



# NAVY LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA VIC-TAS DIVISION

**JULY 2019**

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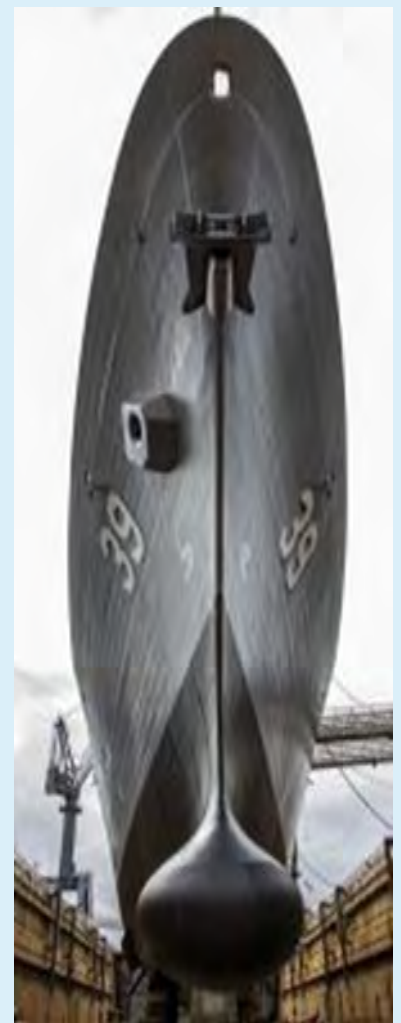
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“Keeping Watch over the Maritime Wellbeing of Australia”

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# HMAS HOBART AEGIS COMBAT SYSTEM 'LIGHT OFF'



**FILE PHOTO:** AWD Hobart on initial sea trials, 2016. Photo courtesy the AWD Alliance.

Lockheed Martin Australia in support of the Royal Australian Navy has conducted a successful 'light off' of the Aegis Combat System on HMAS Hobart, following her first docking at Garden Island, Sydney.

The Aegis system 'light off' marks the transition from production period of the Post Delivery Upgrade (PDU) to combat system testing and training for HMAS Hobart.

These comprehensive tests will ensure the combat system equipment is operational and the crew are ready to commence their next mission.

Scott Thompson, Interim Chief Executive of Lockheed Martin Australia and New Zealand, said this was a significant announcement for Australia, as it was the first time an Aegis 'light off' activity has been planned, coordinated and delivered by an Australian-led workforce.

"This initiative exemplifies the concept of sustainable sovereign capability, with the local team drawing upon the global backbone for the expertise to deliver all work locally."

Lockheed Martin Australia led a dedicated team of more than 20 technicians from a range of local and international government and industry partners making Aegis operational on-board HMAS Hobart at Fleet Base East in Sydney.

HMAS Hobart is completing its PDU that includes a number of major upgrades to its capability in a number of areas.

"We are very proud of this accomplishment," Mr Thompson said.

"Achieving Aegis 'light off' for the Royal Australian Navy is an important milestone which demonstrates HMAS Hobart is fully operational and ready to support Navy's mission to maintain Australia's maritime security."

12 June 2019

Reference: <https://www.contactairlandandsea.com>

# HMAS BALLARAT NABS MORE DRUGS



Royal Australian Navy Frigate HMAS *Ballarat* has seized another four illicit drug shipments in three days while deployed to the Middle East region.

The four boardings took place over the period 2 to 5 June 2019, as *Ballarat* conducted a routine patrol in the Arabian Sea in support of the Combined Maritime Forces.

The drug seizures included a large quantity of hashish and narcotics weighing a combined total of 5.8 tonnes.

The suspicious vessels, known as dhows, were believed to be engaging in illegal activity when HMAS *Ballarat* conducted the boardings under the authority of the Combined Task Force 150.

Commanding Officer HMAS *Ballarat* Commander Paul Johnson said the routine boardings were essential to achieving maritime security in the region.

“Our goal is to disrupt the sources of funding for terrorism and deny the narcotics trade in the Middle East,” Commander Johnson said.

