



BROADSIDE

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Editorial

Australia marks the end of World War II

On the 15th August 2020, Australia celebrated the 75th Anniversary of Victory in the Pacific.

Japan surrendered unconditionally to the Allied forces ending the deadliest conflict in history, World War II, with the documents officially signed on 2nd September on board the US warship *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay. The RAN was represented by CDRE J.A. COLLINS, CB and HMA Ships *Shropshire*, *Bataan*, *Hobart*, *Warramunga*, *Napier*, *Nizam*, *Ipswich*, *Cessnock*, *Pirie* and *Ballarat*.

RAN Ship losses in WWII were – 3 Cruisers, 4 Destroyers, 2 Sloops, 3 Minesweepers and 26 miscellaneous vessels. Personnel losses in action were 191 officers and 1,832 ratings.

This year, the coronavirus pandemic prevented an official public commemoration on 15th August.

However, a small ceremony of invited guests, including the Governor General, David Hurley; Prime Minister Scott Morrison and a handful of surviving veterans, was broadcast live so the nation could join in.



Plaque, Commemorative, Japanese Surrender onboard USS Missouri (BB-63)

Events Calendar

(see [Diary of Events](#) for full details)

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NOTE: Due to COVID-19, it is advisable to check with the coordinators to confirm whether the event you were planning to attend is still going ahead. We will endeavour to keep the Diary updated as news comes to hand.

At present the Shrine of Remembrance is closed, but ceremonies are still being conducted and they are live streamed on the Shrine's [Facebook page](#).

09 Nov – 106th anniversary of HMAS Sydney sinking the SMS Emden

11 Nov – Remembrance Day service

19 Nov – On this day in 1941, HMAS Sydney II lost with all hands (645).

19 Nov – HMAS Sydney II Commemorative Service Shrine

22 Nov – HMAS Goorangai service – Queenscliff, Vic

27 Nov – On this day in 1941 - HMAS PARRAMATTA sunk by U559.

01 Dec – On this day in 1942 - HMAS ARMIDALE sunk by Japanese forces – Teddy Sheean posthumously awarded VC.

01 Dec – HMAS Armidale service

Latest Videos, Podcasts and News Headlines

The full articles of the news items listed below can be found on our website:
<https://navyvic.net/news/news.html>

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VIDEOS.....

- Clearance Divers conduct UXO disposal

The Chief of the Defence Force, General Angus Campbell, reflected on the moment when the terrible conflict finally ended.

"Seventy-five years ago, a weary Australia laid down its arms and felt the first, joyous stirrings of peace.

In the forests of Borneo, the soldiers finally laid down their arms and had pause to listen to the songbirds in the trees.

Ships across the pacific spliced the mainbrace and an extra ration of rum warmed a sailor's heart.

The engines of Kittyhawks, Boomerangs and Beaufighters were quite, even if their crews were not.

At home telegrams bearing the saddest of news slowed to a trickle and eventually stopped.

An entire country had been called to serve what was right and good.

A great victory had been won at great cost to all.

Fewer than 3,000 Australian WWII veterans are alive today."

The Australian War Memorial's head of military history, Dr. Karl James, told the ABC the nation's armed forces were "tiny" in 1939. Dr. James said,

"We had a very small Army – the Militia – we had a very small Navy and we had a tiny Air Force.

So when the war broke out one of the things that Australia did contribute to this global effort was men.

The soldiers of the 2nd AIF were deployed across Europe, Africa and the Middle East – and closer to home as Japanese forces launched direct attacks on Australia's mainland.

More than one million Australian men and women served in the war.

About 40,000 of those never returned home, killed or dying as war prisoners.

- *Regional Presence Deployment 2020 Wraps Up*
- *HMS Queen Elizabeth Carrier Strike Group Prowls the Atlantic*
- *Minister for Defence thanks ADF for its response to bushfires and COVID-19*
- *Australian Navy joins forces with Singapore on Exercise Singaroo 2020*
- *HMAS Cerberus Redevelopment Update - September 2020*

NEWS.....

