



BROADSIDE

July 2019

Volume 9 Edition 7

Editorial

NVN current membership: 1122

Navy Farewells Ships in Fine Tradition

Under blue winter skies, the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) farewelled two stalwarts of the fleet with the decommissioning of HMAS *Success* (29 June) and HMAS *Newcastle* (30 June) at Fleet Base East, Garden Island, Sydney. The host for the decommissioning's was the Commander Australian Fleet, Rear Admiral Jonathan Mead AM RAN and the guest of honour was the Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AO, QC. Chief of Navy Vice, Admiral Michael Noonan AO RAN was also welcomed onto the parades. Regrettably, the newly appointed Minister for Defence was unable to attend and was represented by the Assistant Defence Minister, The Honourable Alex Hawke MP at *Success's* decommissioning ceremony and Member for Reid, Dr. Fiona Martin MP at *Newcastle's* decommissioning ceremony.

What all ships have in common is that when they are in commission, they fly a distinctive white pennant with a red St Georges cross on it at the mast head to indicate their status. Known as the 'commissioning pennant' it is a visual indicator that the ship is in service and it is normally only displaced by a Royal standard, a senior officer's broad pennant or distinguishing flag. However, when a ship reaches the end of its life, it is customary for it to fly a decommissioning pennant, sometimes referred to as a paying off pennant, on its last voyage into its home port.

When a ship is decommissioned the lowering of the Australian National Flag, Australian White Ensign and the Commissioning Pennant is the symbolic indication that the ship has reached its service life.

Throughout the life of any ship there is a constant turn-over of

Events Calendar

(see website calendar for full details)

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27 Jul – Korea Veterans Day.

31 Jul – RAN Big Band performing at Wonthaggi Community Arts Centre.

02 Aug – HMAS Cerberus Ceremonial Divisions.

06 Aug – 119 years ago, South Australian ship PROTECTOR sails for the Boxer Rebellion under the command of CAPT W.R. Creswell.

07 Aug – Soundwaves Concert in Cinema HMAS Cerberus, 1400 & 1900.

08 Aug – Naval Gazing – Carrum Downs Secondary School, HMAS Cerberus.

09 Aug – 77th Anniversary of loss of HMAS Canberra – Service at Shrine.

10 Aug – Lemnos Memorial Service.

11 Aug – OP PEDESTAL Commemorative Service.

15 Aug – Victory in the Pacific Service.

16 Aug – Recruit School graduation.

18 Aug – Vietnam Veterans Day – march and Service.

25 Aug – Fleet Air Arm Association Memorial Service at HMAS Cerberus.

31 Aug-07 Sep – Legacy Week – please give generously.

03 Sep – Merchant Navy Day, service at Shrine.

04 Sep – Battle for Australia Memorial Service.

04 Sep – Soundwaves Concert in Cinema HMAS Cerberus, 1400 & 1900.

11 Sep – Battle of Bitka Paka Service.

13-18 Sep – HMAS Melbourne visits, berths at Station Pier – TBC.

personnel who, together as a crew, share good times and bad. It is the crew that breathes life into any warship, and it is fair to say that it is the performance and bearing of a crew that gives any ship its reputation. It is not uncommon for several generations of sailors to be in attendance to farewell their 'old ship' which has been both their workplace and home on the high seas.

HMAS *Success* II was based on the French 'Durance' class ship and she was built in Sydney at the Cockatoo Dockyard. She was launched from her slipway on the 3 March 1984 by her launching lady, Her Excellency Lady Stephen, wife of the then Governor General of Australia and commissioned into the RAN on the 23 April 1986. She is the largest ship built entirely in Australia for the RAN and the largest ship ever built in the port of Sydney.

HMAS *Success* II was an Auxiliary Oiler Replenishment vessel of 18,000 tonne fully loaded and 157.2 metres in length. She is not the first ship to be named Success. In all, 19 British men-of-war ships were known to have carried the name, most during the 17th and 18th century.

