



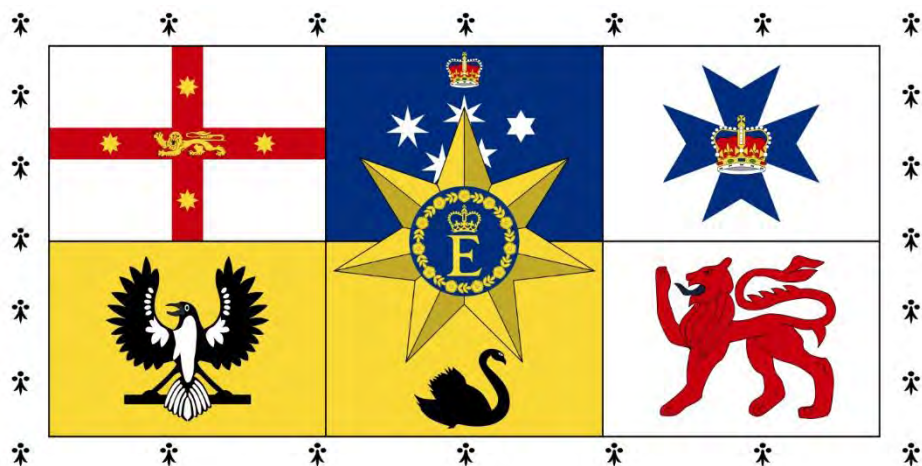
# HM Queen Elizabeth II Queen of the *Independent Sovereign Nation* of *Australia*

Secretary  
H.E the Governor General of Australia.

The Navy League of Australia ( Victoria Tasmania Division) respectfully requests that His Excellency convey to his Majesty the King and the Royal Family its deepest condolences on the sad occasion of the passing of Her late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth The Second.



The Queen's Personal Flag



*Personal flag for HM Queen Elizabeth II tours of Australia*

(RAN items from RAN Internet)

# ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

**Commander Michael Oborn, CSM, RAN** born Gladstone, Queensland in 1973, joined RAN and through the Australian Defence Force Academy in 1991 he read a Bachelor of Science.



During his Maritime Warfare Officer training CMDR Oborn served in HMA Ships *HMAS Torrens*, *Swan* and *Labuan*, before attaining his Bridge Warfare Certificate in *HMAS Darwin* in 1996.

1997 LEUT Oborn completed Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Officers course before taking up a role as Operations Officer of *Australian Clearance Diving Team One* in Sydney. From here LEUE Oborn served in *HMAS Huon* before being posted as Executive Officer of Australian Clearance Diving Team Four, in Western Australia.

In 2002 and 2003 LEUT Oborn served as Chief of Navy's Flag Lieutenant for both Vice Admirals Shackleton and Ritchie, and during this period was promoted LCDR.

2004 – LCDR Oborn posted in command of *HMAS Betano*, a Landing Craft Heavy based in Darwin.

2006, posted as Executive Officer of *HMAS Kanimbla* which was deployed in SW Pacific for Operation **QUICKSTEP**, the Australian Defence Force preparation for assistance to Australian personnel in Fiji.

July 2008 LCDR Oborn attended UK Advanced Command and Staff Course at Shrivenham together with more than 300 personnel representing 61 countries. He read his Masters of Arts from Kings College London.

2009 posted to United Kingdom's Amphibious Task Group operating and exercising in the North Atlantic, Atlantic and Arctic Circle.

January 2011 **CMDR Oborn** promoted and posted as Executive Officer *HMAS Cerberus* in December 2011, RAN's foremost and largest training establishment where he was awarded the Conspicuous Service Medal, **CSM**.

2015 CMDR Oborn posted to Afghanistan as Chief of International Engagements in the NATO Afghan National Army Trust Fund Office, within HQ of RESOLUTE Support Mission.

