



NVN News

incorporating NCCV's newsletter Rogues' Yarn

Navy Victoria Network

February 2018

Volume 8 Edition 2

Editorial

NVN current membership: 1085

On a number of occasions in this Newsletter we have commented on the critical relationship between the Navy Victoria Network (the mouthpiece), the Naval Commemorative Committee of Victoria (the organiser) and the Melbourne Naval Committee (the financier). Without these three organisations working closely together, many of the other ex-Naval Associations in Victoria would find it difficult to achieve their desired goals. 2018, the Centenary of the WW1 Armistice, will be another important year for the Ex-Service community and it is comforting to know that there are like-minded groups who can assist in getting the word out about Association events and reunions, organising commemorative services for significant naval anniversaries and importantly, helping to cover the cost of getting together, or with the routine administrative expenses of running an Association.

Those of you relying on the revenue generated from Bank interest will understand that the last decade has been tough to do what you used to do on the proceeds of 2 to 3 per cent annual interest. The Melbourne Naval Committee (MNC) is no different and has been forced to tighten its belt and be quite selective in the level of support it was able to provide to Victorian-based Naval Associations. Even though bank interest rates remain relatively low, the MNC has redefined its purpose, reinvigorated its investment strategy and settled into its new home at the Mission to Seafarers Victoria (located on Flinders Street in the Docklands). As a consequence, the MNC is now in a much better position to help.

The new Statement of Purpose for the MNC, among other things, states:

Calendar Events

(see calendar for details of all events)

...

22 Jul 2017 - 29 Jul 2018 – *Nerves and Steel - The Royal Australian Navy in the Pacific December 1941 – September 1945 (Exhibition at the Shrine)*

01 Mar – *On this day in 1901 - the Commonwealth Navy was created under section 51 of the Australian Constitution with the States transferring their Naval Forces and all employed in them to the Federal Government.*

01 Mar – *On this day in 1967 the RAN adopted the Australian White Ensign*

01 Mar – *76th anniversary of the sinking of HMAS Perth during the Battle of Sunda Strait*

04 Mar – *76th anniversary of the sinking of HMAS Yarra*

22 Mar – *Creswell Oration*

26 Mar – *NHS meeting (all welcome)*

09 Apr – *On this day in 1942 - HMAS VAMPIRE sunk by Japanese aircraft off Ceylon.*

Latest News Headlines

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

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



Melbourne Naval Committee Inc.

The MNC Inc. is a not-for-profit, tax exempt, charitable organisation which, within the limits of its income from investments, provides financial support to Victorian-based serving and ex-Navy personnel, Navy Ship and Branch Associations in accordance with the following operational and funding priorities.

- Provide a central meeting place for men and women whom have served in the RAN, RN or an allied Navy in order to perpetuate a spirit of comradeship and mutual assistance throughout the Naval Services;*
- Arrange, facilitate or promote recreation, amusement and education for the men and women who are serving or have served in the Naval Services; and*
- Support other groups and organisations in Victoria that provide for the wellbeing of currently serving and ex-Navy members.*

No hard-and-fast limits are set in relation to the quantum of financial assistance which can be provided; each request will be decided on its merits. The Committee will exercise its judgement and discretion in this regard taking all known factors into account, particularly:

- whether the application falls within the MNC's operational and funding priorities;*
- the history of grants made to the applicant;*
- the amount of income (from investments) available for distribution; and*
- the worthiness of the application (based on details provided by the applicant).*

So, if your association is thinking of somewhere to meet in the city, either routinely or for a special occasion, you can do so free of charge at the Mission to Seafarer's building in Docklands. It is well served by public transport and you can't beat the price of a beer over the bar. Meeting rooms are available (including the upstairs Navy-themed 'River Room'). Catering can be organised through the Mission' or from a plethora of nearby restaurants that deliver. Arrangements can also be made to use the kitchen to 'self-cater' your event. The Mission has agreed to give

LATEST VIDEOS.....

- HMAS Hobart granted Freedom of Entry*
- HMAS Hobart First of Class Trials*
- HMAS Warramunga Drug Busts Top \$1 Billion*
- US Marine Corps General delivers speech honouring ADF personnel*
- Heroin seizure by HMAS Warramunga*

NEWS.....

