



BROADSIDE

June 2019

Volume 9 Edition 6

Editorial

NVN current membership: 1113

For some years we at NVN and elsewhere in the Navy fraternity have advocated for a consolidated approach to how corporate knowledge and energy that resides within the Navy fraternity may be put to best use. Our focus has several streams of interest: Care, Commemoration, Cadets and Camaraderie. These streams may be familiar to many, however, the end result is all about how we look after ourselves and our Shipmates and secondly how to exude a positive influence over the wider community insofar as a constructive conversation regarding the Royal Australian Navy.

NVN was originally designed as a tool to facilitate communication within and beyond the Navy fraternity in Victoria. With just over 1,000 registered readers/users of NVN it could be said we have not been as successful as we would like, given there is probably well over 50,000 ex-Navy Veterans and their family members within Victoria. Realising the difference between potential and actual readers is something that inspires us to review our approach and seek advice from our supporters as to what should be considered to broaden our appeal to others. Sometimes our own experience is the very thing that inhibits our thinking and more importantly our capacity to make good decisions.

We are often confronted with the view that 'these days nobody joins anything'. Actually that is not the reality, with nearly 5,000 ex-Service organisations in Australia. Whilst most are virtual, it shows us that individuals are likely to connect if they can see a benefit. Naturally this brings us to "what's in it for me?" You may disagree, but many will align themselves with a good cause: Legacy, Shrine of Remembrance, Lost Dogs Home, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to name a few. Each of these organisations has at its core an outcome that stimulates our community spirit. The Navy fraternity needs to create the same impression, a profile

Events Calendar

(see website calendar for full details)

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30 Jun – 78th anniversary of the sinking of HMAS Waterhen. Commemorative service at the Shrine at 1400.

02 Jul – UN operations in Korea commenced.

06 Jul – On this day in 1915 - HMAS PIONEER bombards the German Cruiser KONIGSBERG, Rufigi River, East Africa.

06 Jul – FESR Commemorative service at the Shrine 1200.

09 Jul – 79th anniversary of the Battle of Calabria in which HMA Ships Sydney, Stuart, Vampire and Voyager participated.

10 Jul – RAN's 108th anniversary.

12 Jul – Bastille Day festival opening – RAN Parade Band in attendance.

16 Jul – HMAS Benalla – Freedom of Entry in Benalla – RAN Parade Band in attendance.

17 Jul – On this day in 1945 - HMAS Quiberon & Quickmatch bombard Japan.

19 Jul – On this day in 1940 - HMAS Sydney sinks the Italian cruiser Bartolomeo Colleoni.

19 Jul – Recruit School Graduation.

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.

where Navy Veterans and their families appreciate the significance of being part of our network. After all, Once Navy, Always Navy.

More specific aspirations of NVN relate to removing conflict between events. The calendar on the NVN website is there for any Navy orientated organisation seeking to schedule activities with a Navy theme. Obviously separating, where possible, events that attract like-minded people would more than likely yield better attendance and improved outcomes. Take a look at the NVN calendar and assess how this can work for your organisations. We commend this approach to every Navy related organisation. If you are involved with scheduling events, this tactic may just make the difference.

There is a constant flow of information relating to initiatives streamed from the Department of Veterans' Affairs. NVN has set its sights on endeavouring to capture new information and upload it to our news page. All of the DVA material is pertinent to Veterans and their families, however, some are a tad tedious because of their technical nature, these are aimed at Accredited Advocates.

Notwithstanding, much of the information is of a general interest nature and could have a bearing on you, or your family's wellbeing. Keep an eye out for these by keeping in touch with NVN.

Commemoration covers a range of activities, each of singular importance and relevance to the Navy fraternity. We need to recognise that commemoration is the purview of the ex-Service community. Navy support these activities when and if resources are available. NVN publishes the key services held in the State, at the Shrine of Remembrance. Every one of us should make an effort to attend at least one of these services. Many Veterans have served in more than one Ship or Establishment. We need to recognise that there will be a posting/appointment across our Navy experience that is elevated above the rest. Use that recognition as a guide as to what service you will attend.