HMAS Adelaide has provided a platform for Singapore Air Force CH-47 helicopter crews to qualify and land on the RAN's largest vessels, HMA Ships Adelaide and Canberra.

AUSTRALIANS who support veterans and their families are being trained as 'Mental Health First Aiders' through free training offered by Open Arms – Veterans & Families Counselling and ex-service organisations around the country.

Our New Values: Courage
For the hundreds of Royal Australian Navy personnel posted around the world, updating *Our Values and Behaviours* has provided new focus to meet the ongoing challenges of serving Australia both at home and abroad.

VETERANS and their families will be able to participate in almost 400 events, both in person and virtually, nationwide as part of Veterans' Health Week, which kicks off tomorrow. Running from 24 October to 1 November 2020, the theme for this year's Veterans' Health Week is Social Connection, one of the most important aspects of maintaining your overall mental health and wellbeing.

Past and future collided when a drone resupplied one of the Navy's oldest ballistic missile submarines on Monday.

The Morrison Government is strengthening the Australian Defence Force's (ADF) maritime communications by investing over \$600 million in a new Fleet Information Environment.

Globally, more than 50 million soldiers and civilians were killed – just a generation after the so called ‘war to end all wars’.

The Official Surrender

The Japanese representatives, headed by foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu arrived on board USS *Missouri* at 0856. At 0902 General MacArthur stepped before a battery of microphones and opened the 23 minute surrender ceremony to the waiting world by stating:

“It is my earnest hope – indeed the hope of all mankind – that from this solemn occasion a better world shall emerge out of the blood and carnage of the past, a world founded upon faith and understanding, a world dedicated to the dignity of man and the fulfilment of his most cherished wish for freedom, tolerance, and justice.”



The Japanese surrender ceremony aboard the USS Missouri.

Unconditional surrender documents were signed and by 0930 the Japanese emissaries had departed.

A fascinating piece of history

Why did the US choose a US Navy Iowa-Class Battleship as the location for Japan's surrender in World War II even though they were in Tokyo Bay and could have used a building on land? Pure symbolism. Nothing says “you are utterly defeated” than having to board the enemy's massive battleship in the waters of your own capital city. A naval vessel is considered sovereign territory for the purposes of accepting a surrender. You just don't get that if you borrow a ceremonial space from the host country.

The US Navy originally wanted the USS *South Dakota* to be the surrender site.

Australia's Defence commitments are focussing on the Indo-Pacific region as part of the Morrison Government's commitment to the 2020 Defence Strategic Update. Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon Linda Reynolds CSC said the Royal Australian Navy is more active in the Indo-Pacific region than it has been in decades.

In order to accommodate the equivalent of an intermediate-range ballistic missile aboard the Navy's current crop of destroyers, the service would need to undertake complex modifications to both the Zumwalt and Arleigh Burke classes of ships to install a long-range hypersonic strike weapon on DDGs, as the national security advisor called for this week.

The United Kingdom hopes to shoulder a greater share of the burden of keeping peace in an increasingly complex security environment, the secretary of state for defence said today during the virtual Atlantic Future Forum.

Last week, the Iranian-flagged oil tanker *Samah* entered the Mediterranean Sea via the Suez Canal. After a few miles, the 900-foot-long ship stopped reporting its position and destination. Evidence suggests the ship sailed to Syria, escorted by two Russian Navy ships, including a destroyer.

Vessels belonging to the US, Japanese and Australian navies gathered in the South China Sea for trilateral naval exercises.

We've just lost one of Australia's and the region's finest maritime and strategic thinkers and leaders. Sam Bateman died this week aged 82. Sam seemingly had the sea in his soul. He was a true giant in the field of the law of the sea, oceans policy and maritime security. He was an intellectual pillar of the maritime security community in Asia.