3 Dec. 2015 CMDR Michael Oborn posted in command of *HMAS Sirius*, Fleet Replenishment Vessel,

2019 Promoted CAPT and posted as CO *HMAS Cerberus*.

## RIMPAC 2022 -

Informally known as 'tanker taskforce', (**Exercise Rim of the Pacific**) saw for the **first time**, **CTF 173** commanded by a non American, **CAPT Michael Oborn CSM RAN**.

The **Command taskforce (CTF) 173** was more than support & replenishment as the combat logistics taskforce was nine vessels crewed by commercial, contracted and uniform personnel from three different nations. Headquarters included staff from Australia, United States, New Zealand, Canada, and France.

*"In some circles, combat logistics is not important until a ship runs out of fuel. If that happens, then my team and I have failed and I'd better start looking for a new job," Captain Oborn said.*

*"It is important and during RIMPAC we have worked hard to build strong relationships across a diverse ship-type crew model and nationality ensuring the taskforce was collegiate in its support to all RIMPAC ships."*

The taskforce capabilities range from towing, salvage and dive support to at sea underway transfer of fuel, munitions and stores.

Royal Malaysian Navy corvette KD *Lekir* Commanding Officer CMDR Mohd Asri bin Dasman said sea evolutions with CTF 173 were conducted safely and professionally.

*“To conduct an underway replenishment on the high seas in rough weather conditions was a challenge for the crew but we were able to successfully complete it,” Commander Asri said.*

*“I am happy with the professionalism shown by my crew and the 173 taskforce during refuelling.”*



*HMAS Supply conducts replenishment at sea with US Navy cruiser USS Mobile Bay during Exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2022. Story by Leading Seaman Kylie Jagiello. Photo by Leading Seaman Ernesto Sanchez.*

## HMAS CANBERRA Memorial Service at Sea .



*HMAS Canberra's (III) Ships Company parade on flight deck for the 80th anniversary commemorative service of the Battle of Savo Island. Story by LUET Nancy Cotton. Photo by Leading Seaman Matthew Lyall.*



**Eighty years after**

### **HMAS Canberra (I) sank in Battle of Savo Island**

500 members of HMAS *Canberra* (III) gather on flight deck to remember the 84 WW2 crew members who lost their lives. Sailing in company with HMA Ships *Supply* and *Warramunga*, the solemn sunset memorial was a time for reflection on the events that took place on August 9, 1942.



**84 flowers** – a flower for each life lost were carefully laid in the ship's bell, by members of HMAS *Canberra* (III) who hold similar roles or ranks on board as those who died.

## HMAS *Canberra* (III)



HMAS *Canberra*, lead ship of the two ship Canberra Class Amphibious Assault Ships is also known as a Landing Helicopter Dock (LHD).

Based on the *Buque de Proyección Estratégica* (Strategic Projection Ship) design by Spanish shipbuilders, Navantia, were built by contractors BAE Systems Australia and Navantia. Commissioned 28 Nov. 2014 it joined the RAN and in Mar. 2015 formally designated flagship.

These 27,000 tonne LHDs are the largest ships ever constructed for the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) as a world class sophisticated air-land-sea amphibious deployment system. They are able of contributing directly to Australia's defence, national interests and provide large-scale humanitarian assistance nationally & regional.



*A Chinook CH-47F aircraft from the 5th Aviation Regiment in Townsville makes an approach to HMAS Canberra while the ship is alongside in her home port of Sydney.*

A conventional steel monohull design is employed with the superstructure located on the starboard side of the flight deck and allow the shallowest possible draft to operate in secondary ports and harbours as well as manoeuvre in shallow waters common in the littoral regions.

There are four main decks; heavy

vehicle, accommodation, hangar and light vehicles and flight decks. Australian Army soldiers from **2nd Cavalry Regiment** loaded their ASLAVs (Australian Light-Armoured Vehicles) vehicles aboard HMAS *Canberra* in Townsville prior to a three-month deployment to Exercise RIMPAC 2016.