The newest American navy vessel will have a touch of Australia on board, if only in name. During a joint press conference in Washington DC with Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, US President Donald Trump announced the US Navy's new warship will be named the USS Canberra. The USS Canberra will be an Independence-variant Littoral Combat Ship, and will replace its former namesake, which was decommissioned in the 1970s. (see photo below)

HMAS Hobart (II) may have decommissioned 18 years ago, but Randall Wilson remembers his times as a 'Ghost rider' as some of the best of his life. The former sailor, now artist, resides in the city of Hobart and joined the ship's company of the newest Hobart at an official reception to present a large painting of all three ships to carry the name. The painting depicts all three Hobarts sailing in company, capturing the operational service of the three ships over an 80 year period.

Seventy-five years after HMAS Harman was commissioned as a Royal

exclusive use of the building and gardens to MNC affiliated associations on Anzac Day, however, pre-booking is essential.



Mission to Seafarers - 717 Flinders St, Docklands

Alternatively, if your association is seeking financial assistance to support its activities, the MNC is now in a better position to help following a complete review and restructure of its investment strategy. Recent examples of grants to associations include reimbursing the cost of conducting a reunion for veterans and their families (up to \$1000) through to offsetting the administrative expenses of running an association (around \$500). If in doubt about your eligibility, refer to the MNC Statement of Purposes or contact the MNC Secretary on paul.taylor3@defence.gov.au. While the MNC is not yet 'flush with funds' from its improved investments, we are increasingly becoming able to afford a wider range of grants to Associations. Remember, your applications are likely to be looked upon more favourably if you can demonstrate that the beneficiaries of the grants are contributing to some part of the cost of the event.

Now turning your attention to one of our 'Flagship Events' for 2018, which should not be missed. Full details can be obtained on our website <http://navyvic.net/flagship.html>, but in brief:

Australian Navy Foundation Day - 2018

"CRESWELL ORATION 2018" - Thursday 22nd March 2018



Australian Navy establishment, command has hosted a United States Navy veteran who served there in World War Two. John Frazier, now 93 years old, had a dream of showing his family where he had served abroad with the United States Navy 75 years ago.

VETERANS of the Korean War have been approved to wear the Republic of Korea War Service medal by the Governor-General, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd). Minister for Defence Personnel Michael McCormack said the approval to wear this medal after initially refused by the British Government in 1951 shows the Australian Honours and Awards system has evolved to become its own unique system of recognising our service men and women.

Navy Tier Bravo Warrant Officers who occupy the role of Ships Warrant Officer (SWO) will now be recognised as Command Warrant Officer (CWO). Warrant Officer Karen Sellars, the CWO at HMAS Harman said the change is a positive recognition of the important role the CWO plays in supporting Command.

Veterans and their families are set to benefit with Minister for Veterans' Affairs Michael McCormack introducing the Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Veteran-Centric Reforms No. 1) Bill 2018 (VCR Bill) to implement several new initiatives which will deliver better services to veterans and their families.

The ADF: an operational update
Acting Chief of the Defence Force
Vice Admiral Ray Griggs
For well over three years now the ADF has been engaged in operations in the

**Oration title:
"State of the Fleet".**

Presented by:
Commander Australian Fleet
RADM Jonathan D. Mead RAN

BOOKINGS: Navy League of Australia VIC-TAS Division, P.O.
Box 2340 Mount Waverley, Victoria 3149.

**INQUIRIES and Full Booking details are in the Leaflet which
can be accessed at the <http://navyvic.net> website**

Yours Aye!

NVN Team

VALE

- † ORD D. Manning, PM3925, 21 February 2018. Aged 95.
- † CPOMTH A. Alderson, 16 February 2018. Aged 74.
- † CMDR A.C. Smith, 13 February 2018.
- † CEP W. Serisier, 12 February 2018. Aged 79.
- † LAM(O) J. de L. Clifford, R39853, 11 February 2018. Aged 85.
- † WOATA L. Burggraaff, 07 February 2018. Aged 76.
- † POTEL P.K. Bonser, R29034, 06 February 2018. Aged 88.
- † CPORP(AC) N. Jones, R103487, 03 February 2018. Aged 66.
- † POWM R.H. Smyrk, 02 February 2018.
- † CPOCOX G.J. Smith R59165, 01 February 2018. Aged 75.
- † LSMET G. Jehn, R93678, 30 January 2018. Aged 71.
- † WOMTP M. Berger, 29 January 2018.
- † POMTP3 M. Quinlan, 28 January 2018.
- † WRROM M.A. Scanlon, W86620, 28 November 2017. Aged 68.
- † M.A. Kimber, 06 November 2018.