This edition of the NVN newsletter is the last time the Rogues Yarn will be included. The NCCV has decided that the theory of consolidating effort and knowledge to achieve an appropriate outcome necessitates bringing the essence of the Rogues Yarn into the NVN newsletter and website. We hope this will prove to be beneficial to the Navy fraternity as we address the many points of

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.....

- *Guardian Class Patrol Boat Gifted to the people of Tonga*
- *HMAS Newcastle returns home to Fleet Base East for the last time*
- *HMAS Success returns to Fleet Base East*
- *Exercise Pacific Vanguard 2019*
- *HMAS Melbourne - USS Frank E Evans 50th Memorial Service*
- *USS Chancellorsville Avoids Collision with Russian Destroyer Udaloy I*
- *Three Chinese warships make surprise entrance into Sydney*
- *HMAS Ballarat drug seizure in the Arabian Sea*
- *Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2019 concludes*

NEWS.....

NSW Deputy Premier John Barilaro has announced the state has successfully locked-in Sydney as the home of one of the world's largest biannual defence and maritime industry events, the PACIFIC International Maritime Expo, for 2019 and 2021.

The health and wellbeing of veterans and their families is a high priority for the Morrison Government. We have listened to feedback from health professionals who deliver care to the veteran community about the need for more support to accompany the changes to allied health referrals, scheduled to start on 1 July. The changes will now begin on 1 October, 2019.

While carriers and amphibious expeditionary groups are the most prominent naval task groups – surface action groups provide valuable, flexible force structures for contemporary navies, drawing on the specialisation and increasing capabilities of contemporary surface combatants.

interest in the future. To ensure this works best for our readers, we do ask that if there is a story of note then how about sharing it with our Shipmates through the NVN. Send anything worthy of the attention of others to the webmaster. Reiterating the conversation above, we need to have an understanding of when events are to be held and where. Avoid clashes with other events will work in your favour, so please make use of the NVN calendar.

During June, a workshop was organised by the Victoria Veterans Unit. The workshop covered topics that would be of assistance to many who engage in support of the Veteran community. Promoting the contact points for each of the topics raised may prove helpful. See this on the [NVN Website](#).

NVN management committee has also decided to rename this editorial page, 'Broadside'. Most will never have seen a warship discharge 'a broadside'. Although we will have seen photographs of sailing ships or even the USS Missouri with all guns blazing. Our image includes an all gun firing from HMAS Vampire. The point being, our editorial will deliver a substantial blast of information, the purpose being to re-purpose Veteran thinking with your wellbeing foremost in our minds.

Yours Aye!
NVN Team

Commonwealth Ombudsman – DFRDB Questionnaire

Overview

Please note we are only investigating what information people were provided with in relation to commuting a portion of their pension.

We will not be considering issues relating to indexation of the DFRDB, or any other aspects of the scheme as it was established by the Parliament. We ask that you confine your response to information that you received about commutation.

If there are questions you cannot answer, you can still provide whatever information you are able. If you have copies of documents that you were provided, please submit these along with your completed form.

We are asking for some personal information, however we will only use your service information to see if there are trends about where information was provided to ADF members. We will only use your contact

Construction of the advanced, digitally-enabled shipyard infrastructure at Osborne South was on track for completion by March 2020, ahead of the commencement of production prototyping on the \$35 billion Hunter-class frigate program.

As Australia's own \$50 billion Attack Class submarine program enters the design phase, Japan, one of the contenders for the program, has commenced research, design and development for the successor to its Soryu Class, which entered service in 2009 – again raising questions about Australia's delivery time frames.

Two submariner Warrant Officers have been given the opportunity to progress into the commission ranks as part of the Royal Australian Navy's Associate Engineers Direct Entry (AEDE) scheme.

Australian-based unmanned surface vessel (USV) developer Ocius has successfully completed all sea trial requirements for the company's Defence Innovation Hub contract.

Royal Australian Navy members in need have been given a boost with a donation of \$15,000 to the Keeping Watch Navy benevolent fund.

Tomorrow's Veteran Mental Health and Wellbeing Summit will bring together key stakeholders at Parliament House to improve services and support to those who have served in the Australian Defence Force.

A court in Uruguay ruled Friday that the government must sell a huge Nazi bronze eagle that was recovered off the South American country's coast in 2006.