“In support of the Combined Maritime Forces, we aggressively pursued a number of vessels, which had shown signs of smuggling illegal narcotics.

“The team have been working hard to track, intercept and board these vessels in some difficult conditions.”

The recent hauls now bring the total number of seizures by HMAS *Ballarat* to 14 during her nine-month deployment to the region since October 2018.

Despite doing so for every other seizure in memory, Defence did not give specific weights or street values for these latest seizures – but, we do know that HMAS *Ballarat* removed more than \$1billion worth of drugs from the high seas in her previous 10 seizures.

Reference: <https://www.contactairlandandsea.com>

# COSGROVE'S LAST STAND



**Parting gift** – Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove, Staff Cadet Camryn Kendall, CO RMC-D Lieutenant Colonel Ryan Robert and Commandant of the Royal Military College – Australia, Brigadier Rupert Hoskin. Photo by Leading Seaman Craig Walton.

A ceremonial “Trooping of the Queen’s Colour” was conducted by the Corps of Staff Cadets of the Royal Military College-Duntroon on Saturday.

The annual parade celebrates the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Australia, who turned 93 this year.

The Reviewing Officer for the parade was His Excellency, the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove, AK, MC (Retd), Governor-General of Australia – at his final military parade in uniform before retiring later this month.

A graduate of the Royal Military College, the Governor-General said he was pleased to be the Reviewing Officer at the 65<sup>th</sup> Trooping of the Queen’s Colour at Royal Military College-Duntroon.

“It is more than 54 years since I put on a uniform here at the Royal Military College as a Staff Cadet,” he said.

“It is to me most apt and very nostalgic to wear my uniform here for the final time as Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief as we salute Australia’s sovereign.”

Commandant of RMC-D Brigadier Rupert Hoskin said the parade was a testament to the college’s proud history as the Army’s premier officer-training establishment.

“Governor-General Cosgrove has a special connection with Duntroon, being a graduate himself then later serving as the Commandant,” Brigadier Hoskin said.

“It is a privilege for us to be able to mark this historic occasion and to pay our respects in this very special place.”

The ‘Trooping of the Colour’ ceremony dates back to the 16th Century when, each evening, the Regiment’s Colour was escorted through the ranks of troops to ensure that soldiers would be able to recognise their Colour on the battlefield.

Reference: <https://www.contactairlandandsea.com>



# SEA SERIES DELIVERS



Exercises SEA EXPLORER and SEA RAIDER tested the Australian Defence Force's capacity to execute complex amphibious warfare, as well as stability and security operations, and the evacuation of civilians from uncertain environments.

Almost 2000 full time and reserve personnel from the Royal Australian Navy, Australian Army, Royal Australian Air Force, Royal New Zealand Navy, United States Marine Corps, US Navy, US Army and the Royal Marines were coordinated across the land, sea, air and beaches during the activities, which included many firsts for the Australian Defence Force.

Commander of the Amphibious Task Force, Captain Paul O'Grady said the activities were a key part of building and delivering a highly capable amphibious force, ready to deploy as required by Government. "The Sea Series demonstrates our growing capabilities and builds confidence that we can operate effectively across the full spectrum of amphibious operations, up to and including high end warfighting. "Every year our capabilities are developing by leaps and bounds.

"This year saw not only the two Landing Helicopter Docks operating together for the first time, but also the sea basing of Army's Armed Reconnaissance Helicopters from *Canberra* - adding potent firepower that can be brought to bear against land and maritime targets alike.

"We also demonstrated a capability to coordinate complex aviation and dock operations from both ships, including a night vertical replenishment of the Army's M777 Howitzers," Captain O'Grady said. Commander Landing Forces, Australian Army Colonel Kim Gilfillan, said the tempo of the exercises had accelerated every day and many people were working together for the first time.

"We go into the TALISMAN SABRE series with a robust and confident capability, ready to test our interoperability and ensuring we are prepared to integrate into broader multinational operations," Colonel Gilfillan said. The Sea Series exercises will conclude on 5 July.