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.**



**Australian Ex-Services Atomic Survivors
Association Inc.**

The national secretary of the Australian Ex-Services Atomic Survivors Association Inc., will be coming to Melbourne to hold a meeting of all / any, Nuclear Vets to try to create a National body (Western Australia are the only National Assoc. as far as he knows). Hopefully there is enough interest in

Middle East in the fight against Daesh. Our forces have acquitted themselves exceptionally well.

The US Navy has submitted its long-range ship acquisition plan to Congress under which it expects to reach its 355-ship fleet by the early 2050s. Released February 12, the 30-Year Ship Acquisition Plan is a Congressionally-mandated report which describes the Department of the Navy's long-range shipbuilding plans for 2019-2048.

A Navy-crewed patrol boat has rescued nine Papua New Guinean fishermen after their vessel was found in the Torres Strait, having drifted without fuel or food for six days.

The Royal Australian Navy's newest warship, HMAS Hobart, has arrived in its namesake city for the first time. This port visit is the first time in 18 years a ship carrying the name Hobart has visited the City of Hobart and will see the guided missile destroyer feature as the flagship in the Royal Hobart Regatta.

On International Day for Women and Girls in Science, the Australian Defence Force (ADF) has highlighted the world class training opportunities for women and girls interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). In 2017, 41% of female students at the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) studied Science, Engineering, Technology, Computing and Cyber Security degrees.

Western Australia premier Mark McGowan is set to join Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and other officials on a visit to the US during which he will present Western Australia's defense capabilities. McGowan is to

Melbourne to establish a branch here. By having a larger member base it will gain more credence in speaking with the Government.

For your special notice & information, we advise that a meeting of all interested **Nuclear Veterans** will be held at:

Venue: Spotswood/Kingsville RSL Hall, 16 Mary Street, Spotswood, Victoria. (Melways: 41 J12)

Date: Saturday, May 12, 2018

Time: Commencing @ **1100 hours till 1250 hours** Lunch/ BYO
1300 hours till 1400 hours.

Topic: To share information;

Discuss current relevant details;

Debate knowledge pertinent & important to us all;

Any further items presented;

Question & Answers.

Further Information & Registration is available from:

Arthur James (Jim) Marlow – National Secretary
Australian Ex Services Atomic Survivors Association Inc.
Villa 48,

58 Canna Drive,

Canning Vale WA 6155

Phone: (08) 9455 1337 or 0411 411 849

email: jimmarlow@hotmail.com

Website: www.atomicvets.org.au or

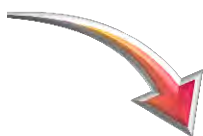
www.atomicsurvivors.navyvic.net

Donald Trump announces newest US warship to be named after Canberra



The 127-meter vessel will be built by Australian-based shipbuilder Austal at its US shipyard in Mobile, Alabama.

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



meet with US Navy secretary Richard V. Spencer to discuss Western Australia as a suitable location for additional future ship visits by the US Navy.

The US Navy could begin deploying a self-piloting sea drone by the end of the year to hunt for submarines at a time when China and Russia are expanding their underwater fleets, according to the research agency that designed it.

The release of a rescued Green Sea Turtle back into the ocean by HMAS Childers has capped a successful few months for Royal Australian Navy Patrol Boats in the Top End on their mission to protect Australia's natural resources.

The Air Warfare Destroyer project has been removed from the Projects of Concern list following continuing improvements in shipbuilding performance.

The Australian Defence Force continues to build its cyber capability, establishing the new Defence Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) and Cyber Command.

The United States Marine Corps has awarded a rare honour to 107 Australian Defence Force (ADF) members who helped recover a US Marine Corps aircraft that crashed and sank off the north Queensland coast late last year.

Naval Historical Society of Australia (Vic) President's February musings is now available to [download.....](#)

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

1. HMAS Perth Service , 1200 Thursday 1MAR18, Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance.
2. HMAS Yarra Service, 1100 Sunday 4MAR18, HMAS Yarra Memorial Park, Spotswood.
3. RAN Recruits, 1000 Sunday 1APR18, Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance.

