



NVN News

incorporating NCCV's newsletter Rogues' Yarn

Navy Victoria Network

December 2016

Volume 6 Edition 12

Editorial

NVN current membership: 1044

The Navy Victoria Network Team wish all within the Navy fraternity the very best for the festive season. We hope each and every one of you has a very merry Christmas. We also hope your aspirations for the 'New Year' are forthcoming and we look forward to your participation in at least one Navy event during year 2017.



The illustration of a simple Christmas card greeting was sent by Charlie to his parents over a century ago. Charlie was deeply embroiled in World War One at the time, with one thing foremost

in his mind – the wellbeing of his family at home. The 1st Royal Australian Naval Bridging Train had witnessed the ravages of war, at the Dardanelles, Gallipoli peninsular. Imagine the environment in which Charlie wrote this card, embroiled in a fight on the other side of the world. A fight that was to reshape the image of Australia in the eyes of the world. These Spirit of ANZAC years should prompt us to understand and appreciate what occurred during this time. Each of us had ancestors who were directly or indirectly involved in the war effort, something we should have some knowledge of. The Bridging Train were engaged in a series of actions that underpin the wonderful life our families enjoy in Australia today.

The fact that Australia has encountered many more conflicts

Calendar Events

(see calendar for details of all events)

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25 Dec – Merry Christmas

01 Jan – Happy New Year

05-09 Jan 1945 – HMAS Australia, Shropshire & Arunta engaged in Battle of Lingayen Gulf

22 Jan 1943 – HMAS PATRICIA CAM sunk by Japanese aircraft

26 Jan – Australia Day

Latest News Headlines

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

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

Videos to view on the 'News' page:

- * Chief of Navy Christmas message
- * Exercise Ocean Raider
- * Damage Control exercise on HMAS Parramatta
- * HMAS Ararat Mission Readiness Evaluation

HMAS Adelaide crew helps seize \$60M worth of cocaine off Tasmania
Sailors aboard HMAS Adelaide helped the Australian Border Force seize 186 kilograms of cocaine and arrest ten men in a counter drug operation last week.

since World War One, should only reinforce our appreciation and gratitude of our Service men and women who continue to stand by our flag and defend our place in a peace seeking world. HMAS Arunta is deployed to the Middle East as we relish our Christmas at home with family and friends. May they and others deployed to protect our borders be in a safe place and realise our strong support for their tireless work and their dedication to duty. We also recognise that HMAS Arunta's work is in support of the soldiers ashore, may they all return home safely.

The Navy Victoria Network has now been established for five years. Our sole purpose is to provide an opportunity for anyone interested in navy oriented activities in Victoria, and further afield to be informed of recent activities. Most importantly, we facilitate a diary so that we can avoid competing for different events. We have not achieved total success, but we have made some inroads and the interaction between registered readers and occasional readers shows there is a reasonable level of interest in the website. To take the communication between those in the ex-Navy fraternity to the next level, we may need to review the relationship with established Ex-Service Organisations for the purpose of comparing objectives and building on those initiatives that work. We need to work together to reach out for the many thousands of ex-Navy men and women within our community to bring them back into the fold. Each has something to say and the collective voice of the Navy fraternity is the only way we can improve the situation for those in the Service today and those that will join in the future.

If you have an interest in the wellbeing of the Navy fraternity in Victoria it would be helpful if you contacted the Navy Victoria Network, Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria, or the Melbourne Naval Committee. All of these three entities work closely together in support of the Navy fraternity. By making contact with one of these entities, we can chat about any involvement you may wish to make. Any desire to maintain the legacy of a century of Naval service can only be achieved with your assistance, are you one of those able to help?

Next year is a significant year for Navy, several 75th anniversaries occur that should stir our interest. In the meantime, we should look forward to Christmas, a bright New Year and the friendship of old Shipmates and in particular,

ADF Members awarded Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Unit Citation

ADF members from the RAN Clearance Diving Team Three (CDT3), RAN Helicopter Flight Vietnam (RANHFV), RAAF Transport Flight Vietnam (RTFV)/35 Squadron (SQN) and 9 SQN who served in Vietnam 50 years ago have been recognised with the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Unit Citation.