Reference: <http://news.navy.gov.au/en/Jun2019/Fleet/5302#.XRdZdOgzblU>

# QUEENS BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST



The Governor-General and Chancellor of the Order of Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd), today announced 1214 awards in the Queen's Birthday 2019 Honours List, including 26 members of the Royal Australian Navy.

The Royal Australian Navy wishes to congratulate all of our members, as well as those serving in the Army and Air Force, who have been recognised in today's Honours List. In particular we note that **Rear Admiral Gregory John Sammut AM CSC RAN NSW** received the Officer (AO) in the Military Division of the Order of Australia for distinguished service as the Head Future Submarine Program, and the General Manager Submarines.

The full Queen's Birthday 2019 Honours List is available at: <https://www.gg.gov.au/queens-birthday-2019-honours-list>.

Reference: <http://news.navy.gov.au/en/Jun2019/People/5261/Queen%E2%80%99s-Birthday-2019-Honours-List-announced.htm#.XRdao-gzblU>

## PARTNERSHIP OPENS DOORS TO STEM CAREERS FOR TOP END STUDENTS



Six high school students got a hands-on understanding of what life is like in the Royal Australian Navy during a week of work experience at HMAS Coonawarra in Darwin.

Highlights of the week for the Year 11 and 12 students from Casuarina Senior College included visiting Navy patrol boats to learn how they operate at sea, and observing a ship undock from the hardstand to the water. The students also used a laser cutter and computer technology to create nameplates for some of the patrol boats. The work experience program is part of a partnership between Navy, Northern

Territory industry and the College, to encourage disadvantaged students to pursue careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) fields.

<http://news.navy.gov.au/en/Jun2019/Community/5267/Partnership-opens-doors-to-STEM-careers-for-Top-End-students.htm#.XRnt0OgzblU>

# HMAS SUCCESS II



HMAS SUCCESS II, the longest serving ship in Navy's Fleet, has completed her service to the nation and was decommissioned at her homeport at Sydney's Garden Island on Saturday.

Success - dubbed the 'Battle Tanker' - has been a vital part of Navy's capability over the past 33 years.

The 157 metre-long Durance Class Replenishment Oiler was the last major vessel built at Cockatoo Island in Sydney and was the biggest ship in Navy's Fleet at the time she was commissioned in 1986.

Over more than three decades she sailed more than a million nautical miles and completed almost 3500 replenishments at sea around the world.

She earned battle honours for her service during the Gulf War in 1991 and East Timor in 1999, and also participated in a record 11 Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercises and the search for the missing Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370.

Despite her age, Success maintained a high tempo right to the end, deploying twice since May last year and returning from a four month overseas deployment just weeks before her service life came to an end.

The 23rd and final Commanding Officer of HMAS Success, Captain Darren Grogan, said lowering the ship's Australian White Ensign for the final time closed a significant chapter in Navy's history.

Success will now make way for new replenishment ship NUSHIP Supply (II), which was launched in Ferrol, Spain last November.

<http://news.navy.gov.au/en/Jul2019/Fleet/5305#.XRnriugzbIU>



# NEW ENTRY OFFICER COURSE 60 GRADUATES



Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Michael Noonan, AO, RAN, and Commanding Officer HMAS Creswell, Captain Warren Bairstow, CSC, RAN, (Centre) celebrate with the graduating participants of New Entry Officer Course 60 on 26 June. <http://www.navy.gov.au/establishments/hmas-creswell>

## REMEMBERING THE LOST SUBMARINES OF WWII

Trumpets sounded out the anthems of Australia and the United States at Albany's National Anzac Centre on 26 May, as all in attendance stood to attention - remembering 52 US submarines lost during the Second World War.



The audience included cadets from TS Vancouver, retired and active duty sailors from the United States Navy, Royal Australian Navy and Royal Navy, as well as their families and two WWII veterans.

All had gathered in the West Australian town to pay their respects to the brave souls who made the ultimate sacrifice, remaining on an eternal patrol and forever watching over American and Australian submariners.