Hector Waller

Hector MacDonald Laws Waller, born on 4 APR 1900 in Benalla, Victoria. He entered the Royal Australian Naval College (RANC) on 31DEC1913. He soon became Cadet Captain and in 1917 became Chief Cadet Captain, also winning the King's Medal. Made Midshipman on 1JAN1918 he was posted to the dreadnought HMS *Agincourt* for a month before joining the light cruiser HMAS *Melbourne*, then the light cruiser *Sydney* as a SBLT. Promoted LEUT in MAR1921, further training in the UK then Staff at RANC. Back to sea in the light cruiser *Adelaide* in APR 1924 before heading back to the UK to train as a Signals Officer, where he also topped the course. In MAY1926 appointed OIC, Comms School, FND, Victoria. In 1928 he was posted to HMS *Broke*, a year later promoted LCDR, returning to Australia in 1930. Hec then undertook roles in comms and intelligence, leading to his first sea command in HMS *Brazen*. He made CMDR JUN1934. By JUN1939, Waller had returned to Australia to become Director of Signals & Communications. At the outbreak of WWII, Hec was appointed CO, HMAS *Stuart* taking command of 5 rather old ex-RN destroyers, they being: *Vampire*, *Vendetta*, *Voyager* & *Waterhen* - nick named the 'Scrap Iron Flotilla'. They were assigned to the Mediterranean as the 19th Destroyer Division, arriving at Malta late December. In MAY1940, Hec was appointed to the 10th Destroyer Squadron, with the Scrap Iron Flotilla plus 4 British destroyers at the rank of CAPT. The 10th Destroyer Squadron supported the Rats of Tobruk in JAN1941 and Benghazi the following month. In MAR41, *Stuart* escorted Allied troop transports to Greece as part of Operation Lustre, narrowly avoiding falling victim to Axis dive-bomber attacks. During the Battle of Cape Matapan at the end of the month, Hec's ships were credited with sinking two Italian destroyers. From MAY to JUL, the 10th Destroyer Squadron made 139 ferry runs during the Siege of Tobruk.

Hec was mentioned in dispatches twice during 1941: JUL for his role with the Inshore Squadron off the Libyan coast, and in NOV for his service during the Greek campaign. Hec earned the personal admiration of Admiral Cunningham, who described him as "one of the finest types of Australian naval officers;.. greatly loved and admired by everyone". On the occasion of a visit to Alexandria by Australian Prime Minister Robert Menzies, ADML Cunningham escorted him to *Stuart* and declared: "And now you are going to meet one of the greatest captains who ever sailed the seas, his name is Hec Waller". Hec returned to Australia in AUG1941 for service in the South West Pacific. On 24OCT, he took command of the light cruiser HMAS *Perth*, at Sydney. In JAN1942, *Perth* was assigned to American-British-Dutch-Australian Command (ABDA) to help defend the Dutch East Indies. She set sail for the ABDA Area on 15FEB, the day that Singapore surrendered. The ABDA Striking Force that *Perth* had joined was crushed by an overwhelming Japanese force at the Battle of the Java Sea on 27FEB. Low on ammunition, Hec made the decision to withdraw, accompanied by the cruiser USS *Houston*. On the following night, 28FEB, *Perth* and *Houston* were attempting to break through the Sunda Strait to Australia when they encountered a Japanese invasion fleet escorted by four cruisers and twelve destroyers. *Perth* in the lead, Hec gave the order, 'fire' upon making contact with the enemy ships, that occurred around 1100. During the ensuing battle, Allied cruisers sank 4 Japanese transports and a minesweeper before they were sunk, shortly after midnight on 1MAR1942. *Perth* had expended all ammunition; then it keeled over after being struck by 2 torpedoes. 350 crew were lost, after abandon ship was given, Hec was last seen standing on *Perth's* bridge staring down at his silenced gun turrets!

Ship Visits

Unless you live opposite a Fleet Base, or maybe a Patrol Boat Base the excitement of seeing a ship visit is rare these days. The arrival of HMAS Stuart & Towoomba at Geelong's Cunningham Pier was a fantastic sight. The downside was that folks in Geelong were only given 3 or 4 hours to walk round either Warship during Sunday forenoon. Thousands of families, young and old lined up to see our best Warships. Whilst showing off Warships is not Navy's priority, these opportunities are treasured by all Australians, with old salts amongst the first in the queue. The value of these ship visits is far-reaching and have the potential to underscore the importance of maintaining an effective and efficient maritime force. 'Enterprise Australia' may see more ship visits as the Warship industry becomes world class.



Disclaimer

Articles contributed are the Authors thoughts. Articles may be edited to meet the available space. Political articles will not intentionally appear in R's Yarn.

Melbourne Naval Committee

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

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.



