



# NVN News

*incorporating NCCV's newsletter Rogues' Yarn*

Navy Victoria Network

January 2017

Volume 7 Edition 1

## Editorial

*NVN current membership: 1050*

Members of the NVN may recall reading a “news flash” in last September’s Newsletter which (amongst other things) said that the Melbourne Naval Committee (MNC) had entered a lease agreement with the Mission to Seafarers (the ‘Mission’) to rent a meeting room at their premises (717 Flinders Street, Docklands). The article further reiterated that, from 1 November onwards, this meeting room would be made available (free of charge) to all ex-Navy Associations in Victoria for their meetings, functions and social gatherings. Details of the lease agreement and booking arrangements for the meeting room and several other facilities at the ‘Mission’ are contained in the attached “Flyer”.

The MNC now invites Associations, ex-Navy personnel and their friends and descendants to make use of these free, centrally located and well-appointed facilities. The long-term viability of these arrangements is obviously dependent upon utilisation rates.

Some NVN readers may also remember that a “workshop” involving representatives from all ex-Navy Associations in Victoria was held at the English Speaking Union (ESU) on 26 February 2012. Its purpose was to try and identify options for reinvigorating the ex-Navy community in Victoria. Successful initiatives arising from that meeting included the formation of the NVN (we now have over 1000 members) and the forging of closer links between HMAS CERBERUS and the ex-Navy community by (inter-alia) encouraging the base to ‘open its doors’ to visits by Associations and advertising details (through the NVN) of any community activities involving PNF personnel that ex-Navy personnel could come along and watch.

Nevertheless, representatives from the NCCV, MNC and NAA who coordinated the first ‘workshop’ believe that it would be beneficial to hold another ‘workshop’ to assess whether the

## Calendar Events

*(see calendar for details of all events)*

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**10 Feb** – 53<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the HMAS Voyage / Melbourne collision

**11 Feb** – On this day in 1944 – HMAS Launceston, Ipswich & HMIS Jumna sink Japanese submarine RO-110

**27 Feb** – NHS meeting – all welcome

**28 Feb** – 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sunda Strait – HMAS Perth & USS Houston sunk.

**01 Mar** – 117<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the Commonwealth Naval & Military Force

**01 Mar** – 50 years ago today the RAN adopted the Australian White Ensign

**01 Mar** – HMAS Perth / USS Houston commemoration service at the Shrine

**01 Mar** – Creswell Oration

## 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:**

\* Australia’s second air warfare destroyer is built from scratch to launch

\* Sea Fury & Firefly Deck Landings  
HMAS Sydney c1951

concerns expressed by Associations 5 years ago, and the strategies then implemented are still relevant today. Noting that a number of Associations have 'gone to the wall' during that time, it is likely that some consideration will need to be given to identifying options for either perpetuating the name of struggling Associations through (for instance) affiliation or amalgamation with other organisations and the display, archival or sensitive disposal of memorabilia and records.

To this end, the Presidents of all Victorian-based ex-Navy Associations are invited to nominate 2 representatives to attend a 'workshop' which will be held in the 'River Room' at the Mission to Seafarers from 10.30 am to 1 pm on Saturday 4 March 2017. The participants should not only be prepared to talk openly about any issues or concerns that their Associations are attempting to deal with, but also willingly share ideas about potential solutions. Recommendations from the 'workshop' will be promulgated in a later edition of the NVN Newsletter.

Association Presidents are requested (by NCCV, MNC & NAA) to send their nominations for the 'workshop' via email to [david.garnock@icloud.com](mailto:david.garnock@icloud.com) by Friday 17 February 2017.

### **The Mission to Seafarers**

Facilities & Booking Arrangements for ex-Navy Associations at:  
"The Mission to Seafarers", 717 Flinders Street, Docklands 3008

On 1 November 2016, the Melbourne Naval Committee (MNC) entered an agreement with the Mission to Seafarers (the 'Mission') to rent their 'River Room' at 717 Flinders Street, Docklands.

