



NVN News

incorporating NCCV's newsletter Rogues' Yarn

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Navy Victoria Network

April 2019

Volume 9 Edition 4

Editorial

NVN current membership: 1107



This month's guest editor is
CDRE Greg Yorke CSC RAN
Senior Naval Officer, Victoria

As many of you are no doubt aware, I was appointed by the Chief of Navy, VADM T. Barrett, AO, CSC, RAN, as the Senior Naval Officer Victoria, in January 2018.

My appointment is in part a recognition of the historic links between the Royal Australian Navy and Victoria, and Melbourne, in particular. The Navy has its origins in the Victorian Naval Brigade formed in mid 1800s prior to Federation. After Federation, the Navy Headquarters were established here in Melbourne and had its original home at Victoria Barracks on St Kilda Rd. Navy Headquarters stayed in Victoria Barracks until moving to Canberra in the mid-1960s.

The principle aim of my appointment is to advance Navy's standing in Victoria. I have attempted to engage across the community in the past 12 months, participating in many Commemorative Services, association events, school visits, related Clubs activities, as well as engaging with State Government, Defence and maritime industry and universities.

In addition to the history, I see three main reasons why Melbourne and Victoria are important for the Navy and as such are my focus.

Calendar Events

(see calendar for details of all events)

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30 Apr – On this day in 1915 - HMA Submarine AE2 scuttled in Sea of Marmara.

4-8 May – Battle of Coral Sea

05 May – Battle of Coral Sea Commemoration Service

14 May – On this day in 1943 - Australian Hospital Ship CENTAUR sunk

01 Jun – On this day in 1942 - HMAS KUTTABUL lost during the Japanese midget submarine attack on Sydney harbour.

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.....

- Sailors reflect on Anzac Day
- Exercise AUSINDEX 2019
- HMAS Adelaide open day in Adelaide
- HMAS Adelaide sailor arrives home to namesake city
- HMAS Brisbane Freedom of Entry parade
- Guardian Class Patrol Boat handover to Tuvalu
- Visit to Visakhapatnam Boys Home
- Sri Lankan Navy visit HMAS

Firstly, Melbourne is the home of HMAS *Cerberus*, Navy's largest training base and the cradle of Navy. Over 2000 people live or work at HMAS *Cerberus* and every sailor passes through the RAN Recruit School which is co-located. Every month some 140 odd civilians join Recruit School and graduate 11 weeks later as proud RAN Sailors. The majority of Navy Officers pass through the various schools at the base at some stage during their training. *Cerberus* is currently undergoing a major refurbishment and upgrade of facilities with over \$450m to be spent in the next 5 or so years. The upgrade will improve training facilities as well as support infrastructure and accommodation buildings.

Secondly, in the next ten years Navy will need to significantly increase recruiting to achieve the numbers required to crew and operate our future ships and submarines. Victoria is Australia's second most populous state, but only some 12% of recruits that join Navy are actually recruited from Victoria. This was a surprise to me, I had assumed a much higher number would be recruited from Victoria.



CDRE Greg Yorke CSC RAN organised a service at Vice Admiral Creswell's graveside to recall his involvement in founding the Royal Australian Navy.

Newcastle

- *Plan Pelorus 2022 Outcome Three*
- *Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief demonstration*
- *Indo-Pacific Endeavour arrives in Colombo*

NEWS.....

The Strategist Six: Brendan Nelson
1. As director of the Australian War Memorial, you've fielded considerable criticism over your plan for extensions that will cost \$498 million. Other institutions store parts of their collections and rotate them. Might rotating exhibits or sending them on national tours be an option and why does the War Memorial need to be bigger?

Indian shipbuilder Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited hosted a launching ceremony for the Indian Navy's third Project 15B destroyer at its Mumbai shipyard

Researchers have located the wreck of an Australian freighter sunk by a Japanese submarine during World War II, 77 years after it was lost.

The Commanding Officer, Captain Darren Grogan, and his crew are celebrating 33 years of remarkable service by the 'Battle Tanker'.

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) continues to enhance its regional engagement with the deployment of a Task Group to Tonga this week as part of a wider three nation visit program.

The Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2019 (IPE 19) Joint Task Force is continuing its international engagement activities with the arrival of three ships into the Malaysian ports of Port Klang and Langkawi.