Veterans with drug and alcohol dependencies

Minister Dan Tehan today announced the establishment of a panel of community-based providers to help treat members of the veteran community experiencing alcohol and other drug (AOD) use disorders.

Australia and France sign Future Submarine Inter-Governmental Agreement

Release of Government response to Vietnam Veterans' Family Study

Minister Dan Tehan today released the Australian Government's response to the Vietnam Veterans' Family Study.

New naval shipbuilding facility

Australian heavy engineering company Cvmec Limited has unveiled plans for its new shipbuilding facility that will be primarily targeted at naval defence projects.

Destroyer Brisbane launched

The second Hobart class destroyer marked a major milestone in its construction when she was officially named Brisbane and launched in Adelaide on 15 December.

Australia, DCNS and boosting the sovereignty of our new subs

by Peter Briggs

Australia's next submarines will be the most sophisticated naval vessels

family. You may even visit or call an old Shipmate who may need the comfort of knowing he is still a part of the Navy fraternity – Once Navy, Always Navy!

Yours Aye!
NVN Team

VALE

- † CMDR P. Burn, O2098, 18 December 2016. Aged 86.
- † CAPT W.H. Money, 11 December 2016. Aged 88
- † CEWE J. Sim, 10 December 2016. Aged 77.
- † CDRE G.V. Sloper AM RAN, 05 December 2016.
- † LCDR D. Edwards RANR, 04 December 2016.
- † POEC G. Cherry, December 2016.
- † LSCD A.E. Smith, R103494, 26 November 2016. Aged 65.
- † CMDR G.T. Sadleir OAM RFD, 24 November 2016. Aged 79.

Lest We Forget

To all who read this: If you hear 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.



Petitions to the House of Reps and the Senate

The petitions are asking the government to rectify serious shortfalls in the way pensions are calculated, or I should say miscalculated, for former Defence Force Personnel.

On our [website](#) there is a file that explains the background and reasons for the petitions.

Also there are copies of the two petitions. It would be much appreciated if you, your family members and your friends would sign these petitions, scan them and email them back to the main petitioner Jim Hislop, whose email address is jghislop1937@hotmail.com

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



under construction in the world and they will be built here in Australia with Australian workers

Interactive First World War app launched

Minister Dan Tehan today launched a free educational app about the First World War Battles of Fromelles and Pozieres to mark their 100th anniversaries this year.

Belgium First World War exhibition tours Australia

Minister Dan Tehan said Belgium authorities were funding a travelling exhibition of WWI artefacts as a sign of their deep appreciation of the service and sacrifice of Australian soldiers.

Supporting female veterans and families

Minister Dan Tehan praised the contribution of our female Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel and veterans and called on all Australians to recognise their service and sacrifice.

Ex-HMAS Tobruk (II) to become Queensland dive wreck

ADF given greater power to target terrorists

The Parliament has today passed important legislation giving the ADF greater power to target terrorists with lethal force.

Naval Historical Society of Australia (Victorian Chapter) President's December Musings – [download.....](#)

Navy League of Australia (Vic & Tas) December newsletter – [download.....](#)

NAVY NEWS – [The latest edition.](#)

Don't forget to visit the [website](#) as there are many more news articles that may be of interest to you but are not included in this newsletter.



Naval Commemoration Committee of Victoria

ROGUES' YARN



You should attend:

*The NCCV now meet
at Mission to Seafarers
2nd Tuesday 2nd month.
14FEB17 @ 1100 !
Associations, please
send a Rep along.*

*HMAS VOYAGER
10FEB17 @ 1000
Sanctuary, Shrine of
Remembrance*

Australian Navy Cadets

Ex-Service organisations support many Cadet Units through awards recognising accomplishments during a particular year. Public recognition of the participation of Cadets at different events, such as commemoration services is also important acknowledgement of their valued contribution. The establishment of Sea Cadet Units by the Navy League in 1932 (TS Barwon being the first Unit) has proved to be a meaningful avenue for teenagers to experience a disciplined approach to self improvement, teamwork & respect for others. If a member of your family is interested in Cadets, go to their website navycadets.gov.au



