

# NAVY LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA

VIC TAS DIVISION

**MARCH 2023** 

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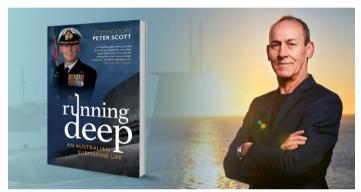
"Keeping Watch over the Maritime Wellbeing of Australia"

### Dear members

The upcoming events are listed on page 1 followed by a summary of March events.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### THURSDAY 13 APRIL 2023 AT 1100 - RUNNING DEEP AN AUSTRALIAN SUBMARINE LIFE' BOOK TALK



From conducting top-secret missions to making Australian submarine history, hear Commodore Peter Scott recount what it takes to be a Submariner.

Over a decorated 34-year career, Commodore Scott served in 10 submarines, passed the most demanding military command course in the world and served as the Head of Profession of the Submarine Arm of the Royal Australian Navy.

His new book Running Deep: An Australian

Submarine Life uncovers these stories as well as Commodore Scott's success and failures as a leader, and his personal battles with mental health. The book will be available for sale on the day.

The talk will be held in the Shrine Auditorium with entry via the Education Courtyard. Members from the Royal Australian Navy Band Melbourne will perform before and after the event. Please go to the Shrine website to make a booking: <a href="SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE">SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE</a> | Shrine of Remembrance

### SUNDAY 16TH APRIL 2023 - RATS OF TOBRUK ASSOCIATION

A Commemorative service will be held at 'Tobruk House' 44 Victoria Avenue, Albert Park. It will commence at 2pm sharp with guest speaker Commander Terry Makings AM RAN (Retd).

### TUESDAY 25 APRIL 2023 - ANZAC DAY PARADE

Two Royal Australian Navy ships HMAS Adelaide (LHD) & HMAS Sydney (AWD) are visiting Melbourne between 24-27 April 2023 and will be berthed at Station Pier. The crews will be taking part in the ANZAC Day Parade. The public will be able to see the ships at Port Melbourne, but it is not clear if ship visits will be permitted as yet. If an opportunity arises, we will let you know.

#### SATURDAY 29 APRIL 2023 - DISCUSSION GROUP ON NAVAL AVIATION

A reminder that a round table discussion will be held on Naval Aviation - Fixed Wing Aircraft - at the Sunset Room, Waverley RSL, Coleman Parade, Glen Waverley commencing at 10am. (See separate email for more detail).

# **PAST EVENTS**

### WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH - CRESWELL ORATION 2023



The Creswell Oration was held at the Waverley RSL with some 60 attendees who enjoyed a comprehensive and in-depth presentation given by Captain Ainslie Morthorpe CSM RAN, Commanding Officer HMAS Cerberus, on the history of the base. Our wonderful MC, Captain David Garnock CSC RAN, kept everything running smoothly throughout. The meal was excellent and there was a great buzz in the room as people caught up with each other after the COVID lockdown.

We were delighted to see so many representatives of the Creswell family, including Rosemary Creswell, her daughter Kate and son-in-law Fred, Peter Creswell and Janet and Luke Sevior. We were also very pleased to welcome Captain Steve Bowater OAM RAN, Chair, Shrine of Remembrance; Commodore Jim Dickson AM MBE RAN; Commander Terry Makings AM RAN, RSL State Vice President; Mike Black, President of the Waverley RSL; Captain Andrew Mackinnon CSC RAN, President of the NHSA Victoria Chapter; Graham Thomas, NAA Victorian President; and Councillor Jonathan Marsden, Hobsons Bay City Council.



L-R CDRE Jim Dickson, Judy Wilkins, CMDR John Wilkins, Fred Hodge



L-R Mike Black, LCDR Roger Blythman, CAPT Steve Bowater, CMDR Graham Harris



Kate Creswell & Rosemary Creswell



L-R Mary Doolan, Janet Sevior, Peter Creswell, Luke Sevior

For those of you who were unable to attend, here is the video of the Oration, courtesy of Brian Surtees.

## Ctrl and click to download the video.

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### SUNDAY 5 MARCH 2023 - 81st ANNIVERSARY SERVICE, HMAS YARRA II

The HMAS YARRA II service was held at 1100 at the HMAS YARRA National Memorial at The Strand, Newport. The Hyde Street Youth Band was in attendance, as well as cadets from TS Voyager. David Leviston, Honorary National Memorial Coordinator, introduced Councillor Jonathon Marsden, representing the Mayor of Hobsons Bay, Councillor Toni Briffa. Jonathan noted that the Council was very supportive of the Memorial, especially remembering our history – after all, Williamstown was the birthplace of the RAN – and a strong partnership has been forged over the years.

Commander Jason Grivas RAN, XO HMAS Cerberus, thanked Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders for their service to Australia. He recalled the history of HMAS Yarra II, her commissioning in 1936 and the Japanese attack on 4 March 1942. The enduring legacy of the ship is for the bravery of the crew who gave their life for the ship. The Taylor and Rankin Divisions are constant reminders of this. The attendees were brought to tears with the Commander's passionate speech.

Rose petals and rosemary were scattered at the jetty at the end of the service.

A sausage sizzle was provided by Rotary and refreshments supplied by Mena Walsh as in previous years.





### SUNDAY 19 MARCH 2023 - HMAS CERBERUS OPEN DAY



The Open Day at HMAS Cerberus was a great success, with over 4,000 attendees. Vic-based Navy Ex-Service Organisations (ESOs) that wished to "advertise" their organisation to Navy personnel or other ex-Navy people and the general public during Open Day were invited to provide a representative to stand in the Marquee to hand-out their promotional "flyers" or answer any questions that people might have about their organisations. (The Marquee will then be available for any Vic-based Navy ESOs to borrow for events that they may be holding separately). Many thanks Captain David Garnock for organizing this Marquee! Thanks also goes to Ron Lyon who represented the NLA Vic Tas Division Executive and passed on information about the Navy League to interested people.

### 4 FEBRUARY 2023 - LONSDALE CUP RACE

The Lonsdale Cup race which is usually held at the Royal Victorian Motor Yacht Club in February 2023 was cancelled due to bad weather.