



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

is
the
principal
objective
of
the
Navy League
of Australia

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NAVAL HISTORY

The months of January & February are a memorable period in terms of Naval History.

A brief detail of some of the events that occurred during the months of January & February are listed in the following:-

JANUARY 1788

The supply ship HMS SIRIUS under the command of Captain John Hunter RN., as part of the First Fleet, arrived in Botany Bay. Two years later HMS SIRIUS was wrecked on Norfolk Island.

The current HMAS SIRIUS commissioned into the RAN in 2006. HMAS SIRIUS was originally the tanker MV DELOS converted to RAN specifications to replace the RAN tanker HMAS WESTRALIA 0195.

JANUARY 1865

It was at this point in time that Melbourne became involved in the American Civil War, by providing aid and assistance to the visiting Confederate Navy ship CNS SHENANDOAH.

JANUARY 1942

It was on 20th January 1942, that Bathurst Class Minesweeper/Corvettes HMAS Ships DELORAINE, KATOOMBA and LITHGOW, accompanied by the US Destroyer USS EDSALL, sank the Japanese submarine I-124 in the Arafura Sea.

The Commanding Officer of HMAS DELORAINE, LCDR D.A. Menlove, RNR, was awarded the Distinguished Service Order for his part in this action.

NAVAL HISTORY C'TND

JANUARY 1945

The Battle of Lingayen Gulf in the Philippine Islands against the Japanese took place in January 1945. The following RAN units together with US forces were involved in this operation:-

CRUISERS:	HMAS AUSTRALIA, SHROPSHIRE
DESTROYERS:	HMAS WARRAMUNGA, ARUNTA
FRIGATE:	HMAS GASCOYNE
SLOOP:	HMAS WARREGO
INFANTRY	
LANDING	
SHIPS:	HMAS WESTRALIA, KANIMBLA, MANOORA

FEBRUARY 1942

February 2016 marks the 74th anniversary of the bombing of Darwin by the Japanese on Thursday 19th February 1942.

The attack which was the first of 62 air raids on Darwin throughout the period 1942-1943 has been likened by some as Australia's Pearl Harbour.

FEBRUARY 1942

The battle of the Java Sea in which HMAS PERTH together with HM ships EXETER, ELECTRA and JUPITER, the USN Cruiser HOUSTON and the Dutch ships DE RUYTER, JAVA and KORTENAER engaged a superior numbered Japanese Fleet forcing the allied fleet to withdraw after suffering many casualties and loss of vessels.

FEBRUARY 1964

The 10th February 2016 marked the 52nd anniversary of the loss of HMAS VOYAGER, Australia's greatest peacetime naval disaster in which 82 personnel perished when VOYAGER and the Aircraft Carrier HMAS MELBOURNE collided during exercises South East of Jervis Bay NSW.

FEBRUARY 1980

It was on the 29th February 1980, that the last RAN WW2 ship the Frigate HMAS DIAMANTINA paid off for disposal at Garden Island, Sydney. HMAS DIAMANTINA, a river class Frigate saw wartime service bombarding Japanese batteries throughout the Solomon Islands, as well as providing naval gunfire support to Australian Troops operating in Bougainville. Following VJ Day DIAMANTINA transported Senior Officers to accept the local surrender of Japanese Forces on a number of Pacific Islands, including Ocean Island and Nauru. HMAS DIAMANTINA concluded her RAN service as an Oceanographic Research Vessel but DIAMANTINA still provides a community services as a museum ship in a Brisbane dry Dock on the Brisbane River. The RAN now has a second DIAMANTINA, a Huon Class Minehunter one of six in the current RAN fleet four of which are operational with two in reserve

CRESWELL ORATION 2016



1901



2016

2001-Navy League of Australia in Victoria formed & administers **Australian Navy Foundation Day Organising Committee** (ANFDOC) **Creswell Oration** together with Naval Association of Australia, Naval Officers' Club, Historical Society in Victoria.

AUSTRALIAN NAVY FOUNDATION DAY 16th Annual "CRESWELL ORATION"



VICE ADMIRAL *David Johnston* AM RAN

Chief Joint Operations
to present the "Creswell Oration" 2016

"The conduct of Current and Future Joint Operations"

VENUE: William Angliss TAFE Institute Restaurant
550 Little Lonsdale Street, between King & Spencer Sts.