HMAS *Success* II deployed in support of Peacekeeping operations in East Timor as well as being deployed to the Middle East Region. Success received the Battle Honours and Campaign Awards from: KUWAIT 1991 and East Timor 1999-2000

HMAS *Success* II has had 24 Commanding Officers over her lifetime in which 13 attended the decommissioning ceremony, in addition to many former officers and sailors. Success was designed in Australia and had over 430 Australian companies contributing to her construction. She steamed over one million nautical miles, equating to 40 times the earth's circumference. She replenished Australian and coalition ships with fuel, food and other critical supplies over 3,500 times. Of note, Warrant Officer Marine Technician Werner Stach, who was a member of the commissioning crew, was also part of the decommissioning crew. Werner had the honour of switching off *Success's* engines for the last time.

HMAS *Newcastle* was named after the City of Newcastle and is the first RAN ship to carry this name. *Newcastle* was the last of six Adelaide Class guided missile frigates (FFG) to commission into the RAN. She was constructed at the Williamstown Dockyards in

Latest Videos and News Headlines

NOTE: The full articles of the news items listed below can be found on our website:

<http://navyvic.net/news/news.html>

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LATEST VIDEOS.....

- *Talisman Sabre Maritime Component*
- *TOP GUN 2: MAVERICK Official Trailer #1*
- *Australian and US military launch war game operation near Rockhampton*
- *HMAS Ballarat Returns Home from Middle East*
- *HMAS Newcastle decommissioning*
- *HMS Queen Elizabeth conducts first phalanx CIWS test-firing*
- *Sea Series exercises draw to a close*
- *HMAS Success decommissioning*
- *HMAS Ballarat conducts boarding*

NEWS.....

Australian Service Contingents 1 and 2 who served in Rwanda on Operation Tamar were today recognised with the award of a Meritorious Unit Citation.

The unprecedented economic rise of China has paved the way for its meteoric increase in military capability and geo-strategic designs for the Indo-Pacific. The new defence white paper, China's National Defense in the New Era, identifies some old flash points and some new ones, with renewed direction focused on countering American-led aggression in the region.

The Marine Rotational Force-Darwin reached a major milestone this week with the arrival of additional US Marines in Darwin, bringing the total number of Marines in the Northern Territory to its full strength of 2,500.

While a great deal of emphasis has been placed on China's growing aircraft carrier and submarine fleets, the rising power's Type 075 large-deck amphibious warfare ships have quietly taken shape, sparking the next phase of the Indo-Pacific arms race.

Melbourne and commissioned there on the 11 December 1993 under the command of Commander Rowan Moffatt AO RAN.

The Adelaide Class was based upon the United States designed Oliver Hazard Perry class FFG. These guided missile frigates were designed for long-range escort with roles including air defence, antisubmarine warfare, surveillance, interdiction and reconnaissance. These ships were the first RAN ships to be powered by gas turbine for the main propulsion and could be underway from cold in less than 30 minutes.

HMAS *Newcastle* deployed in support of Peacekeeping operations in East Timor and the Solomon Islands and six rotations to the Middle East Region as part of Operation Slipper, Catalyst and Manitou. Newcastle received the Battle honours and Campaign Awards from: EAST TIMOR 1999-2000
PERSIAN GULF 2002-2003, and
MIDDLE EAST 2005-2014

Over the lifetime of the ship, *Newcastle* has had 16 Commanding Officers in which there were 12 including the Vice Chief of the Defence Force, Vice Admiral David Johnstone AO RAN in attendance, as well as many former officers and sailors who had served in *Newcastle*. *Newcastle* travelled 813,904.36 nautical miles which equates to 69,820.8 steaming hours. Of note, *Newcastle's* commissioning sponsor Mrs Margaret McNaughton AM was in attendance. Mrs McNaughton was the wife of the then Lord Mayor of Newcastle when the ship was commissioned. Margaret was very proactive and had regular contact with the ship over its service life.

A decommissioning ceremony commences with the Royal Australian Navy Band marching onto the parade. This is followed by the crew of the decommissioning ship Manning Ship for the last time. Man Ship is a form of salute, originally intended as a visual sign that your intent was peaceful, with the ship's company on deck, or in days of old, this meant your guns were not manned. The crew line the guard rails on the super structure of the ship during the initial part of the ceremony.

