

-incorporating NCCV's newsletter Rogues' Yarn

Navy Victoria Network

March 2019



Website: http://navyvic.net

Yes, we are now on Facebook, where all our news items, photos etc. will also be published.

https://facebook.com/navyvictoria

Editorial

NVN current membership: 1105



This month's guest editor is Mr. John Perryman CSM Director Strategic & Historical Studies

The Royal Australian Navy History Section- a Brief History

The Naval History Section (NHS) is part of the Sea Power Centre – Australia (SPC-A), which undertakes the study, discussion and the promotion of awareness of maritime issues and strategy within the Royal Australian Navy (RAN), Defence and civil communities.

The SPC-A's mission entails:

- Managing the development of strategic-level RAN doctrine and concepts, and their integration with Australian Defence Force (ADF) joint doctrine.
- Conducting research, studying developments in, and publishing papers on maritime strategy and naval history.
- Fostering regional and international engagement through conferences, briefings and lectures on maritime affairs and naval history.
- Developing, preserving and promoting Australia's naval history.
- Advising Chief of Navy (CN) on RAN ship names and battle honours.

Volume 9 Edition 3

Calendar Events (see calendar for details of all events)

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07 Apr – Daylight saving ends

07 Apr – HMAS Vampire Assoc. wreath laying in Sanctuary at 11:00.

24 Apr – On this day in 1860 - HMVS VICTORIA sailed for the Maori War in NZ.

25 Apr – On this day in 1915 - HMA Submarine AE2 penetrates the Dardanelles.

25 Apr – ANZAC Day

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 Service

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

• •

LATEST VIDEOS.....

- HMAS Choules Vanuatu
 Enhanced Regional Engagement
- Search for the wreck of HMAS Vampire I
- First dual Replenishment At Sea for IPE19
- Creating stronger ties on IPE19

• Responding to government, department and public enquiries on maritime doctrine, sea power and naval history.

My role within the SPC-A is to direct the day-to-day running of the history section focusing on capturing, preserving and promoting the many and varied aspects of Australia's rich naval history. I am ably assisted by former commander, Mr. Greg Swinden, Mr. Petar Djokovic, Mrs. Simone Alferink and Able Seaman Libby Pearce.

The genesis of the NHS began during World War II at a time when the combined navies of the Allied Forces were actively involved in the great struggle at sea to rid the world of Axis tyranny.

Originally known as the Naval Historical Records Section (NHRS), it was established in June 1943 as part of the Naval Intelligence Division located in Navy Office Melbourne, Victoria. Its primary role, at that time, was to compile historical information to assist the official Naval War Historian, Lieutenant-Commander G.H. Gill, RANVR, to accurately record the part played by the men and women of the RAN during the Second World War.

This monumental task was not possible without the help of those who were serving, which prompted the then Officer-in-Charge of the NHRS to issue an appeal in a manual sent by the section to all RAN ships concerning the collection of records.

Everyone in the Forces is making history. At the moment you may not think yourself very important, and you may not appreciate the values of your seemingly humble duties as a contribution to the war effort. But, in retrospect, you will realise how you fitted into the scheme of things, and how your labours formed part of a vast scheme to ensure victory. Apart from the few 'higher-ups', who plan the strategy of the war, each man is concerned only with his own job; but in doing it, he is perhaps seeing things which no other person sees. For it may be that the particular incident which he witnesses has an important bearing on the tactical situation and it may serve to explain some matter which was in doubt.

These were wise words; indeed they remain valid to this day.

The successful appeal resulted in the NHRS building up a substantial collection of reference material relating not just to the RAN's activities during World War II but dating back to colonial times. The official history of the RAN during World War II was subsequently published in 1957 to great acclaim.

- Navy Band performs at St Andrews Cathedral
- Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2019 launches in Western Australia
- HMAS Success Freedom of Entry, Fremantle
- HMAS Ballarat drug interdiction

NEWS.....

A significant capability upgrade to the Hobart Class Destroyers will allow NUSHIP Sydney to enter into operation one year ahead of schedule.

A new look multi-cam uniform is being put to the test, for Navy, with trials of the sea-going variant taking place across the Fleet.

The keel for the lead ship in the new class of Royal Australian Navy Arafuraclass offshore patrol vessel has officially been constructed, Australia's defense minister has announced.

