



BROADSIDE

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Editorial



The Army Littoral Manoeuvre Project HMAS Cerberus' Contribution



The 2024 National Defence Strategy outlined the importance of Army developing the capability to move, deploy and support land forces across coastal and island regions. To achieve this capability, the Littoral Manoeuvre Program, known as LAND 8710, has been created.

At the centre of L8710, is the requirement to construct 8 Landing Craft-Heavy (LCH) vessels and 18 Landing Craft-Medium (LCM) vessels. The new LCHs will be 100m long and the LCMs will be 60m long. The construction of these 26 vessels has recently commenced in AUSTAL's shipyard in Henderson, WA. By way of comparison, many readers will have served on HMAS Tobruk or the Balikpapan Class LCH's which were 127m and 44m long respectively.

Delivery of the first vessel is anticipated in 2028 and the final vessel in 2038. A mixture of the vessels will be based in Darwin, North Qld and South-East Qld. The amphibious fleet will require a substantial increase in the number of personnel to be trained to maintain and

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Events Calendar

(see [Calendar](#) for full details)

NOTE:



For information on all Shrine ceremonies:

Phone: 03 9661 8100 or,

Email: ceremonies@shrine.org.au

14 Oct – Defence Force School of Music "At Home Concert" – Simpson Barracks

18-Oct – 1000 – Seafarers Service – St Paul's Cathedral

21-Oct – 11:00 – HMAS Lismore Commemorative Service – Shrine Reserve – Memorial Tree F01

21-Oct – 1400 & 1900 – Soundwaves Concert – HMAS Cerberus Band & Cinema complex

24-Oct – 11:00 – Battle of Leyte Gulf – Shrine - Near Memorial Trees B32 and B36

26-Oct – 19:00 – Naval Historical Society AGM – Clayton RSL – Sovereign bistro

operate these vessels. The LCH will operate with a crew of 18-32 personnel and the LCM will operate with a crew of 10-15.



Artist's impression of the LCH (above) and the LCM (below)



To achieve the growth in Army personnel that will be required to operate the LCHs and LCMs an increasing number of green uniforms can be seen marching to instruction each day at the Technical Training School at Cerberus. Army Marine Technicians are now studying alongside Navy Marine Technician Propulsion sailors with instruction being delivered by both Chisholm TAFE and uniformed staff.

Whilst much of the attention is on the basing of the vessels in the north, it is encouraging to see the new and recently refurbished buildings at Cerberus supporting the rapidly developing L8710 capability.

29-Oct – 11:00-12:30 – RAN Big Band – Knox Seniors Festival 2026 Closing Event – 790 Mountain Hwy Bayswater Vic

11-Nov - 10:30 - Victorian State Remembrance Day Ceremony - Shrine - WWII forecourt

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Latest Videos and News Headlines

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VIDEOS

- CN, DCN and WO-N discuss the importance of wellbeing
- HMAS Supply Search and Rescue
- Get to know the Deputy Chief of Navy

• • •

NEWS shorts.....

'Risking billions': US Navy's massive shipyard overhaul lacks oversight, watchdog says

Pharmacists are not typically the first profession associated with military health, yet their contribution is critical.

The sixth of the Royal Navy's leading-edge hunter killer submarines today sailed for the first time as she prepares for front-line operations. Nuclear powered and conventionally armed, HMS Agamemnon is the latest Astute-class submarine to be delivered by BAE Systems.

One deck below the five-inch gun on the forecastle of HMAS Sydney, the 'gunbusters' are closed up in the gun machinery room, Mount 51, in preparation for an international naval gunfire serial. The order comes through the headsets that the shoot is about to begin:



The MT Simulation Building (above) and the Engineering Workshop (below).



Yours Aye!
NVN Team

OUR SEPTEMBER HERO



LCDR John Stuart MOULD, GC, GM

LCDR John Mould was an extraordinary Australian naval officer, bomb disposal expert, and architect. He remains one of Australia's most decorated heroes of World War II.