HMAS Success is now alongside in Sydney, preparing for her decommissioning, having returned from her last overseas deployment last week.

From 1 July 2019, all Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel leaving full-time service can access a fully-funded comprehensive health check from a GP every year for the first five years.

information to acknowledge receipt of your submission, or to contact you to seek clarification of any information if required. You do not need to provide your personal information, but we will not be able to contact you if you do not.

Our preferred method of receiving this form is via email:

DFRDB.investigation@ombudsman.gov.au. If, due to the size of the documents you wish to provide you are unable to send using email, please contact us at DFRDB.investigation@ombudsman.gov.au for assistance. If you require assistance to access and/or complete this form, please contact us on 1300 362 072.

Submissions will close on 30 June 2019.

The Ombudsman investigates in private and therefore submissions will not be published.

The Questionnaire is fillable. *Download Questionnaire.....*



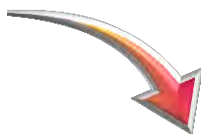
- † LCDR G. Lowe, 25 June 2019.
- † E.G. Margetts, 21 June 2019. Aged 94.
- † EMP V. Schut, 15 June 2019. Aged 71.
- † LRO G.E.G. Rouse R58342, 13 June 2019. Aged 75.
- † J.A. McKechnie PM8195, 12 June 2019.
- † LRO P.J. Baggott R49927, 06 June 2019. Aged 82.
- † ABCD A.J. Quinn, R62589, 01 Jun 2019. Aged 73.
- † LCDR A. McCulloch RFD VRD RAN, 31 May 2019. Aged 102.
- † ABCD J.C. Thelander, R49887, 16 May 2019. Aged 85.
- † CEP E. Crabb, 28 May 2019. Aged 69
- † WO R.J. Morris OAM, 05 May 2019. Aged 91.

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.

Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria's newsletter, "Rogues' Yarn" is attached below



A Navy SEAL called by prosecutors to testify at the murder trial of a colleague has acknowledged killing a wounded prisoner in Iraq in what he described as an act of mercy. Special Warfare Operator 1st Class Corey Scott said Thursday that he asphyxiated the teenage Islamic State fighter after Special Warfare Operator Chief Edward Gallagher unexpectedly stabbed him.

More than 75,000 veterans are now accessing assistance through the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) online claiming platform, MyService.

Assistance dogs-in-training to support our veterans.

HMAS Arunta returns to Fleet Base West after a 20-month Anzac Midlife Capability Assurance Program (AMCAP) upgrade.

US amphibious assault group ships descend on Australia ahead of major exercise.

ADF chief: West faces a new threat from 'political warfare'.

Australian frigate HMAS Perth spent two years in dock due to sailor shortage.

Lone Sailor Now Stands Watch at Historic D-Day Beach.

Peninsula Ship Society - June edition of the "Sea Chest" now available to [download.....](#)

Naval Historical Society [June newsletter](#)

Navy League (Vic/Tas) [June Newsetter](#)

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

FlyBy

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

Visit our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page for more news articles not included in this newsletter.



Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria

ROGUES' YARN

HMAS WATERHEN Service, 1400 on 30JUN19 Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance
Far East Strategic Reserve, 1200 on 6JUL19 Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance
RAN Recruits Service, 1000 on 21JUL19 Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance

Final Edition

After more than a decade, a decision has been made to consolidate the effort that goes into Rogues Yarn with a focus on the Navy Victoria Network. Several years ago, a conversation took place at the annual Scrap Iron Flotilla lunch that evolved into the NVN website. The purpose of NVN is to provide a point of connection where all Ship, Branch & other Navy oriented organisations may display notices to promote their organisation and share information relating to the maritime environment. One essential element of the NVN website was to present a view of planned activities, the purpose being to avoid conflict between events. NVN seeks to deliver a wide band of advice on any topic likely to be of interest to the Navy fraternity. Commemoration services, particularly those of State importance are promoted by NVN. Except for one or two of services, these services are conducted at the Shrine of Remembrance. Each service is initiated by the leader of a Ship or Branch Association residing in Victoria. Some services embrace all three services, such as the Totally & Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Servicemen & Women's **Association** (TPI Association). Services publicised by the NVN website remind us of the leg-