The objective of this agreement is to provide a central venue for Victorian-based ex-Navy personnel, their descendants and friends to congregate for official meetings or social functions. Through this, the MNC hopes to perpetuate the sense of camaraderie and mutual support that naval personnel enjoyed while serving in the RAN and allied Navies.

The 'River Room' (on the first floor) has great views over the Yarra, is fully furnished with tables and chairs which can be rearranged to cater for any formal meetings, functions or social gatherings (eg. seating for up to 40 people in a conference format or for 60 people at individual tables) and has its own 'brew boat'. Its walls have been decorated with HMA Ship plaques and other memorabilia.

The 'Mission' also provides manned bar facilities (with drinks at reasonable prices) from lunchtime onwards each and every day until 10 pm.

#### **Australia Day 2017 Honours List - Royal Australian Navy**

*The Governor-General and Chancellor of the Order of Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd), has approved awards announced today in the Australia Day 2017 Honours List.*

#### **A good omen for Changes ahead at Cerberus**

*Friday the 13th is considered unlucky by some but for HMAS Cerberus 13 January was a day to herald exciting challenges as outgoing Commanding Officer Captain Stephen Bowater, handed command to Captain Tim Standen.*

#### **Australia develops tool to identify warships' acoustic signatures**

*Australia's DST Group invested several years into developing a tool which will allow the Australian Navy to model acoustic signatures for all classes of naval vessels. The acoustic signature is essentially the noise a vessel makes, a characteristic that could be used by an adversary to identify and track it.*

#### **Royal Navy frigate visits world's remotest island**

*Days after setting sail from South Georgia, Royal Navy frigate HMS Portland reached what is officially known as the most remote populated island on the planet. The South Atlantic island is called Tristan da Cunha and houses the 6,765ft volcano Queen Mary's Peak.*

#### **Australian, French educational houses sign Future Submarine MoU**

*Australia's Flinders University signed an academic and research cooperation agreement with four French graduate schools of engineering to work on Australia's Future Submarine program.*

By prior booking, Associations may have free use of the Mission's galley for self-catering or, in the case of a large function, may hire it for use by a commercial catering company.

Also by prior arrangement, Associations may utilise the outdoor Garden, enclosed courtyard and BBQ facilities.

On ANZAC Day, Associations have exclusive use of the Mission's garden area for luncheon reunions and non-exclusive use of the courtyard BBQ facilities and bar.

The MNC and Association members may make use of the 'St Peter the Mariner' Chapel with waived Hire Fee for one annual Memorial Day or a special event. Subject to availability and booking, any other requested use of the Chapel for formal services may be undertaken at normal standard hire fees.

#### **Getting there by Public Transport (preferred option):**

- A. By train to Flinders Street Station:
  - Then Tram No 70 (using MiKi) or Tram No 35 (the free City Circle Tourist Tram) to Docklands westward along Flinders St.
  - Get off at the D6 stop adjacent to the entrance to the Victoria Police Centre
  - Then Walk less than 200 metres further westward to the Mission
- B. By train to Southern Cross Station:
  - Then walk southwards down Spencer Street (200 metres)
  - Then westward along Flinders Street (300 metres)

#### **Getting there by Car (expensive option):**

- Park in the Siddeley Street Parking Station (then 50 metre walk to the Mission)
- \$25 for 1 to 2 hours; \$38 for 2 to 3 hours; \$50 for 3 or more hours

Normal opening hours at the Mission are:

- 9am – 10pm Weekdays; and
- 10am – 10pm Weekends

Bookings via Craig Baru (Operations Manager):

Phone: (03) 9629 7083 (normal working hours)

Email: [craigbaru@gmail.com](mailto:craigbaru@gmail.com)

Yours Aye!

