



# NAVY LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA

## VIC-TAS DIVISION

## SEPTEMBER 2019

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“Keeping Watch over the Maritime Wellbeing of Australia”

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Photo courtesy Alf Bachelder

## STOP PRESS

**HMAS CHOULES** will be at Station Pier during Navy Week in October. The ship will be open to the public. As soon as details are confirmed, we will let you know

## Farewell HMAS MELBOURNE

HMAS Melbourne III is to be decommissioned on 26 October 2019. Read our special “Freedom of Entry” article on pages 2-5. Below are some details of the ship.

### Commanding Officer -

[Commander Marcus Buttler](#)

**Class** - Adelaide Class

**Type** - [Frigate, Guided Missile \(FFG\)](#)

### Role

- Undersea Warfare
- Over the Horizon Targeting
- Surveillance
- Boarding Support
- Search and Rescue (SAR)
- Utility Operations

### Pennant

- FFG 05

### International Callsign

- VKLP

### Motto

- Vires Acquirat Eundo  
(She gathers strength as she goes)

### Home Port

- [Fleet Base East](#)

### Builder

- Australian Marine Eng (Consolidated), Williamstown

### Laid Down

- 12 July 1985

### Launched

- 5 May 1989

### Commissioned

- 15 February 1992

# HMAS MELBOURNE



*Photos courtesy Alf Bachelder - HMAS Melbourne rounding Port Fairy; and docked at Station Pier*

## DETAILING SOME ASPECTS OF NAVAL “FREEDOM OF ENTRY TO MELBOURNE” HISTORY

*Author: Frank McCarthy, Hon Vice President*

*21 September 2019*

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019, Royal Australian Navy personnel, with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, bands playing and colours flying, marched through the streets of Melbourne, exercising the RAN's “Freedom of Entry” to the city. The marchers were from the Ship's Company of HMAS Melbourne, FFG05, on her last visit to her namesake city, prior to decommissioning in Sydney on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2019. They joined with RAN band members from HMAS Cerberus, the Navy's premier training establishment.

The history of the “Freedom of Entry” ceremony dates back to medieval times throughout Europe, when 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, attack and looting was ever present. Hence, whenever armed bodies travelled to 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 (FOE) to the city. FOE signified the true bonds of friendship and often the expectation that the armed body on whom the honour was bestowed would assist in the defence of the city.

Through its British heritage, the Australian Defence Force (ADF) has maintained the tradition of FOE 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. Shortly thereafter, the Unit exercises its right of FOE by marching through the city in full regalia. The Unit is then challenged by a senior Police Officer, and after producing evidence in the form of the “Freedom of Entry scroll”, the Unit is granted permission to enter. The “Scroll” conferring the Royal Australian Navy FOE to the City of Melbourne on all ceremonial occasions with “swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, bands playing and colours flying” was presented in 1971. It was prepared by hand with a Moroccan leather cover and utilizes a traditional style of illuminating design and colour.

The Scroll incorporates the armorial bearings of the Corporation of the City of Melbourne, plus the official badge of the Royal Australian Navy, and features many of the Navy's battle honours.



<http://www.navy.gov.au/history/tradition/freedom-entry>

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019, the Navy again exercised its rights and privileges in honour of this tradition. Including this September 2019 FOE ceremony, the RAN, over the past almost 49 years, has exercised their FOE to the City of Melbourne on four occasions.

Both Ships Numbers 1 and 2 were built in the United Kingdom, whilst the current third HMAS Melbourne was built to a modified United States design at the Amecon Ship Yard in Williamstown, Victoria. HMAS Melbourne is the third ship so named and follows Ship Number 1, a World War I light cruiser and Ship Number 2, an aircraft carrier that saw service during the Malayan emergency and Indonesian confrontation F.E.S.R. period. The guided missile Frigate HMAS Melbourne FFG05 was launched in Melbourne on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1989. The Ship was commissioned in Melbourne on February 15<sup>th</sup> 1992.

The 1971 FOE parade and ceremony of 8<sup>th</sup> March included guests among whom were Chief of Navy (CN) Vice-Admiral Richard I Peek, who in later years was appointed to the Navy League Advisory Council Panel of members. Also included in the 1971 FOE to Melbourne was Senior Naval Officer Victoria (SNOVIC) Commodore Ian K Purvis together with 1000 of the Ships' Companies from HMAS Cerberus and HMAS Hobart. The next FOE to Melbourne took place in March of 1988. The march was led by SNOVIC CDRE Jim S Dixon with special guests at the ceremony including Governor General Sir Ninian Stephen and CN VADM Michael W Hudson. The 600 marchers included Ships' Companies from HMAS Cerberus and also from HMA ships Success, Brisbane, Darwin and Stuart which were visiting Melbourne for the 1988 Moomba Celebrations. Following on from the Melbourne FOE of 1988, came the next FOE to Melbourne in September 2011. The March was led by Fleet Commander RADM Steve Gilmore, closely followed by SNOVIC Commanding Officer of HMAS Cerberus, Captain Mark Hill, accompanied by the Executive Officer