Indonesia is also well on its way to becoming a major submarine power in the Pacific—for the second time in its history.

The British government has launched a competition to test a large, unmanned submarine's ability to gather intelligence and perform other roles.

I have challenged recruiting to understand the reasons behind that low number and to assist me in raising recruitment from Victoria. I believe the issue relates to the relatively high employment rate in Victoria coupled with arguably the most culturally diverse state. While Navy demography is changing there is still a predominance in people from an anglo-celtics background. We must break this nexus if Navy is to achieve manning levels for the future.

Lastly, and associated with the future ships and submarines, the Federal Government has committed to spend in the order of \$90Billion in the next 15-20 years in building new warships and SMs and in support of a continuous shipbuilding industry.

The Chief of Navy has this rebuilding of Navy as one of his highest priorities and while the ships and SMs will be constructed in SA and WA this is truly a Nation building activity. The whole of Australia and in particular Victorian advanced manufacturing and maritime industries will need to be heavily involved in supporting this ambitious shipbuilding initiative.

I will be working with the State Government, Defence Industry, and academia to support CN's intent of both raising Navy's profile and also advancing the nation building effort which is at the centre of rebuilding and advancing the Royal Australian Navy.

I encourage all members of the Navy Victoria Network to join me in spreading the message and supporting the initiatives mentioned in the preceding paragraphs.

Greg Yorke
SNO Victoria

Yours Aye!
NVN Team

VALE

- † ABME A.R. Gunning, R59494, 17 April 2019. Aged 73.
- † A.R. Johnson, PM34287, 16 April 2019. Aged 91
- † R.P. Prosser, P32198, 07 April 2019. Aged 91.
- † CDRE A. Wilson AM PSM RFD RAN, 07 April 2019. Aged 77.
- † EMC M. Johnson, 07 April 2019. Aged 74.

Naval forces worldwide are pushing the idea of anti-torpedo torpedoes, with varying success, aiming to translate the promises of missile defense technology into undersea warfare.

Indian and Australian air crews have highlighted their navies' interoperability during AUSINDEX in the Bay of Bengal.

Anti-Submarine Warfare has once again risen high on the agendas of NATO's maritime forces.

One of Navy's most respected senior sailors has been honoured with her own club, named after her in a ceremony at HMAS Cerberus.

The U.S. State Department has cleared a further sale of missiles used for ballistic missile defense to Japan.

The Indonesian defense ministry ordered an additional three 1,400-ton submarines.

The future HMNZS Aotearoa, the biggest ever vessel to be built for the Royal New Zealand Navy, is taking shape and is ready for launch in South Korea.

Indigenous Elders from the Yuin Nation and the Wreck Bay Community were joined by veterans, members of the Shoalhaven Community and personnel from HMAS Albatross at the Nowra Cemetery in late March, to honour the Shoalhaven's only Indigenous ANZAC soldier: Private Ernest Licey.

The IT equipment the Navy uses on its ships will receive a major overhaul worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

US personnel stationed in Tripoli were evacuated from the city in the wake of the advance of Libyan National Army forces, led by General Khalifa Hifter, towards the Libyan capital.

A team of Navy clearance divers embarked in HMAS Success for INDO-PACIFIC ENDEAVOUR 2019 has taken the opportunity to strengthen ties with their Sri Lankan Navy counterparts through a joint training

- † WOUC R.T. McLaren, 02 April 2019.
- † SAP1 N.A. Star, R42340, 02 April 2019. Aged 76.
- † CEWR I. Smithers, 01 April 2019. Aged 71.
- † CDRE J.S. Partington RAN, March 2019.
- † CMDR R.J. Dennis RAN, 21 March 2019.
- † CPOETC4 B. Fraser, 21 February 2019. Aged 76.

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.**

77th ANNIVERSARY (2019) - BATTLE of the CORAL SEA



The Battle of the Coral Sea, fought during 4–8 May 1942, was a major Naval Battle in the Pacific Theatre of World War II between the Imperial Japanese Navy and Naval and Air Forces from Australia and the United States of America, resulting in a strategic Allied victory and which reversed the tide of World War II in

the Pacific.

Do we really understand how fortunate we are today that if it was not for the Seamen, Crewmen and Airmen that fought and successfully defeated the Imperial Japanese Navy we could have possibly lost our great Country Australia?