Enlisting in the Royal Australian Naval Volunteer Reserve in 1940, Mould volunteered for 'special duties ashore' -- service in the Royal

Australia's ability to design, adapt and assure complex naval capability will be central to building a more self-reliant, innovative and resilient maritime industrial base.

Forces from the RAN and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) conducted a bilateral maritime exercise to enhance combined warfighting skills.

We understand that veterans on the pension who travel overseas for short periods often continue to have everyday living costs in Australia, like energy, phone and internet bills. So we're pleased to report that the time a pensioner can travel overseas before their Pension Supplement is affected has doubled from 6 weeks to 12 weeks.

What does this mean?

Inside the flooded ballast tanks of a Virginia-class submarine, where there is no natural light and spaces are tighter than shoulder-width, Royal Australian Navy divers are learning how to sustain one of the world's most advanced undersea platforms.

HMAS Sydney Surface Warfare Officer LEUT Fergus Buckley recently spent a week on board JS Fuyuzuki, a Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) Akizuki-class destroyer, in the western Pacific Ocean.

ADV Reliant recently delivered vital equipment and stores to sustain Fiji's maritime security capability during a port visit in Suva.

The UK and US have conducted a live firing of Mk 48 heavyweight torpedo from an uncrewed underwater vehicle as part of the AUKUS program, marking the first time either country has launched a torpedo from an uncrewed undersea vessel.

Navy's Rendering Mines Safe (RMS) section. He routinely risked his life defusing unexploded German acoustic and magnetic mines dropped over Britain. Mould was awarded the George Medal in April 1942, followed by the George Cross -- the highest Commonwealth award for non-combat gallantry -- in November 1942. Notably, he successfully recovered and defused the first live German moored magnetic mine, securing vital intelligence for the Allies. He also co-designed a revolutionary diving suit with an independent air supply.

[Continue reading about another of our famous "Yachties" heroic deeds.....](#)



If you know of any of our Navy family who has crossed the bar and doesn't appear on our list below or Memorial Wall on our website, please don't hesitate to contact the webmaster at: navyvictoria@gmail.com. If possible, list their Rank, Name, Number, the date of their passing and their age. Thank you.

- † I. Steel, R118887, 21 September 2026
- † NAAH D.C. Wilson, R93949, 18 September 2026. Aged 80.
- † NAA F.S. Ockwell, R104445, 17 September 2026. Aged 74.
- † WRSBA W.K. Bartlett, WR4323, September 2026. Aged 93.
- † LSUCSM A.M. Urquhart, R62806, 12 September 2026. Aged 79.
- † CMDR D.F. Webb, O.43069, 12 September 2026. Aged 78.
- † CPOUCSM J.L. Harding, R59391, 11 September 2026. Aged 81.
- † POEWR I.H. Robinson, R64137, 11 September 2026. Aged 81.
- † WORS F.J. Hicks, R105202, 01 September 2026. Aged 75.
- † LSRP K.J. Dunne, R37371, August 2026. Aged 95.
- † P. Croser, 28 August 2026.
- † LASE D.J.S. Christie, R62973, 15 August 2026. Aged 81.
- † ABRP D.G. Rowan, R109514, 09 August 2026. Aged 70.
- † LSMTP B.P. Curtis, R106501, 16 July 2026. Aged 74.

All of the above names now appear on the special [Memorial Wall](#) of our website.

Lest We Forget

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CALLING ALL VICTORIAN BIRDIES: The Banyan is ON!

Whether you turned spanners on Trackers, flew Sea Kings, or are currently working on, or flying in Navy's modern airframes, it is time to muster.

If you are a birdie, ever were a birdie, and as long as you know what

The image on the sonar screen in HMAS Sydney's Combat Information Centre indicated a submarine was below the surface, prompting an immediate reaction.

