



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

is the principal objective of the Navy League of Australia

Patron:
Governor of Victoria

President:
LCDR Roger Blythman
RANR RFD RET'D

Snr Vice President: Frank
McCarthy

Vice President Secretary: Ray
Gill

PP: Treasurer: Special Events:
CMDR John Wilkins OAM RFD
RANR

HMAS BALLARAT PAYS A VISIT

The Anzac Class Frigate HMAS BALLARAT FFH155, paid a short visit to Melbourne arriving Friday PM 27/05/2016 departing AM 30/05/2016. The ships visit to Melbourne was the first in almost eight years.

HMAS BALLARAT, the second so named for the RAN, is ship Number 6 of the RAN'S 8 Anzac Class Frigates and is currently under the command of CMDR David Landon CSM, RAN, with LCDR Mile Madarac as Executive Officer, and LCDR Mark Lucking as Maritime Logistics Officer (Supply Officer).

The purpose of HMAS BALLARAT'S visit was to provide recreational leave for the ships' company, and to also engage in a "Freedom of entry" ceremony in the City of Ballarat on Sunday 29/05/2016.

HMAS BALLARAT has recently concluded the upgrade and installation of the "Anti-Missile Defence System" in Western Australia, where the ship is based, and has been undertaking a "Readiness Evaluation" off the New South Wales Coast.

Ceremonial Sunset was performed onboard HMAS BALLARAT at a reception on the evening of the arrival of the ship in Melbourne.; The guest list included HMAS CERBERUS Recruit School CO CMDR Luke Ryan as representative for Senior Naval Officer Victoria; The Mayor of Ballarat Councillor Des Ryan; Mr. David Manning who is one of the last three remaining survivors of the 681 crew of HMAS PERTH Number 1, sunk in the **WW2** Battle of Sundra Strait on March 1st 1942 together with the Cruiser USS HOUSTON. David Manning is a resident of the Ballarat Suburb of Magpie. Also in attendance at the reception was Dr. Susanna Herd the launching lady and commissioning lady for HMAS BALLARAT;

HMAS BALLARAT PAYS A VISIT C'TND

Her father was a member of the ships company in the first HMAS BALLARAT, a WW2 Bathurst Class Minesweeper-Corvette.

During the current ships visit to Melbourne, the CO CMDR Landon was presented with a Navy League memento and spare copies of the Leagues magazine, plus spare copies of the ships 2002 launching brochure and 2004 commissioning brochure which were also provided by the League.

HMAS BALLARAT FFH155, sailed from Port Melbourne's Station Pier 30th May 2016 heading north for further exercises off the New South Wales coast; the ship is expected to be one of Australia's representatives at the forthcoming exercise "Rimpac" to be held off the coast of Hawaii in July of this year.

FREEDOM OF ENTRY CEREMONY

In medieval times throughout Europe, independent companies of armed men were maintained by the various land owning nobles. Often there were disputes and tension between them and the threat of occupation or attack and looting was ever present. Hence, whenever armed bodies travelled the countryside they were rarely admitted to the environs of other cities. However, in special cases, often for mutual protection between related nobles, some bodies of armed men were allowed the special privilege of freedom of entry to the city ... 'with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, bands playing, colours flying and in full panoply or regalia....'. Freedom of Entry to the City signified the true bonds of friendship and often the expectation that the armed body on whom the honour was to be stowed would assist in the defence of the city.

The action of a city conferring upon an armed Service or individual Unit, 'Freedom of Entry with Swords Drawn, Bayonets Fixed, Drums Beating, Bands Playing and Colours Flying' is the highest honour that city can bestow upon the Service or Unit. While the granting of 'Freedom of Entry' gives no real rights or privileges to the Service or Unit, it is nonetheless recognition of outstanding achievement and an honour granted not by a person, or even a group of persons, but by a Corporate Body, namely the city itself.

Through its British heritage the Australian Defence Force (ADF) has maintained the tradition of Freedom of Entry to the City in respect of either entire arms of the ADF or individual units. Freedom of Entry to the City is normally conferred by the Mayor or equivalent at a parade of the unit outside the city environs. Shortly, thereafter, the unit exercises its right of Freedom of Entry by marching upon the city with 'swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, bands playing, colours flying and in full regalia' at the environs of the city, the unit would be challenged by a senior police officer, and after producing evidence in the form of the scroll the unit would be granted permission to enter.