DVA is continuing to make plans to conduct the traditional commemorative services at Anzac Cove on 25 April 2019.

West Head Gunnery Range in Flinders, Victoria, celebrates 60 years of training weapons operators and maintainers for the Fleet.

From CN: Navy Group Commendation

We are proud to confirm that a Navy Group Commendation will be presented to all members of HMAS Westralia's Ships' Company who were serving on board during the fatal fire of 5 May 1998.a

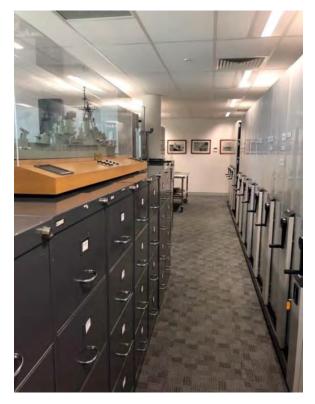
Funding has today been announced for a new \$2.1 million initiative to support veterans who are concerned about having taken the anti-malarial drugs mefloquine or tafenoquine.

A report on advocacy services for veterans and their families has identified a number of ways to simplify



In 1975, following the relocation of the NHRS from Melbourne to Canberra, some two thirds of the section's record collection was transferred to the custody of the National Archives of Australia in Melbourne. These are now readily available to members of the public. Those records considered to be essential components of the RAN's corporate memory were retained within the renamed Naval History Section and form the nucleus of its reference collection here in Canberra. This substantial collection is available for public viewing by appointment.

Almost every ship to have served in the RAN has a separate history file and these continue to grow as additional records, diaries, personal accounts and so-on are received within the section. The NHS also boasts a significant photographic collection which captures over 100 years of naval service at sea, ashore and in the air. Numerous personal photograph albums held within the collection also serve to highlight the



access to support and services.

Thales UK announced it has recently completed the first of six new replacement bow sonar arrays for the upgrade of the Royal Australian Navy's Collins-class submarines.

Royal Navy frigate HMS Argyll rescued 27 sailors from the Italian Con/Ro ship Grande America which caught fire in the Bay of Biscay on March 11.

Funding of more than \$390,000 has today been announced under the latest round of the Veteran and Community Grants Program.

HMA Ships Leeuwin and Diamantina are on the hunt for the lost destroyer HMAS Vampire (I), 77 years after the Australian warship was sunk in battle.

The future submarine has achieved key milestones with the signing of the overarching strategic partnering agreement on 11 February and in quick succession the design contract on 5 March. This is good news for the future submarine platform itself, but there have also been developments in the broader submarine transition picture.

Royal Navy's Type 23 Frigate HMS Montrose arrived in Japan on March 8, becoming the fourth Royal Navy ship to visit the country in a year. HMS Montrose pulled into Tokyo for a six-day stay at Harumi Wharf before starting exercises with Japan's Maritime Self Defence Force and the US Navy's Seventh Fleet.

The lead ship of US Navy's Zumwaltclass guided-missile destroyers, the USS Zumwalt (DDG 1000), got underway from San Diego on March 8 to start its first operational underway.

Minister for Defence Industry, Senator the Hon Linda Reynolds CSC today important human element of life at sea.

The legacy of the record collection effort first instigated during World War II continues to this day with the NHS actively seeking both official and unofficial records pertaining to the RAN's involvement in both past and present operations. An ongoing archival preservation project ensures that these records will survive the test of time and be available to future generations of researchers for many years to come.

Each week a steady number of researches make use of the Naval History Section's resources including academics, historians, authors, ex-Service personnel and members of the public. Researchers are encouraged to make an appointment before visiting by contacting the NHS by e-mail as this ensures that appropriate members of my staff are available to assist with the line of enquiry. This part of the job is one of the most rewarding as we enjoy the interaction with the many keen and interesting people we meet. This interaction is, I believe, a key part of the centre's success and there has been many an occasion when we have been taught a lesson in history ourselves, often from those who were eye witnesses or otherwise involved.

The NHS is also actively engaged in digitising records held within the reference collection which are then made available on the Sea Power Centre – Australia's naval history web site. This is the domain of Able Seaman Libby Pearce who routinely reviews the pages and who is responsible for the addition of new material.