of Cerberus, CMDR Shane Glasscock and CO of the Recruit School, CMDR Paul O'Grady. In excess of 1000 Naval personnel from HMAS Cerberus participated in the 2011 Ceremony, together with the Lord Mayor of Melbourne and Deputy Commissioner of Police, Tim Cartwright. Also, in attendance were CN VADM Ray Griggs and RADM Allan du Toit.

In terms of procedures and formalities, the 4<sup>th</sup> FOE to Melbourne of September 2019, followed similar lines to the 3 prior ceremonies with a senior Naval officer in attendance, including CN VADM Michael Noonan and CDRE Greg Yorke. The Senior Police representative was Supt Peter O'Neill.



<http://news.navy.gov.au/en/Sep2019/Events/5460/HMAS-Melbourne-exercises-Freedom-of-Entry-one-last-time.htm#.XYg0aygzblU>

LSIS Kieran Dempsey (photographer)

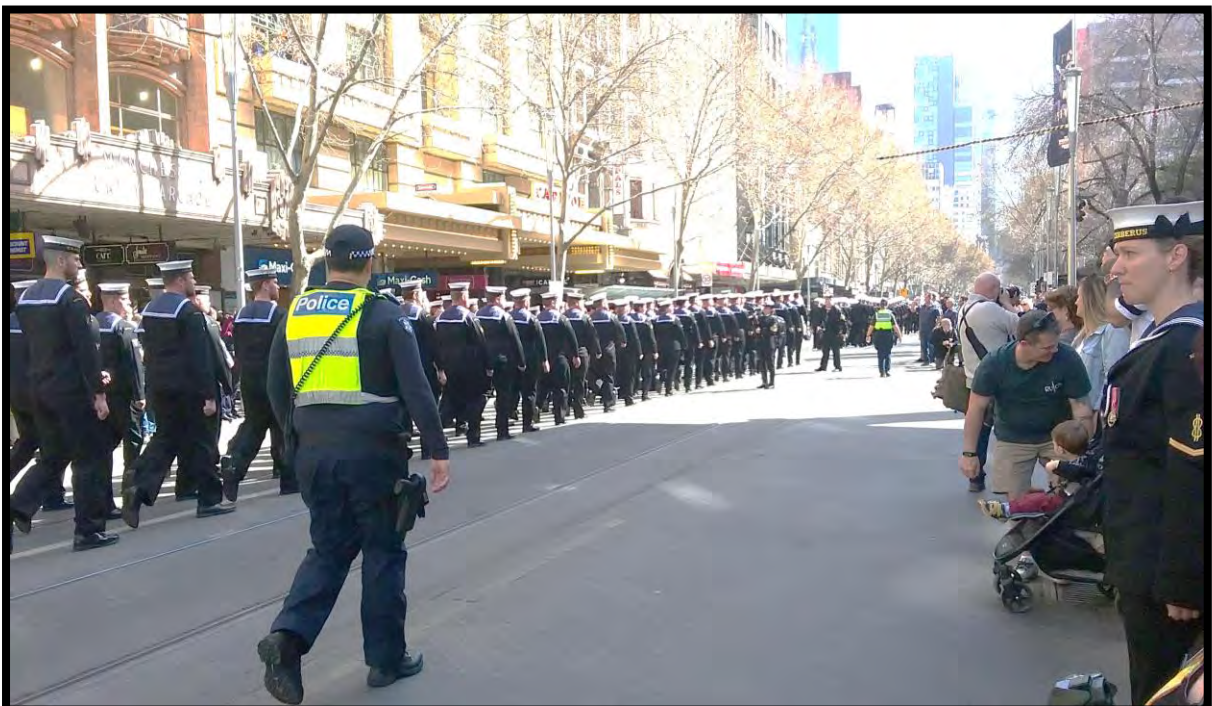


Photo courtesy Ken Crook

The 200 Officers and Sailors marching in the September 2019 FOE to Melbourne from the Ships' Company of HMAS Melbourne, together with the band members from HMAS Cerberus, were led by HMAS Melbourne's Commanding Officer CMDR Marcus Buttler. The City of Melbourne visit by HMAS Melbourne also provided Melbournians with the opportunity to visit and farewell the Ship prior to her decommissioning in Sydney in October 2019 after almost 28 years of service to Australia.