A man and his donkey

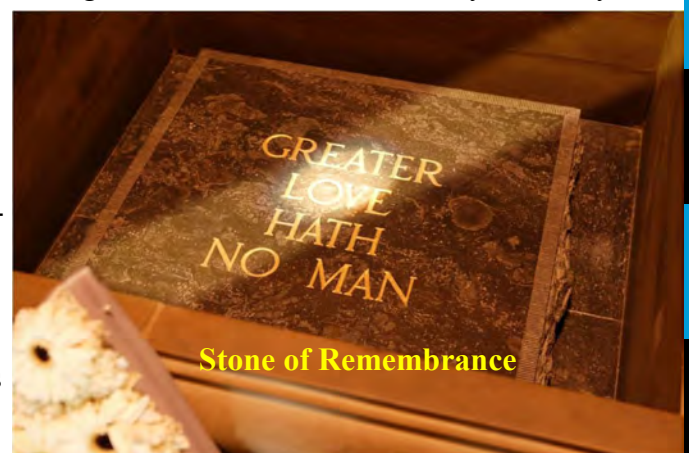


acy of service and sacrifice of so many of our colleagues, our forebears. The shrine of Remembrance is a war monument of national significance. Virtually every aspect of the memorial has some symbolic meaning, all dedicated to the brave exploits of Victorians who enlisted for World War One. The Stone of Remembrance is central to the Sanctuary,

Dedicated plaque in the Shrine Reserve



designed so that the stone cannot be touched by human hands and you have to bow your head if you wish to read the inscription. The inscription "Greater love hath no man", remainder of the script being 'to lay down his life for his friend'. The Galleries of Remembrance were added to the Shrine of Remembrance as part of the ANZAC Centenary. The Galleries comprise a vast array of curated exhibitions that highlight Colonial military prior to Federation, through each major world conflict to present day conflicts. This NCCV initiative seeks to build on the intention of fusing effort to deliver a demonstrable commitment to Navy. NCCV is hopeful that all of our readers who are not already signed up to NVN, will do so to strengthen the bond across the Navy fraternity.



Silos

In recent years, vacant silos have become the canvas for some historic images that have transformed them into iconic artworks. Picture → at Gunnedah are Vietnam images. ↓



Below are images of a WWI nurse and a current ADF nurse. These murals are on the disused grain silos in the small town of Devenish in northern Victoria. ↓



Navy Victoria Network

The NavyVIC website is there for all to see, in particular it is for Ship Associations to provide information on their activities to the wider Navy Community. This is an opportunity for all ship/branch associations to broaden their horizons, go to navyvic.net

Disclaimer

Articles are the Authors thoughts, although may be edited due to space available. No political comments included.

Melbourne Naval Committee

MNC provides funds to support welfare. A venue is available at Mission to Seafarers for like-minded groups, *no cost*. Email MtS daria.wray@missiontoseafarers.com.au or sue.dight@missiontoseafarers.com.au to make a booking.

Bravo Zulu

BRAVO ZULU

Honours and Awards to Australian Naval People

Volume 1
1900-1974

Ian Pfennigwerth



A reminder that two volumes of Bravo Zulu (Manoeuvre well executed or Well Done) have superb resumes of the trials, tribulations and triumphs of services across 115 years of service. Illustrations show individual accounts of men and

women who received Imperial, Australian and foreign honours and awards for their service or bravery. Volume 1 covers the period 1900-74 and was released in 2016. Volume 2, completed a nine year research project and covers the period 1975-2014.

Authored by CAPT Ian Pfennigwerth RAN Rtd who served nearly 35 years in the Navy. In 1958 he joined as a Cadet Midshipman and paid off in 1992 as a Captain. He completed a PhD in history at Newcastle University in 2005. More info on the web.