Content includes copies of Commonwealth Naval Orders from 1905 to 1975, declassified World War II intelligence summaries, Navy News newspapers a number of historic video clips and much more. It is also home to more than 300 ship histories, Fleet Air Arm Squadron histories and numerous feature articles. For those interested, these may be viewed on the internet by entering the following web address: http://www.navy.gov.au/history

Feedback is always welcome and this can be forwarded to:

Naval History Section Sea Power Centre – Australia PO Box 7942 CANBERRA BC ACT 2610 e-mail: <u>navy.history@defence.gov.au</u>

There is much to be learned from the lessons of the past and all of us working in the Naval History Section agree that *'those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it'*.

launched Indo-Pacific Endeavour 19 (IPE 19), the third iteration of this activity, as it commenced with the departure of HMA Ships Canberra, Success, Newcastle, and Parramatta from Fremantle in Western Australia.

The Royal Navy's Antarctic patrol ship encountered an iceberg the size of Bristol as she began her final scientific mission of the season. HMS Protector came across the enormous mass of ice and snow – 11 miles long and five wide – as she returned to the frozen continent for the last time this winter.

AUSTRALIA'S wartime heritage will be preserved with the help of more than \$245,000 in funding through the Saluting Their Service Major Commemorative Grants program.

Several months after returning the Royal Navy's new aircraft carrier from F-35B trials off the US coast, the ship's commanding officer took up the new role of the Royal Navy Fleet Commander.

Jenny Daetz joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1986, shortly after the decision was made to let women to serve at sea. It was a brave new world.

Starting this week, thousands of schools, libraries, ex-service and other organisations will receive a package of educational resources in an Anzac Day mail-out to educate Australians about the different aspects of wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

On 14 February 2019 the Bill was introduced in the House of Representatives. The Military

Yours Aye! NVN Team

VALE

- [†] TO L.F. Sutherland R55145, 21 March 2019. Aged 79.
- [†] CMDR R. Simms RAN, 10 March 2019.
- [†] CMDR G. Vickridge RAN (Rtd), 08 March 2019.
- [†] LRO J.C. McNally R50265, 04 March 2019. Aged 82.
- [†] CDRE D.P. York AM RAN (Rtd) KCSG, 03 March 2019. Aged 79.
- † LEUT P.M. Maloney (nee Ryan), Q2720, 08 February 2019. Aged 77.
- † CPOCD N.J. Craven R50641, 31 January 2019.
- [†] STOKER R.D. Fairley, 24 December 2018. Aged 91.
- † CERA J.S. Calvert R42259, 08 December 2018.

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 (<u>webmaster@navyvic.net</u>). 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.

Independent inquiry into the administration of Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits scheme commutation arrangements

The Government will commission an independent inquiry to examine the information provided by scheme administrators and relevant departments to members of the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits (DFRDB) superannuation scheme.

The DFRDB scheme, which was established in 1972 and closed to new members in 1991, allowed members to commute (exchange) part of their pension for a lump sum.

There are different views among some in the veteran community about certain areas of the scheme and the appropriateness of information provided to members at the time.

The Government recognises the importance of open and transparent discussion around veteran concerns and we will consult with the ex-service community about the terms of reference for the inquiry, as well as panel membership.

Ex-Service Organisations and scheme members will have the opportunity to make submissions to the inquiry and raise any other concerns relevant to the scheme.

The inquiry is on the agenda for the next Ex-Service Organisation Round Table, to be held on 2 April 2019.

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



Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment (Single Treatment Pathway) Bill 2019 amends the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004 to simplify treatment pathways for medical treatment.

RECOGNITION for the late

Ordinary Seaman Edward 'Teddy' Sheean will be reviewed by the independent Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal in Hobart later this month. The review follows an application by Tasmanian Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Guy Barnett MP, who is seeking a Victoria Cross to recognise Ordinary Seaman Sheean's actions during the sinking of HMAS Armidale during the Second World War.

From CN: 1. AS WE REFORM AND GROW OUR WORKFORCE UNDER PLAN PELORUS 2022, I HAVE DECIDED THAT THE RANR POST-NOMINAL TO DISTINGUISH RESERVE OFFICERS FROM OTHERS IS NOW REDUNDANT.