DATE: TUESDAY 1st Mar 2016.

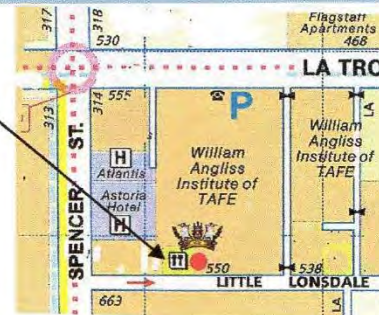
TIME: 1200 for 1230

LOCATION: William Angliss Institute Restaurant, 550 Little Lonsdale St. Melb.

COST & PAYMENT: \$45 per head - Cheque or :
Westpac Bank BSB:033 389 A/C No: 107631 - Direct Debit
Please include NAME & send email to confirm payment.

DRESS: Uniform S7, Lounge suit / Day dress - Decorations & Medals optional.

TRANSPORT: **Trams** - Latrobe & Spencer streets. **Buses** - via Lonsdale St., to King St.
Rail - Southern Cross Railway Station is two city blocks from venue.



INQUIRIES: Navy League of Australia Vic-Tas Div. Tel: 9435 3850;

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Naval Officers Club in Victoria: Tel: 5983 2416;

Email: john@brianjohnbird.com

Naval Historical Society, Victoria Chapter: Tel: 9850 8497;

Email: rex.f.williams@gmail.com.

William Angliss Institute Restaurant: Tel: 9606 2108

1st Mar.1901 - Foundation of Australia's Navy's Commonwealth Naval

RSVP - Friday 19th. February 2016

Australian Navy Foundation Day - CRESWELL ORATION 2016

P.O. Box 1606 East Doncaster 3109

"CRESWELL ORATION 2016" Luncheon **TUESDAY 1st March 2016 @ 1200 for 1230 start.**

PAYMENT: Cheque/Money Order / payment by direct Debit

"Navy League" \$ for persons

PLEASE PRINT or email NAMES -

Tel:

Email:

Address

“AS IT WAS”

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 January & February 2006. We note that we reported on the following:-

RAN AT THE 2006 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

1. 2006 Commonwealth Games
2. Ex OP 2006
3. Arleigh Burke Build Rate
4. US Carrier visits Queensland
5. HMAS YARRA visits Melbourne
6. AWD’S named

The RAN will assist in providing World class support to ensure a safe secure and successful Melbourne March 2006 Commonwealth Games.

In Addition to personnel from the RAN’S clearance diving teams one and four plus RAN specialists from joint task force headquarters and the RAN Band Detachment from HMAS CERBERUS, the RAN’S contribution will also include the following vessels:-

The Amphibious landing platform HMAS MANOORA LPA 52. The Anzac Class Frigate HMAS WARRAMUNGA FFH152, AND THE Coastal Minehunter HMAS NORMAN MHC 84.

EXERCISE OCEAN PROTECTOR 2006

Ships and Aircraft from the Royal Australian Navy, Royal Australian Air Force, Royal New Zealand Navy and Royal New Zealand Air Force conducted two weeks of exercises off the New South Wales Coast from 30th January 2006 through to 10th February 2006. The RNZN Anzac class Frigate HMNZS TE KAHA joined with the RAN ships WARRAMUNGA, STUART, WESTRALIA, SUCCESS, TOBRUK, MANOORA, GASCOYNE, HAWKESURY TOWNSVILLE, YARRA, ARMIDALE AND DECHANINEUX.

Exercise Ocean Protector is an annual combined maritime exercise, bringing together Naval and Air Force unit from Australia and New Zealand that hone their warfighting skills. Exercise Ocean Protector is generally the first RAN exercise of the year.

ARLEIGH BURKE BUILD RATE CONTINUES

Originally planned as a 49 ship class in the mid 1980’s the United States Navy’s Arleigh Burke Class DDG destroyers now stands at a 63 ship programme. The first 47 ships commencing with Pendant No.51, were commissioned into the USN between July 1991 and July 2005.

The latest two ships to be commissioned in November and December of 2005 were the USS BAINBRIDGE DDG96 and USS FORREST SHERMAN DDG98.

Hull numbers to 113 will be commissioned between 2006 and 2012, thus keeping up the number of Surface Combatants and the wheels of the US Naval ship building industry turning, until the introduction of the next class of destroyer the DD(X).