Australia will join the India-led Malabar 2020 naval exercise next month, operating along with the U.S. and Japan in an exercise meant to send a message to China. The exercise will be a first for the so-called “Quad,” the Pacific

It was President Truman who changed it to USS *Missouri*, Missouri being Truman's home state. The Japanese delegation had to travel across water to the *Missouri*, which sat at the centre of a huge US fleet. It's a bit like those movie scenes where someone enters a big-wig's office and the big-wig is sat silhouetted at the end of a long room, behind a massive desk. The appellant has to walk all the way to that desk along a featureless space feeling small, exposed, vulnerable and comparatively worthless before the mogul enthroned in dramatic lighting before him. By the time he gets there the great speech he had prepared is reduced to a muttered sentence or two.

In addition, the USS *Missouri* flew the flag of Commodore Perry's 19th century gun-boat diplomacy mission that opened the closeted Edo-era Japan to the world and forced upon them the Meiji restoration which ended the rule of the samurai class. The symbolism here is pretty clear – "this is how we want you to be, and remember what happens to countries that defy us." It was particularly humiliating for a proud country like Japan, and that was entirely the point. The symbolism of the ceremony was even greater than that. The ship was anchored at the precise latitude/longitude recorded in Perry's log during his 1845 visit, symbolizing the purpose of both visits to open Japan to the West. Perry's original flag was also present, having been flown all the way from the Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD, for the ceremony.

cooperation between Japan, India, Australia and the U.S.

The Royal Australian Navy's newest aviation workgroup has commissioned its first Remote Pilot Warfare Officer.

Australia and the United Kingdom (UK) have further strengthened their enduring defence relationship by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to cooperate on building and delivering the next generation of cutting-edge frigates.

Able Seaman Asahel Heeney's first operational deployment was a long way from the sea. The Navy communicator deployed to Alice Springs – 1200km from the ocean – on Operation COVID-19 Assist as part of Joint Task Group 629.7.

The crew of HMAS Ballarat has been reminded of the important role Navy plays in protecting Australia's vital offshore energy resources, and the nation's prosperity. An offshore gas platform and supporting vessels served as the backdrop to the silhouette of HMAS Ballarat's superstructure as she patrolled through waters north-west of Western Australia on October 18.

The mental health and wellbeing for Australian Defence Force (ADF) members, Reservists and their families has been bolstered with a new purpose built app released today as part of mental health month.

America's senior arms negotiator said Washington is taking diplomatic and military steps to put an end to Beijing's "great wall of secrecy" that surrounds its rapid and expanding strategic weapons program.

Australia is providing four polymerase chain reaction (PCR) machines to support the Sri Lanka Navy in their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The gift from the Department of Home Affairs and the Department of Defence will support increased medical testing capabilities for Sri Lanka at sea.

Chinese Increasing Nuclear Submarine Shipyard Capacity. As China pushes to



General Thomas Blamey signing the Instrument of Surrender on Australia's behalf.

When the Japanese delegation came aboard, they were forced to use an accommodation way (stairs) situated just forward of turret #1. The freeboard (distance between the ship's deck and the water line) there makes the climb about twice as long as if it had been set up farther aft, where the freeboard of the ship is less.

NOTE: This was even more of an issue for the Japanese surrender party as the senior member, Foreign Affairs Minister Shigemitsu, was crippled by an assassination attempt in 1932, losing his right leg in the process.

The #1 and #2 turrets had been traversed about 20 degrees to starboard. The ostensible reason for this was to get the turret overhangs out of the way to create more room for the ceremony on the starboard veranda deck, but in fact this would have only required traversing turret #2 had it been the real reason. However, the turret position also put the gun tubes directly over the heads of the Japanese. They were literally boarding the ship "under the gun".

The honour guard of US sailors (side boys) were all hand-picked to be over six feet tall, a further intimidation of the short-statured Japanese. The surrender documents themselves, one copy for the Allies and one for the Japanese contained identical English-language texts, but the Allied copy was bound in good quality leather, while the Japanese copy was bound with light canvas whose stitching looked like it had been done by a drunken tailor using kite string.