Your Connection



Photographs by Robbie Lewis

How much do you know about your connection with our Naval heritage? There are commemoration services held at hundreds of locations across the country. For instance, at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne there is a large number of services that remember those that served in war-like episodes over the past century. Navy services underscore a point in history where our sailors serving in Warships, Fleet Air Arm or Clearance Diving Teams put their lives on the line. Each service is an opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice that has shaped Australia. Few WWII Veterans are able to attend services these days. At the Armed Merchant Cruiser / Landing Ship Infantry Association's service, Saturday 10DEC16 they were fortunate to have four WWII Veterans in attendance. Pictured → LtoR Frank Barrile, Bruce Candy, Norm Tame and Hiram Ristrom. CMDR Matthew Ferguson, centre delivered a moving address, touching on past and present service. About 60 people witnessed the service. HMAS Cerberus graciously provided the Catafalque Party with PO Arty Bateson in charge. The RAN Band,

Melbourne Detachment kindly provided a Bugler, AB Doran Broomhall ↑ who delivered a magnificent rendition of the Last Post. Their attendance significantly added to the occasion. The purpose of these occasions is to ensure the service and sacrifice made by our Sailors was/is not in vain, we must keep the legacy of peace making alive. The AMC/LSI Association has set a good example for the rest of us. Most importantly, those who served more recently, should give thought to where they fit as well. Few sailors who served in the past 30 years seem to participate in upholding the legacy of their service, or that of past generations. This needs to be remedied if history means anything - but how?





President's Report



Melbourne Naval Committee

MNC has an agreement with the Mission to Seafarers (MtoS) that allows all Navy groups to meet at the MtS at no cost. Go direct to Craig at the MtS to book: marketing@missiontoseafarers.com.au

Navy Victoria Network

Navyvic website is for anyone interested in Navy. If arranging a Navy style function, check the calendar! Provide information to navyvic to avoid conflict with others.

Disclaimer

Articles contributed are the Authors thoughts only. An article may be edited to meet available space. Comments of a Political nature will be avoided.

As 2016 draws to a close we wish to thank all of those Service, Ex-Service men and women and descendants who have supported the many commemoration services over the past year. As we enjoy Christmas, there are many things to remind us of how we got to be so lucky, the hardship endured by so many throughout the past century has shaped our way of life in such a magnificent way, we can only be forever thankful for their service and sacrifice. The two significant services conducted during the earlier part of December, the Corvettes and Armed Merchant Cruisers demonstrated in different ways how the legacy of those men and ships lives on. It is particularly pleasing to see the growth in participation by descendants at these key services. The legacy of service rests with all Service men and women, their families and friends. It is up to us to make sure that this service is not forgotten, or put aside while *we attend to more important things*. Most of these moments of reflection take a mere 20 minutes, add travel time and coming along is not such a chore. Thankfully, there are many occasions when current and past Navy service has been supported by families and the general public. The Open Day at HMAS Cerberus was probably the

best opportunity during 2016 to see Navy in action ashore. Whilst we missed out on seeing HMAS Canberra, Cerberus did a great job and the thousands of folk that attended were obviously quite satisfied. Other regular opportunities revolve around the RAN Recruit School Passing Out Parades. These are quite different nowadays, we old folks might say they are a tad Americanised, but the outcome is inspiring. These parades showcase the dawn of an important journey for these young and not so young Australians embarking upon a navy career. Their enthusiasm is obvious, their zest for learning and getting on with the job is encouraging. Witnessing these parades can easily take you back to your own first few months in the Navy. What is your recollection - or what did your serving family member tell you about his/her early Navy days! Fancy not having computers, or mobile telephones - it must have been tough in the old days!! All of us who actively drive the NCCV through the year wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and may the new year bring happiness and good health to you and your family.