NVN Team

#### **75th anniversaries of the loss of HMA Ships Vampire, Nestor, Kuttabul and Armidale**

*In 2017 Navy is planning to hold commemorative activities for the 75th anniversaries of the loss of HMA Ships Vampire, Nestor, Kuttabul and Armidale.*

#### **Australia's future submarine: a Class with no equals**

*If the RAN holds firm to the Barracuda Shortfin Block 1A concept offered by DCNS it will acquire an orphan no informed Navy would contemplate commissioning into service. It will own a submarine that will be expensive to build, maintain and operate.*

#### **Arunta replenishes as part of Combined Maritime Force**

*Deployed to the Middle East region, HMAS Arunta recently completed her first underway replenishment in the Gulf of Aden, in company with United States Naval Ship Walter S. Diehl and Pakistani Naval Ship Shamsheer.*

#### **Taking on the cyber threat**

*In today's world, where almost everything is connected to a computer network, the opportunity for crime and espionage to flourish is more prevalent than ever. To help meet this threat, Army ran a 50-day Cyberspace Operations Course*

#### **Artisan 3D radar completes three years of sea-based trials**

*The BAE Systems-developed Artisan 3D radar system has passed its acceptance trials after three years of integration on the Royal Navy's Type 23 frigates.*

#### **Australian frigate in boarding exercise with US Coast Guard in Bahrain**

*Royal Australian Navy's Anzac-class frigate HMAS Arunta visited Bahrain*

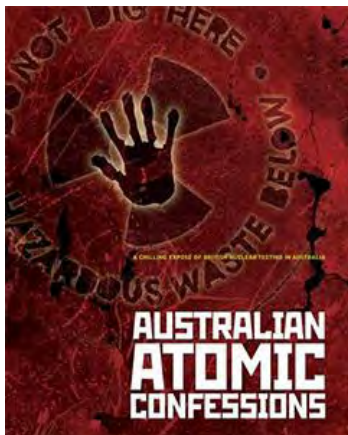
## VALE

- † CPOETC N.R. Neil, 14 January 2017. Aged 70.
- † CAPT E.T. Keane OAM RAN, 13 January 2017. Aged 81.
- † SAW C. Burns, R42358, 07 January 2017. Aged 72.
- † POEWR M. Duncan, 06 January 2017. Aged 72.
- † CPOUW F. Halsey, R47808, 01 January 2017. Aged 84.
- † LEME J. Best, 01 January 2017. Aged 79.
- † LCDR C. Mayo RAN, 31 December 2016.
- † ABRP P. Holdsworth, R55927, 31 December 2016. Aged 74.
- † ME W. Black, R675284, 28 December 2016. Aged 69.
- † CPOWTR T. McHarry, R58784, 24 December 2016.
- † CPOSY G.J. Duscher, R96346, 22 December 2016.
- † AB R. Worthington, PM5555, 17 December 2016. Aged 92.

## 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](mailto: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 Atomic Confessions



Compelling documentary, which tells the story of the British atomic bomb tests in Australia, while Aboriginal elders, veterans and nuclear experts discuss Australia's current nuclear ambitions. Featuring interviews with Barry Neil, Max Kimber, Alan Batchelor, John Hutton and footage of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary service of Monte Bello at Jervis Bay in 2003.

(50 mins. screening, followed by Q&A with director Katherine Aigner)

**When:** 29 January 2017

**Time:** 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm (screening and Q&A after)

**Where:** Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka  
102 Stawell St, South Ballarat

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



*for her first port visit after starting operations in the Middle East.*

**Business backs Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Program**  
*Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel Dan Tehan has called for more Australian businesses and ex-service organisations to step up and support the Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Program.*

### **Selection trials for Invictus Games 2017**

*Current and former Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel will compete for a place in the 2017 Australian Invictus Games team at selection trials this week in Canberra.*

**Therapy dog program receives boost**  
*Navy personnel at HMAS Cerberus have presented a cheque for more than \$31,000 to the Defence Community Dogs program, which supports the training of therapy dogs to help veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.*