The Parade Commander is then introduced and marches onto the parade. For both decommissioning ceremonies, the Executive Officer filled this role. HMAS *Success* Parade Commander was Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Alfonso Santos CSC, RAN and for

North Korea leader Kim Jong Un has inspected a newly built submarine and ordered officials to further bolster the country's military capability, state media reported Tuesday, as the North is increasing its pressure on the United States ahead of the possible resumption of nuclear diplomacy.

South Korea is to launch a new version of a large-deck landing ship from which short-takeoff-and-vertical-landing aircraft can operate by the late 2020s, amid naval buildups in China and Japan.

SUBMARINE ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA NSW

Extends an invitation to all AE1 Descendent Family Members to attend a Memorial Service for AE1 and her Crew at Sub Base Platypus, Kiara Close, North Sydney, (off Kedron Park) on Saturday September 14th at 9.30 AM.

The five-domains update Sea state

As tensions between the West and Iran escalate in the Strait of Hormuz, the Royal Navy has sent a nuclear submarine to the Persian Gulf. The deployment of the Astute-class submarine follows the Iranian Quds Force's seizure of the British-flagged Stena Impero tanker on Saturday. The navy has said that the submarine is to be used for 'covert intelligence' against the port of Bandar Abbas and Iran's fleet of midget submarines.

A French Navy submarine that disappeared over 50 years ago in the Mediterranean Sea has just been discovered, according to an announcement from French defense minister Florence Parly. La Minerve went missing on January 17, 1968, with 52 crew on board.

The release Sunday of an audio recording has shed new light on the seizure of a British-flagged tanker at the hands of Iran's Revolutionary Guard as tensions flare in the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

Seven First World War soldiers who died during the Battle of Fromelles in 1916, previously buried as unknown soldiers,

HMAS *Newcastle* Parade Commander was LCDR Phillip Alley RAN. The first task for the Parade Commander is to give the order 'March on the Decommissioning Guard'. The decommissioning guards were made up from members of the ships company. *Success's* Guard Commander was the *Success's* Deputy Maritime Logistics Officer, Lieutenant (LEUT) Matthew Smith RAN and *Newcastle's* Guard Commander was *Newcastle's* Gunnery Officer LEUT Owen Grylls RAN.

Piping the side originated in the days of sail when captains visiting one another at sea were hoisted on board in a net or basket if rough weather prevented the use of ladders. Piping was necessary in setting taut and hoisting away the cargo net or basket containing the boarding officer. Thus, we acquired the custom of piping the officer alongside and over the gangway.

The use of the boatswain's call in English ships can be traced back with certainty to the days of the Crusades, A.D. 1248. The expression to Pipe is the directive to make the sound on the boatswain's call and to give the spoken order that may qualify it. Some pipes, however, are orders themselves and do not require any verbal addition. The Commanding Officer is piped ashore to take up their position on the parade. The decommissioning Commanding Officer of HMAS *Success* was Captain Darren Grogan CSM, RAN and *Newcastle* Commander Anita Sellick CSM, RAN. Once the Commanding Officer is piped ashore the Parade Commander reports that the parade is formed and ready for the decommissioning.

On completion of the formal arrivals, the next stage of the decommissioning ceremony is the speeches which were made by the Guest of Honour, The Governor of NSW followed by the Commanding Officer. The Honourable Alex Hawke MP representing the Minister for Defence also addressed the parade at *Success's* decommissioning ceremony.

Traditionally, Naval ceremonies have had a strong connection to religion with the blessing of the ship as well as all those who will or have sailed in that vessel. During a decommissioning ceremony, The Prayer of Thanksgiving, The Lord's Prayer, The Prayer for the Navy and The Prayer for the Ship's Company are recited. Two verses of the Naval Hymn "Eternal Father Strong to Save" is also sung as part of the religious part of the ceremony. *Success's* Ships

have received new headstones following their formal identification by the 2019 Fromelles Identification Board.

The U.S. Navy has stopped searching for the sailor believed to have toppled off an aircraft carrier into the Arabian Sea on Wednesday morning.

Britain's foreign secretary said Iranian authorities seized two vessels Friday in the Strait of Hormuz, actions signaling an escalation in the strategic waterway that has become a flashpoint in tensions between Tehran and the West.