*Two of HMAS Canberra's landing craft prepare to enter the ship's well dock off the east coast of Oahu, Hawaii during Exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2016.*

The construction of the hull to the level of the flight deck and the majority of fit-out was undertaken at Navantia's shipyard in Ferrol, Spain. The hull was then transported by Heavy Lift Ship MV *Blue Marlin* to BAE Systems' shipyard in Williamstown, Victoria for final construction and fit-out such as the consolidation of the superstructure and installation of the Combat and Communication Systems.

The first LHD was named *Canberra* in an official naval ceremony on 15 February 2013. *Canberra* is the third ship to bear the name after the Kent Class heavy cruiser and Adelaide Class guided missile frigate.

Contractor sea trials commenced in February 2014 and were completed in September 2014. The Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) accepted

NUSHIP *Canberra* from BAE Systems in October 2014 and she sailed to her home port at Fleet Base East, Garden Island, Sydney later that month.

*Canberra* is able to conduct amphibious operations and land a force of over 1000 embarked personnel along with all their weapons, ammunition, vehicles and stores by LCM-1E landing craft, helicopters or a combination of both.

*Canberra* is capable of conducting large-scale humanitarian and disaster relief missions. The medical facility is of a size and scope of which would rival some regional hospitals equipped with two operating theatres, an eight bed Critical Care Unit, and a variety of low and medium dependency beds. In addition, the medical facility has dedicated areas to accommodate pathology and radiology services, x-ray, pharmacy and dental facilities. *Canberra* pennant number L02.

(edited reprint from ADF internet site)

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## SHRINE of REMEMBRANCE

Melbourne



### Shrine EXHIBITIONS

- **FOR KIN & COUNTRY** - The Indigenous First People combined traditional and modern skills to serve in the Australian Defence Forces from the Boer War to the present time.
- **LUST LOVE LOST** Complex issues surrounding matters of Love and Sex profoundly affect people everywhere and every day. Wartime is no exception.
- **DEFENDING WITH PRIDE** – This special exhibition reveals personal stories of LGBTQ+ service people and the journey from denial and exclusion to recognition and inclusion in the Australian Defence Force.
- **TOURING EXHIBITIONS** – Changed forever Legacies and Conflicts. This Shrine exhibition and at other venues in Victoria presents stories of migrants from war-torn countries and recent veterans of overseas service.
- **FLOWERS OF WAR** – Measuring over two metres in diameter and composed of more than 400 individual handcrafted brooches. Drawings of the First World War.

## SHRINE REMEMBRANCE SERVICES

September - October 2022

**Refer Internet for details.**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. - Last Post Service:
- 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. - Battle for Australia Wreath Laying:
- 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. – Battle of Bitia Paka (Rabaul 1914).
- 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. – Submarines Association of Australia.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. – Russian ANZACs Wreath Laying.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. – Last Post Service.
- 18<sup>th</sup> Sept. – Royal Airforce Association (Battle of Britain.)
- 18<sup>th</sup> Sept. - Last Post Service.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. – Australian Commando Association.



25<sup>th</sup>. Sept. - 2/14<sup>th</sup>. Battalion Association.  
 25<sup>th</sup>. Sept. - Last Post Service.  
 9<sup>th</sup>. Oct. - RAN Recruits.  
 9<sup>th</sup>. Oct. - Last Post Service.  
 12<sup>th</sup>. Oct. - Totally & permanently INCAPACITATED Ex-Servicemen & Women's Association Vic.  
 14<sup>th</sup>. Oct. - 2/ 4<sup>th</sup>. Field Regiment with Christ Church Grammar.  
 20<sup>th</sup>. Oct. - Shrine Monthly Service  
 21<sup>st</sup>. Oct. - 9<sup>th</sup>. Division Annual pilgrimage with Scotch College.  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct. - Last Post Service.  
 28<sup>th</sup>. Oct. - RSL of Australia Hellenic Sub-Branch.  
 30<sup>th</sup> Oct. - Czechoslovak Ex-Servicemen's League.  
 30<sup>th</sup>. Oct. - RAN Recruits.  
 30<sup>th</sup> Oct. - Last Post Service.  
 31<sup>st</sup>. Oct - Armistice of Madros.

