the lookout for German battleships.

By March 1942 Australia had returned home, where the ship was stunned by a murder. One night one of her sailors, Stoker Riley, was found stabbed and bleeding to death. Before he died, he named his two attackers, who'd tried to kill him because, he said, he'd threatened to expose their homosexual activities. At a hastily arranged court martial, the two men were found guilty and sentenced to death under British Admiralty law. Only weeks later Australia fought in the Battle of the Coral Sea near Papua New Guinea, the first sea battle to stop the Japanese threat. Reference <http://www.booktopia.com.au/flagship-mike-carlton/prod9780857987778.html> and YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMKEVW5NPQU>

## EXHIBITIONS

### The Soldiers' XI

**1 April 2017 – 1 April 2018**

**West Gallery, Galleries of Remembrance**

The Soldiers' XI explores the conflicts in Timor, Iraq and Afghanistan from the unique perspective of cricket. Sergeant H has played cricket on eleven deployments with the Australian Army: to maintain team resilience, to build rapport with locals, and to de-stress after combat. Cricket once even brought together allies and enemy. Eleven bats each tell a story about war in the twenty-first century.

## PODCASTS

Podcasts are available from website <http://www.shrine.org.au/Whats-On/Video-and-Podcasts>

### Friends Luncheon and Screening of The Odd Angry Shot

**19 May 2017, Luncheon 1pm, screening 2pm**



Join us for a special screening of the iconic film *The Odd Angry Shot* followed by a Q&A with director Tom Jeffrey. *The Odd Angry Shot* stars Graham Kennedy, Bryan Brown, John Hargreaves and John Jarratt as men of the Special Air Service Regiment on a year-long tour of duty in Vietnam. They cope with the frustrations and closeness of camp life with irreverent and hard-edged humour. Presenters: Tom Jeffrey and Brian Kavanagh

Friends (free of charge) or general admission \$25 or \$5 screening only. Bookings required.

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*Website: <http://www.shrine.org.au> Telephone 9661 8100. Note: there is now a \$5 charge for all public programs.*

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*Ken Crook 17 April 2017*

Join The Navy League of  
Australia NOW

Become a Member - you only need an interest in maritime affairs.

Complete Application Form **below**, post it, together with your first annual subscription of \$35.00 (includes four quarterly editions of Navy League's Journal "The Navy"), to


Hon Secretary, Navy League of Australia Division in the State or region in which you reside.

Addresses:

New South Wales Division: GPO Box 1719, Sydney, NSW 2001.  
Victoria-Tasmania Division: PO Box 2340, Mt Waverley, Vic 3149.  
Queensland Division: PO Box 2495, Chermside Centre, QLD 4032.  
South Australia Division: PO Box 3008, Unley, SA 5061.  
Western Australia Division: 3 Prosser Way, Myaree, WA 6154.  
Australian Capital Territory: post form to New South Wales Division, Hon Secretary.  
Northern Territory: post form to South Australia Division, Hon Secretary.

Subscriptions due on 1 July in each year. Your membership will be current to 30 June immediately following the date on which you join the League. NOTE: If your first subscription is received during 1 April to 30 June in any year, your initial membership is extended to 30 June in the following year.

Any person with an interest in maritime affairs, or who wishes to acquire an interest in, or knowledge of, maritime affairs and who wishes to support the objectives of the League, is invited to join.

|  |              |   |
|--|--------------|---|
| <b>THE NAVY LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA</b>  |              |  |
| <b>APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP</b>  |              |   |
| To: The Hon. Secretary<br>The Navy League of Australia   |              |   |
| _____ <b>Division</b>  |              |   |
| I wish to join the Navy League of Australia, the objectives of which I support, and I enclose a remittance for \$35.00 (including \$3.18 GST) being my first annual subscription to 30 June next.  |              |   |
| Name: [ Mr ] [ Mrs ] [ Ms ] [ Rank ] _____   |              |   |
| _____  |              |   |
| PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY   |              |   |
| Street _____   |              |   |
| Suburb _____   | State _____  | P/code _____  |
| Phone _____  | Mobile _____ |   |
| Email _____  |              |   |
| Signature _____  |              | Date _____  |
| Subscriptions are due on 1 July in each year and your membership will be current to 30 June immediately following the date on which you join the League, except that if your first subscription is received during the period 1 April to 30 June in any year, your initial membership will be extended to 30 June in the following year. |              |   |

## OBJECTIVES

The **principal objective of the Navy League of Australia is” The maintenance of the maritime well-being of the Nation”** by:

- Keeping before the Australian people the fact that we are a maritime nation and that a strong Navy supported by maritime elements of the Air Force and Army and other Government Maritime agencies are indispensable elements of our national well-being and vital to the freedom of Australia.
- Promoting defence self-reliance by supporting maritime research, defence industry, Australian shipping, ship-building, port and transport infrastructure and off shore resource exploration and development.
- Promoting and encouraging the interest and training of youth in the sea.

## ACTIVITIES

The Navy League of Australia works towards its objectives in a number of ways:

- By including in its membership leading representatives of the many elements which form the maritime community.
- Through soundly- based contributions by members to journals and newspapers, and other media comment.
- By publishing *The Navy*, a quarterly journal reporting on local and overseas maritime happenings, past, present, and projected.
- By organizing symposia, ship visits and various other functions of maritime interests throughout the years.
- By supporting Australian Navy Cadets, and assisting in the provision of training facilities.

Member participation is encouraged in all these activities.

## POLICY

The policy of the League can be found at the back of *The Navy*.

Correspondence:- All articles for publication in the Navy League of Australia (Vic.-Tas Div.) Newsletter, should be addressed to the Editor, Frank McCarthy, email:- ([alistle@bigpond.com](mailto:alistle@bigpond.com)). All other correspondence should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Navy League of Australia (Vic.Div.) P.O.Box 2340, Mount Waverley, Victoria 3149: ([raydotgill@optusnet.com.au](mailto:raydotgill@optusnet.com.au)).

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