*Photo Courtesy Tim Ryan  
HMAS Melbourne leaving Melbourne for the last time.*



*Photo courtesy Mick Powell  
Guided Missile Launching System*

*For more of our members' photos, please go to our NLA FACEBOOK page  
<https://www.facebook.com/Navy-League-of-Australia-Vic-Tas-Div-770292556475372/>*

*Great photos also available at the Royal Australian Navy website  
<https://navaltoday.com/2019/09/16/australian-frigate-melbourne-on-final-visit-to-namesake-city/?uid=6894>*



# Nuship Sydney starts builder sea trials



**CAPTION:** Air warfare destroyer NUSHIP Sydney departs Osborne Shipyards for the first time as it commences its builder's sea trials. Photo by Simon Casson.

Royal Australian Navy's third air-warfare destroyer, NUSHIP Sydney, has commenced its first phase of sea trials, which will test the ship's hull, propulsion and navigation systems.

This initial trial phase will be followed by a more advanced phase of sea trials in October to test the ship's combat and communications systems in preparation for delivery and commissioning next year.

Minister for Defence Linda Reynolds said industry played a fundamental role in the input into Defence capability.

"Over the past decade, more than 5000 people from across the Department of Defence, ASC, Raytheon Australia and Navantia have dedicated millions of hours of work towards delivering the most capable warships ever to be operated by the Royal Australian Navy," Minister Reynolds said.

"This is underpinned by more than 2700 suppliers who have supported the AWD Alliance in its efforts to expand Australian Industry Capability for the overall program.

"Through the AWD program we have created a local workforce with specialist shipbuilding and complex systems integration skills that will form the foundation for future shipbuilding projects in Australia."

Minister Reynolds' press release today made it clear that this third ship would be the last of this type built.

Reference: <https://www.contactairlandandsea.com/2019/09/16/nuship-sydney-starts-builder-sea-trials/>

# RAN Band Concert Calendar



*For enquiries, please contact the RAN BAND on tel: 035931 6012*

## **Wed 2 October Concert Band Soundwaves**

HMAS Cerberus Band & Cinema complex.

Time 1400-1500 and 1900-2000

## **Sun 6 October Concert Band/Big Band**

Port Arlington Parks Hall, 87 Newcombe St , Port Arlington

Time: to be advised.