Navy's welfare fund Keeping Watch has unveiled a new logo, designed to better represent the RAN workforce and to draw attention to a worthy cause.

A private dive team has located the last U.S. Navy warship to be sunk by a German submarine in World War II, just a few miles off the coast of Maine.

Naval Group, parent company for the Royal Australian Navy's Attack Class submarines, has submitted a proposal to partner with Australian businesses and industry to locally produce the latest generation torpedo countermeasure technology, CANTO.

A U.S. warship on Thursday destroyed an Iranian drone in the Strait of Hormuz after it threatened the ship, President Donald Trump said.

Four warships from three countries are searching the Arabian Sea for a sailor declared missing from the aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln on Wednesday.

The Thales-developed Martlet missile made its debut on a Type 23 frigate as it hit a target boat in the Irish Sea after taking off from HMS Sutherland. HMS Sutherland fired four missiles at a fast-moving speedboat to see whether the weapon could be launched from a ship as well as a helicopter.

The officers and sailors of Royal Australian Navy Survey Ship HMAS Benalla (II) have visited the ship's namesake city of Benalla, Victoria to conduct their first Freedom of Entry

Chaplain Simote Finau RAN led *Success's* blessing and Chaplain Christopher Lewis, RAN led *Newcastle's* blessing as part of the decommissioning ceremony.

On completion of the religious component of the ceremony, the Commander Australian Fleet, RADM Mead presented the decommissioning Commanding Officer's with their Decommissioning Orders. The Commanding Officer then reads their Decommissioning Order prior to being piped onboard to join their crew for the last time.

The decommissioning itself is the same as a Ceremonial Sunset where the bugle call "Sunset" is played by the band as the Australian White Ensign and Australian National Flag is slowly lowered onboard the decommissioning ship for the last time. "Sunset" is followed by "Song of Australia" as the Australian White Ensign is ceremonially folded. This is followed by the playing of the National Anthem "Advance Australia Fair". On completion of this ceremony, the Commanding Officer is presented with the ships White Ensign by the Ensign Party.

Now that the ship is decommissioned, her crew marches off the ship to take up their positions on the parade. The Commanding Officer is always the last serving member to depart a ship upon her decommissioning. Once the Commanding Officer marches ashore, they present the ships White Ensign to the Commander Australian Fleet for his safekeeping until the time when a ship of the same name is commissioned into the RAN Fleet. After the transfer of the White Ensign the Commanding Officer requests One Minute Silence to honour the men and women who have served on that particular ship, however, unfortunately have passed. The bugler performs The Last Post followed by One Minutes Silence then Reveille as part of this sequence of the ceremony.

The First Lady of the Fleet Trophy was introduced into the RAN in 2016 and was held by HMAS *Success*. The trophy is awarded to the Senior Ship in the Fleet regarding its age and experience and is in memory of the first female who enlisted into the Royal Australian Navy.

Twenty-one years before the first Women's Royal Australian Navy members (WRANs) entered service, six-year-old Nancy Bentley was playing in bushland at Port Arthur Tasmania when she slipped and

march in over 15 years.

Maritime Aviation Training Vessel MV Sycamore has recently taken time in a very busy schedule to help 'future proof' the Royal Australian Navy by training and supporting Australian Navy Cadets (ANC). During the winter school holidays Sycamore welcomed aboard 15 cadets from Lonsdale (Victoria), Torrens (South Australia), Kellatie (Tasmania) and Waratah (Southern NSW) flotillas, accompanied by three ANC adult supervisors and two members from Lonsdale Flotilla Headquarters at HMAS Cerberus.

'High-low' force structures establish a complementary force package and have typically been the domain of air combat systems – the rise of increasingly capable submarine platforms in the Indo-Pacific, combined with the operating environment and broader Navy force structure, requires a major rethink of Australia's submarine force.

Defence Minister Linda Reynolds has joined French President Emmanuel Macron at the launch of Naval Group's latest nuclear attack submarine, the Suffren, the lead of the Barracuda Class. The Suffren is the first of the Barracuda Class series, designed to replace the Rubis Class generation.

Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon Linda Reynolds CSC, and Minister for Defence Industry, the Hon Melissa Price MP, welcomed the return of Royal Australian Navy frigate HMAS Ballarat to Australia, following a highly successful nine-month deployment as part of Operation MANITOU. Minister Reynolds praised the counter-terrorism efforts of Ballarat's 200 officers and sailors, who have worked in the Combined Maritime Forces to seize nearly 20 tonnes of illicit drugs worth an estimated value of AUD\$1.41 billion.*

In a demonstration of combat power, 17 warships from four nations united at first light to conduct a close-in formation at the opening stages of Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 2019. Amphibious Assault Ship USS Wasp and Aircraft Carrier USS Ronald Reagan led the fleet

was bitten on the wrist by a snake. With the closest doctor at Sorrell, many miles away, her desperate father rowed the child to HMAS *Sydney* (I), then anchored in Carnarvon Bay after conducting exercises off Tasmania's east coast, and pleaded for the ship's medics to assist.

Commanding Officer, Captain Henry Cayley, weighed the situation and so as to avoid legal complications and not breach the King's regulations that women were not meant to board Royal Australian Navy warships, he devised a solution. On 15 November 1920, Nancy was formally enlisted as an honorary member of the Navy. Her service number was 001 and her official rating was mascot.

Sydney transported the child to Hobart, where she received medical treatment before being returned to Port Arthur. During her eight days of service and having fully recovered Nancy was formally discharged from Naval service on 23 November 1920 – the reason given "being required by her parents." Nancy went on to live a full life and became Mrs Nancy Jones and lived until 1999 aged 85.

CAPT Grogan handed over the First Lady of the Fleet Trophy to RADM Mead who will present the trophy to the new "First Lady of the Fleet", HMAS *Melbourne* at a later date.

To finish the decommissioning ceremony, the crew of *Success* / *Newcastle* marched past. The salute was taken by the Governor of NSW accompanied by the Commander Australian Fleet. The Decommissioning Guard marched past to the official march of the Royal Australian Navy, titled Royal Australian Navy. This march was written by Alex Lithgow in 1913 to mark the arrival of the first RAN fleet which sailed into Sydney Harbour on the 4 October 1913.

On completion of the formal part of the decommissioning, a reception was held and enjoyed by current and former members of the ship company and their families. The final tradition of the day was the cutting of the decommissioning cake which is performed by the youngest member of the ship's crew. *Success*'s decommissioning cake was cut by Midshipman Shae Straw-McMahon and *Newcastle*'s Able Seaman Timothy Lock.

The decommissioning ceremonies for *Success* and *Newcastle* was an opportunity for all those who sailed in these units to reflect on the contribution these ships have made to the Defence of Australia as

with Australia's Landing Helicopter Docks HMA Ships Adelaide and Canberra and Japan's helicopter destroyer JS Ise formed up in close proximity.

As Australia's own \$50 billion Attack Class submarine program continues to gather pace despite concerns, France, parent nation of the Barracuda design, is preparing to launch the first of the nuclear powered vessels. This not only marks the next-generation of French and Australian submarine capability, but raises the important question – should Australia have pursued nuclear powered submarines?

Global wrap-up: *This global wrap-up provides updates of industry developments across the globe, including new procurement deals, capability introductions and key announcements.*

As the Royal Australian Navy prepares for the arrival of the first Arafura and Hunter Class vessels in the early-to-mid 2020s, evolving regional and global dynamics are highlighting the need for a fleet of ocean going patrol frigates to ease the operational burden on both the OPV and frigates.

Royal Navy aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth made a surprise return to Portsmouth on July 9, despite having been expected to spend another week at sea in preparation for a training deployment to the US coast.

Navy ships and sailors from 13 nations completed UNITAS, the world's longest running multinational maritime exercise, on July 3. Now in its 60th edition, the Chile-hosted maneuver saw naval forces from Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Germany, Honduras, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Turkey, United Kingdom and the United States develop interoperability through complex maritime warfare scenarios and exercises.

It has often been asked, "What's in a name?" When it comes to the 'Royal Australian Navy', a great deal indeed... On this day 108 years ago, 10 July 1911, a Royal proclamation by King George V

well as their service to the RAN. The last of the six FFG's that served the RAN with pride HMAS *Melbourne* is scheduled to be decommissioned in October 2019.

Yours Aye!
NVN Team.