Yours age, Terry Makings

Corvettes - HMAS Armidale

The annual commemoration service recognising the service and sacrifice of those men who served in Corvettes was held at the Shrine of Remembrance on Thursday, 1DEC16. This was the 74th anniversary of the loss of HMAS Armidale, survivor of the sinking Mr Ray Leonard attended. Ian Shakleton, Treasurer of the HMAS Castlemaine Museum Ship, representing the Castlemaine Museum Ship attended the service. Pictured below are year 9, Star of the Sea College students with LtoR Terry Makings (Pres NCCV), Bill Allan (WWII Corvette Veteran), Ray Leonard (WWII HMAS

Armidale Survivor), Stan Yates (WWII Corvette Veteran), Ian Shakleton (Rep Museum Ship), Rod Taylor (WWII Corvette Veteran) and Chris Le Marshall (Shrine Governor). This service was a good example of the challenges faced when trying to have descendants attend these services. There must have been 10,000 men who served in the 56 Corvettes. That would mean there are many descendants who are unaware of the link between their family and their forebears. The challenge is obvious, how to encourage these families to discover their connection and act upon it. The initiative to encourage schools to adopt a service/association has a very positive impact on the services involved. Secondary school curriculum facilitates some learning towards Australia's involvement in World Wars, but the intimate experience of participating in a service has far more meaning. Star of the Sea College has a campus adjacent to the RSL hospice in Brighton, their involvement extends to improving the welfare of residents.



Castlemaine

HMAS Castlemaine Museum Ship is a floating reminder of the concerted effort by the Australian Government to produce its own Warships when the country was under serious threat of invasion. The ship houses many genuine artifacts, all of interest with each adding to our rich maritime history. All of these assets are kept safe and in pristine condition by a small dedicated team of ex-Navy and some folk with just a very strong interest in Navy. They are to be congratulated on an enormous effort that helps to illustrate the technological changes, as well as ordinary changes over the past 70+ years. Adding to the collection is Bruce Wadsworth, ↓ Facilities Manager, BAE Williamstown who gave CMDR Dennis Gale RAN Rtd an original McInnes Dobbie steam engine indicator. Artifacts such as these, when added to the Castlemaine collection are of inestimable value. The Castlemaine is open for visitors, individuals, families and groups. They plan to open each day between 26DEC to 15JAN, from 1000 and 1600. Visit information and more at <http://hmascastlemaine.org.au>



Navy Ball

During 2017, specifically on Saturday 21OCT17 there will be a spectacular Navy Ball to kick off Navy Week 2017. The iconic Melbourne Town Hall has been chosen as the venue, close to transport, accommodation and all the delights of the most liveable city in the world. The RAN Band, Melbourne Detachment has very kindly agreed to participate on this occasion. As 2017 is a year of a significant number of anniversaries, the initial theme will be the 50th anniversary of the introduction of the new Australian White Ensign. The first ship to be commissioned under the new AWE was HMAS Boonaroo, this occurred at 2130, 1MAR67. The Ball will be an opportunity to meet and chat to old ship mates and meet new ones. This will be a black tie affair, with miniature medals (for those that have them and wish to wear them). The cost will be \$155 per person, this will provide a three course dinner with beverages. The organising committee wish to encourage you to gather your friends and make a commitment to join in the fun. If you are a leader of an organisation, please discuss how many of your colleagues wish to come along and experience this gala night. We also hope you will think about purchasing a table for your organisation early at the cost of \$1,550 for ten places. Come along, early notice will also be helpful.

Vietnam

Members of RAN Clearance Diving Team Three (CDT3) and the RAN Helicopter Flight Vietnam (RANHfV), who served in Vietnam 50 years ago have finally been awarded the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Unit Citation. The Governor-General formally approved the awarding of the Citation in recognition of the military assistance provided to the former Republic of Vietnam. The Citation was originally awarded by the Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam) to all units subordinate to Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) during the period 8FEB62 to 28MAR73. Until now, these units had been overlooked for the Citation. During a recent Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal review it was revealed that CDT3 and RANHfV were indeed eligible for the Citation. Were you posted to one of the following units, during the eligible dates:

- 1 Clearance Diving Team 3 - 5FEB67 to 5MAY71
 - 2 Helicopter Flight Vietnam - 16OCT67 to 8JUN71
 - 3 RAN personnel in 9 Squadron - FEB68 to APR69
- Go to defence.gov.au/medals for more information.