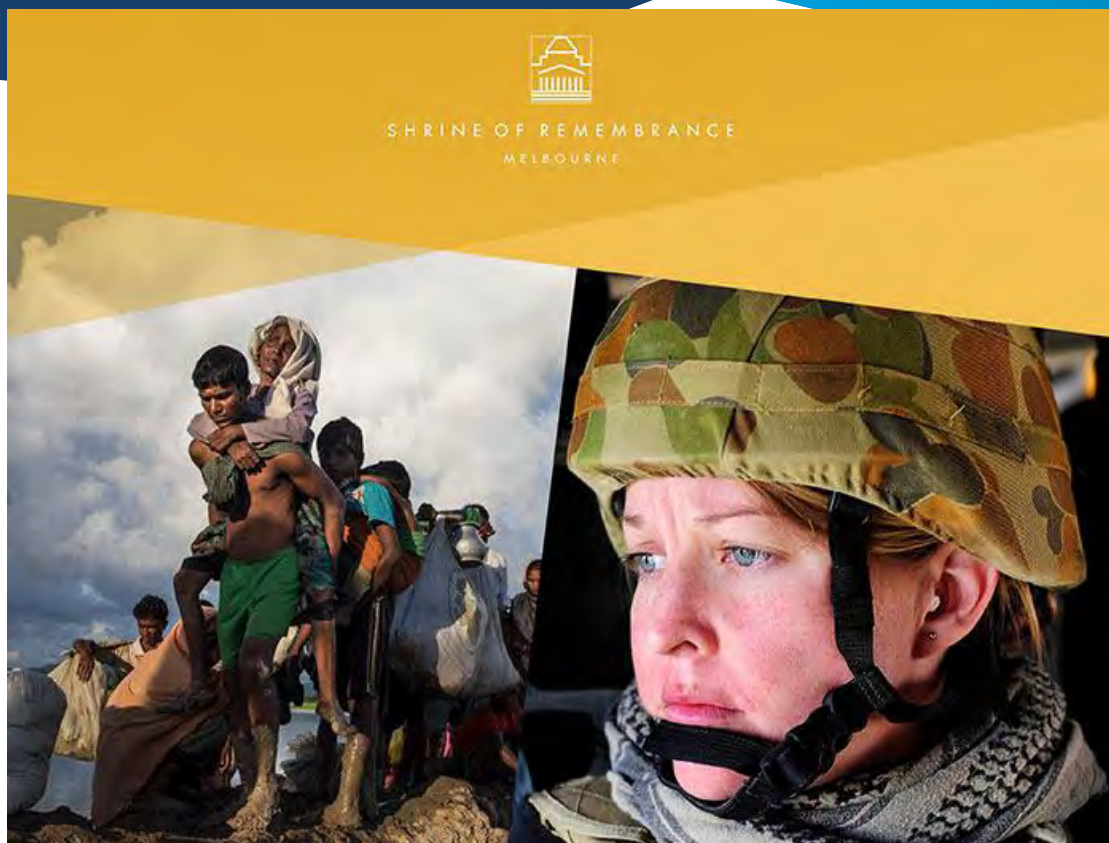


## **Sat 19 October Big Band Knox Seniors Festival closing concert**

Knox Civic Centre, 511 Burwood Highway, Wantirna South

Time: 1400-1600

# Shrine of Remembrance Report



[Bookings](#) required for talks and events. Cost \$5.

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

[Website](http://www.shrine.org.au): <http://www.shrine.org.au> Telephone 9661 8100

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM SEPTEMBER 2019

The school holiday program is on the theme of Peace. Families will have a short 30-minute tour of the galleries focusing on peace then will be invited into one of the Education pods to do a craft activity - folding paper cranes. The program will run each week day of the school holidays starting Monday 23 September (excluding Grand Final holiday) and concluding on Friday 4 October.

## SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE MEDAL



Nominations are now open for the 2018 Shrine of Remembrance Medal. Since 2008, the medal has been awarded in appreciation of those who work to honour the value of veterans' service and sacrifice to the community. To nominate someone you know for this prestigious award, complete and return the form by 5pm on Friday 4 October.



## SPECIAL EXHIBITION – CHANGED FOREVER

Legacies of conflict 11 September 2019 - 30 April 2021



In *Changed forever*, stories of migrants who have resettled in Australia from war-torn countries are presented beside those of recent veterans of overseas service in the Australian Defence Force. This moving exhibition explores the impacts of global and civil conflict in changing lives and shaping contemporary Australia. All have been redefined by the emotional and physical dislocation of war, and seek to reconcile this with their new lives.

Enhanced with art, objects, photographs, audio-visuals and interactives, their personal stories reflect the range and depth of experiences in conflict and life post war. *Changed forever* will tour these venues:

11 September – October 2019 Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne

24 October – 1 December 2019 Hume Global Learning Centre, Craigieburn

February – March 2020 RSL Memorial Hall, Bendigo

April – May 2020 Frankston Arts Centre, Frankston

8 August – 18 October 2020 Yarra Ranges Regional Museum, Lilydale

April 2021 Central Goldfields Art Gallery, Maryborough

## SERVICES

### Shrine Monthly Remembrance Service

Sunday 6 October 2019, 1:30pm - Wreath Laying in the Sanctuary

Shrine Representatives:

Shrine Trustee Graeme Plumridge

Shrine Governor Major Maggie More RFD

## RAN RECRUITS

Sunday 13 October 2019, 10:00am

Wreath Laying in the Sanctuary

Shrine Representatives:

Shrine Governor Commander Terry Makings AM

Shrine Governor Lieutenant Commander Jan Gallagher

# FROM THE SHRINE SHOP



## Poppy Leather Brooch

**\$19.99**

A thoughtful present or a stylish accessory, the poppy is the enduring symbol of remembrance and is captured faithfully in this smart addition to any outfit.



## War's End Badge

**\$7.99**

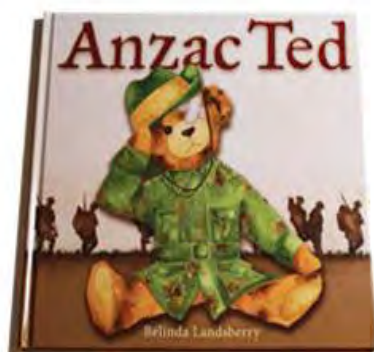
An enamel-filled metal badge to commemorate the end of the Great War and to honour Australian service and sacrifice. The 25mm badge fixes with a secure butterfly clasp. A keepsake and reminder to embrace the spirit of those who served.



## Little Armistice Flying Bear

**\$21.99**

A sweet little bear to remember those who served with the Australian Flying Corps in the Great War. Also available in the collection are Little Armistice Digger, Nurse Bear and Sailor Bear.



## Anzac Ted

Belinda Landsberry, EK Books

**\$18.99**

While several children's picture books cover the world wars, none has ever made the conflict so accessible to children by telling the story of a bear who went to war. This is a story that illustrates the ANZAC spirit and one that is guaranteed to touch the heart of every reader.