### **Spanish frigate deploys to Australia for AWD support**

*Spanish Navy's Álvaro de Bazán-class frigate Cristóbal Colón is scheduled to embark on a long-term deployment to Australia on January 9.*

### **Defence to review cases of withheld or refused honours and awards**

*Minister for Defence Personnel Dan Tehan said today Defence would review the applications it had received for historical cases of former Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel who had their honours and awards withheld or refused.*

**Navy League of Australia(Vic & Tas)**  
*January newsletter – [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

Commemoration services at the Shrine of Remembrance that warrant support of the Navy Fraternity

1. **RAN Recruits Pilgrimage**, wreath laying service at 1000, **Sunday 5th February** in the Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance.
2. **HMAS VOYAGER** Commemoration Service, at 1000, **Friday 10th February** in the Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance.
3. **75th anniversary of the Battle of Sunda Strait**, commemoration service remembering the loss of HMAS PERTH and USS HOUSTON will be conducted at 1130, **Wednesday 1st March** at the Cenotaph, Shrine of Remembrance.

**BRAVERY TRUST** Supporting those who serve

If you are a current or former member of the ADF who has sustained physical or mental injuries as a result of your service and you are experiencing financial hardship you may be eligible to apply for assistance. Alternatively you may also be eligible to apply if you are the immediate family member of a current or former ADF member who has died as a result of their service, including those who have died as a result of their physical or mental injuries and you are experiencing financial hardship. Phone 1300 652 103, or email [ask@braverytrust.org.au](mailto:ask@braverytrust.org.au)

### Melbourne Naval Committee

MNC has an agreement with the Mission to Seafarers that allows Navy groups to meet at the MtS at no cost. Email

Craig at the MtS to book: [marketing@missiontoseafarers.com.au](mailto:marketing@missiontoseafarers.com.au)

### Navy Victoria Network

Navyvic website is for anyone interested in Navy.

If arranging a function, check the calendar! Provide information to navyvic to avoid conflict with others.

### Disclaimer

Articles published are the Authors thoughts, they may be edited to meet the space.

## Standby-2017 is upon us

A new year and time for the Navy Fraternity to consider how to support Navy. A simple method is to support one of three commemoration services that will occur in coming weeks, each has an important place in our journey to value past Naval service. All RAN Recruit Sailors attend the Shrine of Remembrance at the end of week three of their initial training. This experience gives a compelling sense of responsibility, particularly their participation in the wreath laying service. This pilgrimage enables them to experience many aspects of our military history and to understand the place they will occupy when their training is completed. We understand this pilgrimage has had a positive impact on the number of individuals who successfully complete recruit training. On the 10FEB, there is a service scheduled in memory of the service and sacrifice of sailors posted to HMAS Voyager I&II. This service is very special as it remembers the effort made during WWII and the loss encountered when VOYAGER II was involved in a collision with HMAS Melbourne on 10FEB64 with the loss of 81 sailors. Then on Wednesday, 1MAR there is the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Sunda Strait. This service commemorates service and sacrifice of Australian and American Sailors, the consequence of the tragic occasion where over 1,000 sailors made the

supreme sacrifice as they endeavoured to evade a Japanese Task Force. Each of these occasions gives rise to the need to remember, for us to uphold the legacy created over the past 100 years by young and not so young Officers and Sailors - men and women who pioneered much of what we take for granted today. Having said that, we still have many Sailors (men and women) doing their bit to keep the peace in many parts of the world. There will be many occasions for you to demonstrate your support for Navy, Australia's Defence Force generally. The Shrine of Remembrance website is the main avenue of information where it relates to commemoration in Victoria. Every service at the Shrine of Remembrance is open to the public, so there is no reason to be wary of attending if you have an interest in any service. There will also be a number of services directly related to the centenary of ANZAC, primarily AIF. There will be many services commemorating major battles in Europe where Australia's military capabilities were repeatedly tested. More recent, the 75th anniversary of the loss of Australian Warships Perth, Vampire, Kuttubul, Nester, Canberra, Voyager and Armidale will be commemorated. The loss of these Warships carries with it a large burden of responsibility for those that serve, have served or had family involved.