Semaphore 02/2019

Australian Naval Anniversaries and Commemorations

AMC/LSI Association of Vic. March newsletter

Navy League(Vic-Tas) <u>March</u> <u>Newsletter</u>

FlyBy

A periodical of the Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia. <u>March</u> <u>issue....</u>

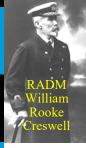
Visit our <u>website</u> or <u>Facebook</u> page for more news articles not included in this newsletter.



31MAR19 RAN Recruits Service, 1000 Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance 7APR19 HMAS Vampire Service, 1100 Sactuary, Shrine of Remembrance 25APR19 ANZAC Day, 0600 Dawn Service, then 0830 March to Shrine of Remembrance

Creswell

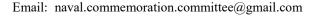
The 1st March is particularly relevant to the RAN, in that after Federation it was on this day in 1911 that Rear Admiral William Rooke Creswell was appointed First Naval Member of the Australian Commonwealth Navy Board. Three months later, in June he was appointed Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George. Creswell commenced



his naval career with the Royal Navy in 1865, retiring from the RN in 1878, he migrated to Australia. In 1885 he was offered an appointment in the South Australian Naval Forces, this he accepted as a LCDR. During his time in the SANF he became an advocate for a naval force of Australians to augment the RN contingent. In 1893 he

became the Commandant of the SANF. Some seven years later, in 1890 he become Commandant of the Queensland Naval Forces. Creswell persisted with the proposition that Australia should have its own warships crewed by Australians. The Prime Ministers' conference of 1902 is credited with supporting the involvement of Australians in the naval force provided by the Royal Navy. Most significant was that Australian sailors (not officers) could serve in RN warships on the Australian Station. He became notable for his persuasive debate on naval matters, result being his appointment as Naval Officer Commanding Commonwealth Naval Forces. On 1MAR







1911 he was promoted Rear Admiral on selection as First Naval Member of the Australian Naval Board. Soon after, on 10th July that year the Navy was granted the title of Royal Australian Navy. Upon retirement he was promoted Vice Admiral. He is seen as the Father of the Navy. His family plot at Brighton Cemetery was refurbished last year and a plaque dedicated to commemorate his

CDRE Brown, CDRE Yorke, Elizabeth Sevoir & son Andew.



involvement with the Navy. CDRE Greg Yorke CSC RAN, Senior Naval Officer VIC organised a service at the graveside to recall Creswell and his involvement in founding the Navy,

as we know it today. CDRE Timothy Brown, DG Submarines attended, as he was guest speaker at the Creswell Oration, held later that day. CAPT Michael Oborn CSM RAN, Commanding Officer HMAS Cerberus supported the service. The Engineers Application Course from HMAS Cerberus also supported the service along with a quintet from the RAN Band, Melbourne Detachment playing the National Anthem and calling the Last Post and Reveille. Ms Elizabeth Sevoir, Creswell's grand daughter, along with her son where also included in the service. Elizabeth Sevoir, CDRE Yorke and CAPT Oborn laid a wreath on the family plot in remembrance of this milestone event.

Success



Anyone who monitors social media will have a good idea where HMAS Success is and may identify many Ship's Company faces. Notwithstanding the camaraderie

that prevails, the sense of discipline is obvious, even as hands are piped to bath, exit requires marks of respect to be observed! Great example





of how a well oiled crew can go about their business. When there is work to be done, you can count on today's Navy to be ready to do their duty,

no matter what is required - Always Navy





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, go to

navyvic.net Disclaimer

thoughts, although may be edited due to space comments included.

Melbourne Naval <u>Committee</u> MNC provides funds to support welfare. A venue is available at Mission to Seafarers for like-minded groups, <u>no cost</u>. Email MtŜ seafarers.com.au or sue.dight@missionto seafarers.com.au to make a booking.

RANCBA



The Royal Australian Navy Communication Branch Association, Southern Region will hold their reunion at Geelong in November. Activities will start on Thursday 7NOV19 to

Monday 11NOV19. Registration is vital to enable numbers to be verified, register by going to: WWW.rancbavic.info and record your intentions. The wide ranging itinerary includes the following:

Articles are the Authors 1. Meet and Greet on Thursday evening, 2. Beat Quarters at Sunset on Friday, available. No political 3. Gala Dinner, following beat to Quarters, 4. Bus tour of the Great Ocean Road, 5. Bust tour of the Bellarine Peninsula, 6. Breakfast at the Naval Association Club, 7. Remembrance Service on Monday, then 8. lunch at the Geelong RSL Sub-branch. The RANCBA get togethers are renown for their success and entended camaraderie, a good follow on after joining the Naval Asdaria.wray@missionto sociation. Geelong was always a terrific port visit, no doubt there will be many who will recount exciting visitations. We look forward to seeing as many as possible in November, after the Cats premiership win!