Therefore, I invite you again to join us for these important events that will commemorate our Australian American partnership and the "Battle of the Coral Sea".

Commemoration Service

Date: Sunday, 5 May 2019

Time: 11:30 for a 12:00 start

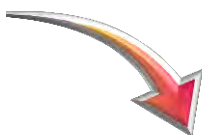
Afternoon Tea provided

Where: Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne

Please join us and together we can ensure that we Never Forget.

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

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initiative.

HMA Ships Success and Parramatta have conducted a port visit to Chennai, India, before their involvement in the bilateral Australian and Indian Navy exercise AUSINDEX.

THREE major reports from the Transition and Wellbeing Research Programme were today released, providing the DVA, and the broader health community, a better understanding of the health concerns of current and former ADF personnel.

Australian veterans and their families will continue to see an improvement in support and services with \$11.5 billion in funding allocated in the 2019–20 Budget.

The Royal Australian Air Force-organized exercise Diamond Shield provided an opportunity for the Australian Navy's second air warfare destroyer HMAS Brisbane to integrate and operate with the fifth-generation F-35A fighter jet for the first time.

Moving from the Collins-class submarines to the Attack class is not the only long and complex capability transition that the Royal Australian Navy is embarking upon.

Computer-based tasks will form the basis of a trial program to assist ADF personnel as they transition from military to civilian life.

Two Royal Australian Navy ships have finished an intensive underwater search for World War Two destroyer HMAS Vampire I.

Semaphore 03/2019

The Acquisition of HMAS Success II

Navy League(Vic-Tas) [April Newsletter](#)

FlyBy

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

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



Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria

ROGUES' YARN

5MAY19 Battle of Coral Sea Service, 1200 Cenotaph, Shrine of Remembrance

6MAY19 HMAS Castlemaine Service, 1000 Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance

8MAY19 Victory in Europe Service, 1100 Cenotaph, Shrine of Remembrance

31MAY19 Aboriginal Remembrance Service, 1100 Cenotaph, Shrine of Remembrance

Shipmates

ANZAC Day is a day when Shipmates are mindful of the purpose and meaning of their service and the service of their own ancestors. For those that acknowledge the values we live by in Australia will appreciate the effort made by so few to the benefit of so many. Day to day living can be demanding, meeting the needs of others and safeguarding one's own family takes determination and commitment. ANZAC Day brings these obligations to mind. It transports us back in time, to when our own ancestors had to bear arms. A time when much of what they valued was under threat. Many made the supreme sacrifice, buried where they fell: in the blood stained battlefields of other continents, or within a rusting hulk, afast on the ocean bed. Most important is that we take a few minutes to reflect on their contribution, whether that was direct or indirect, in uniform or civvies. They managed the day to day affairs of a nation under threat. Today, ANZAC Day demonstrates harmony, proudly reflecting the unwavering effort made by Service men and women since Federation. Military service is unique and has always involved the application of lethal force with the likelihood of injury or death. This is what distinguishes service in the ADF from other vocations. Below, are images of ANZAC Day 2019, Shipmates gathering as one. Something their predecessors have done for many decades. The Naval Association

Scrap Iron Flotilla Association being led by Ron Evans, ex HMAS Stuart



of Australia banner carried in Victoria, extreme left is a modern piece of artwork that brings together all Shipmates. Keeping in mind that the NAA is also the only national body that represents solely Navy, from today and yesterday when seeking to ensure appropriate support is provided to those in need of assistance. Greater participation of our Shipmates at ANZAC Day services is heartening and necessary to demonstrate a belief in their or family service. Sharing the experience of ANZAC Day helps in a small way to minimise the loss of mates, bonds of friendship unthwarted by hardship or time. Once Navy, Always Navy.



NAA banner held by the State President leading several Ship Associations



CAPT Chris Fealy RAN leading the Fleet Air Arm Assoc.

Success

HMAS Success (CAPT Darren Grogan CSM RAN) has just celebrated thirty three years of service in the Navy. Below is an amazing photograph taken by the CO using a drone to capture the steadfastness of the Ship's Company as they steam the Indian Ocean as part of the Indo-Pacific Endeavour. Anniversaries are important milestones that remind us of the longevity of service by Warships, serving and ex-service men & women at sea and ashore. All doing or have done their duty! We presume this photo was taken using a drone, it may have been the CO's selfie stick - although that seems a tad implausible as he is at attention on the Quarterdeck.