## RAN WW2+ - Individuals of the past.

**HOPMAN, A. LCDR RANR, MBE, RFD\*, RD, BRONZE CROSS (Neth).**



PLOTTING A NEW COURSE: LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER Aart Hopman, RANR, 10 December 1936  
doing chart work on the Junee during the Geraldton minesweeping exercise.



Dutch  
Bronze Cross  
awarded to  
SBLT  
Hopman RNN  
(later LCDR  
RANR) for his  
meritorious

service in RNN Submarine K-XV, commanded by Baron Van Boetzelaer. The combined Allied Force (ABDA) lacked air reconnaissance as ABDA air was controlled by US Maj-Gen Brereton USAAF, fresh from the loss of the Philippines. He was soon

replaced by Air Marshall Pierse RAF. The combined RAN, RNN, US, UK Fleet engaged Japanese Naval forces 28 Feb - 1 Mar. 1942 who were landing infantry at Bantam Bay and Soerabaja in Netherlands East Indies. The Allies ABDA Fleet was defeated.



The combined Allied naval forces fighting the Japanese in NEI - South West Pacific were:

- **Royal Netherlands Navy (RNN):** 3 cruisers-**2 lost**, 7 Destroyers-**7 lost**, 28 Minesweepers-**7 lost**, 15 submarines-**8 lost**, 43 Misc. craft -**34 lost**,
- **United States Navy (USN):** 3

cruisers-**1 lost**, 13 Destroyers-**3 lost**, 28 submarines-**3 lost**, 12 Misc. craft-**3 lost**,

- **Royal Navy (RN):** 3 cruisers-**1 lost**, 6 destroyers-**4 lost**, 7 Misc. craft-**4 lost**,
- **Royal Australian Navy (RAN):** 2 cruisers-**1 lost**, 1 sloop- **lost**, 7 corvettes.

Many heroic naval actions were recorded as ABDA forces tried to halt the Japanese advance starting with the battle of the Java Sea when USS *Houston* and HMAS *Perth* were both lost. RNN K-XV submarine subsequently survived more than 67 depth charges during this action. The K-XV headed for Colombo after their base at Soerabaja was overrun by the Japanese. A special patrol for K-XV was then mounted to take a Dutch Army officer ashore at Tarusan Bay near Padang, to make a contact in that area. SBLT Hopman RNN and a sailor volunteered to take the Army officer ashore into Japanese occupied Dutch territory on 13th May 1942. They rowed ashore in an orange coloured rubber dinghy for it was early in the war and camouflaging was not fully operational. SBLT Hopman and the sailor returned to this shore ten days later, 23rd May, risking their own lives to recover the officer from Japanese occupied territory. This was repeated on 24th & 25th May, not knowing the officer, who they were informed of at the end of war had been captured, interrogated and beheaded. For this and other actions Hopman awarded the prestigious **Dutch Bronze Cross**.

Many surviving Dutch vessels, naval and merchant service, sailed to Australia and operated from Australian ports providing badly needed merchant service assistance in transporting troops and equipment to New Guinea for Australian and US forces.

Up until that time there had been insufficient merchant navy support available for troops fighting in New Guinea. The retreating Dutch merchant navy units from the NEI were quickly employed in carrying urgently needed supplies, equipment and Australian troops to the SW Pacific area as Japanese troops landed and consolidated in several South West Pacific island areas, one force advancing overland to attack Port Moresby.

After the war SBLT Aart Hopman became an Australian citizen, married an Australian and joined the Royal Australian Navy. He served full time for many years in Western and Northern Australia and finally, until retirement, in Naval Intelligence for which he received the Royal Australian Naval Reserve Decoration (**RD**), Reserve Force Decoration and Bar (**RFD\***) and was honoured to become a Member of the British Empire (**MBE**) for his considerable contribution to Naval Intelligence. His training was with the Netherlands Merchant Service and Naval Academy. His photographic memory saw him become a highly respected master of systems analysis on DNI's staff as A/DNI Surveillance.