HMAS BALLARAT ARRIVING AT PORT MELBOURNE



HMAS BALLARAT RECEPTION& CEREMONIALSUNSET







WELCOMING COMMANDING OFFICER HMAS BALLARAT
CMDR DAVID LANDON CSM,



HMAS BALLARAT DEPARTING PORT MELBOURNE

**THESE IMAGES REPRESENT HMAS BALLARAT CLAIMING FREEDOM OF ENTRY
THE CITY OF BALLARAT**









VICTORIA-TASMANIA DIVISION

Tasmania Established 1900, Victoria October 1915

2016-2017 ANNUAL DUES

JUNE 30TH 2016

Please forward annual payment of **\$35.00** to Hon. Secretary R Gill by 30th June and that will assist our Honorary Officers responsible for the administration.

Payment can be made direct by internet banking into our account....

BSB 033 389 ACCOUNT NO; 107631 WESTPAC

Or POST to

P.O. BOX 2340 MOUNT WAVERLEY 3149

Please ensure reference name is included.

We hope you are enjoying Navy League's quarterly journal "The Navy"

We hold occasional Welcome Luncheons for visiting ships and special events

Depending on ship arrivals so please let our Secretary Ray know if you are

Interested in being notified of these events and we will update our records.

To contact Secretary phone 9884 6237 or email...raydotgill@optusnet.com.au

if you/or a friend would like to attend events or need advice.

Yours Aye!

CMDR *John M Wilkins* OAM RFD*

Hon Treasurer – Events Co-Ordinator

03 9842 4256

NAVAL HISTORY

The month of June is indeed a significant month in terms of Australian Navy History, as the following reveals.

JUNE 1884

It was on this date, 25th June 1884, 132 years ago, that the Victorian Navy's torpedo boat HMVS Childers arrived in Port Phillip on her maiden voyage together with gunboats Victoria and Albert.

JUNE 1941

June 1: The cruiser HMAS PERTH and the destroyers HMAS NAPIER, NIZAM, STUART and WATERHEN, took part in the evacuation of Crete.

June 30: The destroyer HMAS WATERHEN was sunk off the Libyan coast by German aircraft, with no loss of life.

JUNE 1942

June 15: HMAS NESTOR suffered severe bomb damage from an Italian air attack off the coast of Crete, at the cost of 4 lives. She was sunk by HMS JAVELIN the following day.

HMAS CASTLEMAINE ANNIVERSARY.

On 17th June this year the ex HMAS Castlemaine maintenance team celebrated the 74TH anniversary of the commissioning of the ship.

HMAS CASTLEMAINE was launched at Williamstown by the late Mrs. R.G. Menzies on 7TH August 1941, and commissioned 10 months later on 17th June 1942.

The Ship is an Australian Bathurst Class Minesweeper – Corvette with a displacement of 650 tonnes, length 186 feet, beam 31 feet, draft 8 feet 3 inches, speed 15 knots and a crew of approximately 70.

JUNE 1943

June 11: The sister ship to HMAS CASTLEMAINE the minesweeper HMAS WALLAROO sank off the coast of WA after a collision with US liberty ship HENRY GILBERT COSTIN. 3 lives were lost.

JUNE 1944

It was seventy two years ago on the 6th June 1944 when approximately 500 RAN, personnel participated in the allied landings at Normandy, many were R.A.N.V.R., Officers in command of British landing craft.

JUNE 1945

June 10: Australian forces landed at Brunei Bay, Borneo from HMA ships KANIMBLA, MANOORA and WESTRALIA supported by the cruiser HMAS HOBART, the destroyer ARUNTA, and the frigates BARCOO and LACHLAN.

JUNE 1950

Sixty six years ago hostilities commenced in Korea. The following RAN Ships engaged, HMA Ships SYDNEY, ANZAC, BATAAN, TOBRUK, WARRAMUNGA, CONAMINE, CULGOA, MURCHISON and SHOALHAVEN.

NAVAL HISTORY C'TND

JUNE 1969

LOSS OF USS FRANK E. EVANS FORTY SEVEN YEARS AGO.

Forty seven years ago on 3rd June 1969, the U.S. destroyer "Frank E. Evans was sliced in two in a collision with the Australian Aircraft Carrier HMAS Melbourne in the South China Sea.

The collision resulted in the death of 74 American sailors.