Navy Victoria Network

NavyVIC website is there for Associations to provide information on their activities to the Navy Community. Avoid conflicts between events, see navyvic.net

Disclaimer

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

Melbourne Naval Committee

MNC provides a venue at Mission to Seafarers for like-minded groups, *no cost*. Email MtS sue.dight@missionto-seafarers.com.au to make a booking.

Bravery Trust

The BT is there to assist any Veteran & family when faced with a financial crisis. Go to braverytrust.org.au or ring 1300 652 103

Stateless

Did you have children when posted overseas? It has come to light that children born overseas to Veterans whilst posted to O/S billets may be 'stateless'. This may be peculiar to Papua New Guinea as they changed their constitution in 2008, this excluded children born to foreigners from being a citizen of PNG. This may not appear to be a problem, however, the issue is that the administration that prevailed at the time did not address recognition of children born to Australian Service men or women whilst in PNG during the 1960s and later. If you were posted to PNG accompanied in days gone by and had children whilst there you should verify if they are Australian Citizens or not. A recent case frustrated the renewal of a Passport to a fifty year old who was born in PNG. If you encounter a problem, then contact Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the HON Darren Chester MP to have the issue resolved. The Prime Minister has ordered that this piece of mal administration be sorted out quickly, but they will have to know who and when to help you overcome any difficulties you may encounter.

Stanthorpe

Sometimes it is worth the journey! Stanthorpe and District Sub-section of the Naval Association of Australia has gone all out to mark the 77th anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea. Their President, Normal Gale & his Shipmates are keen for as many Navy & ex-Navy men and women as possible to join them at Stanthorpe Civic Centre on Saturday 25th May 2019. Preceding the dinner dance, which commences at 1800 - 1830 will be a wreath laying ceremony at the Naval Memorial Wall, Weeroona Park. If you have the get up and go to attend this event, at \$70 PP for a 3 course dinner then contact Norm by email at storhe170@gmail.com or ring on 0435 619 626. All you need is a coat and tie, along with miniatures if you have them. All welcome, you may even get to rub shoulders with Chief of Navy.

Dinner Dance



Banner

There are different banners used around the country, but few match the newly acquired banner displayed by the Naval Association Victoria Section. A design that brings together the George's Cross and the Southern Cross, overlaid by a fouled union anchor. Russell Pettis, President Victoria Section, bottom right seen carrying the banner on ANZAC Day.



Battle of the Coral Sea

A significant commemoration service in May is the Battle of Coral Sea. It's been 77 years since this major turning point of World War II occurred. Imperial Japanese Forces had moved virtually unimpeded through the Far East, particularly since the bombing of Pearl Harbour. The exchange between the Allied Forces and the IJNavy in the Coral Sea was to halt the advance of the Japanese.

Losses in themselves were not the determining factor, in reality the IJNavy inflicted more losses on the Allied Forces. Notwithstanding the damage to hardware, the fact that the Japanese had been halted was a key psychological triumph.

It was a precursor to the Battle of Midway June 1942 and Battle of Guadalcanal August

1942 to February 1943. Research indicates that the IJNavy and the USNavy were scouring the seas around The Solomons looking for each other. The USNavy was to learn that the enemy objective was to establish air support at Port Moresby. Should this occur, it would give the IJNavy a superior position with respect to curtailing US supply lines as they tried to move towards Japan. The first encounter of the battle may have occurred



when the USN sunk a destroyer and several surface vessels in the Solomon Islands, on 3MAY42. Whilst both task forces were searching for the other, the IJNavy managed to stike next, sinking a destroyer and oil tanker. The Allies quickly retaliated, sinking an IJNavy aircraft carrier and cruiser. The following day, USS Lexington was sunk and Yorktown was

seriously damaged, taking two aircraft carriers out of action. Then an IJNavy aircraft carrier was badly damaged. During the battle, the IJNavy lost a carrier, a destroyer, 3 minor warships, another carrier was damaged along with a destroyer and a minor warship. In addition, IJNavy lost 92 aircraft and 966 Japanese sailors and airmen. The Allies in turn lost an aircraft carrier, a destroyer

and a tanker. Another carrier was severely damaged with the loss of 69 aircraft. 656 US sailors and airmen made the supreme sacrifice. Whilst the IJNavy achieved a tactical win, Allied forces achieved a strategic victory. The Battle of the Coral Sea was to be the forerunner for more effective defiance of Imperial Japanese expansion across the Far East, notwithstanding 1942 was to become a disastrous year for the RAN with the loss of many Warship.