# Navy Week - 2017



This is the third year the NCCV has sought to work up Navy Week Victoria. The first year started with a magnificent Ball at Flemington Racecourse. This year we will be holding the Ball at the iconic Melbourne Town Hall. We are very grateful that the RAN Band, Melbourne Detachment will be there to support us. There are many details to be worked through, however, the primary aspect is that the Ball will go ahead on Saturday 21 October and the cost will be \$155 per person. We are keen for associations to buy at least one table early to set the scene. Your interest should be made by emailing us at [navy.week.victoria@gmail.com](mailto:navy.week.victoria@gmail.com) so we can respond with how to reserve your table and make payment(s). Registering the interest of your Ship or Branch Association, or individual interest early would be beneficial. Most importantly, make contact early if you wish to join in the fun. The invitation is to all serving and ex-service men & women, irrespective of what service you have links to. We also recognise the importance of descendants and encourage their involvement as well. Attendance at the Navy Week Victoria Ball 2017 is a great way to demonstrate the true connection of an enduring legacy between us, our families and the Australian Defence Force. Join us, you and your mates. This year the NCCV is working closely with the Royal United Services Institute, Naval Association of Australia, Navy League of Australia and the Naval Officers Club to bring you a high standard and

entertaining Navy Week Victoria Seminar. We intend to make this a milestone event. At this stage the Navy Week Seminar is likely to occur on the same day as the Ball, Saturday 21 October. The cost of this event will be around \$30 per person and held between 1000 and 1500. This enables everyone to have a four hour break between this event and the Ball. To complete the weekend, on Sunday 22 October will be the Seafarers Church Service. This commences at 1030 and takes about an hour. This service has been conducted since 1907 at St Paul's Cathedral. This collection of activities makes for a great weekend and we hope you and your family will be enthusiastic attendees. If you live out of Melbourne, this could be a weekend in the 'big smoke' to match no other. You may miss out on hiring the big limo, but a short walk or tram ride will get you to each of these three activities. Give some thought to attending at least one of these activities, two would be even better and three would be magnificent. During the following week there will be more activities, such as a golf tournament. This will again be co-jointly organised with Mornington Legacy. There was a great turn up last year and no doubt support will be as strong or even stronger this year. On Saturday, 28 OCT will be the Navy League Yacht Race and possibly a very competitive lawn bowls tournament. We have more research to cover these events and further detail will be provided over the coming months. Time to write all of the known Navy Week Victoria activities in your diary NOW.

## Creswell

## Perth/Houston



The Creswell Oration is scheduled for 1230 - 1300, Wednesday 1 MAR 17, William Angliss Restaurant, Lt Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. DCN has agreed to deliver the Oration. If you wish to attend please contact: NLA email [jmwilkins34@netspace.net.au](mailto:jmwilkins34@netspace.net.au) or ring 03 9842 4256; NAA ring 03 9884 6237 or email [raydotgill@optusnet.com.au](mailto:raydotgill@optusnet.com.au) or NOC email - [johnredman@bigpond.com](mailto:johnredman@bigpond.com) or ring 03 9848 9391. A bus will leave from the Shrine of Remembrance at 1215, after the Battle of Sunda Straits commemoration service for HMAS Perth & USS Houston.

HMAS Perth / USS Houston, Battle of Sunda Strait Commemoration Service is scheduled for 1130, on Wednesday, 1 MAR, at the Cenotaph, Shrine of Remembrance. A must attend ceremony of remembrance that will remind us of the loss of 1,071 Australian and American sailors. Read Admiral Michael Noonan AM RAN, Deputy Chief of Navy will be attending, as will the US Naval Attache to Australia, Captain Tony DeFrias USN. There will be survivors of the sinking of HMAS Perth, ex-Prisoners of War present. This is the 75th anniversary of this maritime tragedy. The RAN Band, Melbourne Detachment will be supporting the service with the likelihood of a Catafalque Party from HMAS Cerberus being on parade as well. These anniversaries serve to remind us of the supreme effort and service given by so many under the most difficult circumstances. The loss of Perth & Houston sailors in the Sunda Strait 75 years ago is hard to fathom. To experience the loss of so many shipmates, then be subjected to the horror of the Japanese prisoner camps is unimaginable, let's participate - Lest We Forget!!