The 2016 Anzac Day March was led by Vietnam Veterans for the first time.
Commodore Jim Dickson MBE, AM, RAN, RET'D lead the marchers.



AUSTRALIAN NAVY CADETS

Both Australian Navy Cadet Units, training ship Voyager, based at Williamstown, and Training Ship Melbourne, based at Surrey Hills held **“Annual Ceremonial Divisions”** as part of their Annual Assessment on May 28th 2016. All Victorian units compete for best unit in Flotilla, followed by best in Australia for the **“Navy League of Australia Efficiency Trophy”**.

Commanding Officer at TS VOYAGER LEUT Adam Hearsum ANC, was joined for occasion by HMAS CERBERUS Recruit School CO CMDR Luke Ryan RAN at TS MELBOURNE, Commanding Officer LEUT Ferdinand Cheriyparambil ANC made welcome reviewing Officer LCDR Jeff Paul ANC.

With a comparatively new CO at TS MELBOURNE the unit is going through a very exciting period of change and growth. Morale is very high and the ships company put on an excellent show of naval precision on the Assessment Day.

The Navy League congratulates all units and wishes them well in all of their endeavours.

The accompanying images reflect the fine efforts of TS MELBOURNE.

The following three images were taken on the day.

Navy League Executive Members were in attendance.







AS IT WAS IN JUNE 2006

In addition to delving back into the annals of Navy History it can also be of interest to peruse the recent happenings that either caught the eye of, or involved the Navy League.

In this section of our newsletter, we have a look back 10 years to June 2006 for events that transpired and note that it was around this time that it was the:-

1. The RAN in Timor-Leste.
2. **The monitor "CERBERUS"**
3. Mexican ship to visit
4. HMAS ARARAT NO.2.

RAN IN TIMOR – LESTE

Civil unrest in East Timor has resulted in Australia's Military involvement in the country

One of the RAN'S largest force of Amphibious ships was deployed to the region, comprising of the two Amphibious landing platforms HMA SHIPS MANOORA and KANIMBLA the heavy landing ship HMAS TOBRUK, the Heavy Landing Craft HMA SHIPS BALIKPAPAN and TARAKAN, supported by the Auxiliary Oiler HMAS SUCCESS and escorted by the Oliver Hazard Perry Type Adelaide Class Frigate, HMAS ADELAIDE. **Ships company's totaled approximately 800.**

THE MONITOR HMAS CERBERUS

Debate continues over the eventual fate of the sunken Monitor ex HMAS CERBERUS.

One reader to a Melbourne daily newspaper has written to the paper saying that it may be too late to do much with the CERBERUS adding that the hull has rusted to the extent that the plates are now paper thin.

MEXICAN SAIL TRAINING SHIP TO VISIT

An 1800 tonne sail training ship of the Mexican Navy is expected to visit Melbourne during June of this Year. The current schedule of passage for the ship is to depart South Africa calling at Fremantle and onto Melbourne arriving at Station Pier in late June.

HMAS ARARAT NO.2.

The West Australian Shipbuilder "Austal" has launched two more Armidale Class Patrol Boats, Nuship

MAITLAND and Nuship ARARAT, bringing the total afloat for the class to seven. Already the halfway mark of the projects launchings has been achieved.

MAITLAND and ARARAT follow the lead ship of the Class ARMIDALE then LARRAKIA, BATHURST, ALBANY and PIRIE.

Nuship ARARAT is the second ship so named for the RAN, the first ARARAT was a WW11 Bathurst Class Minesweeper-Corvette.

The ships name pays tribute to the Victorian Regional Town of Ararat, which is also the home town of the current Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Russ Shalders, AO,CSC, RAN., and his brother Commander of the Australian Navy Submarine Group and Senior Naval Officer Western Australia, Commodore Rick Shalders RAN, both were born and bred in Ararat.

ROYAL VICTORIAN MOTOR YACHT CLUB, AWARD NIGHTS DINNER

The following images were taken at the Royal Victorian Motor Yacht Club awards night dinner on May 14th 2016.

The event was held at the Clubs headquarters in Williamstown and shows the Navy Leagues CMDR John Wilkins OAM with Club President CDRE Chris Ackerman and Mrs. Kylie Ackerman, together with the winner of the Navy Leagues "Lonsdale Cup" Mr. Bob Battye.



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>			