Rogers



..Division

Rogers Division Graduation Parade, 26APR19



Friday, 26APR19 was a big day for 119 of Navy's newly graduated sailors at the RAN Recruit School, HMAS *Cerberus*. CMDR Andrew Hough RAN is the Commanding Officer. The occasion is very much a show of pride, respect and an ability to look the part. The parade signalling completion of training is very much a celebration. A big crowd of family and friends were in attendance. If you haven't seen a recruit graduation parade in a decade or more then expect to be surprised, even moved by the experience. There is a significant difference between today's graduation and graduations of yester year. On this occasion, the Reviewing Officer was CDRE Greg Yorke CSC RAN Senior Naval Officer, Victoria.

Rogers Division is named after CPO Jonathan (Buck) Rogers GC DSM, a Veteran of WWII and Korea. CPO Buck Rogers was Chief Coxswain in *Voyager* with a well earned reputation of integrity and fairness. He showed exceptional courage subsequent to a collision between HMAS *Melbourne* and HMAS *Voyager* in FEB64. His courageous action, as told by his Shipmates was that he calmly helped them escape from the fore part of the sinking *Voyager*. His demeanour and actions at a time of immeasurable difficulty resulted in him being awarded the George Cross posthumously, the highest bravery award a person can receive in a non-warlike situation. CPO Buck Rogers is an inspiration to all who serve in the RAN today.

Special Notes

Hospital Ship Centaur. In Victoria, the *Centaur* baton has been passed to families and supporters. Tom Evans, former *Centaur* Association president will conduct an informal commemoration service at the Simon Poplar Tree, dedicated to the *Centaur*. The tree is in the Shrine of Remembrance Reserve. The service will be held on Sunday 12MAY19 at 1400. Attendees are invited to meet afterwards at the Botanical Hotel; on the corner of Domain Road and Park St, South Yarra. Enquiries to Thomas on 0438 123 265 or tevans@easternpsych.com.au)

Alliance of Defence Force Organisations. ADSO has provided a final submission responding to the Cornell Study. The submission recognises the potential of ESOs to continue, or renew their direct involvement with the wellbeing of Veterans and their families. 231 submissions thus far have been provided in response to the study with more to come. The final date for submissions in response to the draft report is 30APR19. To read any of the submissions, go to the Department of Veterans website and key in Robert Cornell in the search box.

HMAS Jeparit. Anyone who served in *Jeparit* and deployed to Vietnam has

an entitlement under the Veterans Entitlement Act. If you have yet to claim any assistance from DVA, best you contact an accredited advocate asap.

Posted to Papua New Guinea. There is a debate underway regarding children being born in PNG and the family of Veterans who were deployed there with their partners prior to around 2008. It seems these kids are in some instances 'Stateless', that is they are not Australian Citizens. If this may effect you, best you contact Immigration and if this is the case get onto DVA and seek assistance.

ANZAC Day 2019. Peter and Wendy Launder represented the ex-Navy fraternity at the ANZAC Day Wreath Laying Service, Australian War Memorial. Peter recently took on the A/National Secretary role with the Naval Association, all in addition to his Legacy commitments. Wendy wears the Australian Defence Medal, ex-RAAF.



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President's dit

ANZAC Day, meeting Shipmates & remembering Shipmates that once occupied our ranks. A feature of the day is meeting Shipmates who have been not participated for some time and meeting those who currently serve. On the day there are aspects that could be done differently, even the march itself. Planning the march is the result of a tireless effort by a precious few, they endeavor to make sure all goes well. Although there is one particular irritant, that is formation of Ship Associations by theatres of war. This may well work for some, but for Navy it separates younger from older Shipmates, diminishing Navy's profile! What is the purpose of a barrier called - *Post 1975 Service*? We need to bring banners together that connect service across the past century. The order of march should respect the significance of inherited battle honours. Carrying various banners for the same Warship name is okay, however, they need to be alongside each other, not at different parts of the march. It may well be that the theatre of war a warship was engaged in is important, but let's not detract from the purpose of ANZAC – Being together to remember our Shipmates! .

Yours aye, Terry Makings