Alfred

Alfred Graving Dock, Williamstown is a well known historic icon in Victoria. The dock was in constant use from 1874 until 2015. The last vessel to be docked was HMAS Castlemaine Museum Ship. Better known to most in the Navy fraternity as Williamstown Naval Dockyard, at Dog Town. Built at a cost of \$23M, back in 1874 that was an extraordinary cost and underlines the important of the maritime industry to Victoria at the time. The dock has stood the test of time, the huge blue stone blocks have not moved an inch. A testament to the architecture, engineering and craftsmanship of those involved. The future of Alfred Graving Dock is the subject of considerable speculation. The site is ideally placed for residential growth or maybe even further shipbuilding activity to bring Victoria's past talent into play.



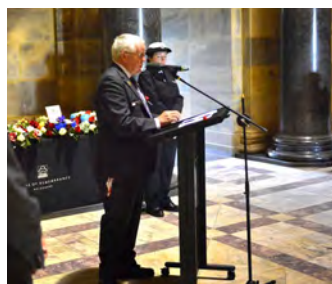
Naval Association

It is disappointing when you hear colleagues say they are not aware of the Naval Association. Particularly as the Association is the single 'all navy' organisation in Australia, outside of the Navy itself. Obviously the Association needs to look at branding and how best to inform young and not so young serving and ex-serving Navy men and women of the importance of them to the Naval Association. Some may not appreciate that much of the support structure that exists, outside of the Defence Force is the result of remarkable work by Veterans who have worked tirelessly for decades to ensure the welfare of serving and ex-service navy men and women is improved when and where necessary. To continue this work, the number of members is critical as an appropriate level of commitment across the Navy fraternity will ensure the Association is invited to continue its work with DVA and other ex-Service organisations. The Association works closely with sev-

eral other organisations, such as: Defence Force Welfare Association, Air Force Association and several other Army related entities. Every gateway into DVA is crucial, the level of success achieved maybe measured by the change in attitude of DVA towards Veterans, whether in or out of the Defence Force. Some may not have the best experience, but this should not be taken as a failure of ex-Service Organisations, nor necessarily an issue with DVA. There may not be a tangible benefit to any individual who joins the Naval Association, however, every member has the right to participate at various levels of the organisation. The challenge is to realise opportunities and meaningful consequences of being part of the Navy fraternity. The premise being 'Once Navy, Always Navy'. We think departure from Navy severed the relationship, however, it has been proved many times that this is not the case. Those that are members of the Naval Association, or for that matter the vast number of ship or branch associations are testament to this premise.

HMAS Voyager

A commemoration service was held in the Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance on Saturday, 10FEB18 to acknowledge the service and sacrifice of those who served in HMAS *Voyager* I and II. Those in *Voyager* I experienced the hardship of WWII, with the risk of air and submarine attacks a daily threat when at sea. *Voyager* I was eventually lost after being grounded whilst trying to manoeuvre as close to the beach as possible to evacuate troops ashore. The Japanese bombed the warship at will, whilst it was high and dry. Thankfully on that day no sailors were lost. The service went on to recognise *Voyager* II and the fact that the ship was lost under the most unfortunate of circumstances. WO Marty Grogan OAM RANR ↓ delivered an interesting overview of both *Voyager* I and II. There were two ex-*Voyager* sailors present, Vern Bechaz OAM who posted off before FEB64 and Don Barker, who was a survivor of the collision with HMAS *Melbourne* on the 10FEB1964. Both participated in the service and recalled the loss of their Shipmates. Les Thurgood, Naval Association - Melbourne Sub-section attended and recalled how as a crew member of the Sea Air Rescue vessel 'Nymph' they were dis-



patched to the collision area to assist. Keith Goodwin was also at the service, Keith was serving in HMAS *Hawk* and it happened to be in the area at the time of the collision. *Hawk* was actively involved in the post collision search for several days after the event. The occasion was enriched by the attendance of several Officers, Ship's Warrant Officer and Buffer from HMAS *Stuart's* Ship's Company. LEUT Luke Searle RAN delivered a reading and laid the wreath on behalf of the Royal Australian Navy. Pictured below is HMAS *Stuart's* crew placing their personal



tribute in the Urn, next to the Stone of Remembrance as they acknowledge past service.