USS Missouri (BB-63) flyover, Tokyo Bay, 2 September 1945

become a blue-water power, nuclear-powered submarines are critically important to Beijing's plan.

HMAS Arunta sailed from the Port of Darwin on October 11 after an 11-day logistical visit to the Top End. Arunta, which recently returned to Australia from a three-month overseas deployment, will now spend the next six weeks engaging in the east Asia region.

The new Satellite Ground Station near Geraldton, Western Australia is now operational, marking an important milestone in the Morrison Government's commitment to building Australia's sovereign satellite capability.

A senior State Department official stressed the strengthening economic, diplomatic and security bonds between the United States, Japan, Australia and India as an example of regional cooperation for other nations who share their values.

The Royal Australian Navy has completed its largest deployment of the year, with all of the Task Group ships returning home after three months of engagement with regional partners across Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

EVERY year, too many Australians are taken from us by suicide and sadly our ADF personnel and veterans are not immune. The latest report on incidence of suicide among current and ex-serving Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel was released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, revealing 33 deaths by suicide in 2018.

Secretary of the Navy Kenneth J. Braithwaite announced USS Constellation (FFG 62) as the name for the first ship in the new Guided Missile Frigate (FFG(X)) class of ships Oct. 7.

Exmouth base needed to plug naval gap between Perth and Darwin. To make sure that northern Australia is ready to support a range of defence contingencies, the region must have socially and economically prosperous communities.

After the signing ceremony, the Japanese delegation was not invited for tea and cookies; they were shuffled off the ship as an Allied air armada of over 400 aircraft flew overhead as a final reminder that American forces still had the ability to continue fighting should the Japanese have second thoughts on surrender.

The original wooden table and covering cloth are on display in the US Navy Museum at the US Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD.



Two Japanese Flags that fell (from the back of a truck obviously) into some Australian hands from HMAS *Bataan* at the surrender were autographed by Ships Company members and one Japanese Flag similarly found its way to HMAS *Nizam* and was also autographed. These three particular items are framed and on display in the Museum of HMAS *Cerberus*.

Sources:

Captain W. Larry Whitesell USN Rtd.
Naval Historical Society
Gallipoli Gazette
HMAS *Cerberus* Museum

Yours Aye!
NVN Team.



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 will list their names in perpetuity on our special [Memorial Wall](#) on the website. If possible list their Rank, Name, Number, the date of their passing and their age.

- † NS2 I.B. Cocks, R42597, 25 October 2020. Aged 74.
- † CDRE W.S.G. Bateman AM, 18 October 2020. Aged 82.
- † LS P.W. Jones, R53804, 18 October 2020. Aged 79.
- † CRS J.L. Reeves, R35430, 14 October 2020. Aged 91.
- † LEM N.W.A. Tame, 24472, 13 October 2020. Aged 97.

If you're passionate about cyber security and interested in how you can help defend and protect our nation in cyberspace, the 2021 ADF Cyber Gap Program could be for you. Australian citizens who are already studying or enrolling in a cyber-related qualification can now apply online to be part of the program, which is open to 250 students next year.

The Royal Australian Navy has officially welcomed its new auxiliary oiler replenishment (AOR) ship, NUSHIP Supply to Fleet Base West, HMAS Stirling in Western Australia – which marks the next major milestone in the modernisation of the fleet.

Hard work and determination paid off for Recruits from the Navy Indigenous Development Program and Indigenous Pre-Recruit Program as they recently graduated from Recruit School at HMAS Cerberus.

Reaching a milestone 100th birthday has led to a day of celebration and reflections, for a member of the Australian Navy family. Mrs Charmian Gladstone, widow of Rear Admiral Geoffrey Gladstone AO, DSC and Bar, RAN, celebrated her 100th birthday in Sydney last month.