- † CMDR W.L.G. Wilson OAM MBE, 18 July 2019. Aged 91.
- † POMTP3 J.P. Morris, R54004, 17 July 2019. Aged 80.
- † LS J.P. Sendy, 13 July 2019.
- † P.A. Walker, R27278, 13 July 2019. Aged 93.
- † POPTI G. Daniel, R38536, 12 Jul 2019. Aged 89.
- † WOCOX T. Collins OAM MID, R28178, 11 July 2019. Aged 91.
- † R.R. Martin, R26739, 10 Jul 2019. Aged 94.
- † CMDR J. Jacobs RAN, 10 July 2019.
- † WOMTP3* K.M. Chandler, R64178, 07 July 2019.
- † CPOETS K. Hudson, 07 July 2019. Aged 74.
- † WOWTR J.C.W Patinson, R62301, 29 June 2019.
- † AB S. Price, S6952, 17 June 2019. Aged 97.
- † AB W.B. Robinson, S7730, 11 May 2019. Aged 94.

Lest We Forget

Note: VALE Notices

If you know of any of our Navy family that has crossed the bar, please don't hesitate to let us know (webmaster@navyvic.net). We would like to list their names in perpetuity on our special 'Vale' wall on the website. If possible list their **Rank, Name, Number, the date of their passing and their age**.

Navy Canteens Ticketing - Membership

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Hours: Monday-Friday 9am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 4.30pm

*granted the Commonwealth Naval Forces of Australia the title 'Royal Australian Navy'.
As China continues to expand its global footprint, the Pentagon's top official for South America is sounding a clear alarm: China's influence in the region has reached "unprecedented levels of influence and leverage," which will require a whole of government approach from the U.S. to counter.*

The UK defense ministry (MOD) is eyeing new laser weapon demonstrators and has issued a "prior information notice" for the development of three such systems.

The Royal Australian Navy has hosted the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force in a week-long visit to Australia that built on the strong bilateral relationship shared by the two defence forces for more than a decade.

The Productivity Commissions report into "A better way to Support Veterans" has been released. Among its key findings is a suggestion that the Gold Card runs counter to a number of the key principles that should underlie any future veteran-support scheme. The Commission found that the Gold Card was not wellness-focused or needs-based, and could be inefficient – encouraging over-servicing.

The nuclear reactor on one of the Russian navy's research submarines hasn't been damaged in a fire that killed 14 seamen, Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said Thursday, adding that the vessel would be put back into service after repairs.

Future-proofing the Attack class (part 2): performance and capacity.

While aircraft carriers will continue to serve a pivotal role in the era of increasingly advanced, long-range integrated anti-access/area denial (A2/AD), heavily armed arsenal ships have been floated as complementary platforms that can enhance the lethality of contemporary navies – supporting destroyers, cruisers, frigates and aircraft carriers and amphibious power projection operations.

A selection of images from Commemorative Ceremonies held at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne.



Images courtesy Chris Banfield

More images can be seen at <http://navyvic.net/gallery/gallery.html>

Australia must massively reorganise its planned defence structure by selling off most of its surface ships, abandoning those still to be built and replacing them with a fleet of 24 or even 36 submarines and many more strike aircraft, says long-time Defence Department official and academic Hugh White.

Australia must do more than flag-wave in the South China Sea.

Improvements to how veterans and their families access services and support will continue with funding committed for the ongoing transformation of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) secured until 2021. Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel Darren Chester said improvements made to-date meant that veterans and their families, in many cases, are now able to get almost immediate decisions on claims through DVA's online platform, MyService.

There are some incredible people in the Royal Australian Navy, doing some incredible things. An officer and a sailor are helping to map shipwrecks along the Australian east coast, diving to significant depths to document vessels sunk in both war and peace.

Silently hunting below the waves, the vessels are increasingly lethal and difficult to detect – submarines are one of the great tactical and strategic levellers.

Peninsula Ship Society - July edition of [Sea Chest](#)

Naval Historical Society [July newsletter](#)

Navy League (Vic/Tas) [July Newsletter](#)

Navy League (WA Div) [July Newsetter](#)

FlyBy

A periodical of the Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia. [July issue.....](#)

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