(Notes by CMDR J.M. Wilkins OAM RFD\* 2014)

## RAN Nuclear Training

### Specialised nuclear training courses in UK and USA

UK Prime Minister announced that Royal Australian Navy submariners will train aboard the UK's newest Astute-class nuclear submarine HMS Anson.

This announcement was made during a visit to England by Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence Richard Marles who attended the commissioning of HMS *Anson*



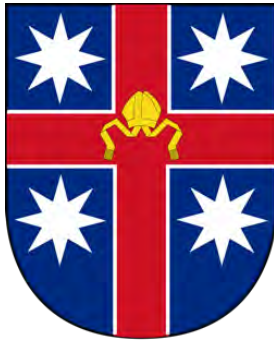
at BAE Systems, Barrow, this week. Royal Australian Navy personnel have already commenced specialised nuclear training courses in the UK and USA – with more will follow next year – before going to sea. Deputy Prime Minister Marles said that having Royal Australian Navy submariners train alongside Royal Navy crews was an important step under the

AUKUS partnership.

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# ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL MELBOURNE



## 115<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SEAFARER'S SERVICE



*ALL WELCOME*



**SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> OCT. 2022 10.00 AM.**

The Annual **Company of Master Mariner's Seafarers** remembrance gathering at the Diocese of Melbourne St Pauls Cathedral supported by representatives of **Royal Australian Navy, Mission to Seafarers Victoria, Navy League of Australia, Naval Association of Australia, Naval Historical Society, Naval Officers Club, Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria** and members of the public interested in Australia's Maritime heritage.



**NCCV**



# RAN WW2 - Another Individual of the past.

## A COASTWATCHER

ANDRESEN, Albert Molkin, Sub-Lieut RANVR,

MID - For bravery and enterprise in **Coastwatcher** reconnaissance operations, (20 February, 1945).



US President's  
Medal of Freedom -

For meritorious Service which aided the US in the prosecution of the war against Japan in the SW Pacific area 7 April - 1 Oct 1943.

As a Coastwatcher he was located on Ysabel Island overlooking Rekata Bay, the Japanese seaplane base accurately reporting on enemy air and surface craft, directing attacks against the base and rescuing downed US airmen. Later on **Choisel island** his aggressive action confined the Japanese to the extreme northernmost area of the island.



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## An invitation

from the Victorian Executive to become a member of

# The Navy League Of Australia



The Hon. Secretary,  
Navy League of Australia, (Vic. Div.),

P.O. Box 146

WARRANDYTE Vic. 3113

Post-To pay my membership fee of \$35  
or apply to join the Navy League  
of Australia

Subscriptions are due on 1 July in each year

On behalf of the executive it is  
with great pleasure that I invite you  
to join our growing ranks and become  
a financial member of the Navy League.  
To do this, simply complete the Application Form, and  
post it together with your first annual subscription of  
only \$35 (which includes mailed copies  
of the quarterly editions of 'The Navy') to the  
Hon. Secretary, Navy League of Australia (Vic)

LCDR Roger Blythman RFD\*

Victorian President

The Navy League was first established in Australia in 1900, as a small branch of the Navy League in the United Kingdom (established in 1897). In 1950 an autonomous national body was formed in Australia headed by a Federal Council consisting of a Federal Council with a Federal President and representatives from each of the States and Territories.

The Navy League of Australia is one of a number of independent Navy Leagues formed in countries of the free world to enhance and maintain the maritime well-being of the Nation through influencing public thinking on maritime matters and creating interest in the sea.

The Navy League of Australia membership is open to any person with an interest in maritime affairs, or wishing to acquire an interest in, or knowledge of, maritime affairs and will support the objectives of the League.

**"The Maintenance of the Maritime Well-being of Australia"**

is the principal objective of the Navy League of Australia

Name (Mr) (Mrs) (Ms) (Rank).....  
Street.....  
Suburb.....State.....Postcode.....  
Phone.....Mobile.....  
Email.....  
Signature.....Date.....