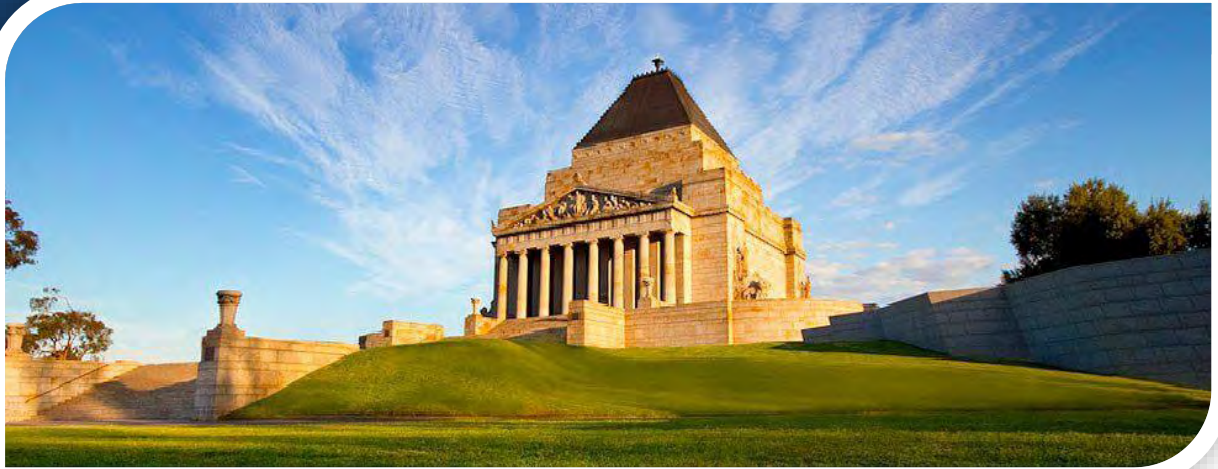
US Navy Commander William Dull delivered a moving speech that encompassed how the events of the past affected the relationship of the two countries and the traditions their militaries still abide by today.

Fremantle and Albany were safe havens for the American submarines which played a vital role in the overall success during the war. American submarines launched 521 patrols from Australia, sinking over 1.7 million tons of shipping, but sadly lost 52 submarines totalling 374 officers and 3131 sailors.

<http://news.navy.gov.au/en/Jun2019/Events/5277/Remembering-the-lost-submarines-of-WWII.htm#.XRnv4ugzblU>



# SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE REPORT



Bookings required for talks and events. Cost \$5.

Shrine podcasts are available at <http://www.shrine.org.au/Whats-On/Video-and-Podcasts>

Website: <http://www.shrine.org.au> Telephone 9661 8100



## Holiday Program

Weekdays during the school holidays

11.30am–12.30pm

Let's explore the gardens and courtyards together. Discover how flowers and plants have been used as symbols of remembrance. Throughout the First World War and in the years since, brooches, medals, pins and badges have been worn to remember loved ones. In a craft session following the tour, create an entry for the Remembrance Day Poster Competition. This year's theme, *Flowers of war*, is suitable for primary school-aged children and is free to attend. Please note this program will not run on Monday 8 July.



## Shrine Kids

Free family activity

Available daily

Unlock the Shrine's secrets when you borrow an Explorer Kit. Armed with a collectible activity card, magnifying glass, kaleidoscope and other handy tools, your visit to the Shrine is whatever you make it. Free and suitable for families with young children. Available daily from the Visitor Information Desk.

## SERVICES

### Reserve Forces Day 2019

Sunday 7 July 2019, 10:00am - Wreath Laying on the Forecourt  
Shrine Representatives: Shrine Governor Colonel John Coulson OAM RFD ED  
Shrine Governor Major Maggie More RFD

### Bastille Day



Sunday 14 July, 12pm  
Wreath Laying in the Sanctuary

The Association des Anciens Combattants Francais de Victoria holds a commemorative service each year on Bastille Day, the French National Day, to honour the service of French and Australian soldiers.