Membership

Here we go again, being grouchy about declining membership of ex-Navy organisations. Ex-service organisations are generally there to provide support to Service and ex-Service men and women and their families. The problem appears simple, however, the remedy seems beyond us. Most newsletters and correspondence of this and related matters is distributed to the converted - the 'true believers'. The challenge is to get to those outside the normal sphere of influence and encourage them to engage. Maybe we need a script that conveys in simple terms the relevance of our respective organisations. Could it be that what we perceive to be relevant means zero to so called outsiders! Could it be that the behaviour of our organisation is such that we appear to be smug and self centred - surely not! NCCV has a focus on service and sacrifice, can anyone be against commemoration? The challenge maybe to draw a link between past or current service and the importance of backing up the accumulated legacy of this service. Early in 2017, we are likely to hold another workshop to test our theory.

Captain Tim Standen CSC RAN Joined the Royal Australian Navy as an Apprentice Air Technical Communication sailor at the age of 16. He quickly progressed through the ranks, becoming a WO in 1998. As Assistant Aviation Engineer Officer in 817 squadron, he served in the Interfet intervention in East Timor. He gained his Commission in January 2003, being promoted to Lieutenant. A year later he was promoted Lieutenant Commander. He again progressed quickly through the ranks being promoted Captain in February 2016. His last post was Director Maritime Safety Review. He received the Conspicuous Service Cross for outstanding achievement as the Fleet Aviation Engineer Officer. His innovative and energetic leadership while in charge of the Aviation Maintenance Standards Unit was inspirational, leading to the award. The citation noted his original approach to improving the auditing regime, championing of New Generation Navy principles and effective regulatory refinements. His effectiveness and commitment are in the finest traditions of the RAN. We are delighted he is posted as Commanding Officer, HMAS Cerberus and we look forward to working with him and the team over the next three years.



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Special Notes

75 Years On. Commemorative services are planned to mark the 75th anniversaries of the loss of Warships *Vampire, Nestor, Kuttubul & Armidale*. Navy wish to contact Veterans and families of Veterans no longer with us, who actually serviced in one of the these Warships. Should you be one of those being sought, please email to navy.events@defence.gov.au

RANCBA. The Communicators have a Regional reunion organised at Port Fairy, during March 2017. If you have yet to register your interest, or wish to join in the fun by travelling with friends on one of the several ways of getting to Port Fairy, give John White a call. The RANCBA is keen to coordinate your journey. You can call John on [0418 524 067](tel:0418524067) if you wish to run through the options. You can also email John at nokkaj64@yahoo.com.au

Naval Officers Club. NOC, a national organisation is seeking to increase their membership. One aspect of their membership initiative is to improve communication across the membership base. Their use of social media has the potential to improve the distribution of information to their members and reduce costs. If you have held a commission in an Allied Navy, check out the website: navalofficer.com.au

Veterans Council. RADM John Lord AM RAN Rtd has stepped down as Chair of Victoria's Veteran Council. RADM Lord was a member of the Council from its inception and made a remarkable contribution to the ex-Service community. He has been a strong advocate of fairness and support for ex-Service men and women in need.

Tools. The image of a double ended spanner, shared recently, imperial at one end & metric at the other is a shrewd initiative. Despite this new technology, some were posted to Warships where a shifting spanner was banned, proper tools only allowed.



Stanthorpe. The President and Members of the Naval Association of Australia - Stanthorpe and District Sub-Section have issued an open invitation to anyone wishing to attend their dinner to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of the Cora Sea. This will be held on Saturday 6th May 2017 and commences with a concert at 1430. That will be followed by a memorial service at 1630 with the dinner commencing at 1830 at the Civic Centre, Marsh Street, Stanthorpe. For more info contact Norm Gale: storhel70@gmail.com