Scrap Iron



The annual Scrap Iron Flotilla Association lunch will be held at 1200 for 1230, Friday 23MAR18 at the William Angliss Restaurant, Lt Lonsdale Street, Spencer Street end. This event has been attended by Veterans who served in the Scrap Iron Flotilla every year since the end of WWII. 2018 will be the first lunch where we will not have a Veteran from the original 5 destroyers. The last survivor of the Scrap Iron Flotilla was Ern Poole, who lived in Portland with his wife Dot crossed the bar earlier this year. Notwithstanding, this is an opportunity for all destroyer men and women to gather, with other shipmates, family and friends socially. The Association is very lucky to have RADM Peter Briggs AO CSC RAN Rtd attending the lunch as guest of honour. RADM Briggs will deliver a talk on the discovery of HMAS AE1, lost on 4SEP1914 and only found earlier this year using very sophisticated equipment. These occasions offer serving and ex-Navy men & women, along with descendants a chance to familiarise themselves with like minded folk. If interested email scrapironflotillaassociation@gmail.com

YARRA

The 2018 HMAS *Yarra* Commemoration Service is scheduled for 1100, Sunday 4MAR18 at the HMAS *Yarra* Memorial Park, Spotswood. This service occurs on the anniversary of a courageous event that ended in the loss of *Yarra* and the creation of a legendary



effort by the Commanding Officer, LCDR Rankin RANVR and LS Robert Taylor who was located on the for'ard gun turret at action stations. The CO pointed *Yarra* into a no win solution, being aware that the *Yarra* was no match for the Japanese Task Force that was bearing down on them. The CO bravely kept the *Yarra* on course, LS Taylor bravely continued to arm and shoot his gun at the enemy, even when the situation was dire, ship sinking beneath him. Both Rankin and Taylor made the supreme sacrifice that day and on this anniversary it is incumbent on us all to recall the service and sacrifice of so many brave souls in *Yarra*, especially Rankin and Taylor.

Special Notes

HMAS Yarra. The annual HMAS Yarra service will take place at the HMAS Yarra Memorial site, The Strand, Newport. The service will commence at 1100, Sunday 4MAR18. All welcome.

Radji Beach, Indonesia. The 76th Anniversary of the 21 Australian Nurses who were massacred at Radji Beach, Muntok on Banka Island, Indonesia were remembered at a service on 16FEB18. LCDR Bruce Bird RANR laid wreaths as a representative of the Royal Navy, RNV, RNVR and the Merchant Navy Association UK. A most tragic event.

HMAS Bataan Veterans Association Ex Crew Members of Bataan & their families are encouraged to attend the Bi-monthly meetings at the Dandenong RSL Sub-branch. Why not put the Christmas lunch in the diary, Sunday 2DEC18. Should there be any Veterans from Tribal Class Warships from the United Kingdom, Canada and New Zealand, you are also invited to meet the team. For more information, please contact the National Secretary, John F. Laughton JP, U90/2 Cameron St Cranbourne East VIC 3977. or telephone 03 59 049 457 or Mob. 0417 336 423. Email johnfl@aapt.net.au

HMAS Yarra III. Crew members who served in Yarra wish to encourage all shipmates to join them on ANZAC Day at the march in Sydney this year. They want to bring as many Yarra sailors together to march with the Association as possible. The Association seeks to have all who served in any warship Yarra to march as one group. To give the instigator an idea of who wishes to join in the march, how about sending a message to Ray Vidler, President of the Yarra Association. Ray can be contacted on 0409 304 442, or email him at rtvidler@rtv.com.au You may wish to go to: www.hmasyarra.org.

Scrap Iron Flotilla Lunch. The Association wishes to encourage all who served in destroyers and other warships to attend the annual lunch on Friday, 23MAR18 at the William Angliss Restaurant, Lt Lonsdale Street, Spencer Street end. The guest speaker will be RADM Peter Briggs AO RAN Rtd, who lead the search and found HMAS AE1. Please email scrapironflotillaassociation@gmail.com or leave a message on 03 9429 9489 to indicate how many wish to experience what will be a terrific occasion.

NCCV Office Bearers 2018



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I am sure we all agree that we have much to be thankful for, living in Australia with broad support systems for one and all. The ex-Service fraternity should be particularly grateful that DVA support systems are extensive and responsive. There are occasions when our interaction with these support agencies may appear uncharitable, but in the main they are first world problems and we need to thank our lucky stars that we have such help at hand. Some of the notes in this edition of Rogues Yarn are a tad pointed, seeking to stimulate our thoughts on how best to connect with like minded folk - for our own wellbeing! Some say that this connection is vital and in the long term most beneficial to the individual and their family. Challenges, such as how best to establish a worthwhile connection and with what organisation can be quickly sorted out by chatting to those actively involved in the system. Ask any office bearer listed at NavyVic.org, or any member known to you and seek their guidance. As you can see, NCCV members are ship associations and our recommendation is for individuals to give serious thought to supporting the Naval Association of Australia. *Yours aye, Terry Makings*