BRAVO ZULU

Honours and Awards to Australian Naval People

Volume 2
1975-2014

Ian Pfennigwerth



Once Navy, Always Navy

The Naval Association of Australia underpin their purpose and objectives through four pillars. Each is aimed at securing a meaningful outcome. The four pillars are: Care, Commemoration, Cadets & Camaraderie. Commemoration is particularly pertinent to the NCCV. The ex-service fraternity has a responsibility to sustain the legacy of past service alive. Much of the conversation these days is around making sure our current serving men and women are looked after, that is a given! But we must keep in mind, that in the wider community there is a very much larger number of folk who have hung up their rig. With this in mind, we all need to shift the ex-Navy cohort from a position of silence to one of participation. Involvement doesn't have to be attendance at a host of services, or joining an Association to attend meetings. Let's face it, most who join organisations do not attend meetings. Being a member of the Naval Association is important for

Navy and ex-Navy as it gives Navy a voice in the wider community. You may have done your duty, completed your time, however, you need never be alone in the Naval Association. You know the language and know the experience of being in the Navy. Notwithstanding remembrance is critical to ensure the legacy of service and sacrifice is carried forward for others to appreciate. Should you wish to be more active, then engagement is in your hands. One example of what all this dialogue is about, think of the impact the ANZAC Centennial had on thinking Australians. It awakened a great number of people to the extraordinary effort made by a number of people. It uncovered the service and sacrifice made by grandparents and great grandparents, some not even on the same side. Sacrifice was experienced across the globe and we need to ensure that Australia's legacy is remembered, that can only be achieved if ex-Service men and women, along with their families demonstrate a willingness to support the legacy known to have occurred during conflict and through peace keeping.

'N Class' Destroyers

A service commemorating the service and sacrifice of those that served in 'N Class' Destroyers was held in the Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance, Sunday 16JUN19. The occasion reflected on the loss of HMAS *Nestor* in 1942. HMAS *Nestor* was one of eight destroyers of the 'N Class' laid down in British shipyards during 1939. The British loaned the Royal Australian Navy 5 of the 8: *Napier*, *Nestor*, *Nepal*, *Nizam* and *Norman*. One warship went to the Polish Navy, two to the Royal Netherlands Navy. HMAS *Nester* was the only RAN 'N Class' Destroyer lost during WWII. *Nester* commissioned 3rd February 1941. *Nester* spent the first months of service escorting North Atlantic convoys, on patrol and screening the fleet capital ships at sea as part of the Home Fleet based at Scapa Flow. At Haifa in June 1942, in company with HMAS *Norman* (I), she was joined by



Nester being scuttled using depth charges

HMA Ships *Napier* & *Nizam*, forming the 7th Destroyer Flotilla for Operation VIGOROUS, the passage of an east to west Malta convoy. The total covering

HMAS *Nester* - soon after commissioning



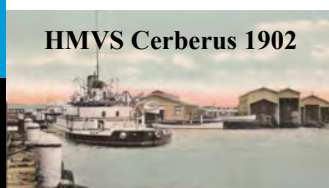
force comprised eight cruisers and twenty six destroyers supported by corvettes and nine submarines. Enemy air attacks carried out almost exclusively by land based aircraft began almost as soon as the convoy left Alexandria. Early attacks were concentrated on the cruisers and the eleven ships of the convoy, later the destroyers became the principal targets. PM of 15JUN42 a signal was received intimating that a second convoy had succeeded in reaching Malta from the west. The intensity of enemy air attacks and presence of the Italian fleet, it was decided to break off the westward passage of the convoy, they returned to Alexandria. At about 1800, 15JUN42, when the convoy was off the south west corner of Crete *Nestor* was straddled by a stick of heavy bombs which caused serious damage to the ship. Taken in tow by HMS *Javelin*, *Nester* continued to take on water. At about 0530 16JUN, *Nester* going down by the bow, was scuttled.

Deeds

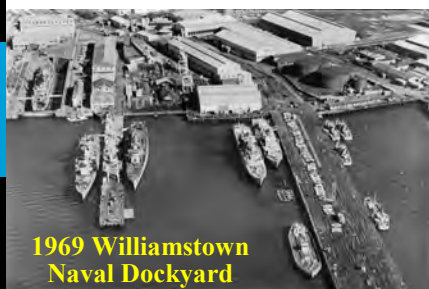


Not Words

Deeds not Words, the motto of the Navy when it was formed, at the dockyard on Federation. The Victoria owned dockyard became Williamstown Naval Dockyard, better known as Wildock or Dog Town at the commencement of WWII. The demise of Wildock is unfortunate for Victoria and Melburnians in particular as the history associated with Wildock is unlikely to be enhanced. Victoria's reputation of building Warships began with constructing Corvettes in WWII. The 1969 image below of Wildock shows two decommissioned frigates *Quickmatch* and *Gascoyne*, Nelson Pier (on the right). At the time they were used for accommodation. They were at Wildock from 1966 until 1971. On the other side of