## Yachties

The 500 Australian volunteers who took part in the Dominion Yachtsmen (Yachties) Scheme between 1940 - 45 will be recognised with a plaque to be dedicated at the Australian War Memorial (AWM). Mrs Janet Roberts-Billet has been instrumental in this recognition of a group who volunteered for war service at a time of great need. Janet has completed considerable research to reveal the commitment and deeds of these men who went on to make a remarkable contribution to the war effort. Their efforts have until now been largely forgotten and Janet has worked tirelessly to overcome that impediment. The Yachties were selected and sent to the UK to be trained as officers in the RN. As a group, they were amongst the most highly decorated Australians of WWII. In the mid 1990s, the AWM established a commemorative plaque scheme to provide a means for individual units to be commemorated within the grounds of the AWM. The Yachties will be the last to be recognised, likely to be in MAY17. This simple dedication will feature a plaque that acknowledges the 1,100 members of the RAN and RANR personnel who served in the RN between 1940-45. I makes particular mention of the 500 RAN Volunteer Reserves who served through the Yachtsmen Scheme. A fitting recognition for a brave group of young Aussies who went to war so we might continue to enjoy the Australian way of life.



## Workshop

The NCCV in collaboration with the Melbourne Naval Committee (MNC) and Naval Association of Australia (NAA) have scheduled a workshop to work through the issues discussed at our initial workshop five years ago, at the Melbourne Naval Centre (ESU, Toorak Road). The workshop will occur on Saturday, 4MAR17 in the River Room, Mission to Seafarers (MtS). The MNC will sponsor the event, at no cost except your travel to and from MtS. The workshop will start at 1030 and finish at 1300, of relatively short duration with lunch provided. The discussion will explore if current concerns are the same as those discussed five years ago, or are there new concerns; has any progress been made - if so where and how; have we overlooked anything; and what is our appetite for change. We also appreciate that most of you who participate in this type of initiative are already the champions of the Navy fraternity, however, if we are to survive and maintain the legacy handed to us through our own service in the Navy or through the service of a family member (descendant) then let's think of the glass being half full! We hope all Ship/Branch Associations will be represented. Ask your group if you can be that Rep, then email the co-ordinator of the workshop, David Garnock (on behalf of NCCV, MNC & NAA) at [david.garnock@icloud.com](mailto:david.garnock@icloud.com) by Friday 17 February 2017 if possible.

## New XO HMAS Cerberus

CMDR Matthew Hoffman the new XO at HMAS Cerberus in a new management team with CAPT Tim Standen as CO (CO's bio in DEC16 Edition). CMDR Hoffman is a Maritime Warfare Officer Submariner with extensive Oberon & Collins Class submarine experience spanning a 28 year naval career. His last posting was as Deputy Commander Submarine Force. CMDR Hoffman joined the RAN as a Radio Operator in 1988 and has spent the vast majority of his career in the submarine force. Selected under the pilot "Sailor Entry to ADFA" scheme in 1995, he completed a four year degree before undertaking SEAAC in 1999. A posting as navigator in HMAS *Shoalwater* was followed by submarine officer training and sea service in a variety of submarine positions. He has completed submarine specific courses in Australia & overseas and



undertook a short posting as a Warfare Training Officer at the Submarine Training Systems Centre (STSC) in 2004. During his naval service he has served on 10 submarines and completed numerous operational deployments. Recent shore based roles have included extensive experience in Submarine training, both as Head of Submarine Warfare Training and a three year posting as Director Training Authority Submarines. A high achiever, he was awarded the LCF Turner Prize for his Honours study at ADFA, a Herbott Lott award for performance on Submarine XO's Course in 2008 and a Fleet Commanders Commendation for leadership as XO in HMAS *Collins* in 2009. He has a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in History and Politics, a First Class Honours degree in History and has recently completed a Masters in Project Management. A keen cyclist and yachtsman, He enjoys racing sailing dinghies, participating in endurance cycling events and trekking with his wife Leanne and daughters Kirsten and Sian. *Welcome to Melbourne!*