A decade ago, medical officer LEUT Kiri Nothdurft had perfected a familiar explanation about her role as a meteorology and oceanography officer (METOC).

The Royal Australian Navy and Royal New Zealand Navy have reinforced their enduring maritime partnership through the signing of Plan Tasman.

Defence's Mental Health and Safety Campaign 2026 encourages Navy personnel to proactively think about wellbeing and staying connected.

From 20 September 2026, some veterans and veteran family members will receive an increase in their DVA pension and compensation payments.

China's propaganda is often mocked as blunt, loud and tone-deaf. But state-backed researchers are trying to make it more sophisticated.

A senate committee has recommended a Defence report into a 2023 army helicopter crash that killed four men be reviewed, after claims of corruption and fabricated evidence.

Around midnight, HMAS Perth comes alive as the ship's company swap places with each other. As one person goes to the gym, to eat or to sleep, the other takes up their position on watch.

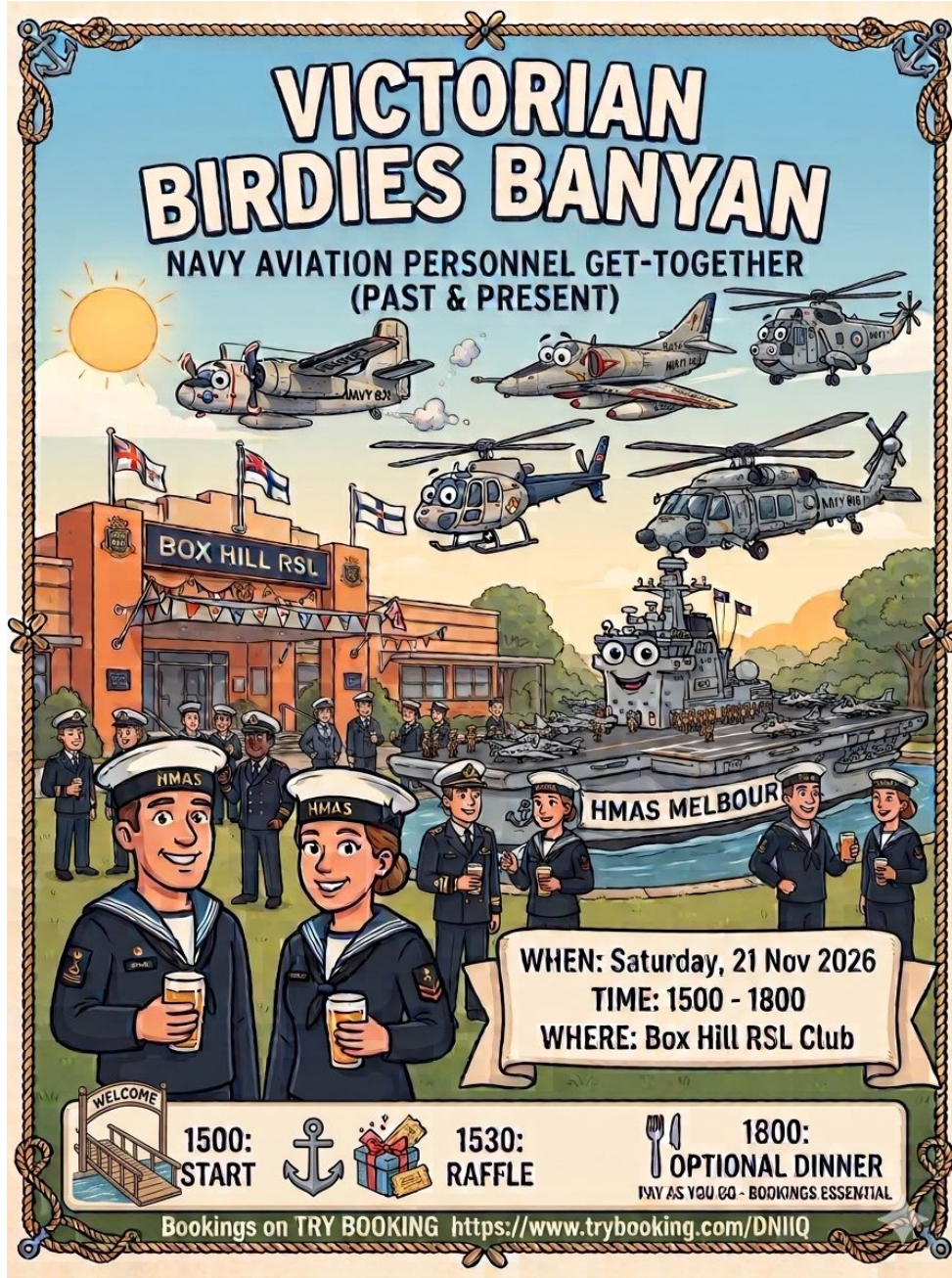
A first-of-its-kind replenishment at sea (RAS) held special significance for POMT Nimrod Arevalo, who returned to his birth country in Australian uniform.