“AS IT WAS” C’TND

CARRIER VISITS QUEENSLAND

The United States Nimitz Class Aircraft Carrier USS RONALD REGAN CVN76, visited Queensland recently. The 98,000 tonne USS RONALD REGAN with a crew of 6000 sailed from Brisbane on January 27th 2006 after a four day R&R visit. The United States Navy were in a spot of bother when bags of garbage found floating in Moreton Bay, which had fallen overboard, were traced to the USS RONALD REGAN.

The United States Navy faced a further dilemma when they lost a \$40 million FA aircraft overboard 220 kilometres off the Queensland coast.

NEW SHIPS NAMED

During January 2006, the Melbourne newspaper Sun-Herald published a report detailing the names of the RAN’S forthcoming ships and Air Warfare Destroyers. The Amphibious ships, landing helicopter dock ships (LHD’S) are to be named HMAS CANBERRA and HMAS ADELAIDE, these ships are expected to enter service from 2012.

The Air Warfare Destroyers are to be named HMAS’S HOBART, BRISBANE and SYDNEY, they are expected to enter service from 2013.

These ships will be the third ships so named to serve with the RAN with the exception of SYDNEY which will be the fifth HMAS SYDNEY.

NEWS IN BRIEF

CHINESE NAVY SHIPS VISIT QUEENSLAND

The RAN frigate HMAS DARWIN FFG004 departed Sydney on 30th December 2015 heading for the Middle East area of operations as part of "Operation Manitou". On the way north DARWIN participated in exercises with units of the Chinese Navy (PLA NAVY) off the Queensland coast

The Chinese task group consisted of three ships, the Luyang Class Destroyer "JINAN DDG152, the Jiangkai Class Frigate YIYANG FFG548, and the Fuchi Class Replenishment ship QINDAOHU AOR886.

The task group completed counter-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden in 2015 before embarking on a global deployment spanning 12 countries in five months. Officer and sailors in the task group spent five days in Brisbane where their ships berthed from 2nd January on rest and recreational leave, which also included visits to the Gold Coast attractions, prior to returning to China in early 2016.



**FROM FRONT HMAS DARWIN EXERCISING WITH 2 CHINESE NAVY SHIPS OFF QUEENSLAND COAST
'YIYANG' AND 'JINAN'.**

NEWS IN BRIEF C'TND

PATROL BOATS ON LOAN

The RAN has quietly introduced a new capability into its patrol boat fleet this year, with two Cape Class Patrol boats being added to the current Armidale Class fleet. The two Cape Class boats, ADV CAPE BYRON and ADV CAPE NELSON, have been loaned to navy by the Australian Border Force to fill the gap created by the loss of HMAS BUNABERG in a fire, and the current heavy maintenance program involving the remaining 13 Armidale Class boats. Both Cape Class vessels are being home-ported in Cairns. Each vessel has been assigned two full navy crews operating on a rotational basis. The Cape Class boats have retained their blue colour scheme from border force and with a length of 57.8M, and a beam 10.3M, Cape Class Patrol boats are slightly larger than the Armidale Class boats of 56.8M and beam 9.5M. Cape Class armament is two .50 calibre machine guns.

ADV CAPE BYRON and ADV CAPE NELSON now join the RAN'S Armidale Class in operation "Resolute" and contribute to Australia's maritime security needs throughout Northern Australia, operating from the North West Cape across Northern Australia around to Cairns and Northern Great Barrier Reef in the East.

As with the Armidale class Patrol boats the Cape Class Boats have also been manufactured by the West Australian Boat Builder Austal Ships.



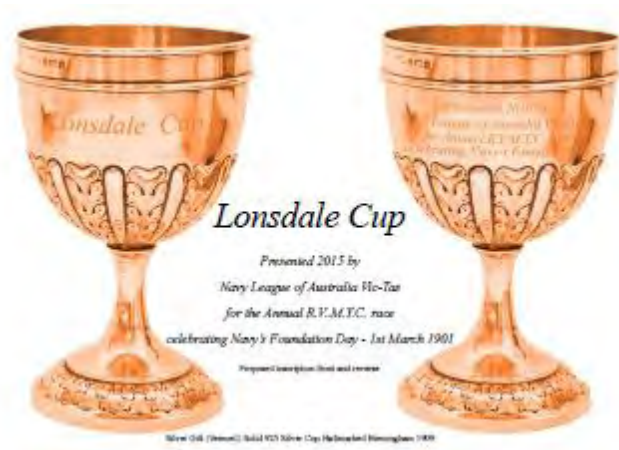
ADV CAPE BYRON

LONSDALE CUP ROYAL VICTORIAN MOTOR YACHT CLUB WILLIAMSTOWN

The inaugural annual event for a perpetual Lonsdale Cup to celebrate the Australian Navy's foundation in March of 1901 is to be held on Sunday 6th March 2016.