### Shrine Monthly Memorial Service



Thursday 18 July, 11.30am  
Wreath Laying in the Sanctuary

This month we commemorate the following important dates:

- 10 July 1911 – Formation of the RAN
- 1 July 1916 – Battle of the Somme
- 4 July 1918 – Battle of Hamel
- 19 July 1941 – Battle of Cape Spada

### Battle of Fromelles



Friday 19 July, 1.30pm  
Wreath Laying at the Cobbers Memorial

This annual pilgrimage by the Friends of the 15th Brigade commemorates the battle of Fromelles, fought on July 19, 1916. This was the first major action involving Australian troops on the Western Front. It proved disastrous, with nearly 2,000 Australians killed in attacks on strong German positions.

## RAN Recruits

Sunday 21 July 2019, 10:00am - Wreath Laying in the Sanctuary  
Shrine Representatives: Shrine Governor Commander Terry Makings AM  
Shrine Governor Lieutenant Commander Jan Gallagher



## Korean Veterans Association

Saturday 27 July, 1pm  
Wreath Laying in the Sanctuary

Australians served in the Army, Navy, and Air Force in the defence of South Korea between 1950 and 1953. After the armistice was signed, significant Australian forces remained in Korea until 1957. Over 17,000 Australians served in Korea and the surrounding waters—356 were killed and 1,500 were wounded.

## TALK



## Discovering SS *Iron Crown*

Tuesday 3 September, midday  
Auditorium

Join Emily Jateff, chief scientist at the Australian National Maritime Museum, as she discusses the extraordinary project that uncovered the final resting place of *SS Iron Crown*, sunk by a Japanese submarine off the Victorian coastline in June 1942. The Merchant Navy commemorative service will follow at 2pm.

## EXHIBITIONS



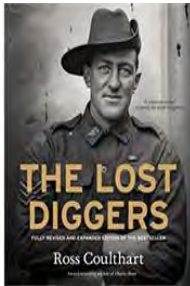
## Flowers of war

Until October 2019  
East Gallery

The appearance of cornflowers and poppies on battlefields at the end of the First World War symbolised for many the fragility of life and the hope of rebirth. This large sculptural steel wreath draws on stories of the First World War from local community archives and museums and considers the many ways people reflect upon the past.



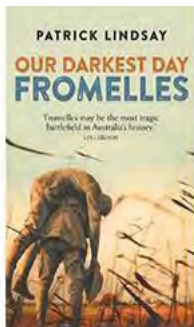
## FROM THE SHRINE SHOP



### *The Lost Diggers*

Ross Coulthart  
Harper Collins Publishers  
\$39.99

A collection of glass photographic plates, many of Australian soldiers, discovered in an attic in France nearly a century after they were taken. A gripping read, this revised edition features the stories of many soldiers who have been identified since the first edition, as well as additional photographs.



### *Fromelles: Our Darkest Day*

Patrick Lindsay  
Hardie Grant Books  
\$29.99

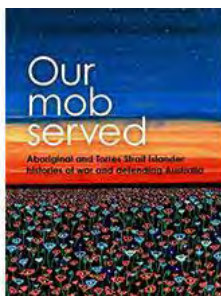
In the small French village of Fromelles, Australia suffered its worst military defeat. Sent into the battle under prepared and outnumbered, more than 5,500 Australian casualties were sustained in a single night. Discover details of the archaeological dig to uncover the mass graves following their discovery almost a century later, and the use of DNA technology to identify, and finally put to rest, some of the missing soldiers.



### *The Missing Man*

Peter Rees  
Allen & Unwen  
\$33.00

To celebrate NAIDOC Week (1-7 July), discover the fascinating life of Australia's first Indigenous fighter pilot, Len Waters. After the war, Len attempted to join the expanding Australian commercial airline industry without luck. More than anything, he wanted to fly. Instead, he became a missing man in Australia's wartime flying history. Peter Rees rights that wrong in this powerful, captivating and, at times, heartbreaking examination of this man's remarkable life.



### *Our Mob Served*

Allison Cadzow & Dr Mary Anne Jebb  
Aboriginal Studies Press  
\$40.00

A unique book that shares the little-known history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander war time and defence service, expressed through vivid oral histories and treasured family images of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.  
Visit the Shop