Advocacy and Support

For many years there has been a sense of failing amongst ex-Service Organisations. Expectations lowered, non-achievement of goals and a growing level of dissatisfaction amongst Veterans and their families. Maybe this is the consequence of little time being attributed to strategy, over the horizon thinking. The tendency to have all who manage our ESOs of one mind, begs the question, who is thinking if all are on the same course. Last year DVA contracted Mr Robert Cornell AO to undertake a review of advocacy and support services for Veterans. The Cornell report is at: https://www.dva.gov.au/consultation-andgrants/reviews/veterans-advocacy-and-supportservices-scoping-study and you have the opportunity to provide feedback. Many have already contributed to the study, your thoughts on what needs to be done to improve the situation are just as relevant. The report makes a number of recommendations, a rash summary is as follows:

1. DV to assist Veterans with their primary claim and keep them/advocate fully informed, before saying no. 2. Retain prohibition of legal practitioners from VRB. 3. Look at reducing DVA expenditure on specialists. 4. Increase in house advocacy across the 3 ACTs. 5. Establish a national legal helpline for Veterans. 6. Review the ATDP enabling Cert IV qualification. 7. Urge female and younger Veterans to participate. 8. The transition process needs further improvement. 9. DVA to review how it interacts with Veterans. 10. Establish a modern effective advocacy service. 11. Consider long term focus on wellbeing advocacy. 12. Report progress of recommendations over 3 yrs. If the above is of any interest, go to the Cornell Report to view the findings and recommendations in detail. The destination of this report is to ensure Veterans have a better deal, more efficiency within DVA and overall an effective support framework for all who have serve Australia and their families who live or have lived the experience. Take note and share!

Battle of Sunda Strait

The Battle of Sunda Strait is a milestone event in Australia's maritime history that should never be forgotten. To lose so many sailors on one day, is incomprehensible. If nothing else, it points to the courage demonstrated by each and every member of the ship's company, something that is as true today as it was then. The CO of HMAS Perth, CAPT



Hec Waller DSO*RAN, a well known leader, having been in the Mediterranean as CO of HMAS Stuart, leader of the 10th Destroyer Squadron. He was a leader who valued his crew and was respected for his ability to anticipate the enemy. Unfortunately on 1MAR42 the resources at hand and luck where in short supply. Perth, in company with USS Houston encountered a sizable Imperial Japanese Navy Task Force. Perth and Houston were no match for the fire power of the Japanese and both ships were sunk within 30 minutes of each other. 1071 sailors were to make the supreme sacrifice on that fateful day. A service was arranged by Pete Johnston, HMAS Perth Association along with the NCCV. This was held in the Sanctuary, Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne. CDRE Greg Yorke CSC RAN, SNO(V)

Perth.

delivered the address, giving an account of the Battle of Sunda Strait. He described the circumstances surrounding the Battle and the courage demonstrated by the crew of both warships. He made comparisons to how the RAN today trains to be fighting fit and fit to fight! Mr Jim Findley, Vice Consul, US Consulate Melbourne read a statement of purpose and LCOL Ed Bartosh US Army Rtd delivered a reading to the fallen. The attendance of a Catafalque Party from HMAS Cerberus, led by CPO Dean Russell helped to create a naval setting. ABMUS Benjamin Smith, RAN band - Melbourne Detachment called Last Post



and Reveille. On completion of the wreath laying service, many in attendance moved to the dedicated trees where personal tributes were placed on the plaques of Perth and Houston. Houston be-

ing the only non-Australian representation within the Shrine Reserve. In attendance were decendants and ex-Service Veterans who had served in Perth II and III members. CDRE Timothy Brown, DG Submarines also attended. We were very pleased that CDRE Jim Dickson AM MBE RAN Rtd. NCCV Patron was able to attend the Service.