a SeaHawk, a Squirrel, a Draggie, a Taipan or even a Sea Venom looks like, you'll be welcome.

Only eligibility is that you spent at least one day in the Navy as part of the Naval Aviation branches (flying, fixing or supporting) or have/had a significant connection with Australian Naval Aviation.

The Victorian Birdies Banyan is locked in for Saturday, 21 November 2026 at the Box Hill RSL (1500–1800).

What to expect:



The Australian Government have heard from veterans about their concerns and is taking the proposed \$5,000 threshold off the table.

The Ethos of the Profession of Arms suite of doctrine shapes the conduct and identity of personnel.

USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) recently operated with Royal Australian Navy frigates in the South China Sea, the Australian Department of Defense announced.

A new vessel spotted at a Chinese shipyard is likely the world's first mothership designed to deploy submarine drones.

While sailing on a regional presence deployment, HMAS Supply responded to a real-world search-and-rescue operation in the Indian Ocean.

LCDR David Waldie achieved a special milestone during this year's Defence Blood Drive after making his 100th blood or plasma donation.

HMAS Choules has returned to Australia following a 60-day deployment supporting Exercise Pacific Partnership 2026.

Australia has played an active role in peace operations since the earliest days of international peacekeeping efforts.

Naval drones (USVs) have become increasingly prominent in the Russo-Ukrainian War since 2022. Today, in a world first, two naval drones engaged in combat.

HMAS Stalwart recently delivered fuel to the Harold E. Holt Communications Station, reinforcing the essential role of sustainment in maintaining Defence capability and readiness.

HMAS PERTH REUNION



The HMAS Perth Association Qld. Area will be conducting a reunion on the weekend of the 15th to 17th October 2027 in Brisbane, if interested please email Terry McLeod: hmasperthqld@gmail.com for any further information.



HMAS Arafura completed a series of remotely piloted aircraft system trials in Cockburn Sound, Western Australia.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said on Tuesday it had captured a U.S. uncrewed submarine at the entrance to the Strait of Hormuz.

HMAS Stalwart has recorded its 100th replenishment at sea (RAS) since its introduction to service in November 2021.

In the South China Sea, two Australian warships operated with each other for the first time in years to conduct a replenishment at sea (RAS).

Navy's inaugural Aviation Technical Gap Year cohort graduated from the RAAF School of Technical Training (RAAFSTT) recently, marking a significant milestone for the new workforce initiative.

Former senator Natasha Stott Despoja will lead a new inquiry into sexual violence within the Australian Defence Force.

HMAS Perth's crew sharpened their skills with boat drills in the waters off the coast of Vietnam, in the South China Sea.

Evolved Cape-class patrol boats HMA Ships Spencer and Hawke were commissioned into service in a ceremony at HMAS Cairns, Queensland, on August 27.

Consultation is now open to help shape allied health arrangements.

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