A Senior RAN Officer will present the Cup to the 2016 winner on the day of the event at the RVMYC Club-rooms. The Cup has been supplied by The Navy League of Australia Vic-Tas' Division, who retain ownership.

The Great Great Granddaughter of Captain William Lonsdale, Ms Cecilia Newman, will present the event winner with a William Lonsdale book, also supplied by the Leagues Vic-Tas' Division.



Navy League executive member Ken Crook has kindly forwarded his Shrine Report detailing current and forthcoming events.

New books available from online store and Retail Centre at the Shrine

Please go into website www.shop.shrine.org.au to view the diverse range of books, DVDs, ANZAC merchandise, collectible items and souvenirs. Funds from sales support the Shrine's educational activities.

Impact of Edinburgh Military Tattoo 2016

As a result of the large numbers visitors to Melbourne attending the Tattoo (some 250,000 people), extra volunteer guides are required at the Shrine during 13-14 February.

Visitor Numbers

For the first time last year, visitor numbers exceeded one million. School students in 2015 were estimated to be 63,000. In 2016 it is estimated to be as high as 100,000.

Student programs this year will be:

Primary students: Welcome to the Shrine; Loyal Friends (service animals); Shrine Exploration.

Secondary students: Spirit of ANZAC; Only 19: Australians and the Vietnam War; Second World War – the Australian Experience; Shrine Exploration Years 7-12.

Upcoming Events

Daily general tours recommence on 1 February at the Shrine commencing at 11am and 2pm. There will be Shrine of Remembrance highlights tour or a Galleries of Remembrance highlights tour.

Ceremonies

- Sunday 10 April at 1pm – Siege of Tobruk Ceremony – 75th Anniversary.
- Friday 22 April at 11am in the Forecourt. Legacy's ANZAC commemoration ceremony for students.
- Monday 25 April - assemble 4.30 for 6am. ANZAC Day Dawn Service. March down St Kilda Rd starts 9am. Commemorative service 1pm.

Exhibitions

- The Art of Survival: Drawings by Fred Ransome Smith, POW. Visitors Centre. Ends 28 February 2016.
- 2 April to March 2017: in the West Gallery: 1966 – Year of Commitment (Vietnam).

February Talks (Education Centre)

- Friday 19th February 11am for 11.30am: Love, Luck and Larceny. Speaker: John Thompson-Gray. The subject is attacks on Broome 1942.
- Wednesday 24th February 5.30 for 6pm start. The lost records of Australia's WWI photographer. Speaker: Jeff Maynard.

New Volunteer Information Sessions

If you wish to attend these sessions, contact 9661 8100 or visit the website for more information.

Ken Crook 6 February 2016

Membership

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.

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*.


Joining the League

To become a Member of The League, you do not need to have had any previous maritime experience. You merely need an interest in maritime affairs. Simply complete the Application Form below, and post it, together with your first annual subscription of \$35.00 (which includes the four quarterly editions of The Navy), to the Hon Secretary of the Division of the Navy League in the State in which you reside, the address of which are as follows:

New South Wales Division: GPO Box 1719, Sydney, NSW 2001.
Victorian Division: PO Box 2340, Mt Waverley, Vic 3149.
Queensland Division: GPO Box 1481, Brisbane, QLD 4001.
South Australian Division: PO Box 3008, Unley, SA 5061.
West Australian Division: 3 Prosser Way, Myaree, WA 6154.

If you live in Tasmania, please post the form to the Hon Secretary of the Victorian Division. If you live in the Australian Capital Territory or the Northern Territory, please post the form to the Hon Secretary of the New South Wales or South Australian Division respectively.

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.

THE NAVY LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA		
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP		
To: The Hon. Secretary The Navy League of Australia.		
Division _____		
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 _____
<i>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.</i>		