.Houston

Ships' Company members off HMASs Diamantina and Leeuwin joined with Indonesian and USN sailors the ship. Captured by the Japanese, he worked as a to remember the loss of HMAS Perth (I) and USS Houston on 1MAR42, at the Battle of Sunda Strait. The service was held aboard KRI Usman Harun, an Indonesian corvette. The warship was held off the coast of Java, above the remains of both ships. In the very early hours of 1MAR42, 1071 sailors were to make the supreme sacrifice. Central to this 77th anniversary was committing David Manning's ashes to the sea. David was the last surviving member of

the Perth's crew. This event was followed by two simple wreaths cast into the sea, one by Dawn Manning, the other by George Hatfield. David Manning was an 18 year old Gunner aboard the Perth during the battle and manned his gun against the enemy strike group until the ammunition was gone. He



was blown into the sea when a fourth torpedo struck POW on the Thai-Burma railway. Dawn Manning, his daughter said her father's wishes were to be with his shipmates again. "He would just be absolutely thrilled to be back with his ship and to be with three navies today is a great achievement," she said. "As a loving daughter, to sail with my father on his last voyage is a profound moment." "It's been a completion of his journey." George Hatfield Jnr also attended the service to pay his respects to his father, Petty Of-

David Manning to the

ficer George Hatfield Senior, who was lost during the battle. "My father died two months before I was born, so this is the closest I've ever been to him." "I kind of imagine he's down there. It was sad but wonderful," Mr Hatfield Jnr said.

Email: naval.commemoration.committee@gmail.com

Special Notes

Protect and Preserve AE1 You still have a chance to participate in a raffle that not only gives you an opportunity to win a voyage, but support the program to protect & preserve AEI. Go to www.submarineinstitute.com/Competition-Entry.html

Remembering Battle of the Coral Sea If you live near Stanthorpe, Queensland, you may be keen to go to the Battle of the Coral Sea activities arranged by the Stanthorpe Naval Association Sub-section. Whilst the anniversary is actually 4-8MAY, this opportunity is scheduled for Saturday 25MAY19. Go to the navyvic.net website for more info, or email Norm Gale at storhel70@gmail.com

<u>All Navy Reunion</u> A reunion for all & sundry is being organised for 25-27OCT19 at Maroochydore Queensland. For more information, email to Mark at <u>allnavyreunion2019@gmail.com</u> or to Bill at <u>bloggshayward@yahoo.com.au</u>

HMAS Hobart Operational Readiness. Hobart of the west coast of the USA demonstrating their fire power, go to **https://youtu.be/95ucr64ZQww** and be prepared to sign on!

<u>NVN Website</u>. To avoid conflicts, submit your events for the Calendar.

Daring ANZAC Day. On ANZAC Day, if you intend to participate with the Duchess or Vendetta Associations, you need to advise the following if you wish to join them after the march: at Sydney - colinandchrishardie@gmail.com or at Brisbane - mkrause@bigpond.net.au or MOB 0428 881 702.

<u>Text</u>. There are Shipmates and family who have a life-threatening need to console with someone, but may not be able to talk face to face, nor talk on the telephone about their situation. Did you know that you can text **0477 131 114** between 1800 and 2000 if feeling really depressed. Someone will text you back! Some of our Shipmates may not wish to talk to about their struggle, but texting may be helpful.

Naval Association of Australia. The NAA has a campaign underway seeking new members. For less than the cost of a cup of coffee a month you could help keep at least one person at the DVA (national) table with a specific interest in Navy. Attending meetings is not the aim of the game, but being party to the organisation that has your service interests at heart may well be the best thing you

have gone in a long time. Try their new website: navalassoc.org.au



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President's dit

NCCV has endeavoured to encourage the Navy Veteran Community to support occasions designed to remind us of service and sacrifice by current and past Navy men and women. We have tried to underline the fact that descendants in many cases are unaware of the involvement of their own family in Australia's defence. We must be mindful of the losses in both World Wars and that many young Australians did not come home. A large number who made the supreme sacrifice had no partner, nor children to grieve. They are lost in time, as great, great great Uncles/Aunties. Our job is to prompt, whoever listens to emphasise that there are family connections that should be recognised for their service, for their sacrifice. Recognition may be a silent reflection, attendance at something representative of their family's specific involvement in Australia's Defence. I guarantee that there will something allied to any Australian Service man or women's service in Melbourne, organised at the Shrine of Remembrance. Have a look at their website, or better still, go along and view the Galleries of Remembrance, a million people a year do. Yours aye, Terry Makings