## President's Dit

*2017 is a significant year of commemoration, given the loss of so many of Australia's Warships in 1942, 75 years ago. Hopefully each of these occasions prompts us to remember the contribution made by so many all those years ago. It is unfortunate that it takes the loss of a warship for many of us to be sufficiently motivated before we might think about being involved. The best news is that attendance at a commemoration service is all that is being asked of us. Many of these services take as little as 15 minutes, some maybe 30 minutes. There may be opportunities for anyone with a modicum of interest to participate in the numerous organisations that initiate these services. For instance, Ship and Branch Associations all need support. If you have a mind to actually get involved, then you only need to mention that to the right person for a positive response. The NCCV is reasonably well placed to help out, particularly if you need information relating to your own service, or as a descendant who has a wish to support their family service. A good starting point is to join our website, see below*

*Yours aye, Terry Makings*

## DIRECTORY for NCCV

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**316 Nicholson Street, East Fitzroy VIC 3065**  
 Website: <http://navyvic.net>



## Special Notes



**The Story of Women at Sea.** For all of you old salts and any young or not so young women interested in the Defence Force should read the document titled 'WINNING AT SEA - The Story of Women at Sea in the RAN'. Key in 'the story of women at sea' and you will be able to navigate to the Navy site and download an interesting set of personal stories.

**Connecting Up.** The Geelong Sub-Section has let us know that they have been assisted by *Connecting Up* with technology products. Any not-for-profit organisation is able to access this support. For more info go to <http://www.connectingup.org/donations/>

**February 2017.** The RAN Communicators Branch Association has advised that February 2017 is a one in 823 year occurrence. Apparently, this is unique because FEB17 has 4 Sundays, 4 Mondays, 4 Tuesdays, 4 Wednesdays, 4 Thursdays, 4 Fridays and 4 Saturdays. Should we postulate on how much time comms have on their hands to deduce such things!

**Establishment - Manus Island.** HMAS Tarangau was commissioned in JAN 1950. The Manus Island Establishment had been commissioned three months earlier as HMAS Seeadler, only to be advised that 'seeadler' was a German name for sea eagle - Oops!

**Scrap Iron Flotilla Annual Lunch.** Anyone who has served in in the Navy should understand the bond between their contribution to Navy and that of the Scrap Iron Flotilla. They were the first deployment of Defence Forces at the outset of WWII. The annual lunch at the William Angliss Restaurant, 550 Lt Lonsdale St, Melbourne will be at 1200, Friday 24th March. If interested, email us at [scrapironflotillaassociation@gmail.com](mailto:scrapironflotillaassociation@gmail.com) or leave a message at 03 9429 9489. *See you there!!*  
**Lingayen Gulf.** Between 5 - 9JAN45 HMA Ships Australia, Shropshire, Arunta, Warramunga, Gascoyne and Warrego were involved in the Battle of Lingayen Gulf.

**75th Anniversaries.** In 1942 the Royal Australian Navy lost 7 ships and 670 members of their crews to enemy action. Many more officers and sailors subsequently died in captivity. The Navy, Ex-Service Associations and the Nation will commemorate the 75th anniversaries of these losses with a series of commemorative activities. HMA Ships **Perth, Yarra & Canberra** will be arranged by Associations. Navy will host services for HMA Ships **Vampire, Kuttabul, Nestor & Armidale**. Go to Navy website and search 75th anniversaries.