China military watch
Welcome to the third edition of 'China military watch'. This month, we take a look at China's burgeoning missile and space capabilities.

Many in the Australian strategic community were pleased to see the commitments in the government's defence strategic update to improve the country's defence industrial capabilities and stockpiles of strategic goods.

The Chief of Defence Force, General Angus Campbell, AO, DSC and the Secretary of the Department of Defence, Mr Greg Moriarty, today announced the adoption of a single set of Values and Behaviours for Defence.

Partners of Australian Defence Force (ADF) members who are out of work due to the coronavirus pandemic will be

- † CMDR A. Millar, 10 October 2020.
- † LRO F.J. Harper, R54251, 07 October 2020. Aged 79.
- † CMDR D.W Clinch OBE, 03 October 2020. Aged 84.
- † AB R.T. Lewis, R48016, 03 October 2020. Aged 84.
- † POEP W.T. Rieken, R58805, 01 October 2020. Aged 75.
- † SIG(C) J. Hanlon, PM6353, 30 September 2020. Aged 95.
- † EM(A) J. Hanna, R52610, 29 September 2020. Aged 85.
- † POETS A.F. Colligan, R62622, 26 September 2020. Aged 74.
- † LCDR G.S. Edgecombe, O.2191, 25 September 2020. Aged 79.
- † CPOMTP S.C. Bedford, 24 September 2020. Aged 66.
- † LCDR R.A. Power, O.2452, 22 September 2020. Aged 72.
- † ABSIG P.R. Walshaw, R95793, 17 September 2020. Aged 70.

Lest We Forget

Our October Navy Hero - AB Mostyn Berryman MID, PA2717



Mostyn Berryman was born at Kent Town, South Australia, on 9th November 1923. His father was a signaller in the Australia Imperial force on the Western Front in the First World War.

On April 7 1942, as soon as he could, Berryman volunteered for the Royal Australian Navy. He and his friend, Able Seaman Fred Marsh, were still under training in Melbourne when they heard that a British officer was looking for volunteers to do something special.

'They told us it would be exciting'

It was the longest 30 minutes of Moss Berryman's life. Armed with a machine-gun and a cyanide pill, he crouched down low in a small, Japanese fishing boat and thought he was going to die.

It was October 1943, and Berryman and his crew mates were deep inside Japanese territory as part of Z Special Unit's Operation Jaywick. They were disguised as Malay fishermen and had just completed one of the most daring raids of the Second World War, a mine attack on enemy shipping in Japanese-occupied Singapore harbour.

Seven Japanese ships had been sunk or disabled during the raid, and the 14 men responsible were heading back to Australia through the Lombok Strait aboard a small wooden fishing boat, MV Krait. [Continued.....](#)

better supported through changes to the Defence Partner Employment Assistance Program (PEAP).

Navy clearance divers have helped reopen access to Elizabeth Reef, one of the world's most significant and biologically diverse coral reefs.

The ship's company of HMAS Adelaide paid tribute to the lives of six fellow Royal Australian Navy and Royal Australian Navy Reserve seafarers as their ashes were committed to the sea.

The Australian and Singapore navies have reunited at sea for the 25th iteration of Exercise Singaroo. The biennial maritime exercise tests warfare skills, enhances interoperability and reinforces the strong friendship of the two nations.

The Morrison Government is continuing to support Australian Defence Force (ADF) Reservists through the COVID-19 pandemic with new initiatives announced today. This includes:

- * additional reserve days to provide supplementary employment for up to 21,000 existing Reservists;*
- * an additional 25,000 reserve days to help recruit up to 500 additional ADF Reservists; and*
- * an overall increase of up to 210,000 in the total reserve days for this financial year.*

South Australia's world-leading shipyard at Osborne South is now complete and ready for handover, heralding the beginning of another local jobs boom with the commencement of the \$45 billion Hunter Class Frigate program.

Naval Historical Society (Vic) President's Musings for October is now available to [download.....](#)

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

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