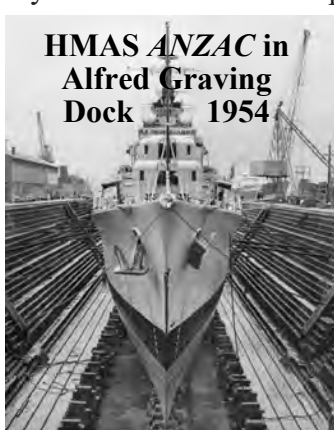


HMVS *Cerberus* 1902



1969 Williamstown Naval Dockyard

the pier are three Attack Class patrol boats, a Motor Stores Lighter and an Oil Fuel Lighter. At Dockyard Pier, left of Nelson are two Type 12 Destroyers, with another in the Alfred Graving Dock. Alfred Graving Dock has been the site of many milestone activities. HMVS *Nelson* to HMVS *Cerberus*, allied Navies and a wide category of merchant vessels have all benefited by being docked in the Alfred Graving Dock. The advent of synchro lifts, their ease of use and flexibility has minimised the importance of graving docks.



HMAS *ANZAC* in Alfred Graving Dock 1954

Victoria's previously rich ship building business may be at an end, however, the legacy is to be treasured. Many of our Navy's assets were built at Wildock. Whether there is an opportunity to revitalise the dockyard or not, Victorians can be proud of past achievements and their support for Australia's Defence Force.

Special Notes

The Merchant Navy War Memorial Fund. The MNWMF is seeking donations for construction of new works to the Merchant Navy War Memorial, Kings Park Canberra that will see the installation of the names of Australian Merchant Mariners that sacrificed their lives for their country in WWI (184) & WWII (678). www.mnwmf.com.au

HMAS Sydney (IV) A Tri-deployment Reunion 23-24 OCT 2020, HMAS Sydney (IV) crew only from deployments 1990 world trip (75th Anniversary Gallipoli) 1990-91 Damask II (Gulf War) and 1991-92 Damask IV (Red Sea). Reunion organisers are now taking deposits for the harbour cruise phase of the reunion, please email Adrian Burns (Radar) at hmassydneyiv30yrreunion@gmail.com or for further details go to Facebook reunion page [@hmassydneyiv30yrreunion](https://www.facebook.com/hmassydneyiv30yrreunion). A meet & greet is organised at the First Fleet Mess HMAS Kuttubul on the Friday evening 23OCT 2020. On Saturday evening, 24OCT will be a 4 hr harbour cruise.

Communicators & Others. RANCB – Southern Region will be hosting the National Reunion in Geelong Victoria on 7-11NOV19. Join the fun! Time to make the move and register at www.rancbavic.info



Black Dog. Dealing with stress can be a difficult. Did you know that for those who are unable to make that telephone call can text between 1800 & 2200 to telephone 0477 131 114 and you will receive a response by text. Remember, *you are not on your own* and there is always someone willing to communicate/listen and be there through the tough times.

NCCV Office Bearers 2018



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As stated on page one, we are consolidating our effort to use the NVN layout. Thanks must go to Ralph Wolmer for initiating the Rogues Yarn in days gone by. Many of the ex-Navy fraternity are not interested in looking over the horizon. We are more likely to apply our energy to minor issues, best to look at declining interest. NCCV is not disbanding, but we know Veteran support is dwindling with respect to local Navy organisations. NCCV members are Ship/Branch Associations, most leaders are apprehensive about the concept of combining with other Associations. There appears to be very few Ship Associations likely to survive beyond a few years. The organisation best positioned to support the enduring welfare of a wide range of interests is the Naval Association of Australia, the NAA needs to be overt in their support. Ultimately, we commend NVN to all ex-Navy organisations. Let's face it, virtually no input is required with a range of information being available in return. We urge others to look at their situation and make appropriate adjustments. My last words in RY, thanks to Chris Banfield for taking most of the photographs.

Yours aye, Terry Makings